

Nobody on campus seems worried about swine flu/P11



The kings and queens of drag showcase their talents/P8-9

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Highline Community College

The Thunderword

Highline loses beloved professor

By MAX DUBBELDAM Staff Reporter

Memorial services will be May 14 for Highline Professor Phil Droke, who died on Monday after a short illness.

Droke had a minor stroke around four weeks ago that only affected his vision.

After the stroke he contracted pneumonia. Doctors took x-rays, where they found blood clots and stage 4 lung cancer.

Droke was raised in Tacoma and born on June 18, 1940 and started his tenure at Highline in 1966 after receiving his master's in economics at the University of Washington.

"He was a very important faculty leader who was willing to step up to whatever challenge. He was a voice for faculty issues, ... At the same time he was a strong advocate for students," President Dr. Jack Bermingham said.

"He'll be missed," Bermingham added. "He had a very broad influence on campus."

On campus Droke was widely loved and respected by his peers.

"Professionally he was a very good economist and very involved for Highline," retired economics professor Bruce Roberts said. "He did a lot to

make Highline what it is today."

Political Science teacher Davidson Dodd said that Droke treated everyone with respect and that he never talked down to anyone.

"Phil always had a wonderful temper," Dodd said. "He had a great curiosity [and] he always had an inquisitive mind."

Droke was also active in charity work and helped out children in Mexico.

"He went to Mexico every Christmas and raised money to buy shoes for kids in Mexico," Dr. Phillip Sell said.

Droke was very involved with the college and served as the chairman of the Social Sciences division, the chairman of the Tenure Review Committee, and he was chairman of the Faculty Senate.

"He found Highline to be very special," Dodd said. "It's great to see someone who loved what he did."

"At his core he loved the institution, he loved his career here," Bermingham said. "His personal values aligned completely to the career he chose."

Sell said that Droke took over the position of chairman of the Faculty Senate from him.

He added that he thought



Phil Droke on a faculty picket line in the 1980s.

that "this is the right guy to carry on the work we were doing in the Senate."

"He was a strong person, fun to be with, and likeable," Sell said. "Phil was one of the good guys."

Common course numbers in effect

By LIVIU BIRD Staff Reporter

One glance at the Summer or Fall Quarterly schedules might confuse students.

For example, a student looking for Speech 100, a course required for all students to graduate, will not find it.

As part of Common Course Numbering, this class has now become Communications Studies 101. In fact, all peech classes are now reclassified as Communication Studies and put together with Journalism 100, reclassified as CMST& 102 (the ampersand indicates the courses are common), even though journalism and speech are two unrelated subject areas.

Common Course Numbering is a state-mandated effort to label courses that are common at many community and technical colleges around the state with the same department, course number and course title.

This is primarily for the 25 percent of graduating students that have transferred between community and technical colleges in the past, according to a State Board for Community and Technical Colleges publication. While four-year schools will remain informed about the process, their courses will not be affected.

Student decides on front-line education

By CODY STOLZ Staff Reporter

Michael T. McClure's education has taken a turn toward the east

McClure, a Marine and former Highline student deployed to Iraq on Jan. 9.

McClure, who is originally from St. Louis, moved here with his family several years ago. They moved to Normandy Park, where his father, who is also former military, took a job at Boeing.

McClure attended Highline for two years, working his way to being just shy of an associate's degree; however he soon grew bored with what he was



Michael McClure on the 50-caliber gun of a CH-53 helicopter.

doing.

McClure then began looking into the military, especially the Marine Corps, and enlisted in the spring of 2007.

"I felt like I wasn't going anywhere, or doing anything with my life, and I wanted to get out and see the world. I needed discipline, and most of all, I

wanted to be one of the few to earn the title of Marine," said McClure on why he joined the Marine Corps.

Droke is survived by his

The memorial service on

wife Shaaron and his son Cal.

May 14 will start at 4:30 p.m.

and will be held in the Mt.

Constance room of the Student

Union Building.

McClure left for boot camp in the summer of 2007, where he faced his first real test as a Marine.

"Boot camp was the hardest thing I've ever done. It really gave me a lot of confidence, once you've done something like that you feel like you can do anything," said McClure.

McClure soon attended Marine combat training at Camp Pendleton, California, where he learned the skills and techniques he would need as a Marine.

Please see Marine, page 16

However, four-year school officials looking at a student's transcript will have to know when the class was taken to determine how it credits will transfer because transcripts will not automatically change.

"No changes will be made to transcripts for courses taken through Spring Quarter 2009," Kate Bligh, associate dean for Enrollment Services said. "Courses taken in or after Summer Quarter 2009 will reflect the new Common Course Numbering name."

Please see CCN, page 15

<u>Campus Life</u>



Cash still unclaimed

A faculty member found a substantial amount of cash at an undisclosed area. He turned it into lost and found. Nobody has come to claim it yet.

If someone was to claim it, "they would have to identify everything about it," said Rich Noyer, supervisor of Safety and Security.

"They would have to tell us the container it was in, the amount of cash that was lost and when and where it was that they lost it."

He said "If nobody claims it, we will turn it over to the Highline Foundation," Noyer said. The Foundation provides scholarships for individuals and funding for special events.

Juveniles are found robbing dispenser

A custodian working in Building 19 radioed Security that two juveniles were in the women's restroom breaking into the women's feminine hygiene dispenser on May 1. The juveniles ran away.

An unknown amount of quarters were taken. Facilities was contacted and is taking down the machine for repair.

Elevator problems continue in library

A faculty member contacted Security that someone was stuck in the elevator in the library on May 2. After five minutes the elevator opened on its own. The faculty member said that they are continuously having problems with the elevator getting stuck.



Program will honor service members

The Highline Veteran's Committee presents "Coming Home with Honor," a presentation celebrating the service and sacrifice of Highline's service members and veterans.

Retired Air Force captain Ed Hrvinak will present film clips from the movie *Operation Homecoming*, and foster discussion of the challenges faced by soldiers returning from combat.

Hrvinak is a registered nurse, and the author of *Medevac Medicine*. He served in the Air Force for 20 years.

The event begins at noon on Thursday, May 14 in Building 2. Refreshments will be provided.

Students helped build computer laboratory

Jon Gerig will give a presentation today on the computer lab that Highline students helped to build.

Gerig taught classes at the school, located in a remote town in Cambodia. The lab was build using funds contributed by the Fundraising to Make a Difference Club.

The school provides classes on the English language and the use of computers. Approximately 30 students use the laboratory.

Procuments made using funds donated by Highline included two tables, two computers and two sets of computer accessories, as well as a whiteboard and a number of items needed to maintain the lab.

The presentation will be held today in Building 6, room 151,



Jon Gerig

Students (front) and their teacher Jon Gerig (back) pose in front of the school in Cambodia where contributions raised by students at Highline were used to supply a computer laboratory.

Deadline approaches

Nominations for the Women in Action Award are about tooclose. It celebrates women who have overcome obstacles and achieved great things. It will be presented at the Annual Women's Celebration on May 20.

Nominations can be made to Kimberly Miller via email at kmiller@highline.edu.

The deadline for nomination is Thursday, May 7 at 5 p.m.

Calendar

•"The Man in the White Suit: Fabrics and Innovation," a Science Seminar presented by Meg Ryan will be held in Building 3, room 102, 2:20-3:19 p.m., May 8.

•Movie Friday: *Better Luck Tomorrow* will be shown in Building 23, room 213, at noon on May 8.

•"Summarizing and Paraphrasing," a workshop, will be held at The Writing Center, Building 26, room 319, 4-4:50 p.m., May 12, 9-9:50 a.m. May 13 and 1:30-2:20 p.m., on May 14.

•"The History of HIV," a History Seminar presented by Bob Baugher, will be held in Building 3, room 102, 1:30-2:20



p.m., on May 13.

•"Setting Up Word Problems in Math 81-97," a workshop, will be held at The Math Resource Center, Building 26, room 319, 2:20-3:30 p.m., on May 13.



South King Fire and Rescue were called

A Highline student became disoriented and fell to the floor in Building 17 on May 3. South King Fire and Rescue arrived. A firefighter checked her vitals. She was sent home for the day.

