Pay for college after graduation, expert says

By JOSH NELSON
Staff Reporter

In the future students may have the ability to attend college for free and then pay for it later, said John Burbank, executive director of the Economic Opportunity Institute of Seattle.

Burbank and his team at the institute propose that students attend two years of college for free, and then pay 1.5 percent of their adjusted income directly to the college for 25 years after their graduation.

“This can, of course, be sliced and diced or adapted for certificate programs and completion classes,” said Burbank. “If you were only attending a specific college for one year, then the rate would be 0.75 percent.”

Burbank said that his model also accommodates for those students that intend to transfer to a four-year university.

“The difference comes down to 3.5 percent for 25 years if you did two years at Highline and then two years at UW,” said Burbank.

Burbank, who has already presented this idea to Larry Brown, a member of the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges, visited Highline as part of the Local Tuesdays series on May 1. His presentation was called “How Not to Build the Middle Class.”

“This country is facing a serious problem, more and more of the burden is being placed on middle class,” said Burbank. “The disparity of wealth and income between the top 1 percent and everyone else has resulted in the decline public services and a general increase in tuition across the board.”

In 2011 tuition for community college was three times what it was in the 1990s, said Burbank, which has resulted in discouraging future enrollment and going against what community colleges are meant to be.

“This isn’t how you build and maintain a democracy,” said Burbank.

Burbank and his team at the institute are looking for support, but are more interested in spreading the word that there are solutions out there to help alleviate the hardships facing lower and middle class families.

Interest rates on student loans creates controversy

By ALISA GRAMANN
Staff Reporter

With interest rates on student loans scheduled to double, students and government officials frown upon the idea.

Currently, interest rates on subsidized Stafford student loans are at 3.4 percent. However, on July 1, these interest rates are scheduled to double to 6.8 percent, unless Congress intervenes.

According to the Project on Student Debt website, in Washington state, 59 percent of students attending four-year institutions had student loans during the 2009-2010 school year. The average debt for those students was just over $22,000.

Some Highline students said that interest rates on student loans are too high. Statistics say that Highline students with loans owe, on average, just under $4,000 per quarter.

Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD
A committee approves the preliminary budget requests last week.

The money for the S&A budget comes from 10 percent of each student’s tuition. As enrollment decreases, the budget funds decrease. Once the enrollment number is guessed for the upcoming year, the committee divides the estimated budget among 52 program lines.

The S&A budget committee is still in the process of deliberation which began in early winter quarter and will continue until the Board of Trustees approve the budget in June. The Board of Trustees will decide if any changes are needed and what the set budget will be.

During this time the committee will continue to proofread the numbers for the 64 budgets and looks at any
ULa to host campuswide diversity event

By SHYLA AKINS  Staff Reporter

Highline’s United LATINO Association is hosting a campuswide event on Tuesday, May 8 to celebrate diversity through music, dance, and education. This diversity event will feature keynote speaker, Ricardo Sanchez. He is the founder and director of the Latino Educational Achievement Project (LEAP).

Sanchez will talk in Building 2 at 6 p.m. and the cultural performances are in Building 7 from 7:45 p.m. onwards.

Viviana Petararanda has been the vice-president of the United Latino Association for the past three years and is also a Highline student.

“Highline Community College is the most diverse community college in Washington. I think it will be the perfect opportunity for people to attend, celebrate and express the diverse culture on campus. I invite all people to come and celebrate education, dance and music. It will be an amazing event,” said Petararanda.

Petararanda also became a 2012 LEAP Ambassador in January 2012. She was one of the 35 out of 105 students selected for this position from Washington. “Latino/Educational Achievement Project gave me the opportunity to incentivize about 500 students around Washington and motivate them to step up and make a positive change in the community,” she said.

The entertainment part of the event will feature Highline students, faculty, and staff. There will be 11 performances. The emcees are Francisela Torres (Highline student) and Loyal Allen Jr. (Highline workforce funding adviser),” said Petararanda.

The performances will include Sheryl Akaka who is a music instructor, Lauren Scoville, the vice-president of choir club, and J.K. Maytham, and Abdul Rahman who are Kaplan students.

Performances also from the Chorale Club, UB1- K-Pop Dance, BSU, Break Dance group, and community members such as Marvin Gaviria (Professional salsa dancer), Ryan & Jessie (Ballroom dance), LSU (Tye High School Organization), and finally Viviana Petararanda.

The United Latino Association will have performances from around the world.

The event is free and open to all Highline students, staff, and faculty. Refreshments will be provided.

News Briefs

Salmon substitution to be discussed at MaST

Erica Cline will be presenting a study on wild salmon substitution at the MaST Center on Saturday, May 5. The presentation will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cline is an assistant professor at UW Tacoma in the IAS Environmental Sciences Department. This talk will inform consumers of the deception of the fish industry and help you make sure you get what you paid for.

The MaST Center is located on Redondo Beach Park. Anyone is welcome to attend this presentation.

Donate professional clothing for students

If you have any men or women’s professional clothing that is not being put to use bring it to the office of Building 1 before May 20, or to Buildings 8 on May 28. Highline Hospitality Services is accepting donations of professional clothing for students to use at job interviews.

Students will be given the opportunity to pick up these clothes on Tuesday, May 29, for absolutely free. This will take place in Building 8 in the Mt. Constance room from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or until all clothing is gone.

For more information contact Donna Miscota, Hospitality Services Manager, at 206-870-3777, or email her at dlongwell@highline.edu.

Science seminar on the age of the earth planned

Highline professor Eric Baer will present at Science Seminar this Friday, May 4, on the age of the earth. The seminar will take place in Building 3, room 102 from 2:20-3:23 p.m and all are welcome to attend.

Movie Fridays presents The Wedding Banquet

Movie Fridays and the Asian Pacific Islander Month Committee present a special screening of The Wedding Banquet.

The showing will be at 12:30 p.m. Friday, May 4, in Building 29, room 104.

The Wedding Banquet is a Chinese-American comedy about the intermarriage of two races with surprising fraud taking place at the reception. All are invited to watch the movie and celebrate Pacific Islander Pride Month.

Author Donna Miscota to visit Highline campus

Highline Listens writer Donna Miscota will be reading on Wednesday, May 23 at 12:10-1:13 p.m. She is the author of the novel, When the De La Cruz Family Danced and short fiction in Raven Chronicles, American Review, and Seattle Magazine.

The reading will take place in Building 2. For more information contact Allison Green of the English department at 206-592-3512, or email her at agreen@highline.edu.

Open Mic Monday to be held by Writing Center

Open Mic Monday will take place next Monday, May 7 in the Writing Center. This is an opportunity for students to read their work to an audience and share their talent. Bring whatever you write, whether it be essays, poetry, or short stories.

Students are also welcome to just sit back and listen to others’ work.

Each student will have the floor for up to five minutes and the event will take place from 1:30-2:25 p.m. The writing center is located in Building 26, room 319.

For more information contact Rosemary Adang, Writing Center Director, at 206-878-7310, ext. 3822, or email her at radang@highline.edu.
Cheating happens, but students say it’s relative

BY DAVID NORWOOD
Staff Reporter

Highline students say cheating on your partner is wrong but some of them still do it.

“Any relationship where both parties agree they are in a relationship. Even if it’s friends with benefits, you should still talk about seeing other people before you do,” said Stephen Davis.

There are biochemical shifts in the human body, Dickson explains. “Communication between partners is key to remaining faithful,” Dr. Baugher said. The brain’s biochemistry plays a part, in the early stages of attraction our brain produces a chemical similar to “speed” called phenyl ethylamine or PEA for short, which causes people to feel very excited and happy.

