During this past year Centralia College has seen major campus construction and renovation projects take root, marking a commitment to the continuation of quality education in this region. And while these are important projects that will enhance our ability to deliver quality education, we cannot lose sight of the fact that the strength of Centralia College continues to be the outstanding men and women who work and teach here.

Since its beginning more than 80 years ago, Centralia College has maintained its tradition of excellence in the classroom, led by faculty members who are dedicated to their professions. The results of their efforts are exemplified by the quality students who learn from them and move on to family wage jobs in our community and who distinguish themselves as they work toward higher degrees at four-year colleges and universities.

We know that people such as Stefan Samuelson, who is now a doctor in New York, attribute much of their success to the faculty who nurtured them at Centralia College. Stefan’s story can be found in this report. Many of you know about Charlie Albright, now an internationally-acclaimed musician who is studying at Harvard and at the New England Conservatory. He also is quick to express appreciation for the educational foundation he received here. Three of our Energy Technology graduates were recently hired at TransAlta, each earning over $30 per hour, plus benefits.

There are literally thousands of stories of men and women who point to their experiences at Centralia College and their interaction with our faculty as a launching pad for their success.

Currently, there are 20 of our faculty who are recipients of the Exceptional Faculty Award. We have a professor who was the Washington State Teacher of the Year Award recipient, and others who have been recognized by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society as outstanding faculty members. Many of our staff have also been honored for meritorious service, and I see day in and day out the dedication our staff has to the students and to the community we serve.

We have earned our reputation as a responsive and flexible community college, and there is no doubt that we truly care about our community needs. It is with pride that we strive to be the best so that we can serve our students and community as they deserve to be served.

Thank you. Words that are so simple yet not said often enough.

In your hands is the Centralia College/Foundation Report to the Community. This document gives you an overview of the direction and progress of the college and the foundation. This document will tell you about the progress of the Science Center, Health and Wellness Center and the College Commons. Work on two of the three listed structures could be completed this year, while the Commons will remain on the drawing board for a bit longer. The first college classes in the Science Center will be in the spring quarter and the college men’s and women’s first home basketball games are scheduled to be held in the remodeled gym this December. These are major additions to an already quality campus and are structures that will serve the college and the community for many years to come.

This report also reviews the financial health of the foundation and the steps we are taking to expand our donor base. It gives you the vision of the foundation’s mission, to support and enhance the ability of the college to improve people’s lives through lifelong learning.

Almost as important, it gives you the sense of legacy, the inevitable by-product of devoted donors, faculty and staff. These are people who have given their finances, inspiration, and passion to assist others and at the same time received it in return many times over, improving themselves in the process of assisting others. On behalf of the foundation and myself, thank you.
Technology continues its evolution toward exciting learning styles

Many experts in the 1980s predicted that most people would never need a personal computer. They were too big, too expensive and not all that useful to the average user. Emerging technology may prove them right. To understand how that can happen, fast forward a few years, past desktop computers and wireless connectivity and into the ever-expanding digital world.

That digital world, applied to higher education, may make the desktop computer sound like something out of the dark ages, and it’s a world of education that Centralia College students may experience sooner rather than later.

A team from the college visited Microsoft headquarters in Redmond for a look at the technology evolution that will change where, when, and how students learn. Microsoft visionaries showed a planned, interactive learning world where the walls in the classroom and even in the student’s home could replace the ubiquitous 18-inch monitor.

“Our goal is to be in a position to apply some of the amazing technology that is in use in the experimental lab at Microsoft to the learning experience at Centralia College,” said Dr. Jim Walton. “What is on the drawing board is absolutely astounding. It will radically alter the way faculty teach and the way students learn.”

Through a partnership with Microsoft, the college would enhance the vision for learning any time, any place, on any device.

Scenarios portray the learning experience of interacting with teachers and peers using multimedia-rich collaboration; getting hands-on experience with a research field trip to an active volcano; doing homework in a diner or other location outside the home, and sharing the learning at home with parents or friends using tables or dorm room walls for interactive computer screens.

“It’s an exciting way to engage the learner,” said Walton, “to increase access to information, improve retention of what has been learned, and provide avenues for immediate application of knowledge. It’s the evolution of education.”

He cited an example of medical students viewing a three-dimensional rendering of the human body floating in the center of the classroom. Students would be able to see how organs function and how they interact with other organs, how diseases impact the body, and how medicines can counter diseases. With the technology available, this classroom can be almost anywhere and viewing can take place at any time.

And the new technologies will help with classroom collaboration, allowing teams to keep members informed of progress on all portions of projects. They will have access to each other’s research, allowing them to share collected information, provide the platform for collaborative critical thinking and applications leading to solutions. This could be invaluable training for what the business world of the future will look like.

“The applications of the technology for the classroom can apply to just about any discipline,” said Walton. “Tremendous change is coming. It is important for this college to be on the ground floor to make sure that the world is our students’ classroom.”

Want to take a guess as to how long before this technology might be available for Centralia College students? The college is now working with Microsoft and with the college commons architect to be sure the right pieces are in place for the building that could open in 2013. Of course with change coming at lightning speed, the classroom of the future might be here sooner.

Reviews success of college

At the 2008 commencement in June, Dr. George Mohoric stepped down after serving 10 years on the Centralia College Board of Trustees. Appointed in 1998 by Gov. Gary Locke and reappointed in 2003 by Gov. Christine Gregoire, Mohoric twice served as board chair during his tenure.

“I accepted the nomination to the college board because I felt that was where I could best contribute to the community,” Mohoric recalled. A 1953 graduate of Centralia College, Mohoric has been a supporter of the college ever since.

Mohoric reflected on the changes and progress the college had made in the past decade. “The construction of new facilities has been key to being a strong force in education,” Mohoric said. “Each time we’ve added or improved facilities, we gained new students and incorporated more advanced programs.”

Mohoric was pleased with his part in bringing a Policy Governance program to the college, but admitted his greatest satisfaction was seeing Washington Hall and other facilities grow on the campus. He was a advocate for the new Science Center, Health and Wellness remodel, and the projected College Commons. “I think Centralia College now represents a ‘mature’ campus,” Mohoric commented. “We have more students and they are doing better because of it.”

Mohoric says he looks forward to more free time to get chores done, and spending more time at his beach house on the coast.

Dr. George Mohoric
to trade leadership role for life of retirement

Dr. George Mohoric, former trustee
Distinguished Alumnus Award

Prominent Seattle architect and developer receives top college honor

A former Adna standout athlete, Centralia College alumus, and successful Seattle architect and developer is the Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient. John Sato, a 1953 graduate of the college, overcame significant obstacles to earn a reputation as a gifted architect and progressive developer.

Sato is the 31st recipient of the college’s highest honor.

The Sato family built a thriving farming enterprise near the old town site of Littell, where their neat-as-a-pin family farm was a source of community pride and a testament to the legendary work ethic of Japanese-Americans in the Northwest.

