

Highline in solidarity with immigrants

Forum offers advice to undocumented residents

By Cinthia Velez-Regalado
Staff Reporter

Undocumented residents in the United States still have options when it comes to dealing with the Trump administration's efforts to deport them.

However, if immigration officials should confront you, you should keep in mind several dos and don'ts.

These suggestions were among many offered at a forum Saturday in the Student Union aimed at helping undocumented residents.

Raul Alvarez, the development and communications coordinator of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, made his presentation in Spanish. The room held double the number of people compared to the English language presentation.

Jorge L. Baron, the executive director of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, spoke in Mt. Constance in English.

"There is no illegal person, there is only undocumented people," said Alvarez.

Tell your children the truth



Cinthia Velez-Regalado / THUNDERWORD

Highline hosted a presentation giving advice to immigrants and other community members with ties to the immigrant community last Saturday.

if you're undocumented, said Alvarez.

"Children need to know the truth. How many cases have we heard about parents getting picked up by immigration and never picking up their children from school," said Alvarez. "Never let children open the door if it's an immigration officer."

Be prepared and make a plan to arrange for someone to care for

your children if you're detained, he said.

"Don't stand behind the door. Always stand to the side of the door, in case they knock it down. That way they don't say



Cinthia Velez-Regalado / THUNDERWORD

Raul Alvarez advises undocumented parents to be prepared if they are detained.

you were preventing them from coming into the household. That way you could probably sue them for barging into your household," said Alvarez.

"Every day that you spend worrying about the president,

it's a day that you didn't spend with your children and family," said Alvarez.

Attendees said they appreci-

See Immigration, page 12

Highline safe for now, congressman predicts

By Jessica Strand
Staff Reporter

Highline won't lose federal funding for refusing to provide student information to immigration officials, a congressman from the Southwest King County area said.

"From a legal standpoint [the executive order is] only targeting, as I understand it, municipalities or counties that say 'We are not going to have our law enforcement officials, No. 1: check documentation, and No. 2: comply with ICE (Immigration and Customs

See Sanctuary, page 12



Rep. Adam Smith

Construction at a standstill on student housing project



IHB Architects Photo

By Samuel Robbins
Staff Reporter

Construction on the Highline Place student housing project has been delayed and will not begin until May at the earliest, a Highline official said recently.

Previously planned for completion by Fall 2017, Highline

Place has been delayed until 2018, said Michael Pham, vice president of Administrative Services.

"The development cycle is dependent on the progress of the developer and the contractor, and they haven't given a schedule," Pham said.

"Highline does not have a

part in the development cycle. When the development is finished, we will lease it," he said.

The developer and contractor did not respond to requests for an interview.

The proposed 56,000-square-foot building will offer dorm-like units to house approximately 160 international students.

Construction is expected to take 12-18 months, pushing the occupancy date to Summer 2018 or later.

"We are also taking other pending developments into account, including the recently

See Housing, page 10

IN THIS ISSUE

Campus life	2-3
Opinion	4
Arts	5-6
Sports	7-8
Puzzles	9
News	10-12



Page 6

Find something to do with your honey for Valentine's Day



Page 7

Things not looking great for men's basketball



Page 11

Chrys Bertolotto is working to make our waters cleaner



Vehicle thefts on the rise

By Will Otto
Staff Reporter

Two vehicles were stolen from the east lot last Friday.

Both vehicles were older Honda Civics and were taken on Feb. 3 between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

If you have a vehicle that is easy to steal you might want to invest in a club or some other form of anti-theft device, said Highline Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management David Menke.

Metro bus rear ends student

A Metro bus hit a student's vehicle last Wednesday.

The student attempted to drive around the bus in the east lot.

At the same time the bus started to pull forward.

The bus struck the back of the student's car and caused minimal damage and no injuries on Feb. 1 at 11:35 a.m.

Parking mishap turns aggressive

Non-students were parked in a handicapped spot last Friday.

The individuals were parked in a handicapped spot in the east lot without having the handicap permit on Feb. 3 at 1 p.m.

The individuals were asked to leave by Highline Public Safety officials. They were verbally aggressive but left without incident.

Vandal targets Building 99

Highline Public Safety officials were called to a report of vandalism on Building 99 on Feb. 1 at 2:45 p.m.

Upon arrival Public Safety officials could not locate the vandalism that was reported and left the scene.

Fatal crash in Federal Way

FEDERAL WAY (AP) — One person was killed when a vehicle swerved off the 320th Street from southbound I-5 exit ramp into an icy retention pond in Federal Way.

Emergency crews responded to the scene at about 5:30 a.m. on Feb. 8.

The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.



Kayla Dickson/THUNDERWORD
A Highline student discusses academic options at yesterday's College Transfer Fair, where more than 30 four-year universities attended.



Job interview tips for success

The Career and Student Employment center hosts a workshop on interviewing skills today from 1-2 p.m.

Chris Panganiban, CASE employment specialist, will discuss tips and techniques that will help you to be successful during job interviews.

Registration is required to attend the workshop. One can register at studentemployment.highline.edu/events/registration.

Students who attend a workshop get a free notebook; while supplies last.

CASE workshops are every Thursday, from 1-2 p.m. in Building 6, room 214.

For more information, visit studentemployment.highline.edu or call 206-592-3350.

Waive your spring tuition goodbye

Highline's Achievement Scholarship program will award 15 full-time students tuition waivers for their Spring Quarter tuition.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 13, at 5 p.m.

Applications can be picked up and dropped off in Building 9.

Students who are taking at least 12 credits and have a college or high school GPA of 3.0 or higher may apply.

Running Start students, non-resident students and in-

ternational students are not eligible.

Winning applicants will be notified by email by March 2.

For more information, call 206-592-3301.



Dr. David Sommerfeld

Time to talk science

Dr. David Sommerfeld senior lecturer at UW-Bothell, will host a seminar on the mystery of the tiger tooth necklace and the role of chemistry in anthropology.

Professor Sommerfeld obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Utah and later served as the director for Upper Division Laboratories at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

The seminar is on Feb. 10, at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

The next seminar is on Feb. 17, and will be hosted by Justin Taillon, Highline hospitality management professor.

Taillon will discuss last chance tourism and market-based socio-cultural conservation in the Location X.

Black or blue - both lives matter

Between the Lines Book Club is meeting to today at 2:15 p.m. in Building 8, room 302.

A former member of the police department will discuss Black Lives Matter versus Blue Lives Matter.

"We feel that it is the book clubs obligation to have an open discussion about current problems in society," said Billy Chandler, Between the Lines president.



Rob Mattson

Don't let time hold you back

Rod Mattson, Highline communications professor hosts a Honors Colloquy event about chronemics on Feb. 15.

Mattson will focus on how time shapes our views on decision making, particularly how students may settle for lesser careers and goals based of the time it takes to achieve them, said Jacque Clinton, Honors Program Manager.

Mattson has been teaching at Highline for more than 18 years.

The next Honors Colloquy event is on Feb. 22. Dr. Teri Balkenende, Highline history professor, will lead a discussion on factories and time management.

Colloquy events are from 12:15-1:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Learn how to dress for success

The Career and Student Employment center presents the Dress for Success Fashion Show on Feb. 15.

Faculty and staff will model professional attire that will help students decide what is appropriate wear in current and future career based situations.

The show will be in Building 7 from 1-2 p.m. Registration is required to attend.

One can register at studentemployment.highline.edu. For more information, contact Chris Panganiban at cpangan@highline.edu or call 206-592-4026.

No need to fear taxes this year

Community members can get their taxes done for free this year thanks to a partnership between Highline and United Way of King County.

This service is available Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until April 20.

It is in Building 99, room 251. Participants must bring their social security cards, tax verification forms, photo ID and tax statements.

For more information, visit uwkc.org/taxhelp.

Snow day brings mixed emotions

By Brooks Schaefer
Staff reporter

Highline students said they generally enjoyed having an unexpected snow day on Monday.

Classes were closed Monday due to significant snow in the lowland areas of Western Washington, representing one of the few times in the last decade that the college has had to cancel classes. Most classes resumed Tuesday, but only after a two-hour late start so grounds crews could remove some snow from the parking lots.

Most students didn't seem to have any problems with missing classes, or tests they had, as it gave them an extra day to do their homework and study.

