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Saltwater State Park is a great place for summer fun
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AUG 02 2000

HIGHLINE COLLEGE LIBRARY PERIODICALS

The Thunderword

Volume 39, Issue 32 Highline Community College July 27, 2000

Stevens Pass crash claims Highline student

By Rachelle Pflynn
Staff Reporter

A Highline student was one of four people killed in a head-on traffic collision July 23 on Stevens Pass.

Mya Thompson was driving a 1992 Acura when her vehicle crossed the centerline and hit the van of Tomeo and Namiko Mukai, who were on their way home from a 60th high school

reunion.

Thompson, 19, a Highline student, Lesley Verang, 19, and Meredith Diegel, 18, were all killed along with the passenger of the van, Namiko Mukai.

According to reports by the State Patrol the Acura was traveling at speeds as high as 80 mph.

Thompson graduated from Kentlake High School in 1999. She had been attending Highline

since Spring Quarter 2000 and also was employed at Highline's bookstore.

Most remembered for her Yorkshire Terrier, Diva, that she brought to work with her on occasion.

"She was always very nice and caring to everybody," said student and fellow employee Marc Peterson.

The rest of the staff at the bookstore also remembered many

things about Thompson.

"She was very cheerful, outgoing, friendly and well liked. We will remember her most for her Yorkshire Terrier," bookstore staff wrote. "We loved Diva. We will really miss Mya. It was a huge, terrible shock." The bookstore will have cards available on Thursday, July 27 for anyone who would like to give their condolences to Thompson's family.

New roofing is only part of more construction

By Marta Drobyn
Staff Reporter

The smell of tar in the morning, headache-inflicting drilling and fenced off buildings haven't gone unnoticed. All this construction, however, will be justified in the long run as Highline loses the limitations of its older buildings and provides an opportunity to readdress how we do education through its new facilities, says Director of Facilities Pete Babington.

Highline is a 35-year-old campus that's on the verge of mid-life crises. Highline's facelift will include a variety of projects. The smelliest one is the re-roofing of four buildings on campus. Classroom Building 23 has been completed and Building 24a is already being worked on, and the Library, Building 25, is next, followed by classroom Building 26.

Highline's library alone has three projects planned. The sixth floor of the library is being remodeled into a faculty resource center. After the remodeling is completed a new fan that circulates air though the whole building will be installed on the sixth floor as well.

Both of these projects can't be done simultaneously because they are being done by different contractors who require different equipment. These projects require coordination, Babington says. Roofing will be the last phase of library renovation.

Lloyds Lynch Roofing is currently working on building 24a.

"We hope it don't rain," subcontractor Anthony D. Bergeson said. "Heat we can tolerate."

See Roofing, page 12

Permit deadline approaching for runway

By Rachelle Flynn
Staff Reporter

The Seattle-Tacoma International Airport needs a permit from the state Department of Ecology by Sept. 29 in order to continue construction of the controversial third runway.

The Department of Ecology isn't for or against the runway.

"We work closely with the airport to give them the information they need to obtain the permit," said Curt Hart, public information manager for the Department of Ecology.

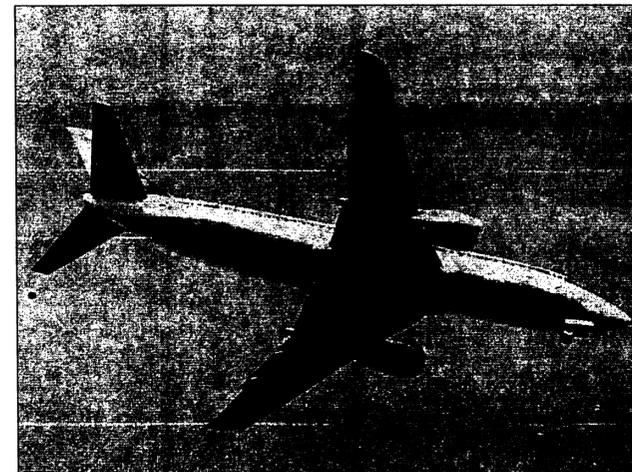
The airport's technical data will have to satisfy requirements for storm water control, wetland mitigation and management, and in-stream flows.

"Basically, the onus is on the airport," to earn the permits, said Hart.

The airport has to provide the Department of Ecology with a detailed report on what they are going to do.

"The airport does has a lot of work to do between now and Sept. 29," said Hart.

Under the Clean Water Act, the airport also needs a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of



Photos by Adriana Erickson

Port of Seattle officials say that a third runway is needed while nearby residents complain about the potential noise and pollution effects.

Engineers to continue expansion. The airport also needs a permit to fill in 18 1/3 acres of

wetlands to build the runway.

The Army Corps doesn't think the airport will be able to obtain this permit soon, said Patricia Graesser, spokesperson for the Army Corps.

"We want to make sure all comments from the public are addressed," said Graesser. "We receive hundreds of letters and we read them all, in order to make a decision."

The runway has caused much debate in Des Moines and Normandy Park, who have fought to have it not built because of noise, environmental concerns and what they say is lack of need for the runway.

The runway will cost the Port of Seattle \$773 million, making it one of the most expensive in the U.S.

"It will make financial sense in five years," said Bob Parker, spokesman for the Port of Seattle.

Parker said lack of the third runway is costing travelers \$180 million a year. Bad weather conditions in Washington make only one runway usable. Therefore planes have to circle around, using fuel, paying staff wages and buying travelers ho-

See Runway, page 12



Currently there are two runways at SeaTac airport, however one can only be used 40 percent of the year.

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Crime blotter for July 14-24

Student cools off

A student reported that a classmate in her weight training class dropped a bag of ice on her chest on July 17.

Pothole causes injury

A student was being pushed in a wheelchair on July 13 near Building 18 when the wheelchair hit a hole causing the right foot to catch under the chair. The student was transported to the hospital.

Bumper cars

A 1994 Ford Escort drove over a curb in the north lot on July 17. The Escort smashed into an unoccupied Toyota Corolla, pushing the Corolla into a 2000 Toyota Tacoma.

Hit and run

A staff member's vehicle was struck in the south lot on July 14 causing damage to the driver's side door and the lower quarter panel.

Illegal trash

A student was illegally dumping boxes from his SUV into a dumpster in the north lot on July 19. He was given a warning and the boxes were removed from the dumpster.

Eavesdropping pays off

A staff overheard two male students talking about bringing a weapon to school. The information was passed onto security on July 19 and was investigated.

Transient acts up

A Metro bus driver contacted security on July 19 regarding a transient that was acting disorderly at the bus stop. The transient was contacted by security and cooperatively departed the south lot.

Compiled by
Chris Cruz

Outreach effort forges on

By Quentin Smith
Staff Reporter

Prospective collegians in King and Pierce counties: be on the alert for Highline's 5-year-old Outreach program.

"Before this program Highline didn't do anything except wait for the students to walk through the door, and never went out into the community," said Jamie Chestnut, an assistant in the Outreach services.

Today they service more than 42 high schools throughout King and Pierce counties, by supplying the high schools with Highline information in the brochure racks in their career centers. They have a mailing list of more than 5000 prospective students that receive informative brochures. With quarterly visits to 30 of these schools via classroom presentations, lunch room talks, and one on one talks with students in the career center. They will also have informational booths at the Des Moines Waterland Festival and at the Puyallup Fair later in the fall.

"Our main goal is to recruit as many high school students as possible," said Thomas Mower, an assistant with the program. Mower is new to the job and is



Photo by Connie Harshman

Outreach Services Assistant Thomas Mower, right, explains how to apply to Highline to high school student Kyle Jones at Highline's Waterland Festival booth.

dedicated to making new students feel comfortable about attending Highline. "I know how it feels to be in a new and different environment or worrying about coming back to school," Mower said, explaining that he is also a returning student. "The number one person that instilled confidence in me and let me knock down any obstacles in my way and showed me that I could do things on my own is Marie Bruin, the entry services director," he said.

Outreach works alongside

Multi-Cultural Services, which targets students of color and teens from the Seattle school district; they will have an informational booth at the upcoming Central Area community festival. Multi Cultural Services will be hampered in their recruitment due to the resignation of one of their key players, LaShawn Morgan. They are currently advertising for a replacement that will fill her position in the fall. Until then they will be short handed during prime recruitment time.

Board members swap responsibilities

The Highline Board of Trustees played a game of musical chairs at their last meeting.

The board members rotated titles for the 2000-01 school year.

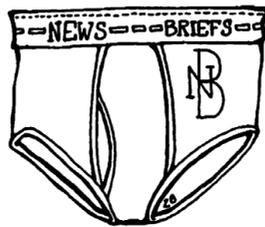
Esther Patrick stepped down as Chairperson, transferring the title to Arun G. Jhaveri. Elizabeth Chen will take Jhaveri's

place as vice chair.

Patrick will now be representing Highline in Olympia as the Board's Legislative Representative.

