Future uncertain for loan interest

By ALISA GRAMANN Staff Reporter

Senate Republicans thwarted efforts to keep interest rates on student loans at 3.4 percent last week.
The U.S. Senate has recently been engaged in debates surrounding the Stop the Student Loan Interest Rate Hike Act of 2012 (S.2343).
On May 8, Senate Republicans blocked this legislation, favoring instead what is known as the “Newt Gingrich/John Edwards Loophole,” a piece of legislation that allows certain wealthy professionals to be exempt from taxes on their earnings.
This legislation is named after two wealthy politicians who have benefited from this loophole.
U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash, was in support of S.2343.
“I am a cosponsor of this legislation, which would prevent Stafford loan interest rates from doubling as scheduled on July 1, 2012 to 6.8 percent,” Sen. Murray said.
“I know that unless Congress intervenes to extend the existing 3.4 percent rate, subsidized Stafford loan interest rates will double this summer, resulting in nearly 7.4 million students across the country paying up to an additional $1,000 in interest.

Taking aim at guns

College eyes appeals process for guns on campus, but officials say they don’t expect to need it

Yok said that the effects on students should be minimal.
“There shouldn’t be any, in terms of everyday life,” he said.
An appeal process for anyone wishing to bring a firearm on campus is scheduled to be added to the general conduct chapter of Highline’s WAC.
Highline has been an official gun-free zone for many years, but recent court decisions in other states have ruled that colleges cannot bar people from carrying legal firearms on campus.
Yok said that in adding the provision, there was no specific scenario in mind, but the college wanted to keep the proverbial door open for anyone wishing to carry a firearm.
“We felt that since we couldn’t cover all circumstances,” he said, they wanted to have a process available, as well as be open to conversation on the topic.
“We wanted to make that procedure available to everyone,” Yok said.
After receiving feedback, Yok said, the college “changed the draft to include permission to carry up to two ounces of pepper spray,” for personal protection.
Changes to the parking and traffic regulations chapter, in addition to references

Students say using certain drugs is OK

By MICAH MORRILL Staff Reporter

Students at Highline have mixed opinions on illicit drug use.
For the most part students say they are open to the idea of drug consumption, especially when it comes to marijuana. Many students, whether they smoke or not, feel that marijuana is altogether harmless and it is a personal choice whether you use it or not.
In a non-scientific survey, 41 out of 100 students said that they had smoked marijuana, and 25 of 100 said they had been to class high.

“Almost all of them reflect changes,” he said.
Despite the almost 50 alterations to Highline’s WAC, Yok said that the effects on students should be minimal.
“Almost all of them reflect current practices, or changes to update wording,” said Larry Yok, vice president for administration.
Many of the adjustments, Yok said, are either changes to reflect current practices, or changes to update wording.
For example, the chapter on parking and traffic regulations will be updated, removing references to parking lots A and B — references that have not been used in a long time.
Other changes, such as the ones to the use-of-facilities chapter, must be updated to reflect ever-changing laws.
Yok said that the effects on students should be minimal.
“There shouldn’t be any, in terms of everyday life,” he said.
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Changes to the parking and traffic regulations chapter, in addition to references...
Campus Crime and Punishment

Information sought on assault suspect

Campus Security is looking for a male suspect who may have committed multiple sexual assault crimes this year.

The suspect is an Asian male around 5’6” and weighs about 125 pounds.

One of the assaults occurred during Winter Quarter and another on May 2. The suspect asks for a hug and then inappropriately touches the victim.

Officials ask that if you or someone you know was approached within the last few months and repeatedly asked for a hug or inappropriately touched, contact Campus Security or the Des Moines Police Department.

Roommates argument creates scene on campus

A Highline student was threatened by another student on May 6. It appears that the two roommates had an argument outside of campus that ended in a threat.

The threats and heated argument then continued onto May 8 on campus. The incident was turned over to Toni Castro, the vice president for students.

Lost items

A $50 reward has been offered to return a pair of lost sunglasses to a student. They are black with large lenses and have small CD logos on the side. They were lost on April 28, if found please email jennafercunningham@gmail.com. Also, a red binder was lost this week. Please return it to the Security Office in Building 6 if found.

Tip of the week

As summer gets closer more people forget to pay attention to their surroundings. Don't get small CD logos on the side. They were lost on April 28, if found please email jennafercunningham@gmail.com. Also, a red binder was lost this week. Please return it to the Security Office in Building 6 if found.

Outstanding students recognition planned

A ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 23 to celebrate the 2012 Outstanding Student Award Recipients. It will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Mt. Townsend room of the Student Union. All are welcome to attend.


For more information contact Jonathan Brown at (206) 878-3710, ext. 3257 or email him at jbrown@highline.edu.

Volunteers for Spring Festival needed

Volunteers are needed this Friday, May 18 for Highline’s annual Spring Festival. The festival will take place on campus.

Help will be needed beginning at 7:30 a.m. for set-up and as late as 2 p.m. for clean-up. If you are interested and available to help at any time through-out the day contact Tanisha Williams at 206-592-3212, or email her at twilliams@highline.edu.

News Briefs

- Outgoing student national bike month happening now
- Bike to work day is this Friday, May 18. Join fellow cyclists from across the nation in traveling to work via bicycle and participate in this year’s Great Health Commute Challenge.
- May is National Bike Month, for more information visit bikeforlife.org.
- Professional clothing donation drive.
- Joining the national bike month happening now.
- Bike to work day is this Friday, May 18. Join fellow cyclists from across the nation in traveling to work via bicycle and participate in this year’s Great Health Commute Challenge.
- May is National Bike Month, for more information visit bikeforlife.org.

Upcoming events:

- Today there will be a job fair on campus from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mt. Constance and Olympus rooms of the Student Union. All are welcome. Dress professional and bring copies of your resume.
- Cards for a Cause will take place May 19 (from 5:30 p.m. to midnight). All proceeds benefit Women’s Programs and Hospitality House Women’s Shelter.
- Festivites will take place at 1500 SW Shorebrook Dr., Norman-dy Park. For more information call 206-227-4848.
- Nancy Broege of the marine organization Dolphin Av- enues will be speaking at the MaST Center, by Redondo Beach Park, on May 19 at noon. She will be talking about Orcas and their interesting habits.
- Professional clothing dona-tions are being accepted until May 29 in the office of Build-ing 1, and on the 29 in Build-ing 8. Students will be given the opportunity to pick up clothes free of charge on May 29 from 9 a.m.3 p.m. in the Mt. Con-stance room of the Student Union to use for job interviews.
- Writing Center special top-ics workshops will take place on May 21 at 9-9:50 a.m. and May 23 from 11-12:20 p.m. They will focus on resumes and cover letters. For more informa-tion contact Rosemary Adang at 206-592-3822.
- Author Donna Miscolta will be visiting Highline on May 23 from 12:10-1:3 p.m. in Build-ing 2. She will be reading from her novel When the De La Cruz Family Danced.

Compiled by Hayley Albrecht
Student Union to receive makeover for 50th

By ALISA GRAMANN
Staff Reporter

The Student Union is getting a facelift in honor of Highline’s 50th birthday.

Last year, Student Government planned various renovations to the Student Union that are expected to be completed in June.

The renovations include new furniture, technology upgrades, fresh paint and wall repairs, and a new mural.

Some of the furnishings in the Student Union are in disrepair, which is why Student Government allocated over $30,000 to replace chairs, couches and foot rests, as well as purchase new tables, office chairs, and filing cabinets for the Center for Leadership Services office on the third floor.

Jonathan Brown, associate dean for student programs, said that the exact purchases are still being determined. Allocations for a specific item set, such as furnishings, are firm, but how many of each furnishings purchased is subject to change.

For example, he said, they may decide to purchase extra chairs instead of a new couch.

“When we actually purchased has shifted a little bit,” Brown said. “We were using it [the money] for things in that genre.”

Brown said that the purchases are commercial grade, with frames made of wood and steel. “They’re really at a different scale,” he said, when compared to everyday furniture.

“They take more abuse,” Brown said, which is why Student Government chose to go with more heavy-duty commercial grade furniture.

The furniture already in the Student Union — at least what is still functional — will be surplused, Brown said. “The money will be reabsorbed by the state,” he said.

Also being added to the Student Union is a new projector system that was initially in the building plan for the Student Union, but was removed due to its roughly half a million dollar price tag, Brown said.

However, now that technological advances have brought the price down to roughly $100,000, the Student Government decided to purchase it.

“They thought it would be a great asset to the campus,” Brown said. Many events on campus, including GlobalFest, presentations, and many of the recent Asian Pacific Islander events, have contained multi-media aspects. Brown said that the new projector system will enhance the efficiency of multi-media features during events.

Student Government also allocated funds toward wall repair and repainting. Brown said that Student Government wanted to repair paint chips and scrapes in the Student Union, as well as remove any vandalism. He said that unremoved vandalism promotes more, such as initials carved into a wooden table.

Finally, Student Government recruited the help of Highline alumnus Dahe Kim for a newly painted mural, located in the Leadership Training Center on the round floor of the Student Union.

Student Government proposed the idea of a mural that captured the essence of leadership. Kim expressed interest in painting such a mural, so when the money came to hire someone for the job, it was given to Kim.

The cost for the mural, including both labor and materials and supplies, was $2,500, thus, not enough to require student programs to put the project up for bid.

“It was a bargain for a whole wall piece,” Brown said. “The mural looks fantastic.”

The refurbishing project is funded by the Student Fund Balance.

“The Student Fund Balance is an S&A program that basically catches any unused revenue collected from previous years,” Brown said.

“We have a required reserve amount that we keep there for a cataclysmic need, like earthquake damage to the HSU or a gross decline in revenue.”

“If [the Student Union] doesn’t... have the same access to maintenance dollars,” Brown said, therefore, the facilities budget does not cover projects in the student union.

“Students need to take care of their own building,” Brown said.

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Highline, Brown said, “Student Government thought, ‘we’d like to do something to renew the spirit or environment for students.’”

Student Government candidates want your vote this week

By JOSIAS JEAN-PIERRE
Staff Reporter

Five people are seeking Student Government positions this week.

Five candidates that are running are Raphael Pierre, who is running for president, Nimo Azeez, who is running for vice president, Cynthia Boss, who is running for vice president, and Lloyd Thomas, who is running for president.

Elections, which began yesterday, will continue today in Building 8 in the Mt. Constance room. Students can also vote online at highline.edu.

Raphael Pierre is 18 years old, and he is running for president.

“This is my first year at Highline and majoring in communication. I am running for president not only to reach out to students so they could know about ASIRC, but to be the student voice for the students on campus and community,” he said.

“My main goal as a president is to strengthen the student body, so that every individual has the ability to join organizations, get to know their peers, and also networking,” Pierre said.

Nimo Azeez is 16 years old, and she is running for vice president. This is her first year at Highline and majoring in environmental health.

“I am running for vice president because I want to make highline a place where people can feel welcomed. Also, I want to be the unique voice for all Highline students.

Azeez has done citywide events such as, Federal Way Evening with The Stars and Advanced and Leadership Youth Training.

Cynthia Boss is also running for vice president. She has been at Highline for a year and she is getting her Associates of Arts degree emphasized in film.

“My goal is to get free parking for each student. To address the issue of tuition increase and to work towards a solution so tuition cannot increase,” said Boss.

“I want to bring awareness to all students, that the Student Government specifically vice president, is the voice for students with any issues,” Boss said.

“Some experiences that I had are, I had to delegate in prior jobs, and also, I had to delegate over a group of at least seven people,” Brown said.