Recent studies show that the stimulation a person gets from PEA only lasts for 6 months to 2 years. Some people produce more/less and some are affected differently than others, said Dickson. If needs are not being met it can also lead to infidelity. Couples who stay actively engaged with their partner and are legitimately interested in them do better.

Without the interest, one might be more inclined to wander, said Dickson. “All kinds of things can be possible but they need to be negotiated,” said Dickson.

Students say that cheating is wrong, but the gray areas that are common in modern relationships make it hard to determine what constitutes cheating behavior.

Dr. Baugher.

There is more social approval for men to act out that way but women are not as well behaved as society would like people to believe, said Ruth Frickle, also a psychology professor at Highline.

Students have a variety of opinions about what really constitutes cheating. Cheating is “making out with or feeling up another woman,” said Paul Na- gan.

“Cheating is the interaction you’re supposed to have with your relationship person, you have with someone else” said Jon Greybill.

Corey McNeil said it’s “having relations with another person while you’re in a relationship.”

Many students have different ideas about how serious a relationship needs to be before a member of the relationship can be considered a cheater. A common theme that most students shared was boundaries.

“It depends on the individual relationship and what parameters have been set,” said Dayah Chrisman. There needs to be a mutual understanding between you and your partner of what cheating is, she said.

One student, who wished to remain anonymous, said it’s “Once they say they’re boyfriend and girlfriend.”

Highline’s annual Gala successful and enjoyable

Alums and community members gather to support college

By SHANNON CARTER
Staff Reporter

This year’s Gala exceeded previous records raising in $98,000 for 2012.

The Gala is an auction and dinner held each year by the Foundation. Each year they auction off items ranging from cigars to cruises to help raise money for scholarships and emergency assistance funds for students. This year there were 200 people attended.

The Highline Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising money for Highline.

This year $60,000 will go straight to 50 scholarships for this fall. Each scholarship will amount to $1,200.

Donations open doors for many students and the Gala attendees couldn’t agree more. The Gala is important, “More students like you get the opportunity to continue their education at Highline,” said Patti Rosendahl, executive assistant to the president at Highline.

“My husband and I are here to contribute to the scholarship fund and support that cause” said Judy Perry, executive director of community and employment services at Highline.

Darryl Wright, U.S Army Capt. and Highline alum, said he knows the importance of the Gala and the role that the Foundation played for Highline students. “I am here to give money and help raise money for Highline,” said Wright.

Smiles lit up the room as attendees mingled with each other. “I haven’t had a negative experience at Highline as a student or a staff member and I’ve actually worked at Highline for almost 30 years,” said Perry. “The staff here are wonderful,” said Rosendahl.

“There’s always something for the students to do in class and out of class,” said Pamela Higley, Highline alum. After 50 years faculty and alumni still see Highline as a gateway to a successful future.

“The training that I received from Highline Community College prepared me well for the University of Washington,” said Steven Conner, Highline alum from 1963.

“The evening was a glorious experience. A night to remember, to reflect upon, to remind everyone of the importance of education and community,” said John Dunn, athletics director at Highline.

The majority of students said they wouldn’t cheat to begin with so what’s the point,” said a student who wished to remain anonymous.

Cheating happens in the moment, said Dr. Bob Baugher, a professor of psychology at Highline.

It’s not something a person plans on. Sex is very reinforcing and the rewards are instant. “What if making a baby was a chore?” asked Dr. Baugher.

In marriage, 25 percent of men and 15 percent of women have had sex with someone other than their partner.

When they lose the intimacy and focus they deserve, they start to feel lonely or abandoned and after that it only takes a push to get them to cheat, said Dr. Baugher.

Highline Foundation played for Highline alums (from left to right, top to bottom) Virgil Staiger (1961), and Doreen Carpenter (1961) enjoying the atmosphere at last weekend’s Gala. (1961), and Doreen Carpenter (1961) enjoying the atmosphere at last weekend’s Gala.
I sometimes go by Mister McDreamy

I recently met a girl who I decided was worth dating. She was everything I’d hoped and dreamed of, and she was actually real this time.

Her name was Ashley. Well, that’s what I’ll call her. I wasn’t even exactly when she told me her name, she sometimes tends to ramble when she speaks.

We met at a court hearing. I had absolutely nothing to do with the case but I sometimes like to attend for sport.

I decided to take her out last week to celebrate National Pretzel Day. I don’t personally eat pretzels, but I’ve always been one to respect our nation’s traditions.

I’ve been told that it’s the men’s goal to get “lucky” by the end of the date. This is why I always stop by the gas station beforehand and purchase an abundance of lottery tickets.

I showed up on her window sill dressed like Batman. She loves that. She was less excited to see my sidekick Ernest Watson crouching beside me, dressed like the Penguin.

Our first stop on the date was the DMV. I didn’t exactly need anything from there, but Ernest and I love to stand next to the entrance anxiously and wait for five hours. If we need anything from there, but with the case but I sometimes like to attend for sport.

At the DMV, I didn’t exactly need anything from there, but Ernest and I love to stand next to the entrance anxiously and wait for five hours. If we need anything from there, but with the case but I sometimes like to attend for sport.

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For dinner I took us to the Spaghetti Factory. I told the host we were expecting another 12 people to show up, that way we’d get a table big enough to play Marco Polo underneath.

Admittedly, things were pretty awkward at first. But after Ernest and I finished our session of a game we call Russian Battleship, Ashley finally started to unwind.

Speaking of battleships, Ernest was busy for most of the dinner trying to start a decorative train that happened to be in the lobby.

I was left flying solo with my date. I decided it was time to stop playing around and start appealing to her more romantic side.

I’ve always struggled with romantics so I decided to just re-enact Leonardo DiCaprio’s role from Titanic. She seemed sort of confused when I attempted to draw her on the table cloth, and even more confused when I shouted “Don’t ever let me go!” and fell beneath the table unconscious.

I woke up to the sound of a train horn. It turned out that Ernest has a knack for repairing decorative trains. The three of us hopped on the train and rode off to our next stop. We never ate.

We arrived at the skating rink soon after. Unfortunately I only had enough money for two people, so Ashley waited in the car. Ernest and I spent a lot of our time skating by random people whispering “Wake up” and “You’re in a coma” into their ears.

Once that had ended, I took the group to the last spot on the date, my neighbor’s house.

Once we got there we dyed the color of the grass blue and reenacted Pirates of the Caribbean on top of it.

The neighbor was quite displeased when he came outside, but he did fit perfectly into the role of Davy Jones.

Afterward I took Ashley home. Ernest and I spent the rest of the night crouching on top of buildings and staring at cars.

I haven’t heard much of Ashley since. She’s been busy touring for her latest album. I think it’s called Pink Friday, but I’m not completely sure.

Again, she rambled a lot. Trae once auditioned for The Bachelor, but was disqualified because he kept shouting “Take that!” during rehearsals.
Circular Reasoning

Across
1. Bog down
5. Canadian peninsula
10. Carve in stone
14. Fragrance
15. Colorado skiing mecca
16. Waikiki wingding
17. Putdown
18. King Arthur’s meeting spot
20. Midmorning
21. Great college for poets?
22. List components
23. Sad song
24. King Arthur’s meeting spot
25. Frustration
26. Waikiki wingding
27. Witch’s vessel
28. Kind of shot
29. Molecule part
30. Wonders
31. Kind of cap
32. Obedience Class lesson
33. Computer command
34. Grouchy Muppet
35. Paris assent
36. Kind of shot
37. Computer command
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63. Kind of shot

Down
1. Lion’s share
2. Doing nothing
3. Traffic control circle
4. Drop the ball
5. Park place?
6. Stick out like ___ thumb
7. Potato, in slang
8. Confident solver’s tool
9. Conclude
10. Jubilant
11. Toothpaste holder
12. Storm preceded
13. Tints
19. Cash drawers
20. Midmorning
21. Very dry champagne
22. List components
23. Sad song
24. Kind of shot
25. Frustration
26. Kind of shot
27. Witch’s vessel
28. Kind of shot
29. Molecule part
30. Wonders
31. Kind of cap
32. Obedience Class lesson
33. Computer command
34. Grouchy Muppet
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIffICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ HOO BOY!

