



Left to right: Shane Bluhm, Wilson Kessel, Dr. Robert Frost, Lee Stevens, Becky and Larry McGee, Jim Lowery, Dr. Hank Kirk, Doris Wood-Brumsickle, Joanne Schwartz, Bill Brumsickle, and Frank DeVaul

GROUNDBREAKING—A DAY OF BEGINNINGS

A crowd of more than 200 people convened at the corner of Pear Street and Washington Avenue on the Centralia College campus June 30 to break ground for the TransAlta Commons, a new building that will serve as a student center for the campus.

“This is a momentous occasion. Today we celebrate the beginnings of something good,” said Centralia College President Dr. Robert Frost to the crowd of local and regional leaders, foundation and community members, college faculty and staff members, students, and college supporters.

The president’s welcome included a long list of “star-studded” guests, including: the Centralia College Board of Trustees; former Centralia College president Dr. Hank Kirk; Rep. Richard DeBolt; Shari Hildreth, the district director for Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler; Lewis County Commissioners Bill Schulte, Edna Fund, and Gary Stamper; Centralia Mayor Bonnie Canaday; Chehalis Mayor Dennis Dawes; Centralia City Council members; MSGS Architects; TransAlta Centralia managers; and Centralia College Foundation Board members.

Recognizing the college’s key partner in a day of beginnings, Dr. Frost thanked TransAlta for its commitment to the college and community through its generous donations.

“It is this culture of partnership and community that unites TransAlta and the college, and it’s what brings us here today to celebrate this very important beginning,” he said.



CENTRALIA COLLEGE CELEBRATES 89TH COMMENCEMENT

A total of 362 students made the jubilant walk across the stage June 12 to receive their degrees and certificates from Centralia College. The excited graduates donned the traditional blue caps and gowns, and were joined by a crowd of family, friends, and loved ones.

Centralia College President Dr. Robert Frost greeted the crowd and guests.

"This event is special in so many ways," he said. "I am touched to see the center of the college filled with what is most important to us all: people; relationships; and to witness the love and commitment we have for one another."

Frost noted the ceremony marked the end of the college's 89th continuous year of service, adding each graduate "will carry forward a legacy that began in 1925 and was carried forward through the Great Depression, a World War, the Great Recession, and many other challenging times."

This inspirational message was furthered by the two speakers chosen for the

commencement ceremony: Dr. David Carsten, the 2015 Distinguished Alumnus, and JR Siperly, the president of the Associated Students of Centralia College.

Carsten, a dental anesthesiologist whose father served many years as the college's dean of administration, spoke about his time at the college, both as a child and later as a student. He graduated from CC in 1977.

Carsten urged the graduates to encourage others and to be grateful always.

"I am grateful to you," he said. "Be well. Do well."

Siperly, who moonlights as a youth football coach, echoed a similar sentiment when he urged the graduates to "rep it out," advice he gives in the weight room to his players. When you think you can't take one more step, lift one more weight, or take one more class, he said, rep it out and keep going.

"I like to use that to get through the daily grind," he said. "The daily grind is what brought you here today. Life doesn't get

easier after today. It's just as hard."

He then led the crowd in a chant of "I can, I will, I must" and urged them to surround themselves with positive people.

Several awards were given as part of the commencement ceremony.

- Aaron Thomas and Jeremy Brockman were recognized as members of the 2015 All-Washington Academic Team.
- Aaron Thomas and Blake Wiley were recognized as the 2015 Outstanding Students of Centralia College.
- Donna Oldfield was awarded an honorary associate degree. Earlier this year, Oldfield passed away suddenly with only a few credits left for an associate degree. She was a standout student in Centralia College's accounting program. Henry Williamson accepted her honorary degree.

Following the formal ceremony, a reception was held in cafeteria.

DONATION ENHANCES NELS HANSON ENDOWMENT



Left to right: Bill Hanson, Julie Johnson, Carol Gonnella, Dr. Robert Frost

Bill Hanson and Carol Gonnella, children of the late Dr. Nels Hanson, presented a check for \$90,000 to the Centralia College Foundation. The donation enhances the Nels Hanson endowment and will provide additional student scholarships at Centralia College.

Dr. Nels Hanson was named the first president of Centralia College in 1966. During his 15 years as president, he served as the chairman of the legislative committee that promoted passage of the state's Community College Act of 1967, which established Washington's two-year colleges as a separate educational system.

Hanson led Centralia College and the district through many challenges. He is known as a friend of higher education throughout the state. He passed away in 2014 at the age of 95.

Following Dr. Frost's welcome, Chris DuPont, TransAlta Centralia manager of operations, shared a few words affirming the strong partnership with the college.

Rep. Richard DeBolt then spoke of the importance of breaking the cycle of poverty in Lewis County through education.

"College is a transition tool—the tool in our community tool box to make our children and citizens better... I am thrilled that this is being built," he said.

