



Your City

May-June 2010

City Hall

Calendar

City Council every 2nd & 4th Tuesday•7:00 p.m. • City Hall

Planning Commission every 2nd Thursday•6:30 p.m. •City Hall

Civil Service Commission every 3rd Wednesday• 5:15 p.m. •City Hall

Centralia Park Advisory Board every 2nd Monday• 5:00 p.m. •Parks Office

Historic Preservation Commission every 2nd Monday•6:00 p.m. •City Hall

Centralia Landfill Closure Group as needed• Centralia Public Works Office

Lewis County Solid Waste Disposal District No. 1 every 4th Monday•1:30 p.m. •Lewis County Board of County Commissioners Office

Library Advisory Board every 1st Tuesday (except July & August)•6:00 p.m. • Centralia Library

Lewis County Event Center and Sports Complex

What is the project?

It is a regional multi-use events center that can house both indoor and outdoor events on a year-round basis. The focus of the project is to generate income for our region through recreation, shopping, and hotel/motel use. It consists of:

A 73,000 square foot, two story building and outdoor sports complex that includes a multi-use turf surface, an indoor multi-use wood floor the size of three full-size basketball courts, locker rooms, batting cages, meeting rooms, a kitchen, offices, retail spaces and a lobby.

Six tennis courts, a turf field, other multi-use sports fields that will be able to convert to 4 full-size baseball fields, 4 softball/little league size fields, a zip line, trails, and parking facilities.



Who are the partners?

Lewis County Public Facilities District (PFD)— an independent government corporation formed by the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners in August of 2007 for the purpose of developing a project to utilize state sales tax funds collected in Lewis County and allocated back to the District by the Washington State Legislature.

Contribution: The total amount of the sales tax rebate funds is approximately \$5 million dollars. The PFD will also be contributing \$500,000 of their reserve funds to the project. PFD funds will be spent specifically on the event center and parking surrounding the building.

The City of Centralia— The event center and sports complex will be located to the west of what we recognize as Borst Park, which is owned and operated by the City.

Contribution: The City Council will be asked to bond a portion of its hotel/motel funds at approximately \$1.25 million. The funds will be applied toward the construction of the tennis courts, multi-use fields, football/soccer synthetic turf located at Tiger Stadium, and trails. The City will also use the value of land as a match for the project.

The Centralia School District—The District owns land adjacent to the City-owned land. The event center and sports complex will be built on both School District and City land and will operate through interlocal agreements and leases where needed.

Contribution: The District will contribute (through a purchase and sale agreement and/or lease agreement) land for the event center and multi-use sports fields. The District will also contribute \$600,000 from its Capital Project Fund of which \$300,000 was donated by TransAlta to construct the track.

Mayor's Message



Spring is here as we can tell by the sound of lawnmowers on sunny days. I look forward to serving as your Mayor for the next two years and I hope and pray 2010 will be a better year for you than last.

City personnel, Centralia School District personnel, and the Public Facilities District are moving forward with the Lewis County Event Center & Sports Complex planning. At every stage of this project, the City Council will be informed of the progress. As Mayor, I have asked a representative from the Public Facilities District to be present at every Council meeting to answer any questions. This is quite a project and we make the commitment that it will be done correctly or not at all.

We are already planning for Summerfest on the 4th of July and I look forward to cooking breakfast at Borst Park in the morning and riding on the fire truck in the parade. If you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to e-mail me at hthompson@cityofcentralia.com. It sometimes takes a day for me to answer, but I assure you I will answer.

Harlan Thompson, Mayor

All proceeds from the SWAT Challenge and "I Ran from the Cops" 8K Run support the Centralia Police Officer Association programs (A Night with Santa, Scholarship Fund and others)

Sign Up Now for....

4th of July SWAT Challenge

You won't be eligible to wear the badge, but you can test your total fitness by taking the actual entry level SWAT exam

as specified by the Washington State Training Commission and administered by SWAT team members. Event begins at 8:30

a.m. at Borst Park.

\$20 entry fee includes T-shirt and certificate. Applications are

4th of July "I Ran from the Cops" 8K Run/1.5K Walk

Join in the fun! This is a flat, fast 8K run. Lead the chase on the 8K, or relax and enjoy the scenery by participating in the 1.5K Health Walk/Run. This race is for everyone.

Event begins at 8:30 a.m. and is co-sponsored by Thorbecke's Fitlife Centers.

\$20 entry fee includes T-shirt. Awards and ribbons for top finishers. Applications are

available at Thorbecke's, the Centralia Police Department (City Hall), or by calling 360-330-7680.

4th of July Parade

Entry applications are available at City Hall or on the City's web site www.centralia.com

The parade will be held on Sunday, July 4th in historic downtown Centralia beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Parade Theme:
Youth—Our Heritage and America's Hope

Grand Marshal:
Ron Brown

Join the parade by entering your business, school, organization or just the family!



