

Business Connections



JANUARY 2023

**Centralia - Chehalis
Chamber of Commerce**

Promote • Protect • Inform

Business Spotlight: Chehalis Walmart

Working Towards a Better Community

The Chehalis Walmart has been serving our community for more than 27 years. It opened in 1995 as a Division 1 store and expanded to a SuperCenter in 2002. There have been many remodels over the years but the one Walmart is going through now has been the largest. The grocery area expanded by 304 square feet, and the general merchandise area (which includes paper, pet and chemical products) expanded by 8 feet. The remodel is ninety percent complete and expected to finish by January 13, with a Grand Opening celebration to take place shortly after.

The Chehalis Walmart is the largest in Washington state, with over 223,000 square feet; and the busiest Walmart west of the Mississippi River, employing 575 employees. With the volume this Walmart does, there is almost always a need for more staff. Currently Walmart is looking to hire between 50 and 75 additional employees.

Recently Walmart added



eight new self checkout stations. Appearances may conclude that the regular checkouts have decreased in number, but they have remained the same. Store Manager Matt Alexander has been with the company 23 years, a Store Manager for more than six years and running the Chehalis Walmart for a year and a half. Alexander mentioned the need for more employees to oversee the self checkout stations. The misconception that self checkouts are eliminating jobs is incorrect, when in reality there is a need for more cashiers.



One of Alexander's biggest challenges running such a busy and large store is making sure they are able to serve their customers all times of the day. The community that the Chehalis Walmart serves is vast and customers come and stock up on necessities, which many times creates challenges for customers looking for the same products later in the day. Alexander has created a mid-day stocking task force team to tackle the problem, but at the same time is sensitive to the fact that stocking does require sometimes being in the customer's way.

Walmart has been a valuable community partner with the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce, donating thousands of dollars worth of products to an array of events the Chamber hosts over the years. Walmart gives back to the community in a multitude of other ways including local community grants which local non-profit organizations can apply for up to \$5,000.

Walmart also hosts 'Shop with a Cop', which happened 4 times in 2022, partnering with The United Way, local law enforcement, and fire departments to help

provide a positive experience for children with law enforcement, as well as those in need of financial assistance. The Chehalis Walmart is also involved in several local charity organizations, including The Forgotten Children Fund, Sharon Care Center, Salvation Army and Lewis County Gospel Mission; giving food, time and clothing to those less fortunate.

Giving back to the community, providing jobs and essential services, Walmart is so much more than a store, it's a valuable partner in the community.

Turning the Page: A New Legislative Session Begins

By Rep. Peter Abbarno

The 2023 Legislative Session begins on January 9th and the regular session lasts 105 days; ending on April 24th. After the Elections, the legislative caucuses meet to elect leadership, discuss the upcoming session, and begin



Rep.
Peter Abbarno

to assign committees. This year, there were some changes for the 20th Legislative District delegation.

Senator John Braun will continue to serve as the Republican Leader in the State Senate. He will also serve on the Senate Ways and Means Committee and Senate Labor, Commerce, and Tribal Affairs Committees. Constituents can contact Senator Braun by visiting www.SenatorJohnBraun.org, E-mailing John.Braun@Leg.Wa.Gov.

Wa.Gov, or call (360) 786-7638.

Representative Ed Orcutt will continue serving as the Ranking Member on the House Finance Committee and as a member of both the House Rural Development Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee and the House Transportation Committee. Constituents can contact Representative Ed Orcutt by visiting www.RepresentativeEdOrcutt.com, E-mailing Ed.Orcutt@Leg.Wa.Gov, or call (360) 786-7990.

For myself, I will begin serving in the House Republican Leadership as the Assistant House Floor Leader. I will continue my role as Assistant Ranking Member on the House Capital Budget Committee and member of the House Environment and Energy Committee. Another new role for me will be the Ranking Member on the State Government and Tribal Relations Committee. I can be reached in Olympia at the Capitol by visiting www.RepresentativePeterAbbaro.com, E-mailing Peter.Abbarno@Leg.Wa.Gov, or

calling (360) 786-7896.