Lastly, Joanne Schwartz, chair of the Centralia College Board of Trustees, shared her excitement over the "long awaited, highly anticipated building of the TransAlta Commons"—a project, she said, that "showed commitment to students by providing (them) every opportunity to be successful."

"We are deeply grateful to all of you," Schwartz concluded.

Distinguished guests then grabbed golden shovels to join Dr. Frost in breaking ground. As the first group lined up with shovels to take photographs, Dr. Frost invited everyone in the

crowd to stay and take a turn at the shovel for a photograph.

"This is an historic event, and we want to document it," he said.

Prominently displayed at the groundbreaking site were two banners clearly representing the strong partnership between TransAlta and Centralia College. One of the banners proclaimed the words, "Proud of Our Past... Building Our Future"—a fitting backdrop to a ceremony that marked the "beginnings of something good."



SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

SARAH OLIVER (DILLON)

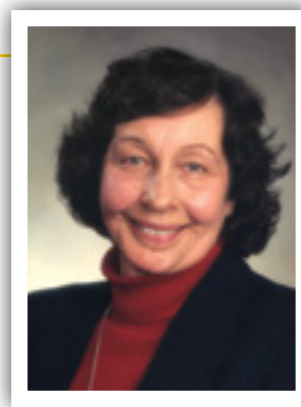
Sarah Oliver (Dillon) enrolled in the Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Management (BAS-AM) program at Centralia College after spending several years in the workforce.

"I wouldn't trade that on-the-job education and experience for anything," admits Sarah, who, after holding a range of positions over the past 11 years, finally found her niche in management.

She currently works for the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, where she hopes to move up into management positions after completing the BAS-AM program.

"Because of your generosity, I will be able to avoid student loans, pay for my education out of pocket, and not have to work more or get a second job," said Sarah, who also serves as a volunteer firefighter in addition to working full time. "I will be able to focus on my educational goals and be able to make time for my family."

She ultimately hopes to earn her master's degree in public administration.



DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR ALICE FORTH BENCH

Alice Forth

Community members, past students, and employees are invited to join the effort to raise \$750 for a bench in the Margaret Teitzel Memorial Garden to honor the memory of Alice Forth, a longtime resident of Lewis County and 32-year employee of Centralia College.

The Margaret Teitzel Memorial Garden was created in 2012 on the Centralia College campus between the Michael Smith Gymnasium and the Hanson Administration building. It honors deceased employees who have given more than five years of service to the college. Since that time, numerous Centralia College employees' names have been installed in the garden in memory for their time and commitment to the college.

Alice Forth graduated from Centralia College in 1951 and was the first Margaret Corbet scholar. She went on to receive her bachelor's degree from Washington State University and her master's degree at Pacific Lutheran University. She did further graduate studies at the University of Washington, University of Wisconsin, and Cambridge College in England. Upon completion of her studies, she returned to Centralia College as a business instructor. In 1989, she was named dean of students. Alice retired from Centralia College in 1991. She passed away in 2012.

Throughout her years of service to Centralia College, she had a reputation for excellence, and was known for her positive attitude and for providing support to colleagues.

The enclosed envelope is available for gifts in Alice Forth's memory.



From left to right: Jim Sollars, James Chapel, Monte Walton

SPORTS HALL OF FAME

On Feb. 21, three Centralia College alumni were inducted into the Centralia College Athletics Hall of Fame. James Chapel, Jim Sollars, and Monte Walton were chosen for their positive and outstanding contribution to the college through their achievements in sports and their exemplary activity in public life.

Fans cheered as the three former athletes were awarded plaques during halftime of the women's basketball game. Earlier in the day, the newly inducted members were treated to a luncheon in the cafeteria, where past inductees, trustees, Centralia College Foundation board members, faculty and staff members, and guests were invited to celebrate their honor.

JIM SOLLARS

Sollars lettered in baseball and basketball. He later became a women's basketball coach at Wenatchee Valley Community College, Portland State University, and University of Portland. His amazing coaching record includes a 154-25 record and winning three straight NWAACC Championships. Jim was named Coach of the Year numerous times by NWAACC, representing the West Coast Conference and Division I Region 8.

JAMES CHAPEL

In basketball, Chapel made the state finals and was named to the All-Region Second Team as Best Rebounder. He later played in the Pro-Am league. Since 1985, he has worked in the juvenile justice system, serving troubled youth. His contributions and years of service have earned him many award letters, and he was named Employee of the Month twice.

MONTE WALTON

Walton lettered in both baseball and basketball and made the second team All-Conference and All-State Tournament. A coach for more than 35 years at Sehome, Meridian, and Ferndale high schools, he took several basketball and baseball teams to state, winning four championships. He was inducted into the Washington State Hall of Fame for both sports and also won the Washington State Meritorious Football Award.



