

Maternal measure moves on

Legislature shows support for pregnant, nursing mothers

By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

A bill that would guarantee pregnant women accommodations in the workplace passed through the state Senate last week with unanimous bi-partisan support.

Senate Bill 6149 requires employers to offer pregnant workers accommodations, such as extra bathroom breaks, food and water breaks, limits on lifting heavy objects and time off for doctor appointments. Also, the bill makes it illegal for an employer to terminate an employee because she is pregnant.

SBd 6149 is sponsored by state Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Des Moines.

The federal Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 out-

lawed pregnancy discrimination, but some employers do not offer accommodations for pregnant workers.

According to a national survey conducted by the Childbirth Connection program in 2013, 71 percent of workers said that they needed additional bathroom breaks, 61 percent said they needed more time off for prenatal visits, and 53 percent said that they needed a change in work duties.

SB 6149 also makes breastfeeding legal to do in any public place.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 77 percent of mothers in 2013 chose to breastfeed their children, compared to 71 percent of mothers in 2003.

Although many mothers choose to breastfeed, some people don't agree with their choice.

In a study titled Spoiled Milk: An Experimental Exam-

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Mai Lam/THUNDERWORD

ination of Bias Against Mother Who Breastfeed, the majority of people surveyed agreed that mothers who breastfeed are "incompetent" and "uneducated."

The study was done by Jessi L. Smith, a psychology profes-

sor at Montana State University.

The study included three experiments, with each including a different group of participants.

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Budget for clubs may increase

By Michael Muench
Staff Reporter

The budget that allocates funds among non-classroom activities at Highline may be larger this year than last, committee members say.

The Service and Activities Budget will have at least \$2.6 million to disperse among activities and clubs this year.

The Services and Activities Budget Committee makes decisions every winter how they will allocate the money it earns from student fees.

"We have, it would be safe to say, at least as much revenue if not more" than last year, said Associate Dean for Student Services Jonathan Brown.

The Services and Activities Budget will slice up its expected \$2.6 million pie among Highline clubs, the TRIO program, the International Student Program, the Tutoring Center, the MESA program, the Women's Program, Thunderword newspaper, Highline's athletic programs and more, said Associated Students of Highline College Vice President Richelle Enriquez.

The committee provides money to "anything that provides a service for our students. These are just a few examples," said Enriquez.

The committee works on a forward funding model, said Brown, which means

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Potheads beware: Public Safety cracks down

By Jim Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Fire up a joint on campus and it will light a fire under your local Public Safety officer.

Public Safety has begun cracking down on marijuana users on campus following a rash of recent incidents.

Although recreational marijuana use by adults in private is legal in Washington state, it cannot be used in public spaces, including on campus.

For a first offense on campus, students will be let off with a warning and a second offense will bring referral to the Judicial Conduct officer who will

determine a necessary punishment.

However, non-students caught using marijuana on campus will be warned on their first offense but repeated offenders will be referred to Des Moines Police.

Should a case be referred to the local police, violators are subject to state penalties. Public consumption of marijuana is subject to a civil violation and fine.

Possession of one ounce to 40 grams is a misdemeanor, punishable by a mandatory minimum of 24 hours and maximum of 90 days in jail. A mandatory fine of \$250 is imposed for the first offense,

and a mandatory fine of \$500 is imposed for the second or subsequent violations. This is in addition to a possible fine up to \$1,000.

Possession of more than 40 grams is a class C felony punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine up to \$10,000. An additional mandatory \$1,000 fine applies to first time offenses and a \$2,000 fine to second or subsequent offenses.

The change in policy is due to the growing number of incidents regarding the illegal use of marijuana on campus, said Sgt. George Curtis of Public Safety.

In one recent incident,

three men smoking marijuana between Buildings 22 and 23 were reported to Public Safety officers at 2:25 p.m. on Feb. 20.

As officers approached the building they observed three males sitting in a common area between the buildings but as they got closer the males got up and started heading down the stairs.

No paraphernalia was left behind where they were sitting and officers witnessed the men walking through the faculty parking area before leaving campus.

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Men's basketball loses, but still clinches a playoff spot

Peeping Tom is caught off campus

By Jim Sullivan
Staff Reporter

A suspected voyeur whose crime scenes included restrooms on the Highline campus has been arrested by the Des Moines Police Department.

The suspect was placed in custody on Feb. 22 thanks to the pictures taken by victims at Highline, which allowed detectives to put out a statewide bulletin with pictures of the assailant. Detectives received a tip on the identification of the man.

Officers located the individual and positively identified the man and linked him to voyeurism incidents at both Green River College and Highline.

The suspect was booked into South Correctional Entity regional jail in Des Moines and is in the process of being charged through King County Superior Court with one count of felony voyeurism.

The individual will more than likely be transferred to the Regional Justice Center in Kent because he is being charged with a level two class C felony.

Voyeurism is a sex offense that consists of arousing and gratifying the sexual desire of any person, he or she knowingly views, photographs or films without the other person's consent.

The suspects can face up to five years in prison and up to \$10,000 in fines.

Sgt. George Curtis of Public Safety suggests that students and faculty report any suspicious behavior, call for an escort by Public Safety officers when feeling uncomfortable and report any incidents of voyeurism to 911 immediately and then call Public Safety officers for assistance.

Thief tries to take the wheel

An attempted wheel theft occurred in the South Parking Lot between 9 a.m. and 1:50 p.m. on Feb. 16.

A student said that when he came back to his Silver 2004 Lexus and attempted to leave the parking space, his front passenger side tire fell completely off. He had discovered his lug nuts had been taken off all four tires and lying under his vehicle.

A report was filled with Des Moines Police and a tow truck was called to remove the vehicle from the parking space.

It is still to be determined if it was an attempted theft or a targeted hate crime.

Men's bathroom vandalized

The men's restroom on the third floor in Building 30 was vandalized at 11:14 a.m. on Feb. 18.

While Public Safety officers were on patrol they had found that the piping was kicked off the top of the urinal causing water to spray all over.

Officers also found that someone had put graffiti on the side of the paper towel dispenser.

Student's vehicle damaged in lot

A student's vehicle had been hit in the East Parking Lot at 10 a.m. on Feb. 16.

She told Public Safety officers that she returned to her black Chrysler and had found a four-inch dent on the passenger side front fender above the tire.

Officers told the women to call her insurance agent and gave her the paper work and the web site so she can file a Washington state collision report online.

Odor causes evacuation of building

Highline staff reported odors of gas in Building 16 at 10:20 a.m. on Feb. 10.

Officers responded and check the building as well as the pottery lab kiln and found that it was off.

A safety evacuation took place until they could locate where the smell was coming from.

Highline's maintenance crew arrived and determined the problem was a result of a broken belt on the HVAC system located on the roof.



College representatives answer transfer questions

By Megan Smith
Staff Reporter

When transferring to a four-year college, your best option is to have a completed Associate of Arts degree, recruiters at the recent Transfer Fair said.

Representatives of more than 30 four-year colleges and universities were on campus Feb. 10 to answer any questions, and to provide information such as admission requirements, programs offered, application deadlines, financial aid/scholarships, and housing information.

Several hundred students attended the recent Transfer Fair, organizers said.

"Highline College is a fantastic school. They are prepared. [It's] one of my favorite schools to come to," recruiter Noelle Rollins from Seattle U said.

A direct transfer degree agreement is one of the best options, recruiters say.

A direct transfer agreement guarantees that all 90 credits for your Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree credits will transfer to many Washington state four-year colleges and universities.

"The important thing is to plan transfer at least a year in



Angie Hunckler/COMMUNICATIONS & Marketing
Students bring their questions and transcripts to college recruiters.

advance, it's never too early to start planning to transfer," Director of Transfer Programs Siew Lai Lilley said.

Being well informed of what you need to complete your current classes and what needs to be done to transfer the classes you've taken is crucial. Understand what degree you are working towards and how it will transfer, but most importantly, know transfer dates, a CWU recruiter said.

Don't be afraid to ask questions, utilize advisers, Transfer Fair staff, Transfer Center or even talk to the school your plan-

ning to transfer to, they said.

In addition to exploring the various state-run intuitions, students also need to keep their minds open to private schools too. They are smaller and not as challenging, PLU recruiter Tyler Sedlacek said.

For students that missed the recent Transfer Fair, help is available daily through the Transfer Center in Building 6.

The Transfer Center's hours is Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. first come first serve.

The next Transfer Fair will occur Fall Quarter.



