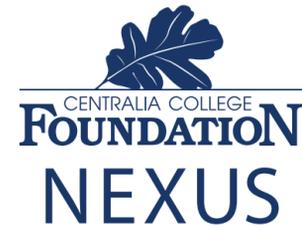


TransAlta Commons Grand Opening May 2

Mark your calendars for 4-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, for the grand opening of the TransAlta Commons on Centralia College's main campus. Join us in celebrating this incredible occasion!



Centralia College Foundation
600 Centralia College Blvd
Centralia, WA 98531

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 111
Centralia WA 98531



Community Catalyst for
Excellence in Education

NEXUS

A publication of the Centralia College Foundation February 2017 | Vol. 9 No. 3

Alicia Wicks is 2017 Distinguished Alumna

The Centralia College Foundation is pleased to announce Alicia Wicks, a 1964 graduate of Centralia College, as the 2017 Distinguished Alumna.

"My passion is to live with and assist the people I meet by giving them a leg up and hopefully introducing a skill they can take into their future."

Shortly after graduating from Centralia College, Wicks served in the Peace Corps in Africa teaching English and African Literature. She went on to earn her master's degree in education from Eastern Oregon University and her juris doctor degree in public interest law from Golden Gate University. During that time, she also taught at a migrant camp and a residential school for delinquent boys. She passed the California State Bar on her first try and worked as an attorney for San Francisco for 15 years.

She returned to Centralia at the death of her father. She adopted three special-needs children and, for the next 15 years, she administered the new Individualized Certificate Program at Centralia College.



Wicks believes in giving back to her community and was involved in Popes Kid's Place, the Human Response Network, and Soroptimist International of Lewis County.

After her retirement in 2003, Wicks returned to Africa and worked with retired Centralia College President Hank Kirk and his wife Jenny at the University of Livingstonia in Malawi, where she assisted with the first graduation of teaching candidates. In 2013, she went to Liberia to work with girls in the slums of Monrovia, the nation's capital and also

the center for Ebola in Liberia. As part of her efforts there, she became involved with the More Than Me Girls School, which later became an Ebola hospital for the duration of the plague. She then went to Hohoe, Ghana, where she taught young unmarried mothers to sew.

Later that year, Wicks went to Kenya, where she lived with a traditional Maasai family and assisted Maasai women in earning a living with their beaded jewelry.

Wicks is the founder and director of Maasai Made and Karibu Beading Collective, two organizations that allow traditional Maasai women to sell their crafts in the U.S. Wicks uses the money from the sales to return to Kenya and further her work with them, providing food they cannot grow, sending their children to school, and taking care of their herd animals.

"My passion is to live with and assist the people I meet by giving them a leg up and hopefully introducing a skill they can take into their future, whether as a child or an adult ... to show them somebody across the ocean cares about them," said Wicks. "As an unofficial ambassador of the U.S., I am pleased to hear, 'You are one of us.'"

Wicks will be a featured guest and speaker at Centralia College's commencement ceremony June 16.

Leave a living legacy with Planned Giving

The Foundation Board, seeing the need for sustainable support, has made a determined focus for the upcoming years to work on increasing its Planned Giving efforts. As costs for higher education continue to rise and as more and more offerings are being offered by the college, the need for scholarship funds increases.

You can make a student's dream of a

quality education come true by leaving a living legacy. As our population ages, several options for future giving can provide income for the foundation. Two options to consider are signing over a fully paid life insurance plan or adding the foundation as a beneficiary to your retirement plan.

One of the most meaningful ways to

express your charitable desires is to name the foundation in your estate, regardless if you use a will or living trust.

If you would like additional information on how you can impact future students at Centralia College, please contact the Foundation Office at foundation@centralia.edu or 360-623-8942.

Twin Cities Rotary Presents

Murder at the Winery

A Murder Mystery Dinner

Tickets will be available online at
2017murdermystery.brownpapertickets.com

A portion of the proceeds benefit Centralia College Foundation Scholarships

Friday, March 3
6 p.m. Social Hour | 7 p.m. Dinner/Program

Good things come to those who give



360-736-9391, ext. 290 • foundation.centralia.edu

Two CC Professors win Teaching Awards From The Evergreen State College

Centralia College professors **Pat Pringle** and **Dr. Susanne Weil** have received The Evergreen State College 2016 Teacher Excellence Awards. The award recognizes teachers who have “had significant impact on the lives of students.” Teachers are nominated by incoming students at The Evergreen State College.

For both professors, their nomination was a surprise.

“I’m very surprised, but very pleased,” said Weil. “The student who nominated me was a wonderful, hard-working student in one of my English 102 classes several years ago. I’m delighted she thought to nominate me for this honor!”

“Wow, I’m very grateful to be acknowledged by past students,” Pringle echoed.



Pat Pringle

Professor Pringle has taught geosciences at Centralia College for 11 years. In April, he received the Washington State Association of College Trustees’ 2016 Faculty Member Award for excellence in teaching. At Centralia College, Professor Pringle has been a strong advocate of hands-on learning. He integrates field trips and incorporates tree-ring and geologic research exercises and projects into his classes and independent research projects. He’s been able to share the insights and broad experiences of more than 23 years of geoscience research, science outreach, and public information with Centralia College students.

Professor Pringle is a leader in regional geosciences, providing professional guidance and insight into the exploration and interpretive understanding of some of the region’s most beloved natural areas, including Mount St. Helens, Mount Hood, and Mount Rainier, and some of the lesser known features, such as Lake Kapowsin, which recently became Washington’s first freshwater aquatic reserve.

He is widely published. His work includes the definitive guidebook to the geology of Mount Rainier National Park, Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier National Park and Vicinity,

for which he received the Geoscience Information Society’s 2009 award for best geologic guidebook. Pringle’s book details the geologic history of the mountain and all of its associated features, including the lahar patterns, glaciers, lava domes and flows, caves, lakes, and more.

