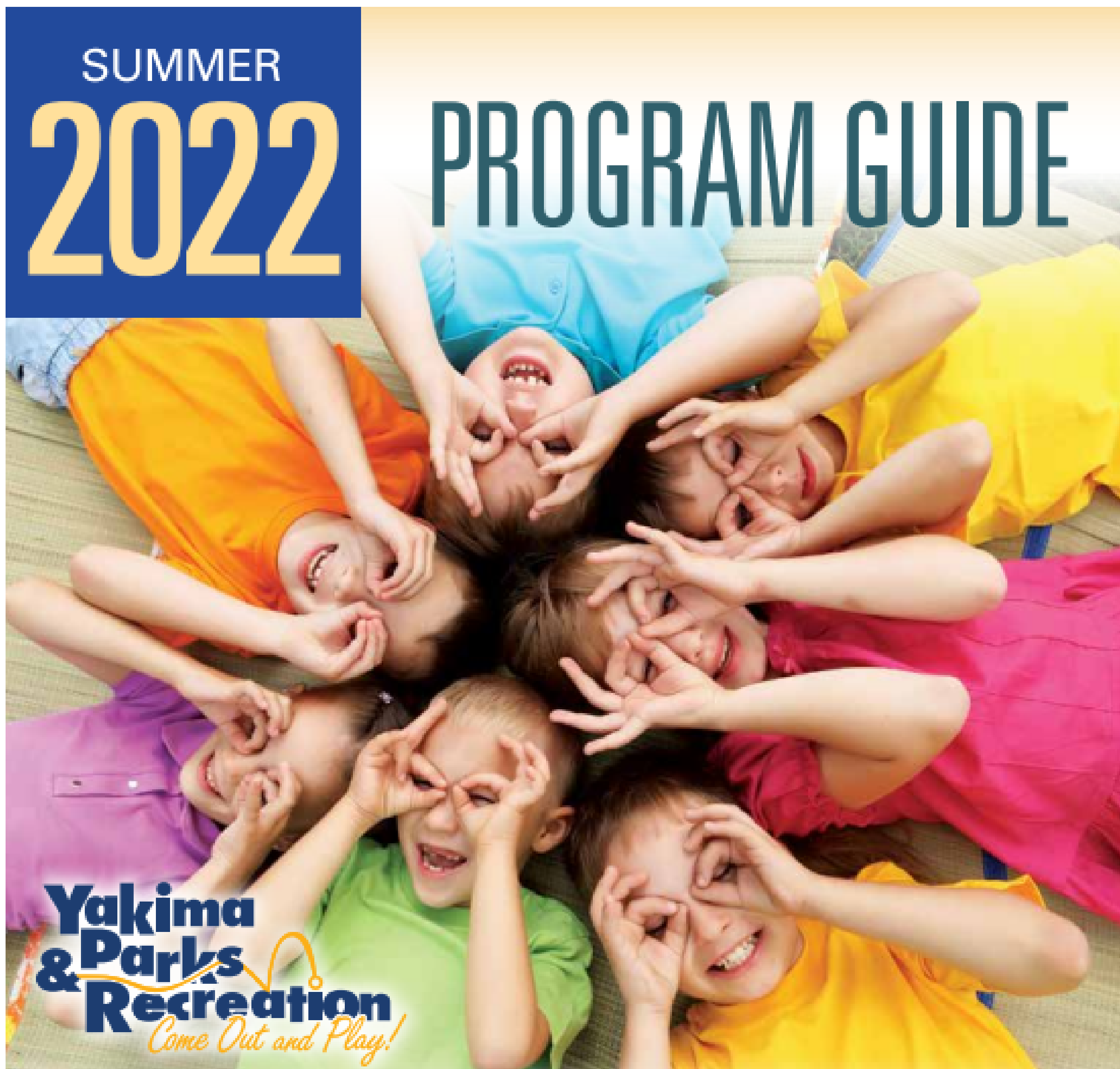


# ISSUES BRIEF

June 2022 - Vol. XII, Issue 6, Number 118

## Concerts, camps & cinema, oh my!



*Park & Rec's Summer Guide now available on-line and in print*

Summer is here and Yakima Parks and Recreation is ready with its Summer Program Guide for 2022.