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.
Photographer hosts night of fashion in Seattle

By JOSEPH PARK
Staff Reporter

Fashion had a classy date with philanthropy at the Triple Door on April 28. The event was called District of Fashion and it was hosted by fashion photographer Walter Grio and Vuesociety, an online boutique that is run and owned by retailer Rachel Kim.

Walter Grio/FASHIONTOGRAPHER

District of Fashion attendees Tina Witherspoon and Jeremy Bubens, left, wear vintage styles while Rachel Kim and Marisa Watts wear Banana Republic, Jimmy Choo, and J. Crew.

The District of Fashion is an event that celebrates fashion through entertainment, style, and philanthropy; it was also a night that allowed attendees to experience a photo-shoot.

Grio, who styles himself “Fashiontographer”, has made it his life’s work to give back to the community by holding public photo-shoots that invite “a kaleidoscope of highly skilled photographers, models, designers, stylists, and a creative community...to shoot for change and inspire the world one click at a time.”

Prospective guests were advised to wear Chanel, fedoras, and skinny ties – basically anything that reflected Mad Men or 1950s or 1960s vintage look.

“Some of the pieces you can find on the site www.vuesoci-ety.com,” said Kim. “Many of the designers are from NY, LA and Australia. Designers that were brought were StyleStalker, BlaqueLabel, Ark & Co. Factory by Erik Hart, etc. A lot of the pieces that are curated are for the nontraditional mall shoppers that like to be influenced by street style bloggers.”

Close by, elegantly dressed volunteers, Leila Kaspersen and Marissa Benitez ushered in visitors towards the black-curtain backdrop in an organized manner while Grio busily took photos.

After the photo shoot, the neatly arranged candle lights practically lured the guests to the bar tables, which allowed attendees to mingle with each other over a glass of wine. Grio was not lying when he said that the District of Fashion was an occasion for celebration.

“This was an event that combined fun, philanthropy, and fashion. It is a win-win for everyone involved – the guests, the charities, the venue,” said Grio. “I was planning a visit to the charities, the venue,” said Grio. “I was planning a visit to the charities, the venue,” said Grio.

“D.C. area a couple of years ago. I thought it was a good opportunity to organize a DOF in Seattle.”

Proceeds from tickets and Vuesociety sales all went to nonprofit organizations such as the Ruby Room and the Down Syndrome Community.

The Ruby Room provides formal gowns for high school students who are unable to purchase their own dance attire, while the Down Syndrome Community improves the lives of individuals with Down syndrome by offering education, communication, and advice.

Grio has organized multiple District of Fashions in metropro- lises such as New York City, Miami, and Washington, D.C. and each city had its own unique theme. “Mad Men just started their current season after being out for a while. There is a lot of fan base, and the style of the era has always been interesting to me,” said Grio. “I was also curious about that time because every- one seemed to dress up more back in the day, even when they were flying in airplanes to different cities. The clothes and the style mattered in a way that’s much different than today. It seemed like a good fit to use it as the theme for this event. It’s classy and elegant.”

The District of Fashion was able to collect over $700 worth of donations for both the Ruby Room and the Down Syndrome Community.

“It was amazing to see guests create their outfits from various sources, ranging from their own closets and thrift stores to upscale boutiques. One of the things that I want people to realize is that, it doesn’t matter where or how much you paid for an item,” said Grio.

“What matters most is how you look in the clothes. Yes, you can look great in a vintage Dior dress, but it doesn’t mean that every Dior dress is going to look good on you. And of course, vice versa for those fast-fashion clothes from H&M or even TJ Maxx. It’s about style and how you feel and look in what you’re wearing.”

ChoralSounds Northwest soon to rock Burien

By SHYLA AKINS
Staff Reporter

The Rockin’ the Boat concert on May 12-13 at the Highline Performing Arts Center will feature the differences in the varied styles of choral music written for Broadway and film. Northwest Associated Arts is presenting this concert.

“ChoralSounds Northwest is a 50-voice adult mixed chorus based in Burien, with singers ranging in age from 17 all the way to 75 plus,” Bauer said.

“Drawing singers from all around the County, Choral- Sounds Northwest is thriving under the baton of Mr. Winnie, who has demonstrated a masterful ability to educate and polish the ensemble,” said Bauer.

The concert was created through the artistic director at Northwest Associated Arts, Brian J. Winnie.

Winnie is currently pursuing his doctorate of musical arts degree at the University of Wash- ington.

“Brian conceived a show that took a musical look at the vast differences between songs originally written for chorus and songs that were always intended as solo numbers. Rock ‘n’ Roll includes many of the great choruses from stage and screen,” said Bauer.

Bauer said the upcoming concert features various hits that will be recognizable to a lot of people at the concert.

“Everything from Mozart’s Dies Irae (Amaeadeus) and John Williams’ Duel of Fates (Star Wars: The Phantom Menace) to Sondheim’s Sweeney Todd and the brilliant 21 Guns (Green Day, American Idiot),” said Bauer. Northwest Associated Arts wants people to attend this event to support the choral arts in Burien.

“Brian wanted to create a program that was both a lot of fun for the audience as well as the singers, while challenging the singers to continue to improve their vocal performance,” said Bauer.

ChoralSounds Northwest performances are open to the general public, with reserved seating tickets ranging from $15 to $25.

Any young person under the age of 18 may attend for free when accompanied by a paid adult.

Tickets can be purchased online at the Northwest Associa- ted Arts website nwassociate- darts.org.

This event is held on Sat- urday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 13 at 2 p.m. and runs for about 2 hours long.

The address for Highline Performing Arts Center is 401 South 152nd Street, Burien WA 98148.
Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

Love, self-image, identity explored in BLT’s ‘Reasons to be Pretty’

By ERIKA WIGREN
Staff Reporter

Beauty and image prove to be important to some in Burien Little Theatre’s ‘Reasons to be Pretty.’

Reasons to be Pretty is a comedic drama about Greg, played by Gaelen J. Poage, who admits to his girlfriend Steph (Sarah Rose Nottingham) that she has a few physical imperfections.

The play, written by Neil LaBute, focuses on society’s obsession with body image and physical appearance rather than inner beauty.

The play begins with Greg and his best friend Kent (Chris Guthrie) talking about their new beautiful coworker.

Kent’s wife, Carly (Katherine Kuntz), overhears Greg and Kent’s discussion and later tells Steph that Greg said that Steph is ugly.

When Steph later confronts him, Greg is forced to admit to what he said.

Greg’s confession ultimately leads to their breakup and more problems arise for Greg as the play goes on.

The play only included four main actors. Of those four, Poage and Guthrie shined.

Poage as Greg is believable and relatable.

The character of Greg is confusing and distracted. Poage acts out these qualities flawlessly and the audience can’t help but feel bad for him and his situation.

Guthrie’s character Kent is completely opposite of Greg.

He is a promiscuous and immature man that cheats on his wife, and makes Greg lie for him.

