Get your feet wet at Redondo

MaST Center seeks more volunteers

By ALISA GRAMANN  Staff Reporter

Anyone who has ever wanted to play with an octopus, save a seal, or piece together a whale can find their niche at the MaST Center.

Highline’s Marine Science and Technology (MaST) Center has several opportunities for the campus community to get involved. The MaST Center offers hands-on experience for students via classes, but the executive director of the MaST, Kaddee Lawrence, said that there are other ways to gain hands-on experience without enrolling in classes.

“That’s our big thing, really getting the hands-on experience,” she said.

There are several ways for the campus community to get involved at the MaST. Lawrence said that many students don’t realize that there are opportunities for them to use their work study funds to work at the MaST. The MaST is always looking for volunteers as well, she said.

With the current state of the budget, Lawrence said that the MaST is relying on volunteers more than ever.

“Everything is done by dwindling budgets,” she said.

With instructional budget cuts making funds to replace necessary equipment for classes scarce, Lawrence said that the MaST cannot afford to hire more workers, unless they are coming in with financial aid through the Work Study Program.

Volunteer opportunities include working at the MaST aquarium and being part of the Marine Mammal Stranding Team. Each Saturday, the MaST opens its doors to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and invites the public to visit their aquarium.

“Our real goal is to educate the public about how they affect the Puget Sound and how the Puget Sound affects them,” Lawrence said.

For volunteers, the aquarium provides fun opportunities with a low level of commitment — one Saturday a month — said Rus Higley, manager of the MaST Center.

Potential volunteers are encouraged to try out volunteering for one Saturday before they make any commitments. Higley said that this is to make sure that the fit is good.

Volunteering also provides an opportunity for hands-on experience. “Your first day down here, you want to have an idea for hands-on experience.”

“You have the opportunity to design your own schedule,” he said.

Munro is the Women’s Program Assistant and Retention Specialist at the MaST Center.

By RACHEL MOYER  Staff Reporter

Highline students and staff can paint a shirt to hang in Building 6 in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month.

“Domestic violence” DV is a topic that can be hard to address, but this topic is changing, as Women’s Programs offers more workshops and invites more activists who can speak about past experiences they have had regarding DV and how to prevent it or get out,” Jean Munro said.

Munro is the Women’s Programs and WorkFirst Services coordinator, educational advisor and retention specialist, and a Highline graduate.

In observance of domestic violence month, Women’s Programs will be hosting two events. All are welcome to participate at these free events.

The first event is the Clothesline Project; it will be held outside of Women’s Programs on Oct. 18-19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Many students and community members alike have dealt with domestic violence. Some have known someone that has survived domestic violence, others have lost their lives. By using art and painting a t-shirt, students and staff can honor the survivors and victims of domestic violence, Munro explained.

“If you, or someone you know, is being affected by domestic violence, Women’s Programs offers support and referral services. To get help, call Highline at 206-878-3710, ext. 3340; you can schedule an appointment with the advising or counseling staff,” Munro said.

Women’s Programs is located in Building 6 on the lower level.

“Expressing through art media allows for friends, family and community members to digest and recover from the pain and suffering, and to respect those who have loved ones and to paint preventative messages for the campus community to see,” said Munro.

The YWCA and the Domes-

A number of vehicle safety tips, which are available on flyers outside the security office, are available on flyers outside the security office, encouraging students and faculty to park in well-lit areas, to be sure to lock all their car doors, and to never leave your car while it’s involved in campus safety.

Currently, crime rates are down, according to Noyer, but they could just as easily peak again. To advise students and faculty on safety matters, Campus Security has come up with a number of tips on vehicle and personal property security.

Security’s focus this quarter is on electronic safety. Specifically, students need to be aware of where their electronic devices are and take it with you when you leave.

An effective method of theft last year was thieves working in pairs, one causing a distraction by asking where a certain building is, and the other taking whatever was on the table.

“That happened a lot last spring,” said Noyer.

He wants students and faculty to understand the threat of theft. Noyer said some students start to relax once they are at school, saying “that’s when you really need to be alert.”

“Crime doesn’t stop when you let your guard down,” Noyer said.

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Have your resume ready for the job fair

By MADISON PHELPS
Staff Reporter

The Highline Job Fair could help you ski, fly, or cruise your way into a new job.

The job fair will be held in the Student Union in the Mt. Constance and Mt. Olympus rooms on Oct. 20 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Despite local unemployment of 8.1 percent, some firms are hiring.

“This job fair will enable you to get closer to recruiters and essentially get the job,” said Diana Baker, liaison for Student Employment at Highline.

More than 30 different companies will be here looking for full-time, part-time and temporary positions.

The current registered employers include Aijen Finance, Bright Horizons, Doubtreet, ThyssenKrupp Aerospace, Emerald City Staffing, Federal Way Public Schools, FedEx, First Choice In-Home Care, Princess Cruises, Holland America Line, State Farm, KSWT television, Menzies Aviation: Seattle, and Taco Time.

Other available positions in the medical field include Cascade Regional Blood Services, Downtown Emergency Service Center, First Choice in Home Care, Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, and other medical jobs.

Other positions include jobs as truck drivers, U.S. Border Patrol agents, accounting, management, and customer service.

A student reported the theft of his wallet from Building 28 on Oct. 5. He said he had left the wallet in a cross country backpack, which he left on the floor when he went running with the team. He returned to find the wallet missing.

A faculty member reported the theft of her parking permit from her Honda Accord on Oct. 10. The permit number wasn’t known by the victim and it wasn’t recorded in the computer. The student bought a new parking pass.

A Highline cross country team member reported the theft of his wallet from Building 28 on Oct. 5. He said he had left the wallet in a cross country backpack, which he left on the floor when he went running with the team. He returned to find the wallet missing.

Attempted theft foiled

An unidentified male tried to walk off with a faculty member’s pouch on Oct. 6. The faculty member had left a green pouch with keys inside on her desk in the locked building.

The suspect picked up the pouch and started to leave when another staff member confronted him. The suspect claimed he’d found the pouch and then threw it aside once he found it contained only keys. The staff member retrieved the pouch and brought it back to the office.

Security made a sweep of the library but didn’t find the suspect.

Erratic driving

A vehicle was driving erratically in the East parking lot on Oct. 6. A student reported to Campus Security. The driver was said to have been looking for a parking spot.

Possible crash

An unidentified man reported that a Toyota Camry struck a Nissan Altima in the South lot on Oct. 11. Campus Security swept the lot but found nothing.

Suspicion of drug use reported on campus

A faculty member reported a strong marijuana smell coming from behind Building 27 on Oct. 11. Officers investigated the area, but found nothing.

