Sit, roll over, save lives; future seeing eye dog trains at Highline

By Micah Litowitz
Staff Reporter

The youngest student at Highline comes to class every day, but never passes.

This student’s name is Jam, and she is a 7-month-old guide dog in training. She goes to class with her trainer, Jacqueline Kemp.

Kemp, also a Highline student, and Jam work with Guide Dogs for the Blind, an organization that trains future guide dogs for the visually impaired. The organization works with smaller groups throughout the country, including the local Des Moines club, Paws 2 Guide.

Some Highline students are volunteer puppy raisers. They raise puppies full-time and take them home, which is why students might see puppies with green vests on the campus. Others are volunteer puppy sitters, who only take the pups for an afternoon or weekend.

The lab and retriever puppies start their training at 8 weeks old and stay in their group until they are about a year-and-a-half. Raisers and sitters bond with the pups and train them through bi-weekly meetings, command training, socializing, and treats.

The lab and retriever puppies start their training at 8 weeks old and stay in their group until they are about a year-and-a-half. Raisers and sitters bond with the pups and train them through bi-weekly meetings, command training, socializing, and treats.

Jacqueline Kemp and her puppy Jam sit in class.

After thorough training with local groups such as Paws 2 Guide, the pups are sent to the main campus in California to take final tests to ensure they are ready to be united with an owner. Once Guide Dogs for the Blind decides that the pups are ready to be with an owner, the organization matches with pup with an applicant they find fit, and send that applicant out to the California campus to see how they and pup work together. If the two are a good match together, the pup flies home with their new owner and they begin working together.

Kelli Reiter, Guide Dogs for the Blind group leader in Des Moines, says that it is important to be respectful when around the Blind decides that the pups are ready to be with an owner, the organization matches with pup with an applicant they find fit, and send that applicant out to the California campus to see how they and pup work together. If the two are a good match together, the pup flies home with their new owner and they begin working together.

Lilliam was a loving mother to her two boys, a faithful wife, a daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. She will be missed deeply,” website said.

So far the website has generated $6,025 in funds. The link to donate is https://www.gofundme.com/portillofamilyfund. Highline staff member, Mareth Schwab, is accepting donations, which will collectively be donated to the GoFundMe site. Schwab said donations can be dropped off at the front desk of Building 19 located in room 109.

ESL student dies in car crash last Sunday

By Jacqueline Robinson
Staff Reporter

Highline student Lilliam Portillo was killed in a two-car collision on Oct. 24.

The accident occurred on eastbound State Route 518 at the intersection of State Route 509. The collision resulted in the death of Portillo, 41. Portillo’s son was critically injured in the crash and rushed to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

Lilliam said, “Why didn’t you call us? We are your family; we will help you.” It was lovely.”

There has been a GoFundMe account started for the Portillo family.

House said Portillo was a kind person. “She took care of the students who sat at her table,” House said. “One of those students was an Iraqi [veteran] who had been injured in the war and had PTSD.”

“One time he missed a few days and when he told us that he had been in the hospital, Lilliam said, ‘Why didn’t you call us? We are your family, we will help you.’ It was lovely.”

There has been a GoFundMe account started for the Portillo family.

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Election results promise change

By Thunderword Staff

South King County voters chose new city council members, approved a new fire levy and voted against the sale of marijuana in the city of Federal Way.

The race for the 30th legislative district appears to have narrowed the Democrat majority in the State House of Representatives.

The 30th Legislative District includes the entire city of Federal Way and portions of Des Moines, Auburn, Pacific, Milton and Algona.

As of 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Republican Teri Hickel leads incumbent Rep. Carol Gregory, D-Federal Way, with 54.33 percent of the vote, and by a margin of 1,308 votes.

A Hickel victory would bring the split in the House to 50 Democrats and 48 Republicans, placing the latter party within two seats of a majority.

“The outlook is good for the 30th District,” Hickel said.

Hickel said if elected, she would like to focus on state funding of public education, as well as transportation infrastructure.

“We are a [transportation] bottleneck,” Hickel said of Federal Way’s location between Seattle and Tacoma.

She also said she would try to reach across party lines.

She did say that 90 percent of business in the Legislature tends to be polarizing, particularly concerning taxes.

“I’m not one of those hardcore partisans,” Hickel said.

See Vote, page 11

See Puppy, page 12
Crime & Punishment

Couple mugged south of campus

By Paul King-Sanchez
Staff Reporter

A couple flagged down Public Safety Officers after three males robbed them at gunpoint a few blocks south from campus on Nov. 1.

The robbers pointed a gun at the woman's head and told the couple to give them their wallets, phones, and any cash the couple had. Public Safety notified Des Moines Police Department to make contact with the victims.

This case is still under investigation.

Woman says ex won't stay away

A female student told Public Safety on Oct. 30 that her ex-spouse was violating a no-contact order on campus.

The woman said that her ex-spouse possibly has been on campus, but was unable to determine the date and time.

Public Safety advised that the student should report what she told Public Safety also to King County Superior Court or the local police agency.

Public Safety received a copy of the protection order.

Naked man bares it all

A naked man was reported as being strangely in Building 13 on Nov. 2.

It was reported that he appeared to be doing heroin.

When Public Safety entered the room, the man was in a stall and a hammer could be seen on the floor.

When contacted, the suspect had no articles of clothing missing.

Des Moines Police Department was also contacted to assist. The male didn't want to provide identification.

Police gave the man a warning to not come back on campus and police told the male that he would be cited for trespassing if he comes back.

Crime Blotter is compiled from reports produced by Public Safety.

New Public Safety director sought

By Bryce Sizemore
Staff reporter

After failing to find a director of Public Safety, the search for a Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management continues in its place.

Highline has been without a director of Public Safety since the former director, Jim Baylor, left in June.

The school began a search for a replacement over the summer, finally narrowing down to three finalists.

At least one of the candidates dropped out, and the other two were interviewed, college officials decided that neither was a good fit for the school.

The college wants to attract more candidates to the position than it did the first time, said Michael Pham, vice president of Administrative Services.

In order to do so, Pham has reduced the requirement for supervision in a public safety or law enforcement setting to only two years, rather than the original five-year requirement.

The wage has also been increased by $3,000 to $68,000 a year, the most recent offer.

