

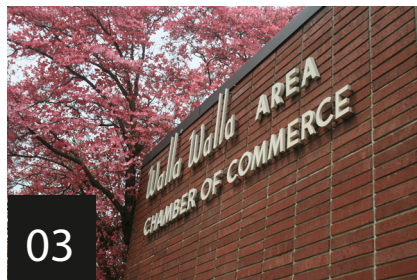
# VALLEY BUSINESS NEWS



Stay up to date  
with Chamber  
news and  
member  
happenings!



WALLA WALLA VALLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## NEW STAFF AT THE CHAMBER

Introducing Teresa & Kylie to the team.



## NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Chamber Board of Directors welcomes Dr. Stephen Pilgrim



October

## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

### Gesa Power House Theatre

Experience performing arts in a 120-year-old venue on the Washington State Building Preservation Commission's list of State historic buildings and on the National Register of Historic Places. What began as a gas plant, Gesa Power House Theatre now invites guests to enjoy professional productions featuring comedy, music, family programs, films, festivals, and more in their 300-seat performing arts theatre.

“

Our 300-seat venue creates an intimacy between audience and entertainer



## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS Radiance Wellness and Float

Tuesday, October 10  
5:30 pm- 7:00 pm

416 Wellington Ave  
Walla Walla

Join us at family owned and operated, Radiance Wellness and Float. Meet the staff, learn about their services and enter for a chance to win a 30-minute massage from their massage therapist, Kaylee Breland!

Whether you are a member or not, come network in Radiance's welcoming facility. There is no charge to attend, so grab a friend or two and join us for laid back evening of networking.



## MEET THE NEWEST CHAMBER STAFF

Welcome Teresa & Kylie!



Teresa Tamura joins us as our new Membership & Visitor Coordinator. "I look forward to helping people see the value of Chamber membership and to meet and work with those who make our community such a special place. If anyone has friends visiting or moving here, please let me know and I can send them a packet of information."



Kylie Casper joins us as our very first Fellow from Whitman College. Kylie, an economics major, is tasked with working with the CEO to assist in the development and implementation of our 2024 relaunch of the WWV Chamber Foundation and our new Community Development Fund which will provide grants to WWV entrepreneurs and small businesses.

## DR. STEPHEN PILGRIM JOINS WWVC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. Stephen Pilgrim is currently the Dean of the School of Business at Walla Walla University. He brings a wealth of international corporate and academic experience as an economist, specializing in attracting foreign direct investment attraction. Dr. Pilgrim is a fully-ranked professor, who served in Europe for approximately 20 years, followed by some 15 years in Latin America and the Caribbean. He is also a Lead ISO Auditor, specializing in Quality Management Systems. On the voluntary side, he is a motivational speaker and serves in several overseas advisory capacities in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United Kingdom. His personal interests include motivational speaking, singing, reading, traveling, sports, and family time.

Dr. Pilgrim's key mantra for this assignment is :

*Determination, devotion and dedication to daily duties.*

## BRINGING BACK WWV YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Help us cultivate emerging professionals in the Walla Walla Valley through networking, leadership, philanthropy, and workforce development. The Walla Walla Valley Chamber is looking for local professionals to join a steering committee to bring back the Walla Walla Valley Young Professionals. Whether you consider yourself young or young at heart we are seeking individuals interested in sharing insights and feedback to build a program that creates a positive impact on the Valley and business community.

If you are interested in joining the steering committee, please contact Arlene Alen at [ceo@wwvchamber.com](mailto:ceo@wwvchamber.com)

## OFFICE SPACE

Need to elevate your work environment to a quiet, friendly downtown setting?

Think about a rare upcoming opening for a private lockable office space for 1-2 in the Chamber of Commerce. You will enjoy uninterrupted Wi-Fi connectivity, off-street shaded parking, 24/7 access with facility security, copier usage, kitchen & Keurig, board room with AV available for meetings. Walk to your favorite shops and restaurants. \$850 a month/annual lease.

Call the Chamber Office for additional details 509.525.0850.



## Wishbone

Reece Carman  
2189 E Isaacs Ave  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://www.wishbonedogs.com>



Reece Carman, native of Walla Walla, took her passion for making dogs smile and made her life-long dream by opening a doggy daycare come true three months ago when she opened Wishbone. The building (formerly 1-2-3 Printing ) had been vacant for more than two years so there was a great deal of work to do before she could invite dogs to come play. Business has been better than expected with Wishbone hitting their capacity of 25 dogs per day several times since opening.