Every returning legislator has the opportunity to pre-file legislation in December prior to returning the new legislative session, which I did for four (4) pieces of legislation. Those bills include:

House Bill 1011, would repeal the state's new and regressive long-term care insurance program and payroll tax that is set to take effect July 1, 2023.

House Bill 1005, would double the existing business and occupation tax credit for employers who hire a veteran, spouse of a veteran, or spouse of an active-duty military member and employ them in a full-time position for at least two consecutive full-calendar quarters.

House Bill 1014 would provide a new grant funding source for rural fire departments whose buildings and equipment are inadequate to meet the fire safety needs of their communities.

House Bill 1004, also known as "Zack's Law," seeks to prevent cold-water shock drownings through signage at

bridges and along waterways throughout Washington state. House Bill 1044 is named in honor of 18-year-old Zachary Lee Rager, an experienced swimmer who fell victim to cold-water shock and drowned in the Chehalis River on March 23, 2021.

You can learn more about these pre-filed bills, committee hearings, and updates by visiting my legislative website at www.RepresentativePeterAbbaro.com. The 2023 Legislative Session will be in-person for visitors and constituents to watch, testify, and participate. Some virtual testimony and participation will still be available by visiting www.Leg.Wa.Gov. And, you can watch all the action on www.TVW.org.

I strongly believe government works best when it is open and your representatives accessible. During session, the 20th legislative district delegation will continue to host monthly legislative updates for the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce and encourage you to join. For more information, contact the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce at www.Chamberway.org or call (360) 748-8885.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I am honored to serve you in the Legislature and look forward to working with you to make our communities better places to live.

...

Peter Abbarno is an attorney with Althausen Rayan Abbarno, LLP and represents the 20th Legislative District in the Washington State House of Representatives.



Title Guaranty Company
of Lewis County
TITLE INSURANCE • ESCROW

Proud Sponsor of
HS HERO



TITLE GUARANTY
200 NW PACIFIC

"Growing Lewis County one family at a time!"
www.titlegco.com • 360-748-0001
200 NW Pacific Ave., Chehalis
Mailing: P.O. Box 1304, Chehalis

CH60501591.do

**Join us for coffee and a review,
and receive a free quote**


Call for a quote 736-7601

Business • Personal • Home • Auto • Bonds • Flood • Life




118 West Pine Street, Centralia
Also located in Olympia, Packwood & Vancouver
360-736-7601
www.nicholson-insurance.com

CH60303014.do



SECURITY STATE BANK
SINCE 1997
NMLS #418451 Member FDIC



Andy Alexander
Loan Officer
NMLS #1807751

Money to Lend!
Local Lenders • Competitive Rates

Our business is helping your business succeed!

- Business Loans
- Lines/Letters of Credit
- Equipment Financing
- SBA & Rural Development Loans

Call Andy today to schedule an appointment at your convenience!

360.748.8648 | 877.595.0378
ssbwa.com

CH611543bw.cg

**CHAMBER STAFF:**

Cynthia Mudge
Executive Director
director@chamberway.com

Christine Demus
Office Manager
chchamber@chamberway.com

Sarah Bent
Marketing Manager
marketing@chamberway.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Coralee Taylor
Chair
The Silver Agency and
The Chronicle

Julie Pendleton
Secretary
Dick's Brewing & Deli

Julie Shaffley
Treasurer
Good Health and
Nutrition Center

Lindy Waring
Past Chair
KELA/KMNT Radio

Amanda Singleton
At-Large
Rainier Connect

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Stan Bowman
Bowman Assoc.
Management

Trent Henning
Riverside Golf Club and
Chamber Ambassador Chair

Thomas Jaurequi
United Natural Foods Inc.
(UNFI)

