Students say their grades are O.K.

By Thunderword Staff

Highline students are willing to take some of the blame and credit for how well they do this quarter.

Some students say poor grades are their own fault, while others feel their professors could be to blame.

Meanwhile, students look toward Winter Quarter and what they can do to earn better grades.

“If I got bad grades I’d blame myself. They [the professor] didn’t do anything, I just didn’t care,” said Connor Low.

Eric Huang also said that it would be his fault if he received a bad grade in his classes.

“If I got a bad grade it means that I don’t understand and I can’t really blame the professor for that,” he said. “I believe in hard work.”

“If I get really clear feedback why I got a bad grade, it would be my fault,” Lee said. “If not, I would blame the professor.”

Other students blame themselves only when they think the professor did a good job instructing them.

“If the class is interesting, I get good grades,” Redeen Duran said. “If it’s not interesting, I would blame the professor.”

Experts warn against dangers of climate change

By Thunderword Staff

Experts agree that climate change is very real, and that the consequences may be dire.

Climate change was originally referred to as global warming because the Earth’s temperature is rising 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit a year.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, changes in temperature are caused by large amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere from industrial processes. The gases then trap energy into the atmosphere and cause it to warm up. This process is called the greenhouse effect. Although this process is natural and needed to support life, the large amount of gases being emitted can result in cli-

See Climate, page 19

State aid doesn’t make anyone rich

By Jacqueline Robinson

Katie White wants you to know she’s not getting rich on public assistance.

While people often look at welfare as enabling people to be lazy, White – not her real name – is an ordinary Highline student, studying business, hoping to transfer and earn a four-year degree.

But beneath the bright eyes and upbeat personality, White has had her share of struggles.

White has two children and works two part-time jobs while attending Highline. She relies on various public assistance programs to make ends meet.

“My son is 5, he is in kindergarten and my daughter is 10 months old. It’s just us, I have to support them for the most part on my own,” said White.

She receives $170 in food stamps, $250 in child support, and WIC vouchers [Women, Infants, Children, a program which provide healthy food items including baby formula, eggs and bread].

See Assistance, page 20

Campus shows solidarity with Muslims

By Michael Muench

Staff Reporter

Muslim voices will be heard and supported at a Highline event today.

This event, which is titled “A space for all: an urgent response to hatred in this time of rising Islamophobia” is being held in order to "let students, faculty and staff that are part of the Muslim community know that we support them," said Associate Dean for Student Programs, Jonathan Brown.

The event follows presidential candidate Donald Trump’s call to ban on all Muslims entry to the United States.

See Solidarity, page 20
Porn watcher caught in lab

By Paul King-Sanchez
Staff Reporter

A man was caught watching pornographic images in the closed Kaplan computer lab in Building 25 on Dec. 3 at approximately 5:30 p.m.

When Public Safety officers made contact with the man, he said he thought the lab was open to the public.

Public Safety officers told the man that there are public access computers on the second floor of the library.

The man was cooperative and said that he would leave for the day.

The only public access computers are in the lobby in Building 25.

The campus policy on watching pornography on college computers in the Library is that it’s allowed as long as it doesn’t distract people.

Student running short on breath

A Running Start student had a shortness of breath in Building 30 and didn’t want medical attention on Dec. 4 at approximately 9:05 a.m.

Someone called 911 prior to Public Safety officers learning about the incident.

At approximately 9:10 a.m. South King Fire and Rescue arrived and conducted a medical evaluation on the student.

The student was advised to get hydrated and to eat food.

Student falls

A female fell on a utility surface plate injuring her left ankle while walking to class on Dec. 3 at approximately 9:56 a.m.

South King Fire and Rescue arrived and conducted a medical evaluation on the student.

The student was advised to get hydrated and to eat food.

Graffiti on campus

Orange spray painted graffiti was found along the road connecting the East Parking Lot to the North Parking Lot on Dec. 5 at approximately 8:48 a.m.

The graffiti was also found on a garbage can near the gate of Baskin Robbins and the designated smoking sign near Building 17.

Tuition due dates

Tuition for Winter Quarter is due by Dec. 17.

Tuition may be paid either at the cashier, or online at https://secure.highline.edu/wts/wccba/waci600.html.

The second increment step of the Student Tuition Easy Payment Plan (STEPP) is due on Jan. 15, and the third increment is due on Feb. 15.

Write for the Thunderword.
Enroll in JRNL 101 with item #4202
BY ADAM HORNOR  
STAFF REPORTER

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week returns to spread the message of justice this January. Multicultural Affairs is organizing events from Jan. 18-26, which will focus on the messages and values of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the late civil rights leader.

“He was very radical in his thinking,” said Doris Martinez, Inter-Cultural Center leadership coordinator and an organizer of the week’s events.

Martinez said the term radical has taken a negative connotation of late, often confused with extremism.

She said the week would focus on Dr. King’s status as a force for social change during his time as a civil rights leader, as well as his theme of non-violence.

“We really want to empower our students,” Martinez said, “to see themselves as agents of change.”

Martinez said the events are all free and open to the community, as well as students, staff and faculty.

A list of events:

**Monday, Jan. 18**
- A field trip to the Northwest African American Museum from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Liberation Shows Up! A performance by Kay Barrett from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 7.

**Tuesday, Jan. 19**
- The film, “Dred Scott, Wong Kim Ark & Vanessa Lopez” from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Building 7.
- A workshop led by Kay Barrett from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.

**Wednesday, Jan. 20**
- What does it mean to be white in a society that proclaims race meaningless? A lecture by Dr. Robin DiAngelo from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 7.
- A panel on gentrification from 11 a.m. to noon in Building 7.

**Thursday, Jan. 21**
- Between Civil Rights and Black Power, James Baldwin’s prophetic vision “To End the Racial Nightmare, and Achieve Our Country.” A lecture by Dr. Michael Hale from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Building 7.
- A performance by Kay Barrett from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 7.

**Friday, Jan. 22**
- A workshop held by Carly Brook from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.

**Tuesday, Jan. 26**
- “White Fragility,” a lecture hosted by Dr. Robin DiAngelo from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.
Only you can prevent climate change

There’s no denying that the global climate of the earth is rapidly changing. In between extreme droughts causing wildfires, changes in rain and snow patterns, the polar ice caps melting, and the sea level rising, it’s obvious that climate change is a very real and legitimate threat to future generations. Although many people believe that climate change is natural and unpreventable, this is simply untrue. So, changing our behavior may be the only way to save the future of our planet.

Global warming is caused by a buildup of greenhouse gases, or gases that get caught in the troposphere and prevent heat from escaping the earth. These gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. The only explanation for the overproduction of these gases is humans.

Although many people like to point out that the majority of methane in the atmosphere is due to high-populations of cows in farming areas passing gas, it is important to note who exactly determines where these cows are and how frequently they breed. In fact, cows are primarily a domesticated species of animal and humans dictate their entire lives, as well as the end of them. Therefore, the only animals we can blame for the methane gases is ourselves.

Carbon dioxide levels are also higher than they have ever been in 600,000 years, and are primarily a result of burning fossil fuels. Trees convert carbon dioxide into oxygen, but humans are constantly cutting more and more trees down for resources. Although warmer weather may not seem serious, the long-term effects of climate change can include crop losses, extinction of species, a lack of drinkable water, coral reefs dying, wildfires, and coastal cities getting engulfed by rising sea levels.

If the consequences to our behavior are really that severe, then shouldn’t we be working harder to prevent these outcomes? For example, we should be trying harder to find a source of renewable energy to replace the fossil fuels damaging the ecosystem. We need to come up with solutions quickly, before we doom our future generations to a lifestyle they did not sign up for.

**Have something to say?**

Have something you want to say to the student body? The Highline Thunderword is asking for students to voice their opinions on what matters to them. We’re accepting submissions in the form of letters and columns. Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words; columns should be no more than 600 words.

Send submissions to thunderword@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday.

**the Staff**

I should have cheated.

E-Mail: tword@highline.edu

Guest Commentary

When I was hired to teach two sections of English 205 at Highline, I was excited to be part of a new campus environment and faculty community. Having interviewed once before at Highline, there was a sense of accomplishment to be offered a position. Not only would I get an opportunity to teach a diverse student body, but as a Seattle resident, I could continue to live and work in the region I call home.

I went through all the regular hiring procedures, collected my faculty parking permit, and was ready to go. Starting a new job, even if doing the same thing from a previous position, is always challenging. Not only do you have to learn how a new institution functions administratively, you have to learn and adapt to the character, climate, and culture of the place.

After a few weeks in the classroom, I was really beginning to enjoy my time at Highline. Then came the news that I would not be offered a position to teach in the Winter Quarter.

This was a one-off, and the sinking feeling of being part of a disposable, adjunct labor force set in. There is a term for instructors like me: “Freeway Fliers,” because we zip up and down the freeways of America in search of our little piece of cheese. Indeed, every day after my second class at Highline ends, I run to the car and fight the Seattle traffic back into the city to make it to my Seattle Central College class on time.

