



## THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026 YAKIMA CONVENTION CENTER

*Unite For  
Good*

### PANEL DISCUSSION: TRIUMPH TREATMENT MEDICAL DETOX CENTER

This week, members of the Medical Detox Community Taskforce will present and discuss their collaborative efforts to expand access to medically monitored withdrawal management services, commonly known as “medical detox,” in Yakima County.

You’ll hear from a diverse panel of community leaders, Rotarians, and healthcare professionals all bringing deep expertise and a shared commitment to improving health outcomes and supporting recovery efforts across our region.

The panel will feature Yakima County Director of Human Services and Downtown Rotarian, Esther Magasis who serves as a task force member and brings system-level insight into behavioral health and community needs; Downtown Rotarian and community leader, Steve Altmayer who also serves as a task force member and provides a strong community perspective; CEO of Triumph Treatment Services, Jolene Seda; and Chief Medical Officer of Triumph Treatment Services, Dr. Jamie Simmons. Commissioner Kyle Curtis will introduce the group discussion.

Following a competitive proposal process, Yakima County selected Triumph Treatment Services as its partner for the county’s medical detox initiative. Triumph has been a leader in treatment services in Yakima since 1961. Jolene Seda, Downtown Rotarian, has been the CEO of Triumph since 2021. She leads the organization’s work to expand access to high-quality, community-based care, and brings deep experience in healthcare services. In 2025, Dr. Jamie Simmons, Triumph’s Chief Medical Officer who brings more than 25 years of experience in psychiatric care, joined the organization to expand its medical and psychiatric services for Yakima. She will provide insight into the clinical framework of the program, including how patient safety, stabilization, and continuity of care are addressed within this model.

#### FOR THURSDAY’S MEETING

Greeters – Steve Hahn, Drew Harris  
Inspiration – Jan Luring  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Kellie Connaughton  
Program – Kyle Curtis  
Attendance – Elisabeth Tutsch  
Card Draw – Shawn Boyle, Chuck Stillwaggon

#### FUTURE PROGRAMS

June 11th – New Member Meeting  
June 18th – To Be Determined  
June 25th – President Sheri Bissell’s Recognition  
July 1st – No Meeting – Happy Fourth of July

#### JUNE SECOND CHANCE SOCIAL

The final Second Chance Social of President Sheri’s Rotary year is just around the corner, and you won’t want to miss this special evening of fellowship and fun. Join your fellow Rotarians on Wednesday, June 3rd, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm, at the home of Rotarian David McKinney.



His beautiful and inviting backyard is the perfect place to relax, catch up with friends, and enjoy a fun evening together. We’ll have plenty of great conversation, tasty hors d’oeuvres, and beverages to enjoy as we celebrate another great Rotary year.

The party will be at 5306 Bitterroot Way, so grab your calendar, save the date, and plan to join in a wonderful evening of camaraderie and community. Hope to see you there!

## HONORING THE LIFE OF RUS MCKINNEY



Today we celebrated the remarkable life of Rus McKinney. His oldest son, Rotarian David McKinney, honored his dad before family, friends, and fellow Rotarians. David shared his gratitude for Rus's encouragement to join Rotary and for instilling in his children – David, Mike and Megan, all Rotarians, the principle of Service Above Self. Rus lived those values daily through his encouragement, deep conviction, generous spirit, strong faith and his love for Jesus. Born in Shelton, Washington along with his 2 sisters, Rus developed a strong work ethic early while playing basketball and delivered newspapers.

His family moved to Yakima during his sophomore year to open an auto glass shop on South First Street, and a foundation was laid for what would become a multigenerational legacy. At 18 years old, Rus survived what doctors called a terminal cancer diagnosis through experimental radiation and chemotherapy, an experience that strengthened his lifelong faith and resilience. He also formed a lifelong bond with his doctor. He later became owner of McKinney's Yakima Autoglass, before passing leadership to son Mike, with Mike's son Joey continuing the family legacy today as the fourth generation. Rus married Barbara in 1984, and together they built a life grounded in faith, family, and service. A devoted Rotarian for more than 40 years, he mentored new members, led community projects, and served nearly two decades on the Yakima Savings and Loan board. He will be remembered for his legacy of faith, perseverance, laughter, leadership, and love.