Highline hosts honors info dinner

Current and prospective honors students will have the opportunity to enjoy food and discuss the Highline Honors Program at the Quarterly Highline Honors Social today.

Free Pizza will be served at this noon – 1 p.m. event that will be taking place in Building 8 in the Intercultural Center on Feb 25.

Learn about fiber-optic cables

Find out how fiber-optic communications will play an increasing role in our lives in this week's Science Seminar.

Kip Wanzer and Kurt Giesel from Instructional Computing will discuss fiber optics on Feb. 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Registration deadlines extended

The deadlines to register for the Queer I Am, and Students of Color Conference have been extended to Feb. 26 at 5 p.m.

The first conference is the Second Annual Queer I Am Summit, which is a leadership conference for LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual) students and their allies, which with provide a safe place to explore and celebrate queer culture.

The Queer I Am conference will be held on March 25-26 at South Puget Sound Community College.

The second conference is the Twenty-Sixth Annual Students of Color Conference, where students can have conversations regarding race and identity while developing leadership skills.

The event will be held on April 21-23 in Yakima.

Applications can be found at Multicultural Affairs, located on the third floor of Building 8.

Wise women to attend WiSE dinner

Women with an interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) may be interested in attending Highline's annual WiSE (Women in Science and Engineering) dinner.

This will be a networking dinner for women interested in STEM careers.

All female students and faculty interested or working in

STEM fields are welcome.

Register for this event at <https://wise.highline.edu>, registration ends on Feb. 29.

The WiSE dinner will be held in Building 8 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. on March 2 .

Compete in a math contest

Highline will be hosting a national math contest, with prizes ranging from gift cards to a scholarship.

The AMATYC (American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges) contest will consist of a one-hour, 20-question, multiple-choice test.

This contest will take place in Building 7 at 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. on March 3.

Computer outage stalls testing

A redundancy amongst the servers caused a power outage on Feb. 24, leading to disruptions to computer systems across campus.

The shut-down interfered with computer-dependent classrooms and disrupted students taking timed tests in the Testing Center.

The incident occurred around 11:20 a.m. and was restored around 12:45 p.m.

Latin@ Summit focuses on success

By Mateo Cortez
Staff Reporter

To be successful in college, students must sacrifice everything, even spending time with family, a Highline chemistry professor told a Latin@ Summit audience yesterday.

The second annual Latin@ Summit, where Latino high school students can learn what it takes to pursue a higher education degree, had a presentation on “A Day in the Life of a College Student” on Feb. 23.

The event produced many tips on how to manage your time accordingly and how to study regularly.

Dr. Melissa Moehlig shared her college experiences and how overwhelmed she felt coming into her first college quarter.

“I never used to study in high school, but would always get As and Bs,” said Dr. Moehlig. “During my first quarter of college, I followed the same tactics. That was the first time in my life I’ve ever gotten a C grade in all my classes and knew I had to change.”

“I had to even put school in front of my family,” said Dr.



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Students attending Highline’s second annual Latin@ Summit for high school students enjoy homemade ice cream made on site.



Moehlig. “I felt terrible for doing so, but they understood what things I wanted to accom-

plish. And being the first of my family to attend college, I knew they’d be there for me.”

Dr. Sharon Rivera, also a chemistry professor at Highline said that keeping a regularized study schedule helped her attain success through college.

“Many students have tried

and set up a study schedule to follow through the year,” said Dr. Rivera. “Only few have actually stuck to that study schedule the whole way.” “It is important to keep to this schedule and in large part it can help you more than cramming 10 weeks of the material you learned in a specif-

ic class in four or five hours.”

The pair emphasized on sticking to a regular study schedule, learning how to talk to your professors, and suggested ways for in-coming college students to manage the weight and pressure of transitioning from high school.

Latino students urged to accept who they really are

By Bryce Sizemore
Staff Reporter

It is more important to accept yourself for who you are, than to worry what society thinks, a Highline Professor said here on Tuesday.

Professor Joshua Magallanes spoke as part of the second annual Latin@ summit, an effort by the college to reach out to local Latino and Latina high school students.

Professor Magallanes, a counselor who also teaches a Queer Studies class at Highline, spoke Gender and Sexuality: Intersections of Identity.

Sexual identity “Is something we don’t talk about,” in the Latino community Magallanes said.

An increase in openness and acceptance of all types of



Jessica Stand/THUNDERWORD

Josh Magallanes says self-awareness is a key to success.

people in the Latino community would have a huge positive impact, making its members feel accepted, and reducing the rate of STDs and unintended pregnancies, Magallanes said.

“When I came out [as a gay man], it wasn’t easy,” Magallanes said.

This is because he believed that his parents wouldn’t accept him for who he really was, which he attributed to stereotypes about the Latino community.

His parents accepted him, but it took two years for his brothers to accept him.

However, it is now a small, but important part of his identity he is proud of.

Magallanes spoke about how society has expectations for how people should act based on how they look.

He said that men are expected to be masculine, women feminine, and for all people to be attracted to the opposite sex.

Race often plays a role in people’s perceptions as well.

When Magallanes asked his audience how the media has portrayed Latinos, answers included portrayals of undocumented immigrants, agricultural workers, rapists, and as being lazy.

“It pisses me off,” an attendee of the presentation said.

Magallanes said that others will judge people based purely on stereotypes and that that can be frustrating and damaging.

“My heritage makes me proud,” said Magallanes.

It is important to love yourself, and keep pushing forward in spite of what people and society say, said Magallanes.

Right tools lead to college success

By Konner Hancock
Staff Reporter

With the right tools, first-generation Latino students can succeed in college, a Highline official said this week.

Joe Aguilar, Running Start coordinator, spoke yesterday at the second annual Latin@ Summit, a two-day event that included workshops and speakers that provided information for Latino students to be successful in education. The free summit was open to all Highline students and the many invited high schools.

Aguilar said that people close to first-generation college students look to them as a primary example of what can be achieved.

“Your family members, like those younger siblings that follow you around, will see you as a role model,” Aguilar said.

He said college is important and can positively affect your future.

“By the year 2020, 65 percent of jobs will require post-secondary education and training.”

Aguilar also addressed different programs that can help a student transition to college.

The first program is TRiO student services. The program’s aim is to increase graduation and baccalaureate transfer rates for students and to create an institutional climate supportive of success.

The second program is Running Start, a high school program for students to graduate with their diploma and associates degree at the same time.

The third and final program is Career Start, which allows students to graduate high school and earn their associate of applied science degree from Highline simultaneously.

Aguilar urged students to find a social niche.

“Find a group of people where you feel like you can fit in so you don’t shrink and not be able to spread your wings,” said Aguilar.

Aguilar suggested some good tips for college, such as learning to master time management, not being afraid to ask for help, keeping your eye on the prize, finding your zone, making time for self care, embracing your fear don’t let it embrace you, and, lastly, find a support system that pushes you forward.

Don't change a good thing

Overlooking the Puget Sound on its massive perch on Marine View Drive, the Landmark on the Sound is truly a signature staple of Des Moines.

Built in 1926 as a retirement home by Freemasons, the Landmark is one of the largest and most impressive structures in the city.

Despite the building's beauty and renown, the Landmark on the Sound may experience some serious changes in the upcoming months.

The property was sold for \$14 million to George Heidgerken of Centralia and Eric Brandenburg of California, and they are still deciding what exactly they want to do with the space.

In the past, the building has been used not only as a retirement home, but also as an events center. The new owners are hoping to turn it into something more profitable.

Although it is still being discussed, there are ideas of the space being turned into a hotel, offices, apartments, or even an educational facility.

This is good news for the city of Des Moines, because currently there is no tax revenue coming in from the Landmark. Any form of revenue that would come from businesses there would be a benefit.

However, the new owners are also looking into making some changes to the property.

The building is already large at 130,000 square feet, but the new owners are considering adding an additional 400,000-600,000 square feet to the building.

An issue with such a large expansion is that it could turn the Landmark on the Sound into an eyesore.

Currently, the building contains 177 rooms, a dining hall, a chapel, and an auditorium, and is equipped with gorgeous stained glass windows and a classic wood interior.

If the owners were to severely change the building, it would take months of ugly construction to build, and there is no guarantee that the larger building will look as pleasant as the original.

The owners should attempt to preserve as much as possible of the original building. For example, adding onto the back, so the front is still aesthetically pleasing.

One concern is that due to the building's age the Landmark may not be in a condition where it can take too much more remodeling.

