

CITY OF YAKIMA PROCLAMATION

***WHEREAS,** the first Rotary Club started the vision of one man, Paul Harris, with the formation of the first Rotary Club in Chicago, Illinois on February 23, 1905 so that professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships; and*

***WHEREAS,** Rotary International endures today through an international organization on six continents with over 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide and 35,000 plus clubs; and*

***WHEREAS,** the Yakima Rotary Club was chartered in December 1, 1919 sponsored by club number 4, the Seattle Rotary Club, starting with 25 members and has grown to over 354 active and honorary members today with a shared vision as a diverse leadership group of men and women committed to improving the lives of those who live in the Yakima Valley and the World Community through Service above Self; and*

***WHEREAS,** the Yakima Rotary Club's first community service project was to have proper street signs put up so people would not get lost in the city of Yakima; and on an annual basis continues through support of projects and programs that meet the needs of children's health, literacy, hunger, quality of life improvements to our parks and public spaces; and*

***WHEREAS,** on an annual basis the Yakima Rotary Club awards \$87,000 in Vocational and Academic Scholarships to area students to fulfill their higher education goals; and*

***WHEREAS,** service extends on a global level to partner with other Rotary clubs throughout the world to eradicate polio; and*

***WHEREAS,** on December 1, 2019 the Yakima Rotary Club celebrates 100 years of Service above Self marking this monumental occasion with the opening of the YMCA Yakima Rotary Aquatic Center contributed by local Rotary Clubs and their members, and a new playground and picnic shelter at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park; and*

***NOW, THEREFORE,** I Kathy Coffey, Mayor of the City of Yakima and on behalf of the Yakima City Council, do hereby proclaim that we celebrate the Yakima Rotary Club and the accomplishments and contributions it has made to improve the lives of our Yakima community members and the world, by proclaiming December as*

“THE CELEBRATION OF YAKIMA ROTARY AND SERVICE ABOVE SELF MONTH”

and encourage all citizens of Yakima to learn more and participate in great community service clubs like Rotary in the Yakima area.

Dated this 19th day of November, 2019

Kathy Coffey, Mayor