However, this amount is not linking them to the survey in their student emails, and the survey is also located at https://www.highline.edu/studentsurvey.

The deadline for submitting a survey is Nov. 7.

Transform your life and your wallet

Highline is seeking applicants for the Transforming Lives Award.

The Association of College Trustees Transforming Lives Award seeks to recognize current or former students whose lives have been changed by attending a community or technical college in Washington.

To apply for the $500 award, applicants must submit a compelling 500-word essay about overcoming obstacles to achieve higher education goals, or on how college transformed their lives, contact information and a photo, (limited to head and shoulders with a plain, light background) to Iskari@highline.edu by 5 p.m. on Nov. 10.

Send news tips to thursdaywords@highline.edu. Deadline is Tuesday of each week.
Vape pens continue to confuse students

By Luke Field
Staff Reporter

Smoking is only allowed in designated areas on campus, not just 25 feet from any public building, as state law requires. And that goes for vape pens as well as tobacco. Marijuana? Forget about it. Even though recreational use is legal in Washington state, it can’t be consumed in public.

It’s the vape pens that are causing the most confusion.

The King County Board of Health identifies vape pens as “electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, are battery operated devices that closely resemble cigarettes, although they do not contain tobacco. People who use electronic smoking devices inhale vaporized liquid nicotine, or other liquids, created by heat through an electronic ignition system and exhale the vapor in a way that mimics smoking.”

It is the mimicking that has caused vape pens to become a topic of controversy.

Highline student Dakotah Pepper said she doesn’t care about vape pens. “It’s different, but easier to make it all one rule,” she said.

Another student, Sameh Starks, said they should be treated like cigarettes.

“They contain nicotine as well. They just smell better,” he said.

But smell isn’t the only concern.

“Don’t really know what those things cause yet,” said student Jamie Joseph.

To address the influx of vape pens on campus, the King County Board of Health, has established regulations making electronic cigarettes synonymous to smoking. Section 19.12.030 finds that the emergence of these new electronic vaporizing devices poses a threat to public health.

The code cited, in addition to the nicotine, “the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has found that they contained toxic chemicals and carcinogens,” after conducting laboratory tests on numerous brands of electronic smoking devices.

“E-cigarettes and vaping devices are not risk-free. These products are not regulated and research is emerging that shows serious concerns about health effects, especially for youth,” said Scott Neal, King County’s Tobacco Prevention manager. “The aerosol created by the devices is comprised of chemicals that can cause addiction, and e-cigarette vapor may cause secondhand exposure.”

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has also concluded nicotine is as addicting as cocaine or heroin and is highly toxic.

Many people can only think of one to three designated smoking areas around campus, but Highline has six such areas. These areas are located northeast of Building 17; west of Building 5; southwest of Building 10; on the north side of the Student Union; in between buildings 25 and 26, and on the east side of Building 28.

Most of these areas are marked by shelters, signs and ash receptacles.

Student Taylor Berglund doesn’t want people smoking at all and thought it best to do away with the designated areas. However, she found no problem with students vaping on the way to class as long as they’re outside of buildings.

If caught smoking in an undesignated area, any faculty or staff member, not just a Public Safety officer, can ask the offender to find a designated smoking area. The offending party is obligated to comply.

If students do not comply, Public Safety Sgt. George Curtis said offenders will be identified and referred to a judicial affairs officer for a meeting about the nature and content of the offense. Punishment can range from academic probation to suspension.

As stiff as penalties are, “I feel that people that don’t smoke shouldn’t have to deal with smokers,” said student Jamie Joseph.

Refugee students tell tales of adjustment, struggle

By Jessica Strand
Staff Reporter

Being uprooted and transplanted can be hard for any immigrant, but the challenges that refugee immigrants face are even greater, said three Highline College veterans such as herself.

Breaking Barriers: Refugee Immigrants in College is the third installment in the Voices of Resilience series, put on by the college’s Veterans Services.

Gay Htoo from Myanmar, Josephus Tolo from Liberia, and Aweis Sharif from Somalia all share one thing in common; they have had to learn to navigate through refugee camps, the immigration system, and finally an educational system while facing stigma of looking and talking differently.

The United States is called the land of opportunity, but the picture this paints has left some refugees feeling deceived.

“The expectation that was set for the United States of America were very, very high,” Tolo said.

“The media portrayed America as the land of opportunity. And this is the land of opportunity but they didn’t tell you that in order for you to get into the land of opportunity they had to strip you of all your identity.”

Sharif’s parents shared a similar experience as Tolo, with expectations of easily landing a job. They quickly learned finding a job was hard without being fluent in English, and had to work two or three jobs to provide for their family.

“When who want to hire some one who doesn’t speak English, they can’t even help the custom ers,” Sharif said. “It would take weeks, months at a time, to try to find a job.”

Sharif is a refugee from Somalia and was born in a refugee camp in Kenya. He came to the United States at a young age, but still had to face language barriers, and a harder time in school.

“Normal kids who had to study for a test, they wouldn’t have to study as long,” Sharif said. “It was easier because they already knew the language.”

Even though it was difficult, it was still possible to succeed through hard work and dedication, Sharif said.

When asked by a presenter which Highline programs have impacted them the most, both Tolo and Sharif named the Umoja Black Scholars Program. Htoo said TRIO was helpful for immigrant students such as herself.
Public safety leaves campus unsecure

Disaster strikes when you least expect it. If you were expecting it, and prepared for it, it very likely wouldn’t be a disaster. In the wake of the Umpqua tragedy, many college campuses are increasing security to ensure a safer experience for students and faculty.

Highline, on the other hand, is doing the opposite and limiting Public Safety from operating 24-hours-a-day, to a new schedule that leaves stretches of the late night unsecure. Thankfully, Highline will be reverting back to the original schedule in a few weeks. But for now, the new schedule poses some issues.

The schedule was adjusted to 5 a.m. to 2 a.m. on the weekends, leaving a three hour period unsecure, and 6 a.m. to midnight on the weekends, leaving a six hour period unsecure. Although this schedule allows Public Safety officers to work simultaneously during the day, the unprotected stretches of time create hazards for the students and surrounding community.

