

Photo courtesy of Thane Phelan

THE HIGH HOPES NEWS

www.parkeryouthfoundation.com

JUMP-START GRANTS BENEFIT YAKIMA VALLEY YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS

On October 4, the board of Parker Youth & Sports awarded \$600 "Jump-Start" grants to four youth sports organizations in order to help them jump-start their youth programs following the COVID shut down /restricted year. The four organizations benefiting from these timely grants are: FIRSTTEE of CENTRAL WASHINGTON, YAKIMA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION, TEAM YAKIMA VOLLEYBALL CLUB, and YAKIMA VALLEY GRID KIDS. Revenue from a successful High Hopes golf tournament in August is supporting these grants to help youth sports re-boot this year. The board anticipates presenting "Jump Start Grants" to four youth sports organizations in the winter and then to four organizations in the spring. Let the Games Begin!



COVID-19 COMMITMENT

Our Foundation is attentive to the concerns surrounding COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in the office and for event operations, and continues to follow the recommendations made by local, state, and national health officials in operations and activities. When requested by officials, the office will close to the public. Staff is available at the normal posted hours via email or phone call.

Way Above Par High Hopes GOLFERS! By Nancy Leahy, Tournament Director

Thank you to all golfers and business supporters for contributing to the success and fun of the 2021 High Hopes golf tournament! The forest fire smoke lifted allowing players and guests to enjoy fresh air and sunshine on August 28! Appreciation to Dave Edler, Shag Williams and Coach Carol Finney for their participation and for being our special legends of the year. We thank Apple Tree for their help in hosting the golf tournament and send compliments for the outstanding food! A shout of appreciation goes to Alan Sillence for his excellent job as emcee of the dinner program and to the many volunteers who came and worked the golf tournament to bring needed support dollars to Yakima Valley sport programs. We are so impressed with these volunteers, and we are very grateful!

Congratulations to the following golf teams for winning awards in your flights!

	<u>Carol Finney Flight</u>	<u>Dave Edler Flight</u>	<u>Shag William Flight</u>
1 st Place	Campbell Global 53	Monson Fruit 51	Yakima Youth Baseball 56
2 nd Place	YVC 74 Baseball 55	1st American Realty 53	Lost Ballers Guys 62
3 Place	Hackers Delight 65	Yakimaniacs 54	Borton Fruit 62

Youth flight: 1st Place First Tee Boys 69
 Longest Putt: 1st American Realty
 Longest Drive Women Betsy Kern

Longest Drive Men Alan Walania
 Closest to the Pin Rip Ramsey
 Putting Contest Benny Faller

2021 HIGH HOPES GOLF TOURNAMENT TEAMS



74 YVC Baseball Champs



GTO Car Wash



LaSalle High School



Campbell Global



YVC 1978 Baseball Champs



YVC 76-77 Baseball Champs



Hackers Delight



Wine Crush



Mid Valley Insurance



Yakimaniacs



Faller / Heck



First Tee Golf Girls



First Tee Boys



Orthopedics Northwest



OIC of Washington



1st American Realty



Lost Ballers



Eisenhower High School



Sports Forum 1



Sports Forum 2



Yakima Youth Baseball



Borton Fruit



Rasmussen CPA



Monday Morning Quarterbacks



Faller 602 Racing



Sons of Thunder



Two Good Golfers



Monson Fruit



Nancy Leahy



Way Above Par!

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: SEASONS GREETINGS



Jerry Ward

I'm honored to speak for the Board and our Parker Partners and friends in thanking Dan Williams for his service since 2018. His leadership was so vitally important in navigating us through the Covid crisis which started in March of 2020. Fortunately, Dan will continue as Vice President. I would also like to thank Nancy Leahy for creating and producing the Sports Galore Livestream fundraiser event March 25 & 26 and for organizing and directing the very successful High Hopes Golf and Legend Banquet on August 28. We are grateful she will continue as our secretary and oversee our Fundraising efforts.