Karen Keiser was reluctant to take on a leadership role within the board, as she is not sure how much longer she will be with the Board of Trustees.

Keiser did not indicate that she wanted to leave, only that she feels that it is necessary that the Board members be rotated to keep the ideas fresh. Keiser did say that she will remain with the board of trustees for a while to help Highline's new president, Priscilla Bell become acclimated with her new home.



Highline alums receive scholarships

Nga Chuong and Huy Vo have been selected to receive the William and Melinda Gates Foundation Millennium Scholarship.

Recent Highline graduates, Chuong and Vo were participants in the Multicultural Services Program. The program provides mentors and an introduction to college experiences via a freshman seminar. While it is primarily an academic sup-

port program, there is a diverse social component that keeps students connected to each other in addition to the college.

Chuong will be studying to be a pharmacist at Washington State University this fall and Vo will be studying computer science at the University of Washington.

The scholarship is a renewable cash award for minority students studying social and natural science, and mathematics.

Huston leaves Highline

Gina Huston is leaving Highline to become Dean of Student Development at Olympic College in Bremerton.

Huston worked at Highline as a counselor, Assistant to the Vice President for Students, and Student Judicial Affairs Admin-

istrator.

"I accepted the position because it represents a good opportunity... I will miss many of the people I've worked with," she said.

Currently living in Edmonds, she will now commute via the Kingston Ferry to Bremerton. "What I will miss least is the commute from Edmonds to Highline," Huston said.

Presentation addresses Zimbabwean issues

A presentation addressing land seizure and reform in Zimbabwe will be given by speakers Peter Masundire, Chair of the Zimbabwean Community of the Northwest, Jonathan Mvududu, Vice President of the African Chamber of Commerce in the Pacific Northwest, and Megan Comish, radical political

Award honors Command's service

By Chris Cruz
Staff Reporter

Two one-time scholarships in honor of Dr. Edward M. Command's years of service are going to be awarded in May 2001.

Command will be retiring on July 31. He has served as president for 10 years and worked at Highline for 30.

The Highline College Education Association established one of the scholarships in the amount of \$500. It is being funded for by the teachers' union.

The second scholarship, worth \$600, was started and funded by the college's Board of Trustees. Funds came out of their own personal expenses and donations.

Command learned of the scholarships at the July 13 Board of Trustees meeting.

"It was a surprise to me at the meeting," said Command. "It was a nice gesture and I am very, very pleased and honored."

Command is in charge of setting the criteria for the scholarship recipients but the Highline College Foundation will make the selections. The scholarships are available to all current students, said Mark McKay, executive director of the Foundation.

Command is the second president of Highline to have a scholarship named after him, at least since the Foundation was started in 1991, said McKay.

economist and African affairs analyst.

The presentation will be given on Sunday, August 13 from 1-3 p.m. at New Freewa, Hall.

It is sponsored by the Freedom Socialist Party, as a part of their Freedom Socialist Sunday Forum Series.

For more information, call 206-722-2453.

Corrections

A photo caption in the July 13 issue of the Thunderword should have identified a Tazza customer as Seana Barker, who works in Highline's printing program.

Another photo caption in the same issue should have stated that the library's old Hewlett Packard computers will soon be replaced by smaller IBMs.

New faculty recruits join the Highline team

By Mio Yamakoshi
Staff Reporter

Highline has hired a total of 22 new faculty for Fall Quarter, including 12 full-time faculty, five part-time, and four interns. Openings remain for positions in dental assisting, music, nursing, physical education (two), physics, and reference librarian.

This year Highline has worked very hard to recruit new instructors.

"We reached out for lots of resources, about 300 sources. We also used a California job fair, which happened in January, to get new recruits," said Margo Anderson, director of Personnel Services.

"It has been a very complicated process, especially gathering all the information that was sent in at different times, such as application, resume, reference letter, transcript. Also, we had to make travel arrangements for interviews and so on," said Anderson.

New hires include:
Accounting: Dan King; Geoff Turck, previously at Highline on a temporary contract.

American History: Timothy McMannon.

Computer Information Sys-

Frickle assumes full-time position

By Mio Yamakoshi
Staff Reporter

What Ruth Frickle most enjoys about teaching is learning from students in her psychology class.

"I like teaching, because I get to learn new things from



Ruth Frickle

the students all the time," said Frickle.

Frickle will become a full-time faculty member at Highline this Fall Quarter. She has been at Highline for

over seven years as an adjunct faculty. She also taught at Green River Community College, City University and the University of Hartford.

"Becoming a full-time faculty definitely will cut my traveling time," Frickle said.

She came to Highline seven years ago because she wanted more interaction with students.

"I enjoy teaching in classes where I have the chance to get to know my students and really participate in their academic and personal growth. Because Highline is a community college, that is possible," she said.

of web sources in order to contact multicultural resources," said Kaneko.

Recruiting was "Somewhat difficult in math, difficult in engineering and CIS (computer information systems), based on the small applicant pool and high industry salaries for the engineering and CIS profession, hence, the one-year positions in those two areas," said Bob Maplestone, Science/Engineering division chairman.

"Applicant pools were a little smaller than usual," he said. "It might be due to the large number of teaching positions available nationwide."

Despite the smaller number of applicants, college officials say Highline still has basic expectations for new faculty.

"There are many factors we weigh, including areas of training and expertise; ability to teach... rapport with existing faculty, and new skills and experiences," said Kaneko.

Maplestone said that in a new instructor they look for "someone who is an expert in their field, who is innovative, enthusiastic about teaching, can work as a team member and will make a contribution not only to the department but the division and the college in general."

tems & Computer Science: D'Arta Skinner; Tina Ostrander is teaching on a one-year contract.

Engineering: Heidi Lyman is teaching on a one-year contract.

General Business: Ann Paulson.

Math: Eric Scott; Olga Shatunova is teaching on a one-year contract.

Math Intern: Crystal Hanscom and Rob Grube are teaching on one-year contracts:

Medical Assistant: Barbara Cerna, previously at Highline on a temporary contract; Mandie Wilson.

Nursing Intern: Maria Carpenter and Lorna Schletzbaum are teaching on one-year contracts.

Office Occupation: Jessica Gilmore.

Psychology: Ruth Frickle, Susanna Perry is teaching on a one-year contract.

Speech: Rolita Ezeonu is

teaching on a one-year contract.

Writing: Deborah Bacharac, Lisa Bernhagen, Bryan Stumpf.

This year's recruiting was more difficult than usual for Highline.

"The pool of candidates was smaller than we expected; we opened the writing position a second time to ensure diversity," said Lonny Kaneko, Arts and Humanities division chairman.

"I think the Dean's office tried very hard to reach a variety

Student survives alcoholism and abuse, starts over

By Quentin Smith
Staff Reporter

To call Lynn Boettcher a survivor would be an understatement. She's been through it all and triumphed.

"The biggest miracle in my life today is when I say I'm coming home to my grandchildren, I am coming home and not out in the bar drinking all night," said the 54-year-old Highline graduate. "My grandson will never see me drunk, crawling on my hands and knees like my sons did."

Boettcher started life in humbling circumstances. She grew up with alcoholic and physically abusive parents in the small mining town of Mikehorse, Mont., and started her education in a tiny two-room schoolhouse.

When she was 14, her parents opened a bar where she began her drinking career. All through high school she was wild and the life of the party. She remembers many drunken escapades driving through the open, deserted Montana roads.

She also remembers beatings by her abusive mother. She vividly recalls a particularly brutal beating and stabbing by her

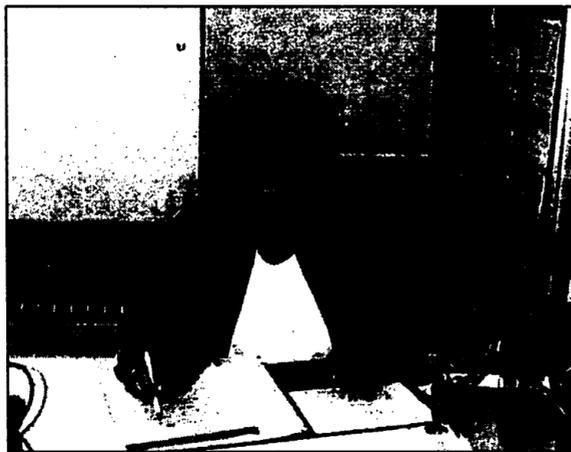


Photo by Erika Wood

Highline student Lynn Boettcher overcame a difficult past and received a two-year degree in June.

mother on Mother's Day when she was 15. She vowed "that is the last beating I'll ever take from you."

Her surroundings changed in 1964 when her father died of cirrhosis of the liver and she got on a bus and headed west to live with her dad's relatives in Yakima. A year later her mother died of complications from alcoholism; that same year her military boyfriend left her, while

she was pregnant.