The city of Des Moines doesn’t necessarily have the best reputation for safety. With sex trafficking on Pacific Highway, reported drug use at Parkside Park, and numerous cases of theft and violence on campus, Highline College benefits from having constant security.

With unprotected stretches of time, a lack of security at Highline makes the campus vulnerable to late night theft, trespassing and violence.

Highline contains lots of valuables, such as expensive computers, projectors, and other equipment, that could motivate criminals to strike if they know that it’s easy to get away with. Although Des Moines police are supposed to respond if anything goes wrong, the response isn’t as quick as someone who is already on campus.

If someone saw something happening on campus, or were in danger themselves, the response time to get help could be too late. Despite having more security during the day, nights at Highline are currently unsecure and dangerous to staff and students.

Federal Way City Council gives green stores the red-light

Hopes of owning or visiting a pot shop in Federal Way have grown up in smoke since residents voted no on Advisory Proposition 1. Advisory Proposition 1 asked the people whether or not the Federal Way City Council should enact an ordinance allowing marijuana-related businesses within the city of Federal Way.

In April, Federal Way City Council banned marijuana stores within city limits. Since then, consumers have had to travel to alternative cities in order to obtain their share of the devil’s lettuce.

But what many don’t realize is that these restrictions in Federal Way are hurting residents more than helping.

First and foremost, one thing people are constantly forgetting is that marijuana has numerous uses, medical and recreational. Aside from getting stoned, people utilize the plant for all kinds of reasons including pain management, appetite induction, and preventing seizures. Also, not everybody smokes marijuana.

Crohn’s disease patients eat edibles to soothe inflammation and swelling in the digestive tract; chronic pain patients utilize topical lotions and salves to physically relax sore joints and muscles; and cancer patients take pills of concentrated marijuana compounds to literally kill cancer cells without the dangers of chemotherapy.

These methods can be helpful and healthy alternatives to harsh medications for people who legitimately need them, and many don’t have any psychoactive effects. By limiting the accessibility to medication, the city is essentially denying people the legitimate ailments the choice of their treatment.

Besides dodging moral implications, the city is also missing out on tax revenue by preventing recreational stores from opening. According to AP, in the first year, Washington state earned $62 million in marijuana excise taxes alone. That number surpassed the original estimate of $36 million.

By preventing recreational pot stores from opening, Federal Way is turning a hefty amount of tax dollars toward 420-friendly cities, such as Des Moines.

Many people argue that having more pot stores in an area increases the availability to children, and raises the rates of crime. Despite the fact that legal pot is a booming business in Washington currently, it doesn’t seem to be affecting the youth very much.

The usual demographic for legally purchasing marijuana, is clientele 25-and-older. These people generally have steady jobs and steady incomes, the city is also missing out on tax revenue by preventing recreational stores from opening.

Additionally, Senate Bill 5052 outlines that minors under 21 in possession of marijuana could potentially face a Class C felony. However, if a minor really wanted to get some weed, it would happen regardless of the law.

For decades before people were even discussing legalizing pot, people have been doing back-alley drug deals in Federal Way. These black-market dealers lurk in inconspicuous areas such as schools and parking lots, and sell untested and unauthorized drugs to people who may not know any better.

Sometimes, these drugs are fake or laced with other drugs, which can cause dangerous reactions from unsuspecting buyers. If anything, legalizing pot stores in Federal Way would take away power from the drug lords on the streets, and give it to an entity that can give it some degree of safety and accountability.

Kayla Dickson is the opinion editor at the Thunderword.
By Jacqueline Robinson
Staff Reporter

It wasn’t until author Paul Boyce retired from aerospace engineering that his writing career took off.

“I am not a writer,” Boyce said. “I’m an engineer that writes.”

Boyce just released his third book in the series The Hooks Files, through Tate Publishing.

Making the jump from engineer to author was not Boyce’s initial intent. Actually he stumbled upon his writing talent.

“I started out ['writing'] by accident,” said Boyce. “After I retired I wanted to research my family history on both sides, all the way back to the immigrants.”

Boyce said that it was in that research, and years of writing down his family history, that he realized he had a natural talent for writing. His wife encouraged him to use it.

“My wife said, 'Why don’t you start a novel?'” Boyce said.

Boyce was reluctant at first. It wasn’t until he was shopping for a book for his granddaughters, and couldn’t find anything appropriate, that he decided to write The Hooks.

“Where are the wholesome stories?” Boyce questioned. “All I could find were stories about witchcraft and supernatural powers. That’s not realistic for youngsters.”

So Boyce decided to write an age-appropriate story. He came up with the idea of the Hooks Files.

The Hooks Files is about 11-year-old cousins, Billy and Jessica. Boyce said. “They team up with Elias Hooks, who is the town coroner. Together they solve some of the town’s toughest mysteries.”

Each character brings something to the team, Boyce said. Their personalities complement each other.

“Hooks is a knowledgeable, pragmatic person with a lot of experience and connections,” Boyce said. “His job as a coroner gets him unique firsthand information. He always has an unusual approach to situations. Billy is the thoughtful one. He sees the logic in every situation,” Boyce said. “Jessica is smart and precocious and never forgets a thing. Her contributions to the team are her research skills.”

The book takes place in 1936. Boyce had specific reasons for setting the book in that year.

“I wanted it to be in the ‘30s,” Boyce said.

“I wanted to demonstrate to youngsters that there was a way of life different from today,” he said.

“Don’t reject 1936 America; it was a distressing time; a depression; we were in the shadow of World War II; and yet still we had a way of life that was pleasant,” he said.

Boyce has firsthand insight into transitioning into a writing career.

“Today, what you have to do is become educated in something else to provide for your self,” Boyce said. “The writer I learned from was a lawyer. He did writing on the side until his writing got so popular he could live off of writing alone.”

Boyce has studied editor Sol Stein’s ideas to help develop his writing.

“Anyone interested in doing any writing should get Sol Stein’s book, Stein on Writing,” Boyce said. “Get it, study it and use it.”

Another piece of advice Boyce has to offer is to not be scared to throw things out.

“You have to have the courage to throw things out that don’t advance your story. Even if it is well written,” Boyce said.

By EB Hutchinson
Staff Reporter

Highline artists can share their work with the Kent community and possibly score a $1,000 grant to make that happen.

The grants are being offered by the City of Kent Arts Commission in an effort to support local artists through their Give Me Culture program.

