College lays foundation for life of exciting opportunity

When Judy (Greeley) Hendrickson graduated from Centralia College in 1960 she went to the University of Washington after which she launched a series of careers that began in Washington State’s corrections system, and then a series of positions in business that opened doors of opportunity that would stagger the imagination of most people.

She came to Centralia College after her high school education in Centralia on a music scholarship, and later expanded her musical skills as a member of the UW choir, symphonic band and marching band. During her time at UW, the Huskies had a winning football team and went to the Rose Bowl on three different years. “It was a thrill to march in the Rose Bowl Parade and also in the Rose Bowl.” (When the Huskies were awarded the national championship in 2007 for its 1960 season, Hendrickson was invited to return to the UW with other members of the marching band to take part in a commemorative ceremony.)

It was her minor in recreation, however, that she used in her first job when she went to work at Maple Lane (correctional facility for delinquent girls in Grand Mound) as the Director of Recreation for nine years.

She then worked as Community Resource Coordinator at Cascadia Juvenile Reception Diagnostic Center in Tacoma (since closed) and then at McNeil Island Corrections Center as Associate Warden for Treatment, a role she had for four years.

In 1985 she and her husband Richard moved to North Carolina and embarked on a new set of careers.

“I met and worked with many people in sport and business, for example, George Steinbrenner, and helped set up and run a program working at North Carolina Central University with master’s and Ph.D. students to find and develop careers outside of sports participation, but in the world of sport,” said Hendrickson.

That venture brought her into contact with Dr. LeRoy Walker who later became President of the U.S. Olympic Committee. As part of her responsibilities she set up the Olympic Committee office in North Carolina.

After that position, she went to work for the International Lead Zinc Research Organization (ILZRO), a worldwide trade association of the lead and zinc industry with member companies throughout the world. As a corporate officer, she had the

Your chance to help save: Connect to Nexus via e-mail

It is the goal of the Centralia College Foundation to provide scholarships to deserving men and women attending Centralia College. To help achieve that goal, the foundation is asking for your help.

Although the costs of printing and mailing this newsletter are climbing (and the postage rates will increase again in 2011), we know it is important to stay connected. You are the backbone of our efforts to support the college and the students it serves. We are asking that you consider receiving Nexus via e-mail.

By receiving the Nexus’s electronic edition you will allow us to provide more funding for scholarships. Plus, you will get the newsletter more quickly.

To help us out, please send an e-mail note to foundation@centralia.edu and indicate you want to help by receiving Nexus electronically. Be sure to include your e-mail address.

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At 95 she still knows there’s value in education and good reason to support Centralia College

She’s 95 years-old, still spry and more than ever believes in the value of education. She’s Sydney (Shepard) Gudyka who attended Centralia Junior College during the Depression years of 1932-34.

“I don’t remember too much about it,” she said. “We had classes on the third floor of the high school and I remember there were a lot of stairs to climb.”

Gudyka does remember taking English classes from Margaret Corbert (Corbert Theatre), the first dean of the fledgling two-year college. She also remembers other college giants, Katharine Kemp (Kemp Hall) and Arthur Ehret (Ehret Foyer in the Science Center). What she learned taking math and English classes, she said, served her well when she worked at Buster Brown’s Shoe Store and later at Montgomery Ward.

“It was the height of the Depression, I was young and couldn’t work and didn’t have very many options so I went to college,” she said.

Gudyka was born in Pe Ell and attended school there before moving with her family to Centralia, when her father accepted a job with the railroad.

“I remember taking the bus to high school (first two floors of the building) and then when I went to college (on the third floor of the high school building).” She worked in several college departments to earn money for tuition. One of her jobs was to buy candy bars the college administrators put on a counter for anyone who stopped by and wanted one. “The most popular candy was the U-no bar,” she added. She worked until 1938 when she married. In 1951 she began working for the Pe Ell post office and spent 25 years as a substitute clerk.

What stands out for Gudyka now is the value of education and the importance of supporting what you believe in.

“I know that education is important, especially today. You need more than just a high school education to get anywhere,” she said. To back up her belief in education she contributes to the Centralia College Foundation.

Another incentive for her giving is the fact that she has a great-grandson currently enrolled. “I want to be sure he has a college education and Centralia College is a good place to get it,” she said.

Gudyka also contributes to the foundation’s Charlie Albright piano campaign. “A long time ago I played the piano and I want to be sure students today can benefit from the college’s new piano.”

A perfect time to help deserving students

As the year’s end approaches there comes the opportunity to make a tax deductible donation that will help deserving students achieve success through quality education.

Higher education will enter a tumultuous time as the Washington state Legislature grapples with balancing a budget in a tight economy. It is likely that tuition at colleges and universities will increase, making it more difficult for some students to be able to afford college and work toward their goal of an education.

You can make a difference by donating to the Centralia College Foundation. Your gift will pay dividends for you and for generations to come. You are invited to check out our competitive annuity rates that will pay you an income for as long as you live.

Call the foundation at 360.736.9391, ext. 290, for details on how you can make a difference in the lives of deserving students.

Foundation earns SOLID GOLD for its connection to the college, community

There is little doubt that the Centralia College Foundation serves as a vital link between Centralia College and the community. The high quality and importance of that link have been validated by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NCCU), the commission that conducts a comprehensive evaluation of Centralia College to ensure the college meets accreditation standards.

The NCCU peer evaluation team recently completed an intensive, three-day evaluation and offered four commendations, which pinpoint observed strengths of the college. The number one commendation singled out the foundation:

“The college is to be commended on its outreach to and positive relationship with the community. It is reflected in the outstanding level of support demonstrated by community members through gifts to the foundation, involvement in activities and programs, and recognition of the college as an integral part of the community,” the report stated.