Thus she became a single mom without a high school diploma in 1966, "which wasn't cool back then," she said. She got her GED and attended Yakima Junior College. The following year she and her infant son moved to Seattle and got a job and met her future husband of the next 20 years and raised a family of six, five boys and a girl.

From 1974-98 she worked in the credit department and as a floor display manager at a furniture store. She also coached a Des Moines boy's soccer team to two state championships in '78-'79. The amazing thing was that she accomplished all this while being a practicing alcoholic.

Until the day she "remembers like yesterday," she said. On Sept. 16, 1986 she was pulled over for driving drunk and blew a .27 on the Breathalyzer. At first she went to treatment for the courts, but later she began to realize there was more to life than booze.

Her marriage crumbled while her husband continued to drink as she struggled to sober up.

"I drank to have emotions, and he drank to hide his emotions," she said.

When she started at Highline through the Worker Retraining program, Boettcher was more than a little uneasy. "I was scared to death because I hadn't been to school in 32 years and when I went it was a small two-room school house with 10-12 students, not the thousands of students at Highline," she said.

She received her two-year

degree in June in the Human Services program and plans to use it to help families with alcoholic children in the 6- to 9-year-old range, "since that's when I began drinking and hope to stop that in those families," she said.

"I grew up with low self-esteem and everything I did my parents would find fault with, so graduating is a major milestone for me," she said.

Older students need more support than others, she said. "There needs to be a support group that emphasizes financial aid for older/returning students 35 and older," Boettcher said.

She offers this advice to today's students: "Everybody's too angry today. They should stop and look around and see what you have, and count your blessings. Education is a privilege, it's the biggest gift we're given, so use this opportunity," she said.

Today she feels like a little kid, starting over and learning new things. With her AA support group and "the grace of God," she said, she trudges through her daily class routine.

"Whatever happens to me today, I know I'll survive."

Anti-third runway fight is in vain

There is going to be a third runway. That's a simple fact. If not by 2006, the soon after. It's inevitable.

Things grow, population, businesses, even Chia Pets, thus creating a heavier demand upon most businesses, including airports. The growing population in Western Washington, coupled with the growing demand for air travel, has necessitated the building of a third runway at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. In order to continue to provide the level of flight service they currently provide while also accounting for the heavier demands, there really is no other feasible option than to build another runway.

This equation however, has the Highline School District as well as Burien, Des Moines and Normandy Park residents up in arms. Here's the funny part though, the airport has been there since 1948, and most of those residents haven't. If they didn't like the premise of noise from airplanes, why did they move so close to an airport to begin with? Hmm...that's like going to the mall the day after Christmas and complaining about how crowded it is.

Granted, there are environmental issues, and that is a valid argument. The Port of Seattle does want to fill in some wetlands and cut down some trees to build the third runway. It's fine for people to argue that the degradation of the environment is a reason to stop construction of the third runway, as long as they bike to work, only eat organic foods and have never used an aerosol product.

The environmental issue is one where the Port of Seattle does need to step up and do as much as they can to limit the amount of environmental damage they do to the surrounding area.

Here's another interesting fact for Des Moines residents to ponder: The city has spent more than \$200,000 in the year 2000 alone fighting the third runway, yet they continue to increase taxes because they somehow can't find the money to upgrade city utilities. Maybe the Utility District account could borrow funds from the Fighting Losing Battles Discretionary Account.

Bell is welcome here at Highline

In four days, Priscilla Bell will arrive at Highline to assume the job of president. Ed Command (our current president) leaves the same day.

This means that Bell will have to navigate the responsibilities of her new job on her own. As a college, however, we will hopefully give her the welcome and the guidance that she needs to get off to a great start.

As the people of this college, it is our responsibility to show our new president how things are done here. Priscilla Bell will need time to adjust to Highline and the presidency. She has experience with presidency, having been the president of Fulton-Montgomery Community College in Johnstown, NY, but she has not yet had the time to get acquainted with Highline.

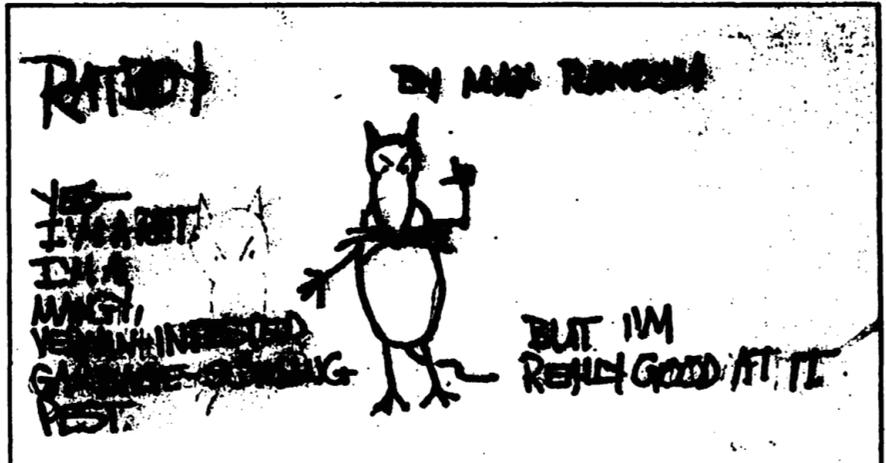
Bell's first months here at Highline will be crucial to determining the nature of her relationship with Highline faculty and students. The impressions of our school that she receives will likely shape her style of leadership in the future. Her opinions about us matter, and we should take them seriously.

Hopefully, Bell will prove to be a president who cares about the needs and goals of the students and Highline. A president expressing genuine interest in the students and their lives was a tradition well carried out by Ed Command. This tradition is certainly worth continuing, and a good administration-student relationship involves student participation as well as a part played by the administrators.

Being a president is not an easy job, a fact that both Bell and Command can likely attest to. The presidential search process was rigorous, and Bell proved to be qualified for the position. Now, the question will be whether she is able to put her good ideas into practice.

As students, we can encourage and welcome her to the job, recognizing that she is new to Highline and won't necessarily be running in top form within the first few days. Our new president will need time and our support to adjust to her new position.

It's just too bad Ed won't be around to show her where the extra staples are kept.



Smart: it's more than just G.P.A

My whole life people have treated me like I'm stupid. For a long time I would argue that they were making biased judgments of me based upon my appearance.

It's not as if I'm actually stupid, I get pretty good grades, I can sit and discuss the works of Shakespeare as easily as I can tell you all about Donna Karan's new fall line. But people always treat me like all I know is how to curl my hair and find good deals on cashmere sweaters.

Well, this year, I think I may have figured it out, and I think it may have been the most important thing I learned at Highline. I stepped back and looked at myself, well figuratively anyway, and I realized that if everyone was treating me like a moron, it probably wasn't that every single one of them was prejudiced against blondes in designer clothes.

It's me, it's the way I present



myself to other people. I say and do things that lead people to believe that I don't have half a brain in my oversized head.

After another lengthy journey into the depths of my thought processes, I figured out what these things were, and why I did them. I like shopping, and dating and silly situation comedies on NBC. I like these things more than math and science and political discussions. It doesn't mean that I don't know about the latter group, I just don't focus on it as much.

So, I was left with a big decision after I figured all of this

out. Not sure if I really enjoyed being viewed as less than intelligent, and now knowing that I could be looked upon as a smart girl if I really wanted to, I didn't know what to do.

I thought for a while about this, I went to the mall then I went to the library (thus weighing the options for my future image), I pondered.

Then it hit me, I don't need to be smart or dumb, I'm blessed with the best of both worlds. Most people who read Dickens and Austen in their free time aren't really up to date on their *Beverly Hills 90210* trivia. Just the same, it doesn't mean that I don't know the Pythagorean theorem just because I worry less about math class than I do about matching my eye shadow to my outfit.

So yeah, I may never have the prestige of Rhodes scholars or Nobel Laureates, but I have nicer clothes than them.

The Thunderword

Home of Bikini Wednesdays.

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Saltwater State Park, our own urban oasis

By Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporter

Saltwater State Park is the place to be for fun and relaxation this summer.

The small but enjoyable state park located just a few miles southwest of Highline is often overlooked despite all the facilities and activities it has to offer.

With a two mile trail system, beach access, and newly improved playground toys, the park is a great place for all ages to take in the summer sun.

The majority of visitors who come to the park spend their time in the day use area, taking advantage of the many recreational opportunities that the park offers.

Some visitors use the park to cool off on the hot summer days by taking a dip in the Puget Sound, whereas others prefer to keep their feet dry and enjoy taking a stroll along the short waterfront promenade.

Along the promenade park goers can take in the beautiful scenery of Vashon Island, some of the Puget Sound coastline, and a glimpse of the Olympics.

The park is a great place to watch the sky light up with colors of pink and orange as the sun goes down on a clear summer evening.

"I think it's beautiful," said park goer Teresa Smith. "I hope they keep it just the way that it is."

