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CC joins the growing list of schools and colleges committed to protecting the environment and conserving energy

It is a fact that global warming is real. If the consequences of that climate change continue the apparent trend, whether it's a naturally occurring phenomena or the result of human intervention may not matter. The question might better be: what are we going to do to slow or reverse the process?

Centralia College is poised to take a regional leadership role on the issue. Dr. Jim Walton, president, will become a charter signatory to the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, a pledge to model ways to minimize greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide the knowledge, and educated students, to achieve climate neutrality.

The Commitment asks the college to ensure that all new campus construction will be built to at least the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver standard or equivalent, a step that the college has already undertaken with the new science center; and adopt an energy-efficient appliance purchasing policy requiring purchase of ENERGY STAR certified products in all areas for which the ratings exist.

Further actions call for the college to establish a policy of offsetting all greenhouse gas emissions generated by air travel paid for by Centralia College; encourage use of, and provide access to, public transportation for faculty, staff, students and visitors at our institution; begin

purchasing or producing at least 15 percent of the college's electricity consumption from renewable sources. In Washington state, energy from hydroelectric sources is not generally classified as renewable.

The college will begin assembling a plan to achieve climate neutrality, which will include completion of a comprehensive inventory of all greenhouse gas discharges (including emissions from electricity, heating, commuting, and air travel). The college will also develop an institutional action plan moving toward becoming climate neutral.

The letter that Walton is asked to sign states that college presidents are, "deeply concerned about the unprecedented scale and speed of global warming and its potential for large-scale adverse health, social, economic, and ecological effects. We further recognize the need to reduce the global emission of greenhouse gases by 80 percent by mid-century at the latest, in order to avert the worst impacts of global warming and to re-establish the more stable climatic conditions that have made human progress over the last 10,000 years possible."

At this point there is no information on the financial impact climate initiatives might have on the college.

Walton said he expects many of the colleges and universities in the Puget Sound region will sign the Commitment.

The **Board of Trustees** will meet tomorrow, Jan. 11, at 5 p.m. in the boardroom of the Hanson Admin building. Students, staff, faculty, and the public are invited to attend.

Monday, Jan. 15, is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The campus will be closed in observance of the holiday.



The Muse

"Books have the same enemies as do people: fire, humidity, animals, weather, and their own content."

—Paul Valéry—



The new Centralia College science center has been designed and will be built to LEED standards.

Birthday Party Dates



NANCY WARNSTADT	1/12
JACK LONDON	1/12
SABRINA KNOLL	1/13
CHERYL WILLIAMS	1/13
HORATIO ALGER	1/13
BENEDICT ARNOLD	1/14
STACEY SAVINO	1/15
YOUR UPDATE EDITOR	1/15
ANITA HONAKER	1/16
BRET SHACKELFORD	1/18

Pretty darned impressive lineup, wouldn't you say. Maybe we could start a plan where the *oldest* birthday celebrant each quarter gets an added day off with pay for the honor. Probably not.

Oh, well, root beer and lutefisk for everybody!

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Men's basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
1/13	HIGHLINE	7 p.m.
1/17	@ S. Puget Sound	8 p.m.

Women's basketball

1/13	HIGHLINE	5 p.m.
1/17	@S. Puget Sound	6 p.m.

Lyceum

The winter Lyceum schedule kicked off today with Don Foran's look at the "utopian" communities of the 19th and early 20th century period.

Next Wednesday the Living Voices, on the heels of Martin Luther King's birthday, present "The Right to Dream," the struggle and sacrifice for civil rights in America. This compelling story recreates a young man's coming of age as an African American in Mississippi in the 1950s and 1960s.

On Jan. 24, Susanne Weil presents "Little Parasites on the Prairie," the spinoffs that came out of the TV series adapted from Laura Ingalls Wilder's 1930 bestselling book series.

Lyceum programs are Wednesdays at 1 p.m. in Washington Hill.

ASCC and SAAT adopt a plan to help kick the "coffin nail" habit

New Year's resolutions do not, as a rule, work for more than a few painful days, after which they are abandoned. Quitting smoking doesn't very often work, either, and the attempts seldom last as long as a New Year resolution. Together, you'd think a resolution to quit smoking would be doomed from the outset. You'd be right.

The resolution to quit hinges on a deep personal commitment and an involved system of rewards if it is going to succeed. ASCC and SAAT both admit they fall short in providing that personal commitment, but they've gotten a great month-long reward campaign started that could help get over the reward hump.

Through Jan. 19 a display in the Kirk Library will help the smoker understand the dire jeopardy in which he or she has placed their health. Also through Jan. 19, smokers who bring a half a pack of cigarettes to Student Programs office will receive a coupon for, appropriately, a cold turkey sandwich. (If you stash the other half-pack for later use, you should be penalized the butter, lettuce, and mayo, but you won't be. Those SAAT people are just too kind-hearted!)

Today and again next Wednesday there will be folks from the Humane Society on hand with a pet you can adopt to take away the stress that contributes to smoking. (Avoid large, naked, obnoxious dogs who themselves smoke, drink, and carouse around all night however; stress levels can be murder!)

On Jan. 13, ASCC suggests you attend the Trailblazer basketball games and don't go out to your car for a quickie puff during halftime.

Jan. 16 you might go to the Atrium at noon to see a display of actual human organs destroyed by smoking. Colleen C. Williams, MS, RN, and executive director of "Choice and Consequences" will help provide that deep personal commitment we referenced at the beginning of this chat.

Finally, set aside the evening of Jan. 18 for an evening of coffee and music instead of a smoke. It's a Student Programs presentation at Santa Lucia (202 S. Tower) with Jonathan Kingham. Free admission, open mike, and Jonathan at 7:30.

Whatever it takes, plan now to quit—and **DO IT!**

BAD WORDS!

It seems that many of us have noticed words and phrases in general use that are overworked, used improperly, or just don't make sense. Our comments in the last *Update* drew your attention and some interesting suggestions. Keep them coming; each week we will publish them and at the end of the academic year ask for a consensus on which should be eliminated from use. Not that it will happen, but each of will feel less stressed by the idiomatic idiocy going on about us!

Jeanette Spiegelberg has youngsters who ask, "Can I have these ones?" If the term ends with "these," it's fine; adding the "ones" is superficial but apparently OK on Madison Avenue.

Theresa Kimball lodged a peeve regarding "He goes" instead of "He said, he replied, or he asked." She also challenged

the advertising use of "Crunchy flavor." When, Theresa asked, did "crunchy" become a flavor?

In the same vein, Alicia Wicks asks that the term "crisp" be barred from use in any inappropriate contexts, especially beer commercials. We presume that for a beer to truly be crisp one must also eat the bottle. Alicia asked for relief from using "Google as a verb (Let's Google it) and also ban IM as a verb, as in "I IM'd him." As the average age of computer users dips well below puberty, those supplications are probably "not doable," a word that grates your editor's sensibilities but was included by way of illustration!

Finally this week, Dick Lamb protests sentences that end with "with," a prepositional no-no from the outset but compounded when the sentence asks, "You wanna go with?" Dick's point is well taken, leaving a bitter aftertaste among many of us. Keep 'em coming.