Struggling to make ends meet through multiple classes at multiple institutions is no easy task; add to that the stress of having no job security, no benefits, not knowing how you are going to pay rent when the quarter is finished, and the reality that you are treated as an expendable laborer—well, this lifestyle is not conducive to quality performance.

Having worked in the business world before earning my Ph.D, I studied “corporate culture” as a means of understanding why certain business are more successful than others in the same industry. The truth is this: when you feel valued as an employee, you perform better. You invest more in the job, in the institution, and in your work. Each morning when you wake before the dawn, you feel privileged to have a job that not only allows you to earn a living, but also allows you to grow and thrive as a person.

In no way does an adjunct system of labor in higher education support these basic principles. The part-time labor force is strictly about bottom lines and cutting costs, and is significantly detrimental to the mission of a college or university.

This is not a problem unique to Highline, of course; but students at this college should be aware of the fact that what you are paying for, the main component of your education support these basic principles. The part-time labor force is strictly about bottom lines and cutting costs, and is significantly detrimental to the mission of a college or university. As a faculty member, I have interviewed once before at Highline, where I was excited to be part of a new campus environment and faculty community. Having interviewed once before at Highline, there was a sense of accomplishment to be offered a position. Not only would I get an opportunity to teach a diverse student body, but as a Seattle resident, I could continue to live and work in the region I call home.

I went through all the regular hiring procedures, collected my faculty parking permit, and was ready to go. Starting a new job, even if doing the same thing from a previous position, is always challenging. Not only do you have to learn how a new institution functions administratively, you have to learn and adapt to the character, climate, and culture of the place.

After a few weeks in the classroom, I was really beginning to enjoy my time at Highline. Then came the news that I would not be offered a position to teach in the Winter Quarter.

This was a one-off, and the sinking feeling of being part of a disposable, adjunct labor force set in. There is a term for instructors like me: “Freeway Fliers,” because we zip up and down the freeways of America in search of our little piece of cheese. Indeed, every day after my second class at Highline ends, I run to the car and fight the Seattle traffic back into the city to make it to my Seattle Central College class on time.

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Having worked in the business world before earning my Ph.D, I studied “corporate culture” as a means of understanding why certain business are more successful than others in the same industry. The truth is this: when you feel valued as an employee, you perform better. You invest more in the job, in the institution, and in your work. Each morning when you wake before the dawn, you feel privileged to have a job that not only allows you to earn a living, but also allows you to grow and thrive as a person.

In no way does an adjunct system of labor in higher education support these basic principles. The part-time labor force is strictly about bottom lines and cutting costs, and is significantly detrimental to the mission of a college or university.

This is not a problem unique to Highline, of course; but students at this college should be aware of the fact that what you are paying for, the main component of your daily studies—namely, the faculty—is being jeopardized by a system that does not value its labor. Dr. Speser is an English professor at Highline College.
EDGE: In olden days, what was the occupation of a wainwright?

10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby whale called?

Answers
1. Alaska
2. 1975
3. The plantain
5. The African Queen (Humphrey Bogart, Katharine Hepburn)
6. Johnny Mathis
7. Roger Moore
8. Nitrogen. The air is made up of about 78 percent nitrogen, 21 percent oxygen and 1 percent other gases.
9. One who makes or repairs wagons
10. A calf

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SUDOKU

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 3×3 box contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ Moderate ★★★ Challenging ★★★★★ HOO BOY!

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GO FIGURE!

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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ACROSS
1. Too
5. Legislation
8. Use
12. Picnic hamperer
13. Raw rock
14. Mexican entree
15. Water
17. Microwave
18. Classify
19. Mock
22. Unescorted
23. $ dispenser
26. Calendar abbr.
28. Miss more
31. Child of the streets
33. Name
35. Sicilian scoop
36. Proudly highly
38. Conger or moray
40. Early bird?
41. Eye part
43. Deteriorate
45. Official emissary
47. Puts on a pedestal
51. Vacationing
52. Go to court
54. Apportion (out)

DOWN
1. Met melody
2. Rock drummer Ulrich
3. Letter starter of yore
4. Whopper toppper
5. Couldn’t stand
6. Illustrations
7. Mary-Louise Parker series on Showtime
8. Warehouse’s purpose
9. On the rocks
10. Corn recipe
11. Puzzle diagram
20. Greek H
24. Tariff of yore
25. Escort
27. Prompt
29. Gerund suffix
30. Complain constantly
32. Made an incursion
34. Scolded
35. Eng. class
39. California city
42. Alabama city
44. Frat party garb
45. Mary’s follower
46. Basin accessory
48. Indian style of music
49. Nosh case
50. Origin
53. Electrical particle

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might feel that you have all the answers right now. But it might be wise to listen to other ideas before you decide to close the lid on other possibilities.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bovines give and expect loyalty, so it might not be easy to reconcile with someone you feel let you down. Why not ask a neutral party to set up a clear-the-air meeting?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Anticipating the holidays with family and friends fuels your must-do Gemini energies. But try to pace yourself so you’ll be up for whatever comes along later.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) More background information might come through regarding a decision you expect to make. Be sure to check the source carefully before you move.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The strong, nurturing nature of the Lion comes through this week as you reach out to family and friends in need of your warm and loving support.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A relationship that has almost totally unraveled could be close to being restored with more effort on your part to be more patient and less judgmental.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of fair play is strong this week, which can cause a problem with a longtime relationship. But in the end, you’ll know what decision to make.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might not know all the facts behind an unwelcome development, so keep that Scorpion temper in check and resist lashing out at anyone.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good time to reinforce relationships -- family, friends, colleagues -- that might have been overlooked in recent years.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family situations continue to thrive. Business associations also improve. Some holiday plans might have to be shifted a bit. Be flexible.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Avoid any influence of negative energy in this week’s aspect by not allowing small problems to grow into large ones. Work them out immediately.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A friend might need advice on how to deal with a challenge to his or her moral values. And who better than you to give the honest answer? Good luck.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a sense of adventure that inspires others to follow your lead.
Gamers play for victory

By Trevor Jordan
Staff Reporter

Competitors from all over the Pacific Northwest will clash at Highline for one of Washington’s biggest and most anticipated fighting game tournaments.

On Dec. 19, competitors will meet in Building 8 for Northwest Battlegrounds, a series of tournaments spanning multiple fighting game titles.

Ever since the inception of fighting video game tournaments, Washington has been the hub of competition for the Pacific Northwest region. Players from all over Washington, Oregon and British Columbia will meet for the monthly tournament series to prepare for major tournaments around the world.

The local tournament also serves to unite fighting game fans around the world and sponsors with the area’s local players by broadcasting the event on the live streaming service Twitch.

Super Smash Bros. Melee player Otto “Silentwolf” Busso, who finished in the top 8 at Evolution Championships 2014, first place at Northwest Majors 7 and first at the recently held Northwest Majors: Dropzone will be in attendance to defend his Battlegrounds title.

BlaizeBlue: Continuum Shift II Evolution 2011 champion Alex “Spark” Chen will also be in attendance to support one of the most thriving games in the arena. It has a growing number of players and a large skill pool.

Owner of Gameclucks, a local online video game cafe, and Northwest Majors coordinator, Chris Anderson has brought his brand to Highline to serve the fighting game community.

Youth concert celebrates holidays

By Michael Dixon
Staff Reporter

A cacophony of music from around the world will be presented by Rainer Youth Choir this weekend to showcase the talents of young singers from around the community.

“A World for Christmas” will be performed Saturday, Dec. 12 in Kent.

The choir, made up of members ages 7 through 21, will sing old and new songs from around the world for this year’s show.

“An additional number of songs are from other parts of the world. For example, The World for Christmas [is from Spain], The younger kids are doing the traditional song ‘Silent Night,’” said Karen Fulmer, executive director.

“We enrich the opportunities for the children in the community by providing great, affordable instruction,” she said.

“Rainer Youth Choir will perform Saturday in Kent.

Rainier Youth Choir will perform Saturday in Kent.

Christmas [is from Spain], The younger kids are doing the traditional song ‘Silent Night,’” said Karen Fulmer, executive director.

“We enrich the opportunities for the children in the community by providing great, affordable instruction,” she said.

“This concert will also include a local Seattle group called Erwilian, which is a popular acoustic band,” Fulmer said.

After this weekend’s performance, the choir will hold auditions through the end of December and will accept new students up until January

Fulmer said singing in a choir is a great way for people to connect.

“When you’re singing with other people it bonds you together,” Fulmer said.

Tickets are $15 for adults, $12 for seniors/students (12 and older) and $7 for children 12 and younger. Tickets can be purchased online in advance.

The Dec. 12 performance will be at Kent United Methodist Church, 11010 S.E. 248th St. at 3 p.m.

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By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

Jane Austen’s *Emma* jumps off the page at Book-It Theatre’s in Seattle.

Book-it is a theater that takes books and presents them on stage. This involves dialogue straight from the book and even includes characters narrating themselves.

*Emma* is a novel about Emma Woodhouse, a rich heroine in a small English town. The story opens up at a wedding. She takes credit for their union and proclaims herself a great matchmaker.

Over the course of the story, she learns that she isn’t that great of a matchmaker.