"Not having to do homework was pretty awesome," one student said.

The only problem most students seem to have had with the snow day is that they couldn't go anywhere, as the roads were so icy.

"I had to stay at home and take care of my kids, and I couldn't do any homework," said one student. Eventually, she tried to drive somewhere. "And then I got stuck in the snow."

Students said the amount of snow where they live ranged from 2-6 inches. Power was also out for 93,000 Puget Sound Energy customers in King County for several hours Monday morning.

People reported anywhere from 5 inches in Burien to nearly 7 in Federal Way, and higher totals the further one traveled east into the Cascade Mountains.

Snow activity continued



Kayla Dickson/THUNDERWORD

Students walk through snow covered pathways on campus on Feb. 7.



Highline's enrollment increased Monday by one snow person.

to affect campus on Tuesday. Parking lots were relatively empty as some opted not to

drive, while some of those who did make it to campus made use of the snow by having a snow-

ball fight in the courtyard outside of Building 8. The fight was quickly broken up by Public Safety officers.

Instructors seem to have more mixed feelings on this snow day. Most seem happy that a snow day was called but don't like that they now need to condense lesson plan due to the class cancellations.

Darin Smith, health and physical education instructor, said the hardest part is condensing the material as teachers can't get extra days.

Smith had three classes pushed back, including one

with a scheduled test.

Other professors, such as one who asked to remain anonymous, found this snow storm to be a breath of fresh air, citing their reasoning to being from LA, somewhere that doesn't get snow. The only stressful part for one professor was having to drive in the snow for the first time.

Weather forecasters don't expect more snow here as the season heads toward spring. The weather this week is expected to be wet and somewhat cold, with temperatures in the 40s and 50s.

Honors students told to dive into their pursuits

By Samuel Robbins
Staff Reporter

You must take the time to look at what you're meant to be doing and dive into your purpose a former Highline employee said last week.

Noory Kim is a Highline alumnus and was previously the leadership development coordinator, she spoke at last week's Honors Colloquy.

Honors Colloquy are a series of weekly lectures open to all of the Highline community. Topics relate to annual themes relevant to student learning.

"Much of your life is dependent on time and the conflict between internal and external time," she said.

External time is everything



Noory Kim

that happens around you, ranging from your family to your world.

Internal time is what goes on inside your head and how it feels in relation to external forces.

"Everyone has their own internal biological clock," Kim said.

Kim instructs everyone to do the following exercise.

"Imagine a timeless space. Draw a circle. On the inside of that circle write what your inner world would look like without external forces weighing down on you," she said.

"What activities are you doing? Who is there? Is there a sense of purpose?" Kim asked.

"Time can be like your enemy," she said.

She said that everyone is ruled by four different forces:

- What society wants you to do.

- "Society wants you to make money," she said.

- What you are good at.

- "You will find this focus a lot in past generations, especially baby boomers. People who

'Much of your life is dependent on time and the conflict between internal and external time.'

— Noory Kim

found what job they are good at then they do it for 30 years until they retire," she said.

- What the world needs you to do.

- "Like people who became doctors because they wanted to heal the sick," she said.

- What you love to do.

- "Otherwise known as the you only live once, or YOLO, lifestyle," she said.

Kim said that it's dangerous to focus on one of any four of these and that you must find a

middle ground.

"A job will give you what society wants for you, money."

"A career is to find something that society wants for you and find a way to do it while doing something you love," she said.

What you are looking to find, Kim said, is a purpose. A deeply connected thing that reaches all four forces.

"My hope is to lead you to question. Your purpose is to live out that question," she said.

Police forces need diversity

A city's police force should be a direct reflection of the public they serve.

Demographic diversity is lacking in police departments throughout many cities in Washington state.

Statistics in a Thunderword story published on Jan. 26 showed that cities such as Kent, Federal Way, and Des Moines have police forces that are overwhelmingly white.

Statistics like these are common all across the United States; the police force does not reflect the diversity of the communities they serve.

Cities with minority-majority populations tend to have police forces with very low percentages of minority officers, according to a New York Times study.

This needs to change.

If community members see themselves reflected in the police force, an officer's authority will no longer seem like a threat to one's safety.

By having more officers of minority backgrounds, it could reduce tensions between citizens and officers.

There may be more of a cultural understanding between people of the same ethnicity, something the law cannot communicate.

Diversity in the backgrounds and experience of officers can bring a variety of perspectives to the field, which may be lacking.

While a few bad cops can ruin the idea of justice for all, it is important to remember that officers are people, too.

Often times, social problems avalanche onto officers. It is undoubtedly a tough job that includes making crucial decisions under pressure.

Diversity should not only focus on race; there should also be gender diversity in the police.

Due to traditions in both backgrounds, it is not common for women or minorities to join law enforcement.

When hiring new officers, the goal is to always hire the person most qualified. If the goal is broadened to include greater diversity, the competition will increase for everyone attempting to get into the field.

Many police departments are actively looking to diversify their force; they are aware of the need for officers other than white males.

Of course, they cannot fire half of their department just to hire non-white officers. There are many valuable employees who happen to be white.

The color of an officer's skin should not take away from their authority or take away from the respect we show them.

While police departments should be commended for their efforts to increase the number of officers with different cultures and genders within the force, we hope they continue these actions and always strive for diversity.

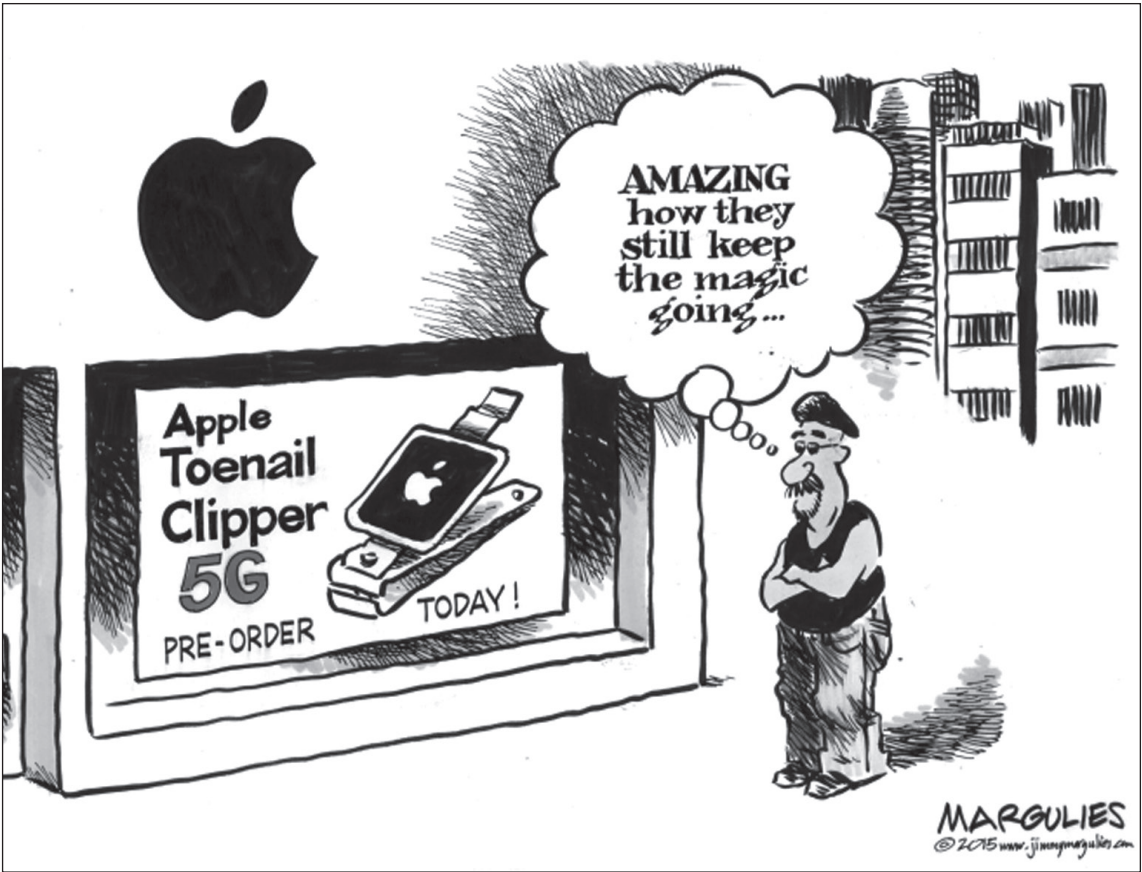
Have something to say?