Transfer workshops

Two transfer workshops will be given in October. The first one will be on Oct. 18th and is tailored only for Running Start students who are planning to transfer.

The second will be on Oct. 25 and is for all transfer students except for Running Start students.

Both workshops will be held from 1-3 p.m. in Building 30, room 208.

Registration is required to guarantee a seat. To register e-mail ksteinba@highline.edu or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3355.

Last week for refugee farmers market

Oct. 18 will be the last day of produce sales by Bantu farmers from Somalia.

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Book signing today

January O’Neil, author of the award winning book, Underlife, will sign copies of her book on Oct. 13 in Building 8 in the Mt. Olympus room at 11 a.m.

Her poems are accessible and interesting to any audience interested in women’s issues, family and food. O’Neil works at Babson College as a Communications Specialist.

By Diana Baker

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Digital forensics follows tracks where others cannot go

By AARON JOHNSON  Staff Reporter

Digital forensics is a growing field in modern criminology and growing in its demand, a Highline professor said here last week.

Amelia Phillips, chairwoman of the Pure and Applied Science Division at Highline, highlighted the exciting nature of the field at the science seminar last Friday. Forensic specialists utilize technology to fulfill to identify and track down criminals.

Your computer keeps hundreds of hidden files, Phillips said. Digital geography means files that the computer has created on its own. Cookies and log files can be scary, but there should be other concerns.

Copiers, for example, can keep years of temporary files, Phillips said. If you scanned your taxes last year, and then sold your copier, the hard drive may still have your information. Data recovery experts are able to use this heap of information to their advantage to help capture criminals, or learn things about the crime.

“You run across a lot of people who do stupid things,” Phillips said. From hackers who lazily break into networks, to people who drag incriminating files to the recycling bin, and simply leave them there.

One infamous killer, deemed the Bind, Torture, Kill [BTK] Killer, was foolish enough to send a floppy disc with information of his victims to the local police department. He had asked the police if they could track him, naturally the police answered no.

Once the floppy arrived, however, data recovery agents discovered the document’s writer was a man named Dennis, along with a deleted file which indicated he worked at a church. This information was vital to finding the murderer, who had been at large for 30 years.

Many of the criminals dealt with fringe on corporate policies, and Seattle deals with corporate theft and borders on highest in the nation, Phillips said. The concerns of a good forensic specialist include extortion, fraud, or even credit card theft.

Highline has a Data Recovery/Forensic Specialist program. Employees in the field find themselves exposed to a lot of excitement, because not only does technology grow and change, but the criminals keep finding new ways to break the laws, and your job could be to find, and stop these criminals, Phillips said.

The program begins every fall, and interested students should be prepared for “a fun field, students learn ethics and personal responsibility.”

Phillips’ book, Guide To Forensics and Investigations, is on the FBI reading list, and used by UW, DeVry, and a number of other schools. The basic courses are standard programming classes like Introduction to Networks, to LINUX/UNIX classes. Many of the classes can be taken as a Saturday Hybrid class, meaning a lot of the work would be out of class or online.

Highline’s Data Recovery program has been a key in placing a number of people in jobs, Phillips said. The program will prepare you to work as a basic network administrator or to work at a police department. A large amount of the program teaches you basic digital detective work. Program alumni Dave Matthews later became Deputy Computer Information Security Officer of the Seattle Police Department.

For more information, visit the website of the program at cis.highline.edu/Data Recovery Forensics index

Program gives students assist toward medical career

By EVGENIYA DOKUKINA  Staff Reporter

Drawing blood is just one of the many things medical assistants come across in their training.

Medical assistants are health care workers with whom patients come in contact quite often, yet many people don’t know who they are or what they do.

Medical assistant recognition week is the third full week of October. To honor medical assistant students at Highline, an open house will be held on Oct. 19 in Building 23, room 210.

Often medical assistants are mistaken for nurses and not recognized for who they are, said Laurel Lundén, an instructor for the Medical Assistant Department.

“They need to be recognized for how hard they work,” she said.

Medical assistants keep medical offices running smoothly by performing both administrative and clinical duties. They give injections, draw blood, assist in minor surgery, as well as handle front office work such as insurance billing and patient information management.

“They are the only profession that is specifically trained to work in clinics,” Lundén said.

Medical assistant students at Highline expressed their thoughts on why they choose to be in the program and their plans for future.

Students choose to be a part of the medical assistant program for various reasons.

“One medical assistant said something that interested me for a long time,” said Michael Chrush. “It’s always in demand.”

He has been in the program since September 2009 and plans to go to work once finished.

“Some places I have in mind are blood banks and clinical laboratories,” said Chrush.

The instructors are very thorough and professional, said Chrush. “If they see I’m struggling, they are there right away to help me.”

Instructors here are really knowledgeable and really good,” said Lisa Gonzales, a student in the program.

She said she felt nervous when drawing her classmates blood and was glad that instructors were there to help, said Gonzales. “Can you imagine sticking a needle into someone and you’ve never done it before?”

The instructors may be helpful but students still face challenges.

Scheduling online classes is tough, said Gonzales. “You have to be really determined to make sure you keep on track.”

A lot of the work would be out of class or online.

“I plan to move to Alaska and become a physician assistant,” said another student, who said the basic courses are standard programming classes like Introduction to Networks, to LINUX/UNIX classes. Many of the classes can be taken as a Saturday Hybrid class, meaning a lot of the work would be out of class or online.

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Students should get involved

I would like to welcome you all to Highline for the 2011-2012 academic year. Highline offers countless opportunities for students to get involved in different programs and voice their concerns or opinions through their student government, the Associated Students of Highline Community College (ASHCC).

As a president of ASHCC, I hope to show you all to involve yourself in these opportunities to enhance your networking and leadership skills outside the classrooms. Here are a few options to consider as you think about getting involved with your student government. If you are interested in the logistics of the State Legislature, one possible involvement opportunity is to join the Student Legislative Action Committee (SLAC). SLAC is a student-lead committee that focuses on legislative issues that affect our students. If you are majoring in political science, or if you are interested in knowing where your student money is going, please consider applying for the S&A Budget Committee.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. in Student Union (Building 8), room 302.

The goal of this caucus is to provide an opportunity for leaders of different clubs and organizations to network and communicate with one another. You can get your own student life as a leader started by attending our First Fridays Leadership meeting. The meeting will be held on Friday of the month, starting Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. on first floor of Building 8, Mt. Constance/Mt. Olympus rooms.

Our first session will be, “Servant Leadership: Why the World Needs Leaders?” We would like to see you there!