Not only can visitors enjoy the scenery above the water, but they can also enjoy what is below sea level at the scuba park at Saltwater. Visitors can enter another world as they explore all the underwater life and beauty that exists in our own Puget Sound.

After a day of diving adventures, park goers can grab a



Photos by Adriana Erickson

This long beachfront walkway is fun for kids to play on, and perfect for long sunny day walks after classes.

snack at the park's concession stand and consider taking on a

game of volleyball at one of the two volleyball pits, or trying their luck at a game of horse shoes.

If after a full day of activities park goers just don't want to go home they can choose to stay in one of the 50 public campsites the park maintains.

"I love it here," said camper Heather Harper age 18, of Auburn. "It's nice. It's peaceful. It's comfort-

able. I wish I could stay here forever."

With a first come first serve policy staying at Saltwater is very easy; all that is needed is a basic \$12 fee and visitors can set up camp in any of the unoccupied sites.

Improving the campground at Saltwater has been a priority for the park. Recently stoves in the camp ground, picnic tables, throughout the park, and coin



water has been a priority for the park. Recently stoves in the camp ground, picnic tables, throughout the park, and coin

meters in the showers have been replaced.

Other projects the park would like to accomplish include improving the trail system, paving the pads in the campground, remodeling the manager's house and beautifying the park by planting flowers.

Park Ranger Chris Tate said that maintenance and remodeling at the park is ongoing. He said this is particularly true during the summer months when the park is busiest and there are more projects to be done.

Despite summer being the busiest season for the park there are relatively few problems with crime. There have been no reports of stolen items, vandalism, or violence.

"You can leave during the day and everything is undisturbed," said camper David Train from Renton.

Saltwater is patrolled by park

rangers and Des Moines police, making it a safe place for visitors to spend their summer days.

Most of the rules and regulations at Saltwater are common for all state parks. The only unique rule is the park's no alcohol policy for the day use area.

If you just want to spend a couple hours enjoying the outdoors or if you're looking for a place to take the family Saltwater State Park is the place to visit.

Saltwater State Park is open from 8 a.m. to dusk.

If you missed the park rangers from Saltwater who were visiting Highline on Thursday, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is recruiting park aides for three to five month temporary positions.

For more information contact your local State Park or the park offices for the Puget Sound region at (253)931-3907.



Left: The park's beaches hold many natural treasures.



ALL'S FAIRE IN OLDE KENT

Canterbury Faire returns with fun and midevil frolic

By Jeaneen Bougard
Staff Reporter

Celebrating 14 years of entertainment and fun, the Canterbury Faire has brought medieval and modern times together into a feast of events.

From Aug. 19-20 at Kent Mill Creek Canyon Earthworks Park, the fair has arts and heritage combined together in many activities.

The live entertainment is presented on two stages; one is called the family stage, where drama and dance performances are held. The other is the heritage stage, where all types of music are played.

Some of the artists scheduled to perform are Jo Miller and The Burly Roughnecks, The Raney Family Irish Dancers, and the Margo Murphy Jazz Ensemble.

"They are one of the crowd's

favorites," said Lesli Opsahl, Cultural Staff Coordinator for the Kent Parks Department.

They will all be performing on the Heritage Stage on Aug. 19, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

In the arts section of the fair, The Society for Creative Anachronism will recreate the happy days of medieval Europe for the audience. Also the Ye Merrie Greenwood Players will be in attendance at 1 p.m. daily.

"They play live chess and games, as well as sing," said Opsahl.

The Arts Gala Opening will open its doors on Aug. 17, from 5:30-8 p.m. where hors d'oeuvres and champagne are served.

In the Senior Activity Center, located at 600 E. Titus Street, a fine arts show will run all weekend.

The admission for the family



Kent Parks photo

A merry minstrel tickles the tambor at last year's Faire.

fair is \$1 for both days of the festivities. Festival attendees will receive a button for readmittance purposes.

Free shuttle service is available to and from the park. Loca-

tions include the Kent Park and Ride, the Municipal lot at 4th and Smith Street, and Kent-Meridian High School. Tickets are available at the Cultural Office at 253-856-5050.



Bettye Darby's paintings are on display in the fourth floor Library gallery.

New exhibit features Darby

By P.A. Mauldin
Staff Reporter

Bettye Darby is the artist of the month at the Highline Library art exhibit.

Besides her wonderful oil on canvas pieces, Darby also shows her talent for capturing portraits, still-lives, land and seascapes by utilizing rocks as a medium.

The most interesting aspect of her exhibit is a collection of eggs painted in the Ukrainian style known as Pysanka.

Pysanka eggs are traditionally given to friends as a token of love and respect. Accompanied with sincere good wishes for health and happiness, these finely detailed eggs are painted with a fine point stylus filled with beeswax and dipped in a variety of colored dyes.

The wax protects each color from bleeding and when complete the wax is melted off, leaving an intricate design behind. The cleaned egg is then varnished to protect it for years to come. Legend has it that as long as the egg is decorated goodness will prevail over evil throughout the world.

Darby's art is on display from now until Aug. 13, on the fourth floor of the library.

By Quentin Smith
Staff Reporter

Sydney Stegall has ideas. Now what he needs is time.

Stegall is working on a book, an opera, and his own vision of music and life, searching for something different than what's offered up by the mass culture.

"Today's music bores me," he said. But he sees hope. "Through the Internet, new/innovative groups can disseminate directly to a wide range of listeners for free. This will help push the envelope for undiscovered artists."

From listening to his grandmother's big band 78s and fathers piano playing in of the family living room in Inskip Tenn., to hearing Stravinsky's *Rites of Spring* in the movie *Fantasia* at the age of 5, the young Stegall knew his passion was to be a composer. By the sixth grade he started playing the trumpet, heavily influenced by the legendary Louis Armstrong. During high school he was in a band playing trumpet at local establishments.

He attended Knoxville College, where he learned jazz trumpet under Sam Bivens, who "played with Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. While there he earned a philosophy degree.

Next he spent eight years at

'WHEN I GET THE TIME'



SYDNEY STEGALL'S GREATEST HITS

the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music where he quit playing to concentrate on composing classical music under the direction of noted composers Jenő Takács and John Cage. He earned his master's degree in music.

While there he and colleagues developed a new way of graphic notation. They called it Dappled Fields #2, it was a revolutionary new way to read music. His work eventually ended up in an article on the front page of the *New York Times* in 1969.

He returned to Atlanta to earn his doctorate at Emory College and concentrate on his passion of creating and com-

posing electronic music.

"I don't care what the audience thinks, any serious composer doesn't," Stegall says. "I compose for an audience of one - me - and if the audience doesn't like it, so be it. I'd rather fail than compromise," Dr. Stegall said defiantly.

In 1992 he interviewed and accepted the job at Highline where he is now a professor of music.

He is currently working on a book to be titled "Liminal Sonata," which will analyze music, myth, and ritual.

"The modern world is suffering horribly for not having rituals," he said. "It takes a civilization to raise a kid."

Writing the book seems to be taking on the trappings of a long ritual.

"I have no idea how long it's going to take to finish," he said. "It's taken me this long to establish my writing style and find my voice."

He believes the basis of all schemas is pure mathematics. "Mathematic groups that are in ritual are found in myth, which dissolves into fiction and pops up in today's music and film," Stegall said.

He has been working on an opera for quite some time and other serious works. "I just need some studio time in Atlanta where there is equipment to do my music," he said.

"It comes down to time frame. It will take too long to finish," he said of the opera.

"I want to try to do what no one else is doing, make it interesting to the listener — me — and it must be meaningful," Stegall said.

"It seems that today we are deprived of time, so deprived that it's impossible to enjoy life, because life requires time," he said.

"I can remember picking blackberries with my grandmother in the hot, sticky Tennessee summer, having my skin ripped by sticker bushes, and loving it. Some people will never experience these situations today," he said.

WORK FROM HOME



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The Thunderword has several paid positions available for fall quarter.
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For information, contact T.M. Sell at 206-878-3710, ext. 3292.

Fantastically Fabulous 'Fantasticks'

Prepare for *The Fantasticks*. Northwest Asian-American Theater is producing the 40-year-old musical, *The Fantasticks*, in the Japanese Garden at the University of Washington Arboretum.

Manuel Cawaling, a young director who has been involved in the Northwest Asian-American Theater since 1992, directs the play. Cawaling describes the experience of directing a play outside instead of inside as "a very unique experience."

Stop, Drop and Roll

by Connie Harshman



"When you are in a theater you have more control and being outside has challenges. It is more of a sensory experience, you can put your feet in the grass, you can smell the trees and see the blossoms," he said.

Rick Lorig, Highline drama instructor, is the costume designer for *The Fantasticks*. "The costumes are traditional for the period but visually playful to reflect the overall tone expected in musical theater," Lorig said.

The costumes reflect the theme of the play, the road from youth to maturity.

The costumes will be rich in color and range from traditional Japanese kimonos to western outfits.