The 1815 novel was adapted into a play by Rachel Atkins, and was directed by Carol Roscoe.

Sylvie Davidson, who plays Emma, strutted across the stage as the meddling heroine.

Her range of emotions throughout certain events was well received, and whenever she was sad, you wanted to cry along with her.

Her counterpart Mr. Elton, played by Jaryl Draper, has a commanding presence while he interacts smoothly with all the other players, but then could break out and demand all the attention.

Jocelyne Fowler’s costumes look like they have stepped straight out of a painting,transporting viewers to the 1800s.

The costumes go perfectly with Andrea Bryn-Bush’s set design: Carriages ride across the stage, cobble-streets click and moors spread across the background.

The adaption stayed true to the novel throughout, which may have been confusing to patrons who haven’t read the book.

In true Austen fashion, the play has long monologues and subtle romances. If you’re not familiar with the story or a fan of Austen, these parts could bore you to sleep.

To see the *Emma*, purchase tickets on book-it.org. Tickets are $50.

The play is being performed Wednesday through Sunday until Jan. 3. On weekdays, the shows are at 7:30 p.m. On Saturdays, there is a showing at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. On Sundays, the shows are at 2 p.m.

Book-It Theatre is at the Armory Theatre at the Seattle Center. The address is 305 Harvard Ave. E. Tickets are at 2 p.m. and Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

## Joy to come to the masses

By Michael Dizon
Staff Reporter

Seven Burien ensembles will join together for the Northwest Associated Arts’ Joy! Christmas Concert.


“Audiences love the individual ensembles, but Joy! will include seven of the Burien local choirs all combined into one,” said Paul Bauer, general manager.

The large ensemble, which includes 200 singers, will sing music from all over the world.

Tickets are $20 for general admission. Performances will be at Highline Performing Arts Center, 401 S. 152nd St. in Burien from Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.
Gingerbread cookies sing a holiday tune

The season wouldn’t be complete without gingerbread cookies.

1 cup packed brown sugar 1/3 cup shortening
1 1/2 cups dark molasses 2/3 cups cold water
7 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon ground allspice
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon salt

1. Mix brown sugar, shortening, molasses and water in a large bowl. Stir in remaining ingredients. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours.
2. Heat oven to 350 F. Grease cookie sheet lightly with shortening.
3. Roll dough 1/4 inch thick on floured surface. Cut with floured gingerbread cutter or other favorite shaped cutter. Place about 2 inches apart on cookie sheet.
4. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until no indentation remains when touched. Remove from cookie sheet. Cool on wire rack.

Decorate with colored frosting and candies if desired. Makes about 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Spicy peanut chicken recalls African flavors

This easy recipe is based on the cuisines of Africa. A crisp cucumber salad and jasmine or basmati rice, available in most supermarkets, are the usual accompaniments.

1 teaspoon ground cumin
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
4 medium chicken legs, skin and fat removed
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 medium onion, thinly sliced
(28 ounce) can plum tomatoes, drained, coarsely chopped, and juice reserved
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
1/4 cup packed fresh cilantro leaves (plus additional sprigs for garnish)
2 garlic cloves, peeled
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 cup mini chocolate chips

2. In a medium bowl, stir together flour, sugar substitute, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Stir in water. Pour into prepared cake pan. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
3. Place cake pan on a wire rack and let set for at least 10 minutes. Cut into 16 brownies. Makes 8 (2 bars each) servings.

4. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until no indentation remains when touched. Remove from cookie sheet. Cool on wire rack.

Decorate with colored frosting and candies if desired. Makes about 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Bake up some tasty treats for the holidays

Holiday Bars

If ever there was a time of the year when plates of cookies are a “must,” it’s during the holiday season. Those cookies keep all the boys and girls (and their elders) on their best behavior so their wish list from Santa just might be fulfilled.

1 (8-ounce) can reduced-fat crescent rolls
1 (8-ounce) package fat-free cream cheese
1 egg or equivalent in egg substitute
Sugar substitute to equal 1/2 cup sugar, suitable for baking
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup chopped walnuts
2 tablespoons mini chocolate chips
1. Heat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9-by-9-inch cake pan with butter-flavored cooking spray. Unroll and pat half of the crescent rolls into prepared cake pan. In a medium bowl, stir together flour, sugar substitute, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Stir in water. Pour into prepared cake pan. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
3. Place cake pan on a wire rack and let set for at least 10 minutes. Cut into 16 brownies. Makes 8 (2 bars each) servings.

4. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until no indentation remains when touched. Remove from cookie sheet. Cool on wire rack.

Decorate with colored frosting and candies if desired. Makes about 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Spicy peanut chicken is based on traditional African cooking.

Nothing says the holidays like gingerbread cookies.
Unwrapping Christmas

Trees and wreaths have long association with the celebration

By Lucie Winborne

Whether they adorn city-street lampposts or front doors, holiday wreaths are as much a symbol of the season as silver bells and carols... and they've been around for longer than you might think. A visit back in time with our pagan ancestors reveals that the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year, meant a great deal to them. In anticipation of spring and increased sunlight, celebrants gathered wreaths of evergreen, a symbol of life through darkness. In Sweden, candles were added to symbolize the sun's power. Ancient Persians donned wreaths as headbands to symbolize importance and success. Victorious Olympians were endowed with crowns of laurel leaves like those worn by Roman leaders, and similar coronets embellished doors as marks of victory. A quite different purpose was achieved by early Europeans, who used wreaths to identify their homes in much the same way we use house numbers today, with exotic blooms likely grown by the homeowner. But while modern wreaths serve a merely decorative purpose, their inherent meaning survives in some of the materials we use to make them, such as holly to represent immortality, cedar for strength, and best of all, a joyous spirit of festivity and welcome. Thinking about designing your own wreath this season? The possibilities are endless, but here are a couple of fun and easy suggestions.

Frosted Fruit: A great option for either autumn or winter. Just gather an assortment of artificial fruits and insert a florist pick into each one. Roll them one at a time in tacky glue and wrap around the wreath. Or maybe it's just because that particular ribbon, tiny shapes, small books and lace, as well as food soon followed. By 1700s, edible ornaments become so popular that they are often called "sugarglazed." 

In the 18th century, the first accounts of using lighted candles as decorations come from France. In 1777, the tradition of the Christmas tree is brought to Colonial America by Hessian troops fighting for Britain in the Revolutionary War.

In 1804, U.S. soldiers at Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) bring trees into their barracks at Christmas. In 1842, Charles Minnepoge introduces decorated Christmas trees to Williamsburg, Virginia.

In 1851, Mark Carr opens a retail Christmas tree lot in New York City, the first in the United States.

In 1856, Franklin Pierce, the 14th U.S. President, brings the first Christmas tree into the White House.

By 1509, a new English invention appropriately dubbed wallpaper filled a similarly dual purpose, but not for long, since it easily cracked and tore upon folding. The Victorians, whose notions of decor are considered "fussy" by many nowadays, applied a like aesthetic to their gift wrapping, using elaborately decorated paper adorned with ribbons and lace. But that paper also was heavy and rather unwieldy. It gave way in the early 20th century to colored tissue paper, which is still in use today, but more as an interior covering.

So what happened in between? Chalk it up to yet another example of necessity being the mother of invention. In 1917, holiday business boomed so well for a couple of stationary store-owning brothers in Kansas City, Missouri, that they ran out of colored tissue paper. Fortunately, a search of their inventory yielded a supply of "fancy French paper," designed for lining envelopes. In the true spirit of American ingenuity, they put it on sale at 10 cents a sheet. Guess what was snapped up in a Kansas City minute? The enterprising brothers tried their experiment again the following year, and the year after that. Finally convinced they were on to something, they began designing and producing their own decorative paper, solely for the purpose of wrapping gifts. Still, let’s face it — gift wrap isn’t practical. In fact, it’s downright wasteful. So why do we spend more than $2 billion on it every year?

Maybe it’s the element of surprise. Maybe it’s the element of surprise. Maybe it’s the element of surprise.

By Lucie Winborne

Some of us have it easy enough to pay someone else to do it. Others take delight in folding corners just so, or the challenge of covering uneven angles, not to mention the seemingly endless varieties of design and texture. But why do we wrap gifts in paper in the first place? As with so many modern practices, it dates back to ancient cultures. First came the Chinese and their precious gift of the invention of paper in 105 A.D. That was followed in the eighth century by the Japanese "furoshiki" and Korean "bo-bapsu," reusable wrapping cloths originally designed for transporting goods or preventing clothing mix-ups in traditional baths, as well as covering gifts.

By 1509, a new English invention appropriately dubbed wallpaper filled a similarly dual purpose, but not for long, since it easily cracked and tore upon folding. The Victorians, whose notions of decor are considered "fussy" by many nowadays, applied a like aesthetic to their gift wrapping, using elaborately decorated paper adorned with ribbons and lace. But that paper also was heavy and rather unwieldy. It gave way in the early 20th century to colored tissue paper, which is still in use today, but more as an interior covering.

