



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

*Unite For
 Good*

JENNIFER KING A CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Following a successful 12-year college basketball coaching career which included a National Championship and National Coach of the Year honors in 2017, King decided to step away from basketball to coach football full time. After attending the 2018 NFL Women in Football Forum, she obtained an internship with the Carolina Panthers where she worked consecutive off-seasons and preseasons with the wide receivers and running backs. King was the Assistant Wide Receivers Coach for the Arizona Hotshots in the Alliance of American Football and worked the 2019 season at Dartmouth College where she worked with the wide receivers and assisted with offensive quality control for the 2019 Ivy League Champions.

In February of 2020, King became a full season intern Offensive Assistant with the Washington Commanders. Her duties included working with the running backs and assisting with offensive quality control. Following the 2020 season, King was promoted to assistant Running Backs coach, making her the first black female assistant coach in NFL history. In 2022, King broke down yet another barrier, as she became the first woman to lead a position group at the East-West Shrine Bowl. The following year, she led the National team running back's group at the Reese's Senior Bowl. Following the 2023 season, Jennifer accepted an Offensive Assistant position with the Chicago Bears where she worked with the running backs.

During the 2025 offseason, she accepted an offensive analyst position at North Carolina Central University where she currently works with the wide receivers. King played women's tackle football for 13 years as a quarterback, wide receiver, and safety for the Carolina Phoenix, N.Y. Sharks, D.C. Divas and D.C. Prodigy. She was named All American on 7 occasions and has won 2 National Championships.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

- Greeters – Davis, Eisenhower & West Valley Students
- Music – Dana Jackson
- Inspiration – Howard Head
- Program – Erin Black
- Attendance – Jake Hambly

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- February 12th – Jon DeVaney, State of Agriculture in Yakima Valley
- February 19th – Blaine Tamaki & Caitlin Oiye Coon, National Day of Remembrance
- February 26th – Megan Murphy, World Marathon Challenge

SEAHAWKS SUPER BOWL BOARDS



THEY MADE IT! That means we can't stop our Seahawk Boards and the Rotary mojo that has kept them winning. This time, you've got double the chance to win with not just one, but TWO boards! Members of the Ways & Means Committee will be on hand before Rotary to sell squares. The cost is \$10/each. Don't forget to bring extra \$\$ or a credit card for a chance to win half the pot. **GO HAWKS!**

ROTARY BOOK CLUB

The Rotary Book club has been meeting monthly since 2018 and has read about 80 books. There is no agenda, except sharing the camaraderie of enjoying (or not enjoying) the same book. It is a low stress way to meet and socialize with other club members. Anyone is welcome. If you are interested, this month's book is Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – it sounds like a thrill ride. The next meeting will be Wednesday March 4th at 5:00pm (Location TBD). Contact Dana Dwinell if you have questions.



21ST ANNUAL JOBS FOR YOUTH!

Jobs for Youth is a summer youth employment program that assists the kids in our community in achieving employment at local businesses and nonprofits. High school aged students will attend a Job Fair on **Wednesday, May 27th** at which they receive training and support in several areas:

- Job Readiness
- Mock Interviews
- Food Handler Card Training (last year 100 Food Handler Cards were provided!)
- Job Application Preparation

Food is provided for the youth and volunteers who are participating. After the Fair, kids are interviewed by potential employers and are placed at part-time summer jobs for 4 consecutive weeks.

Why is Jobs for Youth Important?

Kids are given the opportunity for basic on the job training that helps in building their skill set; they learn basic job readiness, allowing for increased success in retaining future jobs; it provides a positive alternative to at-risk behavior; and it provides a way for the community to be involved with a solution that works toward opening up opportunities for kids.

How Can You Help?

- **SPONSOR A JOB.** The cost for 2026 is \$1,371 and provide a part-time summer job over 4 consecutive weeks at 20 hours per week.
- **DONATE.** Your contribution will go toward sponsoring a job or funding a Food Handlers Card.
- **VOLUNTEER.** We need your help during the Job Fair. Volunteers will help with mock interviews, job applications, job readiness training, etc.

Please contact Drew Harris or Anthony Peterson for more information or to sign up to participate. Your gift of time, talent, and treasure can help change the life of a young person in our community.

REVIEW

Where would you rather be than right here, right now has become the perfect way to begin Rotary every week. It all starts with great people that this week included our greeters Sam McClung and Mitchell Acosta; our musical selection of “Don’t Stop Me Now” by Queen chosen by Sharon Miracle; an inspirational message with a reflection on winter shared by Celisa Hopkins; and a symphony themed sergeant-at-arms from Kathy Miller Parrish.