His portrayal of an obnoxious and immoral Kent makes it easy for the audience to hate him and sympathize for Greg.

Nottingham and Kuntz act well in the play as well, with little slip ups.

The female characters in the show however are dramatic and over emotional.

It is hard to like Greg’s girlfriend Steph throughout the play as she goes through the motions.

The script is slow paced and at times dull, however it is interesting to watch each character changes and attempts to figure out who they are as an individual as they go through different obstacles in their relationships.

Director Zachariah Robinson does an excellent job staging each individual character’s inner struggle with discovering their identity and coming to terms with their flaws.

Throughout the play, set designer Maggie Larrick works well with Robinson to keep the set simple and look realistic.

The set included three divided stages.

The first was a bedroom where Greg and Steph argue over their relationship.

The second set where most of the play took place was the break room of Greg, Kent, and Carly’s workplace.

Though it was minimal, it resembled an actual break room entirely.

Larrick’s third set consisted of a restaurant where Greg and Steph later meet.

The restaurant was the only set that really lacked in design. It included only a podium and plants.

Lighting designer Daniel Clauss did a good job making sure the audiences eyes were focused on the correct part of the stage at all times.

Though the lighting was simple, it mixed well with the simplicity of the set.

Costume designer Savannah Batlazar made clever choices on her costumes in the play.

Though each character wore simple, casual clothing, it made the show seem realistic.

The actors weren’t dolled up in makeup and they looked like average everyday people.

The strongest aspect in Reasons to be Pretty is the humor.

The strong adult language made the audience laugh at moments that would usually be seen as awkward, and it made the fights and arguments that took place between the characters less uncomfortable.

The character of Kent also added to the comedic aspect of the play.

Though his character is immoral and promiscuous, he is also humorous and adds a little more energy to the slow-paced play.

Reasons to be Pretty teaches audiences that beauty isn’t the only thing that defines a person in life.

The show runs every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 2 p.m. until May 13.

Ticket prices range from $15-20 and the show is recommended for ages 16 and up due to the strong adult language.

Burien Little Theatre is located at 437 SW 144th St in Tukwila.

For tickets and show times visit burienlittletheatre.org/ticket.html or call 206-242-5180.

Mike Wilson/BUREN LITTLE THEATRE
Chris Guthrie (left) and Gaelen J. Poage act as best friends since high school in Reasons to be Pretty.

Puzzle answers:

CIRCULAR REASONING

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A NIGHT FIT FOR A QUEEN

P.R.I.S.M. club hosts annual drag show for scholarship fund

By BARBARA CAWLEY and DAVID NORWOOD
Staff Reporters

Highline was visited by royalty last Thursday night.
Highline’s annual drag show, hosted by the P.R.I.S.M. club, was attended by over 100 spectators and raised an undetermined amount of money.

After a brief introduction by Alexis Champagne, who was the host for the evening, the night started off with Chantal Devine, a Highline student. Devine danced between colorfully decorated tables, collecting tips from an animated audience. All proceeds were given to the P.R.I.S.M. club scholarship fund.

“I think this year went a lot better than last year,” she said.

“I got to perform two numbers and I didn’t fall at all...I had a blast.”

The show featured 15 acts with lots of audience participation. Drag queens danced on tables and got up close and personal with many of their enthusiastic onlookers.

Sunny Ybarra, who works as a Running Start coordinator, literally had the shirt taken off his back by drag queen Aleksa Manila. Manila then gave him one minute to run through the audience, and collect as much money as he could before his shirt was returned to him.

Manila said, for her, drag is about freedom of self-expression. It’s a wonderful glitzy glamorous thing to share, she said.

Of the seven performers, six were professional entertainers. Chantal Devine, a Highline student who performed, said “They were really professional; everything from head to toe was spot on.”

“My favorite part was seeing parents bring their young kids to the show,” said Devine.

“Spectacular. Everything I ever imagined and more,” said student Tiana Ross.

Annual show soon to celebrate talented students

By JESSE LEAUPPE
Staff Reporter

Highline’s annual combined Graphic Design and Interior Design Portfolio Show is back to celebrate the success and achievements of its most recent graduating students.

For many years, Gary Nelson has been doing portfolio shows for the Visual Communication department.

In 2006, Nelson began collaborating with Tamara Hilton, who is the program manager for the Interior Design and Drafting Design programs, which then became a combined Visual Communication and Interior Design show.

Over the years, the cooperation from faculty and students has helped to create successful shows, Hilton said. Highline professors Diana Boyd, Rich Bankhead, Laura Worthington, Jennifer Wedderm, and Nelson, are the faculty members who played major roles in the making and success of previous shows, Hilton said.

This year, drafting design and photography have been added to the showcase, meaning that four programs will be hosting the combined portfolio show as well as even more student portfolios in the showcase.

All of the above programs have had students develop portfolios of their best work to help them with getting jobs or applying to universities or colleges.

“This is not your traditional fine art show,” said Tamara Hilton.

This year, the work from each program will have a different focus.

Visual Communication work will be on visual media and Interior Design work will be focused on interiors. Drafting Design work will be all about the different types of drafting and software used, while Photography will include work from students over the quarter.

Graduating students are encouraged to submit the work that they’ve completed at Highline so that everyone can celebrate together.

“It is important for the campus community, family, potential employees and surrounding communities to understand and celebrate with us our students’ success and achievements,” said Hilton.

This is also an opportunity for the departments to recruit new students who have interests in exploring new possibilities.

“There may be potential students who have never been exposed to the above fields and this is their chance to see what opportunities are out there,” said Hilton.

Prospective students have the chance to learn how Highline can help them in pursuing careers in the art, entertainment, and graphic industries.

The show will take place in the Mt. Constance and Mt. Olympus rooms in Building 8 and will run on June 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. on both days.

The show is free and everyone is welcome to attend.
Phelps in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. During the 2008 Olympics, Vagen also worked with the Russian swimming team and helped improve their times.

The former Russian coach is now the coach of the Turkish Olympic swimming team. He received a letter from the Turkish Federation, in which the coach told Vagen he was, “the best in the world with strength training.”

Vagen will go on his trip for nine days, from May 5 to May 14, and in those nine days he has a lot to accomplish. Vagen will design the strength and conditioning program for the coaches to use with the swimmers.

“A majority of the work will be core strengthening,” said Vagen. “For the coaches to know what the workouts are how to teach them and the meaning behind them more importantly.”

Although they are swimmers, all of the work will be done hands-on outside of the pool.

“We were on a winning streak and started to get a little cocky,” said Fraser. “Losing definitely made us realize we can’t underestimate anyone and that we have to take every game seriously.”

Trailblazer starting pitcher Givens wasn’t dominant on the mound, but the Trailblazers couldn’t find a way to rally up their bats.

“I absolutely hate to lose,” said Murdock. “It was very much needed to get our heads back in it; nothing humbles you more than losing.”

Off Mipalar the Trailblazers offense struck again and scored another four runs in the fourth innings.

The Thunderbirds were scheduled to face the second place Pierce Raiders on Tuesday, May 1, but the head-ear was postponed to a later date because of weather.

The Raiders are currently on a three-game winning streak and are two games behind the first place Thunderbirds.

The Thunderbirds split their last series with the Raiders on April 10.

“Last week we dedicated a good portion of our practices to work on defense,” said Fraser. “We’ve definitely improved on that category since the last game against Pierce.”

The Thunderbirds will have their last home stand against the Grays Harbor Chokers on Friday, May 4.

Game one of the double header will start at 2 p.m.

The Chokers are currently in third place, and were swept by the Thunderbirds in the last meeting.