Bobbi Hale is 52 years old, and she is another candidate for vice president. She has been at Highline for a year and she is getting her Associates of Arts degree emphasized in film.

“I am running because I love my school and I feel like I could make the student body some good due to my experience also my passion,” Hale said.

“My goal as a vice president is to network not only with faculty but also with the community. But the students come first. Also, to have a campus watch committee not only in the day time but also in the evenings,” Hale said.

“My relevant experience is that, I was a district manager for Pizza Hut over 16 stores. I am getting a certificate in training,” Pierre said.

Lloyd Thomas is 24 years old, and he is running for president. This is his first year at Highline and he is majoring in computer science.

“The reason why I am running is because I want to be the student voice on campus and make sure each student’s voice is being heard,” said Thomas.

“To make sure each student gets involved on campus and tell us what they want to see on campus, to make sure each student is comfortable on campus,” he said.

“My experience that I have had is that, I worked as an assistant secretary for my high school alumni association. As a recent immigrant, from Liberia, I volunteered as a secretary for a non-profit organization called Abiding in Christ Children Ministries that was committed to helping underprivileged kids,” said Thomas.

“It’s truly all about the students. If we keep denying and rejecting student voices on campus, then we forget who is really it all about. Each student has a voice, and each student should be able to use that voice for Student Government,” he said.

“As president, I would not only be the voice for my peers, I will also be the voice that each student’s voice is being heard on campus. It is important that we recognize our students come from diverse backgrounds and we realize that it is time where we as students speak up and speak about what is affecting all of us,” he said.
Highline earns an A

A recent accreditation evaluation left Highline with a perfect report card. Accreditation is significant for students because it helps indicate that the education we’re paying for is proving to be worth something.

They’re based off of a core five standards centered on a clear mission with core themes, continual review of documented resources and capacity, flexible use of plans that achieve the school’s mission, collection and analysis of data, and the development and publication of self-evaluations.

Highline did not only pass in all five areas listed, but also passed with four commendations.

Highline was commended for creating a successful group environment, having a strong leadership program, having a safe environment for students, and for the dedication of campus officials to ensure success for students. Highline also managed to get by without having any recommendations.

In recent years accreditation visits would at least leave with advising improvement on certain areas, but Highline ended up being perfect across the board.

An encouraging dictation says a lot about the education for the student body. It says that not only is Highline a growing campus, but it’s also showing that students who attend are gaining the skills that will help them when looking for a career field.

Highline isn’t going to stop working to improve itself after a successful visit, either. The school is already undergoing work on certain areas to prepare for next year’s visit.

The college is currently working on realigning the school’s mission statement to properly reflect the core theme.

But for now after a perfect accreditation visit, students have a right to feel more optimistic about the classes they’re taking and the instructors who teach them.

Vote ‘yes’ for fire levy

Citizens of Federal Way and Des Moines need to vote “yes” to Proposition 1 this August.

Proposition 1 offers a fire levy for the South King Fire and Rescue department. The proposal is meant to fill a $2 million hole in the department’s budget after a marginal increase to income tax.

The increase will add up to about $58 for the average homeowner, which is a small price to pay to ensure a safer environment for Des Moines and Federal Way.

Any money that goes toward the fire department won’t be wasted. Every bit of the fund should be used to ensure shorter response times.

The closeness of the last election underscores the importance in any department that can save lives.

For example: the department has a boat, so any fire related emergency on the water will receive a quicker response. Any money that goes toward the fire department won’t be wasted.

I’ve decided it’s time I become president of the world. I’ll lead it into a new era, providing fresh air for the atmosphere.

I plan to attack the position with a step-by-step process. First I’ll become the student president for Highline; second I’ll become the president of the Americas; third I’ll become prime minister of the Future Farmers of America; and finally, president of the world.

Assuming all of you are still following my Myspace blog, you should already know that I announced my campaign for student body president earlier in the week.

I’m assigning my trusty right-hand man Ernest Watson to be my campaign manager.

He neither goes to this school nor has any money, but I feel that his high level of cholesterol will make him a healthy asset to my campaign.

I already have a few ideas in mind for my platform. Firstly I will be changing the name from “student president” to “prime headmaster king of all living and dead.” I feel like a flashier title would do better for our image.

Secondly I plan on enrolling goats in our school so we can increase the sales in salut-relat-
ed items. I also plan on employing the goats as staff members so the goats can have money to buy salad.

I also see a glaring problem in the parking lots. Students always complain to me about the lack of spots available in the lot and I cannot stress highly enough on how strong I feel about this issue as well.

Therefore I plan on banning cars from Highline. I feel like if I force the students to adapt to different types of transportation, human kind will eventually learn how to teleport and I will make millions of dollars for being a genius.

When it comes to elections, I hear a lot about parties, but I don’t really understand the candidates’ strategies with these parties. They usually consist of boring CNN episodes that re-

under wraps, and then it’s only a matter of time before I climb the ladder all the way to presi-
dent of the world.

And if I don’t win, it’ll obviously be the result of some corruption behind the scenes.

If that happens to be the case, I’ll just return back to the Amazon and continue raising my family of greese. Honk if you love Trae.
**Weekly SUDOKU**

*By Linda Thistle*

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ⭐⭐**

*⭐ Moderate  ⭐⭐ Challenging  ⭐⭐⭐ HOO BOY!*

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**Trivia test**

*by Hifit Rodriguez*

1. **POLITICS:** How long did Margaret Thatcher serve as prime minister of Great Britain?

2. **LANGUAGE:** What does the Greek prefix "omnitho" mean?

3. **HISTORY:** How did the Native American leader Crazy Horse die?

4. **GEOGRAPHY:** Where is the highest waterfall in the world?

5. **LEGEND:** What was the name of King Arthur’s legendary sword?

6. **ART:** Who painted "Chris- tina’s World"?

7. **ENTERTAINERS:** How many times were actors Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor married?

8. **LITERATURE:** Which one of Charles Dickens’ novels was unfinished at his death?

9. **MATH:** What does the symbol "r" stand for in geometry?

10. **SPORTS:** How many years was the team founded?

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**Quoteable Quote**

*By George Burns*

**You know you’re getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you’re down there.***

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**Puzzles 05**

**The Thunderword / May 17, 2012**

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**Cobbler’s Creations**

*By Bill Deasy*

**Crossword 101**

*By Bill Deasy*

**Across**

1. Waffle expert?

7. ‘Inc.’ cousin

10. Cold war news name

14. All-purpose lyrics

15. Hollywood Squares victory

16. “Give it ___!” (try)

17. Boots

20. A fresh start?

21. Biography

22. Anti

25. Soccer star Freddy

26. Anger

27. “Be a ___!”

28. Ark unit

29. Bygone despot

31. Secret target?

34. “Green” prefix

36. Pumps

40. __ Diego

41. Imagine

43. Maine river

46. “Arrivederci!”

47. WWII VIP

48. Ending for Pam

49. “... lovely ___ tree”

51. “It’s on me!”

54. Permitted

57. M.I.T. degrees

58. Spikes

59. Saving Private Ryan carrier

60. Fax machine ancestor: abbr.

61. Atlanta-to-Tampa dir.

**Down**

1. Chi-town trains

2. Big tub

3. M*A*S*H star

4. “Is it too risky?”

5. “Rocket Man” John

6. Coll. dorm figures

7. Centers of attention

8. Wrong way to go?

9. Like St. Peter’s

10. Drawn tight

11. Stella (Belgian beer)

12. Bogart film, High ___

13. More agile

18. Hitching posts?


22. The Simpsons Squishee seller

23. West Side Story faction

24. 1969 Super Bowl number

26. Pub choices

27. Actress Russo

28. 1992 Olympics host

29. Louvre architect

30. Ballerina’s assets

32. “Put a tiger in your tank” company

33. Amt. needed daily

34. Diplomat

35. CBS debut of 10/6/2000

37. Paint choice

38. Weathers

39. Canada Dry product

42. A fine mesh

43. “Tom Terrific”

44. “It’s ___ and the same”

50. “Don’t hold back!”

52. Tempts, in a way

53. Prep the soil again

55. “Ye ___ Shoppe”

56. “The best ___ plans...”

57. M.I.T. degrees

58. Spikes

62. An OK city?

63. 1969 Super Bowl number

64. Pub choices

65. Actress Russo

66. “Nightline” host Koppel

67. African menace

68. “Ye ___ Shoppe”

69. “The best ___ plans...”

70. Fax machine ancestor: abbr.

72. Atlanta-to-Tampa dir.

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**GO FIGURE!**

*by Linda Thistle*

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY: ⭐⭐⭐**

*⭐ Moderate  ⭐⭐ Difficult  ⭐⭐⭐⭐ GO FIGURE!*

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**Crosstalk**

*By Bill Deasy*

1. POLITICS: How long did Margaret Thatcher serve as prime minister of Great Britain?

2. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix “ornitho” mean?

3. HISTORY: How did the Native American leader Crazy Horse die?

4. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the highest waterfall in the world?

5. LEGEND: What was the name of King Arthur’s legendary sword?

6. ART: Who painted “Christina’s World”?

7. ENTERTAINERS: How many times were actors Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor married?

8. LITERATURE: Which one of Charles Dickens’ novels was unfinished at his death?

9. MATH: What does the symbol “r” stand for in geometry?

Answers

1. 12 years

2. Bird

3. Stabbed with a bayonet while trying to escape custody

4. Angel Falls (Venezuela) is 3,212 feet high.

5. Escalibur

6. Andrew Wyeth

7. Twice

8. The Mystery of Edwin Drood

9. 10

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### StartZone, Bainbridge partner on master’s program

**By CHAYCE BALDWIN**

Highline’s StartZone and Bainbridge Graduate Institute are collaborating to spread the opportunity of self-employment and business management to underprivileged people outside of South King County.

StartZone is a program currently housed at Highline “targeting hard to serve and underserved communities,” StartZone Program Manager Michael Skinner said. “We work with them to explore the possibility of self-employment or business management.”

StartZone chose to connect and operate out of Highline’s service area because of Highline’s willingness to embrace the program and connect it with other aspects of the college, and its strong commitment to issues such as social, economic, and environmental justice and diversity, Skinner said.

Bainbridge Graduate Institute is a 10-year-old graduate school offering master’s of business administration degrees in sustainable business and sustainable systems. These degrees have an applied focus opposed to normal MBA degrees; they use a method called the triple bottom line: focusing on people, the planet, and profit, Bainbridge Graduate Institute’s Vice President of External Affairs Michele Morgan said. It focuses on helping people and the environment in a profitable way, she said.

The institute was established off of the mentality that “We have to change. We have to change how we do business,” Morgan said. It focuses on looking at business problems in different ways and looking for “innovative solutions to problems in profitable ways,” she said.

With only about 500 graduates and 200 students, Bainbridge Graduate Institute runs a very tailored program, but is big on partnering to spread the vision of the institute to help the community and environment through businesses, Morgan said.

StartZone is partnering with Bainbridge Graduate Institute to offer its services to more individuals outside of its current reach.

“In order to help more people we needed to look for a way to bring our services outside of South King County, and BGI was the way to do that,” Skinner said. Bainbridge Graduate Institute will serve as a neutral facilitator to help the program reach out to other community colleges and communities, he said.

“Being with BGI, the sky is the limit,” Skinner said.

“Because [StartZone] works, there’s sort of this moral imperative to get it to more people,” Skinner said. “It’s a very simple model, it works.”

Both Skinner and Morgan said that the missions, visions, values and philosophies for their programs align in perfect harmony with each other, and agree that as Skinner said, it’s “not just teaching business. We need to rebuild how business is done.”