The musical is about two young lovers, Luisa and Matt, played by Katie Topper and Marc DeLaCruz.

The lovers go through a growing up period. Learning that life is not happily ever after at the beginning, there is pain and lessons to be learned while becoming an adult.

Cawaling chose to direct the *Fantasticks* because of his own road to maturity.

"I had recently turned 30 and I realized that this is where you look back and try and reflect to the last phase of my life. I'm recognizing that so much of your 20s are filled with firsts and along the way you grow up. Then I asked myself 'what am I losing?'" he said.

"Before we were wise we were filled with childish noise, that is what I want people to remember when they see the show," Cawaling said.

Tickets are \$27.50 for general admission, \$22.50 for students and Seniors. For information on tickets and times call 206-340-1049.

'What Lies Beneath?' not much

By Marta Drobyn
Staff Reporter

What Lies Beneath should stay beneath.

What Lies Beneath drags on with aimless loose ends that could be spared in between sometimes suspenseful and often predictable scenes that lead to an absurd ending.

Michelle Pfeiffer, starring as Claire Spencer, is not only the heroine in the movie, but her convincing acting is partially responsible for keeping the movie afloat. Once the prolonged suspense of the movie is revealed, Michelle Pfeiffer keeps her character as realistic as possible even though her lines and the plot itself are susceptible to overacting.

Equally as strong is Harrison Ford as Dr. Norman Spencer. As a happily married couple, the Spencers are renovating an old family house on the shores of a lake. The setting appears more and more haunted toward the end with the changing of the weather from sunny blue sky to a murky, rainy, cloudy and windy. Fears and emotions through out the movie are underlined by typical suspense music and silence before frightful encounters.

The heroine is constantly harassed by a self-opening door and a picture frame that keeps falling over and braking.



Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer are the only positives in this drab new film.

Anonymous whispers and self-operating electronics around the house imply the presence of a ghost whose reflection is eventually revealed.

In a couple of scenes steam is creeping out of the bathroom onto the hallway and in its resemblance to *The Sixth Sense*, falsely implies the greatness of this movies potential.

In an attempt to follow in the footsteps of Hitchcock director Robert Zemeckis overuses every horror trick in the book and

eventually leaves the audience smirking rather than trembling in fear.

Also, the effort to apply realistic, supernatural and horror tactics all in one movie chisels away at the solidity of the plot. Thus, the beginning of this movie could have started an hour later and the ending could have been cut off ten minutes earlier. Being fashionably late in this case might serve to your advantage.

In the very end the audience

is inevitably subjected to supernatural unrealism that Zemeckis tried so hard to make up for with unnecessary realism in the beginning. Zemeckis failed to even it out.

Unfortunately, this movie is a rough draft that, with a little more elbow grease, could have been rewritten into a great thriller.

In the mean time I can only grant it two stars - one for Pfeiffer and the one for Ford.

Vastly talented German enjoyed Highline

By Quentin Smith
Staff Reporter

Highline will be a little quieter these days now that Clarissa Mueller has gone back home to Germany.

She arrived here last August to stay with her host family while she finished her studies. During her short stay here the little dynamo, who speaks five languages fluently, sang in the choir, where she sang in one of the solo Quartets in Mozart's *Requiem*.

"I brushed up on my music theory and sight singing with Dr. Mori and he became my tutor in American things," she said.

While in voice class she had the chance to sing in the student Spring Recital.

"This is my aspiration: I want to become an Opera singer, I had to come to America to find this out, because only here people say you can achieve anything you want, if you only try," she said.

She also added that in Germany this vision would have been impossible.



Clarissa Mueller

"I took two drama classes with Dr. Taylor and got really deep insights into the true meaning of theater. It was tough, but I survived," she said.

She was in the fall drama production *The American Clock*, where she played an old Jewish woman with a German accent who went nuts because she loses all of her money.

"I really could identify with this character because money is an important factor, but it doesn't make one happy," she

said.

She was involved in the International Student club, Conversation Pals, shot photos for a college brochure and taught in the Tutoring Center as a German and French tutor.

She performed Beethoven's Ninth with the Rainier Symphony, conducted by Mori. "We sang the famous *Ode to Joy* in its original German words. That moved me very much since it was the first time I performed it," she said.

The things she'll miss the most are, "my host family and their beautiful home, my Church congregation, Seattle, Highline, all my friends and my boyfriend," she added.

"It was really nice of the International Office to let me graduate from Highline after only three quarters when I basically took only the classes that I was interested in," she said.

She got to sing the U.S. national anthem at the International Students graduation, and was proud to do it.

She leaves, loving Highline. "It's a great school and I love its

students, instructors and staff, they made my stay so special-thank you," she said.

She's already planning on coming back to the States in a couple of years after she graduates in Germany, to see all her friends and to apply for a scholarship to attend a university in this country.

"It broadens your horizons," Mueller said of her time in the U.S.

"You never completely understand something until you really experienced it, everybody should do that some time in they're life."

But she realized her basic lesson of her journey was, "I learned how much family meant to me and I learned to appreciate home better," she said.

Fittingly, the little firecracker left for home shortly after the Fourth of July.

"I had the time of my life in America, it was a great experience," Mueller said. "It wasn't always easy to be a European in Seattle, far, far away from home, but I learned and grew a lot."

New soccer coach ready to electrify

By Patrick Allcorn
Staff Reporter

The Highline women's soccer team will begin their season this fall with a new head coach.

After last year's head coach, Shari Andresen, stepped down Highline Athletic Director John Dunn has been focused on hiring a new coach with a winning attitude and he has found his man.

Ben Calvin is being imported from his assistant coaching job on the boy's team at Mt. Rainier High School to take the reigns at Highline and stride one step closer to his ultimate objective.

"My goal is to coach at a four-year school, so this will be a good experience for me as well as the girls," Calvin said.

The coaching job is not a full-time position, but Calvin already has one of those anyway. During the day he works as an electrical technician, by night the real Ben Calvin comes out and his obsession with soccer surfaces.

Calvin will be juggling a



Ben Calvin

full-time job and a family life (he is married with a three-year-old daughter Zoie), while he's coaching the Thunderbirds. Though his plate is definitely full, Calvin knows he will have the energy needed to coach the Thunderbirds.

"It'll be easy because it's fun for me. Soccer's my hobby. It's my only hobby. It's all I do besides work," he said.

"Soccer's my hobby. It's my only hobby. It's all I do besides work."

--Ben Calvin

And Calvin won't be simply studying the team's play from the sidelines during practices, he likes to get a little more hands on.

"I'm more of a trainer, I like to get out there and show them what to do instead of just telling them," Calvin said.

Having the physical ability to get out there and participate in practices is one of the things

that influenced Dunn's decision.

"He's young, enthusiastic, and he wants to do this. He has a 'regular' job, but he really wants to coach. Soccer is his passion," Dunn said.

Last year's team was incredibly successful on the field, ending the season with a 12-0-2 record before making an early exit in the playoffs.

Despite the team's recent success Dunn is not concerned with the win-loss record of next year's Thunderbirds or any other team after that.

"The No. 1 thing is academics. No. 2 is to make them solid citizens and everything else comes after that. I'm not going to tell him that he has to win half of the games or he's fired," Dunn said.

After only one interview, Dunn brought Calvin in a second time and informed him that he was the new coach of Highline's women's soccer team.

The team is looking for participants who have played or would like to play soccer. Contact Dunn at ext. 3455 for info.

Many vets leave little room on T-Bird roster

A new basketball season is just around the corner, well just around the corner for the hardcore fans. For anyone else, four months and just around the corner aren't cognate.

After carrying a No. 1 ranking in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges through most of last season before suffering disappointing postseason losses, Highline's men's team will look to redeem itself and carry on the winning traditions of three years ago.

On The Rebound

By Patrick Allcorn

Most of the team will be returning for their sophomore years, and only two recruits are being added to the team.

Austin Nicholson will join the Thunderbirds and according to Head Coach Jeff Albrecht, he may make an immediate impact.

"He can shoot, pass, and handle the ball, he's good all around. He has a chance to step in right away," Albrecht said.

Nicholson is a 6'1" guard from Lindbergh High School, where he averaged 24 points a game.

The other addition to the squad isn't really a recruit at all.

Oscar Green attended Highline in 1999-2000 but didn't approach Albrecht about joining the team until the season was already underway. He wasn't able to join the team but he dazzled Albrecht the following spring and earned a spot on the 2000-01 team.

"He's a little raw right now but he has great upsides. He's a quick jumper and has a quick first step," Albrecht said.

Green is a 6'5" forward and if he ends up being a superstar don't let Albrecht convince you that he had been recruiting him since he was 12.

With a roster stacked with talented sophomores who have had valuable experience together, something that means a tremendous amount in the two-year format, Highline should at least make it to the NWAACC tournament this year and may even start the year number one.