“This commendation reinforces what we know about the foundation and our community,” said Steve Ward, foundation executive director.

“It is extremely heartening to have this validated through this comprehensive evaluation. The foundation’s relationship with the community is its strength.”

Scholarship applications go online; applicants have easier access to forms

The Centralia College foundation searches for ways to simplify the scholarship application process and has done so with a fully online process.

“We’ve found a way to not only make it easier for individuals to apply for scholarships but we are doing this in a sustainable way,” said Julie Johnson, director of Donor and Alumni Relations. She noted that the application forms are no longer being printed.

The college offered an online application process two years ago and usage of the electronic form has grown each year but the college also made a printed form available.

“As the cost of tuition climbs, more and more students are becoming aware of the scholarship opportunities available,” said Johnson. “This is a change that we think will work very well for students.”

Information about financial aid and a link to the online application for is available at: <www.centralia.edu/admissions/scholarship/>.
opportunity to travel the world. That position lasted nearly 19 years. When the corporate headquarters was moved to Europe, Judy chose not to make the move, but to stay in North Carolina.

Her next endeavor was as the Director of Development and later as Director of Donor Relations for the Opera Company of North Carolina. “It was coming full circle for me,” said Hendrickson who, in 1968 auditioned with the Metropolitan Opera.

Hendrickson credits Centralia College for the foundation it provided for later successes in life.

“There was a closeness at the college that was very special,” she said. “We knew the faculty at the college and knew them in the community. I would be in Ken Kimball’s class during the week and we’d be together in church on Sunday. Those relationships were very helpful for me. At 17 and out of high school I knew I wasn’t ready to go to a four-year school.” Centralia College served a pivotal role in her life when she needed that support.

“Centralia College is fine place to get a quality education,” she said. It’s not expensive and it is a good school to try out your wings.”

She demonstrates her commitment to and support of higher education through the funding of scholarships for students majoring in music and criminal justice.

Nearly 20 acres of forested property near the city of Centralia has been deeded to the Centralia College Foundation. The property was turned over to the foundation by the Evergreen Charitable Trust (ECT) based in Salem, Oregon, represented by Richard Pine. There is an accompanying endowment to underwrite the costs associated with maintenance.

The habitat, with more than 120 different species of vegetation including old-growth trees, will continue to serve as a natural outdoor learning and research environment for the college and will be accessible to property neighbors.

“The land is located in the River Heights area near Centralia and is regarded as a permanent natural area,” said Bob O’Neill who, with his wife Doris, deeded the property to the ECT nearly eight years ago. He said that the Evergreen Charitable Trust (ECT) recognized that the college’s foundation is much closer to the property and would be in a better position to maintain the land and has agreed to hold to the original plan to keep it as a natural area that would also be available for academic research.

“The property will continue to be accessible to neighbors we also hope forestry, science, and other study groups from the college will spend time researching or just experiencing the natural area,” said Pine, O’Neill’s son-in-law. Local high schools could also have access to the property. The land is a highly diversified forested area and serves as a significant habitat for wildlife.

Harvesting timber is not permitted under the terms of the agreement nor can it be used for any commercial or industrial development.

“Evergreen believes the college has the best resources to provide for the perpetual maintenance of the natural area. Robert and Doris O’Neill, the donors of the property to Evergreen, put together a treasure that deserves the best possible care,” Pine added.

An advisory committee will assist the foundation in maintaining the natural area. Maintenance on the land will include keeping the trails clean, removing fallen trees and limbs, re-graveling trails when needed, and keeping the site up to conditions specified in the title transfer agreement. The endowment will also pay for the services of a property manager.

“This is an amazing donation to the foundation,” said Dr. Jim Walton, Centralia College president. “This natural area presents a long-term educational benefit to our students and faculty and will continue to be a valuable resource for the community. We truly appreciate the generosity of The Evergreen Charitable Trust and Bob and Doris O’Neill.”

Want to see what’s going on with the foundation? It’s easy.
Check us out online at http://foundation.centralia.edu/
You can visit us anytime, send in your suggestions, or blog with us.
If you have suggestions that you think might be helpful, let us know.
Let us know what you’re doing. We’re happy to hear from you!
THE KINGSMEN

Rock band headlines January President’s Scholarship Performance

The Kingsmen, the 1960s rock band that rose to fame behind its recording of Richard Berry’s Louie Louie, is the headliner for the Saturday, January 29, 2011, President’s Scholarship Performance.

The Kingsmen will perform in Centralia College’s Corbet Theatre, in Washington Hall, beginning at 7 p.m.

Tickets, costing $25 for box seats, $20 for Golden Circle, or $15 for general admission, can be purchased by calling the events ticket line: 360.736.9391, ext. 777.

Proceeds from the Kingsmen performance will go toward Centralia College Foundation scholarships.

Of course Louie Louie is the signature recording by the Kingsmen but the band followed this with hits through the 1960s and into the early ’70s.

Songs they pushed to the Billboard Hot 100 included; Little Latin Lupe Lu, The Jolly Green Giant, Death of An Angel, If I Needed Someone, Money (That’s What I Want), and others.

The band recorded Louie Louie in 1963 and attracted nationwide attention when rumors started that Louie Louie was banned by the governor of Indiana. At one point there was a campaign to make it the Washington state song. It has been used in numerous motion pictures and in 2007 it was named by Rolling Stone Magazine “The #4 most influential recording of all time.”

Call now to reserve your seat for the Kingsmen!