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.



Can you spot the fake news?

With headlines designed to capture our attention and websites paid based on page views, we live in an information landscape that can feel dangerous and untrustworthy.

A recent study by researchers at Stanford Graduate School of Education titled "Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning," found that young people have trouble evaluating the credibility of online information.

Although young people spend a lot of time online, they are often not able to identify sponsored content or potential biases in what they are reading, according to the Stanford study.

The good news is that there is a lot of good information. And with the right skills, you can make evaluations about what to trust.

At the Highline library, we have created a guide for evaluating news, social media, and other online sources.

The guide is intended to help you determine the credibility of information and sources, and also to supply users with best practices for searching and reading articles.

You can view it online at <http://libguides.highline.edu/fakenews>.

One thing to be aware of is the type of information you are

Guest Commentary



Allison Reibel

looking at. The library at John Hopkins University breaks information into four categories in their guide for evaluating information:

Information: Information is usually what we are seeking. It tells us something or communicates something to us.

Propaganda: Propaganda is commonly misused and misunderstood. While propaganda may be based on fact, it is biased and presented in a self-serving way. It is often used to promote a person or idea, without being explicit about its intentions.

Misinformation: Misinformation is information that is

not true, but is not deliberately untrue. When someone you know shares a meme on social media, they may be inadvertently spreading false information. This is misinformation because, while it is not true, it is spread by mistake rather than by design.

Disinformation: Fake news is disinformation. Its intention is to mislead and it is doing so knowingly. It is knowingly not based on fact.

If you aren't sure about the intentions of the site or writer, or whether what they're saying is accurate, there are tools that can help.

Websites like FactCheck.org and Snopes.com are dedicated to checking and proving (or disproving) rumors, political speeches, and viral stories.

There is also a Google Chrome extension that, when added to your browser, will alert you if you are on a site known for posting fake news.

As with any information need, we encourage all of our campus community to come see us in the library in Building 25. You can also call us at 206-592-3232 during open hours or contact us via chat 24/7.

We are here for you and happy to help.

Allison Reibel is a Highline reference librarian.

the Staff

Somebody has to go get the chicken!

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Arts
Round up



• The 5th Ave Theater presents the award-winning and critically acclaimed musical, **The Pajama Game** from Feb. 10 to March 5. Ages 10 and older are recommended, and ticket prices range from \$29-\$53. The show is at 1308 5th Ave., Seattle. For more information, visit 5thavenue.org.

• Auburn Avenue Theater hosts its monthly **Comedy at the Ave**, where three comedians will perform their routines in one night. The show is ages 18 and older only. Tickets are \$15 for students and seniors, and \$18 for everyone else. The show is on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are available at brownpapertickers.com. For more information, visit auburnwa.gov.

• Burien Actor's Theatre presents **Sex with Strangers** by Laura Eason, a comedic play about modern love. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$17 for seniors, \$10 for students and \$12 for groups with 10 or more. The show runs from Feb. 10- Mar. 5 on Friday and Saturday's at 8 p.m., and Sunday's at 2 p.m. For more information, visit burienactorstheatre.org.

• The Foster Arts Performing Center hosts the **Rainier Symphony**, they will be performing their concert, **Courage and Freedom**. Tickets are \$17 for general admission, \$12 for students (ages 13+) and seniors (ages 62+), and free for ages 12 and younger. The show is on Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 12 at 3:00 p.m. at 4242 S. 144th St., Tukwila. For more information, visit rainiersymphony.org.

• The Kentwood Performing Arts Center hosts **The Irish Rovers**, who are celebrating 50 years of music and performances, with their last world tour. Touring with them will be special guests We Banjo 3, an award-winning quartet coming in from Ireland. Audiences can expect a mix of Irish, Bluegrass, and Old-time American music. Tickets are \$30 for general admission, \$15 for youths (25 and younger), and \$28 for seniors (ages 60+). The show is on Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at 5800 164th Ave. S.E., Covington. Tickets are available online at kentwa.gov.

Women's wear dresses up new exhibit

By **Lezlie Wolff**
Staff Reporter

Women's just-do-it attitude is revealed in a new exhibit at the White River Valley Museum. The Women at Work: Uniforms & Work Wear, 1910 to 2010 shows how women were held to different standards compared to men and still got the job done.

While the men who the women served with in Vietnam wore fatigues, even the uniform of the highest ranking female Marine, Col. Vera Jones, included girdle, hose and heels.

The many uniforms on display are from Alice and Steve Miller's collection of approximately 150 service and military uniforms.

Miller said she grew up in Tacoma in a military family.

Being around military all her life, Miller said, was the incentive for the collection. She likes hanging around with veterans and hearing their stories.

"I used to love it when my sister would come home in her dress blue uniform. She just looked so beautiful," Miller said.

The idea of the exhibit just came naturally out of that. Miller said White River Valley Museum Director Patricia Cosgrove chose pieces for the exhibit from the Millers' collection.

The exhibit takes you on an evolution of service uniforms. You start with the Hello Girl uniform and you'll notice there are no ribbons or decorations on the uniform. It identified that she was with the U. S. Signal Corps and would have some patches and her overseas bars on it.

"By the time you got to the two women colonels in the Vietnam era, they had quite a few ribbons," Miller said.

"It was neat to see how women's history in the military has changed. They had to work their way up just like anyone else," she said.

Miller said that 22,000 Army nurses and 7,000 Navy nurses served in World War I and did



White River Museum photos
A gold paper dress and a TWA flight attendant's uniform are among the outfits displayed at the White River Museum's new exhibit.

so without rank, even though they had to come from accredited nursing schools and were registered nurses.

"They had three years of school behind them, just like the male officers."

"They did a wonderful job," Miller said, which led, in part, to women getting the right to vote.

Today, she said, all nurses are officers.

But even that took time. For a time, women in the military could "wear rank" but would not be commissioned nor receive any more pay or benefits.

They called that passive rank, Miller said, and the women took it.

It also produced an interesting uniform, which Miller has.

A uniform which is so rare, she said, "there are hardly any pictures of it."

"The Army said, 'If you want to be like men, by golly, we're going to make you look like men,'" Miller said.

"They took away their beautiful blue Edwardian uniforms with the big, slouch fedora and gave them this hideous brown jacket that looked like the men's with a long skirt made out of the same ugly brown material."

Miller said the ensemble also came with a coat and garrison cap.

"Well," Miller said with a chuckle, "it was 1919, there was no war, and there was no regulation of when to wear this uniform."

She said the nurses folded them up and put them in their trunks. They wore their white uniforms

during duty hours and their civilian clothes during off hours.

"I have one of those uniforms," Miller said. They were issued from 1919 to 1940 and "it is as unattractive as all get out."

Her uniform is in perfect condition and Miller said the pussy-willow yellow blouse still has the tags on it. The original owner "never bothered to wear the uniform at all."

Miller said the exhibit gives a really good impression of how far women have come in 100 years. "When you look at the Hello Girl and her big skirt and large garrison cap and you look at the fire fighter turn-outs, I love that. And the medical specialist in her maternity uniform."

"These women, they started out with nothing. They started working very, very hard. It makes you feel like 'Oh my gosh, we've really come a long ways.' I think that's the neatest thing about the exhibit," Miller said.

Women at Work: uniforms & Work Wear, 1910 to 2010 is on display through June 18 at White River Valley Museum, 918 H St. SE, Auburn.

It is open Wednesday through Sunday noon to 4 p.m. First Thursdays extended hours are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Every First Thursday and Third Sunday admission is free. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children and seniors.

For more information, visit wrvmuseum.org,



Women's military uniforms often were not very practical.

Divas make their way to Centerstage

By **Izzy Anderson**
Staff Reporter

Dishing out laughter, musical scores and cheeky humor, Dishing with the Divas is making their way to Centerstage this February.

An interactive musical surrounding WPMS radio's last live studio broadcast of GIRL TALK with sex therapist Dr. Lauda, Dishing with the Divas

discusses and sings about topics like motherhood, love, friendship, marriage, life, and men.