Patrick is the defending newsroom champion in solo synchronized slumming, and plays point twirler on the all-anything Highline rhythmic gymnastics team.

Women's basketball team gets taller

An athletic class of recruits should help the Lady Thunderbirds continue to build on a winning hoop tradition

By Donica Arnold
Staff Reporter

New height from new recruits will give the women's basketball team a lot of depth, Head Coach Dennis Olson says.

After a second place finish in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges tournament two years ago and a great post-season run last year to make the tournament again, the Lady Thunderbirds have started a winning tradition.

Olson is pleased to say that Highline has some taller players coming in, which is hard to get in community college. Olson thinks that the team will do very well this year with more height than in the past. There are seven returners and six new recruits.

The new recruits are Brianna Duerr from Lake Washington High School, which has a very successful basketball team. Duerr is a 5'8" guard and a good ball handler and a tough defen-



Dennis Olson

sive player, Olson said.

Nikki White is a 5'7" guard from Mt. Tahoma High School.

"White is an excellent player with good ball handling and passing skills," Olson said. She goes to the basket well and she is

a good defensive player. White also played three sports in high school and is an outstanding student.

Kristen Boyd is from South Kitsap High School. She is 5'7" and is also a good guard. Boyd

finished third in state in the high hurdles this past spring. She has a lot of speed and she jumps well. Boyd is an excellent defensive player and student.

Lauryn Jones is from Arlington High School where she was a starter for four years. Jones, a 5'10" forward, is a strong rebounder and can score from inside or outside. Jones is also a good student with nearly a 4.0 grade point average.

Cathy Tommany is a forward from Columbia River High School. Tommany is 6'2" and a transfer from the University of Nevada-Reno, a Division I school.

"She is an excellent outside shooter and can also post up inside," Olson said. "Tommany is a strong rebounder and defensive player."

The last recruit is Taylor Hansen who is 6'4" and from Lake Washington High School. Hansen is a post with good rebounding and defensive playing skills.

"She runs the floor well for her height," Olson said. Hansen was a starter in high school but didn't play the last two years.

Olson seems very pleased with the team this year.

The only problem that might occur is a bit of friendly competition for playing time among the players.

"It's a good problem to have," he said.

New Burien shelter will help homeless women

By Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporter

Homeless single women in South King County may soon have a place to sleep at night, with the opening of the new women's shelter at Lake Burien Presbyterian Church.

The new shelter, called the Hospitality House, is scheduled to open Sept. 18 and begin housing up to nine women a night. It is a joint venture that involves 11 churches in the King County area coming together to offer safe shelter at night, dinner and breakfast, access to showers and restrooms, and transportation to the shelter.

Based on the data the King County Housing and Community Services Division has been able to gather, approximately 6,000 homeless people live in King County. An estimated 12 percent of these homeless are single women. This is equivalent to more than 700 women.

Seattle city planner Georgia Conti, who works on homelessness issues, said it is difficult to get an accurate count of the number of homeless single women in South King County. He said the lack of resources that the county has to gather information as well as the constant movement of the homeless make it difficult to attain an accurate count. In addition, Conti said women and families often hide because they are more vulnerable, making a count even more challenging to attain.

"Our data is kind of sketchy," Conti said. "There is no street

count outside the city of Seattle."

Hospitality House will offer services to the homeless single women at the shelter, including employment opportunities, counseling, education, drug and alcohol treatment, health care, and permanent housing, in hopes of stabilizing their lives.

To make these services available, Hospitality House will contract with the Kent office of Catholic Community Services (CCS): CCS will oversee the shelter, offer case management, and train volunteers. The organization has experience supervising other shelters in the area, and has a trained staff with each member having at least a bachelor's degree in social work.

Cathy Peters of CCS said the main area of concern is the need for proper counseling. Some of the women who will be staying at Hospitality House will have just been released from jail, Peters said. "Everyone of them will need counseling. Our No. 1 goal is to deal with their issues," said Peters.

Hospitality House will be the first homeless shelter for single women in South King County, said Cathy Gunstone, director of lay ministry at Lake Burien Presbyterian, and a Hospitality House board member.

Currently, the only shelter offered to homeless single women in the area is vouchers for two- to three-night stays at a local hotel given by the YMCA of South King County, South King County Multi-Service center, and Kent Catholic Com-



Photos by Connie Harshman

Hospitality House will help provide shelter for homeless women in South King County.

munity Services.

"It is important to let women know they will have a place to sleep. So that they don't have to be on survival mode at all times," said Peters of Catholic Community Services.

Unlike the voucher program, women from around South King County will be bused to the Hospitality House after being screened and approved by trained staff from Catholic Community Services. Women that are permitted to stay at the shelter must sign a contract in which they agree to abide by specific rules that Hospitality House will strictly enforce: no alcohol, no other controlled substances, no weapons, and no profanity. If the women follow the rules and continuously work toward attaining their goals for improvement that they set in their contract, the Hospitality House will allow them to stay up to three months.

"Each woman will have a plan for the future when they come to the Hospitality House," said Peters.

To help these women reach their goals and maintain the program they have set, it will take a great deal of staff and management. Catholic Community Services estimates that it will cost \$96,000 a year to keep the shel-

ter operating.

Hospitality House is a nonprofit organization that receives funding from private companies and organizations. A few of the major contributors to the shelter include Boeing Employees Community Fund, United Way of King County Venture Funds, Presbyterian Women Thank Offering, and King County Community Services Division.

Money has also been raised through the sale of promotional products such as house pins. In total, \$141,749 has been raised to help cover the costs of running the shelter. Since Hospitality House is a nonprofit organization, trained volunteers will do much of the work at the shelter.

"We believe firmly that this project belongs to the community," said Gunstone of Lake Burien Presbyterian.

Catholic Community Services will also provide some staff to manage the program. The staff from the CCS will include case and site managers.

Hospitality House will be open seven days a week. Women will be brought to Lake Burien Presbyterian Church at 7 in the evening, and will not leave the church premises until they are taken away by van at 7 a.m. the next day.

Some nearby Burien residents have mixed feelings about the Hospitality House.

"I don't dislike the idea. I think women do need a place to go," said Burien resident Sherry Powers who lives just a few blocks from the future shelter. "I'm kinda torn; I can see both sides."

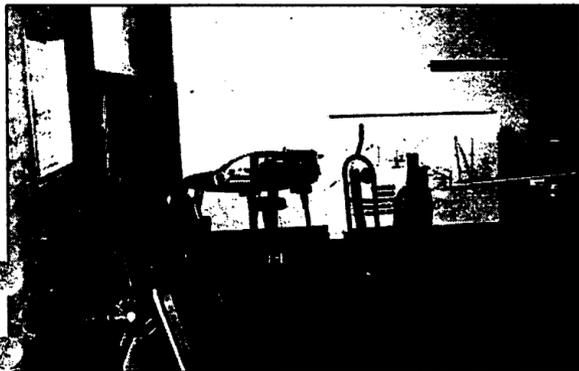
One homeowner living just three houses away from Lake Burien Presbyterian Church agrees with Powers, but has a few concerns about the new shelter.

"We are all a little concerned about it affecting our property value. I'm not against helping them, I just think they could have found a better location."

Some local residents do not support the idea of having women bused to the shelter.

"I think if we take care of people, we should take care of those around here. Kent should take care of people in Kent," said one Burien resident who asked not to be identified.

Burien resident Vivian Glisky supports the Hospitality House and agrees that there is a need within the community for a homeless shelter. "It may not be perfect, and may cause some inconvenience, but no one else is stepping up. They deserve somewhere to sleep."



The interior of the house is undergoing renovations.

Support your local sheriff: Des Moines police seek volunteers

By Chris Cruz
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Police Department may be looking for a few good people.

If adopted, the Des Moines Police Department Volunteer Program will be open to people of all ages.

The proposal for the program is still being reviewed and in the process of being approved. Spe-

cific positions and duties have not been set and will not be determined until late August.

"There will be a variety of things for people to do," said Des Moines Police Sergeant Steve Wieland. Training will be provided for the different tasks.

For now, the positions will involve administrative duties and other positions will be added, said Nancy Uhrich, community service officer.

"We want to bring citizens of the community into the police department to support and assist the police department in activities not requiring a commissioned officer," said Uhrich.

"The program will start in August and hopefully last indefinitely," Wieland said. The goal of the program is to build a better working relationship between the community and the department.

Some people have a perceived notion of the police and, after working with them, learn that they are normal people with lives away from the department, said Wieland. By working around the officers, the community will get to know them and the officers will get to know the community.

This relationship will make things more comfortable between the community and the

police department, police say.

"We want people to come in and be able to work on their own," said Wieland.

Even though it is all voluntary, there will be a specific amount of hours that volunteers will be required to work. Repetition of tasks will help them learn, Wieland said.

For more information on this program, contact Officer Uhrich at 206-870-7619.

