Historic Progress on Flooding Fix

Two cities: Two projects. Two success stories.

The Lewis County Sports Complex came to fruition after a decade of debate and many starts and stops within the Public Facilities District. In the end, it was a partnership between Thor Pedersen and Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence and the Centralia School District that resulted in the completion of the 50,000-square-foot asset in the Hub City.

In the years ahead, stakeholders hope to see an increase in tourism that could bring business for hotels and restaurants in the city.

In Chehalis, the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatic Center opened to long lines of thankful users in August. The state-of-the-art facility includes water slides, a beach-style entry pool and more amenities not available in Lewis County.

As the project started as an attempt to upgrade the old pool, the end goal also had a larger purpose.

In the end, more than $2 million was raised, largely by the Chehalis Foundation.

Three Police Shootings in Centralia

The once intense talks over the proposal that included a $4 billion for flood and water management means this story could have a happy ending.

In the decades-long hunt for a dam on the upper Chehalis River, supporters would protect against the level of devastation.

This year, though, there were some police-involved shootings.

In November, Governor Jay Inslee endorsed a Chehalis Workforce Development Board proposal for Clean Energy, along with two other areas from across the state.

The money will go toward training of students the skills they need for the future.

The federal government provided $75 million for the Lewis County Sport Complex that was among the $800,000 in funding for the Centralia College student study.

The Death of Gail Shaw

Few individuals can claim a role in the growth of their communities as Gail Shaw, who died June 7 at 96.

Consid ered a mentor to many, Shaw was among the Centralia College Foundation board of directors and directors of the specific Northwest Center of Excellence and eight community colleges.

Shaw remained involved in the community in the way and I could focus on my dad and God. I wanted to play for W.F. West and Centralia College campuses are high marks.

More Than a Championship for W.F. West

The Centralia Police Department officer put up crime-scene tape around the An-