“Growing healthy, vibrant communities is very important to both of us,” Morgan said.

StartZone could have used many different programs to help them in their mission, but Bainbridge Graduate Institute stepped up and latched onto the idea, Skinner said. The innovative and forward-looking mindset of the institute is a key in their new relationship, he said.

“We can harness the brain trust of their faculty and their students for the benefit of the clients we’re trying to help,” Skinner said. “We can explore new ways of helping people that might go outside the narrow educational mission of a community college.”

Originally, the Small Business Development Center at Highline helped small businesses to take themselves to the next level, and achieve greater heights in the industry—and still does—but it is out of reach for many people, and focuses on small businesses that have already been established, Skinner said.

In 2008, Highline received a federal earmark to help the people turned down from the Small Business Development Center, and StartZone was born, he said.

StartZone can throw its doors wide open to new ideas and entrepreneurs, whereas the Small Business Development Center must be more selective for its program, Skinner said. As a microenterprise development program, StartZone is not trying to create large-scale enterprises but supply underprivileged people with all the necessary tools to begin a business, and then work on achieving the next level of growth through the Small Business Development Center, he said.

“If I like to see StartZone at every community college in the state that has a SBDC,” Skinner said. He hopes that in the future, the program can become 10 or 20 times larger than it is now, and help visions and ideas come to life through small business across the state, he said.

In the future, these small business owners who have roots in the StartZone program may progress to get degrees in business management and possibly even go onto Bainbridge Graduate Institute for MBAs themselves, Skinner said.

Through the StartZone program and the possible expansion through Bainbridge Graduate Institute, simply put, “Everybody wins,” Skinner said.

### Companies offer varied careers at spring job fair

**By DAVID NORWOOD**

Highline students looking for work have the chance to get their resume into the hands of employers today.

Highline is hosting the spring job fair today. It will be in the Mt. Constance and Olympia rooms on the first floor of the HSU.

The job fair runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Employers will include Boeing, State Farm Insurance, Princess Cruises and Holland America Line. Several health care and non-profits will be there as well.

Boeing will be looking for manufacturing planners, Ikea is hiring for logistics and sales workers, and Princess Cruises and Holland America Line are hiring for summer hospitality jobs in Alaska.

Health care providers want to hire caregivers, Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practicing Nurses and Registered Nurses.

Diana Baker, from the Student Employment office said, “Students should plan to have enough time to visit all the employers they want to.”

“Know what you want to talk about, whether it be full or part time work. Students should leave behind anything that will be distracting to them, whether it be their cellphone or chewing gum,” said Baker.

Also be sure to highlight your job field and ask if the company will be looking to hire someone like that later on, said Baker.

“This is the optimal time to ask recruiters any questions you have,” said Baker. “Be sure to get a business card so you can follow up later on.”

For a list of employers who will be present visit: studentemployment.highline.edu/jobfair.php.

Students can get information directly from Student Employment. The best way to check out what will be at the job fair is to visit myinterface.com/highline/student because this has a list of all the jobs the recruiters who registered for the spring job fair are hiring for, said Baker.
Living with lupus has made me strong, says student

Katyaann Wilson

Staff Reporter

Katyaann Wilson looks fine. But inside, she has a disease that has no cure and limited treatment options.

Katyaann Wilson has lupus. She was diagnosed at age 16, though her first symptoms appeared at age 14.

She was in 18 years old and a full time student. She is pursu

ing an associate of arts degree in pre-nursing.

Lupus impacts her studies in many ways, Wilson said.

“Generally I feel very fatigued and it can be really hard to even sit through a class and understand what is going on. I have to accept that my health comes before my grades. I can’t just stay up all night doing homework and push myself too hard,” said Wilson.

Wilson said it took doctors a while to diagnose the disease.

“My first symptoms appeared when I was 14. It started out with just rashes all over my body, and the doctors didn’t know what it was. The doctors kept trying different things and nothing would make the rashes go away,” said Wilson.

“When I was 15, I lost about 30 percent of my body weight. I started having kidney and liver attacks, and I had neurological symptoms and was getting really sick. I was finally diagnosed at 16 and it’s been quite a journey to getting where I am at,” said Wilson.

Living with lupus presents daily challenges, she said.

“It gets me sensitive to the light and when I go out in the sun I get a butterfly rash which is the signature symptom of lupus. It goes over this area of the nose and on the cheeks. There are also weight loss, hair loss, and lack of appetite,” said Wilson.

She had to change her eating habits to control inflammation.

“I am on a special diet. I eat moderately on a low sodium diet and I go easy on cream and much protein I have to take in,” said Wilson.

I also am on a gluten-free diet because my system needs to work better. And it does help to be on that type of a diet, at least it lowers the inflammations. I don’t get the hives sprouts because it causes inflammations,” said Wilson.

“Overall, I just have to know when I’m feeling bad and feeling OK so I can watch what I do,” said Wilson.

Wilson is one of five million worldwide - 1.5 million in the US - who has lupus and yet people may not even know they have it.

Lupus is really hard to diagnose. It takes years for a lupus sufferer to be diagnosed. That is why it is important for this disease to become aware so we can find some ways to cure and treat lupus,” said Carolyn Jauco-Trott, who is the administrative assistant for the Lupus Founda

tion of America in the Pacific Northwest chapter.

The reason why it takes lupus so long to be diagnosed is because doctors run through multiple different exams and tests to see what the patient has.

They check for cancer, virus, malaria, and many other exams before they conclude the patient has lupus, she said.

“It is an autoimmune disease. It doesn’t have a cure and there is no known cause,” said Jauco-Trott.

Living with lupus so long to be diagnosed is also difficult. Patients are told to be careful and then have to go through treatments, she said.

Jauco-Trott said lupus is where the lupus system causes inflammation and flare-ups in the body. The lupus system can cause the disease to become dormant common in people with lupus and yet people may not even know they have it.

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The reason why it takes lupus so long to be diagnosed is because doctors run through multiple different exams and tests to see what the patient has.
Thunderbirds softball team wins West Region

By ADRIAN SCOTT
Staff Reporter

Last season the Thunderbirds softball season would have been done, this year the T-Birds are going to the playoffs as West Region champions.

The first-place 21-15 Thunderbirds softball team won the West Region after sweeping the second place Pierce Raiders last week.

Highline ended the regular season splitting a double header with the Centralia Trailblazers on May 11.

The Thunderbirds already division champs lost game one of the double header 13-5, and won game two 9-7.

The T-Birds are the sixth seed in the NWAACC playoffs, which will take place on Friday May 18- Monday May 21 in Portland hosted by Clackamas Community College.

In round one, the Thunderbirds will face the third place South Region Lower Columbia Red Devils who ended their season 10-10.

This season the Thunderbirds have held first place, but were close to losing the division title after suffering losses to the Pierce Raiders earlier in the season.

“The West Region has gotten significantly better,” said Pierce Raider Head Coach Mark Edmonston. “Highline has proven themselves winning the division after ending last season in last place.”

The Thunderbirds faced the Raiders on May 9, winning 18-12, 6-4.

Against the Raiders, the Thunderbirds rallied the bats in the seventh inning to win.

In game one, the Thunderbirds collected 20 hits against the Raiders’ pitching staff.

Raiders starting pitcher Linden Young was taken out in the third inning after she gave up eight hits, seven runs, and two walks.

For the Thunderbirds, pitcher Clarissa Gidcumb started her 24th game of the season.

The Raiders scored nine runs off of 11 hits against Gidcumb.

Both Highline Head Coach Scott Dillingen and Pierce’s Edmonston took out their starting pitchers in the third inning.

Freshman pitcher Blessed Joy Mipalar came on in relief for the T-Birds. She allowed only three earned runs to end the game.

The Raiders made two other pitching changes, as the Thunderbirds would score 11 runs to end the game.

The Thunderbirds would score 11 runs to end the game.

T-Bird freshman leftfielder Dani Babcock went batting 3-6 with a double and one RBI.

Babcock is currently tied with teammate Kathy Murdock for runs scored with 27. Babcock also has seven doubles this season.

Sophomore captain Whitney Purvis hit her first double this season and her fourth RBI in the win.

In game two, a late seventh inning rally from the Thunderbirds confirmed that the ladies were West Region champs.

Winning the games against Pierce, and clinching the region title was a great momentum builder for us going into the NWAACC tournament,” said second baseman Ashley Fraser.

In round one at 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 18 the Thunderbirds can expect to face The Red Devils No. 1 pitcher Madison Gaa. This season Gaa has a 8-8 record, has pitched 117 innings with a 3.46 ERA.

In those 117 innings she’s recorded 47 K’s, 61 BB, and two SHO.

“This week we spent a lot of practice time focusing on tightening up our defense,” said Fraser. “The competition at the tournament will be tough so we’ll have to cut down on errors.”

If the Thunderbirds defeat the Devils they will face the No.3 seed the Southwest Oregon or their West Division rival Pierce again.

“The top teams in the playoffs this season in my opinion are, Wenatchee Valley, South-west Oregon, Walla Walla, and Clackamas,” said Coach Edmonston.

The Southwest Oregon Lakers ended the season in first place with an 18-2 record in the South Region.

“The teams in the Eastern Regions tend to have better hitting than the West,” said Wenatchee Valley Head Coach Shelly Pfugrath. “I haven’t seen Highline play this year, but I’ve heard good things about the program.”

The Lakers have two players in the top five in batting and pitching stats in the NWAACC.

Lakers catcher Michele Pottrett is sixth for home runs with 10, and third in RBI’s with 49.

Lakers pitcher Alexandria Molina is second in the NWAACC for wins with 27, she also has an ERA of 1.29 in 173 innings.

“As hitters we’re expecting to see faster speeds,” said Highline’s Ashley Fraser. “Our offense usually performs better off of fast pitchers, so we’ll be ready for them.”

Come join the annual T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament

By ZACH STEMM
Staff Reporter

This year’s T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament will take place at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club on June 15 at 11 a.m.

The T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament has been going on for “about 18 years,” said Highline Athletic Director John Dunn. Dunn is the person in charge of organizing this event. Organizing this event is not too difficult.

The purpose of the T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament is to help raise money for the athletics department.

“All funds raised go directly to support the athletics department,” Dunn said.

Golfers of any skill level are welcome to come to this event.

“We want people that support Highline Community College and that want to have fun,” Dunn said.

There has not been any professional at this event, but professional basketball player Brian Scalabrini and former Seahawks quarterback Dan McGwire have both played in this event, Dunn said.

During the 2012 T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament, there will be the Pot O’ Gold Raffle. The Pot O’ Gold Raffle costs $1 per ticket.

Prizes for the Pot O’ Gold Raffle include: “Trips to Reno, golf, and a date with the most eligible bachelor on campus, Barry Carle,” Dunn said.

Dunn is not focused on the amount of money that is raised.

“It’s not about the money,” Dunn said. “It’s about spreading the word and developing relationships and friend-raising with the Highline College community.”

The attendance for the past T-Bird Classic Golf Tournament has been great.

“We usually get about 144 people,” Dunn said.