“It’s definitely a better feeling knowing you can play at your place, but it’s an even better knowing you beat them at theirs,” said Murdock. “Going into the Grays Harbor game we already know what it takes to beat them, I think our real focus this week is for us to return to where we were before.”

Highline strength coach travels to train Olympic squad

By MICHAEL SALLEE Staff Reporter

Highline personal fitness trainer, program manager Tim Vagen will be going to Turkey to help key to help train their Olympic swimming team.

Vagen has a lot of experience dealing with world class athletes, from being a strength trainer for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Atlanta Falcons to working with the US swimming team, including Michael Phelps in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. During the 2008 Olympics, Yagen also worked with the Russian swimming team and helped improve their times.

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Although they are swimmers, all of the work will be done hands-on outside of the pool.
mass, lower energy levels and regular eaters had worse muscle
lunch, snacks and dinner), if they were in energy balance
showed higher levels of body fat

Irregular eating can increase body weight

Most people use the majority of their energy between breakfast and dinner, so lunch is necessary to be productive and energetic throughout the rest of the day. The beauty of this recipe for Microwave Salmon with Mushroom, Apple and Endive Salad is that it can be quickly prepared for dinner as a warm dish and easily packed for lunch and eaten cold.

Microwave salmon with endive salad
1. Rinse fish and pat dry. In a bowl, mix together 3 tablespoons of the oil, onions, vinegar, honey, garlic, thyme, sage and 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Use 2 tablespoons of the seasoned oil to coat both sides of the salmon. Set the reminder of oil aside. Arrange salmon in a 7-by-11-inch microwave-safe baking dish, positioning thickest parts toward outside of dish.
2. Cover and microwave on HIGH (100 percent) for 4 to 5 minutes, giving each fish steak a half-turn after 2 minutes. Let stand, covered, for 4 minutes. Fish should be just slightly translucent or wet inside; cut in thickest part to test. Cover and set aside.
3. Place mushrooms, remaining 1/2 teaspoon of salt and pepper; cook 5 minutes. Let stand, covered, for 4 minutes. Fish should be just slightly translucent or wet inside; cut in thickest part to test. Cover and set aside.
4. Add any remaining seasoned oil mixture to the cooked mushrooms to make a dressing. Stir in the endive, mixing light to coat greens evenly. Spoon endive and mushroom mixture over individual plates. Top each with the apple slices sprinkled with lemon juice and a serving of salmon steak. Serves 4.

Try some fish — just for the halibut

Halibut is the new go-to fish. “Halibut just came in season,” said Mike Hempel, who is the sous-chef at Pacific Grill Restaurant in Tacoma. Halibut is part of the flounder family. It is a flatfish and they are most often found in the North Pacific and the North Atlantic Oceans. The fish is white when cooked.

It is not an oily or fatty fish, so it is great for people who are watching for their diet. Fish contains vitamin A, vitamin C, folate, and it is high in calcium.

Halibut is available all year around, but it’s best during the months of April through October.

“Even at the dinner table, it has a clean fresh flavor, and it has a nice flakey texture,” said Hempel.

The best way to cook the fish is to bake, lightly pan fry, or broil because it is delicate.

“Halibut is a versatile fish and it is easy to cook. Try some of the following spring-inspired dishes.

Baked Halibut with Snow Peas

4 halibut fillets
1 lemon (sliced)
4 teaspoons of butter
Extra virgin olive oil
Salt
Pepper
Dill
Chardonnay wine (optional)
1 pint of snow peas

Directions: Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Prepare four individual aluminum foil wraps (about the size of a piece of paper). Drizzle some extra virgin olive oil on the foil so the fish doesn’t stick.
Place each fillet in the middle of its own foil wrap. Create a little wall so the ingredients don’t escape. Add a pinch of salt and freshly ground black pepper to the fish. Place a sprig of dill on top of the fish and place two pieces of sliced lemon on top of the dill. Add a teaspoon of butter and a tablespoon of chardonnay in each foil. Fold the foil tightly with leaving a little hole in the middle so the steam can escape. Bake for 7-9 minutes.
Meanwhile, steam the snow peas for two minutes in a steamer. Serve the fish in the foil or transfer to a plate with a side of the snow peas.

Spring veggies make saucy sauce

Spring Garden Saute: With its bright colors and flavors, this warm dish of spring vegetables tastes even better than it looks.

Good Housekeeping

You will need:
2 pounds asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces
8 ounces sugar snap peas
5 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon margarine or butter
1 pound radishes, each cut into quarters
Salt and pepper
4 tablespoons snipped fresh chives

1. Heat large covered saucepot of salted water to boiling on high. Fill large bowl with ice water; set aside. To saucepot, add asparagus and snap peas; cook 4 minutes. Drain vegetables; cool in bowl of ice water. Drain well.
2. Meanwhile, in 12-inch skillet, heat margarine on medium until melted. Add radishes, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper; cook 10 minutes or until tender-crisp. Transfer to bowl; keep warm.
3. To same skillet, add asparagus, snap peas, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper; cook 5 minutes or until tender-crisp. Transfer to bowl; keep warm.
4. Transfer to serving bowl; arrange radishes around edge. Sprinkle with remaining chives. Makes 10 side-dish servings.

TIP: Asparagus and snap peas can be cooked through step 1 up to one day ahead. Place in plastic storage bag and refrigerate until ready to use.

**Each serving:** About 45 calories, 2g total fat, 185mg sodium, 5g total carbs, 2g dietary fiber, 3g protein.

For thousands of triple-test-ed recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/ recipefinder/
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Independent foreclosure review can help

BY DAVID NORWOOD
Staff Reporter

You can break into the field of customs brokerage by taking a class at Highline.

Highline’s Center of Excellence for International Trade, Transportation and Logistics is offering a preparation course for the U.S. Customs Broker’s License Examination.

The class will run from July 18-Sept 19 and it will cost $1,499 per student.

“The course will be facilitated by John Soares, director of international trade at Micro-soft,” said Allison Clark, economic development manager for Highline.

John Soares is a business and trade expert with more than 20 years’ experience. A couple of positions he has held over his career include Director of International for the students preparing for the knowledge of customs process. As a customs broker, you will assist importers and exporters in meeting the federal requirements as they relate to the import/export business, as well as submitting the appropriate information and payments to the CBP on their clients behalf, said Clark.

The ports of Seattle and Tacoma make up the third largest shipping hub in North America, said Clark.

With easy access to railroads, an international airport and interstate highways, the Puget Sound area is the primary gateway to the inland population. A couple of the biggest mortgage-servicing institutions create independent review programs to discover whether “financial injury” occurred due to errors or mistakes in the foreclosure process.

For example, if the balance at foreclosure was more than you owed, you were part of a modification agreement, you were under bankruptcy protection or if inaccurate fees were tacked on a foreclosed mortgage, you might qualify for help.

The errors could have occurred at any step of the foreclosure process. The house was sold under a foreclosure, foreclosure was halted when payments were brought current, foreclosure Independent Foreclosure Review was initiated but the house was quickly sold, or foreclosure was started but isn’t finalized yet.

The foreclosure review includes whether:

• ownership of the promissory note or deed of trust had been determined
• state laws were followed
• a loan modification request was being considered at the time
• the loan had been in default for the required period of time
• fees were charged that were not allowable or were excessive
• borrowers had the opportunity to apply for help programs such as HAMP.


Letters were to have gone out last year to all who lost properties under foreclosure, but if you didn’t get one, it’s not too late to join the review process. But you only have until July 31, 2012, to complete the request and get it in the mail. If your foreclosure process started in 2010 but didn’t end until 2011, you’re still eligible.