Des Moines businesses find city taxing

Owners want lower fees, more local shoppers

By Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporter

Des Moines business owners say they aren't getting the support they need, either from the City of Des Moines or the people who live here.

Many of Des Moines' local businesses say they are doing well. But business people in the downtown Des Moines central business district say they face rising taxes and fees from the city, and not enough shoppers from the local area.

Patricio Mendoza, owner of EC Computers on Marine View Drive, said that if Des Moines citizens don't support the businesses within their own community, there won't be any. Mendoza is a resident of Des Moines and wants to see members of the community put money back into the city.

"We (business owners) are Des Moines people too, and we expect Des Moines people to support us," said Mendoza.

Chris Stephens, co-owner of Butler Auto Repair, also located on Marine View Drive, has similar concerns.

"I hope to hit more of the community," Stephens said. "There is so much of the community that doesn't even support their own city."

AAA Liquidating owner Jerry Guite wants to see the city of Des Moines work to make the community more people oriented. Guite thinks the city can attain this goal by extending State Route 509 to continue under the flight path, eliminating a great deal of the rush-hour traffic that flows through Des Moines.



Photos by Connie Harshman

Customers order from Ryan Green, right, at B&E Meats in Des Moines.

Guite, along with other business owners in Des Moines, believes that the city could do more to help the business community prosper.

"The city of Des Moines does get on businesses quite a bit," said Stephens of Butler Auto Repair. "I have seen a lot of businesses ran out."

Merchants believe that commerce in Des Moines would be much better if the city took the time to listen to business owners and understand their needs.

Joe Hulsman, of B&E Meats on Marine View Drive, wants to see the city take a more active role in the business community. "The city can canvas existing

businesses to identify their strengths and weaknesses to help better their economic development plan," Hulsman said.

Areas that could be studied include transportation, education, and tax-based issues, said Hulsman.

City officials are not opposed to hearing such complaints.

"They (business owners) are welcome to bring their concerns to the city," said Mayor Scott Thomasson of Des Moines.

High property and utility taxes and fees are another major concern for many Des Moines business owners.

Michael Chang, of Dragon Gate Restaurant, has seen an increase cost in everything over the years. Higher licensing fees and stricter rules in the city are definite drawbacks for being a business owner in Des Moines, said Chang.

Just recently, commercial businesses licenses within the city went from \$50 to \$150. To get a home business license it costs \$60, for example.

This can be a bit much for new businesses when added to all the other expenses of getting started, said co-owner Dianne Jacobson of Corky Cellars on Marine View Drive. Corky Cellars has only been in business for seven months, but they already believe that the city of Des Moines needs to "keep costs down."

"Small businesses can't afford to have fees raised," said Jacobson.

Despite the rise in licensing fees, Mayor Thomasson believes the rates are fair.

"If businesses make it, fees won't take it under," said the mayor. Thomasson believes that if the difference between whether a business is successful or not is the licensing fees, then it isn't a good enough business.

Currently in Des Moines, a 6 percent utility tax is applied to electricity, natural gas, solid waste, cable, and telephone bills. In addition, the city requires that TCI cable pay a remittance fee of 5 percent and SeaTac Disposal a fee of 12 percent, to do business in Des Moines. This amount is in turn added on to the utility bills of Des Moines citizens as a franchise fee.

A new utility tax may be added to those listed. The city continues to wrestle with a street light utility tax, which would charge everyone in Des Moines a \$1.25 monthly fee per parking space.

The city says the growing rates and new utilities are needed due to lost revenues and costs that aren't falling.

"A lot of the fees we charge are due to I-695 and lost state revenue," said Mayor Thomasson.



Mike Otani buys a bottle of wine from Dianne Jacobson at Corky Cellars.

Businesses say chamber of commerce helps them

By Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporter

Members of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce hope to translate their local success into state-level results.

Nine chambers of commerce in the South King County area have come together to create the Chamber Coalition. The coalition is working to hire a lobbyist to represent area businesses at the state level.

"Our goal everyday we're open is to increase benefits to members and to work with the city council to make being a member a good thing," said Mike Waters, 1999 chamber

president.

"It is important to participate in a small community and help support the small businesses. Being a chamber member keeps you informed of new activities," said Dianne Jacobson, co-owner of Corky Cellars in Des Moines.

Phyllis Apthorp of Marine View Florist said that she gets a bit more business interaction by being a member of the chamber.

The Des Moines Chamber of Commerce has been operating since 1947. It is an association of local businesses that advocate for merchants with the local and state government.

"It's the business part of the community working together to

benefit the community and the climate for business," said Waters.

"The chamber provides a forum for local businesses to network and share knowledge," said Joe Hulsman of B&E Meats.

Not only does the chamber act as a tool for communication between businesses and the government, but it also promotes interaction between local merchants and the rest of the community.

Over the years the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce has been involved in a variety of events. It organizes the Waterland Festival and Nibble

of Des Moines each year. The chamber also helps with the Spring Boat Fair and the annual Community Open House and Business Showcase.

Des Moines business owner Jerry Guite of AAA Liquidating has been a member of the chamber for nearly 30 years and believes it is a good way to get to know different people as well as make a difference within the community.

"I support my community and being a member of the chamber is one way to do it," said Guite.

The Des Moines Chamber of Commerce has also been involved in business and community improvement projects.

A few years ago the chamber

worked with business owners, the federal government and land owners to complete the Physad Project on Marine View Drive. Together these groups of people put a new face on the Marine View Plaza in Des Moines. Businesses got new signs and store fronts.

The chamber also worked with the city of Des Moines to create the Big Catch Plaza on the corner of Marine View Drive and South 216th.

"A chamber can be like a slick sports car or a bicycle," said Waters. Business and city involvement is what makes the difference, he said.

By Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines City Council is undecided as to whether it wants to enact the new Street Light Utility that was created and voted on last year.

At its July 13 meeting, the council voted to have city staff draft an ordinance to repeal the utility. But the council remains divided, and another vote will have to occur before the measure's fate is decided.

If enacted, the utility would charge a \$1.25 monthly fee for every parking space on a piece of property. The money would go to pay for street- and traffic-light maintenance and improvements.

The Street Light Utility was developed by city administration near the end of 1999 in light of lost funding due to I-695. It was approved as part of the city's year 2000 budget in December 1999.

But the utility measure passed by only a 4-3 margin, with council members Dave Kaplan, Dan Sherman, and Don Wasson opposed.

For homeowners in the City of Des Moines this would equate to a \$30 yearly fee. Since single-family homes in the city are required to have at least two parking spaces on their property they would be charged a \$2.50 monthly fee.

Businesses, schools, colleges and nonprofit organizations would also be taxed according to the number of parking spaces on their properties.

Councilman Don Wasson, an opponent of the utility, believes the tax is unnecessary.

"In the wake of I-695 they (city administrators) were finding ways to clutch at any straws to find any method of raising money," said Wasson. "All they wanted to do with the money was build some reserves."

STREET LIGHT SERENADE

Des Moines may pull plug on new utility



Photo by Connie Harshman

The City of Des Moines wants to find a way to pay for new street lights, but many residents oppose the current plan.

Many of Wasson's fellow councilmen disagree with his point of view and believe that the new utility is key to meeting the 2000 budget.

Mayor Scott Thomasson said that 25 percent of the city's operating fund was lost due to Initiative 695, which slashed car tab fees and hence state money flowing to small cities such as Des Moines.

But an overflow turnout at the July 13 meeting brought more than an hour of public complaint about the utility. State Rep. Karen Keiser, D-Des Moines, questioned the measure's impact on schools and churches, and said the state is working to help cities such as Des Moines cope with the effects of I-695.

"It is our legislative intent to

continue this funding and seek further solutions for the funding that has been lost," said Keiser.

Keiser, who also serves on Highline's Board of Trustees, noted that the utility would cost the college more than \$66,000 a year.

"I want to urge you to seriously reconsider the unintended consequences of this new utility fee that falls so heavily on schools, churches, and our colleges," Keiser said.

Highline administration has been understanding towards the City of Des Moines, despite the unexpected utility bill.

"The idea of asking the homeowners and colleges to pay this money seems unusual," said Highline President Ed Command. "We appreciate the concern, but we pay for our

own lighting."

The city believes that basing the fees for the Street Light Utility on the number of parking spaces is a reasonable measure of the amount of traffic generated by a specific land use. City officials say that this is a fair measurement of the use of street lights and traffic signals throughout Des Moines.

At the City Council meeting many church members, business owners, and residents in the city disagreed with the way the utility fee was being based.

"There were enough people there to get the message across to politicians who want re-election," said Council Member Wasson.

"As government at the national, state, and local levels do less and less for the people,

churches are asked to do more and more. This new tax seriously hinders churches' ability to serve the spiritual and other needs of people in the City of Des Moines and South King County," said Rev. James Kubal-Komoto of Saltwater Unitarian Universalist Church.

Pastor John O'Neal of Grace Lutheran Church argued that churches are unlike businesses because they cannot raise prices to pass on the fee.