If you know you need to get involved, but remain confused about where to start, just come up to the 3rd floor of Student Union, Building 8 to our Center for Leadership and Service (CLS) office. We have a great team of consultants and resources providers that will help you to start your journey to student success.

We will assist you to find the clubs and committees that you would be interested to get involved with or even help you start your own club.

So join us at our office from 8 to 5 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and from 9 to 5 p.m. on Fridays.

If you have any questions please e-mail me, mnyagmarjyav@highline.edu, or call 206-878-3710 ext. 3215.

Write to us

The Thunderword invites letters and columns. Send submissions, with contact information, to jnelson@highline.edu. Letters should be under 200 words, columns no more than 600.

Submissions due on Monday for print on Thursday, and may be edited for length, grammar, and style.

The Staff

E-Mail tword@highline.edu

It’s not like real stalking. It’s Facebook stalking.


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The Staff
The Thunderword / October 13, 2011

puzzles

Music Holders

Across
1. Beetle larvae
6. Newton or Hayes
11. Identify (as a Facebook photo)
14. Plant again
15. DEA employee
16. Not well
17. Come afterward
18. Potato, e.g.
20. Guinness entry
22. Barbie’s beau
23. More loved
24. Paddle
25. Attach
28. Skier’s transport
30. Rhine tributary
31. Magical
37. Masked mammal
40. Fuse, e.g.
42. Impressionist
43. “That hurts!”
44. Most optimistic
47. London apartment
49. Estee of cosmetics
51. Entirely
52. Common back ailment
57. NYC traffic staple
58. Well-groomed
59. Golfer Palmer, to pals
60. Ostrich cousin
61. Fleet of foot
62. Ideal for dieters
63. Patriotic Uncle
64. Schlepped
65. Descriptive

Down
1. Increased
2. Gambling mecca
3. The Beatles “Back in the ______”
4. Univ. of Colorado home
5. Nobel’s birthplace
6. Meet, as streets
7. Castro, e.g.
9. Super server
10. Phone connection
11. Like some N.Y. parades
12. Foreign
13. Hormone source
14. Horse
15. “Gnarly!”
16. “Gnarly!”
17. Taint, as a computer file
18. Thrice
19. Poetic tribute
20. Family cars
21. Sudden stop
22. Grueling mecca
23. Grueling mecca
24. Schlepped
25. Desertlike
26. Whine
27. Snapshot holder
28. However, informally
29. Prohibit
31. Passé
32. Sgt., e.g.
33. Tainted, as a computer file
34. Just manages, with “out”
35. Pub game piece
36. An appropriate measure
37. Big name on the block?
38. Backrub response
39. Speed follower
40. Granny Smith, e.g.
41. Three-handed card game
42. Passé
43. Parachute delivery

Crossword 101

By Pete Canty (Pete@gfrpuzzles.com)

Quotable Quote

To me, boxing is like a ballet, except there’s no music, no choreography, and the dancers hit each other.

Jack Handey

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Trivia test

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the former name of New York’s John F. Kennedy International Airport?
2. TELEVISION: Who played Eliot Ness on the original TV show The Untouchables?
3. LITERATURE: Who wrote The Pump House Gang?
4. MUSIC: Which singer kicked off the national dance craze called The Twist?
5. MOVIES: When did the animated feature Dumbo debut?
6. FOOD & DRINK: Edam is a popular type of what?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Goshen was a region in which ancient land?
8. SCIENCE: Psychology is the study of what?
9. POETRY: How many lines are in a standard sonnet?
10. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix ornitho mean?

Answers:

1. Idlewild
2. Robert Stack
3. Tom Wolfe
4. Chubby Checker
5. 1941

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Foods to Fight Breast Cancer

1. Carrots
2. Green Tea
3. Apples
4. Fiber
5. Omega-3 oils
6. Flaxseed
7. Walnuts
8. Pomegranate
9. Broccoli
10. Low-glycemic foods

By GFR Associates • • • Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

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Fright Nights

Halloween festivals will soon bewitch you

By AMANDA SILLS
Staff Reporter

Fast approaching with the autumn chill are this season’s community Halloween festivals, including a number of family friendly events, trick-or-treating and haunted houses.

Des Moines will have its annual Halloween carnival on Oct. 29 from 5-8 p.m. The carnival, which usually takes place at the Des Moines Field House, will instead be held at the historic Landmark event center, located at 23660 Marine View Drive S.

Built in 1926, the Landmark used to be home for retired Freemasons. The traditional style of the mansion will provide a mysterious and spooky atmosphere for the carnival.

Tickets are only $5 per child and will include frightfully fun activities and games for kids 12 and under. There is a suggested donation of non-perishable food for the Des Moines Food Bank as part of the event.

For more information about the event, go to http://www.desmoineswa.gov and click on Parks and Recreation and then go to events.

“Boo in Burien” will also take place on Oct. 29 in downtown Burien on South West 152nd Street from noon to 4 p.m. with no admission fee.

The main event will be trick-or-treating along the decorated shops of downtown Burien. Other activities such as horse and carriage rides, pumpkin painting, a haunted house, costume dog parade and wiener dog races will be provided.

For more information about the event, go to http://www.burienwa.gov and click on Burien events.

The Federal Way Community Center will hold its second annual Freaky 5K fun run on Oct. 29 at 9 a.m. Runners will follow the BPA trail along Celeration Park and are encouraged to wear a costume. To register for the run, go to www.signmeup.com.

Later in the day on Oct. 29, from 6-8:30 p.m., the city will host its Tricks and Treats Fun Fest event at the Federal Way Community Center.

Carnival games, inflatable slides, costume contests, Halloween crafts, and outdoor s'mores are some of the many events planned for ages 2-12. Tickets are $6 per child in advanced and $8 at the door. To register in advance go to http://www.itallhappenshere.org.

For more information about the events, go to http://www.cityoffederalway.com and click on calendar events.

Pumpkin patches and corn mazes are another fun activity for this month and Carpinito Brothers Farms has both.

Located on the corner of 277th and West Valley Hwy in Kent, the Carpinito Farm has a Huskies and Cougars maze. The costs are $8 for adults, $5 for children and free for children 4 and under.

Hours are 9 a.m. until dusk for the pumpkin patch and 9 a.m. until one hour before dusk for the corn maze. Both the pumpkin patch and corn maze are open daily throughout Halloween.

You can enjoy a twisting corn maze, pick out your favorite pumpkin, take a hayride, eat roasted corn and pose for festive photos.

Pumpkins cost 33 cents per pound, Jumbo Sugar Pumpkins are $2 for $4 and hayrides are $3 per person.