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500 Years of Christmas Trees

- In 1510, the first Christmas tree is decorated in Riga, Latvia. Early Christmas trees are decorated with paper, fruits and sweets.
- By the 1600s, it is common in Germany to decorate Christmas trees with apples. Trees decorated with ribbon, tin shapes, small books and lace, as well as food soon followed.
- By the 1700s, edible ornaments become so popular that they are often called “sugarglazed.”
- In the 18th century, the first accounts of using lighted candles as decorations come from France.
- In 1777, the tradition of the Christmas tree is brought to Colonial America by Hessian troops fighting for Britain in the Revolutionary War.
- In 1804, U.S. soldiers at Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) bring trees into their barracks at Christmas.
- In 1842, Charles Minnepoge introduces decorated Christmas trees to Williamsburg, Virginia.
- In 1851, Mark Carr opens a retail Christmas tree lot in New York City, the first in the United States.
- In 1856, Franklin Pierce, the 14th U.S. President, brings the first Christmas tree into the White House.
- Around 1883, Sears, Roebuck & Co. begins offering the first artificial Christmas trees: 33 limbs for 50 cents and 55 limbs for $1. (Today, 80 percent of all artificial trees are made in China.)
- In 1901, the first Christmas-tree farm is started when W.J. McMillan plants 25,000 Norway spruce on his farm in New Jersey.
- In 1923, President Calvin Coolidge starts the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, now held every year on the White House lawn.
- In 1966, for the first time, the tree displayed in the Blue Room of the White House is presented by the winner of a competition held by the National Christmas Tree Association.
- In 2015, approximately 25-30 million real Christmas trees will be sold in the United States.

By Lucie Winborne

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By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

Christmas is both a religious holiday and a sacrosanct cultural tradition with winter solstice celebrations. It is a time for family, friends, and the giving of presents. One can say that the holiday season is a celebration of the end of winter and the beginning of spring. Of course, in many parts of the world, Christmas is celebrated in different ways and for different reasons.

In the United States, Christmas is celebrated on December 25th. It is a time for family gatherings, exchanging gifts, and enjoying holiday treats. The most popular holiday movie is "Elf," which stars Will Ferrell as a man who believes he is an elf and sets out to find his true identity. The movie is a classic and has become a staple of the holiday season. Other popular holiday movies include "Home Alone," "Miracle on 34th Street," and "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation."

In Europe, Christmas is celebrated on December 25th as well, but the traditions and customs are different. In Germany, for example, people celebrate Christmas with a Christmas tree and exchange gifts. In France, the tradition is to have a Christmas market, where people can shop for gifts and enjoy traditional French foods. In Italy, people celebrate Christmas with a feast that includes roasted turkey and chestnut soup.

In the United Kingdom, Christmas is celebrated in many different ways. In London, for example, people gather at Trafalgar Square to watch the annual Christmas lights switching on ceremony. In Edinburgh, the Christmas lights are switched on in Princes Street Gardens. In Brighton, the Christmas lights are switched on in the Royal Pavilion.

How do you celebrate Christmas? Do you have a favorite holiday movie? Do you have any unique Christmas traditions? Let us know in the comments below.

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Holidays at times aren’t joyous for all

By Kayla Dickson
Staff Reporter

The most wonderful time of the year is also the most stressful for many people. The holidays bring an influx of family gatherings, increased responsibilities, and an emphasis on giving and receiving. It is a time when people often feel pressure to be happy and jolly, even when they are feeling overwhelmed and exhausted.

For some people, the holiday season can be a difficult time. They may feel isolated and alone, or they may have experienced loss or trauma during the holidays. For others, the holiday season can be a time of stress and anxiety, as they try to navigate the expectations of family and friends.

It is important to be kind to yourself during the holiday season. It is okay to say no to invitations or requests that make you feel overburdened. It is okay to take time for yourself, even if it means skipping out on family gatherings or parties.

If you are feeling overwhelmed during the holiday season, it may be helpful to seek support from friends, family, or a mental health professional. It is important to take care of your mental health, so that you can enjoy the holidays and have a happy New Year.
The men’s basketball team is on a roll, having won their last four games, including two games on the road.

The T-Birds, (4-1), have rebounded from a season-opening loss in great fashion by going undefeated since that loss. Their first game was last Wednesday against Skagit Valley, (3-3). The Cardinals were averaging over 100 points a game, but only managed 82 points, as the T-Birds won 93-82.

A majority of the damage by Highline was done in the first half with 54 points scored, compared to Skagit’s 34.

Highline shot 62 percent from the field and 66 percent from the three-point line. They cooled off in the second half, shooting 46 percent.

The Cardinals struggled shooting the ball in the first half, which led to the large deficit, hitting only 35 percent from the field.

“Jalen McGruder takes on two Shoreline defenders in an attempt to penetrate their defense.

“I’m not going to say we are ‘great’ defensively, yet,” said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson. “We can be, but we have to work a lot harder and be more consistent.”

The T-Birds also did a great job defending the boards, grabbing 47 rebounds, as opposed to Skagit’s 22.

Freshman Jamie Orme had a monster game and a hefty stat line for the T-Birds, scoring 39 points.

Orme went 6-of-9 from three-point range, nabl 10 offensive boards, including five offensive, and had two blocks and a steal.

Highline’s Jared Murphy scored 12 points, while teammate Alec Meyerhoffer netted 15.

Leading scorer for the Cardinals was Ben Ayre with 17 points, along with Cody Starr and Emanuel Siale, who both scored 16.

The next game for the T-Birds was an away game against Shoreline. This game was a bit closer than the last one, but Highline was able to close the Dolphins out, 80-73.

A recurring theme for the Thunderbirds is finding and making good shots.

That was the case in this game as they finished over 50 percent from the field.

Highline also went 53 percent from beyond the arc and outrebounded the ‘Phins, 43-31.

“We are taking smarter, better shots and shooting the ball with a lot more confidence,” said Coach Dawson.

Another recurring theme for the T-Birds is Jamie Orme once again leading the charge in scoring and rebounding.

Orme registered 21 points and 11 rebounds in the game. He is averaging 23 points and 9 rebounds a game, along with hitting 50 percent from the field this season.

McGruder’s bench was big in this game with Coby Myles and Nick Edens both scoring in double figures.

Edens scored 18 points and Myles tallied 15 for the game.

Top scorer for Shoreline was Will Luckett with 22 points and 10 rebounds.

Now with the NWAC basketball season in full swing, the first Coaches Poll of the season has come out, with the T-Birds tied for fourth place with 24 points.

With an entirely new starting lineup from last year and a team full of freshmen, Highline has nowhere to go but up.

The T-Birds will get almost a week off before they travel to Bellevue and play in the Bulldog Classic Tourney.

As is the case with most of their games this season, the Thunderbirds only have two back-to-back games, giving them the chance for practice and rest.

“We always tell the guys that we will pace them with how we arrange our practices,” Coach Dawson said. “They shouldn’t pace themselves.”

“We try to keep them fresh mentally and physically for games and balance that with the necessary preparation and work ethic.”

By the tournament, Highline will be on a two-week bye for the holiday break before they get back to business.

Coach Dawson says that the team will go through a lot of team building and will be fine tuning things during the break.

After the break, the T-Birds have two home games on Jan. 4 against Bellevue, (3-3), at 7 p.m. and on Jan. 9 against Centralia, (0-5), at 2 p.m.

Highline will then go back on the road Jan. 13 to take on the No. 1 team in the west, South Puget Sound, (5-1), at 8 p.m. and then Grays Harbor, (0-4), on Jan. 16 at 7 p.m.

The team will then play at home against Lower Columbia, (4-4), on Jan. 20 at 8 p.m.
Ladies struggle in tournament

By Olivia Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s basketball team went 1-2 in the Bellevue Bulldog Classic Tournament over the weekend.

On Dec. 4, the Lady T-Birds beat Everett 68-62.

Sophomore Chardonae Miller put 13 points on the board, shooting 86 percent from the field, along with three rebounds and one assist.

Jasmine Hansgen scored 11 points, hitting 57 percent from the field. Hansgen also had three rebounds and a block.

Freshmen Chantal Hill and sophomore Linae MyHand put up nine points each. MyHand pulled down two rebounds, along with her two steals and four assists.

Freshman Alicia Westbrook and sophomore team captain Alyson Rippingham both scored eight points and sophomore team captain Jasmyne Holmes put up seven points.

Starting off the tournament with a win, the ladies then advanced to play North Idaho on Dec. 5.

“The North Idaho roster is full of players from around the world and several players at 6’0” or above. ‘We’re ready to play,” said Miller. “We had a good win on Friday against Everett and I wanted to get the win again.”

Unfortunately, there was no mercy in the game against Highline as North Idaho won 91-46.

Miller had another successful game scoring 12 points while also managing eight rebounds, two steals, and an assist.

Westbrook added 13 points to the board and Holmes put up nine points. North Idaho went on to win the entire tournament.

Highline lost their final game of the weekend on Dec. 6 to Bellevue, 78-52.

Although the weekend was winding down, Miller was not as she scored 14 points and pulled down another eight rebounds.

