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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YVL Rolls Out an Updated Calendar with FREE and Enriching Events

Yakima, WA – Yakima Valley Libraries (YVL) completed a community survey in 2023 and the community made it clear that they wanted more opportunities for engagement and connection.

“We were more than willing to oblige! So we worked to grow our events team, find partnerships, and now we are ready to kick off some wonderful events that will hopefully bring in community members of all ages to our libraries,” said Candelaria Mendoza, Executive Director.

To ensure everyone can find a topic of interest, several of these events are through collaborations with other agencies across the Yakima Valley. Organizations include Yakima Valley Museum, Community Health of Central Washington, Yakima Valley College, Central WA Legal Aid, DSHS, and more.

“We have amazing organizations leading so many efforts and hobbies in the Yakima Valley. It made sense for us to build collaborations with them and focus on providing more opportunities for our community to get the information,” said Perry Missner, Adult Services Coordinator for YVL.

“CWLA deeply values our partnership with the library. Yakima Valley Libraries are an established, safe place in Yakima County to bring children to reading programs, to pick up new books, and to access the internet. They make information free and accessible - exactly what CWLA is committed to as well. We can’t think of a better place than the library to share free legal information with our community. After all, knowledge is power,” said Quinn Dalan, Director of Central WA Legal Aid.

Upcoming FREE and Enriching Events Include:

- **Photographers of the Pacific Northwest.** Archive Librarians, Carlos Pelley and Matt Kendall, will present a fascinating presentation on YVL’s substantial photography collection – within their robust Relander Collection – impressive, preserved images that capture the natural beauty and historic landmarks of the Pacific Northwest. Photos date from 1900s to 1960s. Admission is free, and all ages are welcome.

- Yakima Valley Museum
Saturday, June 8 from 12:00-1:00pm
- **Lawyers in the Library** – Join Yakima Central WA Legal Aid and local law firms for presentations on common topics related to immigration. The session will end with a time for Q&A. A Spanish-speaking translator will be present.
 - Sunnyside Library & Yakima Central Library
Tuesday, June 11 at 1:00pm
- **History Happy Hour** – Carlos Pelley, Archive Librarian in the Northwest Reading Room of Yakima Valley Libraries, is in the midst of a monthly series of interactive presentations on Yakima Valley's diverse history. His third presentation at Gilbert Cellars Winery will highlight Native American history in the PNW.
 - Gilbert Cellars Winery
Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00pm
- **What is Heritage Gardening?** – What are native plants and why are they important? Emily Hamant from the Heritage Garden Program of the Columbia River Basin will help to answer these questions. She will also instruct attendees on how to plan and establish a native plant garden at home!
 - Terrace Heights Library
Thursday, June 13 at 1:00pm
 - Sunnyside Library
Thursday, August 13 at 1:00pm
- **Dementia Friends Information Session** - Join Johnica Castro's – of DSHS – *Dementia Friends* 60-minute information session to gain knowledge on how we as a community can make a difference for people touched by dementia.
 - West Valley Library
Monday, August 5 at 2:30pm
 - Yakima Central Library
Tuesday, September 10 at 2:30pm

Stay tuned, as Yakima Valley Libraries continues to provide FREE programs that empower, inspire, and connect the community members of Yakima County. For more event information, visit www.yvl.org.

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Yakima Valley Libraries: together we empower, inspire, and connect.