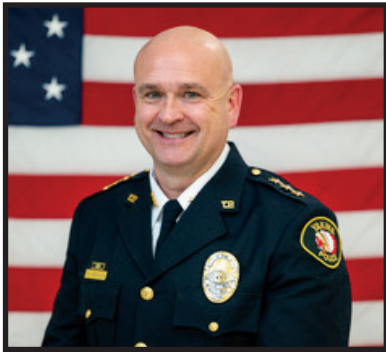




## THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE CONFERENCE CENTER

*The Magic  
Of Rotary*

### SHAWN BOYLE YAKIMA POLICE CHIEF



Chief Shawn Boyle was born and raised in Central Massachusetts and served five years in the United States Army as a Military Policeman after graduating high school. In 1996, Shawn was hired as a Corrections Officer by the City of Yakima and a Police Officer in 1997.

Shawn has spent the majority of his career working in uniform. During the early part of his career, Shawn served as a patrol officer, SWAT Team member, and traffic collision investigator focusing his efforts on impaired driving investigations and becoming a Drug Recognition Expert. As a Sergeant, Shawn supervised officers in the Patrol Division and Traffic Unit.

In 2015, Shawn was promoted to Lieutenant supervising the Special Operations Units in the Patrol Division including the SWAT Team, K9 Unit, Uniformed Gang Enforcement Team, School Resource Officers and the Field Training Officer program. In 2019, he was promoted to Captain and spent time as both the Patrol Division and Criminal Investigations Division Commander. While assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division, Shawn was the Commander of the Yakima Valley Special Investigations Unit which is primarily tasked with investigating officer-involved shootings.

On July 1, 2024, Shawn was named as the Interim Police Chief for the Yakima Police Department and Chief of Police on February 1, 2025.

Shawn's formal education includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia Southern University and a graduate of the FBI National Academy Session 280.

#### **FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING**

Greeters – Sharon Miracle, Clark Permann  
Inspiration – Laura Crooks  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Bob Romero  
Program – Kelly Gasseling

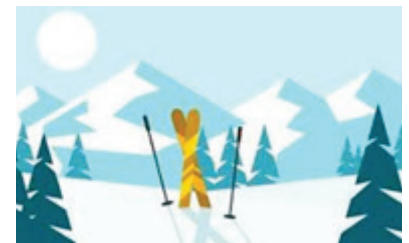
#### **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

March 20th – Msgr. John Ecker, 93 Years of  
a Life Well-Lived  
March 27th – Chelsea Severn, White Pass  
Foundation  
April 3rd – Lonnie Gienger, Multifamily  
Investing, Building a Legacy of Harmony  
& Purpose

#### **LAST CALL FOR ROTARY SKI DAY!**

Join fellow Rotarians Friday, March 14th at White Pass for a day of skiing, snowshoeing, and fun. Even if you can't make it up to White Pass, everyone is invited to dine on delicious pizza purchased by Rotary and beer purchased by you at Bron Yr Aur Brewing in Naches. Start time is 4pm.

Please RSVP the Rotary office as soon as possible to ensure we order plenty of pizza. It's going to be SNOW MUCH FUN!!



## ROTARY HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Save the date of Tuesday, March 18th for the next Rotary Historical Perspective. With antisemitism in the news on almost daily basis, our speakers will be Rabbi Jay Shupack and members of Yakima's Jewish community with an interactive discussion that cuts through stereotypes and a historical perspective on Judaism in America and the Yakima Valley.

The location and time are YVC Conference Center Room D from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Guests are encouraged.

## Yakima Rotary Trust Save-the-Dates

July 21 • **Mollie Davis Golf Tournament**  
Lunch & Scramble @ Yakima Country Club...  
think Sponsorships & your team!