"When talking about a non-profit organization, a church for example, there is no way that we can tell our members that they need to increase their giving by a certain amount in order to pay this new utility bill," said O'Neal.

Another concern that opponents brought up was the fact that they had no say in the passing of this ordinance.

"This year it's gonna cost us \$30 per family. What's next year? We didn't have a vote on the \$30 we're gonna pay this year. Are we gonna have anything to say on what you're gonna charge us next year?" asked resident Laura Brown.

Dick Krattli, President of the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, pointed out how this new tax might affect businesses in the area.

"I think you need to be real careful about taxing the businesses that you want to promote or the future businesses, because they can always go to SeaTac or Federal Way," Krattli said.

The concerns of residents and neighbors can remain at rest for a while longer. Street Light Utility bills that were scheduled to be sent out this July and paid within 30 days will be postponed.

The council may revisit the issue sometime this fall.

"They (council members) listened to the people this time," Councilman Wasson said.

Children discover the fun of safety at Safety Town

By Connie Harshman
Staff Reporter

Highline is not just for adults. This summer Highline recently concluded its eighth annual session of Safety Town.

Safety Town is a national program teaching kids various safety methods, ranging from gun and fire safety to safety around strangers and animals.

The program originated in the Midwest 36 years ago and the idea migrated to Washington and other parts of the county.

According to an instruction booklet for Safety Town, it was the first and is the only organization dedicated solely to promoting preschool-early childhood safety education.

Since 1982 Safety Town has spawned several spin-offs such

as Safety Village, Safety City, Tot Town and various versions of the Safety Town program, ranging from 15 minute walk-through programs in shopping malls to the original 20-hour program.

"They learn good basic facts of safety," said Diane Gilbert, coordinator of Safety Town for eight years at Highline.

All the kids in the program have either finished kindergarten or they are just starting. The Safety Town sessions are held in Building 23 in the preschool room, where the children enjoy a short playtime before they participate in group activities with the rest of the class.

To learn safety methods the children watch videos about gun and fire safety and are tested on what to do in an earthquake.

Joan McDowell, Safety Town instructor at Highline for four years, thinks Safety Town "is a terrific idea."

"Safety Town is concentrating on safety and having them do hands-on experience. Like wearing a helmet each time they are on a bike, and going under the table during an earthquake."

McDowell and Gilbert have many years of teaching experience that they bring with them to Safety Town. Gilbert has been teaching for more than 20 years at Riverton Co-op and McDowell used to teach at Federal Way Co-op.

"It is just a fun activity for children," Gilbert said.

Summer '00 Safety Town drew more children than summer '99, extending the program to two sessions.



Photo by Connie Harshman

Kayla, Darienne, Ashley and Alex (clockwise from right foreground) take a quick break from practicing safety at Highline's eighth annual Safety Town.

Water District where are you?

Des Moines talks takeover of tiny utility

By Rachele Corella and Danielle Hardy
Staff Reporters

A proposed takeover of Des Moines water provider Water District 54 has met with impassioned reactions from city residents. Some are in favor of the takeover, while others are opposed. The city council is expected to vote on the takeover in the next few weeks.

The takeover would mean that the city would be responsible for the water utility. The city council has already approved a referendum to allow the city to take over the utility. The referendum is scheduled for the next election.

The city council has also approved a plan to consolidate the water utility with other utilities in the area. This would create a larger utility that would be able to provide better service to its customers.

The city council has also approved a plan to increase the water rate. This would allow the city to cover the cost of the takeover. The city council has also approved a plan to increase the water rate for non-residential customers.

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"[The city] based 15 percent of their budget on 1-695... my own opinion is that they are trying to make up for their deficit," said Robert Awford, manager of Water District 54. "We don't want the city to take us over - we see no reason for it."

Citizens also said they see no reason for a takeover of the water district. "The water district has provided clean water for a long time," said one resident. "My children have grown up in Des Moines to get clean water. It filled every one of their childhoods, and now I have to see them if you change the water."

Connie Midge, a resident since 1950, said water quality in Water District 54 is monitored on a monthly basis by the Department of Health, and only one problem has been discovered in the last five to six years, according to water district officials.

City Council member Don Wasson, who receives his water services from Water District 54, agrees that the district seems to be doing a good job, calling the district "a tightly knit, well-built, well-maintained system."



Water District 54's office in Des Moines.

Others pointed out that the city does not have specialized knowledge in how to run a water district, including representatives of the neighboring Highline Water District, which serves the majority of Des Moines households.

Highline Water District's position about providing water service to customers is that it's best done in special districts, said Laurie Van Leuven, public information coordinator for Highline Water District.

Des Moines resident and business owner Jerry Quite echoed Van Leuven's thoughts at the City Council meeting, saying that the city should consider the cost of running the water district.

The city council is expected to vote on the takeover in the next few weeks.

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Both sides are trying to find the best interests of the water district's customers. Those in favor of the takeover say that it will make it easier to manage the utility in case of an emergency. Those who oppose say that the city would not be able to manage the utility as well as the water district.

A major issue brought up by those in favor of a city takeover was Water District 54's ability to provide extended water services in case of an emergency, and the status of an intertie agreement with Highline Water District.

"I'm worried about the safety of the people and the property in downtown Des Moines," said Des Moines Mayor Scott Thomasson, also a former water commissioner.

The city council is expected to vote on the takeover in the next few weeks.

Runway

continued from page 1

tel rooms.

"Forty percent of the year we can only use one runway, not two. The runways are too close together and because of lack of visibility we can't have planes landing wingtip to wingtip," said Parker.

The Airport Communities Coalition, formed by the City of Des Moines, Normandy Park, Federal Way, Burien and Highline School District, have led the fight against the airport.

The City of Des Moines has spent \$200,000 in the year 2000 on fighting the runway. The City of Normandy Park, over the past 10 years, has spent approximately \$2 million fighting the expansion. Their concerns include pollution, noise and reduced property values, said Kimberly Lockard, administrator for the ACC.

Helen Kludt, a resident of Normandy Park for 47 years, has had a long history with the airport.

"My husband was a pilot for

30 years and I worked for United Airlines. But I don't approve of the runway, it makes me feel ashamed."

Kludt says the airport is in the middle of a heavily urbanized area and it's getting too big for the surrounding areas.

She thinks that they should have more planes landing in Eastern Washington.

"They should break it up a bit," said Kludt. "Do you just keep adding more runways so nobody has to wait?"

Kludt's first experience with the Port of Seattle was in 1970 when the port wanted to use Miller Creek for a drainage system. The drainage system would have taken property up to her patio. The case got taken to court and was settled after four years in her favor.

"My husband liked nice long runways just like any other pilot. But he couldn't watch them ruin the creek."

Kludt says she sees problems with other airports expanding too much.

"Let's be leaders," she said. "Let's say 'hey, we can't keep building and destroying places that homes could be built on."

Roofing

continued from page 1

On the contrary, Highline students might not be able to tolerate the smell of tar that's prevalent in the heat.

"It really, really stinks. I could even smell it inside the class room," Highline student Martha Reyes said.

Because Highline is a state agency, all contracts are made between Olympia and the contractors and are bid publicly. Highline, however, coordinates the construction and actually works together with architects.

More projects are on the way. "Highline's headed into a mini-building boom. We are building three and a half buildings and tearing down four or five old ones in the next five years," Babington said.

In three years Highline is planning a joint project with Central Washington University. Highline has state approval for its portion of the building, while Central has been granted money only for pre-design. Central, which has to move its westside

campus from SeaTac, will need money from the Legislature for the building.

The finished product, Building 29, will include classroom and child care facilities. If the legislative budget doesn't allow for the funding, Highline will try again, said Vice President of Administration, Laura Saunders.

The current Child Care Center, 18a and 18b, also will be torn down.

Big buildings are more efficient and make more sense, college officials say. They are easier to maintain and are more convenient for students.

To assure that Highline is as functional on the inside as it is beautiful on the outside there is a campus tunnel study being conducted. At this point the tunnel is structurally unsound, Babington says. The ongoing campus tunnel study is a way to figure out how to make sure the systems are functioning legitimately.

In addition, hand rails will be replaced in Building 23 and 26 and the east parking lot will be restriped this summer, Babington said.

Erin Burley named NACA coordinator

Erin Burley, student programs advisor at Highline, was recently chosen as the Pacific Northwest's Regional Coordinator-Elect of the National Association of Campus Activity (NACA).

"I'm very excited and can't wait to get started with my new position," Burley said.

This is a two-year term and she will oversee an executive council of about 30 people from the five Northwest states.

NACA has national and regional conferences; the next regional conference is in Wenatchee, Nov. 16-19.

This is a volunteer position for Burley over and above her campus job. She will work with fellow adviser Fred Capestany and Team Highline to help organize the next regional conference. By being regional coordinator she will bring national exposure to Highline during the national conference next year in Boston.