John Sato was still a boy when his life was torn asunder by the invasion of Pearl Harbor. Sato, along with his parents, brothers, and one sister, were snatched from the family farm and sent to an internment camp at Tule Lake, California.

“We came back when the camp closed,” Sato recalled, “but our lives had changed.” After Sato’s mother had died in the tents at Tule Lake, his father was determined to keep the family together on the Adna area farmstead.

Upon his graduation from high school, where Sato gained a reputation as a regional star athlete and popular student, he enrolled at then Centralia Junior College. His classmate, roommate, and best friend from the class of ’53 is former Centralia College trustee Dr. George Mohoric.

“We lived at the old Fords Prairie fire station,” Sato explained, “and we got to drive the fire truck if there was a fire.” Then he laughed. “George only got to drive to two fires,” Sato chuckled, “and one of those was a false alarm.”

Soon after Sato graduated from Centralia College he was drafted into the army. Sato recognized the irony that had been the US Japanese internment policy, but was not embittered by it. Rather, like most Japanese-Americans in the Northwest, the Sato family remained staunchly patriotic. “Some of the young men were drafted right out of the tents,” he remembered, “but most volunteered for military service, even while the war in the Pacific continued.”

After his discharge Sato entered the University of Washington, where he earned a degree in architecture. He worked for several firms as he learned the trade and soon opened his own office in Seattle. “I quickly recognized the potential for real estate development,” he confided, “and as an architect I had an advantage.”

Over the decades his enterprise has been very successful. On the verge of retirement, Sato has turned over the business reins to his son, an attorney and developer.

Faculty duo earn Exceptional status

Randy Johnson / Dr. Susanne Weil honored for excellence

Randy Johnson, associate professor of Developmental English, and Dr. Susanne Weil, associate professor of English, were selected to receive the Centralia College Exceptional Faculty Award for 2008.

After graduating from Columbia University, Randy Johnson got involved in developing an alternative middle/high school in Olympia. During this time, he came to realize just how many students are ill equipped academically or socially to enter college after high school.

With that as his focus, Johnson entered the Adult Basic Education program at Centralia College. Johnson continues to help make the adult-betterment program one of the best in the Northwest.

Johnson is dedicated to helping his students succeed and shows a high level of personal attention to each of his students. He exemplifies the “extra mile” concept of helping a student achieve success in education and in life.

Dr. Susanne Weil attended college at Swarthmore in Pennsylvania before transferring to the University of Keele in Stratfordshire, England. While at the British college she studied Chaucer, Icelandic sagas, and English literature. The experience changed her course from a career in clinical psychology to teaching literature.

In graduate school at the University of California in Berkeley, Weil discovered—and fell in love with, she insists—the writings and persona of Mark Twain. In the ensuing years Dr. Weil has become an expert on the works of Mark Twain. As a student-centered teacher, she considers it her mandate to help students overcome the obstacles of insecurity, minimum wage jobs, and work that has little meaning. She seeks, rather, to instill the curiosity and enthusiasm that make learning a lifelong quest for her students.
As it turns out, the college’s carbon footprint per full-time student is significantly less than the national average of 11.2 MTCDE! But, despite the favorable comparison, it is essential to look at the larger picture. Whereas many colleges are residential, Centralia College is a commuter campus without dorms; accordingly housing emissions were not included in the inventory. But, with no on-campus living options, commuting emissions are especially large. Eighty-six percent of the college’s total emissions come from student commuting!

Accordingly, this year at Centralia College, transportation along with recycling and paper use will be the primary sustainability focuses. College employees and students are being asked to reduce paper use, deposit all recyclables in the blue recycle bins, carpool, take the bus, bike, or walk whenever possible. You can check out the college’s progress on sustainability by visiting the college’s Web site. Information includes details to help students make carpool connections, obtain a free, reserved parking space for a hybrid or electric vehicle; obtain a pass to park in convenient, reserved carpool spaces, locate bus routes and times, and bike safely to Centralia College.

All of the soda pop cans tossed by Centralia College students may be reincarnated as a part of a building wall because of the college’s ramped-up recycling efforts. This next step in the move toward sustainability shows up as more than three dozen specially designated and brightly colored recycling containers spread across campus and throughout buildings. While in the past the college encouraged recycling of plastic and metal products, those choosing to recycle may have had trouble finding proper receptacles. That is no longer the case.

“Our recycling program is picking up momentum and with these highly visible containers it will be easier for everyone to contribute to the effort,” said Dr. James Walton, college president. According to Bob Audet, the college’s Building and Grounds director, by recycling the college could keep more than 3,200-cubic yards of waste out of landfills each year. “It’s absolutely the right thing to do,” said Audet. The college also stands to shave about $1,000 off its $4,000 monthly garbage bill.

“It is critical that Centralia College demonstrate leadership in sustainability,” said Walton. “We are running out of time. What we do now will make a difference. We must be involved as a college and as individuals in efforts to make sustainability our priority. This is something that needs to be done not just for our generation but for our children and their children.”

A major component of the commitment was to establish the college’s baseline carbon footprint, a task that has been accomplished. It involved wading through thousands of data files, developing surveys, conducting interviews, and taking measurements. Ultimately, Centralia College Sustainability Intern, Annie Lindberg, a graduate student at The Evergreen State College, determined the college’s 2006-2007 carbon emissions from electricity use, natural gas consumption, college-fleet fuel consumption, college reimbursed travel miles, commuter habits, fertilizer application, and refrigerant use, to be 28,690 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (MTCDE). This means that Centralia College averages 4.3 MTCDE per full-time equivalent student.

## eLearning in pajamas

Back-to-school shopping for increasing numbers of students might consist of a bucket of chicken wings and a new pair of pajamas. It’s the way online learners can approach a college career at Centralia College.

During the past year, Centralia College has expanded its inventory of online classes, now offering a degree in Criminal Justice.

“It was one of our major accomplishments during the past year, said Sue Gallaway, dean of eLearning at the college. “It marks the direction we are heading. Our goal is to remove the time and distance barriers that might have kept people from enrolling in college.”

For those not quite ready to dive completely into online learning, the college is also featuring its growth in hybrid classes – one or two sessions in a classroom and the remainder of the class handled through eLearning options. This combination still maintains face-to-face contact with faculty and classmates, but adds the feature of place/time learning freedom.

“It’s important to have pieces in place that sustain the passion for learning,” said Gallaway.

Nationally, more than 20 percent of all higher education students last year were online learners. Two-year colleges have the highest growth rates and account for over one-half of all online enrollments for the past five years.

For a view of the Centralia College online program, visit <http://www.centralia.edu/cconline/>
Earth Sciences associate professor Pat Pringle’s new book, “Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier National Park and Vicinity” was released in August. The new publication joins Pringle’s very popular “Roadside Geology of Mount St. Helens,” published earlier.

At the time his first book was written Pringle was assigned to the Cascades Volcano Observatory. He spent eight years there during and after the big eruptions and later worked with the Washington Department of Natural Resources for about 15 years, chronicling the past eruptive history of Mount Rainier, the basis for this book.