Vehicle gets bused

A vehicle ran into the rear of a Metro bus on April 29 in the Highline parking lot. There were no injuries and nobody was cited. There was no serious damage and the bus was fine.

> --Compiled by Yuriy Torchilo

and will run from noon to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are still needed by students

The Phlebotomy class is still looking for volunteers to help students prepare for their externship.

Only a small amount of blood needs to be taken for the students to be able to prepare for the upcoming challenge.

The Phlebotomy students externship will begin on May 18.

Volunteers are welcome to visit Building 23, room 206 between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Monday, May 11 or on Wednesday, May 13. **Teaching Assistant~ 5291 ~ Part Time** Assist with the teaching and care of children. Experience with young and special needs preferred. Multiple shifts available. Location: S. Seattle Wage: 9.50+ Hours: 25-30 Flexible mornings or afternoons.

Technical Assistant ~ 5276 ~ Fulltime-2nd shift Preparation of samples and reagents used in testing, instrument maintenance and quality control; clerical duties and testing record maintenance responsibilities. Temporary 8-12 weeks. Location: Renton. Wage: 13.43 plus differential pay. Hours: 40, 6pm-2:30pm

For more information about co-ops, these jobs and more, log on to www.myinterfase.com/highline/student

Campus Life

Hopkins grants college money

By KANDI CARLSON Staff Reporter

James Hopkins has one job at Highline: to get money for the college.

Hopkins started working as Highline's grant writer in October 2008.

Grant writing takes "research, development, design and evaluation to make sure programs will be successful," Hopkins said.

Hopkins is on the lookout for grants that would benefit the college every day.

"I mainly write proposals for education programs and now that I am here at Highline, obviously education grants is my focus," Hopkins said.

However, education grants are not all he looks into. There are several federal programs that may be able to benefit Highline.

Some of these federal programs include the Department of Labor, State Department, National Science Foundation and National Endowment for the Humanities.

He does limit himself to educational and federal programs. Gates, Boeing and the Seattle foundations are some of the private foundations he actively looks to for opportunities that would benefit the college.

"The key to being a grant writer is [to] get the funding," said Hopkins.

Hopkins works with faculty and administrators to provide additional and continued funding for various programs on campus.

Some of the programs he currently seeking grants for include engineering, StartZone, professional and technical education, health and international programs.

The people in charge of individual programs come to him with what is out there and he writes the grant proposal or he edits what they've put together.



Christy Choe/THUNDERWORD *James Hopkins became Highline's grant writer in October 2008.*

Hopkins has more than 25 years of experience in program development, grant management and grant writing.

"I was very involved in media relations and campus ministries and made the switch from full time pastoral ministry to the non-profit/educational arena," Hopkins said, because he "felt it was a better fit for me and my personal career goals."

In 1979 he became the associate director of the education department at the Seattle Indian Center.

He moved out of the area in 1990 when he took a position with Addison-Wesley Publishers as the curriculum writer in California.

He moved back to Washington in 1995 and started working with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe as the education director.

Hopkins is a Crow Creek Sioux Indian, which is "part of the Great Sioux Tribes of the Dakota Nation," he said.

His next position was with Seattle Central Community College. He worked as the director of teacher training programs.

He has been teaching a certificate program for grant writing at Seattle Central Community College since 1990. He teaches students how to properly budget a project, present and negotiate a proposal.

"If you don't enjoy creating programs, you won't enjoy funding programs," Hopkins said.

Hopkins has not always been a writer. He is a Vietnam veteran with the Marine Corps.

Hopkins joined the Marines in 1968 during Vietnam and served until 1969. He decided to return to serve as a reservist in 1979.

He was commissioned as a chief warrant officer in public affairs. He was called to duty during both the Gulf War in 1990 and the Iraq War in 2003.

Before retiring from service he received numerous awards.

Some of those include: the Navy Achievement Award, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Citation and the War on Terrorism Ribbon.

He has been retired from the Marine Corps since 2006.

Hopkins' battles now involve finding money for Highline.

Hopkins said they are waiting to hear on a number of grants. The "average turnaround time for a grant varies from two months to three months," he said.

Hopkins said he enjoys the variety that his job provides. "Creating something is the reward," he said.

Services & Activities enters final budget deliberations

By RACHEL MARSH Staff Reporter

Final deliberations have begun for next year's S&A Budget.

"The S&A Budget Committee's deliberation process will probably take until around the end of the month of May and we will be presenting the budget to the Board of Trustees," said S&A Budget Committee Chair, Ashley Burman.

The S&A Budget is the Services and Activities Budget.

By state law, when students pay tuition, 10 percent of it goes to this budget.

This funds all non-instructional, extra-curricular programs that Highline offers, from athletics to The Thunderword.

The money that goes into the budget is tied to Highline's student enrollment. The more students who attend the college, the more money the S&A budget gets.

Associate Dean Jonathan Brown said that even though enrollment is expected to be similar to last year, the amount of money going into the S&A Budget will be less because the childcare center, which previously brought in revenue, has closed.

Still, cuts will probably not need to be as drastic as previously thought.

Dusty Wilson, a faculty representative on the S&A Committee said, "We are not in a place where we have to immediately cut 10 percent from all budgets."

"We don't really have to consider 10 percent for each specific budget anymore," Burman said.

Even though 10 percent cuts to every budget aren't necessary, the committee is still going to cut as much as possible.

S&A budget director Marta

Reeves said "We still need to look and see what we can reduce."

"It doesn't look good if we sit here spending lavishly when we are in a recession," Student Government President Lance Frank said.

"We don't know how stable we are now financially."

Vice President of Student Services Toni Castro said, "Once we get out of this economic downturn, it's difficult to predict where we'll be."

"Enrollment trends are difficult to predict and so the budget might not be what we are expecting."

"We may be looking at a smaller figure cut than the 10 percent," Brown said, "but we need to make sure we have a healthy contingency balance."

"This is the most unsure year I've dealt with in all my years going through this process."

Right now, everything is modeling the figures until the final vote is made.

The numbers are fairly certain at this point, but before anything final is decided, the committee will go back and take another look at them.

The S&A committee will be presenting the budget to the Board of Trustees during their June meeting.



Dusty Wilson

History Seminar: Fight over pig defined U.S.-Canada border

By KURTIS LOO Staff Reporter

A pig died and the boundary line between the U.S. and Canada was settled.

"San Juan Island is remembered for the 'war' in which the only casualty was a pig," said Michael Vouri, author of several books about the Pig War and park ranger/historian of San Juan Island National Historical Park.

Vouri spoke at Wednesday's History Seminar to an audience of 27 people on "The American Pig War at 150 years."

Vouri explained that when the British and Americans

agreed to the Oregon Treaty in 1846, which divided Oregon

Country and District Columbia on the 49th parallel, a dispute occurred over where the territorial lines were drawn for San Juan Island.

The Oregon Treaty stated that line was through the middle channel, but there are two channels that could be considered the middle channel – the Haro and the Rosario – which are on opposite sides of San Juan Island.

"As a result, both countries claimed sovereignty on San Juan Island," Vouri said.

Britain's Hudson's Bay Co. used it to raise sheep while Americans decided to settle there. Tensions between the countries intensified after American settler Lyman Cutlar shot a Hudson's Bay Co. pig that was eating his potatoes in 1859, Vouri said.

The British authorities threatened to arrest Lyman because he refused to pay the \$100 fine, so American settlers asked the U.S. for military protection, Vouri said.

To the aid of the American settlers on San Juan Island came Capt. George Pickett, famously known for Pickett's Charge at the Battle of Gettysburg, and 66 soldiers to protect them from British authorities. Lt. Henry M. Robert, later known for Robert's Rules of Order, helped with the fortifications on San Juan Island.

The British countered with three warships under the command of Geoffery Hornby. The standoff eventually escalated to nearly 500 American soldiers and five British warships carrying more than 2,000 men.

The Governor of Vancouver Island, James Douglas, who considered San Juan Island to be a part of his territory, "was not about to sit back and be overrun by the Yanks," Vouri said.

Governor Douglas wanted to land British troops on San Juan Island but Admiral Robert Baynes suggested that "two great nations in a war over a squabble about a pig" was foolish.

