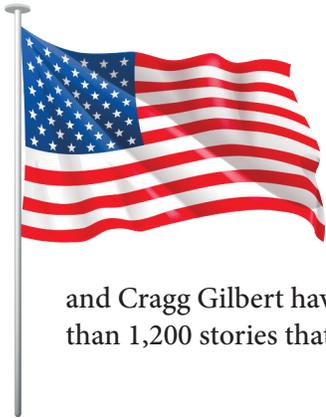




THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 YAKIMA CONVENTION CENTER

*Serve to
Change Lives*

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM THE VALLEY GOES TO WAR



A committee of four Yakima Rotarians and eight others have spent the past two years researching powerful stories of people from our valley who went off to serve during World War II or whose lives at home were dramatically changed during that time. As part of our Veterans remembrance, you will hear 5 of those stories, which are being collected for a major planned exhibition at the Yakima Valley Museum in late 2022 or 2023.

The committee, including Rotarians Greg Luring, Dana Dwinell, Peter Arnold, Casey Corr and Cragg Gilbert have conducted video interviews with veterans, gathered photos and artifacts, and collected more than 1,200 stories that will be presented in an online database by the museum.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – TBD
 Music – Rick Fairbrook
 Invocation – TBD
 Sergeant-at-Arms – TBD
 Program – Cragg Gilbert

FUTURE PROGRAMS

November 25th – No Meeting, Happy Thanksgiving
 December 2nd – Terry Hunt, Sherlock Holmes
 December 9th – Rhonda Hauff, Yakima Neighborhood Health
 December 16th – Christmas Walk-Through Celebration

ROTARY BELL RINGING

Sign-ups for Bell Ringing have started and the response has been great with 34 of the 96 total shifts already filled. Our week for Bell Ringing is Monday December 6th through Saturday, December 11th. The following are dates, locations, and times of the first 3 days that are still open:

Monday, December 6th

Fred Meyer Grocery 5pm-7pm
 Fred Meyer North 5pm-7pm
 Rosauers 11am-1pm and 1pm-3pm

Wednesday, December 8th

Fred Meyer Grocery 3pm-5pm
 Fred Meyer North 1pm-3pm, 3pm-5pm and 5pm-7pm
 Rosauers 11am-1pm, 3pm-5pm and 5pm-7pm

Tuesday, December 7th

Wrays 56th 5pm-7pm
 Fred Meyer Grocery 5pm-7pm
 Fred Meyer North All Shifts



There are shifts available on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as well. Check your calendar and sign up using the link in the e-mail sent to you last week. The gift of a couple of hours will help make this holiday season brighter for others in need.

ROTARACT SEAHAWKS FUNDRAISER

Join Yakima Rotaract for a Seahawks viewing party at the Sports Center on Yakima Avenue for Monday Night Football. For \$30 attendees will be treated to dinner, silent auction, beer tickets, and a great night of Seahawk Football showing on multiple screens.

Doors open at 5pm with kick-off at 5:15pm. All proceeds go to support Yakima Rotaract's Annual Scholarship Program. If you come after halftime the cost is \$7 (no beer tickets). You must be 21 or older to attend. Mark your calendar, invite your friends, and cheer on the Seahawks.



SAVE THE DATE

Candy Cane Lane
Walk Thru Party
December 16th
4pm – 6pm
YVC Conference Center
Details Coming Soon!

- REVIEW -

It was a special day as the annual Veterans Day Parade was held before our meeting giving us an opportunity to support our Veterans before going to Rotary. With a cast member from Hairspray as our program speaker, our music chosen by Theresa Adkison was perfect – *You Can't Stop the Beat* – the finale from the musical. David Lynx followed with an invocation that mirrored the storyline behind Hairspray that you will never win in life by being someone you are not. It is so nice to see Rotary events happening that haven't been around for over a year. Rick Fairbrook, Dawnie Bryant, and David McKinney shared three opportunities for service and/or fellowship.

Rick began with service through Rotary Bell Ringing and Project 500. Rotary Bell Ringing Week is Monday, December 6th through Saturday, December 11th. We will be ringing bells at four different locations, Wray's 56th, Rosauers, Fred Meyer North Entrance and Fred Meyer Grocery Entrance. Project 500 is a program that provides winter clothing for children in need at a cost of \$75 a child. Sign-ups are underway for both. Rotaract President Dawnie Bryant extended an invitation to a Seahawks Viewing Party on Monday, November 29th in support of Rotaract's Annual Scholarship Program. The cost is \$30/person and includes dinner, silent auction, and beer tickets. Tickets for the event can be purchased through Rotaract's Facebook page. They are only 20 tickets away from being sold out. David McKinney shared that a New Member Reception was coming up next week on Wednesday, November 17th from 4:30pm to 6pm at Yakima Valley Vintners next door to the new Larson Gallery. David also led us in the Pledge of Allegiance in honor of Veterans Day. Sergeant-at-Arms was a perfect set-up for our program as Joan AKA "John" Cooper showed up in her best dress to try and get an open audition for Hairspray. The audition was unsuccessful, donations made in promise to never see John in a dress again was a big win for Rotary Charities.

A conversation among friends can best describe our program as Charlie Robin interviewed our speaker, Billy Dawson who is playing the role of Corny Collins in the musical comedy Hairspray opening at the Capitol Theatre tonight. In the production, Corny is the host of the Corny Collins Show in which the main character, Tracy Turnblad auditions to be a part of.

We learned about Billy, his audition for the part, what he thinks of Yakima, what its like to be back in front of a live audience, and the show itself. Billy was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He went to college for two years before dropping out and moving to Chicago where he performed there professionally for about 8 years. He moved to Japan to work at Universal Studios in Osaka. After his contract was up, he moved back to Fort Wayne. Everything was shut down due to the coronavirus pandemic. His agent called about an audition for Hairspray which he did over Zoom. He did not meet anyone in person until he showed up for rehearsals in New York City. Two weeks later in found himself in Yakima, Washington. He considers the Holiday Inn his current address until the tour departs for their first major city production in San Diego.

Yakima and the Capitol Theatre were chosen to start the tour with a two-week period of technical rehearsals and their opening performance before a live audience. In today's covid environment, they had to create a bubble to have the freedom to move and work. They are tested three times a week and everyone has to be vaccinated; each theatre they visit has their own protocols in place as well. There are no opening night parties or backstage guests; if that's what it takes, they are willing to do it. The Capitol Theatre is beautiful! One of the first things they did when they got here was wine tasting at Kana Winery. They went to an orchard to pick apples and have had great food.

As part of the tour, the members work and live with each other 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They meet as strangers and become a family. When it comes to Hairspray, the message he most embraces about the show is that it leaves an imprint on your heart especially in the current climate with the two pandemics we have gone through – first with covid and secondly with racism – it has been an awakening. Hairspray is a story of our society that is timeless with a message of hope in a joyous, fun, and entertaining show made even more special because they get to share it with a live audience. There is still time to purchase tickets for tonight's 7:30pm show or tomorrow's 2:00pm show. What better way to spend a Friday evening or Saturday afternoon!