July 22 • **All-Rotary Celebration**  
Evening event @ Rotary Marketplace

*More Information  
Coming Soon!*



**Yakima  
Rotary Trust**  
Making Our Community A Better Place To Live.



**Mollie Davis**  
SCHOLARSHIP  
YAKIMA ROTARY TRUST

## REVIEW

A special thank you to everyone who helped make this week's program a success. Rick Fairbrook and Zeb Ruff jumped in to serve as our greeters. Kurt Labberton shared an inspirational message about spring. President Jim welcomed our guests; recognized Drew Harris for his recent awards as a top seller and Board appointment to Central WA Legal Aid; and made one last pitch for Rotary Ski Day next Friday, March 14th and the deadline for Academic Scholarships today (March 7th).

David Rogers extended an invitation to the next Historical Perspective on Tuesday, March 18th from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at YVC Conference Center. Our speakers will be Rabbi Jay Shupack along with members of Yakima's Jewish community to provide a historical perspective on Judaism in America and the Yakima Valley. Sergeant-at-Arms was great fun with Chase Powell and a nickname theme spurred by a membership vote for President Jim nickname on his next badge. Money was raised. The winning name for Jim was Jimmy.

Brad Hansen had the honor of introducing our new city manager, Vicki Baker as our program speaker. There was so much great information shared. Here's a short summary. Right before starting her new position, the staff and council had just completed a strategic retreat that included a list of priorities. Her first six months have focused on one; the adoption of sustainable budgeting practices.

Coming into the job she never realized what an incredible team the city has in place. They are dedicated and work hard; they care about and are passionate about the services they provide. The newest team member is Gary Ballew as Assistant City Manager. He is bringing a wealth of knowledge and knows how to get stuff done. His background in environmental engineering will help with the Mill site; his experience with the Tri-Cities airport will help with our own airport; and he understands development. The path forward is filled with optimism. An Adopt a Block program planning is underway thanks to new partnerships with OIC of Washington and Habitat for Humanity. Downtown revitalization will continue with a focus on more housing and Airbnb's to drive tourism and foot traffic for businesses. Talks are underway to help create more passenger capacity at SeaTac Airport by exploring using the Yakima airport to fill air cargo needs. Working on the development of the Mill Site is a priority along with building a business-friendly environment, new relationships, and positivity.

Yakima is also a community at a crossroads financially – this is the hard part of the conversation. There are only 3 sources of funds within the General Fund: utility, sales, and property taxes. No one ever wants to see red in any financial statement.

2025 shows a budget deficit of \$4.6 million. It was balanced with one-time money that came from Covid. The funds are no longer there for future years. The 2026 budget has a deficit of \$8.1 million in General Fund. It is not sustainable. Police, fire, streets, parks, court system, facilities, IT, human resources, and finance are in the General Fund. All are needed. Not in the General fund are bus system, garbage, homeless dollars (they are state, federal and county), roundabouts and North First improvements (also state and federal). There are many reasons for the current financial situation. Property tax revenue increased by only \$200,000 this year; the cost of inflation; and the exhaustion of one-time money received because of Covid. The challenges we face are not unique to Yakima, every city is going through the same financial crisis.

Financial changes are being made. Budgeting is no longer being done on a line-item excel sheet; it has changed to priority-based budgeting that captures programs and the actual cost of each program. Every department documents the cost of each of their programs and must rank by priority – i.e. finance department is required to do quarterly reports; that would have a higher priority. It is a new way of thinking. The community is being asked to participate as well. Vicki is making presentations like ours to other community groups and being honest about what the city is facing. A citizen budget committee was established to work with her and the finance director for the purpose of bringing recommendations to the council, and a survey for the public has been created to help set priorities. (see the QR code to participate)

We heard answers to some great FAQ. Can't you raise sales tax – no, the state controls how sales tax can be raised. Can't you tax just people who can afford it – no, the state constitution requires equal application of all taxes. Can't you outsource – it often costs more because they have to make a profit. Can you charge developers? Not possible. Can you create a fire district - yes, that is something that could happen. How about the .2% sales tax proposal coming up for vote soon – it is allocated for a county-wide radio system which is incredibly important. What about the state – the state has their own budget crisis.

With all the challenges, Yakima has amazing bones. Vicki remains a positive person; there are many reasons to be hopeful. It was a great program! We are so lucky to have her as one of our own members.





# THANK YOU TO OUR ROTARY AUCTION SPONSORS!

## Platinum



## Gold



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## Bronze