Membership increased by one with the introduction of our newest member, Dennis Carlson by Erin Black. Since May 2025, Dennis has served as the Healthcare Administrator at Landmark Care & Rehabilitation. He is a devoted husband and father of four and Opa to four grandchildren. He is also a follower of Christ, an avid outdoorsman, and a spaghetti western enthusiast. He has 25 years in health-care administration. His long history of volunteer service that, now includes Rotary also includes the United Way, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, and many more. Outside of work he loves traveling, nature, and playing with his grandkids. Congratulations on joining Rotary! We are so happy to have him as part of the team.

It is a club tradition to take a full week during the holidays to support the Salvation Army with Rotary Bell Ringing. Rick Fairbrook, as our fearless project leader, took a few minutes to share the results. After a few hiccups over the first two days, we raised a total of \$9,973.88. Loving a rounded off number, Rick kicked in a check to round it up to \$10,000. Thank you to everyone who participated, especially the 15 members who signed up for multiple shifts.

To the sound of beautiful music flowing throughout the room, Josh Shockley, Chase Powell, and Laura Crooks, wound their way to the podium pouring champagne, sketching, and sharing baguettes to reveal the theme and date for the 2026 Rotary Auction “*A Night in Paris*” set for November 14, 2026. Mark your calendar and imagine the sparkling lights of the Eifel Tower, strolling along the Seine, and the romance that comes with it all. It is going to be a fabulous night!

Sam McClung had the honor of introducing Lawrence Golan to speak to us about a true community gem, the Yakima Symphony Orchestra and this weekend’s performance featuring a piece called *Winter Moons* written by Native American composer Jerod *Impichchaachaaha* Tate.

What do Harry Potter, Beethoven, Mozart, opera, video games, Mariachi, Ellis Island, Billy Joel, Michael Jackson, World War II, the Holocaust, and Cowiche Canyon all have in common? They have all been presented at performances by the Yakima Symphony Orchestra. They have something for everyone! Throughout any given season

they offer a wide variety of music and content. Programs are often designed around the date on which they are held, with performances selected to match special occasions. For example, a St. Patrick’s Day concert featured a Celtic Celebration that included Mendelssohn’s Scottish Symphony and The Brendan Voyage. During the holidays the annual Holiday Pops Spectacular fills the stage with musicians; it is never the same program. This past year they featured Maria-chi Huenachi. The performance of Wylie & The Wild West was so popular they are bringing it back this March. Something added in the last couple of years is the showing of movies with the orchestra playing the soundtrack live. Lawrence shared a sneak peek that Star Wars will be featured in 2027 – don’t tell anyone. They also do tribute concerts to great rock and pop artists: Michael Jackson, Elton John, Billy Joel, Aretha Franklin, Elvis, Louis Armstrong, Simon & Garfunkel and a Classical Night Fever disco show. Those are a lot of fun. They have featured fully staged operas. On April 14, 2012, they presented a concert that fell exactly 100 years to the day of the sinking of the Titanic that featured music from the movie, the musical, and actual music played on the ship. They commemorated Mt. St. Helens when their concert date fell on May 18th; and partnered with the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy with the Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto. They featured a concert called *The Devil Went Down to Georgia*. Musician Charlie Daniels saw a video of their rendition and sent Lawrence an authentic Stetson cowboy hat. His son gave him the idea to feature video game music which was a big hit with a younger audience. Other events are student concerts, music with wine tasting, an artist painting in real time, and acrobats. They have highlighted sports music, recognized Mexican Independence Day, the work of Florence Price, darbouka player Rony Barrak, the Defiant Requiem, and music composed within the orchestra.

Often their entire season has a theme. One year everything was related to Shakespeare, a musical journey through time, and a musical voyage around the world. This season’s theme is *Let’s Dance* celebrating the 200th anniversary of Johann Strauss Jr. That brought him to this weekend featuring *Winter Moons* with Jerod Tate here in person singing, playing percussion, and narrating in both English and his native language. He was a piano student and had no intention of being a composer. His mother was a professional ballet dancer and choreographer. She was creating a ballet and decided her music major son would be the composer. *Winter Moons* became the first piece he ever wrote. In Native American tradition they like to tell stories (legends) during the winter months. His mother chose four different stories from different tribes to tell as part of her ballet – Jerod set them to music. The concert will feature two other pieces as well with dancers. See you at the Symphony!