For more information about the events, go to http://www.carpinito.com.

Haunted houses are spooky and ready to give you the shudders. The well-known KUBE 93 Haunted House is located this year at the former Georgetown morgue, 5000 E. Marginal Way S. Seattle.

Now through Halloween, the Haunted House will be open Thursdays, Sundays and Mondays from 7-10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and also Sunday, and Friday from 7 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are $10 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance, call 253-839-6150.

•JUBILEE KBS FM is holding its annual House of Terror this year at the former Lynwood 4 Theaters at the SW corner of 196th and Hwy 99. The House of Terror is open Thursday through Sunday.

Hours for the haunted house are, Thursday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 7 p.m. to midnight, Sunday 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Halloween 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets are $15 per person and $13 on Sunday when you donate 3 or more cans of food to Lifeline.

•Fright Fest is back at Wild Waves and Enchanted Village turning the amusement park into a haunted land. Festivities run Friday through Sunday.

“It is one of our biggest events here,” Amy Wallsmith, media contact for Wild Waves, said.

Hours for Fright Fest are 5-11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 5-9 p.m. on Sunday. Wild Waves and Enchanted Village is located at 36201 Enchanted Parkway S. in Federal Way. Tickets are $29.99 for general, $22.99 for junior/senior, and children 3 years and younger are free.

“We have haunted huts this year to rent out,” Wallsmith said.

“There will be the MOVIN 92.5 Scare Factory;” she said. This year Fright Fest includes the MOVIN 92.5 Haunted House, a wave pool dance party, freaky concerts, rides in the dark, and 6K for kids 10 and under from 6-8 p.m.

“Entertainment for every age,” Wallsmith said.

For more information about Fright Fest, go to http://wildwaves.com.

•The Museum of Flight is becoming the “Museum of Fright” for one night on Oct. 28. 4-8 p.m. Admission is free for the Halloween event and will provide activities for all ages.

Guests are encouraged to dress up for the festivities and can take part in storytelling, ghost parachute drops, shadow puppets, and rides in the flight simulators.

Following the Museum of Fright activities is a museum sleepover called the Spooky Spy Sleepover. Separate admission and advanced registration is required for the sleepover.

During the night there will be a special spy activity, flashlight tour of the World War I and World War II galleries, a snack and then in the morning breakfast.

One adult is required per five children at a minimum. For museum members tickets are $35 for youth and $15 for adults. Non museum member tickets are $40 for youth and $20 for adults.

The museum is located on 9404 East Marginal Way South in Tukwila.

For more information about the Museum of Flight event, go to http://www.museumoffright.org or call 206-764-5720.
By ADRIAN SCOTT
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team suffered their first loss of the season in a physical game against division rival Peninsula on Oct. 8.

"It sucks driving all the way out there to lose 3-1," Anthony Leegault said.

The men traveled about two hours Saturday to Port Angeles in a game between the last unbeaten teams in the West Division.

The T-Birds played most of the match without their leading scorer, Tody Tolo, who had pulled his hamstring Wednesday during practice.

"Coach told me to try the best I could, Tolo said. I played about 25 minutes in the first half, and only could play 15 minutes of the second because my leg wasn’t feeling better."

This was only the second game in which Tolo hasn’t scored. He is currently tied for third in scoring in the whole NWAACC with eight goals this season.

"Coach told us that we all played good and it’s just going to be a hard loss to swallow," Tolo added.

Darwin Jones found the net with the team’s only goal in the sixth minute of the match, raising his season total to 7.

The 'Birds’ had no assists recorded in the game. This is the first time this season a T-Birds player didn’t record an assist.

The Pirates scored goals in the ninth minute, 10th, and 74th minutes of the game.

The match started to get physical around the 44 minute, of the game. No other punches were thrown.

"We definitely got some aggression out," Leegault said.

With only 10 players the whole second half, Highline held its own and kept the score close.

"We played good with only 10 players in the second half; I wish I could have played but coach needed me to rest," Tolo said.

"We’ll get our rematch against them at home," Tolo added.

That rematch will be at Highline Oct. 26 at 4 p.m.

The T-Birds playoff and championship chances are still alive, with a record of 5-1-0.

The 'Birds’ next game will be at Tacoma on Oct. 12. Many players say that they will win this game.

"We will beat Tacoma this Wednesday, no doubt," Leegault said.

Leegault jokingly predicted that he would score four goals in the game. This could be a hard task to do, seeing that he plays defender.

"We will make the playoffs, and I think we can also win the championship this year," Hayashi said.

"Our team practices hard and we try to help each other to get better for the next opponent," said Dominic Torres.

Highline next hosts Bellevue on Saturday at 2 p.m. before welcoming Olympic on Oct. 19 at 4 p.m.

By MITCHELL KOEHLER
Staff Reporter

The Highline cross country team took fifth overall last Friday at the NWAACC Preview Invitational in Everett.

"The competition was awesome as all but two NWAACC teams were there," said Coach Taryn Plypick about the meet. "This was great preparation for the NWAACC Champion-ship next month."

The Highline’s men’s team finished in third place with 105 points, 29 points ahead of the team from Clackamas. The team from Everett took first with 24 points, 81 points ahead of Highline. Close behind Everett was Spokane with 33 points, just nine points behind. For the men the race was an 8k, just less than five miles.

The men’s team took third overall and left a statement to all the other teams in the NWAACC that Highline cross country is back, said Plypick.

The men’s team was led by Luke Martin who placed 16th with a time of 27:04. Right behind Martin were fellow T-Birds Nick Lipinski (18th) and Ben Rongu (19th) with times of 27:15 and 27:26 respectively. The winner was Everett’s Bryton Reim, who took first with a time of 25:49.

Plypick said she was impressed with Martin and Lipinski both for their leadership and mental toughness.

On the women’s side, Highline took sixth place. Highline had nine points ahead of Green River and just 13 points behind the team from Olympic College.

The field was dominated by Everett, who finished 20 points ahead of the next closest team.

"I was quite pleased with all the women and they were excited to beat crosstown rivals Green River," said Plypick.

She was also pleased with Ivy Meadows who got out and quick and ran an impressive time.

Meadows was the leader for the women’s team with a personal best of 20:41 and an 18th place finish. Mikel Elliot from Spokane took first place with a time of 18:25.

"I set a goal of doing a 20:30 5k race but after my last time, Coach Plypick and I decided on setting a new goal of an under 20-minute time for a 5k," said Meadows.

Highline’s next meet is the Mike Hodges Invitational in Clackamas tomorrow, Oct. 14 which is a 5k race for the women and an 8k race for the men.