Owners and their pets will be excited by what Reece has planned for this holiday season. In October they will be offering some fun Halloween add-ons such as a puppy craft and a spooky pupcup treat. Reece said that “in November we will be leaning into the season of thankfulness but starting a monthly giveaway—each month every pup who has attended daycare will be entered in a drawing to win a Bark Box”. In the works right now are ideas for customers to enjoy the Christmas season. There are sure to be some happy holiday’s



## Valley Residential Services

Nancy Riggle  
240 Bush St  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://valleyresidential.org/>



Valley Residential Services (VRS) is one of the 20 largest employers in the County with 200 staff. VRS provides individualized education and support in a safe, comfortable home environment to adults with developmental disabilities as well as veterans who need housing as well as parents and children working toward stable family relationships. Nancy Riggle, VRS Executive Director, is SANTA for the hundreds of current and past clients. “After a couple years of isolation due to COVID we are all excited for this season”, Nancy said.

Holidays for the VRS staff and clients look very different from other agencies. “For our clients our staff are the family that make the holidays special”. Nancy added. Many of them have no other connections. Clients will take part in several holiday events and festivities happening in the community, but special VRS activities are also planned. Cooking classes will feature holiday food items, arts and crafts with the holiday spirit, decorating each of the VRS properties and exchanging of special gifts will bring the holiday’s back!



# QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Every month, we’ll pose a new question to several local businesses, and this month, we’re starting the conversation with the following question:

What is it about doing business in Walla Walla that brings you the most joy?



After a couple years of isolation due to COVID we are all excited for this season





Walla Walla COMMERCIAL CLUB Special Excursion to Prescott, Waitsburg, Dayton, Starbuck and Pomeroy...May 28, 1912

## VINTAGE PHOTO FRIDAY

The chamber has some big milestones coming in 2024. Not only will the Chamber foundation be celebrating its 25th anniversary, but the Chamber will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. In anticipation of next year, we will be sharing some throwback photos of the Chamber over the years.

This week's photo is of the Walla Walla Commercial Club Special Excursion to Prescott, Waitsburg, Dayton, Starbuck and Pomeroy on May 28, 1912.

If you have any photos you would like to share with the chamber or have information about any of the photos we share, email Tawni Gama, [tgama@wwvchamber.com](mailto:tgama@wwvchamber.com).

## WWV CHAMBER TO HOST NATIONAL CIVICS BEE

Our schools, our town, our community are built on the foundations of civics. We want to help students in our community appreciate the importance of civics in our everyday lives. In partnership with The Civic Trust of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation and Association of Washington Business, the Walla Walla Valley Chamber is one of only five Washington Chambers to be participating in this year's National Civics Bee.

The 2024 National Civics Bee is an initiative aimed at encouraging more young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. Organized in partnership with The Civic Trust of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the competition in Walla Walla will inspire middle schoolers to become better informed about American democracy, to engage respectfully and constructively in the community, and to build greater trust in others and institutions.

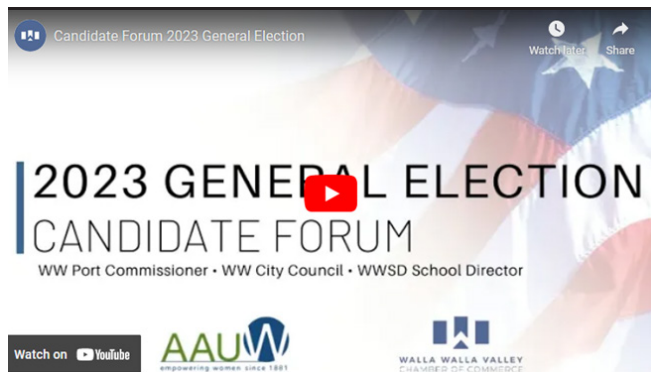
For additional details and sponsorship opportunities visit our website <https://www.wwvchamber.com/civicsbee>



# 2023 GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM

Watch the recording of the 2023 General Election Candidate Forum from Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023. The forum includes candidates for the following offices:

Port of Walla Walla Commissioner Position 2  
City of Walla Walla City Council Positions 4, 5, and 6  
Walla Walla School District 140 School Director Positions 3, 4, and 5



## Halloween Happenings



Come trick-or-treat with the Chamber! This year you can find us downtown Walla Walla on Alder street next to Williams Team Homes AND in College Place at the City Municipal Complex Trunk-or-Treat.