He won Centralia College’s Exceptional Faculty Award in 2009.



Dr. Susanne Weil

Dr. Susanne Weil earned her Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of California-Berkeley in 1991 and her B.A. in English and Psychology from Swarthmore College in 1980. She directed the writing program at Whittier College in Southern California from 1991 to 2004, when she moved to Centralia College to serve the mission of making a quality higher education affordable for everyone. In all of her classes, she encourages students to build confidence as writers by breaking

down projects, whether research-based or creative, into do-able stages that they expand on throughout the quarter.

Dr. Weil teaches the transfer composition courses English 101 and 102, as well as a wide array of literature courses, including American Literature, The Great American Novel, Short Fiction, Science Fiction, Non-Western World Literature, and Women’s Literature.

Her academic publications have focused on Mark Twain’s literary responses to bankruptcy; her most recent paper will be anthologized in Mark Twain and Money, which will be published by University of Alabama Press this summer. She also focuses on how women’s work has been represented in literature and co-edited a 2011 critical anthology on this subject.

Among her own lifelong learning projects is beekeeping. She volunteers as secretary of the Lewis County and Washington State Beekeepers’ associations and includes demonstration projects on honey bees in her research and argument courses.

She won Centralia College’s Exceptional Faculty Award in 2008.

Alumni Spotlight – TREVOR WHITE



My experience at Centralia College was overall very positive

transition between high school and a four-year university, I learned I was eligible for a scholarship from Centralia College. Attending CC for two years struck me as a solid plan.”

White enrolled in Centralia College as a senior at Centralia High School through the Running Start program. He finished his associate degree the following year.

White was impressed with his classes and his professors, and made personal connections across campus that influenced his life and career path. He said he was particularly moved by English Professor Susanne Weil’s class in non-Western literature.

“That class had a significant impact on my understanding of the history of legends and storytelling across cultures,” he described.

White went on to the University of Washington, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in English with an emphasis in creative writing. After that, he earned his Juris Doctor degree with an emphasis in international legal affairs from Cornell Law School. In 2016, he passed the New York State Bar Exam, rumored to be one of the most difficult exams in the nation. He now works as an associate attorney at Connors, LLP in Buffalo, New York.

He credits his success, in part, to the solid foundation he gained at Centralia College.

“My experience at CC was overall very positive,” he said. “The campus’ appealing design and proximity to my home were ideal, and it was never difficult to find answers to any questions I had.”

When it came time to make college plans, Trevor White had a few goals. He wanted to transition slowly from high school, and he wanted to save money, knowing he’d ultimately be pursuing his bachelor’s and doctorate degrees.

Centralia College was a smart choice.

“I’d visited Centralia College many times since a young age, as my grandfather was a sociology professor,” White said. “When I was looking for a way to smoothly

Spring Events Calendar

Foundation Night at the Oly Club – Tuesday, March 21 from 5 p.m. to closing. Half of the proceeds from the evening benefit Centralia College Foundation scholarships.

An Evening with Charlie Albright– Saturday, April 8, at 7 p.m. in Corbet Theatre. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the Book ‘n Brush in Chehalis or at the Foundation Office. We are anticipating that this event will be sold out, so get your tickets early.

Leadership Simulcast – Wednesday, April 12, at 8 a.m. in Corbet Theatre. Continental Breakfast provided from 8-8:45 a.m. in the lobby. Simulcast begins at 9 a.m. with Patrick Lencioni, Jimmy Johnson, and Robyn Benincasa. Co-sponsored by Express Employment Professionals, Lewis County EDC, The Chamber, and United Way. Registration is required at refreshleadership.com/live. FREE and open to the public.

Foundation Night at the Theatre – Saturday, May 13, at 7 p.m. for Fiddler on the Roof. Reserved seating is required. Contact the Foundation Office for more information.

Ellis Oliver Speaker Series presents Start With Why with David Mead – Thursday, May 25, in Corbet Theatre. Social hour from 5-5:45 p.m. in the lobby with the presentation beginning at 6 p.m. Free and open to the public.

For more information on any of these upcoming events, please contact the Foundation Office at 360-623-8942.

Centralia College names two to All-Washington Academic Team

Two Centralia College students will be honored March 23 as members of the 2017 All-Washington Academic Team. The formal ceremony will be held at noon at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia.

Centralia College’s representatives are Joseph Lawrence and Tyler Layden. They were selected based on their academic achievement, community involvement, and service to the college.

The 65 members of this year’s All-Washington Academic Team represent all 34 community and technical colleges in Washington. Each student will receive a \$250 scholarship from KeyBank.



Joseph Lawrence, 21, of Chehalis, is an engineering student with a 3.95 grade point average. He says his experience in Centralia College’s Spanish classes have been transformative. After taking classes at CC for a year through the Running Start program, he moved to Bolivia to study Spanish and assist at an orphanage. When he returned, he began volunteering as a Spanish interpreter at a low-income

medical clinic. He also works on campus as a peer tutor, and off campus as a drafting technician at an engineering firm.



Tyler Layden, 18, of Chehalis, has a 4.0 grade point average and is working towards a transfer degree. As a child in a military family, Layden moved a lot. There were different schools, different friends, different faces. What never changed was the night sky. Fascinated, Layden decided to be an astrophysicist. He is now finishing his associate degree as a Running Start student. In addition, he is

president of CC’s Applied Physics and Engineering Club and he teaches a geometry class for struggling students at his high school.

An Evening with
CHARLIE
SATURDAY, APRIL 8

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT Book ‘n Brush, Centralia College Foundation Office, or <http://aneveningwithcharlie.bpt.me>