“We developed the program to support the sharing of art and culture with those in ethically diverse and underserved communities,” said Ronda Billerbeck, Cultural Programs manager for the City of Kent.

All Highline students are eligible for the grant and the projects or event must take place in Kent or the Kent School District service area.

The grant is intended to showcase and broaden participation in arts and cultural activities in the Kent area.

Over the last few years the grant has benefited many artists, including Theater Battery, which produces experimental plays. But the grants are not limited to theatrical works.

“Artists in all creative disciplines who want to connect their craft to the people of Kent are encouraged to apply,” Billerbeck said.

Applications are accepted year-round, and must be received two months prior to the start of the project or event date.

For more information, contact Billerbeck at 253-856-5050 or rbillerbeck@kentwa.gov.
Artform hangs on by a string

By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

Bites of string, yarn, and paper mache can transport your mind into a magical world with real lions and ringmasters — and even a wolf that says he didn’t intend to eat the three little pigs.

Humans have been using puppets for thousands of years, dating as far back as Ancient Egypt. Some of the most famous puppets today are found on the little screens and shows such as Sesame Street and The Muppets.

Puppets have made their way into every culture, from Asian, European cultures, and even to Pre-Columbian Native American cultures.

It’s human nature to be able to attach meaning and caricature to inanimate objects, said Dmitri Carter from the Northwest Puppet Center.

“People have always been fascinated with animating these inanimate objects — even little kids playing with toys before they can talk,” Carter said. “It’s a special attribute of humans to make abstract associations and relate to these little figures, and detach themselves from reality for a moment.”

In Seattle’s Maple Leaf neighborhood — not far from Northgate — sits a renovated church which houses the Northwest Puppet Center, along with a massive puppet collection, and one of the largest puppet book libraries in the Western Hemisphere.

And to carry on the tradition of story telling with puppets, the center’s second show of the season starts this Saturday: Nov. 7, and runs Saturdays and Sundays through Nov. 22. The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by A. Wolf, is performed by Paul Meinert Puppets, who are on tour from Kansas City.

“The show is based on a children’s book by John Scieszka,” Carter said. “It’s a really silly adaptation because it’s all from the wolf’s perspective — and he said he didn’t go to eat the pigs, he went to borrow a cup of sugar and it’s all a big mistake.”

The center will launc

Tickets are $9 for children and seniors, and $11 for adults.

“They’re also happy to give scholarships,” Carter said. “If cost is an issue for anybody, we work through gift in-kind services and community agencies to give away free tickets to folks who can’t afford them.”

In addition to regular productions, the downstairs of the Northwest Puppet Center houses its puppet exhibit.

“We just have a small space to display but we’ve got one of the most important puppet collections in the country — one of the most important in the world,” Carter said.

The 2015-2016 season’s puppet display is dedicated to African traditions, he said.

The exhibit contains marionette-type puppets from Ghana, made from gourds. It has a mask from Nigeria that is worn on a person’s head like a helmet, with moveable puppets on top. And there are even brightly colored children’s toy figures.

“We try to rotate exhibits, each season so that the audience coming through has something new to look at,” Carter said.

The center is also home to thousands of puppet books, and if you’ve got a puppet question, it’s likely the center has a book with the answer.

“We’ve got probably the largest collection of puppet books in the Western Hemisphere,” Carter said. “There’s a place in France that gets significant support from their Ministry of Culture and they’ve got us beat.”

“There’s some books on how-to,” Carter said. “If people were curious on making a puppet they could ask for a book on how to make a shadow puppet or how to make a marionette and we’d likely have a book going step-by-step how to do it.”

The center’s book collection started out modest, he said. Without being able to find the books needed in a regular library, the center started accumulating its own. Over time its collection grew to a couple thousand books.

“Then we received a donation from the family of a great puppeteer from the Bay Area, Lettie Schubert. Her family donated her private library to the center which was another couple thousand books,” Carter said. The center recently received a donation of 5,000 puppets, and another couple thousand books, he said. The library is now so extensive, it will soon be moved offsite, and available to view only by appointment.

The center is not only likely to have the right how-to book, it also teaches the art of puppetry. The higher education of puppetry started in Seattle before anywhere else in the world, Carter said. It started at Cornish College of the Arts in the late teens of the last century and has stretched across the country from there.

The Northwest Puppet Center is regularly invited to teach puppetry to scholars of all ages around the country.

“When we teach programs we’ll gear it towards the group that we’re working with,” Carter said. “If it’s college students, we can make it a more sophisticated project than if we’re working with preschoolers.”

“Because our space is limited, we’d be invited to go teach at a separate campus, or a museum, or a library — and we’d teach there,” Carter said. “We try to get out with teaching classes and having educational programs, lectures and demonstrations.”

Northwest Puppet Center is at 9123 15th Ave. N.E., in Seattle. For more information or purchase tickets, visit nwppuppet.org.

Shock wears off in ‘Experimenter’

By Jessica Strand
Staff Reporter

Like an experiment gone wrong, Michael Almereyda’s Experimenter starts off with premise, but devolves into a lack of results.

In 1961, Dr. Milgram conducted experiments where participants would give electrical shocks to a person in the other room. The shocks were not real and the person in the other room was an actor. The experiment was to test human behavior when acting under authority.

People thought the experiments were unethical and that Dr. Milgram was tricking participants, although 85 percent of participants said they were glad they participated in the experiment.

As a result of the backlash, he was rejected for tenure at Harvard and moved to New York to work as a full-time professor at City University.

The experiments and results are outlined in Dr. Milgram’s book Obedience to Authority: An Experimental View.

The film opens with the infamous experiments, but follows Dr. Milgram’s life until his death in 1984.

Dr. Milgram, played by Peter Sarsgaard, is terrified that his experiments show that people are generally vulnerable when presented with an authority figure.

Sarsgaard narrates through the film, telling the audience what he thinks about what has happened in his life. The constant narration gives the audience an inside look into Dr. Milgram’s inner thoughts.

Sarsgaard begins as a clean-cut, confident Dr. Milgram, but then deteriorates into an unrecognizable bearded man as the story expands.

He starts to become depressed as the public starts to turn against him and turns into a glassy-eyed zombie as the film advances.