The dispute was resolved when General Winfield Scott and Governor Douglas both agreed to have joint military occupation on San Juan Island, the British on the north end and Americans on the south end. Also, neither side could have more than 100 troops to protect their citizens.

Next week's History Seminar will be on the "History of HIV" presented by Highline psychology professor Dr. Bob Baugher. History Seminar meets Wednesdays at 1:30-2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Editorial comment

Nurse waitlist is an ill idea

Some occupations require the best of the best.

You wouldn't want a pilot who had tried really hard in flight school but just couldn't get the landing down, anymore than you would want a nurse who had gotten into a nursing program, not because of his or her skills, but because he/she was pulled from a waitlist.

The proposed amendment to the state budget would have required all community colleges and technical colleges with nursing programs to work on a new system.

It would have made it so that a student who is qualified and competent may lose a position in the program to someone who is on a waitlist.

According to the amendment, which did not pass before the Legislature, 50 percent of the students admitted into nursing programs must be from the waitlist.

This amendment has several drawbacks. Highline's nursing program is very prestigious and needs to maintain an 84 percent passing rate on the state license exam in order to keep its accreditation.

Because of this, Highline's program is very competitive. Each year 72 students are accepted out of 150 to 200 students. Therefore, the program demands excellence.

Highline has enough qualified students to fill the slots, so why would they choose people who aren't as competent? The answer is simple. They wouldn't.

If the waitlist system is ever in place, students that are only meeting the standard requirements will take up student slots. They will create a different dynamic in the program.

Students who have a 4.0 will be working and learning alongside students that have a 2.5. It will be hard for everyone, teachers included, to keep the same pace.

Some people might argue that it's not fair that students who are meeting the requirements aren't getting into the program. It is a good thing that a program that creates future life-savers is picky and wants the best. It should push students to be better.

Passion alone just won't cut it. If the bill had passed, it would have allowed students to be merely mediocre.

Hopefully it will not reappear in the future.

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Do you want to see my photo spread?

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Swine flu won't end in regret

After the outbreak of the swine flu in Mexico, U.S. citizens, government, media and health officials quickly reacted, but did we all overreact?

Initially it seemed to me that the whole thing was blown way out of proportion. After all, the regular seasonal flu kills 150 people a day. Why did we get so carried away about this strain?

First of all, the media was all over the epidemic and America slowly watched the numbers rise. People panicked.

They stocked up on Tamiflu, bought masks, ran to clinics and barricaded themselves into their houses after Vice President Biden made his thoughtless comment on public transportation.

Also, the particular strain, H1N1, is unusual in that it contains four genetic elements: two swine, one bird and some human.

I thought it was ridiculous that Woodmont, a local elementary school, closed because one student may have had swine flu.

Commentary



Katherine Tacke

on Tuesday. Two Highline students have self-reported flulike symptoms and have sought medical attention.

I think that we overcompensated, but isn't that better than the alternative? Why not err on the side of caution?

Strange diseases that spring out of nowhere historically tend to and hadly.

perspective.

People commonly don't take illness as seriously as they should. People go to school and work sick all the time.

oinion

Now we can be more aware of how important it is to stay home while we're sick and to wash our hands.

These are simple and obvious moves that can help prevent not only the swine flu but many other diseases and viruses.

If the swine flu had been the epidemic that it was originally thought to be, wouldn't we all have been relieved when we were prepared to take it on?

Of course.

Katherine has a healthy regard for the flu.

Write to us

The Thunderword invites letters and guest commentary from members of the campus community.

You could write a letter to the editor to express your opinion about something happening on campus, something happening locally or even something happening nationally.

	Raphaol Elimaros, Raras Eos, Nathari Eusyk, Salorri
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E-Mail	tword@highline.edu

That school planned to close down for eight days; however they reopened on Tuesday along with the four other schools that closed last week.

The school closures were in vain. Children could easily get sick elsewhere and parents had to stay home from work. Simply put, the closures were inefficient, especially because of all the missed days that previously occurred due to bad winter weather.

Now health officials are saying that the swine flu cases are mild. As of Tuesday, King County has 30 probable cases and seven confirmed cases. Highline President Jack Bermingham e-mailed a flu update

to end badly.

Wouldn't we have rather been overly cautious when the levies were built in New Orleans? Would it have been an overreaction to build the levies a bit taller or to evacuate the twin towers sooner?

When we look back there are several cases that result in regret, and this won't have to be one.

This mini pandemic may have prepared us for next fall. According to health officials, flu viruses have the capability to reappear with more aggression. Now we can be ready with a vaccine.

While I think that the school closures, the face masks and the panic were extreme, the swine flu has definitely given us some Disagree with an opinion column?

Agree, but think something was left out?

Write a letter to the editor! Begin your letter with "Dear editor:" and then speak your mind. Tell us your name and include your relationship with the college. Are you a student? Staff? Faculty?

E-mail your submission to: thunderword@highline.edu. Please limit your submission to no more than 400 words.

Please provide contact information for confirmation purposes.



fornia estate?

Synd., Inc.

Arts Calendar

•Central Washington University's Youth Theater program will be bringing it's Spring one-act play Mama Tomcat's Flying School to Highline on May 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Building 7. Admission to the performance is free.

•Highline's Drama Department presents its annual Spring One-Acts, May 20-23, at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre in Building 4. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$7 for students and are available at the door.

Last week's Weekly SUDOKU __

Answer													
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David Ives' Degas C'est Moi, directed by Brenan Grant; The Rising of the Moon by Lady Gregory, directed by Performances will include Matthew Hopkins; The Ugly

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Duckling by A.A. Milne, directed by Jared Stratton; and Medusa's Tale by Carol S. Leshof, directed by Sophia Villanueva.

•Students in Highline's Arts program will be featured in the library's May gallery showing. The show runs

May 1- June 12. •Got arts news? Send your information to roadams@highline. edu or call arts editor Rochelle

Adams at 206-878-3710, ext. 3317. Campus events will

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that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: *

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging *** HOO BOY!

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get priority, but all items are welcome. Please include contact information.

Landgraf makes dragons, cabbages, and tiles talk

By ROCHELLE ADAMS Staff Reporter

Highline instructor Susan Landgraf's book of poetry, Other Voices, is set to be released in mid-May.

Though Landgraf's poetry has been published before in magazines and journals, this will be the first full book of poetry she's had published.

She describes the theme of the book as personification. Within the works, she gives a voice to things such as tiles, cabbages, and dragons.

"I just realized I had a number of poems where things were talking," she said. "It fascinates me. What would they say? How would they say it? I have a kitchen that's talking. It's their voice."

Landgraf began writing as a child and contributes it to her enjoyment in reading.

"What we teach is, if you're going to write, you must read," Landgraf said. "Certainly for me, reading prompted this love of words, this love of story, love of language, this draw to saying something and having these images that you could feel and touch in your head."

She described her writing process as round after round of writing and revision.

"I'm a projectile vomiter," Landgraf said. "I throw it all on the page. Then I need to do a lot of revision, a lot of erasing, a lot of trying to figure out what needs to be there, what doesn't need to be there. I tend to write lots and then cut."

In the last few years, she has been going down to the beach to spend her days writing for long periods of time.



Susan Landgraf

days," Landgraf said. "I get into this mode of just being writer and I produce a lot, but then of course [she has] to go back and redo, revise, rethink."

Before coming to teach at Highline, Landgraf was a reporter and photographer at the Valley Publishing Company and reporter and travel editor at the Daily Journal-American.

After eight years in that line of work, she planned to move on to a bigger publication, but then learned she would need a bachelor's degree.

"I decided to go back to college and went to the [University of Washington]," she said. "Over time, I realized I had already done this, it was wonderful, but things were changing. I had an assistantship at the UW to teach and I decided that's what I wanted to do next."

After working at the University of Washington as a teaching assistant and at Bellevue Community College, Landgraf got a job at Highline in fall of 1988.

The advice she gives to aspiring authors is to "write and write and don't be afraid to change it.

