

# Business Connections



OCTOBER 2024

Centralia - Chehalis  
Chamber of Commerce

Promote ♦ Protect ♦ Inform

Inside This Edition: Candidates, Debates, and Issues

## Voting is a duty we all have as citizens of this country

By Chad Taylor

As Americans, we enjoy the privilege of living in a democratic republic where our voices matter. The privilege to cast our votes was not simply granted to us without struggle; it was a right diligently fought for by those who came before us.

Voting stands as a pillar of our framework granting each person the chance to shape the course of our governance. Unfortunately, some fail to appreciate this privilege and overlook the sacrifices made to preserve it. As publishers of community newspapers, we need to emphasize the importance of exercising this right within our community. This is particularly crucial in the environment of discord that we find ourselves in today.

Our nation’s creators envisioned a country where its citizens could actively participate in the governance

process from the beginning; however, we should note that initially only a privileged group could vote: white men who owned property. Over time and, through movements like the Civil War and the civil rights movement, among others, this essential freedom was eventually extended to all citizens after struggle and reform.

The 15th Amendment was ratified in 1870 to grant men the right to vote; however, discriminatory practices such as literacy tests and poll taxes hindered many from exercising their voting rights. The suffrage movement strived for years to secure the voting rights for women, resulting in the enactment of the 19th Amendment in 1920.



Chad Taylor

The passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965 provided safeguards for minorities in the Southern region who had been systematically disenfranchised by local regulations.

These victories were no small feats. They marked changes in American history’s trajectory toward the belief that the nation should be governed with the people’s consent at its core. It’s important to note that none of these triumphed battles came without sacrifices of bloodshed and hard work.

For instance, the assassination attempt on U.S. Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh in 2022 and now the second attempt on former President Donald Trump have brought to light just how dangerous unchecked rhetoric and political extremism can be. When individuals feel so disconnected from the political process that they

resort to violence, it’s a wakeup call for all of us. We may not always agree with our leaders or the decisions made by our government, but the right way to express our discontent is through our vote, not burning down cities.

It’s important to remember that voting is not a privilege but a duty that we all have as citizens of this country. The fundamental belief in government and the empowerment of individuals to control their futures are core principles of American society. However, there are instances where we neglect our responsibility to participate in elections especially when critical matters such as taxes, business rules and personal liberties are at stake.

Many governmental policies that increase the authority of the government and limit liberties often get approved due to our neglect of voting rights as citizens.

This trend has been evident in times through the rise in government expenditure and control extending from the growth of social welfare initiatives to tighter regulations impacting businesses — matters that impact every American but especially hit home for those of us who believe in a free-market economy.

The basic idea is straightforward. If we choose to stay silent and not participate in governance matters actively then we shouldn’t be surprised if the government expands beyond its planned limits.

Lately, we’ve seen a decline in confidence in our voting system with worries about the honesty of elections or the fairness of rules causing many Americans to feel disconnected from the process. But not taking part doesn’t

Please See **VOTE**, Page 2

## Historic Election Year: Candidates, Initiatives, and Control of Legislative Chambers

By Peter Abbarno

20th District Rep. R-Centralia

This year is a historic election where candidates, control of legislative chambers, and policy issues are all on the ballot. For the first time in Washington state’s history, voters will have the opportunity to vote on four initiatives that will help guide the direction of our state.

The idiom “Close Only Counts in Horseshoes and Hand Grenades” is a common saying that means in most situations, merely being close

to success isn’t good enough, and you must achieve your goal for it to count. This also applies to elections.

As we saw in the recent Washington State Lands Commissioner primary election, only 51 votes separated two candidates. If 52 Republicans had turned in their ballots for Sue Kuehl Pederson, Republicans would have secured a statewide office since Republican Jaime Herrera Beutler had already secured her place on the general election ballot. Only 44% of Lewis County

residents voted, and that was about 4% higher than the state average.

The question is whether the other 56% of Lewis County voters will realize their vote really does count. The start of the 18-day voting period begins on October 18th, so there is still time to remind voters to turn in their ballot on or before November 5th.