Dana Johnson
Providence Swedish

Chris Judd
United Way of Lewis County

Daryl Lund
Community Member

Jeff Malloy
O'Blarney's Irish Pub

Cameron McGee
Calypso Window Washing

Michael Postlewait
Lucky Eagle Casino

Amanda Singleton
Rainier Connect

Chris Thomas
Providence Hospital

Sandra Wing
Twin Cities Sports
Commission

NON-VOTING

Jill Anderson
City of Chehalis

Rob Hill
City of Centralia

CONTACT US:

500 NW Chamber of Commerce Way
Chehalis, WA 98532
Office: 360.748.8885
Fax: 360.748.8763
TheChamber@ChamberWay.com

**BUSINESS PROFILE**

A Taste of Europe in Chehalis: Market Street Bakery

Another Small Business Success Story

For more than 20 years Market Street Bakery and Cafe has been bringing the taste of Europe to downtown Chehalis. Offering a variety of pastries, breads, hot and cold sandwiches, soups and salads; there are options for everyone!

Eric and Lisa Wearner opened Market St. Bakery and Cafe in the Spring of 2002. Eric studied at Western Culinary Institute in Portland, then spent his internship in Iceland, working at a restaurant and a bakery where he developed his craft in creating fine pastries and artisan breads. Lisa's background is in linguistics but she has always had an interest in baking and cooking. She specializes in creating beautiful wedding cakes, and helping run the day to day operations of

the bakery. Even their children have started their own products at the Bakery, and offer 'Little Nina's Dog Bones' that you can purchase for your pup. The whole Wearner family is involved in the family business.

While looking for a location for their bakery, they found the space they are in now was available, and Lisa's father knew the owner of the building, Joe Mount. Previously the Red Dog Brew Pub, the Wearners transformed the space to what it is today. If you walk towards the back you can still find large windows to view the brewing process from the brewery still there, and now you can view the making of baked goods through the same glass. The menu has evolved over the years, but the Wearners have stayed true to their commitment to make their goods from scratch using fresh, locally sourced



ingredients whenever possible, and with no preservatives. Market Street Bakery and Cafe is unique to the fact that it is only open Monday - Friday from 9-4pm.

"The community has given us amazing support. We love this small town, and love knowing our customers

by name, and they are so kind to our staff. This community really rallied around us during hard times. The best part is the customers, they bring us so much joy," comments Lisa Wearner.

...

Visit the Market Street Bakery and Cafe at 492 N Market Blvd, Chehalis.

Four New Board Members Join the Chamber



Thomas Jaurequi



Dana Johnson



Chris Judd



Michael Postlewait

2023 Executive Board and Board Announced

Officers for 2023 were also confirmed. The Executive Board includes:

- Coralee Taylor, Chair, The Silver Agency and The Chronicle
- Julie Pendleton, Secretary, Dick's Brewing & Deli
- Julie Shaffley, Treasurer, Good Health and Nutrition Center
- Lindy Waring, Past Chair, KELA/KMNT Radio
- Amanda Singleton, At-Large, Rainier Connect

The officers also serve as the board for the newly formed 501 (c) 3 non-profit Rob Fuller Scholarship Fund

**Board members include:**

- Stan Bowman with Bowman Assoc. Management
- Trent Henning with Riverside Golf Club and Chamber Ambassador Chair
- Thomas Jaurequi with United Natural Foods Inc. (UNFI)
- Dana Johnson with Providence Swedish
- Chris Judd with United Way of Lewis County
- Daryl Lund as a Community Member

- Jeff Malloy with O'Blarney's Irish Pub
- Cameron McGee, Calypso Window Washing
- Michael Postlewait with Lucky Eagle Casino
- Amanda Singleton with Rainier Connect
- Chris Thomas with Providence Hospital
- Sandra Wing with Twin Cities Sports Commission.

Non-voting members include Jill Anderson, City of Chehalis, and Rob Hill, City of Centralia.