Although the building is very old, the age gives it life and value. If remodeling is a concern, it seems more reasonable to restore the building for what it is now, rather than tear it down and start anew.

For example, the building definitely needs some modernization. There will need to be outlets, phone jacks, and general power installed into the Landmark.

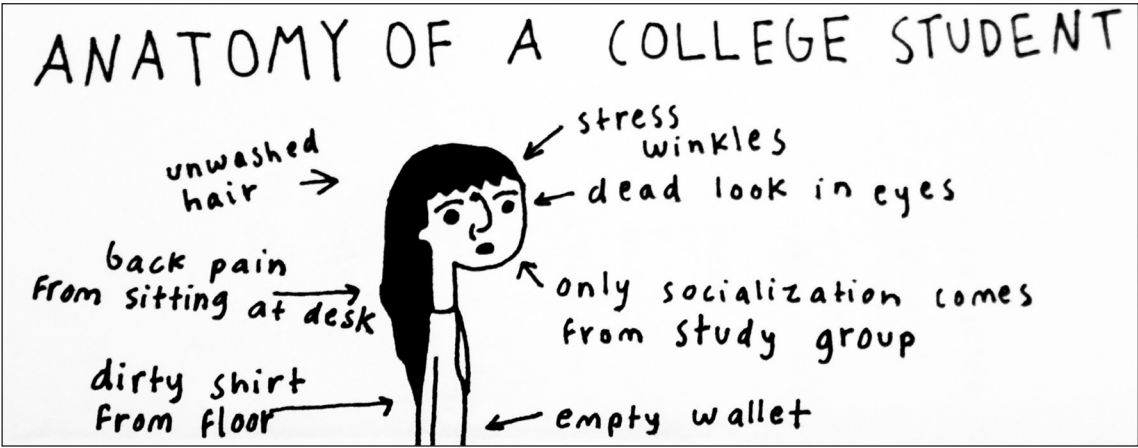
The best thing the owners could do when they proceed with the renovations is to work with the city of Des Moines.

Many members of city government want the landmark to look the same, and it would be a good idea to consult them before any changes are made, especially if they need permits from the city.

However, the city of Des Moines isn't always very business friendly, which is why it has one of the worst tax bases in the state.

The new owners need to find a happy medium between making money, and preserving the historic landmark.

Commonly referred to as "the castle," the Landmark on the Sound is a staple in the Des Moines community, and it should remain looking similar to the way it does.



Sam McCullough/THUNDERWORD

New justice means new justice

Regardless of your political orientation, you need to care about both the Supreme Court and who presides over it.

The Feb. 13 death of Associate Justice Antonin Scalia left one of nine Supreme Court seats open.

His replacement will be nominated by the president of the United States, as written in the Constitution. The U.S. Senate must confirm this replacement in a majority vote before she or he can take their place on the bench.

It appears that a Senate vote is increasingly unlikely while Barack Obama is president.

No less than an hour after Justice Scalia's death was announced, Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, said that the Senate should not confirm a nominee until President Obama is out of office. Sen. McConnell's statement has since been backed-up by ranking Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee. Sen. McConnell is the Senate majority leader, making him the most powerful member of the Senate.

This means that the Supreme Court could be down a member for 257 days.

This means that several important cases, cases that will have a real impact on quality of life throughout the country, may be at risk.

Justice Scalia was staunchly conservative, and his death leaves the bench unbalanced. Without a replacement for Justice Scalia, it is possible that the court may be tied 4-4, which would uphold whatever decision previous court ar-

Guest Commentary



Adam Horner

rived at.

Of particular note is a case concerning President Obama's executive order on immigration, *United States v. Texas*.

Last year, President Obama ordered that the deportation of nearly 6 million undocumented immigrants be deferred. Following his announcement, several dozen states filed suit to block his order. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals held that President Obama had exceeded his authority. The case now waits for its day in court, and should it be heard prior to an appointment, it may reach a tie, effectively striking down the president's order.

Also extremely important is *Women's Whole Health v. Hellerstedt*, a case concerning the restriction of access to abortion facilities in Texas.

A law increasing the stan-

dards for abortion facilities to hospital-level requirements has resulted in the closure of a large number of clinics for reasons as mundane as not having hallways eight feet wide.

A tie in the Supreme Court could not only result in further closures, but also open up the path for even more laws that restrict access to abortion clinics throughout the country. These laws, which do not specifically make abortion illegal, basically circumvent *Roe v. Wade* and more recent cases that maintain that a woman has the right to choose.

Not having a full bench means the Supreme Court is effectively hamstrung. If the result of a tie is the upholding of the lower court, then the court has no true power.

An incomplete bench means properly hearing cases regardless of their outcome becomes all the more difficult. And can lead to results much different than a full court.

Justice Scalia himself once wrote that missing even one out of the nine justices "impairs the functioning of the Court."

The next Supreme Court will be in the position to make incalculable changes to the layout of the country. Justices are appointed for life, so when we talk about an appointment now, we could be talking about what the court looks like 20 years from now, and arguably what the country could look like.

Adam Horner is the editor-in-chief of the Thunderword.

the Staff “

I just learned how expensive it is to live.

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Burien wants to be in pictures

By John Van de Ven
Staff Reporter

QUIET ON THE SET! Burien is making movies!

Almost a year after its film cutting ceremony, the Burien Film Office continues to offer local filmmakers assistance with their projects in an effort to promote the growth of the local film industry.

With an ever-growing list of films, including *Safety Not Guaranteed* and *The Maury Island Incident*, the Burien Film Office hopes to attract more filmmakers to continue to use the city as a backdrop. Beginning as an idea between B-Town Blog editor Scott Schaeffer and the City of Burien's Economic Development Manager Dan Trimble, the Burien Film Office was created.

The idea started at an Eco-

nomic Development Dialog event to figure out ways to promote the many different aspects of Burien, as well as provide service to a large population of filmmakers who live in the area.

"This started both as a necessity, and also works for marketing and promotion," Trimble said.

The office acts as a starting point for filmmakers, offering assistance with permits and explaining under which scenarios those permits would be needed.

To further support filmmakers, the office also acts as a central hub and starting point, coordinating events such as monthly Happy Hour events to help filmmakers connect and collaborate with each other, as well as contests to help promote the city and showcase many of its photogenic locations.

"We're still building the

program. People are enthusiastic, which has been a little unexpected," said city Communications Officer Katie Trefry.

Taking cues from Washington Filmworks, the city of Burien hopes to create a website that helps filmmakers scout locations for shooting their scenes. This database would use photos of the city to show some of the unique features over a map of Burien to make it easy for filmmakers to find those areas.

On top of helping support local filmmakers, the Burien Film Office has also reached out to Highline with hopes that students studying photography or film would be interested in gaining real world exposure by participating in some of the contests held by the office.

This has been well received by faculty as well as students.

Multimedia Professor Sean Puno offered his photography students an opportunity to not only earn a grade but also gain some exposure and real world experience when the city held a contest to help build the scouting location database.

"There is only so much that can be taught in a classroom, but this gives students exposure to real world scenarios, from working with clients to meeting other filmmakers," Puno said.

"I think it's been very successful," Trimble said. "I am pleased with the connections made and want to do more to promote visual arts in Burien."

Burien will host its second Film Festival as part of its Burien UFO Festival on April 1. More information on the Burien Film Office can be found at <http://www.burienwa.gov/film>.

Taste some wine, help raise funds

By Taylor Lee
Staff Reporter

Uncorked and Unplugged will be the theme of the 12th annual Poverty Bay Wine Festival presented March 5-6 by the Rotary Club of Des Moines/Normandy Park.

More than 20 Washington wine makers will be present.

"The music will be acoustic and a more one-man-band type of show," said Scott Logan, a co-chairman of the planning committee.

Local blues artists such as Aryon Jones and Rod Cook will be playing, he said.

"This event is one of the largest events the Rotary hosts to raise money for local charities," Logan said.

"The Highline Music 4 Life charity is one of the biggest local charities this event will support," he said.

The program provides instruments for Highline School District students who cannot afford them, Logan said.

The festival will take place at the Des Moines Beach Park Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$35 at brownpapertickets.com or \$40 at the door. Each ticket includes 10 tasting tokens.

A free parking and free shuttle service will run from the Des Moines Marina to the Wine Festival both days.



Aubrey Plaza and Mark Duplass practice their aim in *Safety Not Guaranteed*.

Film District productions

Highline club aims to add diversity to film industry

By Dylan You
Staff Reporter

It is often considered difficult to find filmmakers in America willing to direct movies about different cultures. Nor is it easy to find films starring actors of varying ethnic origins.