Pringle’s research into age-dating the most recent catastrophic mud flows, or “lahars” at Mount Rainier has given scientists new insights into the destructive forces that could threaten much of the development between the mountain and Seattle if another lahar event occurs in the near future.

“Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier National Park and Vicinity” is an up-to-date book on volcanic processes past and present in the Pacific Northwest, illustrating both the beauty and the hazards of our state’s largest volcano. The book covers the volcanic zone from about I-5 to the west, SR 410 to the north, Yakima on the east, and SR 12 to the south.

The 200-page, four-color book is written for anyone with a basic understanding of geology and is designed for ease of use. The centerpiece is a log of the roads to and through the park. Each of the 15 road logs has expanded geologic maps of the route and a mile-by-mile narrative describing the geology and other natural features.

The book contains more than 290 photos and illustrations, some of them historic and most in color. The book was funded in part by the National Scenic Byways program of the Federal Highway Administration.

Pringle’s new book can be ordered online by contacting <http://www.prt.wa.gov> or visiting the Department of printing in person.

The 2007 campaign fell just short of the $375,000 goal set a year ago, but the campaign was impacted by the serious Chehalis River floods of December. The campaign missed the mark by just $25,000—an astonishing testament to the support Centralia College gets from the community.

The 2008 annual campaign has been renamed the “Future Leaders” campaign by the foundation to reflect the principal goal of the fund raiser. A lion’s share of the annual fund-raiser is used to help deserving students realize their education goals and become the future leaders of our community.

The goal this year was also set at $375,000, a sum the board and volunteers are confident will be reached this fall. The foundation board of directors approved a $100,000 addition to the campaign for a new concert grand piano, described elsewhere in this report.

The Foundation board has also set a goal that more of each year’s campaign collections be designated for “unrestricted” category, rather than to direct scholarships or specific program assistance. “The board is looking for greater flexibility in funding new programs and equipment to better enable the college to achieve its mission,” said Steve Ward, foundation executive director.

“As requests come along for new and innovative approaches to technical education, the board needs that flexibility.”

Foundation directors and staff will be asking more people to consider donating to the annual campaign with no specific restrictions on the future use of their gift.

“The bulk of funds received will still go to student financial assistance,” said Julie Johnson, director of alumni and donor relations. “Helping students meet the educational challenges of the future is still our priority, but we see a need for the board to have more options.”
College benefits from $650,000 donation to establish a scholarship resource, STEM students targeted

In the relatively short history of the Centralia College Foundation, few gifts from a single couple have the long-reaching potential of the gift by Earnest and Edith Driscoll.

The Earnest Driscoll Scholarship Fund was created from the Earnest and Edith Driscoll Living Trust. The endowment in their name will provide scholarships at Centralia College and is a permanent endowment, fully funded, open for additional contributions. The Fund will provide scholarships with money accumulated from the interest on the gift endowment.

Those are the legal facts; the real story of Earnest and Edith Driscoll is, as one might expect, more personal, intimate, and enlightening than any court document might indicate.

Earnest Driscoll was born in Seattle in 1911; Edith was born in Miami, Arizona, just four years later. The couple married young and endured unthinkable hardships during the Great Depression. A story tearfully related by Mr. Driscoll in later years told of scouring garbage cans and waste bins during those dark days in search of food.

After the depression, Driscoll worked his way into the steel and construction businesses, where he enjoyed modest success. The couple had no children and eventually settled in Centralia. Although Driscoll never earned more than a high school diploma, the couple saved a considerable amount of money because of their frugal habits. Both believed wholly that hard work, perseverance, and education—above all else—could improve the quality of a person’s life.

The Driscolls made Centralia College the beneficiary of their Living Trust, donating more than $650,000 for a permanent scholarship resource. It was their final wish to help many deserving young people from this area receive the educational advantages the Driscolls were denied.

Not long ago the Centralia College Foundation announced the “STEM” initiative, a means of providing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math education for area high school students with the desire and ability to excel in these critical disciplines.

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of Earnest and Edith Driscoll, many local young people will realize their dream of a career in science. We must believe the Driscolls would have been pleased.
NY doctor recognizes Centralia College experience as the launching pad for life’s many opportunities

Some people probably thought Stefan Samuelson was going to be a professional drifter, his background implied that. He’d attended high schools in Tacoma for two years and several different schools in Thurston County before graduating from Tumwater High in 1991. He then spent one year at a private four-year university in California before working overseas for a year. It looked like wanderlust.

But there was a genetic code somewhere inside that commanded more of him, something that drove him back to the U.S. to do something more important.

He found his way to Centralia College, more sure of why the need to study and less certain of what to study.

“I knew I needed to be someplace where I could work toward my goals without knowing for certain what they would become. Centralia College represented a perfect opportunity for me. I was able to complete coursework that would be applicable to any degree,” said Samuelson. Plus, Centralia College offered low tuition at a time when he counted pennies.

Then his curiosity gene kicked in.

“I was able to experience a lot of different things that I thought would help me choose my career goals,” he said. He explored botany, psychology, political science, music, theater, and student government, an array that did little to narrow his career choices. Under the tutorage of dramatic arts instructor Brian Tyrrell, Samuelson was a regular on the Corbet Hall stage. After two years at Centralia College, his interest in acting, the urging of his peers, and a tidy scholarship led him to the prestigious North Carolina School of the Arts to study acting, opera and directing. His three years at NCSA also unearthed another passion that likely had been smoldering for years and he enrolled at Florida International University in Miami to complete prerequisites for medical school.

There, he earned his degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a minor in chemistry.

With his goal in sight and the motivation to reach it, he enrolled at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons where he completed two years of research in urology and public health. He obtained his M.D. this year and is now completing a residency in anesthesiology and critical care at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, the hospital for special surgery.

Samuelson is quick to point out the positives that came from his two years at Centralia College that propelled him to global exploration.

“It was excellent,” he said of his experience at Centralia College. “I prepared myself for a future I hadn’t even imagined in a place where everyone seemed ready to help me discover everything that was unique and strong about myself.”

Those discoveries took him around the country and the world in jobs ranging from theatrical director, an English teacher in Italy and Costa Rica, a harm reduction counselor, a child life liaison in a pediatric cancer hospital, a bartender in the big-business nightlife of Miami, and now a doctor in New York. “I know that the confidence I gained early in my academic career helped me enormously to reach for these opportunities as they arose,” said Samuelson.

That confidence may have been native to Samuelson but it was nurtured at Centralia College.

“I was always impressed by the professors and their ability to bring the breadth of their chosen fields into the classroom. It was refreshing that the viewpoints of my instructors at Centralia College were so sophisticated.”

And his prescription for anyone who is unsure of their future direction? Centralia College: “It’s a veritable gold mine of potential mentors to help one choose a path and get a solid beginning.”

JOANNE SCHWARTZ named to college board of trustees

Joanne Schwartz, a 45-year resident of Chehalis, was named to the Centralia College Board of Trustees by Governor Christine Gregoire.