Happy New Year from Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce!

Moving Forward Together

Together we are stronger than ever. Chambers provide a united voice for businesses and offer opportunities to learn from each other, network, and grow. Chambers have tools to help with all of these efforts and the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber strives to meet the needs of its members.

New Learning Opportunities

Check out the Micro Bytes Learning Center for easily accessible in-person training.

Legislative Updates

Our District 20 Legislative delegates offer a monthly opportunity for Chamber members to participate in a Zoom meeting with one or more of our delegates. This is an amazing opportunity to hear first-hand from our delegates, ask questions, or share comments in a friendly and relaxed environment. Zoom links are provided via our weekly email notices to members. Email director@chamberway.com to learn more or to make sure you are on our email list.

Member Tools

Visit www.ChamberWay.com and click on "Member Login"

Forgot your password? Simply click on Member Login (upper right side). Provide your email address. Check email for instructions. Easy to set up!

Once logged into your account there are many tools available to you:

- Update profile information
- Pay your bill
- Create a Job Posting that automatically posts to the Chamber website
- Share your Social Media

Networking

Attend our monthly Forums, Business After Hours (BAH), or become a Chamber Ambassador. There are other volunteer opportunities as well that get you connected with other businesses and potential customers.

Forums are the 2nd Thursday of each month from 11:30 am to 1 pm at O'Blarney's Irish Pub in Centralia.

Business After Hours

(BAH). BAH's are the 3rd Thursday from 5 to 7 pm and hosted by various businesses throughout the year. BAH's are great promotional opportunities to showcase your business. Cost is \$250 and includes pre-, during, and post promotion by the Chamber. We can assist in designing your BAH as well.

To schedule a BAH or request being a Forum presenter, call 360-748-8885.

Advertising & Promotional Opportunities

The Chamber has numerous advertising opportunities, many with member discounts or exclusive to members only.

- Digital Billboard located right at I-5 Exit #79 and at the Chamber Office
- Lewis County Map Plaque – the Map is located below the digital billboard
- Web advertising (members only)
- E-mail Updates (a weekly calendar listing plus weekly promotions or news items)
- Business After Hours – exclusive to members only

Event Sponsors

- Home & Garden Show
- 3-on-3 Streetball Festival
- Trails and Rails 5k Fun Run
- Seattle-to-Portland Midway Rest Sponsor
- Lewis County Hiring Fairs
- Choose local Holiday Campaign
- Santa Parade
- Micro Bytes Learning Center
- Trick or Treat Transit

Free!

Ribbon Cuttings are a free promotional service of the Chamber and are open to both members and non-members. Call or email Chris Demus at 360-748-8885 / TheChamber@chamberway.com

Bizz Buzz announcements are a free Chamber Member benefit. Submit 200 words or less to marketing@chamberway.com and take advantage of a free listing in the monthly Business Connections distributed inside The Chronicle the first Thursday of each month. The deadline is typically the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Photos welcome.

BIZZBUZZ



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



American Red Cross

The American Red Cross Northwest Region needs your help in 2023 and asks that you consider making a New Year's resolution to become a volunteer.

Our local volunteers are part of the almost 300,000 people across the country whose support enables the Red Cross to respond to an average of more than 60,000 disasters every year and deliver more than 6.4 million blood products to hospital patients in need. Volunteers also help train more than 4.6 million people in Red Cross lifesaving skills; help provide nearly 550,000 services to military members, veterans and their families; and to reconnect almost 9,000 families separated by war or disaster around the world. Volunteering is good for you and our community! The top five benefits of resolving to volunteer in 2023 include: Meeting new people. Learning new skills. Being part of something larger. Making a difference in someone's life. Staying active. Become a vital part of the Red Cross and our mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering. Training is free, but the hope you provide as a Red Cross volunteer is priceless. Visit redcross.org/volunteertoday to get started.