Highline then has a two-week break before they compete in the North Region Championships on Oct. 14.

Cross country places fifth in NWAACC preview
Lady T-birds move into third with wins

By ANTHONY BERTOLOCCI  Staff Reporter

The women’s volleyball team moved one game over .500 play after two big wins last week against Green River and Centralia. Head Coach Chris Littleman said he was pretty happy after last week’s performances against the Gators and Trailblazers. Littleman said that his “players are playing the way they’re supposed to and capable of playing.” The T-Birds are now 3-2 in league and 7-13 overall.

“If we would have played the other two league games the way they played Green River and Centralia, we would be 4-0 in league play,” Littleman said.

Highline beat the Green River Gators on Wednesday, Oct. 5. The T-Birds are now third in the West region, taking them one step closer to making the NWAAC’s tournament. Highline won in straight sets, 25-22, 25-22, 25-17.

Highline met Centralia on Friday, Oct. 7, and won in three sets even though they were missing two players. The first two matches were close but in the final set Highline hit its stride, sweeping the match, 25-21, 25-23, 25-15.

Coach Littleman said afterward his players did something well that contributed to the win such as playing good defense, passing well and serving really well.

One of Highline’s players, Taylor Johnson, was out that night and teammate Ratilina Siatunuu stepped in for her as setter and had a huge game, Coach Littleman said.

Littleman said one player who stood out was Elizabeth Villanueva, the team’s libero. “Elizabeth had a big game and stepped out of her comfort zone during the game,” He said.

Highline had an away match at Green River Oct. 5 against Pierce on Oct. 12 with results unavailable at press time.

The next volleyball game will be on Oct. 14-15 when they travel to Spokane for a cross town tourney and on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Pavilion against Lower Columbia.

Women’s soccer still holds third place

By KEVIN BODLE Staff Reporter

The Lady Thunderbirds remain in third place after a win and a loss last week. Highline traveled to last place Lower Columbia on Wednesday, Oct. 5 and won 5-0.

“Frustrating game really. We were only up 2-0 at half,” said Head Coach Tom Moore.

Emma Gremmer scored three of the five, with individual goals coming from Lauren Johnson and Ariel Peters, who also added an assist.

“Good combination play,” is what led to the goals, said Coach Moore.

Assists came from Katie LaBorde, Jessica Sanchez, Shelby Hutton, and Sarah Jackson. Kyla Kitts recorded her third shutout of the season.

“It was a sloppy game, with not a lot of consistency,” Coach Moore said.

The Lady Thunderbirds next traveled to first place Peninsula last Saturday and lost 2-0 in what was a hard-fought game.

In a game where Highline was outshot 16-6 and Peninsula hit the post twice and crossbar three times, the Pirates finally broke the deadlock in the 69th minute with Zhaccierra Kanari putting the ball away.

“The first goal was a miscommunication between our center back and keeper,” said Moore.

No one could argue with the second goal coming from Shelby Solomon in the 80th minute which was a great shot from about 25 yards out.

“They outworked us,” said Moore. “They were more athletic, and we will use that against them next time.”

The Lady T-Birds played Tacoma on Wednesday with results unavailable at press time.

Starting center Emily Schuck is out for two to three games from an injury suffered in a car accident earlier this week.

“We need to adjust quickly in these next games with Emily out,” said Moore.

Highline comes home for five games starting with Bellevue on Saturday at noon.

The Scoreboard

Women’s Soccer

| NORTHERN Pacific | Season | Edmonds | 2-4-1 | 7 4-7-1 | Everett | 2-4-1 | 7 2-7-1 | Whatcom | 1-4-1 | 4 2-5-1 |
| Carson | 1-6-0 | 3 1-11-1 | Skagit Valley | 0-6-0 | 0 2-6-0 |
| EAST | Walla Walla | 6-0-1 | 19 9-11 | Spokane | 4-0-2 | 14 4-3-5 | Col. Basin | 3-4-0 | 9 3-5-1 | Tr. Valley | 1-6-0 | 3 2-10-0 |
| Wenatchee | 0-5-1 | 1 2-7-2 | WHAT | Peninsula | 7-0-0 | 21 13-0-0 | Highline | 5-1-0 | 15 7-1-1 | Olympic | 4-0-2 | 14 6-1-3 |
| Bellevue | 3-1-3 | 12 4-1-4 | Tacoma | 4-3-0 | 12 5-4-1 |
| SOUTH | Clark | 4-0-3 | 15 6-1-3 | Chemeketa | 4-2-0 | 12 8-2-2 | Pierce | 3-3-1 | 10 4-5-2 | S.P Sound | 3-2-1 | 10 6-5-1 |
| SW Oregon | 0-6-1 | 1 0-8-1 | Women’s Soccer

| NORTH | Shoreline | 5-2-1 | 16 5-3-3 | Edmonds | 5-3-0 | 15 9-5-0 | Everett | 5-3-0 | 15 7-3-1 |
| GR River | 4-2-2 | 14 6-2-3 | Whatcom | 3-2-3 | 11 4-3-3 | Skagit | 0-8-0 | 0 0-9-0 |
| EAST | Spokane | 7-0-0 | 21 10-1-0 | Walla Walla | 7-0-0 | 21 11-0-1 | Col. Basin | 5-1-1 | 16 7-1-1 | Yakima | 5-2-0 | 15 7-3-1 |
| Tr. Valley | 2-5-0 | 6 2-7-0 | Wenatchee | 1-6-0 | 3 2-8-0 |
| WHAT | Peninsula | 5-1-0 | 15 6-2-2 | Bellevue | 5-1-2 | 17 5-3-2 |
| Highline | 4-3-1 | 13 4-5-1 | Olympic | 3-5-0 | 9 4-6-0 | Tacoma | 2-6-0 | 6 3-7-0 |
| L. Columbia | 1-7-0 | 3 1-9-0 |

SOUTH

| Lane | 4-3-1 | 13 5-4-2 | Clackamas | 4-3-0 | 12 4-4-1 | Chemeketa | 3-3-0 | 12 5-3-1 | Clark | 2-6-0 | 6 2-9-0 |
| SW Oregon | 0-8-0 | 0 1-9-0 |

Volleyball

NORTH League | Season | Bellevue | 4-0 | 13-7 | Shoreline | 4-0 | 11-4 | Whatcom | 2-2 | 9-10 | Olympic | 2-3 | 7-15 |
| Edmonds | 1-3 | 2-12 | Edmonds | 0-5-1 | 2-21 | WALLA | Walla Walla | 5-2 | 19-6 | Yakima Valley | 5-2-0 | 19-6-0 |
| Whatcom | 7-0 | 10-3-1 | Col. Basin | 5-1-1 | 16 7-1-1 | Yakima | 5-2-0 | 15 7-3-1 |
| Tr. Valley | 2-5-0 | 3 2-7-0 | Wenatchee | 2-5-0 | 13 9-3-0 |