Parks & Recreation Activities

May-June 2010

May

- 3-4 Youth soccer signups (6:30-8:00 p.m. at Borst Park/Kitchen #2). Signups will continue through June at the Parks & Recreation Office
- 14 Registration deadline for Friday Night Co-ed and Church Co-ed softball leagues
- 16 Hershey Track & Field Meet at W. F. West High School in Chehalis
Registration/check-in 1:00-1:45 p.m.
Event starts at 2:00 p.m.
Free event for kids born 1996-2001
- 22 6th Graders Night Out at Thorbecke's

June

- 5 Centralia to Chehalis Bike Ride (discounted rate for those who pre-register)
On-site registration/check-in 8:00-9:00 a.m. at Washington Park
Ride starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at Recreation Park in Chehalis
- 21 Tennis lessons begin
- 21 Pearl Street outdoor pool opens



National Train Day Celebration

Saturday, May 8th
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Train Depot (210 Railroad Ave.)

- Historic photos
- N scale model train display from Chehalis Valley Model Railroad Club
- Displays from Chehalis-Centralia Railroad Association, All Aboard Washington and Operation Lifesaver
- Refreshments

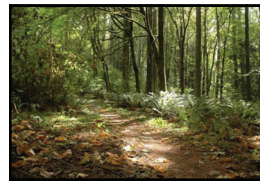
Seminary Hill Natural Area

Located adjacent to Historic Downtown Centralia, this lovely sanctuary covers 60 acres of natural forestland.

FREE SPRING EVENTS

**Saturday
May 8th
10:00 a.m.**
Where the Wild Things Are
Dr. Blake Murden and Claudine Reynolds, wildlife biologists, will lead a hands on family friendly activity and walk. Look for the creatures that live in the forest and learn more about their habitats. Bring the kids and join the fun.

**Saturday
June 5th
10:00 a.m.**
Photography Workshop
Come and learn new techniques for taking pictures with resident teacher and photographer Marlene Hodge. Bring your camera, camera manual and a tripod if you have one. Study your manual ahead of time so you will be ready to "focus in" on her advice.



**Saturday
June 26th
10:00 a.m.**
Summer Poetry Walk
Join this unique walk led by David Underwood. Come to the woods and hear wondrous verses by renowned bards, plus some stanzas by Northwest poets. Stretch your legs, breathe fresh air, and nourish your spirit.

"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous."

Aristotle



**Thursday
May 13th
6:30 p.m.**
Wildflower Walk
Join Dr. Lisa Carlson,

Professor of Botany at Centralia College, for an evening walk in the woods. She will teach you how to identify native wildflowers and guide you on the trails as you enjoy the beauty of the season.





The City of Centralia Newsletter

"Your City" is published six times per year as a public service to the citizens of Centralia.

Writing and Research:

Carol Hamilton • 360-330-7674
chamilton@cityofcentralia.com

Send Questions To:

"Your City"
P. O. Box 609
Centralia, WA 98531-0609

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.CENTRALIA.COM



Lewis County Farmers Market

**Opening Day
Friday, May 7th**

(downtown Centralia on Pine Street
between Railroad and Tower Avenues)

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. every
Friday through September 24th

CITY OF CENTRALIA INFORMATION

- City Manager • 330-7674
 - City Clerk • 330-7670
 - City Attorney • 330-7675
 - Community Development • 330-7662
 - Customer Service Center (Utility Bill Payments) • 330-7657
 - Economic Development • 330-7820
 - Engineering • 330-7512
 - Personnel • 330-7672
 - Building Official/Inspector • 330-7664
 - Building Inspection Request Line • 330-7663
 - Police Business • 330-7680
 - Fire Business • 330-9854
 - Finance Department • 330-7659
 - Public Works (Streets, Light, Water, Wastewater, Stormwater) • 330-7512
 - Parks Department • 330-7688
 - Municipal Court • 330-7667
- All Area Code 360

Lewis County Event Center and Sports Complex

(continued from page 1)

The Lewis County Event Center, Limited Liability Corporation (LLC)

Through a lease option between the PFD and LLC, the LLC will manage and operate the event center building.

Contribution: \$400,000 of private funding for the project.

What are the necessary steps to bring the project to completion?

The first step (completed in March 2010) was for all of the partners to create and approve an Umbrella Agreement. The second step is to develop and establish inter-local and/or lease agreements as needed between the partners. The third step encompasses a series of tasks that include completion of an environmental impact review, traffic study, land valuations, boundary line adjustments, building plan finalization, bond financing package submittals, landscape and irrigation plans, stormwater permits, road alignments, etc.

What is the benefit to our region?

The facility will be used by Lewis County citizens, groups, and schools, as well as visitors to our area. Additional resources will be spent in our region, generating tax revenue for the City of Centralia, City of Chehalis, County, and State that will fund projects like this in the future. The project will create new job and business opportunities as well as enhance current businesses in Lewis County.

Who will operate the Lewis County Event Center and Sports Complex?

The LLC will lease the Event Center and be responsible for operation and maintenance. The City will manage and maintain the Sports Complex that includes the ball fields and tennis courts. The School District will continue to manage, operate, and maintain the stadium facility.

What is the project timeline?

Work is scheduled to begin in late June 2010 for the track, turf field, and multi-purpose sports quad field construction. The groundbreaking for the event center building is scheduled for late summer of 2010.

What are examples of other PFD projects in Washington State?

King County Safeco Field, Spokane Convention Center, Cowlitz County Expo Center, Lacey Regional Athletic, Recreation, and Special Events Complex, and Kennewick Three Rivers Convention Center and Coliseum.