Schwartz, who has a long history of community involvement and participation, is currently the Economic Development Administrator for the City of Chehalis where she has worked for 16 years. Prior to that Joanne served two terms as a Lewis County Commissioner (1985-1992).

“I see Centralia College and the community college system as one of the best options for people of all ages who want to continue their education or those who are looking for avenues of retraining,” she said. “Centralia College provides enormous opportunity and I look forward to being part of that process.”

Schwartz believes that the strengths of Centralia College are in the quality of educators and support staff at the college.

“I’m also very excited about the new building projects that will be an added source of strength and will provide students with outstanding educational opportunities,” she said.

She also serves on the board of the Centralia College Fund and is a member of the college’s Capital Campaign Steering Committee. She is a member and past chair of the Providence Centralia Hospital Community Board; was a founding member of the Lewis County Economic Development Council, and is a past Kiwanian. Other activities include SERTOMA (Service to Mankind) and the Chamber. She has three children and four grandchildren.
The battle against childhood obesity in Lewis County is a little beefier thanks to a PEP grant and project support from Centralia College, the University of Washington, participating school districts and the Lewis County Community Health Partnership.

The grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

The project funded by the grant is a result of a college, community and university effort to address the “alarming increased prevalence of overweight children,” and focuses on children from four school districts in Lewis County. The project introduces a nationally recognized K-12 fitness and health curriculum and should create lasting change in targeted children as they attain the knowledge and skills to improve their physical fitness and adopt healthy lifestyles.

“One of the features of this effort is a shift away from an emphasis on sports to a focus on fitness,” said Cheri Raff, who heads the college’s renowned Child and Family Studies program. “This is something that can always be a part of the lives of these children.” It could lay the foundation for a nation-wide approach to the problem of obesity in youngsters.

The grant, born out of a recognition that rurally raised children tend to live on the upper edges of obesity and lack of fitness, according to a national study, is targeting more than 6,500 Lewis County students in Adna, Morton, White Pass and Centralia school districts who are participating in the three-year project. Winlock, PeEll and Mossyrock school districts are serving as control schools and their students will also be tested as part of the overall University of Washington research. The research study is a partnership between the University of Washington and Centralia College. The results will determine if students actually extend their increased physical activity and improved nutritional habits outside of school. Selected teachers from each district will become trainers.

The Lewis County Healthy Children project (LCHC), the grant title, is managed by Cheri Raff, Centralia College’s Dean of Child and Family Studies, and brings in more than $800,000 over the three-year span of the grant for curriculum, expert support, teacher training, evaluation and equipment that will lead to fitness centers in the participating school districts.

“This is a fun project,” said Raff. “It is a ground-breaking study that will generate a lot of interest among school districts everywhere.” The LCHC project is designed to improve the health and fitness of children in the targeted schools but the control districts will also receive the curriculum and other support resources.

According to Raff, the project will help students achieve a health-enhancing level of fitness, basic motor skill acquisition, an increased level of daily physical activity and obtain an understanding of basic nutrition concepts necessary to comply with Washington state health and fitness standards.

Centralia College Expenditure Statement
(Unaudited)

June 30, 2008
Operations:

- Salaries .............................................................................. $13,661,356
- Benefits .................................................................................. 4,225,695
- Goods and Services .............................................................. 3,346,215
- Travel ....................................................................................... 195,990
- Equipment ................................................................................ 542,407
- Total Operations ................................................................ $21,971,663

- Capital Projects ..................................................................... 18,340,536
- Student Employment ......................................................... 396,760
- Scholarships and Financial Aid .............................................. 3,722,684
- Total Expenditures ............................................................. $44,431,643

Employees – During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, the college employed 263 full-time and 584 part-time faculty and staff. Of the total faculty and staff, 425 resided in the college’s service district, which includes Lewis and south Thurston counties.

Local Government – Included in the expenditures listed above are payments to the county and city governments of $515,997. These payments are for services, fees, permits and utilities.

Taxes – The college is exempt from property tax. However, it operates a food service and bookstore that generated $1.26 million of taxable sales revenue, which resulted in sales tax collections of about $99,172.
DONORS

$25,000 and up
Legacy Circle
Associated Students of Centralia College
Peg & Jack Cunningham
Larry & Becky McGee
Ralph & Bonnie Olson
The Estate of Alice & Francis Paulus
Art & Glenna Symons

$10,000 - $24,999
Circle of Distinction
Chehalis Indian Tribe
Susan Kuder Dunn & Patrick Dunn
Baxter Killian Memorial Trust
Ms. Patricia Morton
Brigitte & Ron Burger
Ms. Alta Sweany
The Seattle Foundation
TransAlta
Union Bank of California

$4,000 - $9,999
Founders
Alturas Intri Inc. of Centralia-Chehalis
Louise Goldberg
Richard & Judy Hendrickson
Leavengood Architects, Inc.
Lewis County Concerts
Lewis County Public Health
NC Machinery Co.
Northwest Recycling Co., Inc.
Providence Health & Services
Joan Robinson
Steve Robinson
Schwiesow Construction, Inc.
Neena & Gary Stokoskop
The Chronicle
Twin Cities Rotary Club
Dr. James & Pam Walton
Bill & Helga Watterson
West Coast Bank
Mary M. Wiley
Zonta Club of Centralia-Chehalis

$1,000 - $3,999
President's Club
Cherie & Chuck Althaus
Aluminate Northwest
American Legion/Grant Hodge Post #17
Awards West-Printwares, Inc.
Howard Batie
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Batie
Robert & Sandra Batie
Ms. Marjorie Bennett
BNSF Foundation
Leon & Rose Bowman
CAFTA
Janet C. Carlson
Centralia College Center of Excellence
Centralia College Diesel Tech. Program
Centralia Rotary Club
Centralia Kiwanis Club
Chapter X PEO
Jack & Luellen Charneski
Chehalis Kiwanis Club
Chehalis Power Generating, LLC
Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Combined Fund Drive
Petre & Janet Corwin
Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing
Ms. Katherine Dunn
Embody & Dugaw
Express Personnel Services
Farm & Forest Helicopter Service
Alice Forth
Ms. Sylvia Freund
Anne Garrett

Dan & Mary Jane Hahn
Mr. & Mrs. Jay E. Hammond
Dr. & Mrs. Helgi Heidar
John & Donna Karvia
L & E Bottling Company, Inc.
Lewis Co. Literacy Council
Luque's Auto Sales
Phyllis & Walter Malzahn Charitable Trust
Mr. & Mrs. John Matlick
George D. McCullough
McMamamins
Mr. Dick Melhart
Ms. Susan Miller
Dr. & Mrs. George Mohoric
MSGS Architects
Olympia Chapter-WSCPA
Ms. Suzi Page
Panglobal Training Systems, Ltd.
Port Blakely Tree Farms LP
Puget Sound Energy
John & Reiko Sato
James & Lanette Scapillato
Shop 'n Kart
Sneed Construction, Inc.
Arthur Staeger
State of Washington Dept. of Information Services
Sterling Savings Bank
The Olympic Club
Title Guaranty Company, Inc.
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program
Sara J. VanMeter
Venture Bank-Lacey
Wal-Mart Supercenter
Steve & Kathleen Ward
Washington Hispanic Connections
Western Regional Boiler Association
Mr. & Mrs. John Wright