Bekins Northwest

Looking for a reputable moving and storage company? Established in 1903, Bekins Northwest has more than 100 years of experience in the moving industry. We continually strive to raise the standard to provide our customers with the best possible service in the moving industry. Our highly qualified staff of account managers, movers, packers and drivers are considered experts in the industry. We proudly employ a professional staff of experts in residential moving, office moving, systems furniture installations, International crating, special products and corporate relocations. Many of Washington's largest employers, including the Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Mariners, University of Washington, Providence, Burke Museum, and the State of Washington, have relied on our expertise and quality services. We are proud to be an Agent for Bekins Van Lines and their customer first philosophy. The Bekins Northwest family has experienced tremendous

growth over the years. The company's overall success is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication of the 250+ staff members that work together as a team every day.



Centralia Outlets Winter Sale

January 13 – 16, 2023

Our January Winter Clearance Sale is a perfect time to shop the Centralia Outlets. The Outlets offer a huge selection of name-brand wear for the whole family. Find stylish warm coats, sweaters, and PJs at Aéropostale, Hanes Brands, and more. Shop the latest in clothing trends at Gap, Polo Ralph Lauren, and Pendleton. Is your New Year's Resolution to be more active? New Balance, Nike, and Under Armour have a wide selection of activewear to choose from for the whole family. Don't forget to pick up the perfect ski and hiking outerwear at Volcom and Eddie Bauer to help you stay warm on the slopes or trails this winter. Add a little sparkle and pizzazz to your wardrobe, and find the perfect accessories at Kay Jewelers, Coach, and Claire's. With such great prices on the name brands you want and an ever-changing selection don't miss out, when the Outlets have a sale, it's REALLY a SALE! Visit our website for more store information www.centraliaoutlets.com, and follow us on Facebook for in-store sales and updates.



The Evergreen Playhouse

The Evergreen Playhouse is pleased to announce our February performances of The Diary of Anne Frank February 3 -19 2023. In this transcendently powerful new adaptation by Wendy Kesselman, Anne Frank emerges from history a living, lyrical, intensely gifted young girl, who confronts her rapidly changing life and the increasing horror of her time with astonishing honesty, wit, and determination. An impassioned drama about the lives of eight people hiding from the Nazis in a concealed storage attic,

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK captures the claustrophobic realities of their daily existence—their fear, their hope, their laughter, their grief. Each day of these two dark years, Anne's voice shines through: "When I write I shake off all my cares. But I want to achieve more than that. I want to be useful and bring enjoyment to all people, even those I've never met. I want to go on living even after my death!" This is a new adaptation for a new generation. Performance dates are Friday/ Saturday nights, Sunday matinee and Thursday February 9th is our Pay-What-You-Can performance. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors and students, and may be purchased at www.evergreenplayhouse.com. Don't forget to check out our volunteering opportunities. The balance of the season we will be performing Lend me a Tenor and Tuck Everlasting.



Good Buzz Brewing Co.

At Good Buzz Brewing Co, we take pride in crafting a high quality and delicious beverage. We support small businesses and bee conservation. Our ingredients are locally sourced. Our products contain no added sulfites and are always preservative and dye free. Give us a try and enjoy a Good Buzz! Find a store near you at goodbuzzbrewingco.com/locations



The Paula Burrows Team

The Paula Burrows Team brokered by eXp Realty is a full-service real estate team led by managing broker, Paula Burrows. Our team of expert agents are committed to your real estate goals and we enjoy being a valuable part of our local communities!

Lewis County Residential Only Stats (Jan 2022 - Nov 2022):
 Total Sold - 1,144 properties!
 Average Sales Price - \$422,704.00
 Percent of List Price Received - 99.8%

The numbers above show that it is

still a great time to buy and sell in our area!! Call (360) 520-4810 or visit www.pbthomes.com with any questions regarding real estate and your home's value!