“My personal goals for the season are to have at least six rebounds a game and play consistently,” Miller said. “I want to give each game my all so I can contribute what is needed for the team to succeed.”

MyHand also added eight points.

Rippingham and freshmen Holly Suggs, Vanessa Roueche, and Alicia Westbrook all contributed five points.

The Highline Lady T-Birds finished fifth overall out of eight teams. Highline now has a record of 2-5.

“We learned a lot about what we need to focus on and what we need to start doing in order for the team to be successful,” said Miller.

The Lady T-Birds played last night at Olympic with results unavailable at press time.

The coaches say there is still plenty of time in the season for the team to improve.

Players said the team’s main strength is rebounding, but they still need to work on communication and consistency.

The Lady T-Birds will be playing in two holiday tournaments over the break, before the league play begins in January 2016.

The first is the Walla Walla WBB Crossover Tournament from Dec. 17-19. Highline will play Chemeketa at 5 p.m. on Dec. 17.

Then Highline heads into the Chemeketa Holiday Tournament on Dec. 28-30. Highline is scheduled to start off the tournament playing Chemeketa on Dec. 28 at 6 p.m.

League play begins in January with the league opener being a home game for Highline on Jan. 9 at noon against Centralia.

The ladies hit the road as they take on South Puget Sound on Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. and then play Grays Harbor on Jan. 16 at 5 p.m.

The Lady T-Birds return to their home court with a game against Lower Columbia on Jan. 20 at 6 p.m.

Golf ready to tee-off for Spring Quarter

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

After much time and wait, Highline’s golf team will finally begin its inaugural season in the spring quarter of 2016.

This is the first golf team Highline has put together and will act as a replacement for cross country.

For now, this is a women’s only team, but with success in the future, it might expand into a men’s team.

“Right now the focus is to try to get the women’s program off the ground,” said Highline Head Golf Coach Steve Turcotte.

“Make them competitive and maybe in the near future, we can take a look at a men’s team.”

Jasmine Hansgen, Megan Martin and newcomer Hailey Johnson make up the team and have experience in the game.

Hansgen is a two-sport athlete for the T-Birds, currently a starting forward for the women’s basketball team.

Martin is starting her first year of golf as a freshman. She previously played golf at Kennedy High School.

Johnson is also coming into her first year of college golf, having played at Auburn Rivermont High School.

For the season, the women had two tournaments in the Fall Quarter and will play in five tournaments in the spring.

“Megan and Jasmine were able to participate in the fall season,” said Coach Turcotte.

“So far this season Jasmine only played in one and Megan has played in both tournaments.”

“Stats weren’t kept because for the NWAC you need three players and so they played as individuals, but now that we do have three players, we will be able to post team scores when we play in the spring.”

Regardless of the games not counting, Coach Turcotte said these weren’t practice games and should serve as great experience for the women.

“This was a chance for the women to get an experience at what they will go through at the college level,” he said.

“We are going to play when the weather allows and we will practice as much as possible.”

The spring tournaments will be played on March 31 and May 1 at the Gold Mountain golf course in Bremerton.

With almost three months before the next match, this team by no means is full.

Coach Turcotte said he is always looking for players, whether they come to him or he finds them.

“We could still use more players on the team, there are still spots open,” said Turcotte.

“Experience-wise, they need to have played high school golf and be fairly proficient at golf and wanting to go to school and class.”

“For the people out there, if you have a good golf background and are interested in playing college golf we would like to hear from you. At this level we probably won’t look at beginners, but just someone who has a couple years of experience,” he said.

Any female students interested in trying out for the team may contact Turcotte through email at sdturcotte@comcast.net or on his phone: 206-240-9029.
Wrestlers outmatched at Clackamas

By Olivia Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Although the Highline men’s soccer season is over, sophomore Isidro Prado-Huerta is still winning. The Highline midfielder was recently awarded the NWAC Baden Soccer Player of the Year in 2015 for his excellent season playing for the T-Birds. Prado-Huerta was a key player on Highline’s offense this season. He finished the season with a total of eight goals and 11 assists.

Previously this year in November, Prado-Huerta won the MVP title for the West Division. In 2013, he won the 4A MVP award from the Washington State Soccer Coaches Association. On Nov. 30, Prado-Huerta announced that he has verbally committed to play soccer for University of California Santa Barbara. “The deciding factor was that this is the team that will help me reach the next level,” Prado-Huerta said. “The team and the fans make it a great atmosphere to play in.”

Prado-Huerta hopes that playing for UCSB will help him achieve his goal of becoming a professional soccer player. Recent figures (2014) show that UCSB has earned the NCAA Division I Annual Home Attendance Championship title for the eighth consecutive year. In October of this year, the UC Santa Barbara game against Cal-Poly brought in just fewer than 15,000 fans to witness the second largest attendance in NCAA history. Prado-Huerta said he plays best under pressure.

The UCSB men’s soccer team ended their season on Nov. 29, with a record of 14-7-2 after making it to the NCAA Division I sweet sixteen tournament for the seventh time. Although Prado-Huerta usually plays midfield, the new team may switch him to a new position depending on how the coaches want to use his talents on the field. The school aspect of college is time consuming enough, so he will have a full plate by playing for a Division I college soccer team as well.

“The most important thing I learned at Highline is how to manage school and playing at the same time.”

— Isidro Prado-Huerta
NWAC Baden Soccer Player of the Year

Prado-Huerta’s name. His younger brother, Jamie Pra-de-Huerta, is a freshman at Highline and played alongside Isidro this year. Jamie will be returning in the fall. “Isidro is a great person in addition to his talent on the soccer field,” said head coach Steve Mohn. “He is well deserving of the accolades he has received. I hope his success continues at UCSB and beyond.”

Coach Mohn said it was a pleasure to coach [Isidro] over the past two years and wishes him the best of luck. “I wouldn’t have been here without my coaches and teammates,” Prado-Huerta said. “They pushed me and made me play my best. Big thanks to them.”

New Winter PE Class!
PE132 (Item #3175)
Introduction to Swimming

An introductory level swim class primarily for beginners that focuses on basic water safety and swim techniques that will enhance fitness and build confidence and enjoyment for aquatic activities. Get 1 PE credit and learn how to swim!

Class meets 12:30 - 1:20 PM
Mondays/Wednesdays off-campus
@ Mt. Rainier Pool

Contact instructor Natalie Hughes
(nhughs@highline.edu) for more information.
By Luke Field
Staff Reporter

Do you have a credit card? You may need one eventually.

Credit cards are used to start building credit now so you can eventually borrow money via loans, such as auto and home loans. Manager of Public Relations for the (BECU), Todd Pietsch said, “All of us start off having no credit,” he said, “and it’s important to get some credit history established.”

Many Highline students who don’t have credit cards said the reason is that they are under eighteen. Eighteen is the legal age to qualify with a credit card. Until you’re 18 you can only be an “authorized user” on a credit card account managed by your legal guardian.

Being an authorized user does nothing toward establishing credit; what’s being reported is how the parent or guardians are managing the account, Pietsch said. At the age of 18 you can open a credit card account by having a job and sufficient income.

Smajlovic said compounding is the key. “The sooner you start, the less money it’ll take because of compounding.”

“It works a lot like a credit card, but has to be named different because it isn’t a [credit card],” said Pietzsch. “You can build good credit pretty fast.”

Some students at Highline don’t have a credit card, but even those who do don’t seem to know a lot about them. Four of the 17 people interviewed had a credit card, but only one knew the interest rate on the card.

“Having a higher score lowers the risk for the bank that they’ll lose money,” said Smajlovic.

He also recommended acquiring a credit card if you have a part-time job and are going to school. “[Age] 18 is a good time to start,” said Pietzsch. “You can build good credit pretty fast.”

“Traditionally you want a credit score over 700. The higher the score the lower the rate [of interest],”

This is why building credit is important. Banks rely on credit scores to determine the risk.

“Having a higher score lowers the risk for the bank that they’ll lose money,” said Smajlovic.

Students can build credit but must walk carefully in the house of cards.

Many students simply haven’t thought about saving for retirement yet. “I haven’t thought about it,” said Pawandeep Kochhar. “I’m saving for college, not for retirement.”

Some students thought they were too young (17 and younger) to worry about retirement, while others said they weren’t saving because they didn’t have a job.

“You should start saving for retirement as soon as you have a job, even if you might have to have a parent sign,” Almond said.

She said that businesses and corporations provide 401K, Simple and SEP (Simplified Employee Pensions) plans. Individuals can choose deferred compensation plans (set up by small businesses) and Individual Retirement Accounts in the form of a Roth IRA or a traditional IRA.

All of these retirement plans involve the same principle of saving a certain amount of money each paycheck or period of time. The 401k option has you invest in the stock market with your contributions, for instance, and your savings not only grow with your contribution(s), but with the success of your investment.

A traditional IRA is taxed at the time that you withdraw funds as opposed to a Roth IRA in which you pay the tax upfront. Usually those with traditional IRAs are in a higher income tax bracket and need all the deductions they can get, Almond said.

“Someone in a higher income tax bracket can virtually save money with a traditional IRA as it reduces taxable income.”