So Highline Universal Studios Club is focusing on bringing its diverse members together to create short clips about different cultures.

"We are trying to connect the diverse population here at Highline to make the club members know more about each other through the process of filming," said Club President Wen-Yen Pai.

"We think video is a very powerful method of getting messages across," said Pai.

The videos range from comedy skits making fun of American bathrooms to short clips showing club members of different nationalities react to the taste of various types of American snacks.

One of the first videos produced by the club can be found on the video streaming website, Youtube.

The video is titled *American Toilet: What's The Gap For?* The Youtube channel through which the videos are publicized is called Universal Studio Highline.

The club is not just about making films; it also focuses on learning more about each oth-

er's cultures through various games and activities.

"We have different themes each week," said Pai. "For example, sometimes we try to teach each other how to speak other languages and sometimes we might have word trivia games."

The club has around 11-12 people coming to every meeting and is always seeking new members.

"Right now, we don't have as many cultures as we expected," said club member Claire Lu. "The members are usually Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese and Filipino."

Interested students may attend one of the club meetings in Building 19, room 205 from 2:45-4:45 p.m. every Tuesday.

Dance like no one can recognize you at this weekend's masquerade

By Mary Gasper
Staff Reporter

Masquerade will be the theme when Highline's International Students Program hosts its 10th annual winter dance this weekend.

The event will be semi-formal, but attendees can dress up as much as they want, said Amee Moon, assistant director of Marketing and Student Development.

There will be food, drinks, and music provided by a live DJ.

The event is on Feb. 27 from 7 to 11 p.m. in Building 8.

"The international students thought it would be fun and

the only time you could dress like that," said Moon.

"International students have never experienced a dance like this before," said Moon.

Anyone is welcome to attend and the cost is \$10.

The International Student Program is a program that hosts students on F1 student visas.

They also help gain leadership skills, advice, and assist with getting students into universities.

There are many students from different countries through this program including but not limited to Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Russia, Thailand and more.

‘The Witch’ uses otherworldly scares

By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

The Witch enchants viewers, as all hell breaks loose on screen. Literally.

The directorial debut of Robert Eggers, who also wrote the screenplay, is winning awards on the festival circuit.

The film follows a family banished from the commonwealth in 1630s New England as they try to begin a new life in solitude. The parents are very religious and raise their children to be righteous people and hard workers.

When their infant disappears, they blame local wildlife, but slowly start to believe that witches stole their child.

Paranoia starts to run high, turning their solitude into a hellish nightmare. The parents turn from loving people into harsh judges, as they try to figure out which child of theirs is a witch.

In *The Witch*, all the characters speak in Elizabethan English, adding to the feeling that the viewer has travelled through time and is viewing something evil. Also, with the only setting being the family’s farm, the film projects the feelings of solitude from the screen into the viewer’s mind.

The film is a slow-burner, depending on building a spooky atmosphere, instead of trying to scare the viewer every other scene. This works well because the viewer is always on the edge of her seat, wondering when the next scare is going to come.

Newcomer Anya Taylor-Joy shines as Thomasin, the oldest child and the chief object of her parents’ judgment. Acting alongside actors such as Ralph



Parts and Labor Productions

Anya Taylor-Joy handles all that goes bump in the night as Thomasin in *The Witch*.

Ineson and Kate Dickie, she manages to steal the screen in her scenes.

Ineson, who plays the father, is as intimidating as he is loving. He leaves the viewer wondering if he is going to snap, or if he is going to take care of his family.

Dickie, who plays the mother, dances along the border of good and evil as she judges her children throughout the movie.

All the characters together create tension, as you never know how they’re going to interact or who they’re going to accuse of witchcraft next.

Mark Korven’s musical score adds to the tension throughout the film. Korven is a horror movie veteran as his previous works include *Cube* and *The Twilight Zone*.

His music screeches and screams, making a scene terrifying, even if the actors are silent.

Although *The Witch* was a directorial debut, it seems like it’s coming from a long-time director who knows what he’s doing. The Sundance Film Festival agreed, giving Eggers an award for Best Director last year.

Eggers has a history with

gothic and historically-themed films. Before *The Witch*, he directed two short films, *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *Hansel and Gretel*. He also wrote both of those films.

Before breaking into directing, Eggers worked in as an art director and a costume designer on multiple short films.

Riding on the success of his first feature-length film, he plans to continue to bring gothic stories to the screen with a remake of *Nosferatu*.

Eggers cites 17th century literature as his inspiration for

films, but he also tends to add a modern twist.

The Witch, although set in 1630s, explores themes that we are dealing with today, such as religious persecution and a woman’s role in society.

The Witch will leave the viewer feeling tense, with the film becoming scarier and scarier in the days after viewing. This film isn’t for the faint of heart.

The Witch is playing in all AMC Theaters through the next couple weeks. To find a screening near you, visit amctheaters.com.

Festival brings theater to those living on the fringe

By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

The Seattle Fringe Festival kicks off today, bringing new theater shows to the local Seattle area.

The annual festival was started because local producers noticed a need for a place to showcase new plays.

“The Seattle Fringe Fest was started by a volunteer steering committee who wanted to see a platform for new work and new artists in Seattle,” said Pamala Mijatov, a coordinator for the festival.

Mijatov said that the coordinators wanted to bring affordable theater to the masses.

“[We] wanted a festival that

would be a low-cost, low-risk way to help bring as many artists and audiences as possible together in an intense Festival of performing arts,” she said.

The Seattle Fringe Festival showcases multiple kinds of performances.

“We have drama, comedy, puppetry, dance, music, burlesque, and more,” Mijatov said.

She said that most of the performances at this year’s Seattle Fringe Festival have never been seen.

“None of these plays have premiered yet, so we’re as eager to see them as anyone,” Mijatov said.

Tickets for any of the shows are \$10, or \$40 for five shows.

“Most shows are under an



Seattle Fringe Festival photo

hour and all shows are \$10, so audiences can take lots of chances on new and unfamiliar

work without too much effort of commitment,” Mijatov said.

Some of the performanc-

es include *The Life and Many Deaths of Peter Pan* and *Uncle Seagull*, both of which Mijatov recommends.

“*Uncle Seagull* is produced by the Libertinis, Seattle’s sexist inner-arts gang,” she said.

For the festival schedule and tickets, visit seattlefringefestival.org. The festival runs from Feb. 25 to 28, and March 3 to 5.

Shows are playing in multiple theaters, such as Annex Theatre, Eclectic Theater, Theatre Puget Sound Center Theater, TPS Blackbox and TPS Studio.

“You can see two to four shows a day, which is great for theater fans,” Mijatov said.

“Or you can pick a single exciting new show to take a chance on.”

Thunderbirds clinch playoff bid

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

Despite losing to Lower Columbia, the men's basketball team has secured another trip to the postseason, following a solid win over division rival Green River.

Highline's, 9-3 (18-9 overall), season long goal of getting into the playoffs has been accomplished after a 1-1 week.

Before the win over Green River, the T-Birds played a road game last Wednesday against West Division leader Lower Columbia, 11-1, (19-7 overall).

With Highline sitting at the No. 2 spot in the west, this was a critical game for both teams.

After a hard fought first half, the T-Birds struggled in the second half, eventually losing, 69-51.

"We were really bad offensively. Some of it was them [Lower Columbia], more of it was us," said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson. "Poor decision making and lack of discipline against a good defensive team."

The first half of the game was evenly matched as both teams struggled to shoot from the field.

Highline shot 37 percent from the field, while the Devils shot 40 percent.

"I felt that we rushed our offense and we tried to do too much individually," said Highline guard Jalen McGruder.



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

T-Bird's Jamie Orme makes an easy layup in Saturday's win.

The T-Birds were only down by two at the end of the first half, mostly due to them getting to the foul-line.

In the second half, things started to unravel for the T-Birds as they still struggled to

get the ball in the net.

"There was no difference in how they were playing us in the second half. We just collapsed offensively and did not execute," said McGruder.

Much like the first half, both

teams struggled offensively, but Lower Columbia was able to get a lot of calls their way, as they headed to the free-throw line 24 times.

With the opposing team heading to the free-throw line constantly, the T-Birds found it hard to maintain any offensive rhythm, as the Red Devils knocked down 20 of the 24 free-throw attempts.

Unfortunately with the loss, Highline will not win the West Division title, as those honors will go to Lower Columbia.