Chorale sings along



Rochelle Adams/THUNDERWORD

The Highline Chorale and the Thomas Jefferson High School Choir performed together on Tuesday, May 5 in Building 7. Laird Thornton conducted the Thomas Jefferson choir (above). They performed such pieces as And So It Goes, a ballad written by Billy Joel in 1983 and William Dawson's Ezekiel Saw De Wheel. Next, the Chorale (lower right), directed by Dr. Sandra Glover (lower left), sung two pieces from Mozart Solennes Vespaere, with soloist Amanda Sample, and Amor de mi alma, a piece based on a 16th Century Spanish poem. The purpose of the joint concert was to share ideas, and promote each other's programs. Dr. Glover encouraged the high school students to join Highline's Chorale while Thornton advertised the Federal Way Chorale for the aspiring singers at highline. To join the Chorale, contact Dr. Glover at 206-878-3710, ext. 6170. To audition for the Federal Way Chorale, call 253-250-3326 or email philwamba@comcast.net



you started. Read, read, read. Ask questions. Be observant. You have to observe. You have to know what's there before you can kind of get into what's not there. And if you really want

thing, publishing is another. ... If you're going to publish, that has to do with luck, has to do with persevering, with recognizing that all the people who make decisions about what they publish have their own mindset their own way of looking at the world. Again [it takes] a lot of luck."

Other Voices is being published by Finishing Line Press and will be released in the middle of May.

6

Garden festival blooms in time for Mother's Day weekend

By TIFFANY BELL Staff Reporter

The second annual Buds and Blooms Spring Garden Festival comes to Federal Way this Mother's Day weekend.

The festival is a tour of five of Federal Way's renowned gardens. The festival starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m., May 9-10.

The festival's tour locations are the Weverhaeuser Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection (where parking is available); Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden; Powell's Wood Garden;



West Hylebos Wetlands; and Federal Way's Farmers Market (at the Commons in the parking lot on the Sears side).

A shuttle will begin running at 10:30 a.m. and stops running around 5:30 p.m. The shuttles seat 13 to 15 people each.

The rhododendron garden and Powell's Wood Garden each cost \$5 but the other locations (as well as the shuttle) are free.

"The rhododendron garden has the largest collection of rhododendrons in the world. It's worth seeing," said Lillian Yeh, the festival coordinator. "There are a lot of performances the kids will like as well such as a pupeteering / folk song act; artwork and various activities."

This is the last time the Weyerhaeuser Pacific Rim Bonsai Garden will be open to the public.

The garden shut down in early April of this year. The garden will only be open for two days for the festival.

Some special additions to the festival are: gardening celebrity appearances, such as local gardening expert Ciscoe Morris; demonstrations in flower arranging; special musical performances; and a pancake breakfast at the farmers market on Sunday morning, where \$5 gets you all you can eat.

Something new this year is the Passport program.

You go around to the different tour locations and get your garden passport stamped, turn it in and you are entered in the raffle for prizes, such as two tickets on the Amtrak to Portland, among others.

Some other fun new things include the artists in the garden, who will be at the Rhododendron Garden painting and giving presentations, a spinning wool presentation, a wood carving presentation, music, other vendors and food.

They will also be taking nonperishable food donations for the Federal Way Multi-Service Center's food bank at the Weyerhaeuser garden, the farmers market, and Powell's Wood Garden.



Abdul Hawasli and Mili Mulic at the Portfolio Show last year.

Highline Portfolio Show returns in June

Staff Reporter

Highline's annual Portfolio Show will be back on Monday, June 2, lasting for two days.

Students majoring in graphic design, interior design and drafting will have their work on display, hoping to attract local companies for internships, jobs and recognition from the judges. It will be held in the Student Union in the Mt. Olympus room.

Students have to meet specific requirements. Graphic design is anywhere from visual communications, print media and packaging.

Graphic design is whatever the client is trying to communicate to its customers or consumers. It's very client driven, said art director and show participant Carol Burnham.

"It's communication with a purpose," Burnham said.

Interior design is the layout of a room or space, while drafting is more the layout of the building from the outside.

With all of the details still coming together, show organizers are still not sure how many judges there will be.

By ANDREA VASSALLO ed for first and second place," Burnham said.

> The participants in the show held a bake sale on Tuesday to raise money for the prizes and the marketing for the show.

You can see the students work on both Monday, June 1 and Tuesday, June 2 during the open house hours from 10 a.m. to 3 in the afternoon.

Monday night will also be friends and family night from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday night will be professional's night from 5 to 8 p.m., said Burnham.

"We're hoping to attract professionals to come and look at our students work," Burnham said.

A lot of planning is going into that portion of the show. Faculty organizing the show bought a contact list of all the local companies, in order to drive traffic to their show.

Proceeds from the bake sale will also go toward compensating the cost of the name list, Burnham said.

COMMUNICATIONS CLASSES! NEW & IMPROVED FOR FALL

Swampdwellers resurface in Bistro



Rochelle Adams/THUNDERWORD

The afro-beat/hip hop group Swampdwellers performed at the Highline Blend series vesterday, May 6 in the Student Union. The band includes Marc Fendel, alto saxophone; Kevin Nortness, trumpet/tenor; Bob Lovelace, vocals, guitar and bass; Ari Zucker, guitar; Joe Doria, organ; Carloss Tullos, bass; Farko Dosimoy, bass; and Andy Sells, drums. Swampdwellers have released two CDs, Swampdweller and My Favorite Monster. There will be no Blend Series in the upcoming week. Scheduling is on a week-to-week basis.



Community Relations Intern

Internship to practice & learn skills for career in Journalism or Public Relations.

Students are working extremely hard to get good scores, Burnham said.

"There will be prizes award-

Gallery shows student work

Students from Highline's Art program will be featuring their artwork in the library's May gallery showing.

Each month the Library Gallery displays the work of a different artist. This month is different in that the work from students will be shown.

The exhibit will be showing from May 1 to June 12 with different artwork in drawing, photography, digital, painting, pottery and sculpture.

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8

Double Cross

Drag queens and kings vamp it up at Highline's 2nd annual LGBT event

By MAX DUBBELDAM Staff Reporter

ne music thumps and dance beats fill the room as a few hundred spectators lie in wait for the spectacle to unfold.

A woman walks from the side door to the stage. She has style. She has grace. She's a lady.

When she takes the stage an energy fills the room and she turns into a pop diva to entertain the awaiting crowd.

As pretty as she is, and as a graceful as she moves, she's really a man.

Drag Queens Lady Chablis, Diamond St. James and Sharon Husbands shared the stage with the Royal Knights: Drag Kings Sir Tony Whynot, Sir Charlie Menace, Sir Tinker Pink and Sir Austin York.

The Royal Knights is a drag troupe that performs shows around



ABOVE: Sir Charlie Menace of the Royal Knights belts out a song.

the Northwest.

"We focus a lot of our energy in giving back to the LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transvestite) community," said Jennifer Goble, manager of the Royal Knights.

Divas in the Spotlight, Highline's second annual drag show, was held last week. According to Gay-Straight Alliance President

Chris Newcombe, it was bigger than last year's show, with about 75 more people showing up, making it a total of around 170 people in attendance.

"It's one of the best (drag) shows I've Most drag performers are not crossever seen." Newcombe said.

He added that the show this year was more professional than the one last year. ing back to Highline," he added.

Drag is an art of illusion where the performer dresses up and takes over the mannerisms of the opposite sex. The performers said that on average it takes are respected in the LGBT community. 30 to 45 minutes to get into face.

dressers or transsexuals; they do it purely for the show.

"It's a performance; it's entertain-"It's really great that our group is giv- ment," GSA adviser and veteran drag queen Josh Magallanes said. "It's not how they live their lives on a day to day basis.'

> Magallanes added that drag queens "Some people aren't so accepting,"

Whynot said. He added that most people that see the show are interested and want to know more about it.

Lady Chablis said that sometimes on the stage. people who perform in drag have trouble being in a relationship, but she said that she knows where to draw the line. She added that she's strictly an actor onstage and that it doesn't meld into her personal life.

with somebody with this on," she said. Chablis has a history in theater and it showed as she was a commanding force a total of \$232.

ey for a scholarship fund. The scholarship is to help a student from the LGBT community go to a university.