“I can’t say what’s right for everyone without a personal consultation,” said Almond. Students who said they do have retirement plans agreed with Almond that the sooner you start to save, the better.

“You should start saving as soon as you are able to pay bills and have extra money to put away,” My Nguyen said.

Starting an IRA is relatively easy, experts say.

“Pretty much any bank and/or financial institution can help you open an IRA,” said Todd Pietsch, manager of Public Relations for BECU.

Students should avoid high-interest credit cards, and avoid paying interest whenever possible. “Don’t pay interest unless you can pay off the balance each month. And the interest rate should be below 5%,”

But credit cards just don’t fit the lifestyles of some students. “I don’t like the idea of paying for things I don’t have the money for,” said student Sukhi Samra.

Garret San Luis said he doesn’t have enough financial security yet and thought maybe once he had a career he might desire a credit card.

Another alternative is the prepaid credit card, but these cards can’t be used to build credit.

“It works a lot like a credit card, but has to be named different because it isn’t a [credit card],” said Becky House, education director of AmeriFinancial Solutions, a Seattle-based consumer credit counseling organization.

She said prepaid credit cards could be helpful if you’re experiencing trouble getting a bank account.

Smajlovic said those considering prepaid credit cards should check to see if they carry any maintenance fees.

It’s never to early to start saving, experts say

By Luke Field
Staff Reporter

It’s probably the last thing on their minds, but students can benefit greatly from beginning as soon as possible to save for retirement, experts say.

“The sooner you start, the less money it’ll take because of compounding.” — Nancy Almond, senior vice president, CB Financial Services

“People should start saving for retirement as soon as they have a job, even if they might have to have a parent sign,” Almond said.

She said that businesses and financial institutions can help you open an IRA.” — Todd Pietsch, BECU

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Staff Reporter

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“The sooner you start, the less money it’ll take because of compounding,” said Nancy Almond, senior vice president and program manager of CB Financial Services for Columbia Bank.

Compounding is the key, Almond said compounding is the accumulation of interest on invested money. That interest then accumulates interest itself significantly increasing the amount of money you will have available by the time that you retire.

By dividing your goal by the years it’ll take you to get to retirement and calculating the compounding, that determines the amount you will have to save each year.

Almond stressed that even if you don’t know how much money you want for retirement, it’s important to start saving now so you don’t have to contribute as much yearly later on.

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Some students thought they were too young (17 and younger) to worry about retirement, while others said they weren’t saving because they didn’t have a job. “You should start saving for retirement as soon as you have a job, even if you might have to have a parent sign,” Almond said.

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Students can build credit but must walk carefully in the house of cards

By Luke Field
Staff Reporter

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“All of us start off having no credit,” he said, “and it’s important to get some credit history established.”

Many Highline students who don’t have credit cards said they didn’t know how much to save each year.

The amount you will have to save varies depending on how long you have to get to retirement and the interest rate you are earning.

“Having a higher score lowers the risk for the bank that they’ll lose money,” said Smajlovic. He also recommended acquiring a credit card if you have a part-time job and are going to school.

[Age] 18 is a good time to start,” said Pietzsch. “You can build good credit pretty fast.”

Some students at Highline don’t have a credit card, but even those who do don’t seem to know a lot about them. Four of the 17 people interviewed had a credit card, but only one knew the interest rate on the card.

Cathy Cooper, marketing and communications manager at Washington Federal Bank, said students should avoid high-interest credit cards, and avoid paying interest whenever possible.

“Don’t pay interest unless you can’t pay off the balance each month. And the interest rate should be below 14 percent.”

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Jancinta Andera works at her desk on a new project. She started her business with help from Highline’s StartZone program.

**Highline student excels in fashion business after starting company**

**By Z. Greene**
**Staff Reporter**

Designing clothing has been a passion since the age of 5 for Jacinta Andera as she was growing up in Uganda.

But it took coming to America to make that passion a business.

She migrated to the United States in 2000 with just $20 in her pocket.

But with the help of Highline’s StartZone initiative program, she’s been able to substantially grow that nestegg with the launching of Jacinta’s African Apparels.

After attending business school the single mom took a hospital job to make ends meet, but she wanted something more out of life than a 9-to-5 job.

“I wanted to do something different than everybody else,” Andera said.

She decided to attend the International School of Design and Technology in Tukwila to refine her sewing skills. After graduating in 2011, Andera then turned to StartZone to pursue her dream of becoming a business owner.

“When I was a kid in Uganda I was given a sewing machine and I helped make clothes,” Andera said.

She established retail space for her line of clothing last year and began doing fashion shows that reflect Ugandan culture.

Although Jacinta’s African Apparels experienced early success, Andera decided she would like to create a stronger on-line presence.

Highline’s Interior Design program and StartZone answered Andera’s call for help, donating time and help with creating a functional space and a stronger on-line presence.

“She show my appreciation,” Andera said.

The store is at 15201 Military Road S. in SeaTac.

VETERANS & POST

Among the most popular small businesses: Dallas, Austin and Fort Worth, Texas; Virginia Beach, Virginia; Atlanta; San Antonio; Houston; Washington, D.C.; Phoenix; and Raleigh, North Carolina.

Veterans own 9 percent of businesses, according to the Small Business Administration, and we’re 45 percent more likely to become entrepreneurs than civilians.

Here are the things veterans wanted most in trying to set up a small business...

- Training and networking opportunities in translating military skills into civilian ones.
- Government websites full of local information and resources.
- Friendly licensing rules.

In the survey, the top careers for veterans were event DJ, personal trainer, handyman and computer-repair specialist.

In the overall (including civilian) population, 42 percent of private investigators were veterans.

If a small business might be in your future, start gathering information now. Go online to the Small Business Administration website (www.sba.gov) and review the files on writing a business plan, estimating startup costs, hiring employees, finding a business mentor and much more. Especially see the links to Veterans Business Outreach Centers and Office of Veterans Business Development.

If you want to read the whole survey, go online to www.thumbtack.com/blog/veterans.

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Pancakes and policy
Students share breakfast, wish lists with state legislators

By Adam Horner
Staff Reporter

Highline students told visiting legislators they want progress on climate change, free tuition, inmate education and cheaper textbooks.


Students also met in groups with legislators, sharing breakfast and table space in the Mt. Constance room of the Student Union.

The Legislature begins its next session on Jan. 11, 2016.

Student Jacob Boudreux asked the legislators to consider bills supporting open educational resources and proposed that the Legislature provide a fund to incentivize their production.

Open educational resources are teaching materials that are available online free for anyone to use.

Boudreux said students spend too much on textbooks, citing an annual cost of $1,200.

“We cannot afford to send people to college,” Boudreux said.

According to The College Board, the average student at two-year commuter schools like Highline will on average spend $1,374 on textbooks this year.

Boudreux said he had taken an English 101 course at Highline and the professor had used open-source materials, line where the professor had an English 101 course at Highline one year.

“Many students at two-year colleges in Washington, 15 credits costs $1,282 per quarter. Students taking at least 12 credits are considered full-time students,” the legislators included a 5 percent tuition cut for students at two-year colleges in last year’s budget. In the 2014-2015 academic year, 15 credits cost $1,333.35.

“It would be very expensive,” said Rep. Mark Hargrove on free two-year college and the potential for high taxes to pay for it.

Sen. Bob Hasegawa disagreed with the notion that taxes are the real enemy.

“The question isn’t are we overtaxed. The question is what are we using it for,” Sen. Hasegawa said.

Sen. Hasegawa said corporations receive too many tax breaks, and that it was harming the state’s ability to fund necessary programs, such as education or transportation.

“We’re [Democrats] not going to cut anything further,” Sen. Hasegawa said.

Student James Jackson spoke to the possibility of tuition-free two-year college.

Thomas is a student employee in the Highline Admissions department.

Tuition is something that affects people of all income levels,” Thomas said.

“There are many students on campus that struggle to pay for college,” Thomas said.

At Highline and all other two-year colleges in Washington, 15 credits costs $1,282 per quarter. Students taking at least 12 credits are considered full-time students.

The Legislature included a 5 percent tuition cut for students at two-year colleges in last year’s budget. In the 2014-2015 academic year, 15 credits cost $1,333.35.

“Any student at any two-year college who is full-time will get a 5 percent cut on their tuition,” said Rep. Mark Hargrove.

Jackson said he was selling drugs at the age of 12 and dropped out of school in his freshman year of high school.

“I never got any education. I didn’t know a trade,” Jackson said.

Jackson spoke about being sentenced to a 10-year mandatory minimum on a drug charge when he was 36 years old.

“As an inmate, he had to get his GED degree,” Sen. Hasegawa said.

Jackson said he was transferred to a prison in California after getting in some fights. The prison in California had no education program available, and was a much rougher environment.

He said he became interested in personal fitness training during his time there after getting feedback from some fellow inmates.

Jackson is in personal fitness training program at Highline.

“It’s in my second year, and have a 3.9 GPA,” Jackson said.

“I am thinking of going on to a bachelor’s program,” Jackson said.

“The main problem is a loss of hope,” Jackson said. “I never got any education. I didn’t know a trade,” Jackson said.

