

Inslee

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Inslee's tour continues at 1:30 p.m. at Helsing Junction Farm in Rochester to talk about efforts the farm has made to mitigate the impact of flooding on its property. His tour will move on to Adna High School at 2:20, where he will hear from students and teachers on the impact of flooding on students and the community.

Inslee will then visit Centralia College's Kiser Natural Outdoor Learning Lab on the corner of Washington Avenue and Walnut Street in Centralia. There, he will present a biomass grant award to Onalaska Wood Energy.

Previous stops on Inslee's climate tour that began this summer included Wapato, where he visited the Roza Irrigation District's Regulation Facility, designed to enhance water resources in the Yakima River basin. He has also visited the Columbia River Gorge, where he toured forests harmed by the Asian long-horned beetle, and a biomass energy project near Stevenson.

Grant

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through the Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy at Centralia College, the Construction Center of Excellence at Renton Community College and the Center of Excellence for Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing at Everett Community College.

Announced from the office of Vice President Joe Biden, the money is just some of the \$450 million given to almost 270 community colleges nationwide as part of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training competitive grant program.

The money comes in the fourth and final round of the of the TAACCCT program, which was created in 2009 and is co-administered by the Department of Labor and Department of Education. The program has given nearly \$2 billion in grants in total.

More than 400 employers nationwide are partnering with schools to teach skills in information technology, medical care, energy and advanced manufacturing.

The goal of the program is to help low-wage workers transition into jobs that offer a middle-class income.

Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., applauded the announcement with a statement on her website.

"When community colleges have the resources they need to partner with local employers and train their students to fill local jobs, the whole community reaps the benefits," Murray said. "This is a strong investment that will help more Washington state students earn a ticket to the middle class through training programs that are directly connected to local businesses and growing local industries."

According to data provided on Murray's website, Centralia College received the largest amount of the share of grant money, with \$1.8 million. The remaining money was distributed to the consortium that includes Bates, Everett, Shoreline, South Seattle, Renton, Green River and Walla Walla.

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Sen. Patty Murray
Washington Democrat

Home

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the Gamewardens Association, Vietnam to Present, a group named for a military operation that took place in the Mekong Delta in 1965, brings together veterans of the Vietnam War who served on large patrol boats more commonly known as PBRs. The group owns one patrol boat that they take to parades and other community events — and now that boat has a permanent home at which it can be maintained and repaired.

The Chronicle first reported on the Gamewardens' search for a new facility in Chehalis in June, and since then the Port of Chehalis provided the Gamewardens a new home in July. The patrol boat and another the group is restoring sit in a port-owned warehouse on Habein Road, leased from the port for what group vice president Steve Sumrall called "a great deal."

"Rick Rouse over at the port helped us out a lot," Sumrall said. "They were great to work with."

The Gamewardens were scrambling to find a new home for their boat and work parties in June after the owner of a warehouse they previously rented said he wanted to use it for expansion. That's when they took their request to the Port of Chehalis.

"We had a facility out on Habein Road — the large building is occupied by a port tenant but there were two smaller outbuildings that weren't leased," Port of Chehalis Executive Director Randy Mueller said. "We've had the space for awhile, so we came up with a lease rate knowing they didn't have a big budget. We couldn't just give the building



Steve Sumrall, vice president of the Northwest chapter of the Gamewardens Association, looks through photos of his time serving in the Vietnam War

away, but we were able to come up with a payment that worked for them."

Mueller said the Gamewardens agreed to do some community service activities, such as participating in exhibits and more, as part of their unique lease agreement.

"When they shared their story with us and told us about their organization, our commissioners were very supportive," Mueller said.

To celebrate their new digs, the Gamewardens Association hosted an open house for the association that brought more than 30 members of the group together Saturday. They told stories and shared moments with an added sense of relief they would have a place to call home for the foreseeable future.

"We want to save our heritage

in a way that we can pass it on to others to do after we're gone," Northwest chapter president Bob Brower said. "There are a lot of veterans in this community."

For the Gamewardens, the PBR that barely cleared the door before it fit neatly in the warehouse is as much a member of the group as the humans keeping it in top shape. After all, a boat little more than 30 feet in length affords a great opportunity to get to know your fellow sailors; their friendships continue despite the distances they have to travel today.

"If I was to kick the bucket now, these guys would help plant me," Brower deadpanned, pointing to a group behind him talking. "We support each other no matter what."

Keeping their patrol boat in Chehalis is of utmost impor-

tance to a group that just held their annual national convention in Seattle. The legion of "river rats," as they colloquially refer to each other, keep the boat seaworthy and pilot it around more friendly waters these days, especially during festivals that are within easy driving distance from Lewis County.

Chances are you could see the boat at parades across Washington and Oregon, and as if that's not enough, they're working on restoring another PBR from the Army's 458th Transportation Company.

"We wanted to be in Chehalis because it's halfway between Portland and Seattle, and it's a good halfway meeting point for most of us," Sumrall said. "We got guys that come from other places too, but they like it too. We're trying to lay down roots here."

Toledo: 'Generosity on All Sorts of Levels' Since Library Opening

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the building and organizer of the volunteers, said the library's bills were higher than manageable by the volunteer-run team.

According to Caldwell, the volunteers sell coffee to pay for the electric bill, a sum totaling \$41 last month.

