COMING EVENTS

College events are important. Please e-mail us with dates and times for these functions so we can publicize them in The Insider.

The President’s Corner

It’s already August! The pro football pre-season has started. School supplies have been on sale for weeks. And summer quarter ended this week. That can mean only one thing—Fall Quarter 2008 is almost here!

On campuses throughout the state and nation, online and hybrid classes seem to be growing in popularity as the price of gas remains high, and students with children or jobs find they can pursue their educational goals at home without increased costs of daycare. It’s a different world out there, but education will continue to be a necessity as we adapt and adjust to our changing world. Although slightly lower in the past two weeks, gas prices have caused increased costs in transporting goods to their retail markets which, in turn, have caused prices to rise in grocery stores, retail outlets, automotive sales lots and machinery/equipment companies. These price increases have affected us all, but they affect lower income families the hardest.

As students come to register for the 2008-2009 school year, we must all keep in mind that everyday stressors have increased for us all. The timing of our SuperHost classes has helped us deal with others under less-than-ideal situations so we can continue to provide students with the opportunities for a brighter future.

But do remember that we are all susceptible to stress. Don’t wait for physical symptoms to manifest themselves before seeking help for yourself. I’ve said it before—we must take care of ourselves so we can help our potential students, the community and each other in our efforts to improve our lives.

“Anything Goes” Ends Summer Run

The stage set was struck last Monday morning after a 10-day run that saw 7,021 people attend the 27th annual Summer Musical, Anything Goes.

Fifty-five cast members and backstage crew, 60 paid staff and 200 volunteers can now call the summer their own as another musical is added to the WWCC Foundation’s history.

Favorable comments were received regarding the large outstanding set that depicted a cruise ship and the 1930’s costumes handmade for the show.

And the highlight of the show appeared to be 40-plus actors and actresses on stage performing a tap dance number toward the end of the first half. Most of those thespians had been taking tap dance lessons since January to prepare for the audition process and final selection to dance on stage. According to Events Coordinator Kay Raddatz, “The annual

“The annual production provides opportunities in the drama field for the community and college students. Sixteen to seventeen students are selected to receive 15 drama credits for their time and assistance backstage.”

And one Walla Walla resident--Mike Keough--will soon set sail on the Mexican Riviera Cruise that he won at the show when his ticket was drawn from the raffle basket.

Nurse Ed

Ed is amazing! He’s into every aspect of college life from athletics to super nerd; from welder to transfer student; from nurse to auto body repair tech. There isn’t a thing he can’t do because he attended WWCC--your best choice!
Wanda Williams, Program Assistant, Enology & Viticulture

“I was born in San Diego, California and spent the first few years of my life traveling between California and Virginia as my dad was in the Navy,” Wanda remembers. “When he retired, our family settled in San Diego. I grew up near the ocean and the world famous San Diego Zoo – ran barefoot almost year round! I attribute my love of spring and summer (and disdain for the cold winter months) to my first thirteen years of life in Southern California. At age 13, my parents packed up the family and moved to Milton-Freewater, Oregon (we had family friends who had relocated here – my folks fell in love with the quieter pace of life, mountains, rivers, etc.) As one can imagine, the adjustment from big city to small town took some time.”

Wanda met her husband, Wes, while attending Mac-Hi. “We married a year after graduation,” she says, “and his assignment with the Air Force took us back to San Bernardino, California. Once Wes completed his four years of service, we relocated back to the Pacific Northwest. He has worked at the penitentiary since returning.”

Wanda and Wes have two children, Matt and Melissa, and Wanda lovingly notes that “my children are my greatest accomplishment in life.” Matt recently completed his Master’s Degree at WSU and is employed as an instructor and research associate in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department there. Melissa completed her Bachelors’ Degree at WSU and is employed right here at WWCC as the Coordinator of Recruitment.

“Watching my kids mature and achieve their goals is incredibly rewarding as a parent,” Wanda states. “Rounding out our family is son-in-law and rodeo clown extraordinaire JJ Harrison and our newest addition as of April 25, 2008 – our grandson Huck Clayton Harrison. What a joy! We can’t get enough of this little guy and so look forward to a lifetime of spoiling him.” (Editor’s Note: Melissa says they are doing a wonderful job of spoiling Huck!!).

“Our family spends the majority of our spare time at our mountain property just outside of Pomeroy. We own five acres that were destroyed in the School Fire of 2005 so we’ve spent the past three years on reforestation and reconstruction. I’ve become quite the “tree geek” – I know exactly where all of my new trees are planted and what type they are – watch their growth like a mother hen. Our cabin structure is up and we are working on the interior now. It’s our little piece of heaven on earth – quite peaceful up there – great escape from our hectic Monday-Friday life. We also make way to a few rodeos in the summer and love spending time boating/fishing. December getaways to Mexico keep me from going insane during the cold winter months.”