Washingtonians will soon have the chance to vote for their favorite, or least unfavorable, candidate on the ballot. But, before they get to the presidential race, they will have the unique opportunity to vote on some very important fiscal issues that could set Washington on a new course.

There are four initiatives on the ballot and the language may get complicated, so here is a quick review.



Peter Abbarno

Legislature passed a bill that would lay the groundwork for a natural gas phase out and ban. Voting “no” would continue the policy of phasing out natural gas and requiring homes and businesses to electricity. Voting “Yes” would repeal the phase out of natural gas and allow customers the choice of converting to electricity or staying with their current heating and energy options.

**I-2109**

In 2021, the State Legislature enacted an additional 7% tax on many small business owners in the form of a sales tax on capital gains over \$250,000 from the sale or exchange of long-term capital assets such as stocks, bonds, business interests, or other investments and tangible assets. Voting “no” would keep the current Capital Gains tax of 7% and allow it to be adjusted in the future. Voting “yes” would repeal the 7% capital gains tax.

**I-2117**

In 2021, the State Legislature passed the Climate

Commitment Act (CCA) and in 2024 linked that program to the State of California and Canadian Province of Quebec. In part, it created a carbon credit market with proceeds being used for projects and programs that reduce carbon emissions. The regulations around the program have increased, according to some studies, the cost of fuel by \$0.50 per gallon. Voting “no” would keep the cap-and-trade credit program. Voting “yes” would repeal the cap-and-trade credit program.

**I-2124**

In 2019, the State Legislature created a new mandatory payroll tax that would fund a long-term care program called WA Cares. The tax would provide up to \$36,500 of long-term care benefits to eligible workers. Voting “no” would maintain the mandatory payroll tax and WA Cares program. Voting “yes” would make the payroll tax and WA Cares program voluntary and create a permanent opt-out for workers.

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

Title Guaranty  
Company  
of Lewis County

TITLE INSURANCE • ESCROW

Proud Sponsor of  
HS HERO

“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

SECURITY  
STATE BANK

NMLS#418451 Member FDIC

Mark Gordon  
Loan Officer  
NMLS#1808102

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 Mark today to  
schedule an appointment  
at your convenience!

360.748.8648 | 877.595.0378  
ssbwa.com

**Remember to Vote!**

It is not always easy to know what is on the ballot and the language can be confusing. Remember, your vote counts. This is an important election, and your vote can change the direction of Washington. For more information visit the Washington state Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.wa.gov.

Rep. Peter Abbarno represents the 20th Legislative District and is the Ranking Member on the House Capital Budget Committee.



Directory

**CHAMBER STAFF:**

**Cynthia Mudge**  
Executive Director  
director@chamberway.com

**Jacob Larson**  
Admin/Marketing Assistant  
marketing@chamberway.com

**Emily Fitzgerald**  
Writer

**The Silver Agency,**  
Social Media/  
Web Development

**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

**Chris Thomas,**  
At-Large  
Providence Hospital

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

**Jennifer Brown**  
Evexia IV Nutrition and Wellness

**Trent Henning**  
Riverside Golf Club and  
Chamber Ambassador Chair

**John Ibarra**  
UNFI

**Dana Johnson**  
Providence Swedish

**Chris Judd**  
United Way of Lewis County

**Marlin Langworthy**  
Cascade Hardwood

**Daryl Lund**  
Minuteman Press  
Mayor Pro Tem

**Michael Postlewait**  
Lucky Eagle Casino

**Amanda Singleton**  
Lightcurve

**Connie Smejkal**  
Centralia College

**Sandra Wing**  
Twin Cities Sports  
Commission

**NON-VOTING**

**Amy Buckler**  
Interim City Manager  
Centralia

**Stacy Denham**  
City Manager  
City of Chehalis

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



# 2024 Candidates Debate

Businesses and the public are encouraged to attend the Candidates Debate on Thursday, October 10, starting at 11:30. The debates take place on the 2nd floor of O’Blarney’s located at 221 N. Tower in Centralia. Below are bios for each candidate.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #1**