Songs performed by these talented ladies will include songs by Aretha Franklin, The Pointer Sisters, Carrie Underwood, Jennifer Lopez, and more.

Written by Louise Roche and brought to you by Entertainment Events, the makers of Cuff Me and Girls

Night, the musical is geared towards women. However, the show is open to men as well.

The cast is made up of three talented up-and-coming stars from Seattle; Jorie Jones, Tiffany Chancey, and Cass Neumann.

The show will be running Feb. 9 to Feb. 26 on Sundays at 2 p.m., and on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. at 3200 S.W. Dash Point

Road, Federal Way.

The show is for audiences 18 years and older only.

Regular ticket prices are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors (ages 65+) and military, and \$15 for youth (ages 18- 25.) The Thursday special knocks down prices to \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and military.

Tickets are available now at 253-661-1444 and CenterstageTheatre.com.

Valentine's Day: Victim or victory?

Students recall mixed experiences on the annual day of love

By Izzy Anderson
Staff Reporter

Valentine's Day can be the best or the worst day of the year, some Highline students say.

For some, the day just didn't work out the way they planned.

"In 2011, my freshman year, I was singing and performing in a talent show," said student Seth Davis.

"I wanted to sing to a girl in the audience that I always had a crush on," he said.

"I was nervous, I was walking up the stairs to her and asked her to be my Valentine. Her eyes got so big and her face got red, she was blushing really hard," Davis said.

"I kept singing to her and asked again, and she nodded her head.

"The next day was Valentine's day, I came to school with a big teddy bear, some Twix and a chocolate rose, a really big card, and a homemade red velvet cake with raspberries on top," Davis said.

"I put all this stuff on her desk and left it for her. Throughout the day she was dodging me.

"Well, the day after Valen-



Photo by Kari Cronbaugh-Auld/AP

Valentine's Day is a day of cards and hearts -- broken and otherwise.

tine's Day, I found out through a friend that my Valentine had about seven other valentines that she said yes to. I was definitely mad," Davis said.

Sometimes it's not the fault of the Valentine.

"The worst Valentine's Day happened when she got bit by a centipede out in Hawaii," said one anonymous student.

"We spent the whole Valentine's Day in the hospital and stuff. It was crazy."

But sometimes things work out just fine.

"It happened a couple of years ago, when Valentine's Day

was on the weekend," said Highline student Rachel Ramirez.

"I was at home, I had a bad cold and was resting up and eating breakfast," she said.

"Then doorbell rang. I couldn't remember anybody saying they were coming over. I was in my pajamas so I tidied up and answered the door, it was my crush.

"I was all red in the face, I'd been friends with him for about a year or two, and we weren't even at the point where we were dating. We were just good friends," Ramirez said.

"He was asking if I was OK

because I'd texted him yesterday saying I had a cold. I said 'yeah, I'm doing OK.' From behind him, he pulls out a heart-shaped box of chocolates and gives them to me.

"We don't really talk anymore, but that was one of the best Valentine's Days I've ever had."

Positive surprises always are welcome, students say.

"We watched a movie and went to Red Robin afterwards, then we went into his car," said Carrie Lyn Ramos.

"I opened the door and his car was all decorated with flowers, candy, a bear, necklaces and bracelets.



"He and his sister had planned everything the whole week before, she decorated the inside while we were out. That was probably my favorite Valentine's Day."

Some students said their best memories of the day didn't even involve dates.

"I actually have never been in a relationship before, but about two years ago me and my friends did a Galentine's Day, said student Emily Huyah.

"We started exchanging little cards and stuff. ... We said 'yeah, let's get together and have a sleepover.' It's pretty much our tradition now," she said.

"It was me and two of my closest friends, we went out to Olive Garden and just had a girl's night out," said Highline student Hasini Karunanayake.

"It was really fun, because one of my friends is on a mission trip right now, so we don't know when we'll get to do it again. It was really memorable."

Local Valentine's events spice up the weekend

By Izzy Anderson
Staff Reporter

This weekend features several local Valentine's themed events:

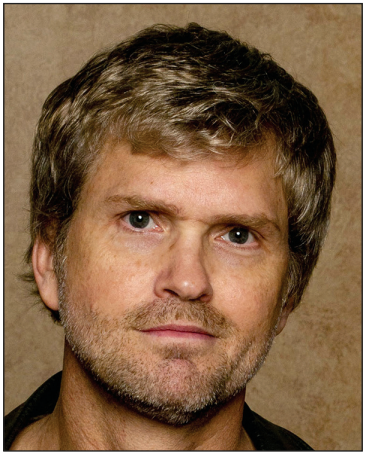
- The Northwest Symphony Orchestra will be performing a romantic set for their Valentine's Concert.
- Renowned soloist Sown Le Choi will be playing Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with the orchestra.
- Also being performed is an original composition, *Anniversary Overture* by Roger Treece.
- Finally, the concert will feature Beethoven's *Symphony No. 4*.
- The performance is on Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Highline Performing Arts Center, 401 S. 152nd St. in Burien.
- Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors (ages 60+), and tickets are \$12



Sown Le Choi

when bought in groups of ten or more. Tickets are available at 206-242-6321.

- Crazy in Love - Bringing Romance Back to Valentine's Day is a seminar being held by South Sound Counseling and Consultation.
- This seminar is designed to help you and your significant other learn how to feel loved all



Roger Treece

year around.

This date night seminar will also include games, food, and prizes.

It will be on Feb. 10 from 6 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. at 31919 1st Ave. S. in Federal Way. Tickets are \$149. For more information, go to eventbrite.com.

- Artsy Fartsy Art Lessons is hosting Couples Sugar Skull

Paint Night for Valentine's Day.

This date night will include a lesson, supplies for your heart-themed sugar skulls, and tasty Cuban cuisines.

The event is 21+ only, and will be at 218 W. Meeker St., Kent. There is limited space. You can get tickets now at 253-236-5005.

- The Federal Way Community Center is hosting a Daughter's Night Out where you can treat your little girl to a night of desserts, music, and refreshments.
- Flower and pictures will be available to buy as well. The two sessions will be on Feb. 11.
- Session one will be from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for little girls ages 2-6.
- Session two will be from 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. for ages 6+.
- Tickets are \$25 per couple and \$10 extra for every added girl. Pre-registration can be

done at itallhappenshere.org.

- Marlene's Market Deli is hosting Gluten Free Valentine's Day, where you can learn how to cook delicious gluten-free foods that you and your loved one's can enjoy.
- There will be a time for Q&A, an interactive self-assessment, and gluten-free treats and tips.
- The event is free and will be on Feb. 11 at 10 a.m.- noon at 2951 S. 38th St., Federal Way.
- Cupid's Undie Run will be a mile-long fun run, with a party taking place before and afterwards. Undies are encouraged, but you can come in any attire.
- The event is to raise funds for the Children's Tumor Foundation.
- The run will be on Feb. 11 at 731 Westlake Ave. N., Seattle and the party starts at noon and the run officially closes at 4 p.m.
- Tickets are \$35, you can buy them at cupidsundierun.org.

T-Birds let another game slip away

By Chentay Warnes
Staff Reporter

With the Highline men’s basketball team losing for the second time in a row, they dropped down to sixth place out of eight teams in the NWAC West Division.

Last Wednesday the T-Birds lost 69-58 against Tacoma College. Highline’s top scorer was Jamie Orme with 27 points, followed by Austin Anderson with 13 points.

Highline out-rebounded Tacoma 47-39. Leading the T-Birds with 10 grabs under the basket were Orme and Anderson with six rebounds each.

In the first half of the game Tacoma led 34-29. In the second half, Tacoma also edged the T-Birds 35-29. The top scorers for Tacoma were Kahliel Wyatt with 16 points and Khalil Thompson with 14.

The T-Birds had 12 turnovers, which Tacoma converted into nine points. Tacoma had nine turnovers and Highline was able to get 7 points from that.

Highline got 16 points from its bench and Tacoma had eight. The T-Birds were only able to make 52 percent of their free throws, while Tacoma made 73 percent.

“We should have won. We were too inefficient offensively,” said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson.



Kayla Dickson/THUNDERWORD

The Highline T-Birds scrimmage at practice last Tuesday while Head Coach Che Dawson yells at the team.

Dawson.