$500 - $999
Dwayne Aberle
Joe & Donna Balmelli
Darlene Bartlett
Dennis & Tammy Calkins
CC International Students
Centralia-Chehalis Vintage Auto Club
Chapter JE PEO
Hattie Churchill-Abercrombie
Mr. & Ms. Rom Cunnins
Frank & Judy DeVaul
Ms. Patty Dotson
John & Sherry Fagerness
Don & Jeanette Fowler
Mr. George Gablehouse
Richard & Sue Gallaway
Larry & Dona Granger
Michael & Julia Grubiaik
Hiller, Scheibmier, Vey & Kelly
Hispanic Roundtable
A.R. & Beverly Jaeger
Claude & Dorothy Lakeved
Jen LeGros
Cindy & Mark Mayo
Loretta & Bob O'Neill
Marian L. Osterby
Carroll Pearson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Pine
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Patricia & Leslie Pringle
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Lewis County Chapter #17
Scholarship Fund - Lockheed Matching
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Audrey Kimball
James P. King, DDS
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Terrie Kirker
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Mr. & Mrs. Royce Larson
Willard Latimer
Wally, Renee, & Tabitha Lawson
Candy Layman
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Patti & Dale Luger
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Jeanette McDowell Willis
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Donna Dahman Wright
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In-kind (in support of college programs and Foundation activities)
Roberta Abarca
Dwayne Aberle
Adna Iron Works
Debbie Aust
Awards West-Printwares, Inc.
Boccata Deli & Market
Tom Bradley

Brigitte Burger
Dennis Callins
Centralia Starbucks Coffee Co.
Chehalis Professional Building
Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Peter Corwin
Costo Wholesale
Ken Cotton
Peg Cunningham
Heidi Dearborn
Joe Dolezal
April Doolittle
John Fasler
Candi Fetch
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Linda Foss
Fuji Teriyaki
Sue Gallaway
Bev Gesteine
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Karen Grehe
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Hamilton Engine Sales
Helgi Heidar
Suzanne Hostetter
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Cindy Mann
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Mark & Cindy Mayo
Rebecca McGee
Marla Miller
Dr. George Mohoric
Mary Myhre
Ruby Nagelkerke
Vicki Okerman
Ocean Sky Restaurant
Ralph Olson
Perkins Pacific Inc
Bob Peters
Victoria Rogorelc
Pat Pringle
Cheri Raff
Ken Rakoz
Joanie Rogerson
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Mark Scheibmeir
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Shanghai Cafe
Jim Sherrill
South Pacific Bistro
Lee Stevens
Tammy Strodemier
Sunbird Shopping Center, Inc.
Elisa Sunflower
TransAlta
W.D. Kurz, DDS
Jim Walton
Steve Rasmussen
Pat Pringle
Steve Rasmussen
Justus Runyon
John Sato
Chris Seiber
Lucy Shirley
Dan Taylor
Nancy Warnstadt
Doris Wood

Venture Bank—Night at the Theatre
West Coast Bank—Advantage 2008

Memorials and Tributes
Judith Aguilar
Chris Bailey
Gabriel Burger
Dennis Callins
Hazel Duncan
Chris Feden
Liz Frey
Mike Garrison
Al Jaeger
Luanna M Kimmert
Grace Ann Lynch
Larry McGee
Quentin Medlin
George Mohoric
George Moore
Frances Nugent
Pat Pringle
Steve Rasmussen
Justus Runyon
John Sato
Chris Seiber
Lucy Shirley
Dan Taylor
Nancy Warnstadt
Doris Wood

*Combined Fund Drive
We would like to also thank employees from the following state agencies who have contributed to the Centralia College Foundation via the state-wide Combined Fund:
Department of Revenue; Washington State Patrol; Department of Labor & Industries; Social & Health Services; Department of Health; Higher Education Coordinating Board; Department of Ecology; Department of Agriculture; and Centralia College.

Event Sponsorship
We are grateful to the following sponsors of Centralia College Foundation events:
Lucky Eagle Casino—Annual Kick-off
McMenamins—Night at the Oly Club
Security State Bank —Scholarship Night
Union Bank of California—Annual Kick-off

This year the foundation has established a way to recognize those who have made a commitment to the future while protecting the resources they’ve set aside for family.

We call this organization the “Legacy Society,” a gathering of those who will include the Centralia College Foundation in their planned giving, estate plans, and other innovative endowments plans.

Those who have chosen to include the college in their estate plan, an endowment, a gift annuity, or any of several updated financial arrangements will be recognized on an engraved plaque on the campus, receive a framed formal certificate from the society, and be welcomed at college and foundation events throughout the year. They will be included in the formal roster in reports to the community, and members of the Legacy Society will be invited to annual dinners.

Current members of the Legacy Society include: Patricia Clark, Susan Kuder Dunn & Patrick Dunn, Larry & Becky McGee, Ralph & Bonnie Olson, Roy & Julie Seiber, Steve & Kathleen Ward, Brian and Vicki Nupen, and Brigitte Burger.

If you’re thinking about estate planning for the first time or if you wish to update an existing estate plan, we’d like to help. Call Julie Johnson at the foundation at 736-9391, ext. 290, for details.
Established to help further student success at Centralia Advanced Education in 1958 to 1972.

Dr. Ralph O. Carlson

English instructor at Centralia College from 1944 to 1958.

They owned and operated Baumgarten Hardware (1900-1993) and Plumbing Company from 1944 to 1958.

Rachel Bartlett Memorial (1971-1988)

Centralia High School student who planned to pursue a career as a dental technician.


A Centralia College student in 1947 & 1948.

Margaret Alvord (1907-1986)

Was an accomplished for the college's music department for 20 years.


Long-time residents of Lewis County and owners of the Barner-Swenson Fuel Company for 30 years.

J.O. worked as a railroad engineer. Both were very active in the Masonic Lodge.

Arne Fagerness (1910-1981)

A Centralia College student in 1947 & 1948.

Margaret Corbet (1886-1971)

First dean of Centralia College, serving from the opening of the college in 1925 until her retirement in 1949.

L.O. (1874-1942) & Lillian Taylor Davis (1884-1969)

They owned and operated the N. Churchill Glove Factory.

Vincent Coates (1917-1990)

Math and engineering instructor and registrar at Centralia College from 1946 to 1979.

Margaret Corbet (1886-1971)

First dean of Centralia College, serving from the opening of the college in 1925 until her retirement in 1949.

Arthur Ehret (1899-1974)

Chemistry instructor and registrar at Centralia College from 1925 to 1967.

Arnie Fagerness (1910-1981)

Centralia resident who, along with his wife, Julia, raised nine children, most of whom attended Centralia College.

Alice Forth

A 1951 graduate of Centralia College and the first Margaret Corbet scholar. Served from 1958 to 1991 as an instructor, counselor, chair of the business education division, and dean of students at the college.