**Candidate Damian A. Bean**  
I am running for County Commissioner because I believe I can bring a sense of sanity back to our Board of County Commissioners. I was born and raised in Lewis County. I grew up in a conservative household, where I was taught that the government should not meddle in the lives of its citizens. In my civics classes, I was taught that there should be a separation of church and state as our nation’s founders intended. During my time in the Boy Scouts, I was taught the importance of responsible fiscal management. In my church, I was taught not to create divisions when not necessary. It was these lessons in my childhood that led me to joining and later working for the Republican Party.



**Candidate Damian A. Bean**  
But in recent years, I have seen that the modern Republican Party no longer holds those time-honored values that I was raised upon. Which is why I am running as a Democrat. A Lewis County Democrat. Someone who holds on to those time-honored values while still being able to move with the times. Someone who strives to build a Lewis County that works for all of us, not just some. Someone who cares.

**Candidate Sean Swope**  
Commissioner Sean Swope is a champion and devoted advocate for building healthy communities. Drawing upon his extensive business and public service backgrounds, Commissioner Swope believes in an integrated approach by demonstrating principled leadership, incorporating innovation, and encouraging collaboration. The implementation of these initiatives will significantly bolster District #1 communities, and by extension all of Lewis County.

He is a devoted supporter of public safety, affordable housing, and building a fully

functioning economy in Lewis County. Drawing upon his extensive business background, Commissioner Swope believes that a strategic approach incorporating innovation, collaboration, and successfully implementing new technologies can significantly bolster the local economy.



**Candidate Sean Swope**  
With a strong focus on accountability and responsible use of government funds, Commissioner Swope prioritizes public safety for all, providing support services for veterans, seniors, and low-income individuals, while advocating for the rights and liberties of every member of the community.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #2**

**Candidate Lindsey Remund Pollock**  
Thank you for electing me as your current Lewis County Commissioner. Born and raised here, I returned after graduating from Washington State University to practice veterinary medicine for 25 years. Alongside running my business, I have served as a volunteer firefighter, a board member of the Winlock Food Bank, and supported 4-H and FFA participants. My husband and I live on a small farm outside of Winlock with our dog and cat, enjoying life and watching our nieces and nephews grow up. Your trust in me to represent our community is a privilege I hold dear.



**Candidate Lindsey Remund Pollock**  
**Candidate Christina Riley**  
Christina, a resident of Lewis County for two decades, is a beacon of hope for the community. Married and a mother of two, Christina and her family actively participate in the community through their involvement in 4H and year-round sports. Committed to giving back, Christina has served on

several community boards in Lewis County, driven by her strong belief in community service and guided by her faith. Christina’s professional journey began as an apprentice laborer, now an established industry leader across the northwest. In response to having her freedoms infringed upon in 2020, Christina made a pivotal career shift, founding her own company to provide professional services as an apprenticeship specialist and tribal liaison. Her dedication to serving the community is evident through her involvement on numerous boards across Washington State, focusing on collaboration, workforce development, industry standards, and training pathways. In her bid for Lewis County Commissioner, Christina is driven by a vision of responsible growth, seeking to guide the county towards a brighter future, together. She is committed to addressing the pressing issues of crime, addiction, and mental health in the county, seeking to make a tangible difference in the lives of its residents.



**Candidate Christina Riley LEWIS COUNTY PUD DISTRICT #2**

**Candidate Dave Fenn**  
I am a Lewis County native from the Boistfort Valley, graduating from Boistfort High School. I graduated from Pacific Lutheran University with a degree in education and a major in math. After seven years of teaching, I returned home and farmed with my brother for 40 years. After dissolving the partnership, I continued farming on a smaller scale. For 20 years Tom Christin and I were partners in The Farm Store. This month our daughter and son-in-law bought Tom’s half of the store business, and another daughter and son-in law bought his half of the real estate.