“It has always gone well,” he said. “Everybody lets their hair down and has a good time.”
Women’s soccer getting a leg up on recruiting for 2012

By SHYLA AKINS

Highline Women’s Soccer Head Coach Tom Moore is enthusiastic about what the new recruits will bring to the team for the 2012-2013 season. The new recruits include Mckenzie McNeal, a defender from Timberline High School. Rebecca Burns plays forward, Chelsea Jensen and Ashlyn Bruin come from Thomas Jefferson, Jensen a defender and Bruin a goalkeeper. Bailey Hutton is a midfielder from Fife High School. Nito-sha Torgison also plays midfield and comes from Auburn High School. Allanah Anderson plays defense from Highline High School. Taylor Holman is play from Highline High School. Allanah Anderson comes from Auburn High School. Torgison also plays midfield and comes from Fife High School. Former Thunderbird basketball player Brandon Brown drives to the hoop in the NCAA tournament against John Brown University.

Former Highline basketball player Brandon Brown has finished his collegiate career, but he gets to keep on playing.

Brown is going to Australia to play professional basketball for the Mount Gambier Pioneers. It was a long road before he achieved his dream of being a pro basketball player.

In 2007 Brown came to Highline from Wilson High School in Tacoma to play basketball, but Highline was not his original choice.

“I verbally committed to Centralia but canceled and went to Highline because after talking with Coach Ché Dawson, he said I would have to work for everything I wanted, and I knew this is where I needed to be,” said Brown.

After redshirting his freshman year to learn the offense and gain experience, he received his first start as a sophomore.

Brown was skilled when he got to Highline, but physically was immature and lacked confidence in his game, said Dawson.

“He worked real hard in the gym and came from a great supportive family that helped him gain his confidence and become a better player,” said Dawson.

Coach Dawson received a letter from the University of Montana Western, a NAIA school, after Brown’s sophomore year, wanting Brown to come to school for them.

With three years of eligibility to play basketball, Brown made the decision to go even though “signing my contract to play in Montana was the biggest sacrifice I have ever had to make, because I was away from my family, couldn’t come back on weekends and it was in Montana,” he said.

Brown, who is a year young for his grade, left for Montana Western where he made a name for himself.

In three years Brown played 101 games and scored 1,770 points, with an average of 17.5 points per game.

Brown is the all-time leader in points scored in a career and a season for Montana Western. He finished with 435 assists, 345 rebounds, 185 steals and 17 blocked shots.

Brown had a .491 field goal percentage, .340 from the three point range and .725 from the free throw line.

Year in and year out, Brown set goals for himself and every year he met those goals, except for one that he just missed out on.

My first year it was being named all-league player of the year. I got that and then my second year I made all-American and all-conference player of the year. My senior year I made it my goal that I would be the best player in the nation, and I came up short and was second,” said Brown.

Brown’s dedication to the gym and working out with a trainer both played a huge role in the strides Brown was able to take to reach these goals.

Brown’s coach at Montana Western, Steve Keller, said, “Brandon was our point guard. He averaged 22 points this last season and made the other players around him better, “said Keller.

“He was a very special player who only comes along once in a while and whose work ethic was second to none,” said Keller.

“Coach Dawson has not led the Thunderbirds to where we have to make up for large part of our success and we accomplish and that is the hardest part, getting a team to come together and work towards one common goal. Our defense was a large part of our success and we lost the entire back line. This is where we have to make up for things,” said Moore.

There are only four returners coming back for next year’s season.

“Our sophomores have already helped tremendously in making our team successful for next year. They have been out watching games and talking to potential recruits consistently,” said Moore.

These returning sophomores have dedicated themselves to putting forth the effort to improve their team for next season, said Moore.

“This is an example of putting the team before yourself and I think it’s going to pay off in a big way for us come fall,” said Moore.

Moore and the rest of the women’s soccer team have goals for next season.

“I will always say first and foremost that making the playoffs is our goal. After that we need to start making sure we win the big game in the playoffs that enables us to compete for the championship,” said Moore.

Moore wants to create an environment that helps these women move on to a four-year university to be successful on and off the field.
Yakima's out, others in to take their place

By TRAE HARRISON
Staff Reporter

Yakima Valley Community College is dropping its wrestling program, but Region 18 is hoping to add at least three more teams.

“Though it’s tough to lose a school, as Yakima leaves, we’re going to be adding three more schools into our region,” said John Dunn, Highline’s athletic director. “Two schools from Wyoming and one from British Columbia.

With Yakima Valley out of the picture, Region 18 is left with four teams: Highline, Clackamas, Northwestern Oregon, and North Idaho. The region is hoping to add Western Wyoming, Northwestern Wyoming, and Douglas College to the division.

“We’ve already had the head coach of Northwestern Wyoming and the athletic director from North Idaho come up with a proposal,” said Highline Assistant Coach Bradley Luvaas. “They’re going to try to add Northwestern Wyoming and Western Wyoming to the region.”

Rob Spear, the athletic director for North Idaho, is the regional representative and Jim Zeigler, the head coach of Northwestern Wyoming’s wrestling program, is the NJCAA representative.

“Right now that’s the plan,” said Luvaas. “It would be really good for re-aligning the division too. It will be closer for the Wyoming schools to come here to wrestle instead of going all the way to Louisiana.”

“The regions traveled to Wyoming in the past for duels,” said Clackamas Head Coach Josh Rhoden. “It’s an expensive trip. Highline has traveled to Wyoming during the wrestling season twice in the past three years. If the region added the Wyoming schools, Highline would likely be travelling there annually.

The region also might be adding Douglas College’s wrestling team to the mix.

“If Douglas joined the division they’d have to come to us in order to wrestle,” said Luvaas. “It’d just be too difficult to get passports for an entire wrestling team on top of making the trip every year.”

With Yakima Valley losing its team, Highline is left as the only college from Washington with a wrestling program.

“I really just hope for Scott’s [Norton, the coach of Highline’s wrestling’s sake that this doesn’t follow the trends of the past,” said Rhoden. “He’s done a great job turning Highline into an elite program.”

Over the past decade when a college team in the Northwest has dropped a wrestling team, it’s been a trend that two or three more teams follow soon after.

“It’s a scary process when you’re a northwestern school,” said Rhoden. “We have to find a way to drop the trend.”

Rhoden had also experienced what it was like to wrestle for Yakima and he’s done a great job turning Highline into an elite program.

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Schools such as Clackamas and North Idaho have budgets big enough to easily support paying for lots of scholarships, traveling, and even supporting their recruits in dorms.

Highline has a smaller budget and doesn’t have dorms, but finds other ways to attract recruits.

“Really, the only reason we get the bigger recruits is because of Coach Norton,” said Luvaas. “He knows what he’s doing.”

There’s also the question of where the current athletes who used to wrestle for Yakima will end up going. Both Clackamas and Highline have already gotten ten attention.

“We’ve had a few calls,” said Rhoden. “I really feel for these athletes.”

If Highline does end up signing any recruits, Luvaas said they won’t be able to give them any scholarships unless they can win a starting position next year.

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Taking the lead: Actor goes from quitting to star

By SHANNON CARTER  
Staff Reporter

For Matthew Johnson, being the lead doesn’t mean you’re the whole show.

Johnson is the lead in the Drama department’s Spring production of Live! From the Last Night of My Life.

He has been attending Highline for almost two years. Trying to major in political science, he got into acting with help from his public speaking skills.

“Acting helped me come out of my shell a lot and helped with public speaking. To tell you the truth, most of what I am as a person/actor I owe to most of my fellow actors in the Drama Department. It’s like a second family,” said Johnson.

“I have more interest in writing and directing for film rather than acting,” said Johnson.

He attended the Seattle Art Institute for those reasons and would like to further his career in that aspect. “Don’t misquote me though, I love acting,” said Johnson.

“The way I started acting in the plays was a total sucker punch for me,” said Johnson. He almost quit acting in the beginning, thinking that he was wasting the instructor’s time.

Johnson asked his teacher whether he should drop the class. The teacher told him no. A week after being told he shouldn’t quit, he was asked to fill in for an actor who had quit.

The part was small, only four lines.

Johnson said, “I didn’t even know what the hell I was doing, but it was fun. I’ve been in all the plays since then.”

“Your year is about a man who is stuck in a rut and is looking for any way out. Life has simply left him behind and he is trying to catch up,” said Johnson.

“Being a 25-year-old high-school dropout, I can relate more [to the character] than most people think. The school dropout, I can relate more than anything else,” said Johnson.

The story then follows the protagonist as he enters the world.

“This year’s play is about a family that has simply left him behind and he is trying to catch up,” said Johnson.

“Many have more interest in writing and directing for film rather than acting,” said Johnson. “That is way harder than what I do.”

“I have faith in my cast. They are all very professional and fun to be around,” Johnson said.

Spring play to open soon

Highline’s spring play Live! From the Last Night of My Life begins Thursday, May 31 and runs Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2 in the Little Theatre in Building 4.

The play will also show the following weekend of June 7, 8, and 9. Tickets to Live! From the Last Night of My Life are available for $3 for students and $8 for general admission.

Fiction novelist uses writing for self-expression

By JESSE LEAUPEPE  
Staff Reporter

The author of the novel, When the De La Cruz Family Danced, Donna Miscolta will be here next Wednesday, May 23 reading excerpts from many of her works.

Miscolta is a Mexican-Filipina author born and raised in National City, California, currently residing in Seattle, Washington.

“Books – their existence, even the idea of them – are what inspire me to write,” Miscolta said.

I didn’t always know that I wanted to write, until I was about 40 years old, she added.

“I hadn’t read in many years, and early on I was captivated by story and language,” Miscolta said.

She studied zoology and received her graduate degrees in education and public administration, but she was still looking for something more.

“I think everyone has a need for self-expression and we each seek an outlet to satisfy that need,” said Miscolta.

She eventually became a project manager for a government agency, but the highlight of her day is being able to write.

“Writing is her outlet for self-expression,” said Miscolta.

“T dread primarily literary fiction because I like the emphasis on character and language and the more nuanced writing that is found in literary fiction,” said Miscolta.

One of her friends who is a published writer actually helped inspire her to write.

She was so struck and amazed by how wonderful her work was that she began enrolling in classes and workshops.

After becoming part of a writing community, I began writing a novel as well as a collection of short stories. I collected countless rejections and acquired very few acceptances, Miscolta said.

“My work has broad appeal across gender and cultural lines. Both men and women can connect to the characters and the story. Even though my characters are of a particular cultural group, readers outside of that group can recognize conflicts and relationships similar to their own experiences,” said Miscolta.

She added that her stories tend to be about characters coming to terms with unrealized dreams, of reconciling their past with their present, or of trying to find a place in the world.

Her first published novel When the De La Cruz Family Danced, is a story about Johnny de la Cruz, a man who took a trip to the Philippines and had a little rendezvous with an old flame, Bunny.

Years later, however, after Bunny’s death, her teenage son Winston finds a letter that his mother wrote to Johnny, but never sent.

The story then follows the teenage boy as he enters the lives of the De La Cruz family, a family that he may or may not belong to.

It explores certain situations with birth and immigration and how they affect family.

“My father’s experience as an immigrant from the Philippines just after World War II was the inspiration for my novel,” said Miscolta.

She never really took the chance to ask about his past before he passed. And as a result, she lost all possibility of really getting to know him better.

Miscolta used the loss of her father as a starting point for a writing exercise that eventually became her novel.

“My father would’ve loved When the de la Cruz Family Danced,” she believes.

Miscolta is currently working on a new novel that she hopes to have a complete draft of by the end of the year.

Her goals are to learn from each piece that she writes, to understand better how to make a story, and to produce something that gives pleasure to people to read.

With my novel When the de la Cruz Family Danced, I accomplished that, said Miscolta.

She also hopes to find a publisher for her collection of short stories called Natalie Wood’s Fake Puerto Rican Accent, which is about three generations of a family, the first of which emigrates from Mexico.

The stories are about the particular horizons each generation faces in fitting in, finding community, and pursuing their dreams.