(Current as of December 01, 2022. All data from Northwest Multiple Listing Service)



Brokered by eXp Realty

Quiznos

Have Quiznos in Centralia DELIVER to you at home or the workplace . We have soups, sandwiches and salads. Place your order today at Quiznos.com Thank you, Tim and Tina

QUIZNOS

Village Concepts of Chehalis - Woodland Village

At Village Concepts of Chehalis - Woodland Village, we recognize that the true foundation of a home starts with community: People living, learning, and growing together. We are a third-generation family-owned and locally operated company with deep roots in the Northwest. We develop meaningful partnerships between residents, families and staff members that strengthen communities and create quality homes for seniors.

With Independent Living, Assisted Living and Memory Care options available within our Community, residents can age in place with care services available as needed. Cottages and townhomes offer an independent lifestyle without the burden of home ownership and maintenance. Short term stays are also available for those wanting to experience our Community in a fully furnished apartment with access to our dedicated care team.

Residents enjoy chef prepared meals daily and a robust program schedule enriching their lives both inside and out of the community. Activities include planned outings, daily exercise, games, art classes, happy hour and educational opportunities.

We are open daily for in person and virtual visits and would love to introduce our Community to you! Please call us at 360-748-0095 for more information!



WSU Lewis County Master Gardener

To keep your shrubs healthy, remember to lightly brush off any snow accumulations. If the snow is allowed to remain on the branches of your shrubs or hedges it is likely to refreeze and the weight of the snow can cause breakage of stems. WSU Lewis County Extension Master Gardener Program has year-round enrollment to everyone! Now is a perfect time to advance your gardening knowledge. Gardening is both rewarding and therapeutic! For more information, contact Jason Adams, Program Coordinator, at 360-740-1216 or Jason.adams@lewiscountywa.gov. The Extension office is located 17 SW Cascade Ave, Chehalis.



WSU Lewis County Master Recycler Composters Training

The WSU Lewis County Master Recycler Composter (MRC) program is training volunteers to provide useful information to the community through free workshops, demonstrations, and other educational outreach. The FREE classes will be offered in three different blocks starting with Block One on February 25th at Chehalis Library with "Know your Recyclables, Living A Zero Waste Lifestyle and Save Food, Save Money". The Second Block on May 20th at Salkum Library will cover "Basic Composting, Worm Composting and Know Your Soils", and the Third Block on October 28th at the Lewis County Transfer Station will be "Slowing the Waste Stream with the 3 R's and Dealing with Hazardous Waste". Upon completion of these classes, you will be certified as a Master Recycler Composter! Want to know how you can incorporate Living a Zero Waste Lifestyle in your life? Then mark your calendar for February 8th at 5:30 pm at Borst Kitchen #1 for this panel of experienced recyclers on how they live a zero-waste lifestyle. All classes are open to the public at no charge and may be taken individually or in the entire block. To register for any of these classes, contact Jason Adams, Program Coordinator, (360) 740-1216 or e-mail jason.adams@lewiscountywa.gov. for any questions.

Send 200 words (or less) to marketing@chamberway.com. A photo or logo gets even greater visibility!

December New Members

- LocalProBook
 Tactical Blackout Group
 Bekins Northwest
 Centerville Cafe
 Antman
 Amber Taylor Realtor
 Dry Box
 Renewing Members
 Althausen Rayan Abbarno
 Althea-Centralia
 Best Life Massage PLLC
 Best Western PLUS
 Park Place Inn & Suites
 Braun Northwest
 Cascade Community Healthcare
 Centralia Community Church of God
 Centralia Pet Resort
 Century 21 Lund, Realtors
 Chehalis CBD
 American Shaman
 Chehalis Livestock Market



Chamber Members:

- Chehalis-Centralia Optimists
 Christine's Custom Cleans LLC
 Dave's Dry Cleaners & Econo Wash
 Dick's Brewing
 Dobbs Peterbilt
 Dynamic Collectors
 Esco Pacific Signs
 EV Media Outdoor
 Evexia IV Nutrition & Wellness
 Exodus Engineering, Inc.
 Freeborn Wellness
 Gibbs & Olson, Inc.
 Gifted
 Gracie's
 GT Carpet Cleaning and Residential & Commercial Services, LLP.
 Heritage Restoration, Inc.
 1-5 Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram & Fiat
 Innovations in Eyecare, Inc.