CCF UNVEILS NEW LOGO

The Centralia College Foundation has adopted a new logo and colors in honor of the college's 90th anniversary. The Centralia College Foundation will now use the Trailblazer blue and gold colors, and a new logo that incorporates an oak leaf to align with the Garry Oak featured in the college logo. We hope you enjoy the new look and take part in the 90th anniversary celebration over the course of the coming academic year.

*Good things
come to those
who give*

THE LEGACY SOCIETY – A LEGACY OF GIVING

What if you could make a lasting and permanent gift, one that was bigger than you ever dreamed possible? And, what if you could do it in a way that honored and protected your loved ones' inheritance at the same time?

Centralia College Foundation's Legacy Society may be the perfect option for you. The Legacy Society allows the foundation to thank a very special group of people: those who have included the foundation in their future giving and estate plans.

As a Legacy Society member, you are honored on a special plaque that hangs in a prominent place on the Centralia College campus. Additionally, you receive a beautifully framed certificate, and are invited as a special guest to special foundation events.

Becoming a member of the Legacy Society is simple. Visit online at foundation.centralia.edu/trusts or call the foundation office at 360-736-9391, ext. 290, for details.

CENTRALIA COLLEGE NAMES THE 2015 EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY AWARD WINNERS

The Centralia College Foundation has selected Brian Tyrrell and Greg van Alstyne to receive the 2015 Exceptional Faculty Awards. They were chosen for their commitment to and excellence in their subject areas, and participation in campus activities, civic organizations, community service, and/or professional organizations.



BRIAN TYRRELL

For 24 years, Brian Tyrrell has invested his time, talent, and teaching skills into Centralia College's dramatic arts program. He has directed and/or produced 94 plays and musicals involving more than 550 Centralia College students as actors and technicians.

His past awards include the Exemplary Status Award from the Washington Community and Technical College Humanities Association, Exceptional Faculty Award, NISOD Excellence in Teaching Award, and Golden Medallion, the highest award from the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival.



GREG VAN ALSTYNE

With three masters' degrees and a doctorate in social and cultural anthropology from Oxford University, anthropology professor Dr. Greg van Alstyne has impressive academic credentials. However, it is his firsthand experiences—spending more than

10 cumulative years in more than 65 different countries—that bring depth and passion to his teaching.

When Dr. van Alstyne started teaching at Centralia College 20 years ago, there was only one anthropology course. Over time, he developed five more courses. In addition, he developed and co-led 12 different anthropological field trips to parts of Latin America and Cambodia, immersing students in indigenous cultures.

Dr. van Alstyne has been named the Phi Theta Kappa Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year, and received the Exceptional Faculty and NISOD Excellence awards.

FOUNDATION FUNDS STUDENT RESEARCH

At the Capstone Project Presentation Day on June 5, students showcased their culminating academic projects, many of which were sponsored by the Centralia College Foundation. For the first time, the foundation provided more than \$5,000 to the Capstone Project Fund, allowing students to dream big.

“With the Capstone Project Fund, students have the ability to let their creativity determine the extent of their projects and not cost,” said Karen Goodwin, the Centralia College chemistry professor who initiated the Capstone event three years ago. “Students are free to design the best project possible and not just the project they can afford.”

Eleven projects received funding from the foundation's Capstone Project Fund. For example, Micah Corwin used foundation funds to build CC Venturi, an underwater remote-operated vehicle. Glenn Emigh built a six-axis robot. Jordan Conner, Danielle Z'berg, and Pat Pringle conducted radio carbon dating of tree rings at Lake Kapowsin.

Several students expressed their appreciation to the foundation for enabling them to pursue their research.

“It was so helpful. I couldn't have done it without the Foundation's help!” Sania Marri, who received foundation support for her chemistry project.



George Gablehouse

A LASTING LEGACY FOR ATHLETES

The Centralia College Foundation wishes to thank those who donated to the George Gablehouse endowment for athletic scholarships. The endowment honoring Coach Gablehouse will fund scholarships for athletes in perpetuity – changing lives and impacting their future.



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DAVE SHERWOOD

DAVE SHERWOOD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ELK HUNT

The 2015 hunt will be open to modern rifle, late archery, or late muzzleloader hunters.

Tickets
\$25 each

MAXIMUM OF 500 TICKETS
AVAILABLE

- One weekend of hunting for a single bull elk, three-point minimum, on TransAlta Centralia Mine Lands during one of the following 2015 WDFW hunting seasons: modern rifle, late archery, or late muzzleloader. Hunter's choice as to method and one weekend to hunt.
- Winner will be drawn at the Hanke House • Monday, August 3, 2015, at 4 p.m.
- All proceeds will benefit Centralia College scholarships.
- Winner responsible for purchasing Washington state hunting license and tag.
- The hunt must be coordinated and approved with a TransAlta representative.

For tickets call 360-736-9391, ext. 290.