Chablis told everybody to hold a dollar Poker Face. The Drag Kings all had solo acts but in the air and gave Newcombe a minute "I would never be in bed and sleep to grab as many as he could. After this they left the biggest impression with their

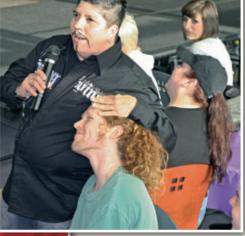


The Thunderword / May 7, 2009





ABOVE: Diamond St. James, left, and Lady Chablis get into face.



ABOVE: Sir Tony Whynot clowns around during a stroll through the audience.

Gene Achziger/THUNDERWORD

ABOVE: Lady Chablis de-wigged during her impersonation of Aretha Frankin.

activity, and the money donated by people before the show, the GSA club raised

Diamond St. James rocked out to She also helped Newcombe raise mon- high energy songs as she got her freak on. Meanwhile, Sharon Husbands had a more posh act as she belted out Celine Dion tunes and grooved to Lady Gaga's

group performances.

All of the Royal Knights came onstage in matching boy band attire and did a synchronized dance routine to Du Jour's Backdoor Lover from the Josie and the Pussycats soundtrack.

Sir Tony Whynot and Sir Tinker Pink teamed up to perform Rodney Car- you." rington's Prison Bitch, where Pink stole many laughs from the audience with his portrayal of the prison bitch.

"The Prison Bitch song was all improv," Pink said after the show. He added that they never choreograph that routine, it's all spur of the moment.

For Whynot, the thing he likes most about drag is that it is like "wearing a monkey costume and nobody knows it's

Pink said that "just being a part of the family" is the favorite part for him.

"It just feels right," he said.

Local parks backed by new state budget

By BRIAN GROVE Staff Reporter

Saltwater and Dash Point State Parks have escaped the axe and will not be mothballed after the Legislature called for no closures of Washington state parks this year.

Washington Governor Christine Gregoire still has to sign the bill into law, but the parks are now expected to stay open.

As many as 32 state parks were facing closure due to the \$9 billion state budget deficit.

Saltwater State Park is a marine camping park stretching 88 acres over the Puget Sound with 1,445 feet of saltwater shoreline.

The park is located just off of Marine View Drive on 25205 8th Place S., Des Moines

Dash Point State Park is also a camping park with 398 acres and 3,301 feet of saltwater shoreline. The park is located in Federal Way.

When the Legislature was in session, they were trying to create different budget scenarios.

Typically, the parks receive \$100 million in funding each year.

This time around, the Legislature was attempting to create a budget with a \$23 million cut.

This plan never had to be put into play.

Ranger Lynn Pratt, the local



The community will be able to use Dash Point (above) and Saltwater state parks all summer.

area manager at Dash Point, said this will be great for the parks if the governor signs the bill.

"We'd be very happy. The public I'm sure would be happy about that too," he said.

If the parks were closed, utilities such as restrooms would be shut down, but people could still walk in and use the park.

Also, a minimal care plan would be put in place so when the state had enough money to re-open the park it would not cost more to fix it up than it had saved when it was closed.

Many local community groups advocated for this care plan and offered to volunteer with maintenance.

The parks agency says it will still need to lay off workers and some have already received layoff notices.

The parks public affairs director, Virginia Painter, says

Bellevue

League/Pct/Season

17-3 .850 25-9

they are making reductions at headquarters and pretty much down to the nubbins as is.

The agency is attempting a donation program to raise money for the parks which includes a \$5 car tab renewal fee to support state parks. The fee will be included in your car tab renewal bill, and the taxpayer is able to opt out at any time by checking the box saying they don't wish to participate.

If the program does work, it won't take effect until September, and won't make a difference until November, Painter said.

Sports

Painter said they heard more from people about parks than just about any other issue, so they're being rather aggressive about the parks funding.

The agency is uncertain about how much money the new tab donation will raise, but even with low participation the outlook looks bright.

With only 50 percent of motorists participating in the tab renewal donations, it could to raise \$28 million.

Five state parks still face being transferred from state to local governments. These parks include, Fay Bainbridge on Bainbridge Island; Fort Ward on Bainbridge Island; Osoyoos Lake near Oroville; Wenberg on Lake Goodwin in Snohomish County; and Tolmie on Nisqually beach, a few miles from Olympia.

Painter said the advantage of transferring the deeds of these parks to state and local levels is cost reduction.

"It costs to run those parks and they would no longer be our operation," she said.

Painter also said smaller parks like these are usually used more by the local population, so this transfer would be appropriate.

Scoreboard

standings

League/Pct/Season South Division Olympic 4. Everett 3 Linn-Benton 7-13 .318 12-19 20-6 .769 34-9 SW Oregon 7-15 .318 9-20 League/Pct/Season League/Pct/Season Spokane Everett 6, Olympic 3 SW Oregon 3, Mt. Hood 0 Sk. Val. 17-3 .850 28-4 Wen. Val. 18-6 .750 33-10 Low. Col. 12-2 .857 29-5 Edmonds 14-6 .700 23-15 18-8 .692 25-13 Clackamas 9-5 .643 18-14 Blue Mt. 5/1 Women's softball 14-10 .583 26-16 8-7 .533 21-9 Walla Wal. 17-9 .654 32-16 Pierce 9, Grays Harbor 2 Everett Mt. Hood standings Bellevue 11-9 .550 19-17 Col. Basin 11-15.42318-24 SW Oregon 7-8 .467 30-11 Grays Harbor 6, Pierce 3 Douglas 10-10 .500 18-19 Chemeketa 4-10 286 16-19 Tr Valley 9-17 346 14-27 North Division 3-11 .214 19-21 Clark 5, Chemeketa 4 Olympic 4-16 .200 16-25 Yak. Valley 8-18 .308 15-25 Clark Shoreline 2-18 .100 13-23 East Division Kent League/Pct/Season 25246 Pacific Hwy. S. Col. Bas. 20-4 .833 38-6 253-941-7627 Get results now! Wen. Val. 14-10 .583 19-17 Walla Wal.11-13.458 22-22 Blue Mt. 11-13 .458 21-22 June, July & Aug Treas. Val. 11-13 .458 24-27 Spokane 10-14 .417 18-16 ζςπαρ Yak. Valley 10-14 .417 18-23 harver have Big Bend 9-15.375 20-22 West Division League/Pct/Season Lower Col. 18-1 .947 29-6 Gr. River 13-5 .722 22-10 Hurry, valid for first 50 new members 13-8 .619 19-13 Tacoma Offer expires August 31, 2009 fast - convenient - affordable 11-10.524 14-20 Pierce Limit one per household. No cash value. Access card and/or enrollment fee, other fees and some restrictions may apply. Valid only for local residents on first visit at participating clubs. © 2009 Snap Fitness, Inc. Experience the difference—Call or visit today! www.snapfitness.com Grays Har. 4-17 .190 8-32 Centrailia 1-19 .050 2-31

League/Pct/Season 12-10.54522-18

Shoreline 13-5 .722 20-12

Big Bend 1-23 .042 2-36

West Division

14-4 .778 20-17 15-5 .75016-12 7-13 .350 6-30

Softball scores 5/2

Big Bend 4, Tr. Valley 3 15-7 .682 19-20 Tr. Valley 18, Big Bend 1 Everett League/Pct/Season 12-7 .632 19-12 Blue Mt. 7, Spokane 2 Featuring schools with South Division Olympic Pierce Sk. Valley 5-12 .294 6-21 Centralia Spokane 10, Blue Mt. 2 spring sports Green River 9-9 .500 9-9 5-17 .278 5-26 Walla Walla 4, Yak. Valley 3 Mt. Hood 21-3 .875 28-5 Peninsula Edmonds 0-14 .000 1-27 SPS Walla Walla 7, Yak. Valley 2 Men's baseball Lane Grays Harbor 3-17 .150 5-29 Wen. Valley 13, C. Basic 10 Clackamas 11-12.47819-19 C. Basin 13, Wen. Valley 12 Chemeketa 11-14 .440 20-20 East Division North Division Centralia 8, S. Puget Sou. 6

Health

Highline resists swine flu fever Hormone changes can

By JAREN LEWIS Staff Reporter

Despite the swine flu panic, Highline officials and students are decidedly calm.