The film never really explains why he becomes depressed, with the only reason being the results from his experiments and the backlash, creating a confusing plot hole.

Winona Ryder plays Dr. Milgram’s wife, Sasha, who dances across the screen as a ballerina-turned-office worker.

She is introduced as a worldly woman who studied in France and had travelled all over, but her development stops as soon as she meets Dr. Milgram.

Ryder plays Sasha as a character who is always and agreeable, even when her life is constantly changing, due to her husband’s experiments.

Both Sarsgaard’s and Ryder’s acting is flat, but it’s hard to tell if it’s because of their acting or the script.

“When it ends with a spatter, instead of a bang, which disappoints after a strong beginning. Experimenter is now playing at the Seven Gables Theater at 911 N.E. 50th Street, Seattle.
T-Birds crowned co-champs of west

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

With only one game left before the playoffs, the women’s soccer team took care of business and clinched the No. 1 spot in the west.

Just like last year, Highline will share the west crown with Bellevue, but because they owned the tiebreaker, the T-Birds got the top spot.

Highline, 11-1-0 (15-3-1 overall), in their final regular season game left no doubt that they are ready for the postseason to begin.

Having previously faced Grays Harbor, beating them 11-0, the T-Birds decided to best that score by destroying the Chokers 12-0.

Granted the Chokers, 0-12-0 (0-16-0 overall), haven’t won a game all year, this was more off a tune up game for Highline before the real competition begins.

“We needed to have a game before the playoffs,” said Highline Head Coach Tom Moore.

“We had a week off, and then Grays Harbor, then another week until the quarterfinals. It’s too long to go without a game so I’m glad we were able to play.”

The T-Birds got off to a very quick start and wouldn’t stop the offensive pressure, with Nicole Cruz kicking things off by scoring a goal at the sixth minute.

Highline scored five goals in the first half and seven goals in the second half, which averaged out to almost a goal every six minutes.

Nine different players scored a goal with freshman Arianna Fiorillo taking charge, leaving her imprint on the game with three goals and four assists.

“We were able to implement some new schemes that we have been working on and I think it will help as we move forward,” said Coach Moore.

This game was also a chance for the T-Birds to give freshman goalkeeper Iovy Swanes some good playing time.

Due to regular goalkeeper Rachel Thompson’s minor leg injury, Moore said last week he might put his other two goalkeepers in rotation with Sydney Peters getting the start against Green River.

Now with the regular season over, the T-Birds can focus on the playoffs and winning it all.

Because of their seeding, Highline has been a bye week the last five days and won’t play until Saturday, Nov. 7.

“It’s always important to get that first round bye,” Moore said. “You only have to win one game to get to the final four rather than two. That’s where everything special happens. The spotlight shines at the final four.

What’s even better for the T-Birds is that all the games, including the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship game will be played at the Starfire Complex where they play all their home games.

Highlines first game of the postseason will be this Saturday at 4:30 p.m. against the Clark Penguins.

Thunderbirds stay in first with win over Green River

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

Highline’s volleyball team came up big last week, beating both of their division opponents.

The T-Birds, 8-2 (29-6 overall), are back in a tie with Tacoma for the top spot in the West Division after winning two of their games last week.

Their first game was on Oct. 28, a road game against Centralia, 1-8 (5-20 overall).

The ladies won all three sets, 25-13, 25-14, 25-16, by an average of 10 points and tallied 40 kills, as opposed to the Trailblazers’ 21.

Sophomore Cheyanne Haas led the way for the T-Birds with 10 kills as Kateykn Fullmer and Lehaualani Keke combined to register 27 aces.

The next game for the T-Birds was a late night home game against Green River.

The Gators gave Highline a little bit of trouble in the first set, but the T-Birds were able to pull it out and win, 27-25.

The Thunderbirds had no problems with the Gators in the next two sets, taking advantage of the opposing team’s errors and winning the sets, 25-17, and 25-15.

Highline’s Emi Atanoa registered 13 kills in the game as freshman Taylor Alicuben earned 19 aces.

With only two games left in the regular season, the T-Birds will need to keep up their winning ways if they want to keep pace with Tacoma.

Highline has won four in a row and played in a rematch game yesterday against Lower Columbia at home with results unavailable at press time.

Lower Columbia is third in the West Division of the Northwest Athletic Conference.

After the Red Devils, the T-Birds will play their final regular season game on the road against Grays Harbor, who beat them back in October.

Highline will face the Chokers Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. in Aberdeen.
### Men's soccer eyes league title after downing Titans

By Olivia Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

The Highline men’s soccer team’s quest to seize another NWAC Championship is well on its way. The win against Tacoma on Oct. 28 earned the team much more than just bragging rights. Repeating history, the T-Birds claimed the West Division championship title for the second year in a row. This win also gives Highline a bye for the first round of playoffs. The gift of time is incredibly valuable this far into the season, coaches say. Because of the bye, the team says they now have time to recover, refocus, practice and plan their attack for quarterfinals. Being crowned champions last year means every team that plays us will be at their very best and want to beat us that much more,” said Highline Head Coach, Steve Mohr.

“Our goal is to play our game at a very high level, which gives us the best opportunity to repeat as champions.”

With the division title clinched and the rankings finalized, the game scheduled for Monday, Nov. 2 against Bellevue was cancelled. Regardless of the outcome, both teams’ standings in the league would not have changed so the game was deemed pointless.

Highline carries a 12-1-1 season record and 10-0 league record. Tacoma comes in second with a 9-2-1 record and Bellevue in third with a 5-5-1 record.

Highline leads the entire league with 56 goals scored this season, allowing only 10 goals to be scored against them. Highline's Isidro Prado-Huerta takes charge of the ball against a Tacoma opponent.