## THANK YOU NOTE

*Dear Sheri and the entire Yakima Rotary Club,*

*I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for selecting me as the recipient of the Unsung Hero Award. I was completely surprised and deeply moved by this recognition. I'm very grateful that Joe Farina felt led to nominate me, and for Dave Hargreaves to share his very kind words to introduce me. They're both the best!*

*It is a privilege to contribute to our community, but to have that effort acknowledged by our Rotary club is an absolute honor. Thank you for your generosity, your dedication to our community, and for this prestigious honor.*

*Your thoughtfulness is a gift I will always treasure.*

*Erin Lynch*

## REVIEW

The meeting opened with music selected by Nicole Donegan. "Coconut" by Henry Nilsson was one her mother's favorite songs. She would have dance parties with Nicole's boys and her nieces when they were little and still sing along every time they hear it. Jolene Seda and Dan Gaulke greeted everyone at the door. David Cobia offered inspiration emphasizing the importance of community and thanking those who continue to build community through service, generosity, mentorship and friendship. Rick Pinnell raised money for Rotary Charities with sergeant-at-arms. In announcements President Sheri shared she attended the Stanton Academy new courtyard and mural unveiling; invited members to attend the final Second Chance Social of the year on Wednesday, June 3rd at 5pm at David McKinney's home (see article for details); noted the district is looking for a Youth Protection Officer; and recognized Rotarian Chris Hutsell on his retirement and farewell.

For the first time in club history, two new members were introduced at the same meeting. Making the occasion even more meaningful, Jan Luring had the honor of introducing her daughter, Megan Bewley, and son-in-law, JD Bewley, as our 20th and 21st new members of the year. The daughter of Greg and Jan Luring, Megan grew up with Rotary as part of her life. After graduating from Eisenhower High School, she earned a Division 1 softball scholarship ultimately attending Ohio State University, where she played softball and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Consumer and Textile Sciences. Next, she traveled and worked in the resort and spa industry before transitioning to account management. Then she met JD at a fundraiser. A year and a half later, they were married and came to Yakima to join the family business, McDonald's of Yakima and Kittitas County. Megan has served on the YWCA board, United Way, Junior League, and the Yakima Sports Commission. In addition to their role as owners of McDonald's, she and JD are raising 5 ½ year old twins and celebrate the entrepreneurship of JD's 24 year old son. They are proud to carry on the family's commitment to Yakima and the McDonald's business.

JD grew up in San Diego along with his 2 older sisters, enjoying surfing and playing sports. His passion for athletics led him to play football for Iowa State. After college and graduate school, JD pursued a career in chiropractic care before transitioning into business. For the past 15 years, JD became deeply involved in leadership development, digital innovations, and currently serves in multiple leadership roles in the McDonald's region and national field offices. His particular area of expertise is digital and delivery strategy. Outside of work he enjoys endurance training, outdoor ventures, and spending time with his family. We are thrilled to welcome JD and Megan to Rotary!

Our speaker this week was Christopher Hopkins, our new Yakima Air Terminal Director. Introduced by President Sheri he began by sharing that he has been at the helm for the five months. Before coming to our community, he served in various capacities at several airports including Brownsville South Padre International, Denver International, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta

International, Washington-Dulles International, and Salt Lake City International. One of the first things he did upon arriving in Yakima was to adopt a philosophy of service. His team is very approachable sharing that it's not his airport; it is our airport and the city's airport. The Yakima Airport is under the Federal Aviation Administration and is part of 139 certificated airports across the country with scheduled air service giving them the capacity to have the airlines come in, pick up passengers, and bring them back.

In addition to air service, there are 17 other activities airports can engage in; Yakima engages in 16 ½ of them ranging from transportation, flight training (through CWU), aircraft maintenance, medical evacuation, aviation events, aircraft storage, fueling and ground services, research and innovation, economic development, tourism access, military operations support, air cargo logistics, business and corporate aviation, and workforce training. The one lacking in Yakima is agricultural spray and crop dusters. The more operations an airport has, the higher the ranking for federal funding. The FAA recognizes Yakima as a viable airport; it is the reason we have received a lot of grants lately and are able to go forward with construction projects currently underway. Other programs underway include an aerospace education program for grades K through 12 designed to inspire kids with the goal of creating a pipeline where our future youth are ready to continue into an education that allows them to become part of the millions of jobs available in the aviation industry. They are also launching feasibility studies to support Yakima as an air cargo facility that would take pressure off SeaTac; SeaTac is very much in favor of this.

They are looking at establishing a Maintenance Repair and Overhaul Station (MRO) to support airlines, and corporate and small general aviation aircraft. With a goal to continue growth, developing the workforce will provide productive labor for our community and bring business here.

In the next couple of weeks, Chris will be attending a 4-day conference where Yakima has been invited to sit in on 4 interviews with prospective airlines to discuss the possibility of coming to our airport. The current remodeling/modernizing of the baggage claim system to a carousel system began in March. The bathrooms are also getting a much-needed redo, along with the rental car and airline ticket counters. Runway 422 will be rehabilitated starting in July. The inclusion of a restaurant is on hold as they focus on the terminal.

With time for questions and answers we heard about the need for more hangar space; additional specifics on the educational programs that included partnerships, creating a board, and reaching out to NASA, the FAA, and other public and private organizations; and the current flight schedule for departures and arrivals. It was a great update – next Saturday is Aviation Day. Military aircraft, general aviation aircraft and a P-51 Mustang will all be on display.