**Candidate Dave Fenn**

I have also served on several boards. I was a Boistfort fire commissioner for over 20 years, a short time on the Boistfort school board, been on the Lewis Conservation District board for over 20 years and served four years as Treasurer for the Washinton Association of Conservation Districts . I am a member of committees advising our County assessor and the Flood Zone Control District.

I am president of the board of the new Southwest Washington Growers Co-op. I am a farm bureau member also.

It was suggested by several people I know and respect that I should run for PUD Commissioner. They said that my years of successful business experience and working with fellow board members would be good preparation for serving on the PUD Commission. With some folks I have a reputation of thrift that has served me well in business and will serve the Lewis County PUD and its customers well.

**Candidate Angie Brown**  
I am a lifelong resident of Lewis County. I have served on non-profit boards in our County for the last 20 years. Over the last 30 years I have coached youth sports in our area. I have been involved with the Lewis County PUD by volunteering on the Broadband Champion Group and the Customer Review Board advocating for our community. I love our community and strongly believe that we can only grow and stay strong as a community if we choose to get involved and invest in it.



**Candidate Angie Brown**  
My focus is on responsible budgeting, affordable rates and being customer focused. Responsible budgeting can be achieved by strategically balancing what it costs to responsibly operate a utility while keeping electric rates as low as possible. The utility should be committed to affordable rates that are needed in order to cover the essential and ordinary costs of operating a utility. The PUD wouldn’t exist without the customers it serves. Therefore, the PUD should ensure it maintains excellent customer communications and responsiveness to issues. If elected, I promise to be the voice of my constituents and work towards improving our utility. Angie B. for PUD!

**VOTE:** *From Page 1*  
solve the issues — it just exacerbates them.

As citizens of a democratic republic, voting is our way to show our power and have a say. It’s a chance for us to make sure the people we elect are doing their job and reflecting what matters to us. If we don’t vote, we’re giving up our voice to those who might not care about what we believe in. During a period when our

country is dealing with issues, like instability and global tensions alongside internal conflicts and social unrest, we need to remain actively involved in the political sphere now more than ever before. We must demonstrate to the generations that democracy is not just something to observe from afar; it demands our involvement and dedication as well as a sense of accountability. As newspaper publishers,

serving our community’s needs and interests foremostly we seek to promote discussions, facilitate mutual comprehension and encourage active participation in civic matters. Amid the current tumultuous political environment, it is imperative that we embrace diverse viewpoints and perspectives rather than limit them. The essential act of casting ballots every election at the municipal, state or national

level offers a chance to influence the direction of our nation’s trajectory and progress for generations to come Our ancestors bravely made sacrifices for the privilege of voting in elections. That sacrifice should not be forgotten as it is vital to the preservation of our democracy today. Be sure to exercise your voting rights to ensure your voice is counted and heard loud and clear.





# BIZZBUZZ



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?



**3 Saints Chili Cookoff on October 19 3-5 PM**

You are invited to join the 3 Saints team - St. John's Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and St. Timothy Episcopal Church - for a fun and free Chili Cookoff. Teams from all three churches will be preparing free chili for tasting and voting. We'll be asking for monetary donations for desserts. Those donations be given to the Lewis County Food Bank Coalition.

We'll have entertainment and more!

St. John's Lutheran Church  
2190 Jackson Highway  
Chehalis, Washington

**Shop the Centralia Outlets for Fall Savings!**



Centralia Outlets boasts exceptional brand names that offer quality products directly to consumers at discounted savings.

**Polo Ralph Lauren Clearance**

One of two in the U.S., offers consumers 40% off the entire store on closeouts, home decor, apparel, footwear, and more.

**Under Armour Clearance House**

One of four in the U.S., the store features items \$50 and under, packed with performance apparel, footwear, and gear.

**Bath & Body Works Outlet**

The only one in the Northwest. This brand is a great go-to for gifts and goodies at a discount, from fresh fragrances to soothing skin care and candles.