“To any writer just starting out, my advice is to prepare to commit yourself for the long haul. Writing takes a lot of practice, so write as often as you can. Develop a routine so you get your practice in on a regular basis, even if it’s just a paragraph a day. Paragraphs add up to pages and pages add up to a book,” Miscolta said.

She suggests reading often and widely, as well as absorbing techniques of writers you admire.

“Rejections are a natural part of being a writer,” she said. “Expect it. Limit the time you spend feeling bad about it. Move on and keep writing.”

Miscolta says that if you love it, pursue it any way you can. Do it for the pleasure of it first and secondarily with aspirations for publication.
Students came to Highline last Saturday to teach rather than to learn.

In a Student Union decked out in underwater décor, students shared the stage to share cultural traditions and talents at the annual GlobalFest.

GlobalFest is put on by International Student Programs and the International Student Leadership Council—a group of student leaders who help with leading and coordinating events for International Student Programs. It celebrates cultures throughout the world, and provides a chance for people to experience different cultures.

It consisted of booths set up for individuals to share their culture, and a performance showcasing the talents and cultures of Highline students from around the world.

GlobalFest is organized “for people to see all the cultures represented at Highline, and it gives them an opportunity to share their culture,” said Amee Moon, associate director of International Student Programs.

“People are surprised what they learn from culture booths,” Moon said, but the performances have the longest lasting impact.

What different representatives of each culture want to display was not restricted by the event, so they express their culture in their own authentic way, she said.

Aaron Tran, who has been to GlobalFest once before, said that this year was even better than last year. There was a lot of people and a lot of diversity.

“The performances are perfect and impressive,” he said. “They inspire me to dance.”

Others who went to GlobalFest felt the same way.

“It's so nice, so awesome,” Mika Suga said.

The Japanese dance at the end of
the performance was unanimously praised, along with the hip hop dances.

To create GlobalFest, organizers started working in February, right after they finished the winter dance, Moon said. As it got closer to the event, they worked even harder to create it: The entire International Student Leadership Council and Moon worked until 11 p.m. every night for a week and a half prior to the event.

Four teams organized the event: the reception team, culture booths, performance groups, and decoration team. The council helped each with anything they needed in creating and executing their responsibilities to create GlobalFest, Moon said.

They also wrote the story nested in the performances and made the props for it, she said.

One performer from the Taiko club (traditional Japanese drumming), Sean Nakagomi, said that their preparation for performing was "repetition. After adjusting the length of the performance and deciding who plays what part, it was just running through our piece over and over again to minimize mistakes."

"Taiko as well as the other performances at GlobalFest really showed how various cultures express themselves. It also shows how different each culture is," Nakagomi said.

Moon said that some performing groups came in every day to International Student Programs to prepare for the event.

"Taiko as well as the other performances at GlobalFest really showed how various cultures express themselves. It also shows how different each culture is," Nakagomi said.

In the end, the guests liked it, and the performers enjoyed sharing their cultures.

"I liked that I could share my culture. I enjoy being in the Taiko Club and just playing, but it’s great when people enjoy watching it," he said.
The businessman can now sprint to his next appointment in his suit, the sailor can now deck out, sail into fashion. The businessman can now traverse through the mountains and valleys of the Puget Sound, he can now go from the sea to the sound.

As an undergrad I was in the mountaineer club – you know – you go up mountains, ice caves and all this fun stuff, and some members were complaining about the lack of gear being offered. I was like, OK, I could make that someday. I want to make a great mountain coat.

Then Douganghrachanh applied for graduate school. Douganghrachanh earned a master’s degree in fashion design at the Academy of Art University.

Douganghrachanh has learned to work under pressure, even when she has completely exhausted her creative energy. She described working with Ungless, Douganghrachanh has learned to work under pressure, even when she has completely exhausted her creative energy. She described working with Ungless with a lot of, “just get it done, get it done, get it done. If not, why are you here?”

Her hard work ethic is matched by her artistry and fine tailoring skills. When looking at Douganghrachanh’s collection, one can notice a harmonious combination between athleticism and virile elegance.

For the Regatta Line, Douganghrachanh said she was inspired by boat racing and the different shades of gray that paint Puget Sound. “I wanted to develop a strong idea about a man who is in full suit, just full on decked out, sailing,” she said. “That man would go from the sea to the sound.”

Douganghrachanh never dreamed of becoming a fashion designer. “My parents wanted me to be a doctor or a lawyer. I am Asian and those are the two professions they identified with,” Douganghrachanh said.

“Just grow up in America most of my life, got accepted into med school. I did go to med school and went to college like everybody else. After college and working for a couple of years, paying off my debt, traveling, growing up, I was free to kind of do what I wanted. I had the luxury and privilege to do something else besides what was set before me.”

Douganghrachan was born in Laos, a nation snuggled between Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam. She came to the United States when she was 5 years old. “My childhood was pretty normal,” she said. “I am from a middle class family – happy, healthy – we didn’t really struggle with money. Growing up, Douganghrachanh never dreamed of becoming a fashion designer. “My parents wanted me to be a doctor or a lawyer. I am Asian and those are the two professions they identified with,” Douganghrachanh said.

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Judge gives opinion on court elections, traffic cameras

By JOSH NELSON
Staff Reporter

Any judge lower than the State Supreme Court shouldn’t be elected, said a State Court of Appeals Judge. Judge Marlin Applewick spoke on campus Tuesday, May 15 as part of the Local Tuesdays series.

“Electing any judge beneath State Supreme Court is stupid,” said Applewick. “We can’t tell you what we believe in or how we address a situation. We can’t really campaign effectively.”

Once appointed or elected to a court position, a judge has to be very careful about what he or she says during an election year. Applewick, who also served as a State Legislator for 16 years, said that campaigning interferes with his caseload, which he said is rather hefty. “We write about 1,800 court opinions per year,” said Applewick. “Between 22 judges and three different court circuits, that’s about 30 cases every three days.”

Applewick also added that the public feels judge elections are less crucial than other elections. “There’s no urgency if you’re being elected as a judge,” said Applewick. “People assume you’re running unopposed and just move along.”

Applewick noted that he would be going down and “… applying for a job today [Tuesday] and hopefully you all decide to hire me again in the fall.”

Among other issues discussed, Applewick also talked about exemplary cases over the course of his 14 years as a sitting judge. “Criminal cases are a little more than half of what we [Court of Appeals] see,” said Applewick. “Anything from burglary, assault, attempted murder, and murder,” said Applewick. “But it usually takes one to 1 ¼ years before any particular case is heard at the Court of Appeals.”

One case in particular stuck out in Applewick’s mind. “I recently had to reverse the conviction on a rape and child abuse case,” said Applewick. “This is something I don’t like to do, but it is my responsibility to protect your constitutional rights. There was an error made by the prosecution and no one else noticed it along the way.”

Applewick said he hates sending these kinds of cases back to trial because it forces the victims and witnesses to, once again, relive their trauma. Applewick also addressed the issue of traffic cameras being used in prosecution and enforcement.

“Today we tolerate monitoring our private activity, 30 years ago this idea scared us to death,” said Applewick. Applewick said that the big debate over the cameras is: do they actually improve driver safety? Or are they just revenue generators for a particular city?

“As of now the traffic camera tapes are only available for criminal cases, and in instances where there is a traffic infraction,” said Applewick. “In the future, the laws may change to allow camera footage to be entered in civil disputes.”

The issue of whether a city sets up red-light and school zone cameras is entirely up to the city council, said Applewick. “Technology and laws are always changing,” said Applewick. “Those cameras on I-5, that show you traffic congestion on the news, they can zoom in and see what you [the driver] are doing.”

Local Tuesdays will be returning next week with Federal Way Mayor, Skip Priest. He will be in Building 7 at 10 a.m.

The MaST Center wants students to help out

By KEVIN KENISTON
Staff Reporter

Highline’s Marine Science and Technology Center is looking for volunteers.

The MaST Center will be holding an orientation for anyone who is interested on Saturday, May 19 at 9 a.m.

The MaST Center is Highline’s marine lab and aquarium. It was created to promote understanding of the Puget Sound marine environment through hands-on research and community activities. Volunteers can be anyone 14 years or older. Ten to 13-year-old volunteers must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Volunteers will help with all aspects of MaST operations, including cleaning tanks and feeding animals. Volunteers can also become members of the MaST Marine Mammal Stranding Team and the MaST Dive Team. “Most of the training is on the job,” said Rus Higley, instructor and manager of the MaST Center.

Volunteers are simply asked to show up promptly at 8 a.m. The MaST Center is located at 28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S. Des Moines.
The secret to earth’s age is radioactivity

By ANGELA STONE Staff Reporter

If people get better at science, the Earth keeps getting older.

Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline, spoke on the age of the Earth last Friday, May 4 at Science Seminar.

Dr. Baer and professor Carla Whittington, also a geology professor at Highline, co-wrote the presentation. “I do not care if you believe me,” but people should know why they have come to their conclusion, Baer said.

Over the centuries many philosophers and scientists have tried to calculate the age of the Earth. Dr. Baer said.

Bishop James Ussher famously declared, in the 17th century, that the Earth was created in 4004 B.C. This declaration was based off extensive study of the Bible and was printed as part of the King James version of the Bible for years.

Another scientist attempted to calculate the age of the Earth. Scientist John Joly, in the late 19th century, thought the age of the ocean to be 80 to 90 million years old. Joly based this calculation off the salt levels in the ocean.

As rainwater finds its way back to the ocean it carries minerals—partially salt—into the ocean building up the levels of salt in the ocean. Joly believed that if the ocean was 90 million years old, then the Earth must also be roughly 90 million years old.

However, Dr. Baer said that Joly didn’t account for salt coming out of the ocean. The fact that you can smell the salt in the air near beaches is a testament that salt is leaving the ocean all the time.

Dr. Baer said that another way to calculate the age of the Earth is by measuring the amount of sediment. Scientists have noticed that about 20 billion tons of sediment is swept into the ocean every year, and only one billion tons of sediment is removed from the ocean.

Dr. Baer said this method also is riddled with flaws. For one thing, when people have calculated the age of the Earth based off sediment, they did not take into account the fact that one bed is often eroded by another bed. When a bed is not eroded it is moved.

Dr. Baer said that in the 19th century Lord Kelvin believed the Earth was about 100 million years old. Kelvin’s theory was based off the temperature of the Earth. Kelvin calculated how long it would take for an object the size of Earth to cool to the temperature it was in the 19th century.

But there was one major flaw in Kelvin’s theory, Dr. Baer said. He didn’t know about radioactivity.

Radioactivity is a heat source that contributes to the overall temperature of the Earth, and is the way Dr. Baer and Whittington were able to estimate the age of the Earth.

Radioactive elements decay from the father element to the daughter element. Radioactive element rubidium 87 (father) decays to become strontium 87 (daughter). Calculating the age of rubidium is essentially calculating how much daughter there is.

“There are three assumptions we make,” as geologists, Dr. Baer said.

First, “We assume that the decay rate is always constant.” All evidence proves that the decay rate is constant (to within 1 percent).

“We [scientists throughout the years] have tried with lots of experiments to change the decay rate,” Dr. Baer said. The results of the experiments prove that the decay rate of a given element are always the same.

“It’s not the decay rate that is changing, but our ability to measure it,” Whittington said from the audience as Dr. Baer explained that sometimes the decay rate changes a little.

The second thing geologists assume is that there was no daughter (decayed element) in the tested rocks to begin with. Dr. Baer said they have a way of checking for this.