- Insure with Bob, Inc.
 Interior Design Center
 JH Events & Design
 JJ Hamilton Realtor
 John L. Scott Real Estate
 King Oscar Motel
 KITI Radio 100.5FM & 1420AM / Live 95 FM
 Kiwanis Club of Centralia-Chehalis
 L.C. Renal Alliance
 Les Schwab Tire Center - Chehalis
 Lewis County
 Lewis County Adventist School
 Lewis County Assessor's Office
 Lewis County Master Builders
 Lewis County PUD #1
 Lewis County Sheriff's Office
 Lewis County Title Company
 Lewis County Treasurer



- Lickety Split Mobile Notary and Loan Signing
 McCallum Rock Drilling, Inc.
 Midway R.V. Park & Convenience Store
 Mountain View CPA's, PS
 Northwest Sausage & Deli
 Owl & Olive - Special Event & Wedding Venue
 Party Connexion, LLC
 Peppermill Empress Inn
 Port of Chehalis
 Prestige Post Acute & Rehabilitation Center - Centralia
 Providence Centralia Hospital
 Providence Physical Therapy
 Quiznos Centralia #4372
 Rainier Connect
 Rip Some Lips Guide Service
 Sierra Pacific Industries
 Sight and Sound Audio Connections Inc.

- Strangeland's Oddities, Omens & Charms
 Subway (Sub Bros Inc.)
 The Farm Store Inc.
 The Industrial Commission
 The Shire Bar & Bistro
 Timberland Bank
 Title Guaranty Co. of Lewis County
 ToledoTel
 Twin Cities Sertoma Club
 Uncle Andos Wurld of Weed
 United Way of Lewis County
 Visiting Nurses Foundation / Thrift Store - Centralia
 Washington Orthopedic Center
 Wilde Soul
 Wilson & Wilson Dentistry
 Timberland Library -Vernetta Smith, Chehalis
 Twinstar Credit Union, Onalaska
 Volkswagen of Olympia
 Preowned Superstore
 Volkswagen of Olympia

Volunteer as a Chamber Ambassador

Volunteering as an Ambassador for the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce is a great way to support and connect with the business community, and promote Chamber membership. The Chamber employs a staff of 3 people, making our Ambassadors and volunteers valuable assets when providing outreach to the local business community.

Our Ambassador team works with the Chamber staff behind the scenes to actively

advocate for the Chamber, help educate, promote and share the benefits of membership and help in member recruitment. They help in a variety of capacities; helping at events, greeting and facilitating networking with guests, essentially becoming community leaders who advocate for area growth and economic development while supporting local businesses. There are many benefits to becoming an ambassador including many opportunities to make valuable contacts with

business leaders throughout the Lewis County Area.

We are so grateful to our 2022 Ambassadors and all the support they have given to us this year and we are looking forward to a great 2023! From Ribbon Cuttings, Forums, Business After Hours and our many other community events, we could not have done it all without our Ambassadors! If you are interested in the Chamber Ambassador Program contact us to find out more information.



Back row: Naomi Snell, Brian Wilkins, Morgan Masters, Dianne Dorey, Alicia Blum, Amanda Curry, Christine Brower. Front row: MacKenzie McGee, Michelle Davis, Shari McFarland, Joseph Lambert, LeeAnn Craig.

Runway Boutique One Year Anniversary Event

On November 12, Runway Boutique celebrated their One Year Anniversary with a Ribbon Cutting. Visit Runway Boutique at 383 NW Chehalis in Chehalis for the latest fashions!