Over the weekend Highline had a bye. “It is a good break mentally and physically,” said Dawson.

Next Highline has an away game and will play against

South Puget Sound for the second time on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m.

The last time the men’s team went against South Puget Sound, Highline lost 72-51. With the top scorer Orme back

in the game it could be a different outcome.

“We should be focused on being more efficient offensively and correcting our defensive breakdowns,” Coach Dawson said.

Next Wednesday, Feb. 15, the

T-Birds will have an away game against Grays Harbor. The last Highline faced them, Grays Harbor won 50-47.

The results from Wednesday’s game against Centralia were unavailable at press time.

Highline’s No. 1 scorer is back on the court

By Konner Hancock
Staff Reporter

His health restored, the Highline men’s basketball team’s No. 1 scorer and rebounder is focused on getting the T-Birds back on track.

Six-foot seven-inch wing Jamie Orme had been suffering from an MCL sprain most of this season, but he has still managed to lead the team in several categories such as points and rebounds.

Orme averages 18 points per game and 10 rebounds per game.

“I was out because of an MCL sprain in my knee but I rehabbed it and got it back to 100 percent. It feels great. I think I’ll finish up strong,” Orme said.

Despite Orme’s efforts the T-Birds are 2-5 and sitting at sixth place in the Western Division. The team is on a two-game losing streak.

“I don’t like the results we’re getting this year,” Orme said.



Kayla Dickson/THUNDERWORD

Jamie Orme, No. 10, sets up to shoot a three-pointer against the Pierce Raiders last Saturday.

“We have a tough schedule ahead of us but we’re ready for it and I think we’re all excited. That being said, I love the group of guys on the team and I can’t wait to see what we can do together,” Orme said.

The T-Birds have seven games left to move up in their division if they want to compete

in the playoffs.

“I think after these last few practices coach made adjustments that’s going to help us win going further. Our teams’ mindset is focused on winning the next seven games we have left on the season,” he said.

Orme gets his perseverance from his father, he said.

“He’s been going to all of my games since I started recreational basketball in fourth grade all the way up to now. Sometimes I feel like I owe him the world. He inspires me to become the kind of father he was for me, when that part comes later in my life,” he said.

“I’ve been playing since I was in the second grade,” Orme said. “Growing up with my older brothers they would always beat me up in the sport. But the older I got, the closer our games would be, which led to my favorite part about the sport, the competitive nature in basketball.”

Although Orme has been supported by his father and brothers, “there was a couple of times I thought about giving up,” he said.

“Coming out of high school [I almost thought about quitting] when I couldn’t accept any division 1 offers I’ve received because of not being an NCAA qualifier, which is the reason

why Highline is my second chance,” he said.

Orme came out of Seattle’s O’Dea High School where he was recruited by the Highline Head Coach Che Dawson.

Orme was No. 1 scorer and rebounder at his high school.

“Jamie is very talented. He has to put consistent focus into the things he does control; his sense of urgency, work ethic and demonstrating the necessary level of self-discipline on and off the court,” Dawson said.

The T-Birds next game is on Feb. 11, at 3 p.m. at South Puget Sound.



Jamie Orme

Highline misses a shot at second

By Thanavin Chum
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds missed their chance at moving on to the second seed in the division when they lost to the Tacoma Titans, 69 – 58.

The loss left them in third place with a 4 – 3 record.

The T-Birds could not slow down Titan sophomore Guard Bobbi Westendorf. She scored 24 points along with 14 total rebounds. She also made four of 11 three pointers.

Westendorf averaged 21 points per game coming into the game against the T-Birds.

“We were aware of Bobbi’s 21 points per game average. Our coaches didn’t and don’t usually focus on specific players going into games but, they let us know who their threats are,” said T-Bird guard Anna Cook.

On top of that, three other players for the Titans were in double figures, and only two for the T-Birds, sophomore forward Jasmine Hansgen and freshmen guard Ariel Miller both finished the game with 11 points.

As a team the Titans made more threes than the T-Birds, 21 points for the Titans and only three points for the T-Birds. The T-Birds only attempted two while the Titans made seven out of their 30 attempts.



Kayla Dickson/THUNDERWORD

Sophomore forward Jasmine Hansgen fights off defenders in the post at practice last friday.

The T-Birds continued to turn the ball over on offense, 33 for the T-Birds and 19 for the Titans.

The Titans began to distance themselves away in the second quarter of the game and never looked back. The T-Birds tried to pull the game back in the fourth quarter but it wasn’t enough.

“For the Tacoma game we simply did not come ready to play. I believe our next match up against them will be a different story and the effort we bring will have increased significantly,” said Cook.

The T-Birds will host the Titans again in the final of game of the season.

The Lady T-Birds will travel to South Puget Sound on Feb. 11, tip off at 1 p.m.

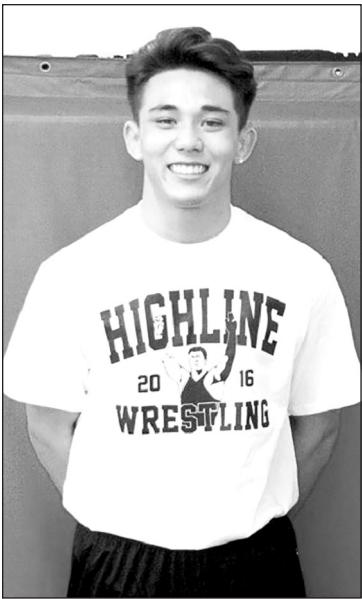
The results from Wednesday’s game against Centralia were unavailable at press time.

T-Bird prepares to take down a title

By Konner Hancock
Staff Reporter

A T-Bird All-American and 133-pound state champ will make a run at the National Junior College Athletic Association’s Regional and National tournaments with the Highline men’s wrestling team.

Sophomore Andrew Ramirez has been wrestling since the age of 5.



Andrew Ramirez

“I started wrestling because of my dad, William Ramirez. He took me to a club team, the Puyallup Falcons, then switched [its name] quickly to Reality Sports. I stayed with them until college,” Ramirez said.

“My favorite part as a kid was having something to do with my dad and staying up all night learning new moves,” Ramirez said. “As I got older it changed to meeting new people and seeing how far I can push myself.”

During his freshman year at Highline, Ramirez almost didn’t wrestle at all for the T-Birds. “Coach [Scott] Norton and [Bradley] Luvaas were constantly hounding my parents and me that I had to wrestle for them. I didn’t even sign up for my own classes. My mom coordinated with the coaches and directors then handed me a schedule the day before school started,” he said.

“I’m glad they did this or it would have been one of my biggest regrets. I love my team and coaches, I can’t and don’t want to imagine of what my life would have been if my parents



Alena Ramirez photo

Andrew Ramirez standing on the first place podium last year after the NJCAA Regional Tournament.

have never handed me a schedule,” Ramirez said.

He’s now in the final month of his wrestling career at Highline. With the regional and national tournament, that’s all that’s left to finish this season.

He is one of the top wres-

tlers in the NJCAA 141-pound weight class. Though ranked No. 3 by the NJCAA, “I believe I can win both the [regional and national tournament],” Ramirez said.

Most of the year Ramirez has been wrestling at the 133-weight class.

But the team and coaches are still not sure if he will wrestle at 141 or 133 for the regional and national tournaments.

Highline started the year ranked at the No. 8 spot, but now the squad is currently ranked at No. 19 in the NJCAA.

However “we can place top 10,” said Ramirez.

“I love my team. We’re are a family and have created some of the best memories. Coach Norton and Luvaas are some of the best coaches I’ve had in my 15 years,” he said.

After his time at Highline, Ramirez plans to persuade wrestling at other universities, “Maybe even Division 1, if I get a good offer. I’m only young for so long and I would regret it later down the road if I didn’t take this opportunity,” he said.