The third thing geologists assume is that the rock being studied has not lost parents or daughters.

Assuming that these things are true, Dr. Baer said the Earth is “give or take, about 4.5 billion years old.”

Dr. Baer and Whittington come to this conclusion based off rocks found in Greenland. Dr. Baer said Greenland has some of the oldest rocks in the world. But the oldest known rocks known to man are more than 3.5 billion years old and was found in Australia, but the exact origins of the rock are unknown.

By LARRY COX

Modern Chicago arose from ashes of great fire

City of Sourdrel: The 12 Days of Disaster That Brought to Modern Chicago, by Gary Krist, (Crown, $26)

“Chicago has faced many turning points before the summer of 1919, most notably the Great Fire of 1871, but nothing prepared the city for a series of events that began unfolding that July. What became 12 days of turmoil began with a shocking air disaster.”

On Monday, July 21, 1919, the Wingfoot Express, one of Goodyear’s famed blimp, floated above downtown Chicago on a promotional tour.

As crowds watched, the blimp quickly turned to horror as the craft exploded into flames and crashed into the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, killing 13 people and injuring dozens of others.

That tragic event was followed by a transit strike that threatened to cripple the city, the sensual murder of a 6-year-old girl and a racial incident at a South Side beach that spiraled into widespread rioting. All of which led the city to the very brink of collapse.

Chicago staggered from a frenzy of violence and destruction to the calmness of a Mayor “Big Bill” Thompson, a loud blowhard who loved to swagger around town in a cowboy hat while promoting himself as a friend to the little people and against the powerful citizens of wealth and privilege.

Meanwhile, Illinois Gov. Frank O. Lowden saw the unraveling of Chicago as a way to seize control of the city from Thompson, whose administration he saw as hopelessly corrupt.

Bestselling author Gary Krist blends colorful characters and rich detail to make distant history both exciting and relevant. This is more than the story of an American city facing challenges. It is how Chicago not only survived 12 horrific days, but became a stronger city because of it. Krist’s book is an absolute triumph.

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It felt like I didn’t belong in this was intimidating in some ways. Samoan American student. “It was the celebration of more than 40 Asian-Pacific Americans. Myths discussed their experiences and heritage as they are here is because of military starring war,” Kim said. Many early immigrants came to America as refugees. “Refugees and immigrants are the hardest working people in the world,” said Innayong. The students said they were happy with the opportunities provided to them by Highline.

“I would say Highline is the most diverse college in Washington,” said Sefiino. “I thought I cannot accomplish what I want in a white man’s society. Some people here at Highline have proved me wrong.”

Earlier this week, the Asian Pacific Islanders Club celebrated its third annual Heritage Night Celebration on May 14. The event featured a number of performances by Highline students, faculty and staff, along with food. The celebration was hosted by a trio, Bradley, Zama and Katrina from the Community College Initiative (CCI) doing skits in between performances to introduce the next group.

The first performance was an Indonesian song performed by two young men on the guitar.

“I have only been in the U.S. for nine months. People called me by a different name because my name is too hard to pronounce. I learned about new foods, but most of all I made lots of friends,” said Sayabith.

Other performers included Highline’s Taiko Drum Club and music professor Sheryl Akaka on Hawaiian slack key guitar.

Event coordinator Lina Older said she was pleased with the results.

“I got a lot of volunteers and asked them to help prepare for this event. Some of them were in last year’s event as well,” she said.

“We are dedicated to bringing diversity to the campus,” said Ekk Sisavath, another organizer.

Support leads to great success

Student escapes homelessness with help from Highline

By ANGELA STONE

Challenges like these make family the top priority to everyone, no matter what the culture. Many families face rough times coming to America. “Our family was considered upper class. Coming here we moved down in socioeconomic status,” said Kim. “Your family is No. 1 when it comes to everything,” Aye said.

May marks the anniversary of the completion of the continental railroad in 1869. The tracks were laid predominately by Chinese immigrants. The small groups allow us to get everyone’s viewpoint on what they would like to do for their classmates,” said Moore. The faculty likes the program because it allows them to

Highline’s Taiko Drum Club and music professor Sheryl Akaka on Hawaiian slack key guitar.

“There can be a lot of difficulty to overcome when immigrating to America, said students and alumni. They said family is the key to making a successful transition.

Highline students and alumni met May 9 for Beyond the Sky, an event to introduce the next group. “I loved the fact that I could type in first-hand, even from different cultures from Asia and the Pacific Islands.

“All I knew was my own culture,” said Winnie Sefiino, a Samoan American student. “It was intimidating in some ways. It felt like I didn’t belong in this group, this country.”

“Highline thanked the Welcomers from Women’s Programs who were so patient with her when she changed her major three times. “I didn’t fit any of the molds,” Gardner said. Gardner finally ended up earning her degree in marketing and business development.

“[I] loved the fact that I could transfer assignments into real life experience which gave me the confidence to go ahead and start my business; and allowed me to have a business for a year, and a year’s worth of experience before I graduated,” she said.

Gardner now works at Puget Sound Real Estate Solutions. She didn’t have time to back track, Women’s Programs was there to keep her going.

By KEVIN KENISTON

By ANGELA STONE

Staff Reporter

Christopher Gardner walked away from her home with two babies in the dead of winter because of domestic violence. She had no identification and therefore no way to get money. Because of the situation, Gardner could not contact anyone she knew.

Gardner shared her story at a campus event last week. Eventually, she found her way to Highline and to Women’s Programs, which has been helping women and men since Highline since 1973.

Gardner said that when she and her children left they were without coats or shoes. They only had the clothes on their backs.

“I was a nursing mother. We had the clothes we were wearing indoors and literally that was it,” Gardner said.

Several weeks later she and her children upgraded to living in a van. They lived in that van until she heard about a unique situation.

An elderly couple, Cheri and Arnie Ellingson, were looking to put someone up in their spare room. The Ellingsons normally rented this spare room, but as Gardner said, they opened their hearts and their home to her and her children. Laughing, Gardner said, she didn’t even think that her children knew that they weren’t related to the Ellingsons.

Living with the Ellingsons, Gardner was able to attend Highline. Gardner explained to her Welcomers her experiences and heritage as refugees. “It gives us a chance to reflect on something we always don’t have time to reflect on. The small groups allow us to get everyone’s viewpoint on what they would like to do for their classmates,” said Moore. The faculty likes the program because it allows them to

Some Highline Librarians and faculty have been working together this spring to create better research assignments for classrooms. The Library Services and Technology Act is a grant that allows librarians to help faculty integrate information literacy in campus courses. The Highline library applied for the grant and was approved.

A part of the program allows librarians to work with faculty in small meetings to help them talk through research assignments for their classes. The faculty that participate in the program bring in copies, ideas, or examples of research topics that they would like to use in their courses.

The small group meetings allow librarians to use their research and knowledge to help out faculty that need more help envisioning their assignments.

Librarians have provided checklists for creating good research assignments, as well as articles about current projects pursued at other schools.

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The Thunderword / May 17, 2012

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Candidate wants better classroom management

By JOSEPH PARK
Staff Reporter

Class management techniques can help students be successful both in the academic and professional arenas, an administrative candidate said here last week.

Sheryl Copeland spoke at an open forum held on May 9 in Building 7. She is one of five finalists for the associate dean of counseling position at Highline.

Copeland is the interim director of Counseling and Resources at Edmonds Community College.

She talked about how classroom management can help students “who may be in distress, exhibiting unusual or inappropriate behavior, and/or experiencing mental health issues.”

As the new associate dean, Copeland said that she will help students prosper as independent adults by implementing flexible class expectations and offering “true help, not debilitating help.”

“I find that class management is so important, because classes need to have a set of rules and expectations,” she said. “Instructors have an enormous task of giving student information in a short amount of time, and it will completely unravel if you don’t employ classroom management techniques.”

Although Copeland strongly emphasized the importance of maintaining a fair and effective learning environment, she has also argued the necessity for instructors to make exceptions.

“I don’t see expectations and standards as brick walls, but I see them like a rubber band. You can stretch and flex depending on the situation. Of course class expectations can morph and develop over time; it’s a process,” Copeland said.

As a way of demonstrating her knowledge of being a counselor, Copeland listed some student behaviors that would require the expertise of an associate dean.

“Anxiety, depression, personality disorders, PTSD, Asperger’s, ADHD, chemical dependency, crisis/suicide intervention, adjustment disorder, loss and grief, etc. — are just a few of the mental health trends facing our college campuses,” she said.

“Students are facing a lot of stressors; the demands in our lives are unbelievable,” she said. “I’m not a believer of stress reduction; I don’t think that’s possible. One can, however, manage stress by learning to say ‘no’ or managing a busy schedule.”

Copeland said that she has done a lot of outreach for students while working at Edmonds Community College. She said she strongly believes in advertising counseling services to students.

“A lot of the times our faculty and staff members to the office to help them,” Copeland said.

Copeland holds a master’s degree in education, emphasis on counseling; a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and sociology from Seattle University.

Colleges must help students with challenges, candidate says

By SHANNON CARTER
Staff Reporter

College campuses need a way to do a better job at helping students with mental health issues said a candidate for associate dean for counseling and student judicial affairs at a forum this week.

Dr. Shannon Ledesma is one of five finalists for the associate dean position at Highline.

She spoke at an open forum on Monday in Building 7 about students, staff, and the challenges that are faced with mental illness.

Dr. Ledesma earned her doctorate degree in counseling psychology from the University of Iowa.

She has also worked as a staff psychologist at St. Joseph Medical Center and as a clinical supervisor at the Puyallup Tribal Health Authority.

“Even a single student who is having a some kind of psychological issues is going to be impactful to the entire [college] community,” said Dr. Ledesma.

Not all colleges are equipped with counseling centers or appropriate staff to help direct or guide students the way that they need to be, she said. At times even college employees need some mentoring in cases where mentally ill students are becoming disruptive, Dr. Ledesma said.

“The mission of the counseling center is to improve retention and graduation rates,” said Dr. Ledesma.

Most two-year colleges aren’t equipped with appropriate counseling centers, she said.

“A recent survey by the American College of Counseling Association, found unlike four-year institutions only 13 percent of community colleges have a functional counseling center devoted to counseling, so you really are very fortunate,” said Dr. Ledesma.

Stress, eating disorders, anxiety and many other impairments can be brought on by college life.

“If we take the chance to help the students early on then we can help prevent many unwanted scenarios,” said Dr. Ledesma.

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By JOSEPH PARK
Staff Reporter

The associate dean candidate forums will continue tomorrow, with Dr. Allison Terell-Powell from Shoreline Community College.

Both forums will be in Building 7 at 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. The campus community is invited to attend to hear the candidates, and to ask questions.
Scandalous architect is remembered for innovation

An artisan of the early 1900s used unconventional building techniques

By HIEN HONG
Staff Reporter

Frank Lloyd Wright is a famous American architect who was better at building houses than building a home life, said Highline professor Tamara Hilton.

Hilton, who teaches interior design and drafting, spoke about Frank Lloyd Wright 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.

Wright was born in Wisconsin on June 8, 1867. His mother had nurtured him to be an architect, providing him with building blocks and photographs of beautiful architecture since he was a boy, Hilton said.

“It was engrained [in Wright] that he would be a great architect,” she said.

By 1887, he dropped out of architecture school to work. Two years later, he married his first wife, Catherine “Kitty” Tobin.

Around 1901, he developed the Prairie style. Prairie houses consist of horizontal lines, a central chimney, and open floors.

The Victorian houses of that time were closed-in and boxy.