To request a form or help filling out a form, can call the comptroller at 1-888-952-9105. To learn more, go online to www.occ.gov and click on Independent Foreclosure Review.

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HELP AVAILABLE FOR JOBLESS VETS

The VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 has created a new benefit for unemployed veterans, and it gears up in July.

The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) is for unemployed veterans ages 35 to 60 who:

• Don’t have a dishonorable discharge
• Aren’t eligible for other education benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

• Don’t get compensation for not being employable,
• Aren’t in a federal or state job-training program.

The goal is to get veterans enrolled in VA-approved programs at community colleges or tech schools, aiming toward a degree or certification in a high-demand occupation (from the Department of Labor-approved list). The DoD will provide job assistance upon completion of the program. Veterans who qualify will get up to 12 months of assistance at a full-time rate, which is now $1,473 a month. The money will go directly to them, not the school, and they’ll need to pay for their own tuition and books.

If you’re interested, don’t delay. The program will be limited to 45,000 veterans between July and October, and then 54,000 veterans between October and March 2013.

You need to apply through the DoD, and VA, beginning May 15, 2012.

When you apply, you’ll need to know your bank routing number (so they can deposit the cash), name and address of the school, the name of the program and the high-demand occupation it leads to.

There are 210 high-demand job categories under broad headings such as:

Protective Service Occupations,
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations,
Construction and Extraction Occupations, Transportation and Material Moving Occupations.

To narrow down the list and see the specific occupations under those headings, go online to benefits.va.gov/vow/education.htm and scroll down to click on High Demand Jobs.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

CLASS AIMS AT TOUGH BROKER EXAM

Dollars and Sense

by David Uffington

You have four hours to complete it and it’s open book. There are a very low percentage of people who pass it on the first try,” said Clark.

There is a growing demand for customs brokers in the U.S. As a customs broker, you will assist importers and exporters in meeting the federal requirements as they relate to the import/export business, as well as submitting the appropriate information and payments to the CBP on their clients behalf, said Clark.

The ports of Seattle and Tacoma make up the third largest shipping hub in North America, said Clark.

With easy access to railroads, an international airport and interstate highways, the Puget Sound area is the primary gateway to the inland population.

“How a customs broker license means you’re regarded as an expert in the industry and is basically a requirement if you are looking to fast track your career in this job field,” said Clark.
Panel urges preservation of equal marriage law

By MICHAEL SALLEE Staff Reporter

Marriage equality in Washington has moved in a positive direction this year, a panel of experts said here last week.

A group of people ranging from a state senator, an activist, to a pastor met in the Student Union on April 25 to discuss the issue.

English instructor Craig McKenzie, was the moderator for the group, which included State Sen. Ed Murray, D-Seattle; State Rep. Jamie Pedersen, D-Seattle; Father Kevin Pearson of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Renton; and Joshua Friedes, advocacy director for Equal Rights in Washington.

Opinions about gays and lesbians have evolved over time, from opposition to same-sex marriage just a few decades ago to broader support for the idea and opposition to the bullying of gay and lesbian youth today, said Sen. Murray.

Sen. Murray said that people are beginning to accept gay and lesbian people in their communities and their lives. More than 90 percent of people in the state of Washington know someone who is gay or lesbian.

Sen. Murray said that “there is a huge outpouring emotion from straight people … for approving Referendum 74, the marriage act law.”

The Washington state Legislature passed Senate Bill 6239 in February, allowing same-sex couples to legally marry in the state. Opponents of this measure immediately launched a referendum campaign to overturn the law, which is scheduled to take effect on June 7.

Approval of Referendum 74 will confirm the new law; defeat of Referendum 74 will repeal it.

Despite apparent widespread support for the new law, however, there are “far right people from hate-filled and use religion against us. I am a gay man, but a practicing Roman Catholic, ” said Sen. Murray.

“But this is not about the LG-BTGQA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioner, intersex and asexual group), it is about the polls and voting come November,” said Sen. Murray.

Rep. Pedersen said his goal is to have Washington “be the first state to be successful at the ballot box for same sex marriage.”

Pedersen noted that Initiative 77, which would have barred workplace discrimination against gays and lesbians, was defeated by state voters in 1997.

Pedersen said the coming campaign will be hard-fought. “Bace for the other side [people who oppose equal marriage rights] to say things like gay or lesbian people like teaching kindergarteners about anal sex,” said Pedersen.

“Do not judge and keep engaging in conversation, keep things in constant motion,” said Pedersen to much applause.

Joshua Friedes urged people to talk to friends and family about the matter of marriage equality and getting Referendum 74 approved.

“The goal of the campaign is to support gay and sexual transgender people and vote because the majority of people in Washington support gays and lesbians but don’t mail in their ballots,” said Friedes.

Friedes said people are often comfortable talking to their friends about their sexual orientation, but in some cases parents are very religious and have a much harder time with acceptance.

However, lots of marriage ceremonies have been performed at churches and synagogues that support same-sex marriage for the last 25 years, said Father Pearson.

Father Pearson said efforts to keep gays and lesbians from equal rights is “discrimination. Kind of odd coming from the church isn’t it, but that’s what this is.”

“I have been gay for 50 years and a pastor for 20 years. I can’t tell you what to do, and I can’t tell you how to be,” he said.

“Seldom do we convert people by telling them what to do. I just follow a path of passion,” said Father Pearson.

Students get involved in politics

By JAMELA MOHAMED Staff Reporter

Local political leaders told students they need to be more involved in state and national affairs last week.

The leaders spoke to Young Democrats of Highline, a club that is based on the idea of students exercising their rights to speak up about politics in America.

“My dream is to see a lot of involvement with the youth and not just the campus, we are the next generation and it is important to spread the word of what we want,” said Ashley Burr, the president of Young Democrats of Highline.

The Young Democrats of Highline welcomes students who want to learn more about the government. The club would like to see more students take real action on issues and policies they would like to see changed.

“It is important to vote during an election year and students should be informed on who they vote for,” said Burr.

The leaders had the opportunity to ask questions of State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, 36th Legislative District Chairman Tim Burns, and 33rd Legislative District Chairwoman Omaha Sternberg.

The leaders encouraged students to reach out to political officials and voice their concerns.

“Step up and take over, you are the future to be the leaders at the local and national level,” said Burns.

“Is important for me to reach out to those who are not informed about things that are happening in the state or nation,” said Sternberg.

Questions on health care, taxes, Social Security, and laws that are on the ballot this year were answered by the leaders.

“There are sexy issues on the ballot this year, from same sex marriage and legalizing marijuana; hooks are needed to attract people to get involved and helping a campaign that sparks people’s interests is important,” said Rep. Upthegrove.

The leaders spoke about how helping fundraising campaigns is important because it allows them to communicate with the community better.

“It gives me a chance to see eye to eye people and hear what they want to see change,” said Burns.

“We are constantly fundraising and suggesting donations, so that we can earn money for our campaigns,” said Rep. Upthegrove.

The club has meetings every Wednesday from 2-3 p.m. in Building 8, room 302 and anyone is welcomed to join.
Indonesia — the crossroads of humanity

Professor sheds some light on Indonesia’s past

BY HIEN HONG
Staff Reporter

Indonesia is a very diverse place because its history involves many different cultures, Highline professor Chris Foertsch said.

Foertsch, who teaches Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL), spoke about Indonesia at last Wednesday’s History Seminar.

History Seminar is a series of weekly discussions on topics throughout history featuring Highline faculty and guest speakers from 1:30-2:20 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Foertsch became fascinated with Indonesia when he met faculty who were in the Indonesia Exchange Program during Summer Quarter and Fall Quarter 2011.