**Nike Clearance Store**

The largest and one of two in Washington state. Find Nike footwear, apparel, and accessories at the best prices for the entire family.

**Columbia Sportswear Clearance Store**

The Centralia Outlets also boasts the largest Columbia Sportswear Clearance Store. Columbia has been a global outdoor apparel, footwear, and equipment leader since 1938.

**Jockey Clearance**


The first for this brand, carrying

a full range of products, from intimate apparel to active, lifestyle, and casualwear.

**Claire's Outlet Store**

New this season, offering shoppers deep discounts on toys, jewelry, accessories, and more.

Visit [www.centraliaoutlets.com](http://www.centraliaoutlets.com) for more information.



October 11-27, 2024  
Pay What You Can Thursday  
October 17 @ 7:30 pm

Drama critic Mortimer Brewster's engagement announcement is upended when he discovers a corpse in his elderly aunts' window seat. Mortimer rushes to tell Abby and Martha before they stumble upon the body themselves, only to learn that the two old women aren't just aware of the dead man in their parlor, they killed him! Between his aunts' penchant for poisoning wine, a brother who thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt, and another brother using plastic surgery to hide from the police—not to mention Mortimer's own hesitancy about marriage—it'll be a miracle if Mortimer makes it to his wedding.

Arsenic and Old Lace is a classic black comedy about the only thing more deadly than poison: family. Bring a copy of this article with you for a free non alcoholic drink and small popcorn.

**We have the strongest glasses in town.**



**RAINIER EYE**

This might seem like a lofty claim until you actually try a pair of Ovvos. Made in Poland from surgical steel, these high-quality modern frames are 70% steel and 30% titanium. Their unique titanium composite screwless hinges can withstand 90 pounds of force if you pull on them. For

proof of this claim, come see the pair in our office that has held a 45 pound weight for over a year! The hinges can sustain 300,000 rotations which equals about 205 years of use. For being so strong, you might expect these frames to be heavy. But, they only weigh 0.6 ounces and people often comment how they are the lightest, most comfortable glasses they've ever worn. The designs range from traditional masculine rectangular in gunmetal and black to feminine shapes in pastels and even bright yellow! Until the end of October, when you purchase a pair of Ovvos, you will be entered to win another Ovvo frame. Stop in to Rainier Eye to try them on for yourself at 145 S Market Blvd in Chehalis- no appointment needed.

**Free Homebuyer's Seminar in Centralia!**

Chehalis Valley Realty and Mortgage One Northwest will be presenting a Homebuyer's Class on October 19, 2024 at 11am at the Mortgage One Northwest Office located at 1112 View Avenue in Centralia. This seminar is open to the public and everyone is welcome to come with questions.

**Join John L. Scott for Our 11th Annual Trunk or Treat!**

John L. Scott is excited to invite you to our 11th year of Trunk or Treat! Bring your little ghosts and goblins for a fun-filled evening of Halloween festivities on Thursday, October 31st, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, rain or shine.

The first 100 kids in costume will receive a special candy bucket to kick off their trick-or-treating adventure! Join us at 900 W. Main St, Centralia, WA 98531, for a safe and enjoyable evening where families can celebrate the spooky season together.

Don't miss out on the fun—mark your calendars and come ready for a ghoulish good time! We can't wait to see you there!

**Free local Gardening Workshops by WSU Lewis County Master Gardeners!**

WSU Lewis County Master Gardeners present Fall Gardening for Everyone on October 26, at Washington Hall located at Centralia Community College. We will be offering six

free workshops.


9:00-10:30 am – Workshops are WSU Certified Master Gardener Don Enstrom will be presenting Trellis, pergolas, arbors, and more. Jerry Durr will be presenting Autumn Garden Preparation. This will be a dual language presentation in Spanish and English.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm Workshops are WSU Certified Master Gardener, Karen Servey, will be presenting Deer Resistant Gardening. WSU Certified Master Gardener, Woody Garrigus, will be presenting the Water Cycle and collection of water.