Vicor Freund (1945-2005)

Foreign Languages instructor at Centralia College 1986 – 2005.

Claire E. Fuller (1912-1987)

Employee of the educational system for 12 years and a strong believer in higher education.

Fuller Market Basket

The first of three Fuller stores was opened in Chehalis in 1941 by Ed and Bill Fuller, Jr.

George Gablehouse

Physical education instructor and athletic director at Centralia College from 1958 to 1979.

Georgie Godding/EDC

In recognition of George Godding, the first president of the Lewis County Economic Development Council. Scholarship sponsored by the EDC.

John V. Griel (1917-1995)

Chemistry instructor at Centralia College from 1947-1976.

Walter (1907-1997) & Helen (1907-1960) Hanke

Established by Walter Hanke prior to his death in 1995. The college received the residual of this estate in 1996 to formally establish the endowment. The Hanke’s were long-time Lewis County farmers.

Dr. Nels Hanson

The first president of Centralia College; served from 1956 to 1981.

Dr. Garrett Heyms (1891-1969)

Washington State Director of the Department of Institutions who established the Education Center at Washington Corrections Center in Shelton.

Dave Hillbiber (1922-1997)

Former faculty member of the professional technical program at Centralia College.

Harry S. Hill, Jr. (1923-1995)

Long-time supporter of Centralia College and its many athletic programs.

Hamlet Hilpert Music (1907-2007)

An active community citizen with a keen interest in Centralia College music programs.

Olive Irelan (1908-1995)

Teacher for 42 years and employed by the Centralia School District from 1944 to 1973. Charter Foundation board member.

Helen R. Jaeger (1929-1991)

An artist, well-known for her pottery design, and a teacher of art and elementary children.

Mark & Laura Johnson

Beautician and resident of Lewis County.

Mark R. Kalmbach

Teacher for 42 years and employed by the Centralia College music programs.

Vivian Churchill (1905-1977) Memorial

A Centralia College student who planned to pursue a career as a dental technician.

Carolyn Miller, Gene Miller, and Karen (Miller) Paull.

The Fuller Market Basket was opened in Chehalis in 1941 by Ed and Bill Fuller, Jr.

Dr. Garrett Heyms (1891-1969)

Washington State Director of the Department of Institutions who established the Education Center at Washington Corrections Center in Shelton.

Lillian Taylor Davis (1884-1969)

Teacher for 42 years and employed by the Centralia College music programs.

John H. Markham (1892-1980)

Centralia timber man who founded Mayfield Youth Camp.


Chehalis couple who owned and operated Mac’s Sporting Goods and the McDonald Motel in Chehalis.

Harree L. McGee (1905-1965)

Worked as a precision machinist for the U.S. Navy and later for private companies.

N.C. Machinery

Located in Chehalis and is a supporting company in the Skinner Foundation.

Jack (1918-2003) and Agnes (1916-2005) Miller

Established in honor of their parents by siblings Cliff Miller, Gene Miller, and Karen (Miller) Paull.

Patricia (Patti) Haase Morton

Centralia College graduate, career U.S. Foreign Service officer and 1979 Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient.

Lena B. Neggerson (1895-1990)

Superintendent of nurses at Tacoma General Hospital until 1933.

Harold J. O’Connor (1910-2005)

Harold is a 1933 graduate of Centralia College. He is a Centralia resident.

Helen O’Connor (1905-1994)

Established in 1956 at the same time that her husband established scholarships and the Harold O’Connor Endowment fund.

Ellis Oliver (1920-1997) Memorial

Established by family members to honor Ellis and his commitment to education. Promotes and supports business programs.
Robert Harold O’Neill (1890-1981)
Co-founder of Hemphill-O’Neill Lumber Company in 1947; was in the lumber business for 67 years.

Pacific Cataract & Laser Institute
The largest eye surgery center in the Pacific Northwest. Founded January 1985, by Helgi Heidar, M.D., and Robert O. Ford, M.D.

Francis J. (1915-2001) & Alice L (1918-2007), Paulus Trust
Graduates of Centralia College, retired and living in Centralia. Francis was employed by the railroad and Alice worked for the telephone company.

Performing Arts Society
Created to help further the performing arts.

Thor J. (1919-1975) & M. Helen Peterson (1917-2006)
Thor was a teacher and coach at Centralia High School. Helen is a retired pharmacist.

Petra Insurance Scholarship
Long-time insurance company that recognizes the importance of education to enhance the quality of life in Lewis County.

Phi Theta Kappa
Centralia College Honors Society for students pursuing an associate degree. Dedicated to the memory of Timothy Scott Kirk (1957-1992).

Arthur Plummer (1911-1978)
Owned and operated Twin Cities Sand & Gravel, and later, the Lakeshore Motel.

Bob Reimer (1935-1997)
Established as a memorial to the former Centralia College Athletic Director.

Ruth Reynolds (1926-1983)
Nurse at the former Centralia General Hospital and St. Helens Hospital in Chehalis.

Jerry Robinson
A long-time Centralia School District teacher and administrator.

Esther Robinson (1917-1984)
Endowment Fund for Art Scholarships
Art student and librarian in the Centralia School District.

Security State Bank
Established to provide business scholarships to Lewis County students. Long-time banking institution with great community support.

June M. (Lake) Sippola (1917-1993)
Founder and director of the LPM program at Centralia College from 1954 to 1977.

Delford M. Smith
Centralia College class of 1950; Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient in 1991. Founder and owner of Evergreen International Aviation, Inc.

Fay Benjamin (1898-1964) & Mary (1900-1970) Burcham Smith
He taught school for over 40 years, many of those years in Chehalis. She was a nurse at the former Chehalis St. Helens Hospital.

Society of American Foresters, SW Washington Chapter Memorial Scholarship
Memorial to Joseph M. Jackson, a Native American, who died in 1988.

Earl Schwiesow (1932-1996)
A quality contractor who believed in the importance of education.

Sterling Savings
Providing continuous service to the community since 1921.

David Spogen (1931-2001)
A life-long advocate for education and dedicated to promoting students in vocational callings including diesel technology.

Centralia Junior College’s first music instructor. Continued to teach and write original compositions until her retirement.

Gary & Neena Stoskopf
Gary is the owner of The Housing Mart, Inc. Neena is a former employee of Centralia College.

Eva Knight Swartwood (1887-1964)
Lewis County Auditor from 1918 to 1923; operated the Edison (First Street) Grocery in Centralia.

Gordon Sweany (1913-1986)
First Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient (1978) and former CEO and chairman of the board at SAFECO.

Darold Talley (1929-2002)
Established by the Centralia Junior College Reunion Committee to provide tuition support for a student athlete at Centralia College.

Tanaka Family
Created as a memorial by Tanaka family members.

The Chronicle
Local newspaper staff members who recognize the importance of educating people for positions in communications.

Founders of Lincoln Creek Lumber and West Coast Mills.