*Men’s soccer scores*

**NORTH**  
LEA PTS SEA  
Peninsula: 14-0-1 23-0-1  
Whatcom: 8-3-4 20-9-4  
Edmonds: 7-6-2 23-7-4  
Skagit Valley: 5-7-3 15-9-3  
Shoreline: 4-8-6 17-4-6-8  
Everett: 1-12-2 5-11-2

**EAST**  
Spokane: 9-3-0 30-1-4  
Walla Walla: 7-4-2 24-9-4  
C. Basin: 7-8-0 21-8-9  
T. Valley: 5-6-5 20-8-7-5  
North Idaho: 4-7-4 16-6-7-4  
Wenatchee: 3-8-4 13-10-4

**WEST**  
Highline: 10-0-0 30-1-2 1  
Tacoma: 9-2-1 28-11-3  
Bellevue: 5-5-1 16-7-2  
Pierce: 2-8-2 8-3-10-3  
South Puget: 1-10-0 3-1-12-1

**SOUTH**  
Clark: 8-3-2 25-9-5  
Cheney: 7-3-2 23-10-4  
SW Oregon: 6-4-2 20-7-3  
Portland: 5-6-1 16-8-7-2  
Rogue: 1-10-0 3-1-12-1

**Women’s soccer**

**North**  
LEA PTS SEA  
Peninsula: 14-0-1 42-19-0  
Everett: 3-2-3 39-15-3  
Shoreline: 6-7-2 20-8-3  
Whatcom: 6-9-0 18-7-10-0  
Edmonds: 5-6-2 14-11-3

**East**  
Spokane: 10-2-0 30-13-2  
North Idaho: 8-3-1 25-9-5  
T. Valley: 7-3-2 23-11-3  
C. Basin: 5-5-2 19-7-7-3  
Walla Walla: 5-6-1 16-6-8-3  
Yakima Valley: 1-8-5 5-9-3

**SOUTH**  
Tacoma: 9-2-1 28-11-3  
Bellevue: 11-1-0 33-15-3  
Form: 11-0-0 20-0-10-0

**West**  
Highline: 11-1-0 33-15-3  
Bellevue: 11-0-0 33-15-3  
Taco: 4-6-2 20-8-8-3  
Green River: 5-5-2 17-5-7-4  
Pierce: 4-6-2 14-6-8-2

**South**  
Lane: 1-10-0 31-13-2  
Clark: 9-0-0 30-12-1-4  
Cheney: 7-4-2 12-10-5-2  
Clackamas: 6-5-1 19-6-8-3

**Volleyball**

**West**  
League Season  
Highline: 8-2 29-8  
Tacoma: 8-2 28-4  
L. Columbia: 7-3 18-15  
Grays Harbor: 4-5 13-18  
Centralia: 4-5 13-15  
Green River: 1-8 5-20

**North**  
Shoreline: 5-2-3 20-10-13  
Bellevue: 5-2-3 10-13  
Skagit Valley: 7-3-2 23-12-3  
Olympic: 5-4 19-17  
Everett: 5-5 14-11  
Whatcom: 1-8 6-20

*Matmen open in Oregon*

By Olivia Jollimore  
Staff Reporter

The Thunderbirds will be hitting the mats for the first time this season at the Mike Clock Open in Forest Grove, Ore. on Nov. 8. Highline will only be taking about half the team, including all redshirt freshmen.

Head Coach Scott Norton said he is doing this to keep the starting wrestlers healthy and ready for the tournament in Redding, Calif. on Nov. 14.

“I’ll be wrestling in the California duals to rest up and be on weight,” said Elias Mason, Highline’s top 197-pounder.

It’s important to the team this year to make sure the wrestlers are healthy and on weight, Mason said.

Many of the wrestlers were missed practice because of illness already this year, Coach Norton said. To stay healthy, Mason said that he works out, eats right, and watches a lot of wrestling videos outside of practice.

“I want to set an example. We’re building a team,” Mason said.

Highline will only be taking about half the team, including all redshirt freshmen.

“The gift of time is incredibly valuable this far into the season,” coaches say. Because of the bye, the team says they now have time to recover, refocus, practice and plan their attack for quarterfinals.

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*Matmen open in Oregon*
Head home to hassle-free holiday cooking

I’ve learned the hard way that the secret to a hassle-free holiday cooking is to plan ahead. For large holiday meals, the freezer is definitely your friend. Almost everything from appetizers and side dishes to desserts can be prepared and frozen ahead of time.

Planning ahead for the holidays also saves money, because you can buy your holiday menu items as they go on sale, prepare them and freeze them.

Recently, I spent two hours making pie crusts and baking pies for Thanksgiving. I know that ready-to-bake pie crusts and pre-made pies are readily available at most grocery stores, but during the holidays, I love everything to be homemade.

I’ve found that by using my food processor, I can make a flaky pie crust that takes only a few minutes to process and can be frozen until needed. Holiday favorites like apple, pecan, sweet potato and pumpkin pie actually taste better when made ahead of time, and they freeze beautifully.

At baking, allow the pies to cool on a rack for five to six hours. Wrap each pie in a single layer of plastic wrap and two layers of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Place them in your freezer. You can stack the single crust pies, if necessary. Allow the pies to thaw out at room temperature at least eight hours before you plan to serve them.

These recipes for Quick and Easy Pie Crusts and Fudgy Pecan Pie are delicious ways to plan ahead for the holidays!

**QUICK & EASY PIE CRUSTS**
(Makes 2 9-inch pies)

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cups butter-flavored shortening sticks, chilled and cut into cubes
- 1/4 cup ice-cold water, plus 1 tablespoon
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar

1. In a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat, heat 1 inch salad oil to 375 F. (Or heat oil in electric skillet at 375 F.)
2. Remove peel from 2 unripe plantains. With vegetable peeler or knife, slice plantains into paper-thin slices. Fry a handful of plantain slices at a time, about 30 seconds, or until golden and crisp. With slotted spoon, remove slices to paper towels to drain. Sprinkle with salt. Repeat with remaining slices.
3. Since Plantain Chips are not served hot, it is not necessary to keep them warm. Store in tightly covered container at room temperature until ready to serve. Serves 4.

**FUDGY PECAN PIE**

This pie is the best of both worlds: The center is similar to a pecan brownie, and the filling and the flaky crust is like a wonderful pecan pie. You may want to double the recipe and freeze one for the holidays.

- 3 eggs
- 3 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1 1/4 cups light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup baking cocoa, sifted
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 (9 inch) unbaked pie shell

1. Heat oven to 350 F. In a large mixing bowl, beat eggs and butter together for 2 to 3 minutes. Add corn syrup, sugar and cocoa, and beat for 2 minutes. Add flour and salt, and mix until smooth. Stir in the vanilla extract and the nuts.
2. Pour mixture into the pie shell. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes or until set, except for a quarter-size circle in the center. Cool completely. Garnish with whipped cream, if desired.