"We always worry about what we can control. That was one of our goals but not the only one," said Coach Dawson. "We are focusing on what we are able to do, not what we are not able to do."

Freshman guard Jared Murphy was the only T-Bird in double figures with 13 points.

The Devils' Lawrence Russell had a great game with 24 points, nine rebounds, four assists, and five steals.

Even with the loss, the T-Birds were still looking for a playoff berth, which they found in Saturday's win over Green River.

The previous match-up against the Gators was a close one, as Highline escaped with a 58-54 win.

That was not the case this time as the T-Birds took control from the beginning and never looked back, winning 69-53.

Highline and Green River

struggled to shoot the three ball in the first half, combining for 0 out of 17 from beyond the arc.

Yet, the T-Birds still shot 50 percent from the field in the first half and 49 for the entire game.

The T-Birds also did a great job taking advantage of the Gators' turnovers, scoring 17 points off them.

Jaime Orme was back to being the top scorer for Highline with 21 points and 10 rebounds.

Teammates Jalen McGruder and Nick Edens put down solid games with McGruder scoring 11 points and Edens scoring 10.

"It is imperative that we finish off the season strong and win these last three games so that we stay in control of our own destiny come tournament time," said McGruder.

Now with a playoff spot under their belt, the Thunderbirds still have a chance to move up in the playoff seeding.

Currently, Highline will go into the tournament as a No. 2 team from the west.

"It's obviously very important to finish strong, both for seeding and momentum purposes," said Coach Dawson.

The T-Birds had a home game against Pierce yesterday with results unavailable at press time.

This was an important game as Pierce had previously beaten the T-Birds a month ago, 82-74.

After Wednesday's game, Highline will play their regular season finale on the road, Saturday Feb. 27 at Tacoma at 4 p.m.

Stellar freshman the key to T-Birds' success

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

He might be new to the Highline campus, but men's basketball player Jamie Orme is far from a newbie on the basketball court.

A native of Washington, the 6'7" O'Dea High School product started basketball at a young age, developing his skills with each passing year.

"I started playing around the fifth grade," said Orme. "It was around my sophomore year when I first made varsity for O'Dea that I realized that I could go far with this."

In his senior year at O'Dea, Orme became a star player for the Fighting Irish and was selected by the WIBCA, (Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association), for the 3A All-State Roster.

Coming out of high school, Orme had a handful of colleges to play for.

"I had a bunch of four-year Division-1 school recruiting me," said Orme. "Unfortunately coming out of O'Dea private school, my grades weren't where they should have been to accept anything they had to offer me."

"This led up to me coming to Highline with a totally different approach towards the classroom," he said.

Orme said, along with other opportunities, the main reason he came to Highline was the great reputation and influence Coach Che Dawson has as a coach and mentor.

"Over the summer, he actually came to my house and took me out for breakfast," said Orme.

"The one thing in the conversation that stuck with me

the most was how Highline was just a different route to where I wanted to be and that was at a four-year university," he said.

"Then and there I realized how much he believed in me. To this day, he hasn't let me down on how great of a coach he really is," he said.

With coach Dawson's leadership and his athletic ability, Orme has used that combination to excel in the NWAC.

As a freshmen wingman, Orme is averaging 21 points a game, including a season-high 39 points and a season-high 18 rebounds.

He is also averaging nine rebounds, two steals, and a block a game.

Before the Lower Columbia game, in which he scored nine points, Orme had a 21-game streak of scoring in double fig-

ures, and has registered 10 double-doubles this season with scoring and rebounding.

Out of the eight statistical categories in the NWAC, Orme is in the top 10 in four of them, being ninth in scoring, sixth in rebounding, second in steals, and 10th in blocks.

"My athleticism and ability to put the ball in the basket is one of my strengths," said Orme.

"Being a rebounder is something I also take pride in. I've made a lot of progress being able to shoot it as well," he said.

"Some of the things I feel I need to work on in my game is being an all-around complete player and with that might come with my ball handling and passing."

With just two games left, the T-Birds have secured another

playoff berth and will once again compete for a championship.

The T-Birds have posted a 9-3 record this season and are currently second in the West Division.

"With this group of guys this year, I really feel we can make a run and bring an NWAC Championship back to Highline," said Orme.

Still in his freshman year, Orme has another year to build on his academic and athletic future, with basketball being a gateway to more opportunities.

Currently, Orme has an interest in business but for now is looking through his options.

What he is sure of is that going to a four-year college is a goal he hopes to achieve, whether its for basketball or academics.

38

35

45

14

Scoreboard

MEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Lower Columbia	11-1	19-7
S. Puget Sound	9-3	20-6
Highline	9-3	18-9
Tacoma	8-4	15-10
Pierce	5-7	10-16
Green River	4-8	9-15
Centralia	2-10	2-21
Grays Harbor	0-12	2-10
South Division		
Clark	12-2	21-5
Lane	10-4	22-5
Clackamas	10-4	18-9
Chemeketa	7-7	16-11
Umpqua	7-7	14-12
Portland	6-8	13-10
SW Oregon	5-10	11-17
Linn-Benton	4-11	8-18
Mt. Hood	3-11	6-19
North Division		
Peninsula	10-2	17-9
Whatcom	7-5	20-8
Everett	7-5	16-11
Edmonds	6-6	17-8
Bellevue	5-7	3-13
Olympic	5-7	7-16
Skagit Valley	4-8	11-14
Shoreline	4-8	9-14
East Division		
Spokane	11-1	25-3
Big Bend	11-1	21-7
Yakima Valley	7-5	13-13
Columbia Basin	6-6	12-13
Walla Walla	5-7	11-16
Blue Mountain	3-9	12-15
Wenatchee Valley	3-9	6-19
Treasure Valley	2-10	4-19
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Centralia	11-1	20-7
Lower Columbia	11-1	19-9
Grays Harbor	7-5	13-11
S. Puget Sound	6-6	15-11
Highline	5-7	9-17
Tacoma	4-8	6-16
Green River	3-9	8-17
Pierce	1-11	3-21
South Division		
Lane	13-1	26-1
Umpqua	10-4	22-6
Clackamas	10-4	19-8
Clark	9-5	17-9
Chemeketa	8-6	12-15
SW Oregon	4-11	12-16
Linn-Benton	4-11	10-17
Mt. Hood	3-11	8-17
Portland	3-11	4-20
North Division		
Peninsula	11-1	20-5
Bellevue	10-2	20-5
Skagit Valley	10-2	20-8
Everett	6-6	13-13
Shoreline	4-8	6-15
Olympic	3-9	8-16
Whatcom	3-9	3-20
Edmonds	1-11	2-22
East Division		
Wenatchee Valley	10-2	22-5
Spokane	10-2	21-6
Columbia Basin	8-4	16-11
Treasure Valley	7-5	16-10
Walla Walla	5-7	16-9
Blue Mountain	5-7	11-15
Big Bend	3-9	9-19
Yakima Valley	0-12	3-23

Ladies keep playoff hopes alive

By Samuel Biehn
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds basketball team took a step back in their bid to reach the NWAC Tournament in their 51-36 loss to the Lower Columbia Red Devils on Feb. 17, but bounced back for a 47-40 victory over Green River on Feb. 20.

The Thunderbirds, who struggled late against Lower Columbia in a game on Jan. 20, suffered the same fate in this game.

Highline played consistent ball throughout three periods of play in which the Lady T-Birds only trailed the Red Devils 30-28 at halftime.

However, the Highline ladies fell apart in final quarter. The T-Birds were outscored 21-9 and watched a close game turn into a runaway victory for Lower Columbia.

“They’re [Highline] a very talented team, it’s a matter of keeping focus the whole time,” team trainer Tim Vagen said.

Throughout the game, Highline put themselves in bad situations. For the game, the Lady T-Birds had 22 turnovers that turned into 17 Red Devil points.

The Thunderbirds, who have been struggling to shoot throughout most of the season, struggled once again against Lower Columbia. Highline finished shooting 29 percent from the field.

The Red Devils didn’t fare much better, as they finished shooting 32 percent from the field.

The Red Devils were benefitted by a strong game from forward Samantha Boyce, who was Lower Columbia’s leading scorer with 19 points, six rebounds, five steals and two assists.

The Thunderbirds were led on the night by forward Alicia Westbrook. Westbrook finished with nine points, five rebounds, one steal and three assists.

Highline also finished with 41 rebounds on the night.

“They played them well, they held their own with them and Lower Columbia blew them out in the fourth quarter,” Vagen said.