He was a business administration instructor at Centralia College from 1961-1967. She had been a teacher and a homemaker.

Title Guaranty Co. of Lewis County
Has been issuing title reports and closing real estate escrows in Lewis County since 1959.

TransAlta (Formerly Centralia Mining & Widco)
Has operated the Centralia Coal Mine since 1971.

Dr. A. R. Twiss (1912-1994)
Memorial Family doctor in Chehalis for 36 years; retired in 1987.

Uhlmann Motors, Inc.
Established by Mr. Richard Uhlmann, a successful businessman who has proven to be a valuable community resource and supporter of higher education.

Dr. Cornelia Van Prooyen (1925-1987)

Jim (1891-1958) & Laura Barner Ward (1892-1985)
Jim was manager of the J C Penney store in Centralia. Laura was the paymaster for Eastern Railway & Lumber Co.

George Washington Minority Leadership (1817-1905)
Founder of the city that has become Centralia.

Well Fargo Bank
The Coffman-Dobson Branch has provided service to Lewis County residents for over 100 years.

Lynn (1941-1977) & Lane Westlund (1968-1977)
Lynn owned and lived on a farm in Curtis and was a Weyerhaeuser employee. Lane was his oldest son.

Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation
Established by the former CEO and chairman of the board at SAFECO.

Gordon Sweany (1913-1986)
First Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient (1978) and former CEO and chairman of the board at SAFECO.

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Well Fargo Bank
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The new dean of instruction for academic transfer at Centralia College is Dr. Tatiana Nazarenko, a graduate of the Ukraine’s National University at Kiev. Nazarenko earned her “western” PhD at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

“I came to the university in Canada to do research,” Nazarenko said, “and to earn my doctorate from there. The Ukrainian equivalent degree isn’t always recognized in some parts of the world and my personal goals required I have my PhD.”

Nazarenko did research in Canadian/Ukrainian literature and in an emerging literary form known as “visual poetry.” The University of Edmonton and the city are home to a very large Ukrainian population as well as some of the most significant contemporary Ukrainian writers, all of which made her research more effective.

“The rather typical Ukraine-style neighborhoods in Alberta made me feel more comfortable during the early days,” Nazarenko continued. “The university’s strong Ukraine faculty and presence made my research much easier to conduct. It was a good situation for my first years out of the old Soviet bloc.”

After earning her doctorate in Edmonton, Nazarenko worked at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg and later for the Canadian International Development Agency. She had become interested in turning from teaching to administration as a means of keeping promising research and learning programs alive.

“I had seen too many truly good programs fail soon after a change of leadership,” Nazarenko explained. “I wanted to be sure I was prepared to administer a program or department that had great educational potential despite a narrow support base.”

Her continuing professional development training led Nazarenko to the University of Washington, where she completed another master’s program. She then worked for several deans and major administrators on the UW campus to increase her practical training. When a position as a dean at Centralia College opened up, Nazarenko quickly applied. She had visited the area and liked the college.

“I was really impressed with the commitment of the faculty to student success. I’m pleased to see the ‘team’ aspect of the management here,” she said. “I was also able to see how important the faculty, administration, and support staff at Centralia College are to the success of the students.”

While she is already comfortable with the position in the Instruction office, Nazarenko sees yet another positive aspect to the college. “I went to the Hispanic Festival,” she said. “I am totally impressed with the warm relationship between this college and the community around it. This, I believe, is the way a community-based college ought to be!”

A major push by the Washington state Legislature in 2006 was the effort to provide quality training in fields where demand for employment was high. Colleges needed to offer training to people who would greatly benefit but might have trouble paying the cost of the training.

Enter Opportunity Grants, a multiple year effort that was backed by and expenses paid offer to those who qualified. Grants were available for low income individuals who would agree to enter one of a select number of programs, each labeled “in-demand.” Because Centralia College was a site for the pilot project it received $378,000 for each of the past two years. Programs included: Accounting, Civil Engineering, Criminal Justice, Nursing, Nursing Assistant, Early Childhood Education, Electronics Robotics & Automation (ERA), Welding, Energy Technology, and Business Office Technology.

“There is no doubt that this program is extremely successful,” said Bev Gestrine, director of the college’s WorkFirst program. “We have 95 students in the program, we’re taking in more this year, and we have a waiting list.” She said that those in the program will either receive a certificate and be better prepared for a higher paying job, or will continue on to earn a two- or four-year degree.

“It is a program that certainly provides opportunity for many who otherwise would not be able to come to college,” she said. “I’m glad we are in a position to help.”

Opportunity Grants are designed to increase Washington’s economic competitiveness and increase the supply of skilled workers in the state’s economic recovery efforts. Opportunity Grants help low-income adults reach the educational tipping point — and beyond — in high-wage, high-demand careers. Reaching the tipping point allows the least prepared individuals to complete 45 credits, receive a credential, and increase job skills and knowledge through career pathways. The approved high-wage, high-demand career pathways provide a minimum beginning wage of $13.00 per hour in Washington (legislative standard).
already,” said Steve Ward, foundation executive director, “but the really energized portion of the campaign didn’t begin until mid-September.”

The foundation announced a “Million Dollar Challenge” campaign that will run simultaneously with the Capital Campaign, but seeks to raise a million dollars in long-term “planned giving” gifts, not earmarked for capital construction.

“We want to show supporters that long-term gifts, bequests, and endowments will have a significant impact on the tax liabilities associated with an estate and there are ways to preserve assets and still contribute to worthy causes,” said Julie Johnson, foundation director of alumni and donor relations.

“We also need to have more flexibility in allocating resources to programs other than scholarships,” Johnson continued. “We are hoping the bulk of the million-dollar challenge will arrive as ‘unrestricted assets’ that will allow the board to support new and innovative college programs.”

“Of course,” Johnson added, “the foundation will certainly honor planned gifts that specify scholarship or other focused benefits as their goal. We always have very qualified students that need financial help in getting through college.”

College supporters may contact Johnson for information on one-time donations to the capital campaign or further information on long-term donation benefits by calling 736-9391, ext. 290, weekdays.
The first three rules in business or industry once were, “location, location, location.” Today, the first three rules are more often, “energy, energy, energy.” The economic development element dovetails nicely with new Centralia College initiatives in alternative energy production and energy conservation.

The Center of Excellence (COE) for Energy Technology at Centralia College has become the premier training program for power production workers in the Northwest. “We’ve gotten great response from labor unions, education, and many energy producers,” Barbara Hins-Turner, director of the COE said, “but it is important for the next generation of energy professionals to understand their role in regional economic development.”

That means bringing more energy industry leaders and upper-level managers into the mix, according to Hins-Turner. To encourage a new focus on energy sector decision-makers the Center of Excellence has hired Jim Lowery, a long-time expert in rural economic development.

“The COE has done an excellent job of building partnerships with labor, government, education, and energy leaders,” Lowery said. “Now, we want to convince the very top level of private and public energy producers to get involved.