***
Angela Shed Medearis is an award-winning children’s author, culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is The Kitchen Diva’s Diabetic Cookbook. Her website is www.divapro.com. To see how-to videos, recipes and much, much more, visit our website at www.divapro.com.

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**Roast up some crispy spiced duckling**

It tastes as good cold as it does hot, which is why so many of us bring it to tailgate parties and picnics as an alternative to chicken. Spicy dry rub of red pepper, fennel, cloves, and ginger flavors the duck quarters overnight, then they’re rosted to crisp perfection.

**Good Housekeeping**

Rinse duckling with running cold water; pat dry with paper towel.
2. Rub duckling quarters with green-onion pieces; discard green onions. Then, rub duckling with spice mixture. Place duckling in large bowl; cover; refrigerate overnight.
3. About 15 minutes before duckling is done, brush with soy sauce, then honey; continue roasting until duckling is golden and tender. Serve duckling hot with Plantain Chips. (To serve duckling cold, cover and refrigerate duckling.) Serves 4.

**Plantain Chips**

1. In a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat, heat 1 inch salad oil to 375 F. (Or heat oil in electric skillet at 375 F.)
2. Remove peel from 2 unripe plantains. With vegetable peeler or knife, slice plantains into paper-thin slices. Fry a handful of plantain slices at a time, about 30 seconds, or until golden and crisp. With slotted spoon, remove slices to paper towels to drain. Sprinkle with salt. Repeat with remaining slices.
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- 1 cup chopped pecans
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**Chunky tomato soup**

Soup has always been one of my favorite foods, and fall has always been my favorite season. Stir up this “soup of the harvest” on a cool fall night, and let it warm you up with pleasure-pleasing taste!

1/2 cup chopped onion
1/4 cups (one 1/2-inch cube) beef broth
1 (10 1/4-ounce) can reduced-fat tomato soup
1 teaspoon Italian Seasoning
1 cup chopped peeled and chopped fresh tomatoes
1 cup chopped, unpeeled zucchini

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipefinder.

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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: ★ ★ ★

Trivial test by Fifi Rodrigues

1. TELEVISION: In what 1990s television series did the character of The Log Lady appear?
2. ANATOMY: What organ in the human body produces bile?
3. SCIENCE: What is the science of classifying things called?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first U.S. president to lose a re-election bid?
5. HISTORY: Who was the first African-American to be elected to Congress from Georgia since Reconstruction and later appointed ambassador to the United Nations?
6. GEOGRAPHY: What country’s capital is Addis Ababa?
7. MATH: In geometry, what is a perfectly round ball called?
8. AD SLOGANS: What were Maxwell House coffee’s ads in the 1950s claiming it was “good to the last drop”?
9. MOVIES: Who was the oldest performer to receive an Oscar for Best Actor?
10. FAMOUS QUOTES: What 20th-century humorist once said, “All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure.”

Answers
1. Twin Peaks
2. Liver
3. Taxonomy
4. John Adams
5. Andrew Young
6. Ethiopia
7. A sphere
8. Maxwell House coffee
9. Henry Fonda
10. Mark Twain

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Puzzle answers on Page 12

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: ★ ★

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King Crossword

ACROSS
1. Opposed (12)
2. “Humbug!” (8)
3. Dulcet tool (12)
4. Leeway (11)
5. — out a living (14)
6. Ointment-yielding plant (15)
7. Handle (16)
8. Paving material (17)
9. Puzzle diagram (18)
10. Elder (20)
11. Le Carre hero (22)
12. Support system? (23)
13. Literary collection (24)
14. Disap-pair gradually (25)
15. “Close — and I’ll kiss you ...” (27)
16. Greek X (32)
17. Sea eagle (33)
18. Geologic period (35)
19. Waterfalls (36)
20. Nervous (39)
21. — de mer (40)
22. Victory (41)
23. Powerless (42)
24. Have an impact on (45)
25. Protein bean (49)

DOWN
1. Clumsy boats (50)
2. Zilch (54)
3. Animated character (56)
4. Drink (57)
5. Sold out (58)
6. Alas abbr. (50)
7. His and — (52)
8. Motor (53)
9. Exploited successfully (55)
10. Pennsylvania port (57)
11. Vortex (58)
12. On the other hand (59)
13. Scratch (60)
14. TV watchdog org. (61)
15. “EurekAl” (62)
16. Unnerved (63)
17. Raw rock (64)
18. Still in need of convincing (65)
19. Work unit (66)
20. Put into words (67)
21. Poolside success (68)
22. The whole enchilada (69)
23. Kipling poem (70)
24. Worked with (71)
25. PBS science show (72)
26. Cheese choice (73)
27. Birthright barterer (74)
28. Film sample (75)
29. River (76)
30. Deli loaf (77)

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Deciding to work out that pesky problem (even though you might have been bored, bored, bored with it) should be paying off right about now.
Expect to hear some very welcome news very soon.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Unexpected news might cause you to rethink a previous conclusion. Don’t be bull-headed and try to bluff it out. Make the needed change, and then take a bow for your objectivity.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Money matters should be considered as you continue to work out your holiday plans. This is a good time to scout out discounts before demand for them outstrips their availability.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A calm period early in the week helps you complete most, if not all, of your unfinished tasks. A new project appears by midweek, and this one could carry you to a big career potential.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Positive results from recent ventures continue to pump up those self-esteem levels, making you Fabulous Felines feel you can tackle any challenge anyone wants to throw at you.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A new project appears by midweek, and this one could carry you to a big career potential.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Family and friends might feel neglected because of your almost total focus on a project. Try to rework your schedule so you can have time for both your loved ones and your work.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time to check over what went right and what went wrong with recent efforts. This can provide valuable lessons for projects that will be coming up soon.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Dealing with people who feel they’re always right about everything might be a problem for some. But the savvy Archer should be able to deflate their oversized egos.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) This week favors a balance between the demands of your work and your need for fun timeouts. Taking breaks helps restore and keep your energy levels high.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) There could be an occasional setback in what you’re working on. But look at them as lessons on how to do better as you move along. More supporters turn up to cheer you on.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Although a more positive aspect influences this week’s course, you still need to be sure that those who will work with you have no reason to work against you. Good luck.