The NJCAA Regional Tournament is in Coos Bay, Ore. starting at 10 a.m. on Feb. 12. The NJCAA National Tournament is in Council Bluffs, Iowa starting at 9 a.m. on Feb. 24 and the championship matches will begin at 7 p.m. the next day.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		5		9				2
3					6	4		
	7		1				3	
	1			2		5		
		8	7					4
9					8		1	
4				3			5	
		2	6					8
	9			7	5	1		

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. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the capital of Serbia?
2. **TELEVISION:** Who played Monica's boyfriend Richard on *Friends*?
3. **NATURAL WORLD:** What is the common name of *Euphorbia pulcherrima*, which blooms during the holidays?
4. **BIBLE:** What is the third book of the Old Testament?
5. **GAMES:** What is the shape of the answer grid inside a "Magic 8 Ball," a handheld game that gives stock answers to questions?
6. **AD SLOGANS:** Which car rental company had the slogan "We try harder"?
7. **LITERATURE:** Who was

- the author of the 1954 novel *The Adventures of Augie March*?
8. **COMICS:** What is the name of Dagwood and Blondie's dog?
9. **MYTHOLOGY:** What was the name of the monstrous hound that guards the gates of Hades?
10. **ANATOMY:** What is the meniscus disc in the knee made of?

- Answers
1. Belgrade
2. Tom Selleck
3. Poinsettia
4. Levitticus
5. An Icosahedron, a 20-sided figure
6. Avis
7. Saul Bellow
8. Daisy
9. Cerberus
10. Cartilage

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!

	-		x		10
x		+		x	
	x		÷		16
-		x		+	
	x		-		15
17		15		16	

1 2 3 3 4 5 6 7 8

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Paid player
- 4 Taxi
- 7 Expert
- 12 Potential syrup
- 13 Lennon's lady
- 14 Similar
- 15 Citric beverage
- 16 Underwent reduction
- 18 Jeremy of basketball
- 19 Tijuana toodle-oo
- 20 Rolling stone's lack
- 22 Poetic night-fall
- 23 Antitoxins
- 27 -- de deux
- 29 Maintenance
- 31 Quibblers split these
- 34 Senorita's wiggle?
- 35 "Rabbit, Run" author
- 37 Feedbag morsel
- 38 Piratic quaff
- 39 Paving goop
- 41 "-- is life!"
- 45 Con game
- 47 Pair
- 48 Absolutely
- 52 Use a towel
- 53 Photoshop company
- 54 Reading matter, for short

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14				
15				16			17					
18				19								
20			21		22				23	24	25	26
			27	28			29	30				
31	32	33						34				
35					36		37					
38					39	40			41	42	43	44
				45				46		47		
48	49	50	51							52		
53						54				55		
56						57				58		

- 55 90-degree shape
- 56 Therefore
- 57 Tokyo's old name
- 58 Deli loaf
- 8 "The Greatest"
- 9 Kin of "i.e."
- 10 -- out a living
- 11 Homer's neighbor
- 17 Bourgeois, to Brits
- 21 Parsley serving
- 23 Revue segments
- 24 Conger or moray
- 25 Roulette bet
- 26 Mimic
- 28 Request
- 30 Sch. org.
- 31 Embrace
- 32 Spring mo.
- 33 Bachelor's
- last words
- 36 Needle case
- 37 Corsage bloom
- 40 Point of view
- 42 Milk dispenser
- 43 Moe's brother
- 44 Rulebook compiler
- 45 A "Desperate Housewife"
- 46 Director Preminger
- 48 Doo follower
- 49 Praise in verse
- 50 Took the prize
- 51 Peacock network

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You don't like rejection. But instead of trying to "ram" your ideas through to an unreceptive audience, stand back and wait for a more favorable environment later this month.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Job commitments call for the tidy Taurean to charge into those problem-plagued projects and get them into shape. Then go ahead and enjoy the fun and friendships of your expanding social life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The pressures of the workplace are beginning to ease. While you still need to stay connected to your ongoing commitments, you'll be able to take more time to relax with family and friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might feel that you need to prove how much you can do. But be careful not to take on more than you can handle, or you risk being bogged down. An Aries has a message for you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Financially it could be a little tight for a while. So resist the urge to splurge on things you don't really need. There will be time



enough to indulge yourself when the money squeeze eases later this month.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You demand trust from others. But someone is creating a situation that could put your own trustworthiness in question. Be sure to keep all lines of communication open.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A problem delays the recognition that you hoped to receive for your hard work. But all will soon be resolved. Remember to make patience your watchword this week.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Those wonderful ideas could expand your workplace prospects and ultimately lead you on a new career path. Your personal life also opens up new vistas.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) So much seems to be swirling around you these days that you might find it hard to fo-

cus on priorities. Best advice: Take things one at a time, and you'll get through them all.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Work out situations with what you have, and avoid the temptation to create complications where they don't exist. This applies both at home and in the workplace.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Keep your keen senses open to possible changes in personal and/or professional situations. Knowing what might lie ahead gives you an edge on how to handle it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Personal pressures at work could create a problem with your performance. Best advice: Focus on the job ahead of you. If necessary, you can deal with the other issue later.

BORN THIS WEEK: Like your fellow Aquarian Abraham Lincoln, you have a way of handling the most difficult situations with grace and conviction.

Puzzle answers on Page 10

Got news? Thunderword@highline.edu

Study your Pacific Islander roots

Pacific Islanders Club encourages academic success and celebrates culture

By Roseline Collins
Staff Reporter

The No. 1 mission of the Pacific Islanders Club is that members have fun and learn to develop good relationships with each other, said the club's president.

Fuifui Ah Kuoi, a second-year student at Highline, said that club members have been working to change the image of the club.

"[Some people] think our club is [just] about hanging out or not getting any work done," she said.

Ah Kuoi said the purpose of the club is the exact opposite as



it encourages members to come to school, help each other both in and out of the club, and be good role models for peers and high school students who have chosen to attend Highline.

The club has done many great things together, said Ah Kuoi, such as taking a field trip to a museum, going to the movies, performing public service, and presenting performances throughout the community.

Kaitlen Taoipu, the vice president of the club, said she is grateful for the relationships she has built because before the club she only had a limited number of connections at Highline. Now she has created many

friendships.

"I hope this club grows, not only because we would like more Pacific Islander students [to join] but to grow academically," she said.

Taoipu said that though the club participates in many dances, the club is actively focused on the academic growth of its members.

"We are really trying hard to let other Pacific Islander members know we are here," she said.

The leaders of the club host study workshops Mondays through Thursdays every week from 1:30-3:20 p.m. in Building 10, room 102. Fridays are workshops to practice for upcoming performances or events.

Nestor Enguerra, the retention specialist for the college's Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution, also serves as the adviser of the club and said he values working with the group since last fall.

"They are a group of students



Fuifui Ah Kuoi

Club member Christalyn, who asked that her last name not be used, said "The club is great. We all have a lot of fun not only when we meet on Tuesdays but also outside of our meetings. It has built amazing friendships for all of us since it has started and has only begun to grow since we have the support given to us by Nestor and Ekk [Ekkarath Sisavatdy, the director of the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution] through the study tables."

The weekly activities of the club include: opening with a prayer, providing announcements and discussing opportunities happening around campus, doing ice breakers to get to get to know each other, eating food, and sometimes presenting PowerPoints on each other's cultures, said Ah Kuoi.

The club meets every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 8, room 301 on the third floor.

Make money with mutual funds

By Barinder Sandhu
Staff Reporter

Students, particularly those with a limited income, can accumulate wealth over time through mutual funds, a Highline business instructor said last week.

Bill Webster is a broker for American Mutual Funds and has been an instructor at Highline since 1968.

He presented on Feb. 1 to the Students Small Capital Investment Club about how a group of people who put their money together and let a professional handle and invest that money.



Bill Webster

their investment company-competition has, he said.

"Eighty to 90 percent of the time my mutual fund clients do better than individual stocks [clients]. Whether you put in \$50 or \$500,000, your portfolio is being watched," he said.

"Managers who put their own money in tend to work a little harder and smarter," Webster said.

The stock market often fluctuates and is unpredictable, but over time the stock market has continuously grown and had an average positive rate of increase.

There isn't a lot of risk if you put in the same amount of money each month in mutual funds, Webster said.

"By putting in the same amount each month you take out the guesswork, because the stocks go up and down but you're bound to make a small fortune," Webster said.

The key to accumulating wealth through mutual funds is starting early, explained Webster.

"People start to get involved in mutual funds when they're 50 years old. At that point they're working against the clock," he said.

Webster started to participate in mutual funds when he was 28.

"I started with putting in \$50, that's all I had when I was 28," he said.

"Now I put in several thousand," Webster said.

vestments.