Best Life Massage Ribbon Cutting

On December 2, Best Life Massage celebrated the Grand Opening of their new location with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Call Leah to schedule your massage appointment at (360) 506-7185.



Berg Marketing Group Ribbon Cutting

On November 15, Berg Marketing Group celebrated the Grand Opening of their new location with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Visit Berg Marketing Group for all your marketing needs at 827 Marsh Ave in Centralia.



72nd Annual Santa Parade

The 72nd Annual Santa Parade took place on December 3 and featured Chief Michael Kytta as Grand Marshall and Rep. Peter Abbarno as Santa.



November Forum

On November 10, the Chamber held its monthly forum with guest speaker Cheryl Heywood, Executive Director at Timberland Library, who spoke to us about available business resources at the library.

Home & Garden Show Returns!

APPLY NOW TO BECOME A VENDOR

The Chamber brings back the Home & Garden Show for its 57th year taking place April 14 & 15 at the SW Washington Fair Grounds in the Blue Pavilion. This is a great opportunity to showcase services, products, and ideas – both grand and petit as well as plain and unique.

Booth fees start at \$265 for Chamber members and \$365 for non-members. There is 20% and 30% discounts for multiple booths.

Visit chamberway.com to apply online or email marketing@chamberway.com for a PDF application.

MONTHLY CHAMBER EVENTS

January Forum

Thursday, January 12
2nd Thursday of each month
11:30 am Lunch served
Noon presentation begins
O'Blarney's Irish Pub at the Gibson House
221 N. Tower, Centralia
\$17 lunch or \$5 sitting fee – pay at the bar on the main floor

New Year's Resolutions for your Business!
Get those back-burner projects organized and start the new year with some sizzle!
Presenter is Amanda Berg, Director of Business Development for Berg Marketing Group

Business After Hours

3rd Thursday of each month
No BAH for January.
Instead, register for the Annual Banquet scheduled for January 20!
ChamberWay.com

Legislative Update

(members only)
4th Thursday each month now through April
Thursday, January 26
7:30 - 8:30 am
Zoom.
Email director@chamberway.com for Zoom link

Business Connections

Deadline for February: January 18, 2023

New! Morning Forum

These do not replace our regular Forum meetings but are an additional member program as we experiment with a morning option.

Wednesday, February 1
8 am - 9 am
O'Blarney's Irish Pub at the Gibson House
2nd Floor
221 N. Tower, Centralia
\$5 sitting fee

Micro Bytes Learning Center

The Chamber is adding a new learning opportunity for its members starting this month. The Micro Bytes Learning Center is designed to offer quick one-hour learning sessions that are tightly focused about a single topic. The sessions are designed to accommodate only twelve

attendees to provide a one-on-one connection with the presenters.
We welcome ideas about topics and encourage members to participate as a presenter.
Fees are \$10 per session. Members can pay an annual fee of \$25 that allows three sessions.

Upcoming Events

Tues., Jan. 17 • Noon
Google Local Explained
Amanda Berg, Director of Business Development, Berg Marketing Group

Tues., Jan. 24 • 8:00 AM
PR 101: Get Your Kit Together!
Cynthia Mudge, Executive Director, Centralia-Chehalis Chamber

Tues., Jan. 31 • 8:00 AM
Stress-Free Debt Collections
Chris Demus, Office Manager/Events, Centralia-Chehalis Chamber

Tues., Feb. 21 • Noon
Meta Business Planner Explained
Amanda Berg, Director of Business Development, Berg Marketing Group

Tues., Feb. 28 • 8:00 AM
Marketing Tools: Canva Graphics Tool for Busy People
Cynthia Mudge, Executive Director, Centralia-Chehalis Chamber



Thank You for the Support of Our Sponsors!

— DIAMOND —



Lewis County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Funds (LTAC)



City of Chehalis LTAC

— PLATINUM —