Downtown Trick-or-Treat  
Williams Team Homes  
Tuesday, October 31  
3 pm- 5 pm

College Place Trunk-or-Treat  
City Municipal Complex  
Tuesday, October 31  
3 pm- 6 pm

## 2024 City Map

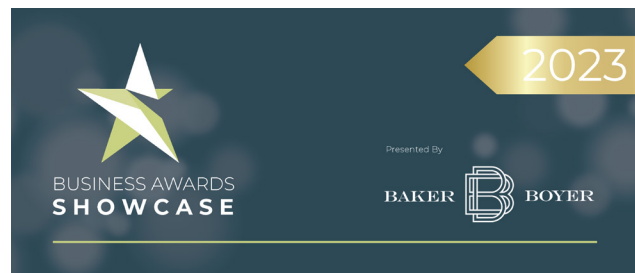


The Walla Walla Valley Chamber is excited to announce that we are partnering with E&M Consulting for the 2024 City Map.

Beginning early October, E&M will be contacting members about map ad renewals and ad opportunities. We want to make everyone aware that they are a legitimate partner of the Chamber and we are not partnering with any other firms on this official map.

If you have any questions about E&M or the Chamber's annual map, please contact the Chamber office at 509.525.0850.

## Business Awards Showcase Nominations



## Golf Tournament Results and Photos







## WILLIAMS TEAM HOMES

Reverse Mortgage Seminar  
October 18  
11:30 am - 1 pm

Are you a senior aged 62 or over looking to secure your retirement and make the most of your hard earned home equity?

Join Williams Team Homes and Academy Mortgage for an informative Reverse Mortgage seminar at El Sombrero. Lunch provided.

### What You'll Learn:

- How a Reverse Mortgage works
- Downsizing strategies to maximize your retirement income
- Tax reduction opportunities in Walla Walla

RSVP today at 509.525.8326



## GESA POWER HOUSE THEATRE

Kenny Ahern

October 8  
2 pm

Kenny Ahern's shows are filled with antics, hilarious physical comedy and fun audience play. A comic world filled with artistry and heartwarming charm, his family show "To Laugh is to Live!" is a delightful escapade for all ages.

Reserved seating tickets are available online or by calling 509-529-6500.



## FORT WALLA WALLA

Living History: Herbert Nicolls Jr, the Youngest WSP Inmate

October 8  
2 pm

Herbert Nicolls, Jr. was the youngest inmate ever incarcerated at the Washington State Penitentiary. He was born into a troubled family, witnessed his father kill a neighbor lady, caused problems in foster homes, and was sentenced to the Idaho State Industrial School. When his grandmother gained custody, she often beat him and deprived him of food "because of his sins." At age 12, the boy ran away from her home wearing ragged overalls and a stolen gun.

The aging Mr. Nicolls will be portrayed by Chuck Hindman.





## AMERICAN 35

Pizza Class  
October 18  
7:30 pm

Pizzaiolo Tom will guide you through everything you need to make authentic, world-class pizza at home. You'll learn a basic dough recipe, how to mold and stretch the crust, add your toppings, and bake it to perfection.

\$45 covers all instruction and materials, including a celebratory glass of wine after class as you taste your creation!



## DOWNTOWN WALLA WALLA FOUNDATION

Downtown Trick-or-Treat  
3 pm - 5 pm

Join us for our annual Downtown Trick or Treat on Monday, October 31, from 3-5 pm. Make sure and dress up, bring your trick or treat bags and be ready to have some Halloween fun!

This year's trick-or-treat will feature local businesses and organizations handing out candy and goodies to your little ghosts and goblins.

## WALLA WALLA SYMPHONY

The Walla Walla Symphony is excited to announce its upcoming 2023-2024 season, dedicated to the selection of the Symphony's next Music Director & Conductor. The Symphony will host six finalists from November through May, each of whom will engage with the Walla Walla community, collaborate with the orchestra, and present a concert tailored to the Symphony.