It is now that time of year when we need to ask you to renew or start a Parker Partner Membership. Since 2005, the Partner Membership has provided the funding for our part-time office manager, office rental, insurance, phone/internet, postage, newsletter printing and supplies. (Return envelope enclosed with this newsletter)

During these challenging times our Board is dealing with the same issues as other charitable organizations. The Covid shutdowns began in March of 2020 and eliminated our major fundraising High Hopes Golf Tournament and Reunion in June of 2020. So we started this 2021-22 year with the exciting Sports Galore Livestream event in March and raised significant dollars. Then we held the Golf Tournament and Legends Reunion on August 28 successfully registering 108 golfers. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we lost several important outside sponsors. Thus, Covid has been a bump in the road slowing the growth of our Foundation for three years.

However, there is good news that certainly confronts the challenging conditions of 2021. PYSF is on strong financial footing because of our Parker Partners. Our invested funds have grown steadily since 2005 to 2019. These funds with the Yakima Valley Community Foundation now amount to \$680,452. For the past four to five years with the advice of investment counselors, the Board has been able to draw 4 to 5% for direct grants to youth sports programs. Thus, even with the pandemic issues still impacting our efforts to grow financially, we can (as an example) use the fundraising gains and a 5% draw this year to insure approximately \$34,000 will be donated to youth sports.

On behalf of the PYSF Board, I send a sincere thank you for your consideration in becoming or continuing your Parker Partner Membership. Please note on the return envelope the options for other types of donations. Our Memorial donations have grown dramatically over the years which we acknowledge in the High Hopes Newsletters. Happy Holidays!
— Jerry Ward

News from the Foundation Office

By Darlene Olmstead

So much fun was had by all at our "High Hopes" golf tournament. We had 108 players receiving golf balls shirts and other prizes. Thank you to all of our volunteers. Food was great and the weather cooperated.

We are busy in the office closing out our fiscal year, storing records and getting ready for activities for next year.

Thank you to the following donors since our last newsletter.



Darlene Olmstead

MEMORIALS

In memory of Elwood Crosier: Jerry Ward in memory of Eileen Brayton, Delores Galloway, Betty Yaden, and Ken Edwards
 Jerry Ward
 Ken & Millie Stenehjelm
 Dawn Abbott
 Jack Clerf
 Jocelyn Peers
 Robin Masterman
 Hillary Bigel
 Yakima Theaters
 Glenn Rasmussen
 Chuck Weeden
 Keith & Delores Boss
 Gilbert Linden
 Marla Borton
 Brad & Kaylene Boardman
 Kathryn Smith

FALLER/BRAYTON ENDOWMENT

Kirk Tourtillotte
 Geoff Wells
 Stan Renecker

MEMBERSHIPS AND GENERAL DONATIONS


Sidney & Elaine Smith	Mike Havenaer	Dan & Jodi Farano	Kay Smith
Bari & Tina Johnson	Janyce Barr	Gerald Wilson	Linda Kaminski
Barbara Amstutz	Ken Millie Stenehjelm	Kirk Tourtillotte	Stan Renecker
Ron Hamamoto	Bob Spain	Clinton & Sharon Pinyard	Bill Baker
Sally & Robert Allen	Del & Lynn Carmichael	Chuck Uber	Nancy Leahy
Engravings Unlimited	Phill Fossum		

HONORARIUMS

Jim Pelander for Bill Faller Rick Pinnell for Carol Finney

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING HIGH HOPES GOLF SPONSORS FOR MAKING YOUTH SPORTS A PRIORITY!