Jackson urged the legislators to support bills that develop education programs in prisons.

The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges works with the Washington State Department of Corrections to provide education for inmates at the 15 prisons in the state.

Student Uuriintuya Batbayar encouraged legislators to be aware of the threat of climate change, and to do their best to support the development of environmentally-friendly energy production.

“I believe everything is connected,” Batbayar said. “Public health and the environment are intertwined.”

Batbayar is from Mongolia, which she described as a young democratic country where her people have an ancient lifestyle of living off the land.

She said before she left for the United States, she saw coal mining and oil production begin to pollute the land.

Batbayar said a lack of government environmental protection regulations is leading to an ecological disaster in Mongolia.

According to The World Bank, Mongolia’s capital, Ulaanbaatar, is one of the world’s most polluted cities.

Batbayar said she loves the clear skies of the Pacific Northwest and that she could not help but fear the same pollution she saw in Mongolia could happen here.

Rep. Hargrove said green energy production was important, but that it is important to make sure that those technologies aren’t more wasteful or less efficient than traditional fossil fuel-based energy production.

State Rep. Mark Hargrove

State Rep. Mark Hargrove
**Fires cost the state millions, official says**

**By Adam Horner**

Staff Reporter

Washington suffered its worst wildfire seasons in history due to an unusually dry year, said an official from the Washington state Department of Natural Resources.

“The year 2014 saw the biggest fire we ever experienced in the state of Washington, called the Carlton Complex Fire,” said Sandra Kaiser, communications director at the Department of Natural Resources. “We thought it couldn’t get worse, but it actually did. This year, 2015, more than a million acres burned in our state.”

The majority of the 1,541 fires took place on the eastern side of the state, which is both higher and drier, hence, traditionally the more fire prone, Kaiser said.

Kaiser also said fires usually start around the end of the summer when the landscape is dried out. The fires moved fast because of the conditions caused by the unusually hot summer the state had, Kaiser said.

“We’ve lost 3.2 percent of the entire state to wildfire this year,” Kaiser said. “To put that in perspective, that’s more than the state of Rhode Island.”

The fires were so extensive, the state exceeded the total number of firefighters they had available, and resorted to teams from other states, and even other countries.

For the first time ever, civilian volunteers were called on to assist. The wildfires cost the state and federal government $319 million.

The Department of Natural Resources is lobbying the Legislature for increased funds to go toward wildfire prevention, as well as new equipment.

“One of the problems when the three firefighters died is that all of the different organizations fighting the fire were on different radio frequencies,” Kaiser said.

Three firefighters died after their firetruck went off a cliff near Twisp.

**Elwha River responded well after dams were removed, ecologist says**

**By Sam McCullough**

Staff Reporter

The Elwha River is responding well to efforts to revitalize it following the removal of its dams, said an ecologist.

“The river is part of the Olympic National Park.”

The two dams were removed in 2011.

In 1992, Congress signed an act to remove the dams. The dams were not removed until September 2011.

“Unfortunately, it took another 20 years for them to actually be removed,” said Sarah Morley, a research ecologist for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The dams needed to be removed because of their age. Both dams were built in 1910.

“A lot of the dams that were built in the area are over 100 years old, and they’re coming up for relicensing,” Morley said.

In addition to the relicensing issue, 21 million cubic kilometers of sediments had piled up on the upstream side of the Elwha dam. The Glines Canyon dam didn’t have any sediment piled up.

“To put it into perspective, imagine seven football stadiums; that’s how much sediment there was,” Morley said.

Although experts hypothesized that the sediments would be problematic, the sediments cleared with no problems.

“Over 60 percent of sediments have been stored. The majority of sediment has gone out to the marine environment, which is good,” Morley said. “We just didn’t think it would happen this quickly.”

Morley said that the river itself has also changed.

“The water level has risen because of the recent rainfalls, coupled with the fact that water can flow freely now,” Morley said.

The fish in the river have adapted as well. Before the dam was removed, the fish only had access to the lower 8 kilometers of the 72-kilometer river.

“As soon as the dam came down, the fish were swimming upstream,” Morley said.

To protect the salmon and to allow them to continue to thrive, a five-year fishing ban has been put on the Elwha River. After five years, the river will be evaluated, and the ban could be extended.

The next Science on the Sound seminar is on Jan. 9. Dr. Fritz Stahr will be talking about exploration of Puget Sound with remote operated vehicles.

The seminar is hosted at the MaST Center, which is at 28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S., Des Moines.

**Explore the sound with divers**

By Karina Abramchuk

Staff Reporter

Scuba divers will take the public on a journey underwa- ter to explore life beneath the surface at the Marine Science and Technology Center’s Live Dive this Saturday.

On Dec. 12, expert diver and former U.S. Coast Guard marine science technician Randy Williams will host an exploration of the marine life in the Redondo area.

People will be able to observe live underwater screen monitors in the aquarium.

Not only that, but they will also be able to ask questions through two-way microphone communication.

“Over 60 percent [of sediments] have been stored. The majority of sediment has gone out to the marine environment, which we predicted. We just didn’t think it would happen this quickly,” said the Live Dive is a popular event open for everyone.

“It’s amazing to see how many people come down here,” he said. “People just get a kick out of it.”

Williams said that the primary goal of the Live Dive is to educate the public, especially kids, about marine life.

“We started about eight years back,” he said. “We can help the community understand the underwater world and get the kids fired up about marine science.”

The aquarium is owned by the general public and the City of Des Moines usually don’t realize the importance of the aquarium and that he hopes the city will see a little more into the unique area.

Hammock also said that the aquarium is important to the city.

“It’s a great investment for the public to have,” Hammock said.

However, the event does have costs, said Williams.

To help with this issue, vol- unteer divers bring in some of their own equipment.

“We have a great diving com- munity here,” she said. “Our divers are very generous.”

The divers will attempt to present the wide variety of sealife along local shores.

Some animals that are com- monly seen are squid, octopi, sea cucumbers, sea anemo- nes, sea stars, schools of shrimp and more.

Williams said that there are about five great Pacific octopi that live in the Redondo area. Typically, divers do not col- lect animals during exploration, but the MaST Center does have permits for capturing certain species such as octopi, for re- search and observation purposes, Williams said.

Divers are limited to explor- ing only about 400 feet away from the aquarium by the com- munication cables.

However, Williams said that 60 feet near the aquarium is more than enough to observe marine life, because diving too far from the shore will not have as many animals.

Some future diving projects that the MaST Center has hopes to build are developing artificial reefs and installing live camera feeds into the adjacent Saltys restaurant.

Williams said that he has ob- served the success of artificial reefs in Puget Sound and now hopes to build an 80-foot big rock circle to enhance marine life and expand their habitat.

He also said that he hopes to raise funds for installing a live camera feed of the sound into Saltys; Saltys is interested in the idea, Williams said.

Williams and Hammock said that the Live Dive should take place on Saturday, but there are concerns about weather that may delay the event.

She said that a couple of week- ends ago the MaST Center was closed because of too much ice.

“The safety of our visitors is very important to us,” she said.

Other dives had to be delayed because of maddiness in the water. However, Williams said the Live Dive this week is most likely going to happen regardless.

The event is on the second Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Each dive has a duration of about 40 minutes each. Admis- sion is free.

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

**PRIVATE SECURITY ACADEMY**

The Private Security Academy (PSA) is designed for individuals either currently employed or seeking employment in the private security field, loss prevention, assets protection and other police functions.

Students who successfully complete the Private Security Academy will earn 8 college credits, applicable toward the Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice at Highline College. Students will also receive First Aid/CPR certification.

**ACADEMY DATES AND TIMES FOR WINTER QUARTER 2016**

First day of class Tuesday, January 26 at 6 p.m.

(no class January 27–February 10)

End date March 24.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COST?**

10 hours states of the art instruction taught by industry professionals

• Course supplies and materials

• CPR/First Aid Certification

• PFD Gear Package

**ACADEMY COSTS**

$1,150.00 per person (funding may be available—please see Workforce Education Service (WES) information)

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

• Must be at least 18 years old at the time of acceptance to the Academy

• Must complete and pass a Washington State Patrol (WSP) Background check

• Must commit to meeting the course attendance requirements

**CAREER PATHWAYS**

Upon completion of the Private Security Academy, students will be able to identify potential career paths through a variety of private security companies that service:

• Retail Loss Prevention

• The Entertainment Industry

• County, City and State Fairs

• Maritime Infrastructure

• Casinos and Card Houses

• Trademark and Piracy Investigations

• Uniformed Static Posting

• Surveillance

• Loss Prevention Apprehension

• Internal Theft Investigations

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

To register for this course or to find out more information, please call Continuing Education at (206) 870-3785 or visit our website at ce.highline.edu.
Climate change can be costly, prof says

By Michael Muench  
Staff Reporter

Climate change and the problems attributed to it will have a severe impact on the world’s economy, a Highline professor said.

Climate change has an effect on all people and the entire infrastructure of our society, said professor of economics Dr. James Peyton. It is the cause of a multitude of global problems today, many of which are immediate and will have a lasting impact and are very costly to remedy, he said. These problems worsen our economy and reduce habitability in certain areas.