Wanda’s favorite movie is “Rain Man” as she loved the vast differences in the characters – from the greedy, arrogant Charlie Babbitt to his totally dependent, patience-trying autistic brother Raymond – and how they played off of one another. Her favorite book is “The Thorn Birds.” She enjoyed that the story line centered on strong family ties and that through hard work (though they came from humble roots) the family found great success. She admits that the forbidden love aspect of the book may have also played a part in the “can’t put it down” factor!

“The most interesting place that I have visited is the ancient city of Teotihuacan located just outside of Mexico City,” Wanda notes. “I could never have imagined the scale of the place – both the Pyramid of the Sun and the Pyramid of the Moon are beyond description. I remember being in awe of the construction that took place all those years ago without the use of modern technology.”

As far as things she’d still love to do and see – “I’d like to spend time exploring more of our own United States.” We think she’ll do all that and more—especially if Huck goes, too!

### From Wanda’s Kitchen to Yours . . .

**Walnut Torte**

- 1 ½ cups chopped walnuts
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 ½ cups vanilla wafer crumbs
- 1 tablespoon margarine or butter, melted
- 1 package (18.25 ounces) devil's food cake mix with pudding
- 1 ½ cups chilled whipping cream
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Heat oven to 350. Mix walnuts, wafer crumbs, brown sugar and margarine. Spread about ¾ cup in each of 2 ungreased round pans, 9 x 1 ½ inches. Prepare cake mix as directed on package. Pour about 1 ¼ cups batter over walnut mixture in each pan; refrigerate remaining batter.

Bake until top springs back when touched lightly, about 20 minutes. IMMEDIATELY remove from pans; invert. Repeat with remaining batter and walnut mixture. Cool layers completely.

Beat whipping cream, granulated sugar and vanilla in chilled bowl until stiff. Beat cream into cherry mixture; spread in chilled bowl until stiff. (Can also just use Cool-Whip if short on time!) Place 1 layer, walnut side up, on serving plate; spread with whipped cream. Repeat with remaining layers and whipped cream. Frost top of torte with whipped cream. Garnish with grated chocolate or walnut halves if desired; refrigerate.

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Who Am I?

At 4 or 5 years old, this young Annie Oakley was pretty happy, and today she’s still a happy person and comfortable on the “farm.” She does say, however, that “appearance to the contrary, I am not a member of the NRA.”

If you know this person, e-mail cathy.nelson@wwcc.edu
First correct responder wins a Kudos bar!
And remember to send in your own photo!!

Linda Thorson guessed last week’s mystery person, Theresa Degan!
Others thought it might be Pat Crowe, Krista Mahan, Kathy Lindgren, Becky Furstenberg, Debbie McKee or Kathy Storms!

Wellness at Work
Losers Just Keep Losing!
Nearly 30 strong, the Weight Watchers at Work group continues to chalk up the pounds lost on a weekly basis. They’ve already lost over 700 pounds and continue to keep losing!

Now you can learn about Weight Watchers:

SAVE THE DATE!
Weight Watchers
Open House
Wednesday, September 24, 2008
Back Dining Room
at Noon
Watch for More Information

Nap Time for “Left Brainers”
Studies show that a short 20-minute snooze can stimulate the right side of your brain. The right side is the creative, emotion-laden, and more abstract thinking part of your brain. Napping can be a great way to kick-start outside-the-box thinking, especially for those who are more left-brain dominant. Left-dominant people tend to be more analytical, structured, linear thinking, mathematical, and are likely to view things sequentially in order to understand the whole.

Palmers Joins 21st Century!
Susan Palmer was featured in a Tri-City Herald news story on July 12 when she was the 22nd person in line at the AT&T store in Kennewick for a new iPhone 3G.
She set her alarm for 4 a.m. Friday, left the house by 5 a.m. and stepped in line by 6 a.m. Her cell phone contract had expired the previous day and she was ready to jump into the 21st century after encouragement from her daughter.
“I’ve been a Plain Jane in terms of cell service,” she admitted, but now she can listen to audio books and music, have access to her electronic calendar, surf the Web, follow GPS directions and more.
A global glitch with Apple’s iTunes servers meant customers had to activate their new phones at home and Susan satisfactorily activated hers--her first successful step on the road to 21st century technology!

Bits & Pieces

J. R. and Courtney Van Slyke are the proud parents of their second son, Kellen Jenkins Van Slyke. Born July 17 at 10:35 a.m., he weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz and measured 20 1/2”. Older brother Turner and Grandma Nancy Kress helped welcome Kellen home.

Bethany Thornton married Ben Miller in a garden setting at the home of her parents, Kathy and Dennis Thornton, on Saturday, July 26. Her three sisters and a cousin were attendants for the bride. Ben and Bethany left for “home” in Minneapolis before honeymooning in southern Mexico and Guatemala.

Fair Booths Offer Chances To Volunteer
Two WWCC fair booths at the Southeast Washington Fair and Frontier Days over Labor Day weekend give staff and students an opportunity to spend a couple hours promoting the college.
One booth in the newly renovated Pavilion provides information for potential students, and the booth under the bleachers sells food for the grandstand crowd.