He has also traveled there. “I was inspired to take the Winter [Quarter] off and visit them,” Foertsch said.

Indonesia is a group of islands located in Southeast Asia and Oceania, between the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean. The precise number of islands is debatable, but there are about 17,000 islands, Foertsch said.

Indonesia reaches “a distance as far as Seattle to Jamaica,” Foertsch said.

This expanse of land and water has been home to many different peoples throughout history, making it a very diverse place, Foertsch said.

Indonesia is the home of more than 283 million people, making it the fourth most populous nation in the world. It is also the largest Muslim majority nation in the world.

An example of the diversity is in the language, which borrows words from Arabic, Dutch, Portuguese, Sanskrit, and Chinese, Foertsch said.

Even though the official language is Bahasa, there are also 500 to 700 ethnic groups throughout Indonesia. “These ethnic groups have different languages,” Foertsch said.

The beginning of Indonesia’s diverse history started with Hindu kingdoms reaching Indonesia as early as 200 B.C., Foertsch said.

Starting around the late seventh century, Arabian traders came and Muslims started to settle in western Indonesia.

The location of Indonesia made it a crossroads for trade, Foertsch said.

Spices such as nutmeg, mace, and clove can be found on the Spice Islands of Indonesia. They can be used as “food preservatives, medicine, and things like that,” he said.

In Europe, traders who obtained the spices sold them up to 3,000 percent more than what they paid for.

“This was the petroleum of the day,” Foertsch said, adding that “they only came from a few islands.”

Because of the potential for wealth, the Portuguese decided to find their own way to the spices, Foertsch said.

In 1512, an explorer named Francisco Serrão tried to find the Spice Islands, but stayed in Indonesia after becoming an ally to the Sultanate of Ternate, a Muslim kingdom at the time.

“He learned about the culture and he married into the culture,” Foertsch said, adding that Serrão stayed as the sultan’s adviser until his death.

The Dutch also tried to obtain spices from the Spice Islands and colonized Indonesia in 1603.

The governor of the Dutch East Indies, Jan Pieterszoon Coen, “was not content to be a player in the spice trade,” Foertsch said. “He wanted a monopoly.”

The British were also part of the spice trade and became competition for the Dutch.

However after the Dutch traded New Amsterdam (current day New York) for a spice island, the monopoly “came little by little,” Foertsch said.

By 1800, the Dutch went bankrupt because of “all those costly wars and competition,” he said. They had allied with sultans in the local area and participated in warfare.

The Dutch were in debt and coerced the local rulers to pay taxes to the Dutch authorities, Foertsch said. This was called force plantation in Indonesia, and led to famine.

In 1899, the Dutch enforced the Ethical Policy on Indonesians and it was “very condescending,” he said.

The Dutch made schools for a small percentage of wealthy, royal Indonesians to attend so that they can be trained to do lowly, service work for them, Foertsch said.

In 1942, the Japanese invaded Indonesia, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Foertsch said.

The Japanese trained Indonesians to be soldiers, forced men into labor, and women into sex slavery, Foertsch said, adding that there was a 75 percent morality rate during the Japanese occupation.

It was not until Aug. 17, 1945, that Indonesians finally declared independence, “two days after the Japanese surrendered [in World War II],” Foertsch said.

“The Dutch did not want to let up on their colony so easily,” he said, but they eventually acknowledged Indonesia’s independence in 1949.

Dictators were ruling Indonesia until the 1997 Asian financial crisis; President Suharto lost his supporters after 31 years of ruling with corruption and nepotism.

Currently, Indonesia is in the Reform Era and has held regular elections since 1998.

In recent years, Indonesia has had to deal with terrorist attacks and bombings such as the Bali bombings in 2002 and 2005.

Foertsch said that, however, “most people are tired of extremism,” when he asked locals about it during his trip.

The next history seminar will feature Highline professor Tamara Hilton speaking about Frank Lloyd Wright on May 9 from 1:30-2:20 p.m. in Building 19, room 101.
Gardening made easy: tips from a plant specialist

By ANGELA STONE  Staff Reporter

Growing a garden is not that difficult, a horticulturist said here last week.

Jason Billingsley, a horticulture specialist at Furney’s Nursery in Des Moines, spoke on starting a vegetable garden at the weekly Science Seminar last Friday.

First, have a plan, Billingsley said.

When starting a garden, “You don’t want to get yourself into too much trouble.” Decide how big of a garden you can manage.

For a good garden plot, Billingsley suggested using one-half top soil to one-half compost. “I would recommend compost,” Billingsley said. He said that as little as one-third topsoil is fine for a garden plot.

“In almost all cases I recommend compost,” Billingsley said.

Too much clay or sand is a bad thing, but the right mixture will help your garden.

“Clay doesn’t drain well,” Billingsley said, whereas sand doesn’t retain water. If a garden plot has too much of one (sand or clay), mix in the other, he suggested.

Then ask, “What do I actually want to grow?” Billingsley said.

No one wants to plant beets and then go, “Oh wait, I hate beets,” Billingsley said. Grow what you actually want to eat, “Don’t get overly eager.”

Anytime between now and the end of June would be a good time to plant warm-season vegetables. Billingsley gave some examples such as tomatoes, squash, and corn.

A lot of people have trouble with tomatoes, Billingsley said. However, “If you do it right, you can get it [the tomato plant] to ripen without fail every year.”

A key to growing tomatoes in the Seattle area is to choose a tomato with a shorter maturity period, such as Early Girls. Where tomatoes are planted also matters.

“The hotter the better,” Billingsley said. Tomatoes need about eight hours of sunlight every day.

When planting tomatoes, “Plant it well deeper than the container,” Billingsley said.

Bury 50 to 80 percent of the plant; that will give the plant strong roots.

Like tomatoes, corn grows well in the Seattle area and needs lots of sun. One kind of corn that grows well is Sky scraper, Billingsley said. Sky scraper Corn is known for growing 20 feet tall.

Another kind of corn that does well is Kandy Corn. “Kandy Corn grows to about eight feet tall,” Billingsley said.

“The stock is like a deep red color.”

Potatoes can be planted in the summer or fall, “The thing they are going to need is soil temperature.”

Planting potatoes is “Almost easier in containers.” For every foot of exposed green potato stem, Billingsley said to bury it until it is covered with six inches of dirt. Potatoes are ready to be harvested “When the plant goes belly up and dies.”

“Carrots are totally do-able,” Billingsley said.

Carrots need a sandier soil and are a cool season plant. He said to plant carrots no sooner than August.

Walla Walla onions are “A fun thing to grow,” Billingsley said. Onions can handle both the heat and the cold, and need as little as four hours of sun light a day.

Billingsley said, “Look at your plants often.” Prevention is important to keep gardens healthy.

Billingsley gave some examples of the things that should be taken care of: weeds, bugs (such as aphids), and powdery mildew (looks like a flour dusting).

For further information, find Billingsley’s gardening page on Facebook at facebook.com/billingsleywnw.

Next Friday Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline, will be speaking on the age of the Earth at next week’s Science Seminar.

Science Seminar is open to everyone and meets every Friday (except the first and last Friday of the quarter) at 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

We have a convenient location at:
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Burbank

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“Thus if the college needs to expand or add a new building they would only have to account for that specific requirement and not have to worry about raising costs and fees for students.”

However, Burbank’s model would not cover capital costs. A minor setback for the proposal.

Along with this, Burbank said that the state will need to adjust the law process to support this proposal.