“Energy,” Lowery continued, “is the prime requirement for new industry to move away from high-density, expensive urban areas. We believe that leaders who play an active role in the COE energy and conservation program will be able to plan new facilities in areas that are less expensive and where economic growth is sorely needed.”

Lowery comes to the center through a grant as a WIRED coordinator (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) funded by the five-county Pacific Mountain Workforce Council. Lowery is the former executive director of the Washington Rural Development Council and was appointed to a seat on the Lewis County Commission to complete an unexpired, open term. Lowery has also been a private consultant in rural economic development throughout Washington.

“Bringing mainline and alternative energy leaders to the table will ensure they have an equal voice,” Lowery concluded, “as we consider energy resources, conservation, and distribution to meet industrial demands and domestic power growth for the next 10 or 20 years.”

Hins-Turner said the energy program at Centralia College still has room for some students in the fall quarter. “They’ll be the first to benefit from this new four-way cooperative partnership in the energy sector” she said.

Those interested in more information on this high-pay, high-demand career opportunity may call the COE directly at 736-9391, ext. 280.
Second-year student Maria Hernandez of Mossyrock is hoping for a career in art. She has her sights set on an AA degree from Centralia College and a transfer to Central Washington University to earn a Master’s degree in Fine Arts. Teaching art is her career goal.

It isn’t unusual for a student to opt for a career teaching art; it’s a rewarding and practical means of earning a living. What is interesting is Hernandez’ reason for making the choice.

“I was born in a very rural section of southern Mexico,” she explained. “I spoke neither English nor Spanish when I arrived in the U.S.” Hernandez spoke only Mazatecan, a surviving indigenous dialect now isolated mostly to northern Oaxaca state.

“My kindergarten teachers gave me paper and crayons and stencils, and urged me to draw,” Hernandez recalled. “Then we would talk about the thing I had drawn and I learned the name in both English and Spanish.”

While she loves her art—she enjoys pen and ink, pastel, oil and acrylics—it was the use of art to express herself that most intrigued her. Hernandez is pursuing an art career to help students gain an ability of expression that transcends the physical artwork.

Hernandez received a scholarship that enabled her to come to Centralia College, and another to allow her to enter her second year. Without the scholarships, Hernandez believes her dream would never have happened.

“Both the scholarships have made it possible for me to go to college,” she contends. “Without the help, it would have been hard, if not impossible. You must start, and then continue with hard work and what help you can get.”

She paused for a moment.

“Many of my relatives tried college but were forced to drop out because of money,” Hernandez said. “They mostly never got back, and I didn’t want that to happen to me.”

### Donor List

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<th>Foundation ary</th>
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<th>Recipients</th>
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<td>Cascade Club (over $1 Million)</td>
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It’s a HEALTH AND WELLNESS perspective

Health & Wellness Center adds benefits for community users

One of the three major construction projects on campus this year is the old Centralia High School gym, now the college athletic facility and the Health and Wellness Center. The consensus was to rebuild and expand the old facility while preserving a treasured architectural landmark that is still a sound, viable building.

The new Science Center and the College Commons—the other major capital projects—are new buildings. The Health and Wellness Center, on the other hand, is an updated, expanded version of an old favorite that has a proven value to the community.

The footprint of the Health and Wellness Center has been expanded to provide more space to health and physical training or recovery programs that have been extremely popular with the community at large. There will be more and better strength training equipment, new kinesiology and plyometrics labs, and special facilities for CAPRI and other community-related physical therapy and health recovery programs.

“The complex will be a major resource for the college and the community,” said Dr. Jim Walton. “The health and wellness focus will prove invaluable to almost everyone with health and fitness concerns.” The gymnasium and the health facilities are in almost non-stop use by the public, Walton noted, and the expanded facility will add resources to benefit a wider population.

The remodeled facility will feature new spectator seating, a revamped entrance and display area, upgraded locker rooms, and a general improvement in all organized sports programs. Although the facility could be opened for athletic events in December, a public opening celebration is planned for early January 2009, when the Blazer men’s and women’s basketball teams first take to the new court. Tours of the facility may be scheduled through the office of the vice president for Administration and Finance.

The Capital Campaign will raise $1 million to secure state matching funds to complete the Health and Wellness Center project.

Athletes Court to hold lasting memories for supporters

Centralia College takes great pride in its athletics program and greatly appreciates the support the athletic program has received from other schools and the community. Since the days early on when the college fielded a football team to its present day array of intercollegiate offerings, Centralia College has rewarded students, friends, supporters, and alumni with some of the finest competition at the two-year college level. At the same time, the college has offered its facilities to the public to help individuals shape up.

And for the past 70+ years, since intercollegiate athletic competition first took place, the Health and Wellness Center has been a focal point for that action.

It is because of that growing community use, the blossoming need for better personal health and overall wellness, that the foundation has made the commitment to expand and improve on the facility.

One means of showing support is by purchasing a brick or paver to be placed in the Athletes Court, at the north entrance to the remodeled Health and Wellness Center.

Individuals, teams, and weekend warrior athletes can purchase a brick or paver with a individual or team name engraved on it. Your brick or paver in the Athletes Court is a way to support the Capital Campaign and add a lasting memory at the Health and Wellness Center. Bricks with an engraving of up to three lines will cost $150; the larger pavers will cost $400. For information on how to get your name in the Athletes Court, call the foundation at 360.736.9391, ext. 290.
Recognizing that leadership can be enhanced through training, Centralia College has embarked on a plan to bring new generations of leaders on the campus and in the community.

“We realized that there is a pressing need to do what we can to ensure the quality of our leadership at all levels,” said Chris Bailey, vice president of Human Resources and Legal Affairs. It was his task to put together the program that each year would turn out a new class of people capable of the myriad tasks and responsibilities associated with leadership.

Beginning three years ago, a leadership class of 20 faculty and staff came together to launch the first program, designed to help the college sustain its high quality of overall leadership talent and improve across-campus communication.

“We’ve had 20 people each year and it has been an overwhelming success,” said Bailey.

A result of the year-long training has been the increased levels of communications across campus. “This is one area that we have seen tremendous benefit,” said Bailey. “Those who have taken part in the training stand out as excellent communicators. It’s something that helps the entire college.”

Those in the leadership class have taken on a class project. The groups are very good at recognizing need in the community and working as a team to plan, define and allocate resources, and implement the plan to achieve their goals.

“These are some of the elements of effective leadership and the college and the community will benefit from this program for a long time,” said Bailey.

Centralia College Foundation

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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
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The Centralia College Foundation was established in 1982 to create a means of participation in the support of Centralia College. The Foundation is a non-profit, tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is governed by a Board of Directors that serves voluntarily without compensation or tangible benefit. The support and activities provided by the foundation help ensure continued student success and academic excellence.

The Centralia College Foundation Report to the Community is produced by the Office of College Relations, Centralia College. Every effort has been made to ensure that this report is accurate and complete. If we have inadvertently omitted, misspelled, or otherwise improperly reported your name, please contact the Centralia College Foundation, 600 Centralia College Blvd., Centralia WA 98531, or call (360) 736-9391, ext. 290.