BORN THIS WEEK: You believe in keeping your promises. It’s not always easy to do, but somehow you do it.

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Rower crosses ocean, learns about himself

By Jessica Strand
Staff Reporter

Some 250 miles off the coast of England in 2006, Jordan Hanssen and his crew were malnourished, and fighting against harsh winds as a huge freighter bore down on their tiny rowboat.

Their harrowing tale was the focus of a Highline Foundation fundraiser on campus on Oct. 28.

The breakfast has raised $5,200 so far, with donations still trickling in, to support student scholarships.

Hanssen is the cofounder of Our Northwest, an adventure education nonprofit organization, and author of Rowing the North Atlantic.

Hanssen’s story started when he and a group of friends decided to row across the Atlantic in a 29-foot rowboat. With calculations in their preparation, on day 14 of their 72-day trip, they realized they didn’t have enough food to last the whole trip without lowering their consumption.

Hanssen and his crew faced wind and storms, and a near miss with a freighter, all while fighting the effects of malnourishment. Despite their challenges, they won the race 12 days ahead of anyone else.

“If we landed in England without getting a tow we would be the first boat to make it from mainland U.S.A. to the U.K. without assistance. That’s what happened,” Hanssen said.

Hanssen’s trip across the ocean propelled him into a career dedicated to scientific exploration and education.

He and fellow teammate Greg Spooner founded Oar Northwest, which teams with institutions of higher learning to collect scientific data, and bring experiences into classrooms. They communicate with students and instructors while on rowing adventures.

“We use our vessels to do adventure education in person, online, and use the boats as vessels of opportunity for scientific organizations,” Hanssen said.

“With all of our trips we try to take a point A to point B adventure and figure out how many positive things we can do with that.”

Oar Northwest has traveled across the Atlantic again, and down the Mississippi River while collecting scientific data.

The organization will Google Street View the Mississippi River next year.

Hanssen’s presentation highlighted the importance of educating, which was what the fundraiser was about. The fundraiser is an annual event that raises funds for Highline student scholarships.

“With our fundraising events we always try to do two things: raise the visibility of the college in the community and get more people, particularly local business and community leaders, out to the campus and have an opportunity to hear some stories… and hopefully we’ll raise some money to support scholarships for students,” said Dr. Jack Bermingham, Highline president.

The fundraiser also had two past and present student speakers, who told their stories, and highlighted the effects scholarships have had on their lives.

Mayor Dave Kaplan of Des Moines, leaders of the Des Moines and Federal Way community, and many college trustees, staff, and faculty members were in attendance.

For more information on the organization, or Hanssen’s book, visit oarnorthwest.com.

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Jordan Hanssen
Ocean.

“I saw a poster advertising for a rowing race across the ocean,” Hanssen said. “It was the biggest thing that I imagined, that I also thought I might be able to pull off.”

Little did he know what an ordeal it would be. Hanssen and his crew were fairly inexperienced when they set out across the North Atlantic in a type of law where people need to tell the truth,” he said.

Siefkes was unavailable for comment at press time.

Peter Kwon is leading for Position No. 3 with 1,501 votes, or 60.02 percent, while incumbent Sally Andrews has 747 votes, or 29.78 percent.

Rick Forschler is leading for Position No. 1 with 1,626 votes, or 68.09 percent, while his opponent Craig Baker has 747 votes, or 31.28 percent.

It appears that the current mayor Mia Su-ling Gregerson is losing Position No. 7, as her opponent Erin A. Sitterley leads the polls.

See Vote, page 12

To register visit: www.uwb.edu/admissions/transfer

ATTEND A TRANSFER INFORMATION SESSION! To register visit: www.uwb.edu/admissions/transfer

ATTENTION! PHARMACY MAJORS!

A professor from the UW SCHOOL OF PHARMACY will be at Highline to give a presentation on applying to this program.

You will get a step-by-step overview of: required prerequisite courses, GPA, application timeline, required documents, the interview process, PCAT and other great tips for applying successfully to this competitive program.

Your questions will be answered! No need to sign up.

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 1:15 PM – 2:45 PM
Location: Building 13, Room 105
Start your planning TODAY!
continued from page 11

Sitterley is leading with 1,439 votes, or 58.05 percent, while Gregerson has 1,031 votes, or 41.95 percent.

In related election news, newcomer Robbie Back has secured Position No. 6 on the Des Moines City Council.

Back ran unopposed, as did Jeremy Nutting, an incumbent who has retained Position No. 4.

Back says he is wary of running unopposed.

“You only one out of three races had an opponent. It can mean people are apathetic and just don’t care,” he said.

Back says he is ready to tackle problems in the city with his new authority as a city councilmember.

“The hot issues are the Woodmont Recovery Center and the budget right now. Also, people want the downtown city revitalized,” he said.

Incumbent Luisa Bangs is currently leading in the race for Position No. 2.

Bangs has 2,213, or 65.78 percent, of the vote. Her opponent, Alexander Szabo has 1,343 votes, or 39.78 percent.

A proposal to raise funds for infrastructure and equipment for South King Fire & Rescue looks likely to pass.

South King Fire & Rescue Proposition No. 1 has currently been approved by 61.70 percent of votes, by a margin of 3,955 votes as of 4:30 p.m on Wednesday.

“We are cautiously optimistic,” said Chief Al Church of South King Fire & Rescue.

He said that levy was more successful this year than years past because of a lot of community outreach, talking to members of the community and transparency in what the proposition will fund.

Proposition 1 will replace aging fire apparatus and equipment or retrofit or rebuild fire stations in order to make them able to withstand an earthquake.

Proposition 1 will allow South King Fire & Rescue to maintain its current level of service to residents of South King County, with the exception of enhancing the departments ability to respond to earthquakes, said Church.

“The will be a boon for Des Moines,” said Church, as the measure will pay for retrofitting and remodeling a couple of ageing fire stations in Des Moines.

If the measure is not passed “When we have an earthquake, many stations will collapse,” said Church, as the department will be forced to remodel stations one at a time over many years.

Staff Reporters Sam McCallough, Adam Horner and Bryce Sizemore contributed to this story.