"Swine flu" is the common name for a new strain of the influenza A virus H1N1; it is often referred to as "swine flu" because two of the four strains that comprise it normally infect swine.

The new strain was first found in Mexico, and within days, hundreds of cases had been reported.

The virus is currently classified as a phase 5 pandemic alert by the World Health Organization, which indicates a disease spreading from human to human in at least two countries.

The World Health Organization classifies potential pandemics on a six-phase scale; the new H1N1 strain is currently one phase below the highest pandemic rating, which would indicate human-to-human spreading in one country in a different region.

The Center for Disease Control has confirmed seven cases of swine flu in King County, and has declared 30 more probable cases.

Five local schools including



Larry Yok

Woodmont and Midway were closed for a few days, although all were re-opened Tuesday, May 5. Two unconfirmed cases of the flu have been reported on campus.

Larry Yok, vice president of administrative services, said that, if the cases are confirmed as the new strain of H1N1, "our intention is to inform the campus when that occurs."

However, Yok said there are "no specific areas of concern."

"What we're doing now is keeping the college informed of what's going on," Yok said.

Yok said the college will focus on "reminding people to take the necessary personal hygiene measures."

"There isn't anything that needs to be done at this point," Yok said.

Yok said hand sanitizer will be available in areas such as the library and computer lab; however, he said, these are offered "as a convenience."

"The most effective way of managing the virus is soap and water," Yok said.

Yok mentioned that the college will host a web site with information about the flu, which is now live at http://www.highline. edu/home/messages/flu.htm.

"That's probably the best way for students," Yok said.

"If we did get a health department order to close, we would use our text alert system," Yok said. "This is another good reason for students to register for the text alert system."

Students can sign up for text message alerts of campus emergency news at https://bob.highline.edu/hccalerts/.

Students don't seem very worried, either.

"I don't think it's that big of a deal," said student Erika Moen.

"I mean, it's the flu," she said. "If you just take care of yourself, it's not deadly."

"It's just over-exaggerated," said another student. "I'm not worried about it."

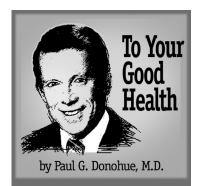
generate migraines

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My daughter, who is 41, has been getting really bad migraine headaches just before her periods. Is it due to menopause? --VM

ANSWER: Her headaches are not due to menopause. They come from her menstrual cycle, and they're called menstrual migraines. A migraine sufferer often can identify things that give rise to a headache -- foods, alcohol, physical exertion, too little sleep, too much sleep, hunger, bright lights and loud noise. The sudden drop in the female hormone estrogen that takes place at the time of a menstrual period precipitates headaches in these women.

Your daughter can take medicine prior to her anticipated menstrual period to prevent the headache. Naprosyn or one of the many other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, taken two days before the period begins, often can avert menstrual migraines. They should be taken for as long as the headache has lasted in the past.

Another approach is birthcontrol pills. The ones that stop periods for six months to a year are particularly useful. Sea-



sonale and Lybrel are two such preparations.

Most migraine sufferers are aware of the triptan drugs medicines that have had a huge impact on migraine treatment. Maxalt and Relpax are two of these drugs. The triptans should be used as the anti-inflammatory drugs are used – two days before onset of periods and continued for the length of the usual migraine.

The headache booklet describes the common kinds of headaches and their treatment. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue - No. 901W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.



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Butler Bar resurrected in Des Moines

BY LIZ PHILLIPS Staff Reporter

Butler Bar and Grill in Des Moines has reopened its doors after two weeks of being closed.

Butler Bar and Grill closed Monday, April 13. The business had been late on some of its bills and was issued an eviction notice from the landlord, said owner Mike Colello.

"Right as we were starting to dial into business we had a little hiccup," he said.

Butler was scratching and clawing like everyone else, Colello said.

"It was a series of unfortunate circumstances," he said. "We had a great staff and I had a great lawyer to help fight for it (Butler)."

Colello said that he had no idea that Butler would ever open its doors again. He just knew he

was going to fight.
"April 13 started the fight of my life," Colello said.

Colello said that it all happened really fast.

Colello hired an attorney and after numerous court hearings was able to re-open Butler, he said.

Butler Bar and Grill reopened its doors on April 30 and Colello was ecstatic.

"You truly never know what you have until someone takes it away from you," Colello said.

Butler is so named because the space was originally, Butler Garage, an auto repair shop, for many years.

Butler is going to be the same fun place to hang out as it used to be, Colello said. There won't be any real changes to the restaurant.

Butler's hours have changed a little. Doors now open at 3:30 p.m. every day and close at 2 a.m. "Business really dictates what time we close," Colello said. "If there are people in there, we're not going to close the doors."

Breakfast on the weekend has been eliminated but may be revisited.

"We might also look into opening at noon on the weekends and possibly doing lunches on Fridays," Colello said.

Butler is also looking to revamp its menu, Colello said. As of yet the changes have not been completely decided upon so the menu stays as is for now.

Butlers will continue its weekly trivia nights on Thursdays as well as having a weekly DJ on Saturday nights.

"Butler provides a safe, fun, upscale environment for people to get together and just kick it. This place just has a lot of personality," he said.

Butler first opened as a bar and grill Oct. 19, 2007. Colello

had been considering the idea of Butler since 1998 and the idea was finally fulfilled the day Butler opened.

"I have learned so much of what not to do," Colello said. "There are no easy decisions."

Butler Bar and Grill is located at 22341 Marine View Drive South in Des Moines. For information you can also look online at www.butlerbar.com/ or for further questions you can call them at 206-429-3709.

Technology is stealing crucial workforce skills from students

By JON BAKER

Communication skills are an important trait for all students to learn in preparation for business and the workforce.

One of the goals of all students at Highline is to gain an education that will prepare them for a job in the workforce. Part of that preparation needs to include effective communication skills in the workplace. Being able to communicate effectively with management, coworkers and clients is necessary to become successful in busi-



of their word choice.

Correct grammar is important. Students should develop an ability to use descriptive, specific verbs, adverbs and adjectives. Slang should be used sparingly and carefully, so as not to confuse listeners. Adding unneeded words and phrases can also affect the image a speaker gives off. our everyday lives and has become engraved into our culture. But the misuse of technology has also led to a less skilled and uneducated workforce.

Students are no longer required to know how to spell or write.

Computers have essentially taken over the finer aspects in writing. With one click a student can erase all of the spelling and grammatical errors in their paper without ever learning why something is written a certain way or how to spell a word correctly.

Students often believe it is

Students have also lost their ability to reason.

Having access to everything has reduced their ability to think logically. When a student has a problem they cannot solve, they don't attempt to figure out and solve the problem themselves. Instead they "hop" on the internet and find the answer, or ask others to do the thinking for them and get back to them.

Technology was designed to help society become more successful, to help it solve problems and to help it better adapt and prosper as a society. Instead of helping people to become better it has reduced their ability to communicate effectively and think on their own.

Students need to be preparing themselves for careers in the workplace. Understanding how to communicate effectively and appropriately in business, and actively preparing themselves, will allow students to further achieve their goals and aspirations.

Jon Baker is the advertising manager of the Thunderword



Owner of Butler Bar and Grill, Mike Colello, at the bar preparing to open shop.

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Communication encompasses many forms ranging from verbal dialogue to e-mail and written correspondence. Many students do not understand what is expected of them in verbal dialogue. Effective verbal communication requires good listening skills and an ability to use written and spoken word.

The International Listening Association says we spend 45 percent of our time listening, but only 2 percent of the population has had any formal educational experience in listening. Listening is important at all levels of activity but becomes more important as employees move up in an organization. Students also need to be aware Whether intended or subconsciously, adding words similar to "like" and "um" into your dialogue reduces and gives off the message that you are incompetent. Written correspondence within the workplace is also important.

Students almost entirely rely on computers and technology for written communication. Students have become too reliant on the technology that is designed to guide us and instead use it to carry them through their lives.

Technology is important to

OK in the professional environment to address an email, Hey Jack, just because it's OK to do that in text messages with their friends. Sending an email with exclamation points at the end of every sentence renders meaningless the fact that the sender is excited.