Concert programs will feature a diverse selection of music, including works by familiar composers such as Tchaikovsky, Dvořák, and Sibelius, as well as compositions by living composers like Jessie Montgomery and Clarice Assad. Each candidate will conduct one concert throughout the season, with the first subscription series performance taking place on Tuesday, November 14.





## Tony's Sub Shop

Tony Wenham  
1068 E Isaacs Ave  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://tonyssubshop.com/>



Tony Wenham, owner of Tony's Sub Shop said, He thinks the holiday season will be special this year because eating out and holiday parties will be more plentiful than the previous couple of years". With holiday parties there comes the need for good food and that may be Tony's sandwich party trays. Tony and his staff take pride in providing their customers with affordable food items and excellent customer service. "Keeping prices affordable is not always easy these days with food cost but we do our best while maintaining our high quality", Tony stated.

While there may not be a special menu, the staff are poised ready to put the holiday cheer in and around the quaint sandwich shop-- once known as the Green Park Mobile Gas Station. Perhaps Tony's customers will find some extra red and green peppers on their sandwiches!



## Brushes 'n Brix

Barb Newby  
350 D St  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://brushesnrix.com/>



Gearing up for the holiday will involve purchasing some extra orange, brown, red and green paint for Brushes'n Brix owner, instructor and curator Barb Newby. Brushes 'n Brix is a social setting where people follow, fun, step by step instructions with acrylic paints while sipping on a beverage. Barb said "I am excited for this new holiday season because it will be full of happy, healthy people".

Painters from age two to 97 have enjoyed painting with Barb and this season they will enjoy some extra holiday treats and music while painting their favorite Christmas symbols and characters. The experience is so lively and interactive it is sure to include some sing-a-long to holiday tunes. The process to enjoy some holiday sipping and painting is really easy according to Barb. "You just need to visit the calendar on the Brushes 'n Brix website, join a scheduled painting session or book your own party and you get to choose the painting the group will be painting."



## Stella's Homestead

Cheryl Hansen  
2194 S Fk Coppei Creek Rd  
Waitsburg, WA 99361  
<https://www.stellashomestead.com/>



Cheryl Hansen returned to the family homestead in 2017 in hopes of honoring her parents and all the hard work they invested in creating the historical space she now calls "Stella's Homestead". Cheryl's deep love for antiques and finding new ways to reuse old things has given her guests an incredible peak back in history while they relax, renew, and restore themselves while experiencing the cozy and comfortable accommodations.

Cheryl is looking forward to this holiday season by creating a unique getaway that has a special "Winter Wonderland" atmosphere. Each of the 5 restored buildings will have Cheryl's holiday touch that is in fitting with their previous use. There is no doubt that Stella's Homestead will be the perfect place for non-traditional holiday gatherings with fabulous Instagramable photo opportunities and with Cheryl Hansen as the host the visit will be filled with incredible celebration of family and history.





# LAST WEEK TO REGISTER FOR CHAMBER **CONNECT**



## State of the Region

Wednesday, October 18  
11:30 am-1:00 pm

The Motor Co.  
46 E Rose St  
Walla Walla

 **Providence**  
St. Mary  
Medical Center  
Sponsored by:

This event will provide an exclusive opportunity for local businesses, professionals, and community members to engage directly with elected representatives, Senator Perry Dozier, Representative Mark Klicker, and Representative Skyler Rude, and gain valuable insights into regional developments.

Registration closed Friday, October 13 at 5:00 pm.

## UPCOMING RIBBON CUTTINGS

### Avennia

Friday, October 20  
11:00 am

3 S 1st St  
Walla Walla, WA

### Enable Art

Friday, November 3  
3:15 pm

508 S. College Ave  
College Place, WA

### Hayden Homes

Harvey Ranch Estates  
Thursday, November 9  
4:00 pm

1193 Ava St  
Walla Walla, WA



The Motor Co Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting  
10/5



## FILM WWV

Nestled in the heart of Washington State, the Walla Walla Valley has long been admired for its breathtaking vistas, charming suburban and urban settings, picturesque wine country and majestic mountains. Now it's ready to take center stage in the world of film and television production through this exciting initiative known as "Film WWV".