From a handout from the University of Washington, Webster showed the comparisons between an individual investor versus an investment company. He explained how an investment company is a full-time job whereas individual investors try to manage their investments in their spare time.

"An investment company has an average of 35 people working seven hours a day each on investments; 245 man hours per day and 61,250 man hours per year," Webster said.

"An individual investor spends 15 minutes per day, 94 hours per year," he said.

Only a small percentage of individual investors have done as well in the stock market as

Housing

continued from page 1

agreed to light rail plan," Pham said.

The development site of Highline Place is on the west side of Pacific Highway on South 236th Street.

The site is immediately north of the north entrance to the campus near Baskin-Robbins.

Sound Transit will soon commence construction on the extension of light rail between its Angle Lake Station at South 200th Street and a Highline College Station near South 233rd Street on the east side of Pacific Highway South.

This project could affect construction of Highline Place.

Construction of Highline Place has been greatly anticipated by officials of the college's International Students Program.

Each quarter more than 500 international students enroll at the college.

Housing for international students is dispersed over a wide area, and often far from campus.

Highline Place will provide concentrated housing immediately adjacent to campus.

"We're still very interested. It's a need for international students," said Kathleen Hasselblad, executive director of International Programs and international student grants.

Go Figure!
answers

3	-	1	x	5	10
x		+		x	
8	x	4	÷	2	16
-		x		+	
7	x	3	-	6	15
17		15		16	

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	4	5	3	9	7	8	6	2
3	8	9	2	5	6	4	7	1
2	7	6	1	8	4	9	3	5
6	1	4	9	2	3	5	8	7
5	3	8	7	6	1	2	9	4
9	2	7	5	4	8	6	1	3
4	6	1	8	3	2	7	5	9
7	5	2	6	1	9	3	4	8
8	9	3	4	7	5	1	2	6

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

P	R	O		C	A	B		M	A	V	E	N
S	A	P		O	N	O		A	L	I	K	E
A	D	E		D	O	W	N	S	I	Z	E	D
L	I	N		A	D	I	O	S				
M	O	S		S	E	E	N	S	E	R	A	
				P	A	S		U	P	K	E	E
H	A	I	R	S				T	I	L	D	E
U	P	D	I	K	E		O	A	T			
G	R	O	G		T	A	R		S	U	C	H
				B	U	N	C	O		D	U	O
D	O	W	N	R	I	G	H	T		D	R	Y
A	D	O	B	E		L	I	T		E	L	L
H	E	N	C	E		E	D	O		R	Y	E

Got news?
tword@highline.edu

Health of the Salish Sea depends on everybody

By Kelsey Par
Staff Reporter

Humans are having a significant impact on the Salish Sea, which includes the Puget Sound, the coordinator of a beach watchers program said at last week's Science on the Sound lecture.

Chrys Bertolotto, WSU Natural Resource programs manager, hosted a discussion at Highline's MaST Center at Redondo on the diverse marine life that inhabits the Salish Sea, changes to the Salish Sea over time, and what can be done to keep those waters clean.

The Salish Sea stretches from northern Vancouver Island, south to Olympia and runs between the Cascade and Olympic Mountain ranges.

The Salish Sea is defined as an estuary, a partially enclosed body of water that has one or more streams or rivers flowing into it and has an open connection to the sea.

It is home to 26 kinds of marine animals; more than 200 species of fish; includes the streams flowing into the marine waters; more than 200 species of birds; and thousands of species of invertebrates.

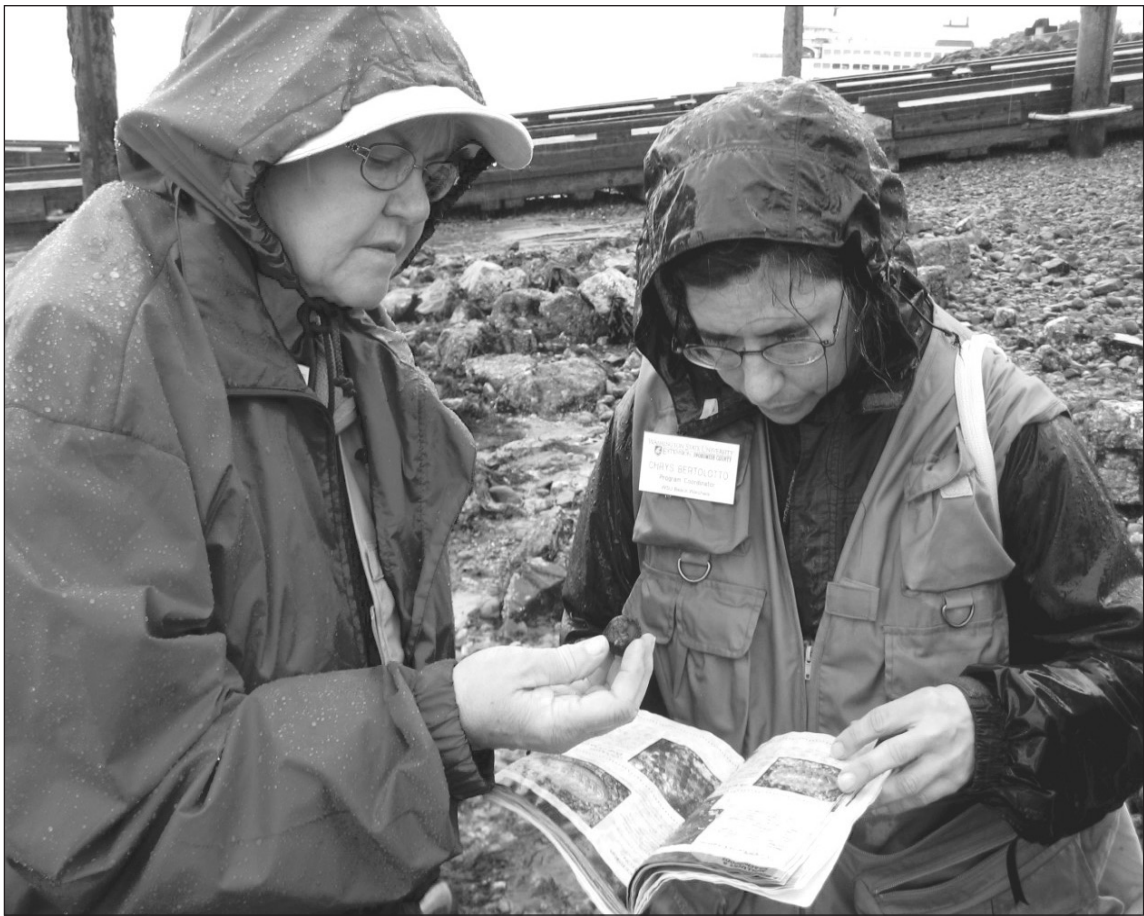
"Ninety percent of biomass in the Salish Sea is plankton. A glass of water from the Puget Sound can contain millions of plankton," Bertolotto said.

During the last several hundred years, people have had a major impact on the Salish Sea, she said.

People living near or along the Salish Sea have cleared and burned areas, increasing the levels of runoff, which has had a direct impact on many of the species living in the sea.

"Farming has also had a major impact on the sea," she said.

Many historic estuaries were lost in efforts to propagate crops.



Chrys Bertolotto photo
Chrys Bertolotto is the Beach Watcher and Shore Stewards coordinator at Washington State University.

Estuaries were drained for soil and later used for farming.

"This is one of the many conflicts between people and nature," Bertolotto said.

These human impacts have caused disturbances within the Salish Sea ecosystem.

Beyond human influences, there are naturally occurring phenomena that also have an effect on the Salish Sea.

Seas, lakes and oceans accumulate sediment over time. Sediment is a material that is naturally occurring and is broken down by erosion and weathering.

Sediments contribute to the ecosystem in a positive way. However, too much sediment can have a negative effect.

When road waste, human and animal waste, and medication become out of balance in

sediments, it can severely impact an ecosystem.

As a community or individually, there are many steps we can take to repair and keep the Salish Sea clean and healthy, Bertolotto said.

Some of these steps include properly managing waste; planting and retaining trees; buying

local products and sustainably harvested foods; properly disposing of chemicals, medication and other hazardous waste; composting food rather than putting it in the disposal; and fixing car leaks.