“We need a more robust and progressive tax system to get the ball rolling on this,” said Burbank. “The question is: do we have the political will to accomplish this? Right now? Probably not.”

Communication is the key to the success of the Pay It Forward proposal, said Burbank.

“A third of our staff at the Institute is devoted to communication,” said Burbank. “We are finding support but there can always be more.”

Burbank also pointed out the importance of public anger.

“We can use anger, it is important, but for real change we are going to need love, joy, optimism and fearlessness,” said Burbank. “And that’s what our institute is trying to stress.”

For more information about the Pay It Forward proposal or to get in touch with the Economic Opportunity Institute visit eosonline.org.

Local Tuesdays will be returning next week on May 8 at 10 a.m. in Building 7, featuring Kent Mayor Suzette Cooke.

South King Fire and Rescue wrestles with levy defeat

By JOSH NELSON Staff Reporter

The failure of South King Fire and Rescue Levy Vote shouldn’t be considered a victory, said the Proposition’s leading opponent.

Proposition 1 would have provided South King Fire and Rescue with an additional $3.5 million in funds by increasing property tax by $.029 per $1000 of assessed property value. This increase in revenue would have ostensibly covered four years of service from 2013 to 2016.

South King Fire and Rescue is a special purpose local government, responsible for fire and emergency services for most of Federal Way, Des Moines, and parts of unincorporated King County, serving approximately 120,000 citizens. It has an elected board of commissioners and is funded through local property taxes.

According to last month’s Voter’s Pamphlet, South King Fire and Rescue has lost 22 percent of its annual revenue since 2009, due to both budget cuts and the nationwide recession.

Approval of Proposition 1 would have allowed for better maintenance of the then current level of service.

Jerry Galland, an employee at The Boeing Co said, “The district still needs the money, but they went about it the wrong way. I don’t consider it [the failed vote] a victory for myself because the public still needs their [South King County Fire and Rescue’s] services.”

Proposition 1, which was voted on April 17, needed a 60 percent “yes” vote to pass, but it only received 59.26 percent, a marginal loss.

“The district’s methods would require them to go back to the taxpayers for more money each year,” said Galland, who has led two campaigns against fire levies and was a unsuccessful candidate for fire commissioner. “That’s not the way to solve their problem.”

Instead, Galland proposes a Service Benefit Charge, which “is to be tacked onto property tax.”

“They tried something like this in 2010, but I opposed it then as well,” said Galland. “That proposition had no limit on where they could spend the excess funds.”

South King Fire and Rescue Commissioner Mark Thompson agreed with Galland.

“A Service Benefit Charge really is the best alternative to a levy vote,” said Thompson. “It accommodates for six years instead of four and payment is based on assessed risk instead of outright property value.”

If a single family home was on fire and South King Fire and Rescue responded, based on that family’s level of fire protection and prevention within their home, they would pay maybe as little as $0.12 per $1,000.

“We need people to vote, period,” said Thompson. “The success or failure of these votes is based on registered voters actually voting and we also need a 60 percent approval. We need everyone that has signed up to vote to show up.”

Thompson also said that voters need to get educated about this and other relevant measures.

“We’re willing to come talk to anyone who wants to listen,” said Thompson. “Call the Fire Chief and have someone sent out to your particular group and give you the facts.”

For more information on how to get involved with the South King Fire and Rescue, visit their website at southkingfire.org or email them at info@southkingfire.org.

South King Fire and Rescue serves people in Federal Way, Des Moines, and parts of unincorporated King County.

“We are finding support but there can always be more.”

South King Fire and Rescue provides service in Federal Way, Des Moines, and parts of unincorporated King County.
Loans

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Rising interest rates could make college unaffordable for some students.

“Part of the reason I didn’t get student loans,” said a Highline student identified only as Zach, who said he was planning to apply for loans until he heard that rates are expected to increase.

Other students said they are unsure of their educational future and are worried about being able to pay off their debt.

Despite the uncertainty, some students still plan on obtaining further education, even if it means increased interest rates.

“I’m actually about to apply and it’s B.S.,” an anonymous Highline student said.

Local members of Congress are siding with students in the debate over interest rates on student loans.

U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, D-9th District, said that subsidizing loans at the current rate of 3.4 percent is costing the nation — taxpayers — about $6 billion a year. However, keeping the interest rates lower keeps college affordable for more students.

“I support doing it [keeping interest rates low],” Rep. Smith said.

Although Rep. Smith supports maintaining the current interest rates, he explained the pros of raising the interest rates.

“It is a subsidy,” he said, and in light of the nation’s large deficit, officials must weigh budget decisions.

The question becomes, Rep. Smith said, “is that a good place to spend our money?”

“It all costs,” he said, but, for college students, “every bit helps.”

Gaining an additional $6 billion from student loan interest rates won’t make a huge dent in the nation’s deficit, Rep. Smith said, but as the case always is in the nation’s deficit, Rep. Smith said, the cost of higher education has increased 559 percent since 1985.

Heath said that the cost of higher education has increased 559 percent since 1985.

Campaign for America’s Future — an organization that designs an economic agenda to benefit Americans and further their priorities — has taken up the torch for students on this issue.

“If Congress doesn’t act, interest rates will double,” said Liz Rose, communications director for Campaign for America’s Future, which is based in Washington, D.C.

Rose said that the organization is trying to put pressure on Congress to make them realize that doubling interest rates for students is not the better option.

“They can continue to get access to an affordable college education,” Heath said. “She is a co-sponsor of the Student Loan Affordability Act (S. 2051) to keep student loan interest rates from doubling in July.”

This bill would put a cap on the interest rates for subsidized Stafford student loans, keeping interest rates at a permanent 3.4 percent.

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Anna Sale, chairwoman of the S&A Budget committee, next step will be to set up hearings on the budget managers.

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“The current rate is 3.4 percent,” she said. “We don’t think that rate should go up.”

Despite the government’s struggle to pay off its debts and end the budget deficit, Rose said, placing the burden on students is counterproductive.

“Having students pay the deficit is really short sighted,” Rose said. “Why should students be the one to pay the bill?”

“It doesn’t benefit anybody,” Rose said. “The economy doesn’t benefit from that [6.8 percent] rate.”

Rose said the deficit will be fixed when the economy is spurred — and students are needed as engines of the economy. Rose said there is a need for qualified workers, and those workers will come from higher education institutions.

“We need to put more money into education,” Rose said, so that education can be more cost-friendly and still good quality.

“Doubling interest rates would have huge implications for students,” Rose said. “It would take a huge bite out of their budget.”

Campaign for America’s Future encourages students to contact their congressional representatives and senators and tell them to keep the interest rates down.

Washington state’s senators are Cantwell and Patty Murray.

To contact them, visit www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/ or www.murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm.

To find out who your local U.S. representative is, visit www.house.gov.

Reported by Kevin Keniston also contributed to this story.

Budget

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new changes that are made.

The S&A Budget committee’s next step will be to set up an open hearing. During open hearings, the budget managers are welcome to come in and explain to the committee their preliminary budget proposal and request.

Although there are no exact numbers for the budget yet, Anna Sale, chairwoman of the S&A Budget committee, said the budget is not short of funds and will most likely keep funding all programs line.

“I don’t think people that have passion for something should be cut from those opportunities,” said Sale.

She believes students should be able to participate in clubs and activities they enjoy with enough funds to do so.

Sale said that she also believes in the college’s mission of sustainability.

The Arcturus books will no longer be sold in the bookstore. Instead, it will now be available online and accessible to every interested Highline student.

“We encourage everyone we fund to move towards sustainability,” said Sale.