12:25 – 2:15 pm – Certified Master Gardeners Yvonne Hall and Donna Smith, will be presenting Ideas for Garden Art. WSU Certified Master Gardener Barbara Webster and Bob Baker will be presenting how to dig, divide, and storage Dahlias. We will also have available a Plant and Insect Clinic where the public at no charge can have their gardening questions answered.

On October 12, at the Borst Greenhouse, located at Fort Borst Park, Centralia, we will be offering a free workshop at 10:00AM, Plant Care in a Greenhouse/Poly tunnel.

On October 19, at Borst Demo. Garden, at 10:00 am, we will be offering a workshop on seed saving.




**Is it time to try something new?**

Are you or your child feeling frustrated?

School has been in session for more than a month now, and you have likely spent a lot of time talking with teachers, setting up accommodations, and tirelessly advocating for your struggling student. Learning difficulties like dyslexia, ADHD, trouble with math and more, affect the whole family. These struggles often last for years, with little or no progress. This school year may not be your first rodeo, but I have a question for you. If what you've tried before is still not working, isn't it time to try something new? The Davis Method Programs are a distinctly different

approach to correcting learning difficulties. These programs are delivered one-on-one, over a short period of time (only one or two weeks), and students gain tools and skills that truly make learning easier. These programs have proven effective for adults and students around the world. I know that life can be busy, but do you think you could squeeze in a phone call? Just 30 minutes on the phone with me could change your life. Call Lindsay at (208) 705-3760. Find out more about the Davis Method Programs at [www.davismethod.com](http://www.davismethod.com).

**Fiber-optic internet designed with your needs in mind**



ZiPLY Fiber is in the process of lighting up fiber-optic internet in Centralia and Chehalis. Why does this matter?

If we've learned anything over the past few years, it's that the internet is not a luxury. It's a necessity. As remote work and online learning increase, our need for fast, reliable connectivity only grows. Whether you're a busy family with multiple devices or a healthcare worker taking clients from home, you can't be slowed down by network congestion and lag time.

ZiPLY Fiber was launched in 2020 with the mission of providing a great connected experience across the Northwest. Fast, reliable internet should be available to everyone – including areas that have been traditionally overlooked by mainstream internet service providers.

Most ISPs still offer slow, asymmetrical upload and download speeds, which can cause buffering wheels and glitch. At ZiPLY Fiber, even the least expensive plan will improve connectivity with symmetrical 100/100 Mbps speeds. More serious online users will benefit from the popular Fiber Gig plan, which offers symmetrical 1 Gig (1000 Mbps) at an affordable price point. ZiPLY Fiber's people-friendly plans have no annual contracts, so you're free to cancel without penalty.

**T.J. Guyers has three rental properties available!**

**The Villas at Kennicott**

Located at 120 Kennicott Rd in Chehalis, these newly constructed townhomes feature spacious 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom units with modern amenities such as granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and washer/dryer hook-ups. With a heat pump and electric heat/AC, you'll stay comfortable year-round. Enjoy the convenience of a 1-car garage and 2 parking spots in front of your unit. Fitness center,

clubhouse, playground, and dog park. 120 Kennicott Rd - #H-2, Chehalis, WA 98532 ([tjguyer.com](http://tjguyer.com)) – SPECIAL: ½ off first months rent!

**Historic Luxury Apartments**  
*(formerly Cascade Elementary School)*

We have Studios and 1 Bedrooms available! 2 Bedrooms will be available soon! Historic Luxury Apartments with large and open hallways and historic features preserved. Stainless Steel Appliance Packages as

well as in-unit Washer and Dryer (combo provided). Beautiful solid surface countertops with modern shaker cabinets, luxury plank flooring throughout. Fitness Center, Game Room, Indoor Gymnasium, Playground, Dog walking area, and much more! Upgraded Energy package with LED Lighting. Lots of closet storage, off-street parking, fire sprinkler system throughout... too much to list. 101 SW 2nd St, Chehalis, WA 98532 ([tjguyer.com](http://tjguyer.com))