The guide is 16 pages chock-full of ideas for the whole family such as a "Dive 'N Movie," walking tours, play days at Fisher Park Golf Course and Friday Night Teen Zone at Washington Fruit Community Center.

The guide is now available at the Yakima Parks and Recreation office (2301 Fruitvale Boulevard), Yakima City Hall and online at [2022-YPR-Summer-PG.pdf](#) ([yakimaparks.com](http://yakimaparks.com)).

For more information about City of Yakima organized summer activities, click the link above or call Yakima Parks and Recreation at 509-575-6020.

## Clean City Program reports progress during Q1 2022

Abating/cleaning 1,336 graffiti incidents, clearing over 35 tons of garbage and removing 563 grocery carts are some of the City's Clean City Program activities during the first 3 months of 2022.

The Yakima City Council received a report on the program in its agenda packet for the May 17th meeting. Click [Coversheet \(novusagenda.com\)](#) for the report, which covers Clean City activities for the first quarter of 2022.

The City of Yakima's "Clean City" program is under the direction of the City's Public Works Department. Program objectives are:

- Address visual blight (trash, graffiti, dangerous building, abandoned vehicles, etc.)
- Address unscheduled collection of waste and litter from the City's public areas/thoroughfares
- Expedite clean-up of illegal dumps
- Clean up homeless encampments
- Support Yakima Police officers in unlawful camping enforcement
- Coordinate with neighborhoods for annual clean-up events
- Create educational components
- Engage with partners and volunteers



Code Compliance Assistant Jeremy Viveros paints out graffiti for the Clean City Program.



## City of Yakima offices to close for Juneteenth holiday

City of Yakima offices and non-emergency services will close Monday, June 20, in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

Closures include City Hall, the Public Works office, the Y-PAC office and the Harman Center.

Yakima Transit will not provide bus service on June 20. Garbage pick-up will not be delayed, but the Refuse Division office will be closed June 20th.

Several local events are planned to mark Juneteenth celebrations this year, such as Yakima County NAACP hosting the 31st annual Juneteenth event at the city's Martin Luther King Jr. Park. See poster at right for more activities June 17th-19th for Juneteenth.

Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. Originating in Galveston, Texas, it has been celebrated annually on June 19 in various parts of the United States since 1865.

Juneteenth is a federal holiday. In October 2021, the Yakima City Council amended City of Yakima Municipal Code Section 2.40.080, Holidays with Pay, to add Juneteenth as a paid holiday for city employees.

# JUNETEENTH

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE & FREEDOM

FRIDAY JUNE 17TH 6:30PM

### The Seasons Performance Hall

101 North Naches Avenue, Yakima, WA

A FREE musical presentation in the Seasons Gallery and Bistro by **Danae Howe**. For more information call 509-453-1888.

SATURDAY JUNE 18TH 12:00PM

### Martin Luther King Jr. Park

610 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima, WA

The Yakima County NAACP will host the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Juneteenth event. There will be entertainment, food vendors, and resource booths. For more information call 509-575-6114.

SUNDAY JUNE 19TH 5:30PM

### The Seasons Performance Hall

101 North Naches Avenue, Yakima, WA

The Seasons First Annual Juneteenth Life and Freedom Celebration for the Yakima Community. In Memorial, a celebration of Life for African Americans who passed during COVID-19 restrictions and Seattle Vocalist, **Josephine Howell**, celebrates gospel, blues, and jazz.

For more information call 509-453-1888. Tickets \$15.00 & à la carte pay as you order dinner. To buy tickets click [HERE](#) or go to [theseasonsyakima.com](https://theseasonsyakima.com).



Danae Howe



Josephine Howell



## "Downtown Summer Nights" return to Yakima in 2022



Photo courtesy Downtown Association of Yakima

After a 2-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Downtown Association of Yakima has announced the return of Downtown Summer Nights.

The series of free Thursday night concerts on Yakima's historic N. Front St features food & beverage vendors as well as family activities.