Signing an e-mail with your name and a smiley face is unprofessional and inappropriate in a business environment. Students begin to believe that acronyms such as "LOL" and "BRB" are actual words and belong in an educated vocabulary. Instead of speaking properly and annunciating their words, they have resorted to slang terms and expressions and use them in everyday in life.

TURN YOUR BUSINESS DREAMS INTO A REALITY - Start a Business - Get a Business Loan - Hire Employees - Plan for Success **START ZONE** is a program at Highline that helps people start and grow small businesses in Southwest King County Orientation: Thursday May 7th, **Recommended donation:** \$10.00 at the door 6p-6:30pm Building 99, Rm. 132 Workshop on "How to Get Customers" (held every Ist Thursday) Saturday, May 16th 10:30a- 12:30p, For more information, contact Building 99, room 132 (206) 878-3710 ext. 3388 or e-mail startzone@highline.edu START ZONE Services are provided at no cost to StartZone members.

Immigration education is a must

By DIO-JEAN-BAPTISTE Staff Reporter

Immigrants should be properly educated on immigration laws to stay here legally, an immigration lawyer and consultant said here last week.

Alonso Gomez Arce not only discussed immigration reform laws, but also spoke of his personal battles and struggles.

The April 29 immigration clinic and reform lecture were co-sponsored by United Latino Association as part of Unity Week.

The purpose of the clinic was to provide insight on the do's and don'ts of immigration, and how to get around the hard questions often asked of immigrants.

Gomez is a Mexican-American immigrant. He graduated from law school in Guadalajara, in 1996, where he first practiced criminal and civil law. In 1999, Gomez took a position in Seattle with the Mexican Consulate.

Gomez now works for AMS law, Mexico-USA, a Seattle law firm that deals with immigration.

In gaining his U.S. citizenship, Gomez went through many of the same difficulties as his fellow immigrants.

"I was so blessed to get here with a job, with a work visa, and all these benefits. But when you want to jump from that to



the private sector, or move away from that, I had to face the same or worst issues as any other immigrant had to," Gomez said.

"Starting with paperwork, it's cruel. The rules are so square, so you have to really go for it and focus. Also the main issue for immigrants like me is sometimes getting the right information. Knowing what you can do, and what you shouldn't do. Sometimes some of us don't have an opportunity to fix the situation right away," he said.

"But if you don't learn how to deal with these problems day to day, and prepare for when the time comes, that could prevent you from ever fixing your legal statues in this country."

Gomez spoke of a mother being separated from her children due to her kids being legally born in the U.S., while she came to be here without any documentation. The mother was sent back to Mexico and the children lived with a friend here in the states. Gomez said that the entire event could have been easily avoided had the woman exercised her right to not let officers into her home without a warrant since the officers weren't looking for her; they came by just to ask questions regarding a family member she had no contact with

Gomez said that it's through fear that the government is able to control immigrants due to immigrants' lack of knowledge.

For the actual process of getting here legally, Gomez explained that the system is one of the greatest challenges that an immigrant faces.

"Paper work, delays, misinformation, time, and waiting periods are many of the things that are hoops an immigrant individual has to jump through to become a citizen," Gomez said.

As Gomez explained the process to get proper documentation to be here in the U.S. legally the message became clear. The government has a structure for immigration that is not conducive for individuals to be able to obtain what they need, Gomez said.

"And even if the right information is obtained from the government, the information is often complicated and hard to understand even for professionals like myself," Gomez said.

"Unfortunately the press tends to focus on the negative stuff; they don't focus on all the good that immigrants bring to



Alonso Gomez Arce

this nation. There's a big misconception that immigrants are taking away from Americans. This is incorrect because almost every immigrant, under whoever's name, pays taxes," Gomez said.

The lack of proper information on both sides of immigration, Gomez said, is one of many major problems that everyone has to deal with.

It's this lack of adequate knowledge which leads to misconceptions that at times may lead immigrants to deportation, detention centers, as well as workplace abuse.

Even after an immigrant passes the proper test to become a citizen, there is still more paperwork, and a long waiting process to get the final papers for full citizenship.

One of the problems that

immigrants face to get documentation to stay here legally once here is that the process is lengthy and expensive, Gomez said. The U.S. is more than happy to take your money for application fees and other paper work fees, but won't necessarily get you any closer to getting papers to be here legally, and there are no refunds, Gomez said.

Immigrants come to America to better themselves, despite what some say, Gomez said.

"It is not true that immigrants raise the crime rates in our nation," Gomez said.

Gomez said it's not enough to be married to become a citizen. Even if the immigrant marries a U.S. citizen, the immigrant would have to leave the country for 10 years before being allowed to come back in again to finalize the marriage terms.

Legal residency is different from citizenship. Residency can be taken away by law for not following U.S. law.

There are approximately 8.6 million known undocumented illegal immigrants in the U.S., he said.

Gomez, like many immigrants, plans to return one day to Mexico to help rebuild the economy, he said.

For more information or to get in contact with Gomez you can reach him at ggomez@ amslaw.net or www.amslaw.net and by phone, 206-812-3813.

Professors pitch cultural competency for all

By RYAN PETERSON Staff Reporter

Curriculum structure and cultural misunderstandings by teachers are the main causes women and people of color struggle in the community college system, according to the key speakers at the Breaking Down Barriers Panel.

American culture and have yet sues from their curriculum. to be fully diversified.

"I often felt different when I read," Lawrenson said, recalling her time in community college.

To help remedy the situation they teach Cultural Competency training, a course designed to help teachers eliminate these is-

"Cultural Competency is training all of us to understand each other," Lawrenson said.

The process involves open discussions of race in front of audiences and raises tough questions to help teachers and others cope with cultural misunderstandings.

"There's a long journey ahead," said Somer, the second of the two speakers. "Text-

books are changing and the younger generation gives me hope."



The panel was part of the 12th annual Unity Through Diversity Week at Highline last Thursday.

Lisa Aguilera Lawrenson, dean of humanities at American River College in California, and Marcia Somer, dean of General Education at Clover Park Technical College, talked about their findings and experiences after researching their own separate dissertations regarding the subject.

"The students are not the problem. The system is the problem," said Lawrenson.

In their research they found that cultural differences often make it hard to relate to examples and ideas traditionally taught in classrooms.

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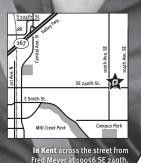
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The Bible isn't anti-homosexual, scholar says

Staff Reporter

Evangelicals have been using the Bible to wrongly condemn homosexuality, a scholar said here last week.

As a part of Unity through Diversity Week, Dr. Patrick M. Chapman's lecture analyzed and defended homosexuality in religion.

Chapman, who has a doctorate in anthropology, and is a gay Christian himself, said he has dedicated years of his life to the correlation between evangelical beliefs, the Bible and homosexuality.

In his lecture he pointed out the ironies and the issues with the Bible and how it is interpreted. He said he tries to analyze stories as they were, according to their cultural, historical and literary contexts.

Inspired by a failed attempt at "reparative therapy" and confrontation with the evangelical church, his recent book, Thou Shalt Not Love: What Evangeli-

By TIFFANY BELL cals Really Say to Gays, dissects homosexuality in Christianity.

> Chapman spoke about the different ways evangelicals have used to fuel beliefs that homosexuality is wrong.

> Chapman cited what he called "clobber passages" often used to condemn gays, including the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. He argued that the moral of the story has been skewed. Instead of God destroying Sodom and Gomorrah because of homosexuality, he destroyed it because of lack of hospitality towards the angels God sent there, he said.

> Chapman also cited the "abomination passages," places in the Bible that insinuate that homosexuality is an abomination. He pointed out, however, that the Bible lists a number of other abominations, including eating lobster; wearing clothes made of two fabrics; an Egyptian and a person of the Jewish faith eating together; and planting two seeds in a garden.

> He said that people should look at the cultural and histori-



Monika Hammon/THUNDERWORD Son of Nun brings his hip hop performance and activism lecture to Highline on May 1.

cal contexts of the Bible, also that many of the abominations were edited out of the Bible by the church.

He pointed out that there is no true mention of "homosexuality" being a defined transgression in the Bible until the 1950s.

Then there are the passages that call homosexuality "unnatural."