Additionally, Lady T-Birds forward Chardonae Miller has continued to miss time following her knee injury suffered in a loss against Grays Harbor on Jan. 16.

“It was a very severe bone bruise. They take a while to heal, structurally it won’t affect her but it’s painful. We don’t want more injuries to pile on,” Vagen said.

Following the loss, the Thunderbirds still found themselves in contention for the fourth and



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD
Highline guard Jasmyne Holmes drives it against a Green River defender in Saturday’s win.

final tournament spot. However, Grays Harbor clinched the third playoff spot in the division after two consecutive victories over Pierce and South Puget Sound.

The Lady T-Birds pulled out a 47-40 victory in their next game against Green River on Feb. 20.

In contrast to their previous game against Lower Columbia, Highline finished strong in the second half. Highline closed out the Gators 17-8 in the fourth.

Highline found itself in a tighter game in the first half, however, as the score stood 24-21 with the Lady T-Birds in the lead after two.

Highline used their aggressive play on the boards to their advantage, as the Thunderbirds grabbed 68 percent of defensive rebounds for the game.

The Thunderbirds also pulled down 53 percent of offensive rebounds to keep the pace of the game in their control.

Even with the struggles throughout the season, Highline has shown an ability to stay mentally strong in games. This is something those surrounding the team have taken notice of.

“I’ve been working with them on mental conditioning. It takes a long time to develop, but they’ve really shown that [mental conditioning],” Vagen said. “They’re a really tough group.”

Highline was able to use that mental toughness to come back

from a loss and play well in the second half of this game, despite their 28 percent shooting from the field.

The Thunderbirds were led by guard Alyson Rippingham for the game. Rippingham finished with 14 points, eight rebounds, one steal, and one assist.

“I think we played really well with each other. We went out and got rebounds and fast breaks, and those fast breaks turned into points,” Rippingham said.

“We’re focusing on being calm and composed with the ball, and not being scared when we get pressure.”

Highline will try to use whatever energy they have left to find their way into the playoffs.

“They’re pretty beat up at this point, but they’re holding it together pretty well,” Vagen said.

Rippingham said that the team’s perseverance throughout the season is “a really big factor,” and getting into the post-season is “one more step for us.”

That perseverance for the team has “motivated us,” Rippingham said.

With the victory and Grays Harbor’s two straight victories to clinch the third tournament spot, Highline now finds itself in a battle for tournament contention with South Puget Sound, who currently sits at fourth in the NWAC West at 6-6.

Highline currently sits at 5-7 in the division. If the Lady

T-Birds win their next two games against Pierce and Tacoma and South Puget Sound loses their next two, the Thunderbirds will be in the tournament.

If Highline and South Puget Sound both finish at 7-7 divisionally, South Puget Sound would get in due to a 15-11 overall record and Highline’s 9-17 record.

The next two opponents for the Lady T-Birds, both Pierce and Tacoma, sit in the bottom three of the division and both have losing records.

South Puget Sound in their last two games plays Tacoma and Lower Columbia, who is first in the NWAC West.

The Thunderbirds need Tacoma to pull off the upset against South Puget Sound on Feb. 24 to have a chance to make it into the tournament. Tacoma is currently 6-16, and 4-8 in the NWAC West.

Although Highline needs help to make it into the tournament, they still have a shot at accomplishing their post-season goals.

“The amount of learning that’s happened has been really big,” Vagen said.

Highline will have to use that learning and toughness in order to make it into the tournament.

The Lady T-Birds played Pierce on Feb. 24 with results unavailable at press time.

Highline will try to play strong in their final game, a 2 p.m. tipoff against Tacoma on Feb. 27.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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		1		9	3		2	
8			4					7

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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- 1. MUSIC:** What was the name of the record company founded by the Beatles?
- 2. ASTRONOMY:** Which planet in our solar system spins the fastest?
- 3. ANIMAL KINGDOM:** Which insect can indicate the temperature with accuracy?
- 4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What is the fastest known bird in the world?
- 5. CHEMISTRY:** What is the only metal that's liquid at room temperature?
- 6. MOVIES:** What was Baby's real name in *Dirty Dancing*?
- 7. GEOGRAPHY:** What country is bordered by the Atlantic and Indian Oceans?
- 8. PSYCHOLOGY:** What is the fear represented in the condition "herpetophobia"?

- 9. MEDICAL:** What is the common name for hypoglycemia?
- 10. TELEVISION:** Where does Homer Simpson work?

Answers

1. Apple Records
2. Jupiter, which rotates once in just less than 10 hours.
3. Crickets
4. Peregrin falcon
5. Mercury
6. Frances
7. South Africa
8. Fear of reptiles or creepy, crawly things
9. Low blood sugar
10. Springfield Nuclear Power Plant

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Puzzle answers on Page 11

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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+		+		÷	
	x		+		11
-		x		+	
	x		-		11
11		10		11	

1 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Assistant
5 Praise to the skies
9 Banned bug spray
12 A-line originator
13 Choir member
14 Playwright Levin
15 Went on a tangent
17 Weep loudly
18 Approximately
19 Makes less intense
21 Military group

- 24 Sandwich shop
25 Colors
26 Sight-seers
30 Dadaist Jean
31 Debtors' woes
32 Take to court
33 Type of parking
35 DNA carrier
36 And others (Lat.)
37 Fragrant wood
38 Founded (on)
40 Ethereal
42 "Of course"
43 Talked over
48 Pirouette

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15				16						17		
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42				43	44					45	46	47
48				49					50			
51				52					53			

- pivot
49 Great Lake
50 Architect Saarinen
51 Conclusion
52 Gridiron arbiters, for short
53 Anger

DOWN

- 1 Tack on
2 Midafternoon, in a way
3 Pooch
4 Mistakes
5 Highland girl
6 As well
7 Multipurpose

- truck
8 Walks feebly
9 Permitted to leave
10 Let fall
11 Filing aids
16 Before
20 "The Greatest"
21 Bloke
22 Emanation
23 Sad
24 Boring
26 Cash drawer
27 Bullring bravo
28 Albacore, e.g.
29 Palm reader, for one

- 31 Football lining
34 Chowd down
35 Old Faithful, e.g.
37 French vineyard
38 Data amount
39 Ages and ages
40 "Yeah, right!"
41 Frosts
44 Rage
45 Vast expanse
46 Measure of work
47 Fawn's mama

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Time is on your side in the early part of the week. But anything left undone by midweek will need to be put into rush mode. The weekend offers choices for you and someone special.

TAURUS (April 30 to May 20) Finally getting credit for a contribution is nice for all you idea-generating Ferdinands and Fernandas. But don't sit on your laurels under the cork tree. Use it as a first step to a bigger opportunity.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Despite the progress made, a hint of doubt might set in. That's OK. You need to stop and consider not only what you're doing but also how you are doing. Make adjustments where needed.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The dreamer is dominant in the Moon Child's aspect, but a dollop of hardheaded practicality is coming up fast and jockeying for space. The challenge is to make room for both modes.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) It's a good week for Leos and Leonas to start assessing what they've done and



what they plan to do. Moving to a new environment -- home or job-related -- is a possibility for some Cats.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) The week calls for Virgos to make tough decisions, but in a way that leaves the door open for changes. Ask for advice from someone who has been in the position you're in now.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Disappointments are never easy to take, but you have the ability to learn from them and go on to success. Meanwhile, continue to build up your contacts. You'll need them soon.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Things might still be going much too slowly to suit you. But you need the time to make sure they're going in the right direction. It's easier to make a course correction now rather than later.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

Showing some temperament at the way things are going is one way of getting your point across. Just don't overdo it, or you risk turning away more-moderate supporters.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Things could change more quickly this week than you like. But don't fret; you'll most likely find that you're up to the challenges. The weekend offers much-needed relaxation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Big challenge coming up? Uncross those fingers and believe that you're going to do well. And keep in mind that so many people have faith in your ability to succeed.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Testing the waters is a good way of learning about an opportunity before plunging right in. Ask more questions and be alert to any attempts to avoid giving complete answers.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for making people -- and animals, too -- feel special and loved.

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Would make registration easier

House advances voter bill

By Adam Horner
Staff Reporter

A House bill that streamlines the voter registration process appears to be well on its way to becoming law.

House Bill 2682 would allow some state agencies, such as the Department of Licensing and the Washington Health Benefit Exchange, to automatically register citizens to vote unless they opt out.

These agencies are those that collect information such as names, addresses, birthdates and citizenship information, and signatures affirming that information.

The bill passed in the House 55-to-42, and has since moved on to the Senate.