Sherrie Parker	Gary Staples	Monson Fruit
Campbell Global	Chris Pearson	Phil Hinrichs
Stan Reneker	McDonalds of Yakima	Firman Pollen
Bill and Sally Douglas	Northwest Orthopedic	Hailey McGowan
Jon Mulvenon	Borton Fruit	Mel Moore
Chuck Uber	Carol Finney	Virginia Faller
Casey Kelley	Nancy Leahy	Phill Fossum
GTO Car Wash	Engravings Unlimited Inc.	1st America Realty
Yakima Youth Baseball	Curt Vangstad	OIC of Washington
Yakima Valley Referees & Umpires and Officials	Rip Ramsey	
	MidValley Insurance	

~~~~~  

**"HOLIDAY HUDDLE!" ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT THE QUARTERBACK MEETING AT SUNTIDES GOLF CLUB IN GLEED FROM NOON TO 1 – A CELEBRATION TO PRESENT \$2,400 IN JUMP-START GRANTS – FOUR GRANTS @ \$600 EACH – TO JUMP START FOUR YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS AND HELP THEM REBOOT THEIR SPORT PROGRAMS FOLLOWING THE COVID SHUT DOWN YEAR. YOU'RE INVITED TO A HAPPY HOLIDAY!**  
 ~~~~~

In their own words...Why athletics are important for youth

Following are quotes from athletes, coaches, administrators and other individuals who participated in the Parker Youth & Sports "Sports Galore" Livestreamed program on March 25, 2021. These are individuals who work with kids and chose careers of teaching and administering youth athletics.

Dan Williams: Former President, Parker Youth & Sports Foundation (PYSF)

Please encourage kids to sign up to play sports, please help a player get to practice, and please, go to the Parker Youth & Sports website and make a contribution so that uniforms and equipment can be purchased. Keeping athletic experiences available for boys and girls is our top concern.

Ken Wilkinson: Director, City of Yakima Parks and Recreation

As a kid growing up in South Chicago, I was involved with lots of sports. My parents encouraged me to participate in Little League baseball, street hockey and church basketball. Sports is so important for kids these days, to build their character and mental toughness and to have choices and opportunities. Thank you Parker Youth & Sports for making athletic opportunities available to kids.

Rich Kayla: Former professional baseball player, youth coach, PYSF board member.

It started with a letter. The Greenway wrote to request assistance funding to replace the popular 28 station fitness program. Parker Foundation awarded the full cost of this new equipment at the Greenway to help kids and to serve the community's fitness request.

Kellie Connaughton: Executive Director, Yakima Greenway

We are very grateful to the Parker Foundation for sponsoring the new Calisthenic Fitness Course. This new Greenway fitness activity keeps us up to date with the President's national fitness program and creates an exciting opportunity for community members. Thank you Parker Youth!

Bruce Staley: President, Yakima Youth Baseball

One thing all youth sports organizations need is financial support from the public. We hope coming off the pandemic that there will be support for youth sport programs in our valley.

Mel Moore: 2018 PYSF Legend, former Yakima Sports Commission member

One of the reasons we have a lot of people interested in coming to Yakima to

stage tournaments is the great cooperation between our facilities like the Fairgrounds, Yakima Parks and Recreation, and Yakima School District. They work together to provide attractive options for playing sites. Another feature making Yakima attractive for sport tournaments is our 300 days of sunshine!

Pat Leahy: Professional baseball player, Notre Dame baseball player, Eisenhower multi-sport athlete

This year Parker Youth year will cross the \$600,000 mark in grants, and half of those dollars have gone to improving parks in the Valley, from Parker Faller Field to the Rose Garden at Franklin Park to Mabton's new Stottlemire Baseball Field and statue that salutes a true Yakima Valley baseball treasure – Mel Stottlemire.

Rich Austin: Director, Yakima Sports Commission

Sports are so important to kids and adults in the Yakima Valley. I am not a good athlete, but I was involved in sports and made sports my career. Growing up in East Valley and attending YVC, I had the advantage of being around adults who told us how much they cared about their players. I learned about leadership, responsibility, competition, respect and how to trust other players, coaches and officials and to be a part of a team.