**Commercial & Storage Space Available Too!**

Classic commercial space available. This spacious ground floor commercial space features 2 bathrooms, a kitchenette w/ dishwasher, central heating and air conditioning, security system, a large conference room, a lobby, and huge open area. The highlight of this space is the stunning mountain range mural on the wall, adding a touch of nature to your work environment. With negotiable



lease options, this apartment is perfect for businesses looking for a convenient and professional space in the heart of Centralia. 212 N Tower , Centralia, WA 98531 ([tjguyer.com](http://tjguyer.com))

Storage units available, reasonable prices. Some as low as \$50 per month! Find Your Perfect Rental - TJ Guyer Property Management

**Thank You for the Support of Our Sponsors!**

— DIAMOND —



City of Chehalis  
LTAC



— PLATINUM —









### Chehalis School District & Technical Education Open House - October Business After Hours

The October Business After Hours is a great opportunity to explore their Technical Education programs and meet the students and faculty involved. Join us Thursday, October 17, from 5 – 7 pm at 310 SW 16th Street.



### Twirl Foundation

kicked off the homecoming and prom season with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for their new boutique catering only to high school age students. The new space offers more room, roomy dressing areas, and the feeling of elegance. Twirl offers free dresses, formal wear, socks, shoes for young people who otherwise could not participate in school functions. Many are in foster care or from economically challenged families.



### The Economic Alliance of Lewis County

celebrated their new facility and opening of their Business Development Center with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony last month. We encourage business owners or those planning to start a business to contact the Alliance about their services. [lewiscountyalliance.org](http://lewiscountyalliance.org)



### Annual Chamber Member BBQ

was hosted by Lucky Eagle and Dick's Brewery, ensuring a good time was had by all. Prizes were given away and laughter was shared. It is the annual "Thank You" the Chamber gives its members.



### Dick's Cornhole & Sausage Fest!

The weather was perfect, the beer was flowing, the sausages were tasty, and the bags were a-flyin'! This year's event raise about \$4,000 for the Rob Fuller Scholarship Fund. Every dollar raised goes directly to 2025 scholarships. The Chamber strives to giveaway \$10,000 in scholarships each year.

### ToledoTel

#### September Business After Hours

*Pictured top to bottom, ToledoTel CFO Phil Cappalonga spoke at the September BAH along with Fred Rider, Sales Engineer & Aaron Nelson, Outside Plant Engineer. As always, there was a tasty spread of food and desserts. The staff at ToledoTel are amazing! ToledoTel began as a family business in 1906 and remains a family business operated locally. ToledoTel.com*



### 2024 UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

#### Candidate Debates!

Thursday, October 10

11:30 am - 1 pm

O'Blarney's,  
2nd Floor

221 N. Tower, Centralia  
*Open Lewis County and PUD  
Commissioner positions*

#### October Business After Hours (BAH)

Chehalis School District  
Technical Education

Kick-off Night!

Thursday, October 17

5 - 7 pm

310 SW 16th, Chehalis

#### WorkSource

#### Lewis County Job Fair

Thursday, October 31

10 am - 2 pm

500 Centralia College,  
2nd Floor, Centralia

#### Trick or Treat Transit!

Thursday, October 31

3 – 5 pm

Park at Fairway Center  
(near L & C Creamery)

Free bus rides to downtown  
Centralia and Chehalis for  
Trick or Treat fun with our  
local businesses!

#### Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Thursday, October 11

11 am

Farm + Flourish

202 c South Tower, Centralia

#### Future of Work Summit

Get ready to rethink,  
refresh, and revolutionize your  
approach to the workplace at  
the upcoming  
Future of Work Summit!

Wednesday, October 9

8 am - 3 pm

Great Wolf Lodge

Cost: Individual Tickets - \$85,

Table of 8 tickets- \$600,

EXPO Table

(includes one ticket) \$300

More information:

[https://thurstonchamber.com/  
events/the-future-of-work-  
summit-expo/](https://thurstonchamber.com/events/the-future-of-work-summit-expo/)