EAST

| Spokane | 6-1 | 21-5 | Blue Mountain | 6-1 | 18-5 | Walla Walla | 5-2 | 19-6 | Yakima Valley | 5-2-0 | 19-6-0 |
| Edmonds | 7-1-0 | 10 7-1-0 | Tr. Valley | 2-5-0 | 13 9-3-0 |
| Col. Basin | 1-6 | 9-14 | Big Bend | 1-6 | 6-15 |
|WHAT | Tacoma | 5-0 | 20-6 | Clark | 4-1 | 6-8 | Hightline | 3-2 | 7-13 | Green River | 2-3-2 | 11 6-3-1 |
| Pierce | 2-3-2 | 6 2-6-0 | L. Columbia | 1-4 | 9-18 | Centralia | 1-5 | 2-7-4 |
| SOUTH | Linn-Benton | 5-0 | 23-4 | Mt. Hood | 4-1 | 14-3 | Clackamas | 3-2 | 19-11 | Umpqua | 2-3 | 13-17 |
| Chemeketa | 4-1 | 6-10 | SW Oregon | 0-5 | 6-12 |
Bookstore battles for its buyers

Rental programs, online options aim to keep prices down

By JAMES LEE
Staff Reporter

As expensive textbooks lighten students’ wallets, the Highline bookstore has increased its efforts to keep costs down.

As an answer to rising textbook prices, the bookstore has provided new and upgraded services for students in every aspect.

The growing trend is rentals and it has become a common choice, Laura Nole, the bookstore manager said.

cCampus, an online textbook retailer, reported an surge of textbook rentals of 2,000 per cent over the last two years.

In order to stay up-to-date, the Highline bookstore has provided online book rental services, featuring as many titles as they can.

The bookstore website (www.highlinebookstore.com) has a link that directs you to their affiliate rental site, BookRenter, in which you can find and rent more titles.

By renting textbooks, students can save up to 75 percent of the cost of purchasing new textbooks.

However, they do not have books available for rental which come bundled with online codes, so check out your textbook before and determine whether you have to buy or you can rent.

Their effort to serve students better didn’t stop and limit their facilities at rental service, Nole said.

“What is becoming big, we are trying to learn and adapt as soon as possible,” she said.

According to eMarketer, a company that publishes data, smartphone ownership will reach 43 percent of the US mobile population by 2015.

Over the summer, expecting a growing number of smartphone users, the bookstore has added QR code and Smartphone services to their website.

After you scan the QR code from the outside store signage or from bookmarks, it directly links you to the bookstore website to save your time for finding the book on website.

Also if you type www.highlinebookstore.com into the address on your smartphone, it will show you the Highline Bookstore website that is specifically designed and created for smartphones.

“We are in this together; we are not for profit; we want to help lower textbooks costs any way we can,” said Nole.

They have come up with a “Compare the Price” service, which saves you from jump ing around websites to compare their prices. The Highline Bookstore website has a handy link that assists you to compare books from many online retailers.

Not only does it show and compare prices of a book, but it also displays the book’s availability, condition, new or used and delivery period.

In addition, the page has an “add to cart” button and it takes you directly to the retailer’s webpage for you to check out without any extra steps.

Some textbooks have become very expensive, Nole said.

“There are 85 book titles (being used at Highline) that cost $300 or more,” said Nole, the bookstore manager. “Something is not right.”

According to the Southern Regional Education Board, which is the accrediting body for Virginia universities, college textbooks increased almost twice as quickly as the overall rate of inflation from 1986 to 2004.

Yet, Bookstore Manager Nole has suggested the main reason why the price of text books keeps increase: “It’s because this is also a business,” she said.

A 2005 federal study reported that publishers revise textbooks every three or four years. Even though students and instructors hardly notice changes or improvements of newly edited text books, publishers want to publish new editions as they increase the price of new editions in order to make their living, Nole said.

“Students have a misconception that our bookstore is like a gift shop in an airport where it usually over charges customers on much merchandise,” Nole said.

“We are doing our sincere best to provide the lowest price to students.”

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“We are doing our sincere best to provide the lowest price to students.”

“Think of it (textbooks) as an investment, not as a tool. We are here to minimize the risk of your investment,” said Nole.

To find out more information about book rental and other services, visit www.highlinebookstore.com.

Students line up in the bookstore in the first week of the quarter. The bookstore is providing more books available for rental which is the best way to save students money.

By Kaley Ishmael/THUNDERWORD

The bookstore website has a handy “Compare the Price” service, which saves you from jumping around websites to compare their prices.
A few years ago Highline College President Dr. Jack Bermingham approached Tim McMannon and asked him how he would like to work on writing a historical piece for the 50th anniversary of Highline. Dr. McMannon accepted the task and began to work.

“First, I started with being asked,” said Dr. McMannon, “not knowing a lot, and researching.”

Being a historian, he tends to look at texts for explanations in chronological order. The analysis of cause and effect was helpful, he said. The industrial advancement files in the basement of the Highline library is where he found his information.

“A lot of boxes can take a lot of time to get through,” said Dr. McMannon. He began with asking questions about how Highline came to be here when it did. Also, why Highline was the first community college in the area?

Dr. McMannon spoke at a History Seminar presentation on Sept. 28, outlining the history of Highline.

The year 1961 saw the first human in space for a single orbit flight, a wall that divided a people was built in Berlin, and Highline began enrollment. Fifty years later, the college looks back to document the transformation of Highline from its beginnings into what it is today.

Building Highline was a response to the decade of Baby Boomers who would soon be thrown into the business of education. As McMannon explained, from 1940 to 1960 the population of King and Pierce County grew from 687,000 to 1,300,000. The Highline School District was the fastest growing school district in the Northwest. In 1959, the Highline School District took the first steps toward creating a two-year college program by sending out a committee to survey and prove that establishing a junior college was necessary. This would give students a post-high school education, McMannon said.

The first campus was at Glacier High School on South 140th Street off Military Road South in SeaTac, which consisted of 14 portables. For Highline to mature into a respectable institution, it had to expand and have its own ground.

“However, there was a state law that any county with a four-year institution would not give any government funding to a two-year institution that was within its border,” said McMannon. The law was changed in 1961.

There was local support, an education-starved population, and great evening classes, with no money to build. After petitions, Highline received funding and an 80-acre hillside on the furthest outskirts of the district.