Wright thought the landscape should enhance the house and that “it should look like the building always belonged there,” Hilton said.

“He blew that out of the water,” Hilton said, adding that the Prairie style is “what he is probably most famous for.”

However, “Frank wasn’t content with just building houses,” she said. “He wants bigger, better commissions.”

In 1902, Wright built the Larkin building, his first commercial building.

“He wanted this to be more like a temple to work in,” she said.

The building had a courtyard and also included tables and chairs designed by Wright, Hilton said.

“When you hire him, he does everything for you,” she said.

“He had a unique way of engineering.”

Wright also built the Hillside school in Spring Green, Wis., in 1902.

The school has windows that went all the way to the roof, highlighting Wright’s innovation, Hilton said.

In 1909, Wright had an affair with Martha “Mamah” Cheney, the wife of a client he was working for. They decided to run off to Europe and it was Wright’s first national scandal.

“Journalists are hounding them in Europe,” Hilton said and this event “really set back Frank’s career.”

Despite the scandal, Wright started building Taliesin East, his summer home, near Spring Green, Wis., in 1911.

The name of the house, Taliesin, means shining brow in Welsh. It was named Taliesin because Wright “doesn’t believe he should build the house on top of the hill but on the brow,” Hilton said.

Taliesin East was a working farm that Mamah managed as Wright slowly started to find work again.

In 1914, Taliesin East was set on fire by an unstable farm worker and Mamah was killed.

“It is a horrible, horrible thing,” Hilton said.

Devastated as he was, Wright rebuilt Taliesin.

That same year, Wright began a tumultuous relationship with Maude “Miriam” Noel. “She is on drugs,” Hilton said. “He decided to marry her anyway.”

In 1916, Wright received the “mother of all commissions,” she said.

He built the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan. The building was structured for the earthquakes of Japan, Hilton said.

In 1923, “his building is the only building to survive the earthquake,” she said.

Wright was ecstatic because “even after all these scandals and tragedy, people are seeking him out for work,” Hilton said.

As his career was getting back on track, he met Olga “Olgivanna” Lazovich in 1924.

“Miriam is frantic,” Hilton said, and they get divorced.

In 1926, Wright’s next scandal was his arrest for being with Olgivanna, Hilton said, because he allegedly “takes her over state lines for immoral acts.”

Although the charges were later dropped, after his arrest, “Frank doesn’t have any work,” Hilton said.

Going along with Olgivanna’s suggestion, Frank started a school called the Fellowship at Taliesin East.

“This is a school where students can come and back in Frank’s glory,” Hilton said.

Although he is 62 years old at this time, Wright’s best work doesn’t really come around until later in his life, Hilton said.

In 1934, Wright built a house called Fallingwater in Pennsylvania. Wright brought his students with him while working on this house.

“He knew every piece of that land [that he was working on],” she said. Wright had delayed the design until the client called him and told him he was on his way there to see the progress.

Wright designed the house in about three hours, teaching his drafting students in the process, Hilton said.

In 1937, Wright heeded his doctor’s advice that he needed to relocate to a sunnier place, Hilton said.

“Frank decides to move West and takes his school out West,” Hilton said.

Wright relocated the Fellowship to Scottsdale, Ariz., and started working on Taliesin West, which “was built by his students,” she said.

He found a way to incorporate the rocks from the surrounding area into mortar for the house, Hilton said.

Initially, Wright wanted Taliesin West to be like camp, wide and open-spaced, so he did not install windows, Hilton said. However, Olgivanna later requested windows and insulation.

Wright worked until the day he died, Hilton said. His last major work was the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, which opened six months after Wright died in 1959.

As an architect, Wright is famous because of his organic style, encompassing local materials and a natural-looking finish. When you go into his buildings, “it’s a spiritual experience,” she said.

The next history seminar will feature Highline history professor Chiemi Ma speaking about early 20th century art & music in the United States on May 23 from 1:30-2:20 p.m. in Building 19, room 101.

Fallingwater, one of Wright’s most famous works, is located in Pittsburgh, Pa.
Spring brings the local birds out to play

Experts encourage people to observe feathered friends

By CHAYCE BALDWIN  Staff Reporter

Puget Sound birds are diverse and plentiful and offer a chance for locals to connect with nature, local experts say.

The birds of the South Puget Sound consist of a variety of songbirds, waterfowl, introduced species, and long-distance migrants, said Joe Buchanan from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

“There are a good number of species that are migrating right now … well over 400,” he said. Although there are so many species, they don’t all live year-round in South Puget Sound.

“Obviously not all of them are here all the time and some are very rare,” said Matt Mega from the Seattle Audubon. “They depend on different habitat types for maintaining their life cycle.”

The songbirds that Washintonians hear fill the air with music include the white crown sparrow, song sparrow, American robin, and spotted towhee, which are all nesting in fairly developed areas right now, Buchanan said.

Songbirds also include house finches, red-breasted nuthatch, dark eyed juncos, American goldfinches, black-capped and chestnut chickadees and northern flickers, which Cara Ianni, creator of the Urban Birds of Puget Sound webpage, said is “a really cool looking woodpecker.”

“If you put up a feeder, you can attract all sorts of [songbird] species this time of year,” Ianni said.

Using bird guides, you can identify local birds. Looking at the beak will help to identify birds and bird families in guides quicker, she said.

“The other useful thing is to know some basics about the sound they make – 90 percent of the bird ID that field biologists make are from audio rather than visual cues,” Ianni said.

The local waterfowl include ducks, Canadian geese, and high flying geese: cackling and white-fronted geese for which you have to be searching the clouds to find, Buchanan said. Vaux’s swift — waterfowl with very fast, stiff wing beats — is one of the notably interesting species migrating north right now.

Most of the Northwest’s most known and common suburban species of sparrows, starlings, and pigeons are not native species, but introduced from Europe and Asia, and now widespread in the area, Buchanan said.

“We are soon to be in the peak of breeding season where most breeding birds in Washington are building nests and getting ready to breed,” the Audubon Society’s Mega said. “Neotropical migrants return from the tropics to breed in Washington. Warblers, swallows and other songbirds are very vocal, in full breeding plumage and easiest to see and hear right now.”

Although they are common and plentiful, Puget Sound birds often are underappreciated, Fish and Wildlife’s Buchanan said.

“One of the things I think many people don’t appreciate is how beautiful the birds,” she said. “It’s remarkable how beautiful they are.”

Every bird is beautiful if you look close and appreciate them, even the common birds, Buchanan said.

“The more we learn, the more questions we have. It’s possible to learn new things about these birds all the time,” he said.

Bob Morse, coauthor of the book Birds of the Puget Sound, said, “I think most of us enjoy birds because it gives us a chance to study one facet of nature … [it’s an] easy way to keep in touch with nature.”

Local birds can also be an indicator of the health of a habitat and environment, Buchanan said. If the environment is changed, the birds will probably not persist, and leave because they often have very specific habitat needs, he said.

Ducks can often be seen at the Des Moines Marina, flitting and preening in the water.

Take a trip and visit the birds

Visit your feathered friends locally at the Green River Natural Resources Area, located at 21250 Russell Rd. S., Kent WA, 98032.

Or you can plan a trip to Olympia to visit the Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge, located at 100 Brown Farm Rd., Olympia, WA 98516.

For those who like history, plan a trip to Sequim and visit the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, and see both wild-life, and explore the New Dungeness Lighthouse, located at 715 Holgerson Rd., Sequim, Washington 98382.

Although there are constant changes in the environment like tree cutting and loss and storm water runoff and pollution in wetlands, “there are things people should do to help protect the birds,” said Mega from the Seattle Audubon. “In your backyard you can plant natives or certify your garden as a backyard wildlife sanctuary.”

“We have a really rich environment, but a lot of species are endangered,” Dr. Somer said. They are threatened by habitat destruction and overharvesting of natural resources such as fish in the birds’ diet.

“Folks can provide important nesting habitat for songbirds in their yards,” Buchanan said. “You can plan a trip to Sequim and visit the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, and see both wildlife, and explore the New Dungeness Lighthouse, located at 715 Holgerson Rd., Sequim, Washington 98382.”

Get to know them! Many have interesting behaviors that are fascinating to watch, while others are colorful and nice to look at,” Ianni said.

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Student finds niche in respiratory care program

By ALISA GRAMANN
Staff Reporter

Ban Chum considers himself to be blessed. Although Chum has lived in the U.S. for most of his life, he was born in Cambodia.

“I don’t really remember too much,” Chum said, because he moved to Tacoma with his family when he was 5 years old.

“We were actually running away from the war,” Chum said.

“Nineteen-seventy-nine marked the end of the Khmer Rouge regime, the political party responsible for the Khmer genocide,” Chum said.

“My family didn’t immigrate until 1984. I was 5 years old when my family came to America.”

Because Chum was young when his family fled Cambodia, he does not remember much of that time, he said.

“That my mom is a bit reluctant to speak of her experience during that time, she sometimes mentions stories of her struggles as she was fleeing through the jungle of Cambodia to the Thailand border,” he said. “The greatest hardship for her was when she gave birth to me in the jungle without the proper care and support.”

Chum said he still has extended family living in Cambodia, including his grandmother, and several teenage cousins, who must work to help provide for the family.

Chum said that it is difficult to see his family struggling to make ends meet. His cousins, he said, do not have the opportunity to attend school because they must work on the farm.

“I am considered blessed,” he said. “I’ll be the first to graduate out of my family.”

Chum said that coming to the U.S. opened up doors for him and gave him “big opportunities” that would not have been available to him in Cambodia.

“I can do anything,” he said.

Chum found his way to Highline through research, he said.

After completing a job shadow at St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma, Chum said he knew that he wanted to go to the medical field, and he researched local community colleges with programs, and decided on Highline.

“I chose Highline because of the reputation for having the best respiratory program and the support for the diverse student body,” he said. “I definitely enjoy it here.”

Chum began attending Highline Fall Quarter of 2009.

However, school does not come easily for him, Chum said.

“I have never studied so much in my whole life,” he said. “But Chum’s network of support — provided by his instructors, study groups and his family — has helped him succeed and earn A’s and B’s.”

“That helps a lot,” he said.

In addition to the hard work Chum puts into school, he has also had to overcome a language barrier.

Chum said that neither of his parents spoke English when they came to the U.S., and in the area where he grew up, they did not speak proper English.

Chum said that many Cambodians start smoking at a young age without knowing the ramifications of smoking.

“I was surrounded by peers who did not care or make education a priority.”

“Growing up in the projects wasn’t easy,” he said. “I was 33. Even though I was a teenage father, my circumstances made me responsible and I focus more on providing for my family.”

Chum said he chose to return to school to better himself and to get a better job to care for his family. Chum currently works nights at Valley Medical Center.

“I still feel like I’m struggling now with the English language, but to add the medical language on top of that was a great challenge for me,” he said. “Surrounding myself with other dedicated students, pre-nursing and respiratory therapy students, and faculty helped improve my communication skills.”

Chum is currently finishing up his last year at Highline, in the respiratory care program, and will graduate in June.

“I’ve always been interested in the medical field,” Chum said, but it was not until one of his daughters was hospitalized that he realized how little he knew about the field, and he was inspired to learn more.

“When his family was hospital-ized and died, Chum said he decided that he wanted to be a part of the medical field.

“Growing up I have had good experiences at every hospital he has worked in.

“I just loved it everywhere I went,” he said. “Every place has different experiences. You can’t beat that.”

Chum returned to Cambodia for the first time in 2009, he said.

“I noticed that many people are still living in villages with no electricity, no plumbing, lower educational levels and lack of access to health care,” he said.