Those sales also go to pay for the gas used to heat the facility. The funds acquired cover those costs. However, the money is not enough to cover the \$100 monthly water bill.

"We have a coffee sale that we do that pays for electric and heat, but the extra \$100 (for the water bill) is more than we thought we

could do," Caldwell said.

She said the donations from councilors Mike Thomas and Jim Fluckinger now make it possible to pay that bill. The specific amount is not yet known, but Caldwell predicts the amount will be within \$10 of the water bill.

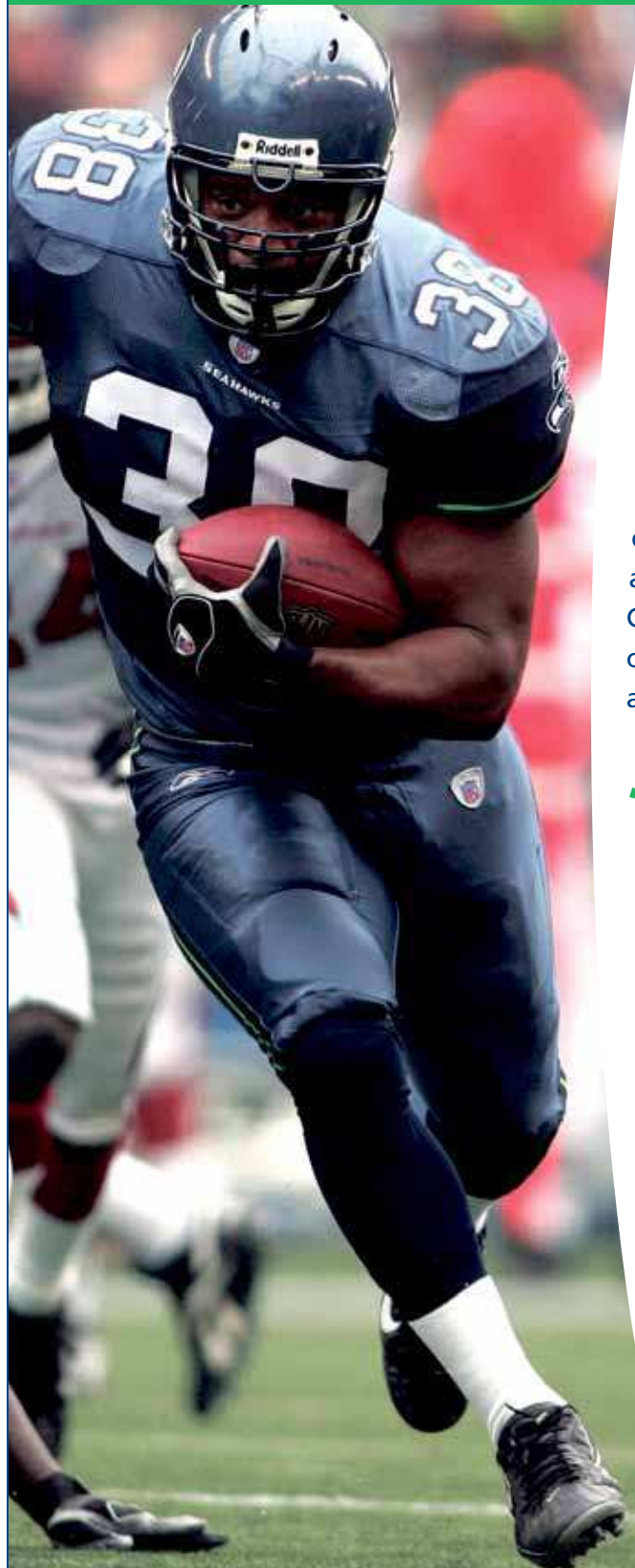
"It's just amazing since we

started the library just to see the generosity on all sorts of levels," she said.

Both of the councilors decided to donate their stipends after they discovered the city could not legally reduce the water rate for the library. Caldwell thanked both Thomas and Fluckinger for their donation.

Strong medicine for men's health

Join former Seattle Seahawks Mack Strong for a conversation about taking care of your health at the second annual Men's Night Out.



Tuesday, Sept. 30, 6-8 p.m.

**Washington Hall – Centralia College campus
600 Centralia College Blvd.**

It's a fact of life that certain health challenges come with age – including the possibility of prostate cancer. Even if it doesn't affect you, it's likely to touch someone you know; nearly 80 percent of men will be diagnosed with it by age 80. Your best defense is knowledge – and partnering with a primary care provider for prevention and support.

Men – and women – please join us for this free community event to learn about maintaining good health as you age, as well as prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment. Clinicians from Providence Regional Cancer System and our radiation partners will be on hand to present as well as answer questions.

Strong advice

Keynote speaker **Mack Strong** will share his experience and philosophy of being strong in mind and body, and taking care of one's overall well-being. The former Seattle Seahawks fullback and assistant running coach was sidelined by a career-ending neck injury after 14 years with the Seahawks, but he remains a force to reckon with in the arena of men's health.

This event is made possible by the generosity of the Centralia Rotary and Providence Medical Group.

Food and beverages provided by Centralia Rotary Club.

**Register today for this free event at
www.provregister.org or 360-330-8656.**

PROVIDENCE
Medical Group