Athletic Department to stage garage sale to raise funds for scholarships

The foundation has teamed with the Athletic Department to stage a community-wide garage sale. The Saturday, April 22, event will raise funds to support athletic programs at Centralia College. The sale will be held in the gym from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The sale includes recreational and sporting goods, furniture and household items, tools, kitchen items, miscellaneous stuff befitting a garage sale, clean books, and clothing.

Athletic fund-raising coordinator Bob Peters said the sale can use more items, but has asked that donated items be clean and in good working condition.

“We don’t have the time or facilities to clean and repair things before we put them up for sale,” Peters said. “And we can’t accept computers or accessories. Disposal of those items could substantially reduce the money we could make to benefit our sports programs.”

Peters says more donation days have been added to give donors more flexibility in bringing items for the sale. There will be a drop-off day on Saturday, April 8, from 9-1 at Logan School, 1330 Rose Street in Centralia.

Collections will also be accepted on the weekend of April 14 and 15. Donation times include Friday, April 14, from 3-6 at the college gym, and from 9-1 on Saturday at Logan School.

“We will also accept donations at the gym between 4 and 8 p.m. on April 21,” Peters added. “People who need to have items picked up should call the sports programs office weekdays no later than Friday, April 14.” That number is 736-9391, ext. 247.

“This garage sale should be a lot of fun and give community bargain hunters an extra chance to find some treasures while they help build opportunity in the sports programs,” said Steve Ward, foundation executive director.

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Day at the Ball Fields: The foundation continues toward success with sights set on ambitious goal. The foundation is still working toward its annual goal to provide scholarships for deserving students and to support faculty and programs that are not funded or underfunded by the state. At present about $240,000 has been raised. The allocation for the scholarship award cycle will be about $172,500, according to Julie Johnson, foundation assistant director. That sum includes a 10 percent increase on the base award amount over last year and would recognize the state mandated five percent increase in tuition. The foundation board also designated about $10,000 for “case-by-case” scholarships to support endowed funds that haven’t reached maturity this year, and for other scholarship contingencies. About $129,000 of the annual campaign collection so far this year exceeds the goal.

Meanwhile, planning continues for the silver anniversary (25th year) wine tasting with Wrinkles of Washington. The event is expected to net about $172,500, according to Julie Johnson, foundation assistant director. That sum includes a 10 percent increase on the base award amount over last year and would recognize the state mandated five percent increase in tuition. The foundation board also designated about $10,000 for “case-by-case” scholarships to support endowed funds that haven’t reached maturity this year, and for other scholarship contingencies. About $129,000 of the annual campaign collection so far this year exceeds the goal.

Comming Foundation Events:

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT GARAGE SALE … Saturday, April 22, 8 a.m.—4 p.m., Centralia College gym

DAY AT THE BALL FIELDS … Saturday, May 6, 1 p.m., Ft. Borst Park

WINE TASTING WITH WRINKLES OF WASHINGTON … Friday, June 23, 5 p.m., Corbet Theatre

Foundation to host mid-summer’s Seattle-to-Portland bike run: Last summer the Seattle-to-Portland (STP) bicycle ride upgraded its Saturday rest stop from a campground at Rotary Riverside Park to much-improved accommodations on the Centralia College campus. Some 8,000 cyclists and their families embraced the change. An invitation to move the stopover to the college meant showers, half a thousand piping-hot breakfasts, indoor sleeping areas, bike shuttles, cafeteria service, a beer garden, and TV coverage of the Tour de France. The new mid-point rest also provided the Centralia College Foundation an opportunity to provide volunteer services to the cyclists, logistic teams, families—and raise funds for athletic programs. By Sunday, some 15,000 people had enjoyed the hospitality of Centralia College, and the campus had become an “instant tradition” among the riders. The foundation, with over 90 volunteers taking part, netted nearly $10,000 for athletic scholarships and team expenses.

STP returns to the Centralia College campus on July 15 and 16 this summer. Steve Ward, the foundation’s executive director, says early planning and management initiatives will mean an even more welcoming event this year. Last summer’s initial campus layover was supported generously by Dick’s Brewery and Starbucks: The new mid-point support program received high marks from riders and STP coordinators, and got excellent coverage from media outlets from Seattle to Portland, according to Bob Peters, athletics department fundraising coordinator. “An unexpected bonus for the community,” observed Ward, “was that the new mid-point stopover and our coordination with law enforcement greatly reduced traffic conflicts. Volunteers are needed for this summer’s STP. Anyone wishing information or who would like to volunteer is encouraged to call the foundation at (360) 736-9391, ext. 307, for details.

The Centralia College campus was, at least for one night, transformed into a bikers’ ‘sent city.’ The STP will again this summer run through the college. Starbucks: The new mid-point support program received high marks from riders and STP coordinators, and got excellent coverage from media outlets from Seattle to Portland, according to Bob Peters, athletics department fundraising coordinator. “An unexpected bonus for the community,” observed Ward, “was that the new mid-point stopover and our coordination with law enforcement greatly reduced traffic conflicts. Volunteers are needed for this summer’s STP. Anyone wishing information or who would like to volunteer is encouraged to call the foundation at (360) 736-9391, ext. 307, for details.

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Students benefit from and appreciate scholarships provided by the foundation:

Students also recognize that “Centralia College offers the highest quality education.”

Second year student Joby Voetberg is one of many who changed his academic direction as new career choices presented themselves. Initially working toward a business management transfer degree, Voetberg opted for a science-based schedule that would allow him to eventually earn a master’s degree in medical physics. He intends to follow in the footsteps of a family member and mentor as a medical physicist.

Voetberg was home schooled, but played sports at Centralia High School. “You are allowed to participate as much or as little as you wish in the school district,” he explained, “and it was my only way to play organized sports.”

Going to Centralia College was something of a foregone conclusion for Voetberg. “I’d always planned to spend my first two years here,” he said. “Centralia College is convenient. It offers the highest quality education, and has a definite cost advantage over four-year colleges.”

Voetberg stretched that advantage even further by earning several scholarships since he has been at the college. He is presently the recipient of the Don Waddell Memorial endowment scholarship and the Uhlimann endowed scholarship. “Those really help relieve the financial pressure that goes with college,” he said. The fact that he had the scholarships has allowed him to put his full attention to his academic studies and to playing basketball for the college.

Centralia College also meets his academic expectations. “It is everything I hoped for,” he smiled. “The faculty is just terrific. If I struggle with a question or an assignment, they are always available to help me over the hard spots. That’s something you won’t find at most four-year colleges.”

A varsity basketball standout, Voetberg also considers college sports a learning experience. “It’s been a part of my education,” he stated. “Beyond the value as a physical outlet, I’ve learned a lot about working through obstacles and making good decisions.”

Voetberg plans to attend The Evergreen State College in Olympia to earn his bachelor’s degree in science, then work on a master’s in health physics through a distance learning program at Georgia Tech.