State Sen. Joe Fain, R-Auburn and floor majority leader, was a

sponsor of a Senate companion bill much like HB 2682, and is in favor of expanded access to voter registration.

"Washington has trouble with voter turnout," Sen. Fain said. Fewer than 40 percent of voters participated in 2015's November election.

Sen. Fain also spoke against measures that attempt to limit the power of voters to the favor of incumbents.

"If your political strategy has to do with eliminating choice, then your strategy is wrong," Sen. Fain said.

"There are states where the legislature is gerrymandering their districts," Sen. Fain said. "It's a bipartisan issue."

House Bill 2682 will need to pass in the Senate before going to Gov. Inslee for his signature. The bill currently stands in the

Senate Committee on Government Operations and Security.

In other Legislative news, House Democrats revealed their supplemental budget proposal on Monday. The supplemental budget typically plugs holes in the state's two-year operating budget.

The budget proposal amounts to \$467 million, and has already been criticized by Republicans.

The proposal allocates funds to increase teacher pay, pay for wildfire damage from last summer's record-breaking fires, and expand homeless programs.

Last year, it took Legislative Democrats and Republicans the longest legislative session in history to pass the 2015-2017 State Budget.

As of today, the Legislature has met for 46 of this year's 60-



Sen. Joe Fain, R-Auburn

day session. Democrats and Republicans have 14 weekdays left in the regular session to come together to pass a supplemental budget.

Also finding success this session is HB 2955, the Free to Fin-

ish College program.

The program would provide financial aid to former students who left prior to completing their degree or program. In order to be eligible, students must have 15 credits or less remaining before they achieve their degree.

The bill appears to be making its way through committee.

Not all bills are doing as well, however.

A bill that would allow teenagers to pre-register to vote when they get their driver's license appears to have stalled out in committee.

Another bill, SB 6539, also appears to have died in committee. The bill would allow college students to register to vote as late as 11 days before an election. The current deadline is 29 days before an election.

Prof tells students to be mindful of future

By Allison Sawyer
Staff Reporter

The decisions students make now will define their futures, a Highline business technology professor told last week's Honors Colloquy.

Oussama (Sam) Alkhalili shared his story from the time he was 6 years old until now, and said that the choices he made in the past have shaped his personality, career and defined the person he is today.

"It all started with these two people: Mom and Dad," Alkhalili said.

"There was a civil war that started in 1975 in Lebanon," Alkhalili said. "There was a big fire after a bomb hit our house. I was 6 years old when my father passed away."

Alkhalili said that his family had a hard time after his father died because in his culture, women traditionally do not work. Times were tough, but his mom worked hard and they made it through.

"My first love was basketball," Alkhalili said. "I won a lot of awards. My focus was mainly sports."

"My mom was under the impression that I was the smartest kid. I knew I was smart but I never applied myself because I loved sports," he said.

After he started failing out of one of the best high schools in Lebanon, Alkhalili went to summer school to catch up and stay in school.

"I passed [and] I made it to the third high school year; the 11th grade," Alkhalili said. "My major was electrical engineering."



Sam McCullough/THUNDERWORD

Professor Sam Alkhalili told students of his childhood growing up during the 1975 Lebanese civil war.

His perseverance paid off. "When I graduated high school I had one of the best grades in the country," Alkhalili said. "I had a decision to make."

He said that he was picky. He wanted a four-year scholarship to go to a four-year school, but colleges would not offer him what he wanted. His uncle told him that he would pay for him to go to college in the United States so he decided to move here.

"The person who was supposed to pick me up never showed up," Alkhalili said.

He was in an airport in a foreign country. He lost his passport and he could not speak English. He somehow managed

to meet a Lebanese family who helped him get to a motel.

"Then I went to California State-Los Angeles," Alkhalili said. "I came to the United States and nobody knew me, nobody cared about me. I dropped out of school, I couldn't go back home."

He would once again have to find a way to persevere.

"My first job was in Long Beach, but I never missed a day and sometimes had 36-hour shifts. There was violence everywhere so if I'm going to survive then I'm going to do martial arts," Alkhalili said.

He began working at the Florsheim Shoes store in Sherman Oaks and became the manager within a few months.

"Then I went on to an American Danish Supermarket," Alkhalili said. "I was only there for seven months. The pay was not good. I left Los Angeles [and moved to the] Central Valley and started working for a company called FGA Trading."

He said that he had a good life, but WalMart sent FGA Trading out of business so he went back to college.

"Why come back to college?" Alkhalili asked. "This is the main topic."

Alkhalili said that he filed for bankruptcy in 1989, when he was 29 years old. And he had a choice to make: "Do I stay in college or do I pursue martial arts?" Alkhalili asked.

"I got married and stayed in school," he said.

"In 1993, my mom visited me for the first time," Alkhalili said. "She made me the person I am today and she always believed in me."

His son Bussam was born in 1996 and two years later his daughter Zayna was born.

"He's changed everything in my life," Alkhalili said. "In 1998 my daughter was born. She's my life."

Alkhalili moved his family to Washington, got his master's degree, and started teaching.

"My sports started taking a backseat to my work," Alkhalili said. "I became more involved in the community. More than I wanted to."

Alkhalili co-directed the Tutoring Center. He became a table-tennis adviser, he was a department coordinator, and he taught business and technology.

"I do a lot of presentations and I do a lot of lectures," Alkhalili said.

"What is my message?" Alkhalili asked.

"Don't give up. It's OK to fail. Failing is not bad. But learn from it, don't ignore it. That's when you fail," Alkhalili said. "The plan you have for yourself will change. Be adaptable. You have to have diversity in your life. Engage yourself. Stay in school no matter what. Your school is the ticket to success. The sky is the limit."

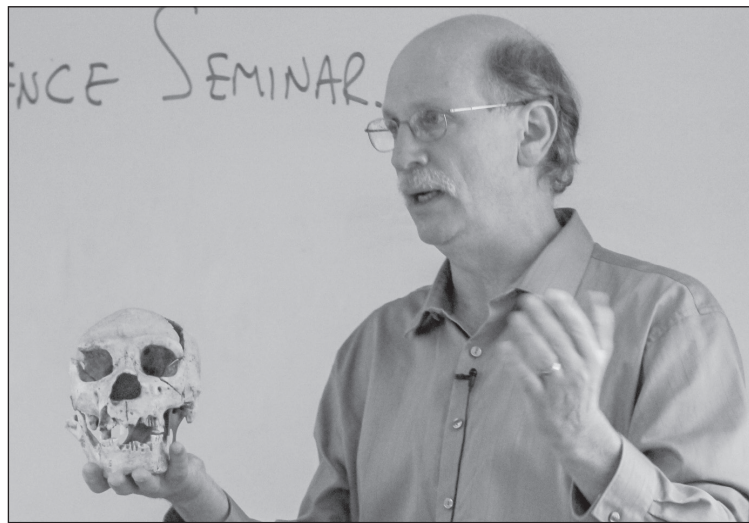
Jonathan Brown will speak at the next Honors Colloquy on March 2, from 12:15-1:20 p.m. in Building 3-102. The Highline Honors Colloquy is available as a class but all students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

Sometimes discoveries are stumbled upon

By Jonathan Larson
Staff Reporter

An anthropologist attempting to avoid photo-bombing his research project stumbled on evidence of early intelligent life, a professor told last week's Science Seminar audience.

Professor of Anthropology Dr. Lonnie Somer said in 2013, anthropologists in South Africa were exploring a cave and wanted to take a picture. So to get out of the shot, one of the anthropologists nestled into a small crevice in the rock. He realized while in the crevice that he could move back further. So he scooted back and back and back until he finally came to an open area; and in that small area, there were remains of at



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD
Dr. Lonnie Somer shows a cast of a skull from a modern human massacre site during last science seminar.

least 15 hominins from millions of years ago. "The absolute coolest fossil find of the year," Dr. Somer said. These hominins had feet very similar to ours, hands almost

an exact match — except for a longer thumb — and a skeleton very closely similar to ours.

Dr. Somer said that stone tools from 3.3 million years ago were found.

"This challenges us to rethink what it means to be a human," said Dr. Somer. That shows that even way back then, evidently there was intelligent life.

There has also been cave art found from 40,000 years ago, and a 10,000 year-old massacre site from what looks to be "modern humans."

Man's best friend also offers clues to when intelligent life evolved, Dr. Somer said.

Dogs and humans have been together for years. This is evident from the fact that dogs are one of the only animals who

turn and look when we point at something, Dr. Somer said.