Jeff Garretson: General Manager, Yakima Valley Pippins Baseball, PYSF board member

Coming out of the pandemic, my preparations are to get ready for a season. We are inspired by the high school athletes who are already on the fields. We know youth won't let their goals and dreams be silenced. We have to give youth a chance to succeed and youth will give back to the community.

Shag Williams: Standout University of Washington basketball player, All-State player at Davis High School, former Davis coach

To adults I say, what our kids are getting today is something we need to invest in. To kids I say, take advice from someone who has been there. A lot of kids do not always realize that we have many people in Yakima with

amazing athletic histories who have been through it growing up. We have mentors who want to talk to young players and they can lift you up, help with tough decisions, put the hammer down when needed, and show you the right way.

Phil English: 2019 PYSF Legend, National Cross Country Coach of the Year, track and cross country coach at Ike and Carroll

It may be that sport is the great equalizer we have remaining in our society. The athletes' socio-economic background does not matter nor what has occurred before. It matters what skills you bring to competition that day. Sports are immediate, and whatever skills you have and how you use them are put to test in the heat of competition. Sport brings diverse groups of people together. Students see that when they work harder to get better, they get better, and they are rewarded.

Steve Dale: 2015 PYSF Legend, All-State football player at Ike, played at the University of Southern California

We are very fortunate to live in the Yakima Valley. Kids have fun in sports, meet many new friends, and some of these kids will become their lifelong friends in the community. They have the challenge of learning new sports and experience success with these challenges. Enjoy sports and enjoy life!

Stan Renecker: 2017 PYSF Legend, Ike and YVC baseball player, major contributor to PYSF programs

One of my values is to give back to those who have given their time and ideas to youth. A few years ago, Coach Bill Faller called his former players together and explained that there are needs in athletics not being met. To have a successful program, they needed to improve the facilities, assist some players with college expenses and to purchase uniforms. We could see the need and were encouraged to help build a bridge of support to strengthen athletic programs. My goal is to use my resources to help meet the needs of athletes and Yakima Valley sport programs.

2021 HIGH HOPES GOLF TOURNAMENT





Gold Medal Individual Champion of Youth Sports

The Parker Youth & Sports Foundation
Board of Directors has named

SHERRIE PARKER

a 2021 Gold Medal Champion of
Youth Sports.



Thank you, Sherrie Parker for
supporting Parker Youth & Sports
Foundation with outstanding
contributions for 16 years!

We greatly appreciate your sponsorship of the Parker Youth
& Sports Foundation. Your generous financial contributions
strengthen our organization and support youth athletics in
the Yakima Valley!

Mission Statement

The Parker Youth & Sports Foundation is
dedicated to the support and preservation of
parks, sports facilities and athletic programs in
the greater Yakima area.

2022 Board of Directors

Jerry Ward	President
Dan Williams	Vice-President
Nancy Leahy*	Secretary, Fundraising
Chuck Hinckley	Treasurer
Megan Bewley	Pat Leahy
William Faller*	Irma Mercado Williams
Ray Funk	Jeff Garretson
Sam Karr	Gary Staples

* signifies charter member

Honorary Directors

Jon Mulvenon	Willie Turner
Bill Pearl	
Alan Sillence	Carol Finney

Legendary Directors

Chuck "Bobo" Brayton	Judge John Nicholson
Joe Donahue	Daryl Parker
Ron King	Tom Parry
Hazel Leland	Pete Rademacher
Mel Lewis	Jerry Ryan
Connie Little	Mel Stottlemeyer, Sr.

Jerry Ward, Historian

MON. DECEMBER 20, 2021
"HOLIDAY HUDDLE!"
NOON to 1 PM
YAKIMA
QUARTERBACKS
MEETING
SUNSIDES GOLF COURSE
FOUR WINTER JUMPSTART
GRANTS PRESENTED!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 1311
Yakima, WA 98907

PARKER
YOUTH & SPORTS
FOUNDATION

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
YAKIMA WA
PERMIT NO 90