“Basically, climate change is the change long term of precipitation, temperature, and the variability of those,” said Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline.

Climate change was originally referred to as global warming because the Earth’s temperature was causing climate change by 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit over the past century.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, changes in temperature are caused by large amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere from industrial processes.

The gases then trap energy into the atmosphere and cause it to warm up. This process is called the greenhouse effect. Although this process is natural and needed to support life, the large amount of gases being emitted can result in climate change.

The term climate change started to be used when scientists discovered that the Earth was not only heating, but it was facing extremes of cold temperatures as well.

“Basically, climate change is the change long term of precipitation, temperature, and the variability of those,” said Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline.

Dr. Baer said many things are causing climate change. However, he says humans are changing the composition of the Earth’s atmosphere. “What we do is changing the climate, and the Earth is reacting to it,” he said.

He said, “We know that we are doing things that are contributing to climate change, but we don’t know what we can do about it.”

“Basically, climate change is the change long term of precipitation, temperature, and the variability of those,” said Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline.

Dr. Baer said that, while we can reduce the amount of climate change, I don’t know if we can stop it,” Dr. Baer said.

Currently people are not doing enough to reverse it, said Woody Moses, a life, ocean and general sciences professor at Highline.

According to EPA, there are a multitude of things we can do to reduce greenhouse gases. They suggest recycling and monitoring your water use while at home. Also, they suggest walking or taking public transportation to reduce emissions caused by burning gasoline.

“The changes that we make today will make things better for people 40 to 50 years from now,” Dr. Peyton said. By not doing we are making sure that things will be worse for future generations, he said.

The term climate change started to be used when scientists discovered that the Earth was not only heating, but it was facing extremes of cold temperatures as well. The rising temperature of the atmosphere makes for a more habitable environment for pests, which inflict farmland, fisheries and forestry around the world.

Higher temperature means a higher rate of growth and reproduction for these herbivore insects. It also means melting ice and heavier storms around the world.

Both the heavy storms and the melting ice contribute to rising sea levels, which cause a multitude of problems for people who live along the coasts of the world, Dr. Peyton said.

These problems include cyclones, widespread flooding, coastal erosion and the intrusion of salt water into the water table, which end up resulting in undrinkable water, displaced people, and property damage, according to a United Nations study.

Structures that are meant to last in and around fresh water will degrade much more rapidly around corrosive saltwater, Dr. Peyton said. Solutions to these problems do exist but they could end up costing trillions of dollars, he said.

For example, coastal settlements can build seawalls and relocate buildings. Farmers can develop costly irrigation systems and purchase drought resistant seeds in order to adapt to the lack of precipitation. Buildings can be relocated or reinforced.

These immediate problems are not the only ones we should be worrying about, Dr. Peyton said. “There are more, harder to predict changes that we need to try to avoid.”

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Climate change continued from page 1

“Basically, climate change is the change long term of precipitation, temperature, and the variability of those,” said Dr. Eric Baer, a geology professor at Highline.

Dr. Baer said that climate change is fact, and cannot be logically disputed.

“It’s like not believing the Earth goes around the sun, or that the Earth is round. The scary thing is people still believe that the Earth is flat,” Dr. Baer said.

“I think we’ve gotten hung up on if it’s real, then if it’s humans causing it, instead of what we can do about it,” he said.

Dr. Baer said that there are many possible consequences of climate change.

“Some of the consequences we forecast include changes in temperature, and that can change the rate of falls. Also, changes in storms and how big they are,” Dr. Baer said.

Dr. Baer said that it could affect our water supply in local areas.

“As we saw this summer, it was very dry and we didn’t have much rain. In addition, the mountains didn’t have any snow. We rely on snow for our water. It’s almost like a back-up because we don’t get it until it’s hot enough to start melting,” he said.

Although ground water is an option, Dr. Baer advises against it.

“Most ground water is polluted. We need water that comes from mountains, so we need to do something quickly,” Dr. Louis McKnight, a local environmentalist, said that the consequences of climate change could start a world war.

“Pests such as aphids and moths require a minimum temperature to fly. Due to climate change they are now reaching their minimum flight temperature earlier, allowing for a wider dispersion and damage to crops for a longer period of time during the year.

“Higher temperature means a higher rate of growth and reproduction for these herbivore insects. These immediate problems are not the only ones we should be worrying about, Dr. Peyton said. “There are more, harder to predict changes that we need to try to avoid.”

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Climate change can be costly, prof says

By Michael Muench  
Staff Reporter

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Climate change has an effect on all people and the entire infrastructure of our society, said professor of economics Dr. James Peyton. It is the cause of a multitude of global problems today, many of which are immediate and will have a lasting impact and are very costly to remedy, he said. These problems worsen our economy and reduce habitability in certain areas.

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“The changes that we make today would make things better for people 40 to 50 years from now,” Dr. Peyton said. By not doing we are making sure that things will be worse for future generations, he said.
“Without the help I have no idea what I would do,” White said. Sometimes even with the help she falls short. She has been late on bills and bad services like her phone and even her lights turned off. “My lights have been turned off twice before. It is one of the most horrible feelings in the world,” said White. 

“The first it happened I sat on the floor crying for about 10 minutes before I grabbed my phone to call around for help. The worst part was my son asking me ‘What’s wrong mom?’ I did not have a way to tell him the truth. I told him that I was fine and that everything was all right,” she said.

White met the father of her first child in her senior year of high school.

“He was older and I thought I was pregnant,” said White. “I was pregnant as I walked across the stage to get my high school diploma. Long story short I asked him for support and he disappeared.”

White met the father of her second child a year and a half ago. They met at work, co-workers and she said they immediately had a connection.

“We worked together for about six months and then started dating. He was immature and not ready to be in a relationship. I found out he was cheating on me right after I found out I was pregnant,” said White. “That I’m wasting my checks at the grocery store,” she said. “People with money don’t know what it’s like to struggle for everything you have. They don’t know what it’s like to do without or just get by,” she said.

White is one of many students at Highline who receive some kind of public assistance. Precise numbers are not available, but Women’s Programs helps 300 students a quarter to apply for various public assistance programs.

Deana Rader, director of Women’s Programs and WorkFirst Services at Highline, said people often unfairly judge people on government assistance.

“There are myths that people on assistance are lazy, that they don’t work for anything that they have,” said Rader. “The truth is that they usually work just as hard as people who work 40 hours a week.”

Rader said that Women’s Programs and WorkFirst are designed to help students out.

“If you are a single parent or low income we can assist with basic skills, college skills, finding a job, getting your GED as well as other services,” said Rader.

If you need assistance, you can apply at your local community service office. After that there is an interview process where you are assessed and evaluated for what services you need. Then after you are referred to women’s programs or work force. Then you contact us and we will get you all set up with a plan,” she said.

Women’s Programs and WorkFirst are designed to help students out.

“Once students cross our threshold our goal is to support them in a meaningful way,” said Rader.

Katie White said she plans on talking with her social worker and teaming up with Women’s Programs next quarter. She said nothing will hold her back from her dreams.

“I have faith that I will graduate, have a good job and continue to make my kids happy and comfortable. I want to make an example for them. So they can look at their mom and see a happy successful person,” said White.

White said that she has people that want her to be successful.

“I am so thankful for my beautiful friends and family and the different assistance programs that want her to be successful.

“They are the only reason I have to keep going,” said White. “They are the only reason I have to keep working.”

“Without the help I have no idea what I would do,” White said. Sometimes even with the help she falls short. She has been late on bills and bad services like her phone and even her lights turned off. “My lights have been turned off twice before. It is one of the most horrible feelings in the world,” said White.

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White is one of many students at Highline who receive some kind of public assistance. Precise numbers are not available, but Women’s Programs helps 300 students a quarter to apply for various public assistance programs.

Deana Rader, director of Women’s Programs and WorkFirst Services at Highline, said people often unfairly judge people on government assistance.

“There are myths that people on assistance are lazy, that they don’t work for anything that they have,” said Rader. “The truth is that they usually work just as hard as people who work 40 hours a week.”

Rader said that Women’s Programs and WorkFirst are designed to help students out.

“If you are a single parent or low income we can assist with basic skills, college skills, finding a job, getting your GED as well as other services,” said Rader.

If you need assistance, you can apply at your local community service office. After that there is an interview process where you are assessed and evaluated for what services you need. Then after you are referred to women’s programs or work force. Then you contact us and we will get you all set up with a plan,” she said.

Women’s Programs and WorkFirst are designed to help students out.

“Once students cross our threshold our goal is to support them in a meaningful way,” said Rader.

Katie White said she plans on talking with her social worker and teaming up with Women’s Programs next quarter. She said nothing will hold her back from her dreams.

“I have faith that I will graduate, have a good job and continue to make my kids happy and comfortable. I want to make an example for them. So they can look at their mom and see a happy successful person,” said White.

White said that she has people that want her to be successful.

“I am so thankful for my beautiful friends and family and the different assistance programs that want her to be successful.

“They are the only reason I have to keep being stuck in this position forever.”