The college became independent from Highline School District in 1967 via the Community College Act, giving the college its freedom to grow.

In an interview, Dr. McMannon said that one of the interesting things that was learned is that Highline has always been generally a happy and aware campus.

Dr. McMannon said it was interesting to see that students with spouses and full-time jobs could rally together. Highline today is known for its diversity, though it was not always like that.

“No,” said Dodd Davidson a political science instructor who shares an office with Dr. McMannon. “We went from 10 percent in the early 70s to 68 percent in late 80s.” Students planning to transfer is what most of the population was. There is more research being done separately to document Highline’s growing minority population.

“Students should get excited by connecting to the past people that came before them. It’s nice to see continuity and change,” said Dr. McMannon.

The compilation of history for Highline’s 50th anniversary is ongoing.

The best way to get involved in the 50th Anniversary is through the website at 50th.highline.edu. And through the Facebook page where the information will be published. Dr. McMannon will not create a compilation, he will finish providing the history and interested parties can take it from there.

“You leave archives the way they are, leave them how you found it. You just have to dig through it; that’s the way research is,” said Dr. McMannon.

There is a website link at Highline.edu that provides further details.

Also, the anniversary page has a link to a list of participating archives, who are offering 10 percent discounts for faculty, students and staff as part of the anniversary celebration.

Professor writing history of the college as part of 50th anniversary

By BENJAMIN MOLINA Staff Reporter

America and Europe once fought a war that began to question the process of science, said anthropology Professor Lonnie Somer at the History Seminar last week.

History Seminars are every Wednesday from 1:30 to 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

In the 18th century science in Europe argued that people in America had small genitals, big teeth, and were inferior to their old world ancestors. The theory that provoked this ethnocentric thought was called American degeneracy.

“American degeneracy is a theory introduced in mid-1700s that claimed that animals in America were inferior to animals in Europe, Asia, and Africa,” said Dr. Somer.

This claim was first brought up by George Comte de Buffon, the curator of French royal botanical garden.

A supportive observational claim was that the climate and geography had a deleterious effect on animals, which caused them to be feeble. The Americas were lowlands with bogs and had many swamps. There was a high level of humidity, much higher than Europe, Buffon argued. As Buffon published more books on the matter, his writings gained publicity and he soon began to include humans in his analysis.

Europeans could move to the Americas and degenerate, Buffon said in his work.

Popular explanations were that the Americas did not form at the same time as the old world continents. Americans were later continents that were still rising from the sea.

“European hilly terrain was agile and well spirited,” said Dr. Somer. This led to healthy European offspring and heritage.

“The importance is not entirely negative. Buffon was saying that Creationism was wrong,” said Somer.

Aside from Darwin, who published The Origin of Species in 1859, Buffon in a way had evolution or de-evolution in his ideas, said Somer.

“The process of science is self-correcting; it can be constant or disproved. Unlike religion, it’s not out to prove anything,” said Dr. Somer.

However it was not genetics, or evolution, not yet. It was environmental influence shaping the way animals looked and acted. The tension derived from this idea between the Americas and Europe led to, eventually, a better scientific process, said Dr. Somer.

The idea of American degeneracy came about in a time when America was forming the 13 colonies. Natural history and sciences were in their infancy. America’s founding fathers such as James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and Thomas Jefferson all had their own reasons for rebuking such claims, said Dr. Somer.

This triggered the growth of understanding natural history in the Americas, he added.

“As our colleges developed we got more expert. As we matured as a country our institutions were developed, as well as our science and organizations,” said Somer.

“The moral lesson is that biased people have preconceived notions from the unfamiliar. They ignore data that disagrees with their pet theories,” said Somer.

“Science is not perfect, mistakes are made,” said Somer. Mistakes spark a scientific process which in turn can lead to better development of a research method.


‘Degenerate’ Americans led to better science

By BENJAMIN MOLINA Staff Reporter

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“The moral lesson is that biased people have preconceived notions from the unfamiliar. They ignore data that disagrees with their pet theories,” said Somer.

“Science is not perfect, mistakes are made,” said Somer. Mistakes spark a scientific process which in turn can lead to better development of a research method.

Rainier Symphony begins fall season

The Rainier Symphony opens its concert season with young violinist Sophia Stoyanovich performing Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto. There will also be a performance of Mendelssohn’s Hebrides Overture and Ives’ Symphony No. 2.

The symphony will be playing Saturday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Foster Performing Arts Center located at 4242 S. 144th St. Tickets are $15 for adults, $10 for students and seniors, and children 12 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Security

continued from page 1

running.

As far as prevention goes, Noyer recommends steering wheel locking columns — known as “The Club” — and laptop locks. Clubs are available for purchase at the Highline bookstore for $29.95. Laptop locks, which cost around $19, can be found at Walmart, Radio Shack, and Office Max.

Noyer wants students and faculty to know that Campus security responds based on urgency, making sure the “high stuff is seen first.” Noyer said responding to a medical emergency is much more important than writing a parking ticket.

The Campus Security office would also like to remind students to make sure they have current parking permits and that they are facing to the right way. They also ask that students keep their student ID cards on them at all times.

DV

continued from page 1

tic Abuse Women’s Network (DAWN) will be hosting a table during the Clothesline Project to help those needing resources and referrals. The shirts will then be hung on a clothesline, starting Wednesday, Oct. 12 in Building 6, as a testament to the problem of domestic violence.

Ten different colors will be used to represent different types of abuse endured. Red, pink and orange are for survivors of rape and sexual assault; blue and green are for survivors of incest and sexual abuse; purple and lavender represent women attacked because of their sexual orientation; and finally, black represents women attacked for political reasons.

For more information about the Clothesline Project, go to www.clotheslineproject.org.

Deana Rader, the director of Women’s Programs, recognizes the need to stay pro-active and continue our close partnerships with the YWCA and DAWN, and continue our annual program regarding prevention of [domestic violence] DV and assistance to those Highline Community College students going through this awful situation today,” Munro said.

The second event is a workshop hosted by the YWCA on Wednesday, Oct. 19. The workshop will be from 11-11:50 a.m. in the Mt. Skokomish room in Building 8 (next to the bookstore).

The workshop will explain the signs of domestic violence and the questions one should ask to analyze if they are being victimized. It will also touch on domestic violence prevention, in addition to explaining avenues to get help: counseling, transitional-safe housing, safety tips, contacting the police, campus security and the process of restraining orders, and safety do’s and don’ts.

This partnership Women’s Programs has with the YWCA is needed to maintain a healthy college campus,” Munro said.

