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THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023 YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE CONFERENCE CENTER

Imagine Rotary

CISSY STRONG REYES MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN



Since 2018, Cissy Strong Reyes has been at the forefront of the state and national Missing Murdered and Indigenous Women/People Movement, relentlessly advocating for recognition and answers in the disappearance and homicide of her sister, Rosenda Strong.

Cissy was born and raised in Wapato and is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. She currently attends the HEP Program at Heritage University and lives with her family in Toppenish. Cissy has been featured in the Yakima Herald, Seattle Times, and People Magazine to bring broad attention to Rosenda's story and other native

people who have gone missing on reservations.

Please wear red in commemoration of May 4th, "Red Thursday", which brings awareness and visibility for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People and Women.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Angela Gonzalez, Craig Mendenhall Music – Theresa Adkison Invocation – Joe Park Sergeant-at-Arms – Rich Austin Program – Sonia Rodriguez True

FUTURE PROGRAMS

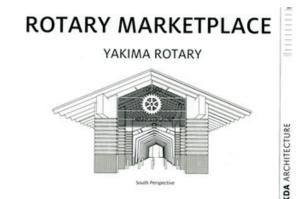
May 11th – Community Service Project

May 18th – Fabiana Ahumada, Saving Bees: One Hop at a Time

May 25th – Academic Scholarships

June 1st – Dan Newhouse, Congressional Update

ROTARY MARKETPLACE PAVER PROJECT



The Rotary Marketplace is approaching its completion date of May 14th just in time for the opening day of the Yakima Downtown Farmers Market. We need your help laying pavers under the entire covered structure.

Work will start on Monday May 8th and continue through Wednesday, May 10th with three shifts a day from 8am-11am; 11am-2pm; and 2pm-5pm. No experience is required. All you need are gloves, closed toe shoes, and work clothes.

Please contact the Rotary office to volunteer. This is your opportunity to make an impact and make our community a better place to live.

MAY ROTARY BOOK CLUB SELECTION

The Yakima Rotary Book Club is turning 5 years old. Since May of 2018, they have been selecting books every month to read, share, and discuss even during the pandemic.

The newest selection for May is "Once Upon a Wardrobe" by Patti Callahan. Set in 1950, it is the story of Megs Devonshire's mission to fulfill her brother's dying wish to uncover the truth of his favorite story – *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Megs finds herself taking tea with C.S. Lewis who encourages her to form her own conclusions as he tells her the little-known stories of his life that led to his inspiration. The stories she shares with her brother turn out to be his gift to her – hope.



If you love to read, get your copy, and mark May 30th for the next discussion at the John I Haas Innovation Center from 5pm to 6pm.



SAVE THE DATE

Mollie Davis Golf Tournament Monday, July 17, 2023

To Benefit Yakima Rotary Trust

Yakima Country Club Shotgun Start at 12:30pm



Get your team together and register today

REVIEW

There are really great things that we do and then there are exceptional things that we do. This week's program was an example of exceptional as we presented the 2023 Vocational Scholarships totaling almost \$38,000 to 17 individuals. As chair of the Vocational Scholarship Committee, Tony Farina served as our master of ceremonies. Our recipients ranged in age from 18 to 61 and were pursuing 12 different programs – HVAC, Nursing, Cosmetology, Plumbing, Electrical, Instrumentation and Industrial Automation, Automotive Service, Elementary Education, Information Technology, Business Accounting, Business Technology Administration, Medical, and Legal.

One by one, we learned something special about them from their interviews or letters of recommendation. Four students were chosen to share their own personal stories. They included being the only woman in the automotive program; to finding the perfect fit in Yakima with the Instrumentation program Perry Tech; to overcoming homelessness and addiction to stdying three degrees at YVC; and to being inspired to study nursing as a young man in a predominantly female profession.

The students we support through vocational scholarship train here, stay here, and live here. They are also more likely to become small business owners. The annual scholarship dinners that began last week and continue through next week support our scholarship programs. After a standing ovation for the students, President Rick summed it up best to sharing as Rotarians we raise money to raise our community one person at a time.

