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City of Yakima e-Newsletter

ISSUES BRIEF

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Randall Park marks grand re-opening

Ceremony on May 7th celebrated more than \$1 million in upgrades

The City of Yakima invited the community to celebrate completion of a project five years in the making with a grand re-opening ceremony for Randall Park on Tuesday, May 7.

The ceremony was held on the wildlife observation deck at Randall Park. It commemorated more than \$1 million in improvements to the park paid for through a \$500,000 grant from the state's Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and \$600,000 in local donations and matching funds.

"With the community's support, Randall Park is once again a jewel and major asset for the City of Yakima," said Parks and Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson. "Randall Park is much loved, and it is gratifying to see the outpouring of so many in supporting these improvements."

Improvements at the City of Yakima's Randall Park include:

- New picnic shelters
- New wildlife observation deck
- Basketball courts
- New restrooms
- Rebuilding walkways
- Repairing parking lots
- New playground equipment
- Installation of a bridge
- New signage and fencing
- Removing sediment and deepening the duck pond



A ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 7th marked the grand re-opening of the City of Yakima's Randall Park (top). Park improvements (above) included new playground equipment and basketball courts.

Featured guests during the May 7th grand re-opening ceremony at Randall Park included Yakima City Council members Holly Cousens and Kay Funk, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Rod Bryant, and state RCO representatives.

Visit <https://yakimaparks.com/> or call 575-6020 for more information about City of Yakima Parks and Recreation facilities and programs.

Upgrades now underway at Yakima Airport

Nearly \$2 million project to continue through June 28th

Work is underway on a nearly \$2 million project to rehabilitate the West General Aviation Apron at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field.

Construction began on Monday, April 22nd, and will continue through June 28th.

The Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field is working with Granite Construction and JUB Engineering on the project. It involves the removal and installation of approximately 22,000 square yards of asphalt, replacement of aging airfield lighting, terminal building sewer improvements, and updating the aircraft parking area.

Passengers will still board through Gate 2 during construction. However, they will walk a bit further to embark onto the Alaska Airlines aircraft at Gate 3.



"We appreciate the public's patience as the project proceeds to completion this summer," said Yakima Airport Director Rob Peterson. "And we appreciate the FAA's partnership in making this vital apron rehabilitation possible."

Funding is estimated to be \$1.9 million dollars, of which 90 percent is provided by the FAA through a grant. The remaining 10 percent match is funded through the airport's Passenger Facility Charge program.

No local property taxes or City of Yakima general fund dollars will be utilized during this project.

For more information about the project contact Yakima Airport Director Rob Peterson at 509-575-6149 or at rob.peterson@yakimaairport.com

Information about flights and services at Yakima Air Terminal-McAllister Field is also available by visiting <https://flyykm.com/>

Briefly

Farmers Market returns May 12th

The Downtown Yakima Farmers Market makes its 2019 debut on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th.

The market is 9 am to 1 pm in front of the Capitol Theatre. It is held each Sunday through Oct. 27th

The market features fresh produce, specialty foods, artisans and crafts, as well as music and entertainment by local performers.

Visit www.downtownyakimafarmersmarket.com for more information and special events planned.

Harman Center service project

The Harman Center is hosting a veterans' toiletry and clothing drive through June 30.

The drive is accepting new/gently used clothing for men, women, and children and new toiletries.

Call 575-6166 for more information.



Spring training

In April, the Yakima Fire Department conducted wildland firefighting training. It is required annually.



Tree-mendous



It was a Tree Town Three-Peat last month when the City of Yakima was named a Tree City USA community for the third year. The honor was announced just as trees in downtown and elsewhere around the city were showing their springtime blossoms. Click <http://ow.ly/ssNI3OotlZe> to see this and other photos of the week.

State honoring Yakima employee

Recognition is part of state's annual "Drinking Water Week" outreach

Yakima Water/Irrigation Manager Dave Brown has received the Washington State Department of Health's (DOH) Commitment to Excellence Award.



He received the honor during the Yakima City Council's regular meeting on Tuesday, May 7th.

"It is exciting to see DOH recognize Dave for his good work," said Scott Schafer, Director of Public Works for the City of Yakima. "I appreciate his ongoing efforts for the City of Yakima and its residents."

Brown is being honored for efforts that include playing a key role recently in assisting two failing water systems in the area and helping them find a safe, reliable water source. Brown was nominated for this award by the City's Water/Irrigation staff.

Brown also chairs the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Water Use committee and is a board member of several other entities and boards.

Brown has worked for the City of Yakima for 35 years. He began his career with the City as a Water Treatment Plant Supervisor and worked his way up to his present position. He teaches certification training and is invested in his staff's advancement and career goals. "He provides steady, reliable leadership in times of crisis," the DOH said of Brown in announcing the award.

Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed May 5 through 11 "Drinking Water Week" in the state of Washington. In his proclamation, Inslee noted, "...what we do today to protect our drinking water and invest in the infrastructure that delivers it will affect the prosperity and well-being of future generations."

Visit <https://www.yakimawa.gov/services/water-irrigation/> for more information about City of Yakima drinking water and irrigation services.

City of Yakima, YV-Tech team up for safety messages

PSAs airing on local radio

Students from the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center (YV-Tech) are working with the City of Yakima on messages about bicycle and pedestrian safety.

YV-Tech students, in cooperation with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, created 30-second public safety announcements (PSA) for radio.

They included:

- "Birthday Party" (espanol) by YV-Tech students Isiabella Isaacson and Jocelyn LaMay. (Voice talent: students Jered Mercado & Jibely Franco.)
- "Truck VS Human" by YV-Tech students Adolfo Bustos and Zachariah Coscarart. (Additional voice: instructor Ryan Broom).
- "Birthday Party" (English) by Isaacson and LaMay.
- "Bad News Phone Call" by YV Tech students René Furon & Ethan Shields. (Additional voice: Jered Mercado.)

The PSAs are available on the City of Yakima's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofYakimaWA>



YV-Tech students are greeted by Yakima City Council members on April 16.

April 13th City of Yakima community cleanup by the numbers:



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<https://twitter.com/CityofYakima>



<https://www.instagram.com/cityofyakima/>



<https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofYakimaWA>

City Contacts

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
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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 Relations Specialist John Fannin at 249-6858 or John.Fannin@yakimawa.gov.