

ISSUES BRIEF

August 2022 - Vol. XII, Issue 8, Number 120

Community Action Day making a difference in the City of Yakima



Despite the hot weather, more than 80 people stopped by Garfield Elementary School on Saturday, July 23rd, for the City of Yakima's Community Action Day.

Those who participated in the free event learned about graffiti abatement efforts, received free paint and food.

SAVE THE DATE! The next Community Action Day is Saturday, Oct. 8th, at Washington Middle School. See you there!



Nelson Dam project reaches a milestone

A project that began just over a year ago to remove and replace Nelson Dam reaches a milestone this month with the removal of a fish ladder. This marks the conclusion of demolition on the project. The rest of the project will focus on concrete work to divert water for fish passage. The project is scheduled for completion in April 2023.

The diversion structure, known as a roughened channel, will not only aid fish but also help with flood mitigation. "It will make a much bigger pathway so all that sediment trapped up above will start moving, lowering the flood risk," said Assistant Public Works Director Dave Brown.

The project will improve fish passage and sediment continuity to improve habitat, increase flow conveyance to decrease flooding risks for nearby landowners, and improve water supply reliability.

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/media/nelson-dam-project/> for more about the project.



City of Yakima seeks community partnership services

The City of Yakima seeks proposals from qualified non-profit firms, developers or individuals for the opportunity to enter into an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded partnership with the City for Community Partnership Development Services.

The City has a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking non-profit partners to create grant proposals that meet varying community needs consistent with ARPA requirements.

Proposals must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall by **11 am on Friday, Aug. 19th**.

The RFP is available at [12238P-Community-Partnership-Development-Services 7-12-22-ACM.pdf \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/12238P-Community-Partnership-Development-Services-7-12-22-ACM.pdf)

Because this project is funded through ARPA, it is preferred qualified applicants have experience successfully completing projects with federal requirements.

Direct inquiries to RFP Coordinator Maria Mayhue at Maria.Mayhue@yakimawa.gov

Tahoma Cemetery, Franklin Park tours

Guided historical walking tours of the City of Yakima's Tahoma Cemetery continue through Fall.

Call 509-575-6020 for tour information and to register.

School supply drive underway

The City of Yakima's Harman Center, 101 N. 65th Ave., is continuing a school supply drive through the end of September. Items can be brought to the Center. Call 509-575-6166 for a school supply list.

Take the plunge: Paws in the Pool

Franklin Pool wraps up summer with its annual Paws in the Pool from 2 to 4 pm on Sunday, Aug. 21. Dogs swim free but their owners have to pay general admission fee.



Yakima issues call to artists

The Yakima Arts Commission is seeking applications for the Fall/Winter Downtown Yakima Windows Alive! project.

The application deadline is 5:00 pm on Wednesday, August 31st. The goal is to have the show ready by mid-October.

Click [Windows Alive Application and Call to Artist Fall Winter 2022-2023.pdf](#) for an application.

Additional information is available at www.windowalive.com. Questions can also be sent to Jane Milford Cooper at yakimawindows@gmail.com

This is the 11th season for the popular event, which enables talented artists and groups of artists to display their works and at the same time help invigorate empty downtown storefront windows. Artists residing in Yakima, Yakima County and elsewhere in Central Washington are invited to submit entries.

Following the selection process by the Yakima Arts Commission, six projects will be picked for the new display. Individual artists or groups who are chosen to show their work in the windows will be paid a \$250 stipend.

All types of art work are welcome, including paintings, drawings, fiber art, crafts, ceramics, photography, alternative materials and sculpture.

Windows Alive! art displays are located on the north side of Yakima Avenue between Hotel Maison and 3rd Street.

Windows Alive! was created by the Yakima Arts Commission, which serves as an advisory board to the Yakima City Council. The project is part of an ongoing effort to bring public art to downtown Yakima.

YPD offers Project Guardian

Does someone in your home have special needs? If so, you may be interested in the Yakima Police Department (YPD) Project Guardian. This is a program developed to help keep your loved one with special needs, including autism, safe.

The program is a free, voluntary, and confidential database offered, managed, and maintained by YPD for *persons living within the City of Yakima*.

Police often don't know whether or not individuals they encounter have special needs because there aren't any telltale physical signs.

Flashing lights on an emergency vehicle, for example, might cause a person with special needs to become frightened and act out.

Officers may not understand why some individuals with special needs will not make eye contact with them, keep their fists clenched, or flap their hands.

What may seem like a simple interaction with police could be a very traumatic situation for a person with special needs and confusing to officers.



How It Works: When someone enrolls in the program, officers obtain their basic information, a current digital photograph, family emergency contact information, and other information that might help officers when encountering the individual.

Once registered, you will be mailed a sticker and static cling to display in your home and vehicle window to alert officers of a potential person with special needs.

Register family members with special needs by completing the application at <https://yakimapolice.org/project-guardian/>

This program only covers the patrol area of the Yakima Police Department. Contact Sgt. Ryan Yates (ryan.yates@yakimawa.gov) if you have any questions.

City Council action summary - July 2022

Yakima City Council action during its meetings in July included:

- Changing the Nominating Committee term of service to a one-year term
- Authorizing agreement with Washington State Department of Commerce for grant funding for the plans, specifications and bid documents for construction of a swimming pool at Martin Luther King Jr. Park
- Authorizing an application with the Supporting Infrastructure for Economic Development (SIED) program on behalf of Yakima First Partners, LLC to fund an improvement to the existing street intersection of South 1st Street and Russell Lane
- Amending Section 6.44.020 of the City of Yakima Municipal Code by adopting RCW 9.41.305, which prohibits the open carry of firearms or other weapons in a local government building

Complete minutes and agendas from council meetings are available at [Agendas and Minutes | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/Agendas-and-Minutes-City-Council)



Honoring MarJon

Yakima native and former Yakima Valley College basketball standout MarJon Beauchamp was honored by the Yakima City Council with a proclamation read by District 2 Councilmember Danny Herrera.

Council issued the proclamation during its meeting on Tuesday, July 19th, after Beauchamp was recently drafted in the first round by the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA.

He is pictured with council following the proclamation. Pictured from left are Herrera, Assistant Mayor Soneya Lund, Beauchamp, Mayor Janice Deccio, Councilmember Matt Brown and Councilmember Patricia Byers.

MarJon Beauchamp is also the grandson of former Yakima Mayor and Yakima City Councilmember Henry Beauchamp.

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watch City meetings any time, on demand:



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The City of Yakima *Issues Brief e-Newsletter* is published monthly by the City's Community Relations Office.

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Community Outreach Specialist John Fannin at 509-249-6858 or John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov.

City Directory

Airport:	575-6149
Animal Control:	575-6038
City Clerk:	575-6000
City Manager:	575-6000
Codes/Licenses:	575-6126
* Fire:	575-6060
Human Resources:	575-6090
Municipal Court:	575-3050
Parks:	575-6020
Planning:	575-6183
* Police:	575-6200
Refuse:	575-6005
Streets:	575-6005
Transit:	575-6175
Utilities:	575-6080
Wastewater:	575-6077
Water/Irrig:	575-6154
YCTV/YPAC:	575-6092

* **NON-EMERGENCY. Call 911 in an emergency.**