Film WWV aims to transform the Walla Walla Valley into a sought-after destination for filmmakers and producers. With its diverse range of landscapes and settings, the valley provides an ideal canvas for a wide variety of production.

Film WWV is not just about showcasing the beauty of the valley; it's also about supporting local talent and providing an economic development and long-term visitor enhancement and incentives through our collaboration with Washington Filmworks for filmmakers, actors, and crew members in and out of our region.

Whether you are a filmmaker searching for the perfect location or a local looking to get involved in the world of film, Walla Walla Valley's Film WWV invites you to be a part of this exciting journey.

To learn more about this project or how to get involved, don't hesitate to reach out to us at [info@wwwchamber.com](mailto:info@wwwchamber.com). Your support and participation will play a vital role in making Walla Walla Valley a thriving hub for the world of film and television production.

## STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Visit Walla Walla, the City of Walla Walla and State of Washington Tourism are eager to hear from tourism-related stakeholders that live or work in the Walla Walla Valley. Primary communities in this region include Walla Walla, Waitsburg, Dayton, and College Place in Washington, along with Milton-Freewater in Oregon.

Information that you share will help inform what tourism should look like in the region, and what steps can be undertaken in order to get there. Ultimately, this will all feed into the creation of a destination strategy for the region.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Survey will close on October 22, 2023.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to our members celebrating 25 or more years with the Chamber this past quarter.

### July

Byrnes Oil Co- 46  
YWCA- 46  
Walla Walla Electric- 41  
Monahan-Hood- 32  
KUJ AM- 30

### August

Minnick-Hayner- 76  
Edward Jones- Hank Worden- 43  
Umpqua Bank- 40  
Super 8 Motel Walla Walla- 32  
KUJ AM- 30

### September

Providence St. Mary Medical Center- 62  
McDonald's Restaurant- 49  
El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant- 30





## T-Post Tavern

Dan Thiessen  
1415 Plaza Way  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://www.tposttavern.com/>



T-Post Tavern, the third enterprise of Denim hospitality, brings yet another unique culinary experience to the community. The owner Dan Thiessen is especially excited about this experience. Growing up on a cattle ranch in Asotin Washington gave Dan some of the inspirations for the look and feel of the T-Post – the family cattle brand is proudly displayed on the wooden wall aside other local brands.

When asked about the coming holiday season Dan said they are finalizing plans for T-Post. Plans that are sure to be very unique and very different from his other two venues. For The Steak Company the holiday will continue with the “Polar Express” type theme and Yellow Hawk a very refined experience with live carolers to entertain the guests. “It is exciting to create another unique offering to our customers” Dan said. It is sure to be something entertaining for the whole family as the T-Post is open to kids until 10PM—it will be something a bit edgier than the other venues as Dan enjoys the challenge of creating something special and unique.



## Luttrell's Auto Center

Doug & Lorna Luttrell  
927 W Rose St  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
<https://www.luttrellsauto.net/>



Luttrell's is a “family-owned, professional, and honest auto service that is passionately dedicated to ensuring that all their customers drive safe, reliable vehicles”. Something Doug and his four technicians have been proving to their customers for a long time. Doug purchased the Texaco gas station in 1990, pumping gas for customers until he had a repair shop built in 1999.

Doug & Lorna are excited about a holiday season that does not get interrupted by COVID, which did cause some minor business slow downs. Both are looking forward to the holiday season as customers have the friendly holiday cheer as they come to do the “not so fun” car repair work. Lorna will bring in some holiday spirit with decorations and employees will be treated to a special holiday dinner.

# NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

## CHAMBER EVENTS

Tuesday, October 10 | 5:30 pm  
Radiance Wellness and Float

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

- Wonderful Women Wednesday at Henry Earl Estate Wines
- Hospice Autumn Luncheon
- Stump Trivia Quiz: Wednesdays at Big House Brew Pub

## LOCAL EVENTS

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

- Walla Walla Hospice- Recognizing & Navigating Loss: a Q&A for our region's Students & Families
- VFW- Bingo (10/9 & 10/10)

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

- Sustainable Living Center: Energy Savings Solar Workshop



29 E Sumach St • Walla Walla, WA  
509.525.0850  
www.wwwchamber.com  
marketing@wwwchamber.com



# 2023 VISIONARY MEMBERS