“I facilitate an orientation to assist these women in getting financial aid, and other grants to get into college, so they can become self-sufficient and do not depend on bad relationships to live,” Munro said. Women’s Programs also helps female domestic violence survivors further their education.

Brenda Clubine was a victim of domestic violence and visited Highline last year during the Women’s Celebration. Clubine will be featured in a documentary this month on Discovery’s Investigation Discovery channel beginning Monday, Oct. 17. Check your local listings for this story of survival. For more information go to: www.sinbysilence.com.

If you are in need of help or someone to talk to, call the Domestic Abuse Women’s Network’s (DAWN) 24 hour crisis hotline at 425-656-STOP (7867). You can also log onto the website at: www.dawnwomans.org.

WHAT’S NEW AT THE MAST CENTER?

Highline’s MaST Center, located in Redondo, has lots going on if you are interested in your local environment.

WATER WEEKEND — Every Saturday from 10am to 2pm. We are open FREE OR CHARGE to the public to view more than 100 local species in our aquarium.

SCIENCE ON THE SOUND SPEAKER SERIES — 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month. Local scientists and environmental educators discuss the health of Puget Sound.

LIVE DIVER — 2nd Saturday of every month. Shows at 11 a.m.

THE WHALE PROJECT — The MaST Center is rebuilding the skeleton of a grey whale that died in Puget Sound to be displayed in the MaST Center. Current work is happening at Ross Waterway Seaport in Tacoma. Come and see the progress.

VOLUNTEER STEWARDS — Most of the work at the MaST Center is done by our team of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering you can come and visit the Center, or e-mail us at mast@highline.edu
Being prepared can avert disaster

By TRAE HARRISON
 Staff Reporter

Disasters are inevitable, and being prepared is as important as insurance. Volunteering and helping to gain disaster awareness as a practice, said Shannon. He described disaster preparedness as a practice, and the only way to become fully prepared is by "putting a little energy towards it."

For example, if an earthquake were to occur in your area, you should be able to know how to react and where to hide without even thinking.

You should already know to stay away from windows if this were to happen, and "drop, cover, hold..." As Shannon explained, "Quick early decisions could save your life."

While it does take time to take the basic steps towards becoming prepared for a disaster, it’ll ultimately be beneficial for you and your family to put forth the extra effort to avoid future disasters before they happen. Shannon, a community disaster educator for the Red Cross, put in that could save you a life. It’s that extra 10 minutes you put in that could save you a life.

"The more you wait...you’re gonna forget," said Shannon. "It’s that extra time to save yourself in the future."

"The more you wait...you’re gonna forget," said Shannon. "It’s that extra time to save yourself in the future."

Be prepared for a disaster no different from doing your daily homework, a disaster expert said here recently. It’s a practice that can only be completed if you’re willing to spend the necessary time to insure yourself for future catastrophes, said David Shannon, a community disaster educator for the Red Cross.

While it does take time to take the basic steps towards becoming prepared for a disaster, it’ll ultimately be beneficial for you and your family to put forth the extra effort to avoid future disasters before they happen.

Disasters are inevitable, and the next one to affect you or your family could occur soon, said Shannon. He described disaster preparedness as a practice, and the only way to become fully prepared is by "putting a little energy towards it."

For example, if an earthquake were to occur in your area, you should be able to know how to react and where to hide without even thinking.

You should already know to stay away from windows if this were to happen, and “drop, cover, hold...” As Shannon explained, “Quick early decisions could save your life.”

If you’re in the car when an earthquake occurs, it’s important to pull over and listen to the radio for information.

Sometimes common sense isn’t going to keep you safe when a disaster occurs; sometimes you’re required to do some actual preparing beforehand.

Shannon explained hazard hunts, a practice you and your family should consider while walking around your place of living.

Simply walk around your house and look for objects that can endanger you in the event of a disaster. Refrigerators, tall furniture, anything that could crush you and/or block your exit should be looked at.

"The more you wait...you’re gonna forget," said Shannon. "It’s that extra 10 minutes you put in that could save you a life-time of regret, he said.

MaST continued from page 1

play with the octopus? Go for it," said Higley.

He also said that after time, volunteers may find themselves with the opportunity to be even more involved. Volunteers must be 14 years old to volunteer by themselves. Children between the ages of 10 and 13 can team volunteer with a parent or adult, Higley said.

For the Marine Mammal Stranding Team, the level of commitment is also relatively low. There is a tiered system, allowing flexibility for those who want to be more or less involved.

"We will teach you and involve you as much or as little as you want," Lawrence said.

Volunteers are asked to attend one two-hour training session. After that, they will be put on a list, and when a mammal gets stranded on a beach near them, they may receive a call. Volunteers are not required to respond to a call if they are unavailable. Higley said volunteers may receive a handful of calls each year.

The requirements for being a part of the stranding team are minimal — anyone with means to get to stranded animals can be a volunteer. For children under the age of 14, a parent is required to volunteer with them.

Higley said that the stranding team gets first dibs on the remains of mammals found in their turf.

He said that the MaST has two other mammals, currently in the composting stage (buried under manure), that will be used for educational purposes in the future.

Volunteers at the MaST are also in the process of piecing together a gray whale, which, when finished, will hang in the main hallway at the center.

They hope to have the whale all pieced together and hung in the center by early next year. Lawrence said that when the whale is finally finished, there will be some big events to celebrate.

Higley said that he estimates the number of volunteer hours already put in to the whale to be around 900 hours.

Higley said that they have also faced some engineering challenges, such as replicating the size of space where the whale will hang in the MaST.

"It seems we may need to do a small retrofit on the MaST [also],” Higley said.

The whale is being pieced together at the Foss Waterway Seaport in Tacoma. Visitors can see the progress on the whale Wednesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

"I’ve wanted a whale here [at Highline] for five years,” Higley said. He said that having the whale — and other skeletons that the center may obtain in the future — will help enhance classroom experiences by allowing students to look at the anatomy of creatures and compare them with others.

Higley also said that the whale will put into perspective just how big the animal is.

Many people do not fully comprehend the size of a gray whale, because there is a huge difference from seeing a whale at a distance seeing one up close, Higley said.

="It’s been really fun watching people,” he said.

Higley said that many people are dumbfounded when the see the whale’s 250 pound skull.

“’It’s a good hook,’” he said. If you are interested in volunteering opportunities at the MaST Center, contact Russ Higley at rhigley@highline.edu or by phone at 206-878-3710, ext. 3135.

You can also keep up to date with the MaST Center via their Facebook page, www.facebook.com/HCCMAST.

Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Volunteers at the MaST aquarium will get hands-on experience with the marine animals on display, such as this rockfish.

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