The first concert is June 9th. Music begins at 6 pm for each of the 10 concerts in the Downtown Summer Nights series.

More information and a schedule of musical acts scheduled to perform during the series is available at [Downtown Summer Nights - Downtown Association of Yakima \(downtownyakima.com\)](https://downtownyakima.com).

Drivers are reminded the concerts will require the closure of N. Front Street between Staff Sgt. Pendleton Way and Yakima Ave.



## City Council action summary - May 2022

Yakima City Council action during its meetings in May included:

- Approving agreement with Millennium Foundation to install mosaic at Miller Park;
- Authorizing grant agreement acceptance from the Department of Commerce through the Community Law Enforcement Partnership Program to implement the "Community Action Days" program;
- Agreeing to continue holding hybrid City Council meetings live in person and via Zoom;
- Directing staff to apply for Yakima County ARPA funds for internet in City parks
- Approving the Yakima Planning Commission's recommendations regarding 2022 proposed text amendments to Title 15 and Title 14

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

All council meetings air live on Y-PAC and online at [Live Stream | City Council \(yakimawa.gov\)](https://www.yakimawa.gov/live-stream)

## Councilmember Cousens earns Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership

Yakima City Councilmember Holly Cousens recently received an Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC).

Those who earn the advanced certificate continue to strive for excellence by attending conferences and trainings, serving their community, and further developing leadership skills.



AWC's Certificate of Municipal Leadership program recognizes city and town elected officials for accomplishing training in four areas:

- Roles, responsibilities and legal requirements
- Public sector resource management
- Community planning and development
- Effective local leadership

Cousens completed more than 60 hours of training credits and demonstrated community service to earn the Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership. She previously received the AWC's Certificate of Municipal Leadership last year, completing over 30 hours of training credits.

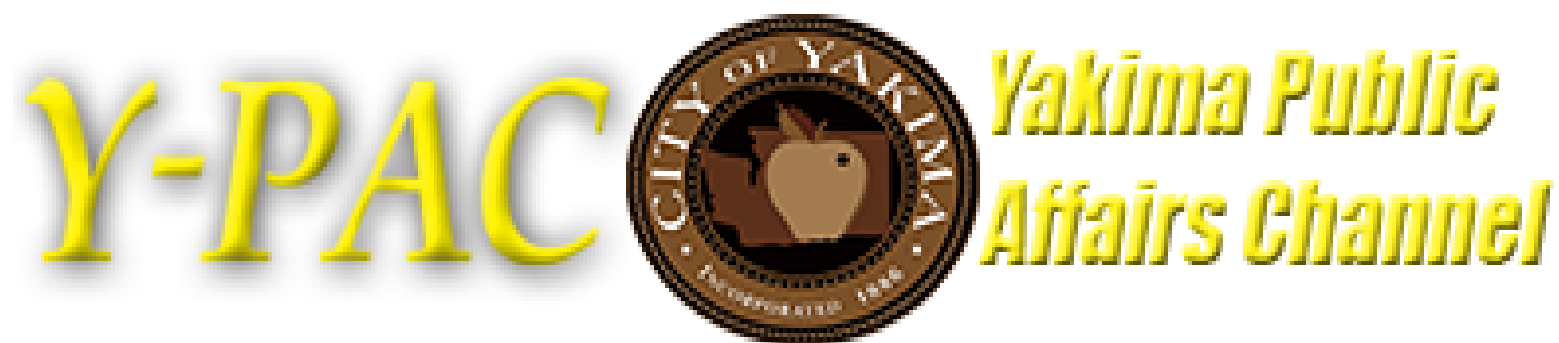
Councilmember Cousens represents District 7 on the Yakima City Council. She was elected to City Council in November 2015 and re-elected in November 2019.

Cousens teaches Business Technology courses at Yakima Valley College. She obtained two masters degrees from City University of Seattle, one in Organizational Leadership and the other in Business Administration (MBA).

follow the City of Yakima on social media:



watch City meetings any time, on demand:



City of Yakima  
129 N. 2nd Street  
Yakima, WA 98901  
509-576-6614  
<https://www.yakimawa.gov/>

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](mailto: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.**