"Dogs were domesticated before any other animal, we've been with dogs, and they've been with us, and they have been shaping our evolution," he said.

"Studies have shown that when we are looking at each other [human to dog] face to face, there have been increased levels of oxytocin, endorphins, and dopamine." That can't be random, said Dr. Somer.

Next week's Science Seminar will deal with Fiber Optics and be presented by Kip Wanzler and Kurt Giessel from Instructional Computing. Science Seminar takes place each week from 1:30 - 2:35 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

FW arts center dream finally becomes a reality

By Konner Hancock
Staff Reporter

It has taken 27 years, but Joann Piquette's dream of a performing arts center for Federal Way is now under construction.

The \$32 million events center is estimated to be completed in the summer of 2017. The 41,000-square-foot facility will be a multipurpose venue, designed to accommodate dance, musical, theatrical, artistic and spoken-word performances in its 700-seat, two-tiered auditorium.



Piquette is at the northeast corner of South 316th Street and 20th Avenue South in Federal Way. Federal Way used \$5 million in state funds to buy the four-acre site in 2010.

Scheduled to be build alongside the events center will be an on-site hotel with approximately 125 rooms.

Piquette was a founding member of the group that has been striving for a major multipurpose auditorium since 1989.

"There was never a time that the Federal Way Coalition of the Performing Arts gave up our mission," she said. "We did have to learn patience and knowledge on priorities for the new city. Some of the member groups left to perform in other cities, but those that remained were dedicated to work as long as it took," Piquette said.

She is determined the events center will be economically beneficial for the city.

"We stressed the economic benefit of having a facility that could be utilized in many ways, for a wide variety of events and



Artist's conception of the Performing Arts and Events center in Federal Way
The Federal Way Performing Arts and Events Center is coming next year.

activities. Federal Way had nothing in that category to make it a destination city, which this facility will accomplish," Piquette said.

After a long journey of pushing for the events center, Pi-

quette and the Coalition finally got confirmation that the project was a go.

"The major decision was the council meeting where a vote was taken to move forward with the final design -- an expensive,

but needed decision. There was much discussion, then it was a unanimous vote in favor," Piquette said. "We had made sure the council chambers were jam-packed with supporters, wearing 'Vote Yes' buttons, and

when the vote was taken, the place erupted in cheers."

As substantial as the support was, some local theaters don't support the events center.

"I think that the new Performing Arts Center is a mistake," said Allen Brice, the artistic director of Centerstage, which is housed at the Knutson Family Theatre near Dash Point. "It's going to fail... too small for the bigger acts and too big for the smaller acts."

The local theater will not be using the events center because it is "too big for us" said Brice.

The project is estimated for completion in the summer of 2017.

"So essentially it will almost be a two year project," said the events center Project Director Will Appleton.

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Senate wants money for charters, House for teachers

By **WALKER ORENSTEIN**
Associated Press

OLYMPIA — The state’s charter school system would get money to stay open under the supplemental budget proposal released by Senate Republicans on Wednesday, which also seeks to repair damage from last summer’s wildfires and help the state’s mental health system.

The plan would add about \$49 million to the two-year, \$38 billion state budget adopted in 2015.

“I think that you will see that we are making big investments in mental health,” said Sen. Andy Hill, a Republican from Redmond and the Senate’s main budget writer.

House Democrats would hike

the state’s portion of the lowest starting salary for public school teachers to \$40,000-a-year by closing several tax exemptions as part of their supplemental budget released on Monday.

The plan would alter the \$38 billion, two-year state budget adopted in 2015, including directing \$318 million from the state’s emergency fund to pay for needs such as wildfire suppression, reducing youth homelessness and another \$148.9 million from the fund for school construction going to the capital budget.

“This is not a year just to relax and get out of town,” said Rep. Hans Dunshee, a Democrat from Snohomish. Dunshee is the main budget writer for

the House. “There are really serious crises that need to be addressed.”

Many Senate Republicans have prioritized saving Washington’s charter school system, which was ruled unconstitutional last year by the state Supreme Court in part because of the way it was funded. The proposal would provide \$6.6 million from the state’s Opportunity Pathways Account to pay for charter schools.

The Senate proposal also sends more than \$54 million to address safety issues at Western State Hospital and aid other mental-health services.

The state’s largest psychiatric hospital could lose millions of dollars in federal funding

because of a staffing shortage. A federal judge has ordered the hospital to provide timely services to mentally ill defendants, and officials with the state Department of Social and Health Services have told lawmakers that a lack of staff is hampering the hospital’s ability to do so.

The budget would provide \$35.5 million for salary increases, efforts to recruit and retain staff, increased hiring and opening another ward at the hospital.

Unlike the House budget, the Senate proposal doesn’t use any money from the state’s emergency fund and doesn’t raise the state’s portion of a teacher’s salary as part of addressing the state’s teacher shortage.

A 2015 survey by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction reports that 93 percent of 733 principals say they either struggle to find qualified teaching candidates or are in “crisis mode,” looking for teachers. Forty-five percent say they couldn’t fill openings with qualified teachers.

One money-saving measure in the Senate’s budget is merging pension plans of law enforcement officers, firefighters and teachers.

House Majority Leader Pat Sullivan, a Democrat from Covington, said it doesn’t appear the Senate budget would make “any real investments” to reduce homelessness or the teacher shortage.

Senate

continued from page 1

In the first experiment, participants rated a woman who had breastfed in public as “incompetent” from a list of adjectives that included “inspiring” and “disgusting.” In the second experiment, participants also rated the woman. Despite the new group of participants, the results were the same. In the third experiment, participants compared three women: a mother, a

mother who was breastfeeding and a woman with sexualized breasts. The participants voted that the mother who was breastfeeding was “less competent in math and work” and that she was “less likely to be hired.”

In all of the experiments, none of the participants saw a woman breastfeeding. Instead they were just told to visualize the situations.

These thoughts are not contained just to this study, though. According to a poll conducted by debate.org, 34 percent of people said that breastfeeding in pub-

lic is inappropriate, and may be asking for harassment and even assault from nearby people.

Despite the rampant debate around breastfeeding, many Highline students think that breastfeeding is fine to do in public.

“It’s natural. It’s a mother feeding her child,” Lisa Dickie said.

Other students agreed.

“I don’t understand why people lose their minds over women using their chests for their natural purpose. I’m completely OK with seeing someone breastfeeding,” Peter

Pachuick said.

“I wouldn’t care if a woman was breastfeeding on campus, or anywhere for that matter though,” Lisa Kemp said.

Some students said that they’ve been harassed about breastfeeding.

Angela Lopez said that she was shocked when people would approach her while she was feeding her son.

“I was a new mother and just learning the ropes. If he cried for food, I would feed him,” she said.

“I was in the mall once and a man came up and told me to ‘cover up.’ I wasn’t exposed at

all, but I still felt ashamed that he decided to come up and yell at me,” Lopez said.

Other students have faced more subtle forms of shaming.

“People can be rude. They walk by you shaking their head, pointing at you and talking with their friends,” Patricia Sweetin said.

SB 6149 is currently moving through the state House, and it had its first public hearing on Feb. 23. If it passes in the House, it will then go to Gov. Jay Inslee to either sign into law or veto.

“People need to get over it,” said Lopez. “They’re just boobs.”

Budget

continued from page 1

that any funds allocated toward expenditures are done so based on current earnings rather than the final amount earned.

It can be compared to “working on a credit card,” instead of a debit card, said Brown.

Most of the committee consists of Highline students who meet weekly over the course of the year in order to go over budget requests from student services and allocate resources.

Any students are able to join the committee though application, which can be found at the Center for Leadership and Service on the third floor in Building 8.

Applications are accepted through winter.

The best way to be seriously considered for the committee is by being an active member of Highline’s community. Which means using student oriented programs.

“Getting involved in student government is a good place to start,” said Enriquez.

The committee meets every Wednesday in the Mt. Snohomish room in the Student Union from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Potheads

continued from page 1

About 20 minutes later, Public Safety officers observed two males acting suspiciously in the stairwell in Building 26 at 2:45 p.m.

As the officers got closer, the individuals saw them and started walking toward the smoking area by the Library.

The officer watched them closely from the second floor of Building 23 when he witnessed one of the men smoking marijuana.

As the officers were taking a picture of the two men with his on-duty cell phone, one of the individuals turned around and yelled “Why you taking pictures?”

Public Safety officers started walking toward the men as they ran off and lost sight of the suspects.

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