“There are no formal jobs for respiratory therapists, but I would like to contribute in providing health-related education in the future,” he said.

Chum said that many Cambodians start smoking at a young age without knowing the ramifications of smoking.

“This is currently just an idea but I would love to put these ideas into action in the future,” he said.

“I definitely love the hospital setting,” Chum said. “I love seeing people get better.”

Highline honors veterans with Memorial Day ceremony

By SHYLA AKINS
Staff Reporter

Highline’s veterans committee is hosting a Memorial Day Recognition Program on Tuesday, May 22 to recognize veterans who have graduated from Highline.

Director of Education Planning and High School Programs, Gwen Spencer is helping to put together this event.

“Our Memorial Day Recognition Program is organized by the members of the Veterans Committee. The Veterans Committee is made up of interested staff and faculty, as well as students from our Veterans Services Office,” said Spencer.

Dr. Peter Schmidt will be giving a presentation on why remembering Memorial Day is important. Dr. Schmidt is Project Director for the Veterans Training Support Center located in Edmonds, Washington.

“He will share how this generation of vets is different and what some of the unique challenges the vets are facing. Best practices of what other colleges and universities are doing to serve student vets will be discussed,” said Spencer.

The event will also include a bag pipe music tribute by Keith Patton, who is a member of the Physical Education/Nutrition department. Patton will be playing Amazing Grace on his bagpipes.

“Memorial Day provides our nation the opportunity to recognize and appreciate the ultimate sacrifice that the men and women who serve in the United States military have made,” said Spencer.

At the event, all student vets who have successfully earned 45 credits at Highline will be recognized. All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend.

The event begins at 12:15 p.m. and is scheduled to run for about 20-30 minutes. It will be located in front of the POW-MIA Flag Memorial.

The event will be outside unless the weather is harsh. In the event of bad weather, participants will be directed to another location.

For more information the committee will be putting up a few posters around campus later this week.
Dr. Lisa Skari has caught the research bug and wants to use it to help Highline.

However, Dr. Skari, Highline’s vice president for institutional advancement, recently won an award for her doctoral dissertation.

“The award was from CASE [Council for Advancement and Support of Education],” Dr. Skari said.

Council for Advancement and Support of Education is an association of professionals that work with colleges to improve alumni relations, marketing strategies, and other fundraising aspects.

Dr. Skari’s dissertation, titled Who Gives? developed a profile on community college donors, Dr. Skari said, and is a model that predicts the likelihood that an alumnus will give money back to their community college.

“My research disproved some myths,” Dr. Skari said. “There’s just been this belief that alumni don’t care about their community colleges.”

However, Dr. Skari said, that is not true. There is something about the community college experience, she said, that makes alumni want to give back.

“It would be interesting to look at alumni in general,” Dr. Skari said, and explore what about the community college experience inspires loyalty among alumni.

Dr. Skari originally grew up in Montana, and completed her undergraduate work at Washington State University, earning a bachelors degree in fashion merchandising.

In April 2011, she completed her dissertation, and was awarded her doctorate in education in May 2011.

In between, Dr. Skari earned a masters in business administration from Pacific Lutheran University.

Dr. Skari said that completing her dissertation has whetted her appetite for more research.

“I’ve caught the research bug,” she said.

“It’s interesting to see the power of alumni,” she said. “In some ways, alumni own an organization.”

Dr. Skari said she would like to continue researching the connections between community colleges and their alumni.

Dr. Lisa Skari said that she enjoys spending time contributing to the community.

“I think it would be fascinating,” she said.

Dr. Skari’s research on alumni is related to the work she does as vice president for institutional advancement.

Next fall will mark Dr. Skari’s 20-year anniversary at Highline.

Beginning as an adjunct faculty member, Dr. Skari worked her way to a full-time faculty position, then to her current position of vice president for institutional advancement.

I deal with everything that’s either off-campus, or focused off-campus, that doesn’t have to do with instruction,” she said. This includes things such as marketing, alumni relations, fundraising and community relations.

Dr. Skari said that Highline’s print program also falls under her jurisdiction.

Dr. Skari said that one challenge she deals with is funding.

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Drugs

continued from page 1

it can be fine.”

A frequent smoker supported this opinion by saying, “I have streaks because I’ll be doing it right sometimes and then at oth-
er times I’ll abuse it and smoke way too much.”

Another regular user didn’t seem to think that was the case.

“I haven’t been in class not high since I’ve been at High-
lake,” he said. “I smoke before class, I smoke after class, I
would smoke during class if I could, and I still get good
grades.”

Other students say that smoking marijuana is a waste of
time and makes people unpro-
ductive.

“I don’t like it very much because it makes people lazy,”
said Reagan Whitman.

Shanice Abode said, “I think
it’s a waste of time to be honest
and deteriorates your mind.”

Students are much more wary when it comes to harder
drugs, although many are still accept-
ing.

“I feel like people who are using harder drugs are going
through a hard ordeal and if they stop using them they will be a
stronger person,” said Abode, who also said she had tried ec-
tasy once but didn’t like it.

Jack Brooks said, “I don’t
think it’s the smartest choice,
but I’m sure [hard drug users]
can still be good people.”

In the same non-scientific
survey, 21 out of 100 students
said they have used hard drugs.

“I do mescaline and D.M.T.
because they change my percep-
tion,” one student said. “We’re
conditioned to see the world in
a certain way and these drugs
allow you to go beyond that and
see things in a different light.”

Mescaline and D.M.T., along
with psychedelic mushrooms
and L.S.D., among other drugs,
cause the user to hallucinate.

“I remember I did [mush-
rooms] and had Mickey Mouse
and Donald Duck come out of
the TV and chill with me for
like 10 minutes,” said another
anonymous student.

Other drugs that students
mentioned were ecstasy and co-
caine. Both of these drugs give
the user energy and cause the
user to be happy. Ecstasy is con-
sidered a club drug and is often
used to dance the night away.
Cocaine is often associated
with partying and a way to blow
off steam.

“I like doing ecstasy at the
campus and definitely at a dance,”
an anonymous student said. “If
I had the opportunity I would
love to take ecstasy at a theme
park.”

Another student said about
cocaine, “Personally I like it, but
I don’t think it should be leg-
al at all.”

By PAUL PINKNEY
Staff Reporter

Central Washington students
hosted a scavenger hunt for
Federal Way and Kent kinder-
gartners on campus Tuesday.
Teaching students from Cen-
tral Washington University en-
tertained kindergarten students
from Panther Lake Elementary
and Glenridge Elementary with
a scavenger hunt in Building 29,
said Rashad Norris, director of
outreach services.

“Students from Central are
doing projects with them to help
with the teaching class,” Norris
said. “So it’s a win-win situa-
tion.”

The logistics were the hard-
est part of having teaching stu-
dents and kindergarten students
collaborate.

“Timing wise, the stu-
dents have to be available,
both the college students and the
kindergarten students,” he said.
Coordinat-

ing with Dr. Cory Gana,
a professor at Central, Norris
wanted to pro-
mote being college bound.

“We wanted to let the kids
get familiar with a college
campus and see the
students,” Norris said.

Kindergartners visited Highline as part of a program with Central Washington Un-
iversity’s education students this week. The program seeks to encourage kids to think
about college – even at a young age.

To find other BECU locations, visit www.becu.org/locations.

* Checking and savings accounts have no monthly maintenance fees. Visit any BECU
location and bring this coupon with you. For new members only, age 18 and older. Must
open a BECU savings and checking account. Establish and maintain membership with
$5 minimum balance. Accounts must remain open for 90 days or more. BECU reserves
the right to terminate this offer at any time. Check with BECU for other terms, limitations
and conditions that may apply and for current rates. The $25 deposit to your savings
account will occur as interest  within 30 days of opening accounts and will be reported to
the IRS as interest income on IRS Form 1099-INT at year end.

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Codes

continued from page 1 to A and B lots, include definitions of the terms “campus” — which will allow jurisdiction to stretch to any college-controlled property that Highline may acquire — and “registered vehicle” — which will let the college differentiate between vehicles registered at the college and state registered vehicles.

Furthermore, in the chapter, the requirement for pedestrians to use provided sidewalks will be removed, as the college has deemed it “essentially unenforceable.” Changes to the student rights and responsibilities chapter include the removal of several restrictions, such as the distribution of flyers in parking lots and the requirement the First Amendment activities be respectful, on the grounds that such restrictions could “impermissibly inhibit First Amendment activities.”

On the same grounds, the requirement that groups reserve campus space for activities has been removed, although groups are still encouraged to give notice of occupation of a space.

Related changes to the use of facilities chapter limits events to no more than eight hours, unless otherwise approved by a vice president of the college. Other changes also require First Amendment activities to be done between the hours of 7 a.m. – 11 p.m.

“I don’t know that the student code had a time frame,” Yok said. However, by creating a time frame, the college is provided with reasonable time to clean-up after events, he said.

Moved to the general conduct chapter is the bit on weapons prohibition, which will also be updated to explicitly prohibit firearms — something that the WAC does not specifically prohibit.

“The prohibition was initially in the student code,” Yok said, but was moved so that it rules would encompass everyone on campus, not only applying to students.

“It’s [also] easier to find,” he said.

Finally, the section for non-academic complaints will be moved, and will be open to everyone. Yok said that the college wanted to be able to address nonacademic complaints that people have, not just the complaints of students.

Work on revisions to the WAC has been underway since February, Yok said, and there have been many meetings of campus officials.

“There have been lots of conversations,” he said. “We’ve tried to be as open and inclusive as we can.”

A public hearing regarding the revisions will be on June 7, beginning at 3 p.m. in Building 2. Anyone interested is invited to attend and provide feedback on the revisions.

“I’ve had some questions and suggestions [already],” Yok said.

To date, he said, “It [the revisions] hasn’t been very controversial.” However, as the public provides feedback, concerns may crop up.

“I’d be a little more surprised if it [concerns] came just from people on campus,” Yok said, because people on campus have had the benefit of the many meetings and conversations.

However, Yok said, “typically, when we do this sort of thing, it’s more questions.”

To read the full list and text of revisions to the Washington Administrative Code, or to provide feedback online, visit wacrevision.highline.edu.

The text of Washington Administrative Code currently in use can be found at www.apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/, under Title 132I.

Loans

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“Despite this setback, I will continue to fight to keep college affordable and accessible to students,” Sen. Murray said.

Sen. Murray was a supporter of the 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act, which established the current 3.4 interest rate.

“At [also] included a variety of important provisions,” Sen. Murray said, “including an increase to the maximum Pell grant amount, and protections to ensure graduates do not spend more than 15 percent of their income on loan payments each month.”

“I believe it helped make important progress toward ensuring higher education accessibility for more students,” she said.

Sen. Murray said that she can understand what students are up against.

“This issue is very personal for me because Pell grants and student loans were what allowed my six siblings and me to go to college,” she said.

“I understand firsthand how important these programs are, and families rely on them to support higher education opportunities,” Sen. Murray said.

The MaST Center is turning its attention to Orcas on Saturday.

As part of the biweekly Science on the Sound series, Nancy Broege, a naturalist with Dolphin Avenues, will be talking about curious habits that Orcas have, such as spy hopping.

Dolphin Avenues is an organization that studies various aspects of dolphin life. Dolphin Avenues plans to be incorporating teaching about dolphins and other marine mammals.

The Science on the Sound seminar will be on Saturday, May 19, at noon at the MaST Center.

The MaST is located at 28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S., Des Moines.

Learn about Orcas at the MaST

The Thunderword / May 17, 2012