There are local resources that can help people to easily accomplish these steps, Bertolotto said.

Select Bartell Drugs and Rite Aid pharmacies will take left-over medications and properly dispose of them. Police stations take left-over or unwanted narcotics.

Whether you ingest medications or flush them down the toilet, they eventually reach the Salish Sea and can cause an imbalance in the ecosystem.

It's important to properly dispose of medications because they can get into our waters and can potentially harm the inhabitants, Bertolotto said.

There are several efforts underway to help protect the Salish Sea. For more information on medication and narcotic disposal, visit takeback.org.

Don't Drip and Drive, a Washington state regional campaign, offers free leak inspections for vehicles and workshops that can help you learn about your car and how to fix leaks.

For more information, visit fixcarleaks.org.

Household Hazardous Waste Facilities will take hazardous waste and dispose of it for free. The nearest facility is located in Seattle at 12550 Stone Ave N.

Science on the Sound events are once a month and begin at noon. The next event is on March 4, and is about local and international examples of our oceans changing.

For more information, visit mast.highline.edu/scienceon-sound.



Washington State University photo
In addition to their efforts to protect the Salish Sea, the Beach Watchers service many areas around the Pacific Northwest.



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Sanctuary

continued from page 1

Enforcement) orders and turn people over,” said U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, D-9th District.

President Donald Trump has signed three executive orders regarding immigration laws since taking office on Jan. 20. The first one, signed on Jan. 25, titled Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States, specifically addressed sanctuary jurisdictions.

The order says that immigrants who come into the United States illegally, or overstay their visas are “a significant threat to national security and public safety.”

The order states that immigrants with criminal convictions for any offense will be the first to be targeted for expulsion. It would affect individuals who:

- have been charged with an unresolved criminal offense
- have committed acts that are “chargeable criminal offenses”
- have engaged in “fraud or willful misrepresentation”
- have abused any public benefits program
- have not complied with a final removal order
- “otherwise pose a risk to public safety or national security”

The executive order will “ensure that jurisdictions that fail to comply with applicable Federal law do not receive Federal funds, except as mandated by law,” according to the order.

Highline, which is in the 9th district, is one of several local governments and institutions that have vowed to fight the Trump Administration over how immigrants are treated.

The college currently has 2,150 immigrants (23 percent of the student body), and 700 refugees (7.5 percent) enrolled as students this quarter.

Highline Acting President Dr. Jeff Wagnitz recently penned an email in response to the president’s executive order against immigrants.

Highline will not take part in enforcing immigration policy, and will require a “subpoena, court order, or other clear legal authority before releasing any student-specific data,” according to Dr. Wagnitz’s email.

Although the executive order specifically refers to cities, and would not immediately affect the college, the order is providing more questions than answers, Rep. Smith said. The order calls for federal funding to be withheld, but it is questionable as to what federal funding could be at risk.

“As I understand the law, you can only cut off funds that are somehow connected to what you’re focusing on,” Rep. Smith said. “So for instance, they could argue undocumented people ride public transportation so you could cut off public transportation dollars.”

Even though the executive order is specifically directed toward municipalities at this time,

that could change in the future, Rep. Smith said. The Trump Administration could target colleges, and make it difficult for students to get financial aid.

“There’s no end to what they could do given the fact that Trump and his closest advisers —Michael Flynn and Steve Bannon — are rather hell-bent to get rid of as many Muslims as they can,” Rep. Smith said.

Just because the executive order doesn’t touch something now, doesn’t mean that a new order won’t be signed that does, he said.

The chaos that has ensued due to a separate executive order banning refugees from seven different countries has left many people confused as to what exactly to expect, Rep. Smith said.

“The immigration one [executive order] that had people with green cards being pulled off of planes in foreign countries, and 72 hours later they said ‘No, no, no, we didn’t mean you,’” Rep. Smith said. “There’s a level of confusion attached to the chaotic way in which Trump sort of pukes out policy ideas.”

Even if students are reassured that Highline will protect their privacy, people might still be frightened that things will change, and not attend college because of the unknown, he said.

There is a mixed bag of emotions from members of Congress.

“There are a fair number of Republicans who are positively gleeful over it, just about all Democrats are horrified, there are a few Republicans who are also horrified but very few of them are willing to say or do anything to sort of take action,” Rep. Smith said. “I would say the Republican majorities in the House and the Senate are at best passively allowing this to happen, and at worst complicit in it.”

“Just so we’re clear, I completely and utterly oppose all of this. I think it’s terrible for our country on more levels than I can count. But that’s the world we’re living in with this administration,” he said.

Federal funds to cities are at risk of being cut at any time, Rep. Smith said.

“Theoretically the executive order is in place and now it’s just a matter of various agencies cutting off the funds,” he said. “All that it would take is the agency to say ‘You were violating these rules, this is the amount of funds that are tagged to go to you ... that will benefit undocumented people, so therefore we’re cutting it off.’”

It should take time to sort through data before cutting off funds, but uncertainties extend to this as well, Rep. Smith said.

“In a sensible universe, yes [it would take time], but President Trump has shown that sensible is not a word that accurately describes him,” Rep. Smith said.

“It’s the wild, wild west over at the White House, he said. “And ... I don’t think anyone can predict what they’re going to do.”

Immigration

continued from page 1

ated the information.

Teresa, a full-time student at Highline, has been in the United States for 15 years.

“I came today because information is power and weakens the fears,” said Teresa.

“I came today to be prepared, and to share with my community,” said Norma, an ESL student. Norma has been in the United States for 22 years.

“If we worry over something we don’t have control then we’re finished,” said Alvarez. “You don’t have control over what’s happening.”

“I know of several coworkers and family members that could be effected by these executive orders,” said Maria, an ESL student at Highline. Maria has been in the United States for 15 years.

Meanwhile in Mt. Constance, Jorge Baron spoke on Trump’s attempt to ban Muslims from coming to the United States.

On Jan. 25, one of the executive orders signed by the president was “enhancing public safety in the interior of the United States,” said Baron.

The order included increasing the number of immigration officers at the border. It also included taking away funding from sanctuary communities.

King County is a sanctuary community, said Baron.

“They won’t be felt now but

later on in our communities,” said Baron. They will “happen over time. It won’t be felt immediately.”

“Being a sanctuary county means that the King County jail will not hold people for immigration,” he said.

That doesn’t mean that immigration won’t arrest you, but that jails won’t hold you for immigration, said Baron.

“Any contact with local authorities,” can be even harsher, he said. “Anyone can be affected, even people with a status.”

The funding “would mostly be law enforcement grants lost,” he said. “This can be challenged though.”

On Jan. 27, a “Travel Ban” executive order was also signed by President Trump.

The order included the suspension of Refugee Resettlement Program for 120 days.

The order also included a temporary travel banned from citizens of seven countries. The seven countries are Iraq, Iran, Syria, Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Libya for 90 days. But among these countries, Syria is indefinitely suspended, said Baron.

The excuse used to justify this was that they needed to update their screening process, he said.

Baron informed everyone of their rights commonly forgotten by immigrants.

“Know your rights, you have the right to remain silent,” said Baron. “Ask questions frequently all the time.”

The Bill of Rights applies to anybody in the United States, whether they are undocumented or not, said Barron.

“You have the right to remain safely at home. If you don’t open the door, they’re just going to go away,” he said.

Immigration and customs enforcement officers “need a warrant signed by a judge [in order to come into your house],” said Baron.

“You have a right to a hearing. You have the right to explain why you should be able to stay here,” said Baron.

“You have a right to labor protection rights, you have a right to minimum wage,” he said.

“I know a lot of the time people stay silent and get taken advantage of because they’re undocumented,” said Baron.

“Please don’t let people get taken advantage of,” he said.

Don’t sign anything, said Baron. “Some people can be released on a bond.”

DACA will be ended, said Baron.

DACA is Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, was an executive order signed by president Barack Obama, which allowed undocumented people that came to the United as minors to receive a permit to work legally and go to school.

It is highly unlikely that they will start deporting people that had DACA, he said.

“I know of two people with DACA that could be effected,” said Jazmin an ESL student.

Nonetheless, people said they were glad for the information.

“My mom and I came to the United States 17 years ago,” said Kelly. “I came to get information to support those that need it, stand in the gap for people.”

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