Chapman said that the Bible says that it's unnatural for men to have long hair, when it actually (without the man-made creation of scissors) is natural; he also said that in a way God himself is unnatural, that he is a higher power not of this Earth; he validated this in saying that unnatural simply means "out of the norm" and that these beliefs deal with more social concern than moral concerns, and for this people have to look at the cultural, historical contexts of the Bible.

As for other beliefs, such as homosexuality being a choice, or it being a disorder brought on by childhood trauma, Chapman said there is evidence against those as well.

Freud theorized that homosexuality is a derivative correlating to the relationship between a child's mother and father, and that trauma can make them gay. Chapman said this was disproven with the neurohormonal theory, which is where children's balances of different hormones in the womb stimulate or alter attraction to a certain gender.

As for those who believe therapy is the key to changing someone's orientation, Chapman said that there is a very clear distinction between orientation and behavior. One comes naturally and another comes with social norms and is influenced heavily by surroundings. Despite arguments for "reparative therapy" as an effective way to change people, Chapman argued that behavior can't change orientation.

Chapman said that the "gay agenda" is simply equality, and the ability to be "treated like heterosexuals."



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CCN

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The State Board publications say officials are working to implement a notation system on transcripts that will reflect the course changes.

Highline officials do not anticipate many problems in transitioning to the new system for students.

"For the most part, the [challenging] work has been completed," Bligh said.

The process for revamping the course numbering system began with faculty assessing their courses to decide which ones qualified for Common Course Numbering. Next, the Highline computer system had to be updated to reflect the course changes, Bligh said.

Educational Planning and Advising staff are working on updated Degree Planning Sheets, which will be available in Building 6 and on the Transfer Center's website, to help students' transition.

Students are aware of the changes, but most are not vexed.

"So far, the students I have encountered in the Advising Center have some idea that many of our course numbers have changed," said Siew Lai Lilley, Transfer Center adviser.

"Like anything new, it will take a little while for students to get used to Common Course Numbering. However, I don't anticipate this being a big challenge at all."

Students have mixed opinions about the new course numbering.

"For the most part, it's not confusing," Benjamin Fader said.

"At first, it might confuse students with getting a degree," Josey Roy said. "Once [students] get the hang of it, it will be fine."

"Yes, it's confusing," April Owens said. "It may be harder for students to find classes they want to take." numbers and course times for the new common courses are not listed properly. To see them, students must look at the printed quarterly schedule.

In the printed quarterly schedule, the instructors and classrooms are missing. To see them, students must look on the online schedule.

Highline officials are working to correct these problems.

Course descriptions have also changed as a part of Common Course Numbering implementation, and departments have lost many classes they used to have.

The Writing, Reading and Literature departments are now all united under English. Introduction to Law, which was Business 255, is now Political Science 200.

Many students in History 113: Modern European History, said they were interested in taking the course because of the description. Now that it is changing to History 118&: Western Civilization III, students might think the course is about a different subject, even if course content does not change.

Despite these concerns, Grays Harbor Community College's associate dean of Student Services, Nancy DeVerse, said the school didn't have any problem implementing the program, even as the first school to do so in Summer 2007.

"Students didn't really seem to care," she said. "We brought this to student government [and] they thought it was a great idea. We didn't really have any issues."

Students transferring to Western Washington University can expect the process to remain as smooth as before, with the agreement between the university and community colleges unaffected by the course changes, an official there said.

"Since the course numbers, rather than the course content, has changed, courses will transfer to Western the same way they did prior to the implementation of Common Course



Jessica Lovin/THUNDERWORD

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However, some changes might be difficult for a student to wrap their mind around.

For example, a student taking Spanish 101 this quarter will be eligible to take Spanish 122 next quarter, then Spanish 123. In the past, a student taking Spanish 101 would take Spanish 102 next, then Spanish 103.

In the online quarterly sched-

ule on the website, the item

Numbering," said Jeanne Gaffney, senior assistant director of Admissions at Western.

"We have added the new Common Course Numbering changes to our transfer equivalency database for all community and technical colleges who have completed the process."

Staff reporters Kandi Carlson and Tara Kester contributed to this story.

Spring College Fair is coming back to Highline

More than 20 colleges and universities will visit Highline for the Spring College Fair this month.

The event will take place on Wednesday, May 27 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Mt. Townsend room in Building The Spring College Fair will feature representatives from both Washington and out-of-state schools.

It is sponsored by the Highline Community College Outreach Office. Apply your qualifying associate degree credits and earn a bachelor's degree at DeVry University. We offer bachelor's degree programs that can lead to rewarding careers in Business, Information Systems, Healthcare Technology and more.

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Marine

continued from page 1

McClure's designated job in the Marine Corps is a CH-53 Mechanic. CH-53s are among the largest helicopters in the United States military.

McClure spent six months in Pensacola, Fl. learning this skill before joining his fleet unit, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 163.

McClure then deployed to Iraq with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit on Jan. 9. They are currently supporting ground forces in Al Asad, Iraq, right outside of Fallujah.

Being in support of ground forces entails flying cargo around or even going in on raids with ground forces.

"We even go in with Navy SEALs and pick up insurgents that are on a hi pri[ority] target list," McClure said.

"Iraq is a completely foreign environment to me. The weather at night is bone chilling and during the day it feels like a hot hair dryer being blasted in your face. The hottest it's been so far is 145 degrees in the sun," McClure said.

Danger is everywhere for McClure and the men in his

unit, as the base gets rocketed and mortared on a regular basis.

Fallujah is well known for its insurgent activity, and was the scene of the murders and hanging of several civilian contractors in 2004. That is why Marine forces went in and took over the city and have a permanent base there.

Day to day life for McClure can get a little monotonous when he isn't going out on raids.

"Go to work at 6 and go back to the barracks at 7, eat, work out, call home, and do it all over again the next day," McClure said.

McClure is set to return stateside Aug. 2; however, there is a possibility that their tour could be extended one month.

"I don't regret joining," Mc-Clure said.

"We all miss our families here and are very homesick; it just sucks being here sometimes," McClure said.

"Holidays are the worstnormally it's pretty much along the lines of hey, it's Groundhog Day again or it's Easter and we're here, and not at home," McClure said. "You have to make a lot of sacrifices to do this."

Blackboard buys Angel

By LIVIU BIRD Staff Reporter

Highline's transition to Angel Learning will be unaffected by Blackboard's acquisition of the company announced yesterday, May 6.

Blackboard and Angel are both course management systems.

Software from such systems supplement courses.

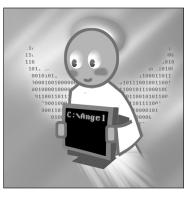
Course management systems provide students electronically with handouts, assignments, grades, discussion boards and other communication tools.

More than 400 classes at Highline currently use Blackboard, and some classes are administered entirely online.

Blackboard, Inc. will acquire Angel for a combined \$95 million – \$80 million in cash and \$15 million in stock, according to a press release from Blackboard.

Highline director of instructional design Marc Lentini said the acquisition doesn't change anything for the school.

"We're continuing the project," Lentini said.



In a campus-wide e-mail sent out yesterday, Lentini said Highline instructional design officials will stay updated on the business, but "we believe we are moving in the right direction."

Highline's contract with Blackboard ends this year, and Highline officials have elected to switch to Angel because of their outstanding record in customer service.

A press release from Blackboard, Inc. highlighted Angel's good track record with clients.

"Angel's customer focus has translated into consistently excellent experiences for Angel clients.

"We can learn from their skill in this area to keep improving the client support capability we're building here at Blackboard," according to the press release.

"Blackboard is committed to bringing together the best ideas, innovations and practices in elearning today," Michael Chasen, Blackboard's president and chief executive officer, said in the press release.

"Independently [the companies have] each led the way in many areas of the industry. Now, we can put the strengths of Blackboard and Angel together for the benefit of students in our effort to create a more flexible and engaging teaching and learning platform," he said.

Angel officials are also enthusiastic about the merger.

"Now, as part of Blackboard, we're confident that we can, together, help the combined client community advance elearning and student achievement," Christopher Clapp, Angel Learning president and chief executive officer, said in the press release.

"Together we can leverage our respective strengths to improve teaching and learning worldwide."



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