

Defending DACA



Tiffany Ho/THUNDERWORD

DACA students unsure of what the future holds

By Izzy Anderson
Staff Reporter

DACA students don't know where they will soon be standing now that DACA is being phased out.

DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) is a program that former President Barack Obama put into motion in 2012.

This program was intended for immigrants, who came to the U.S. while they were 16 or younger, to have a chance to temporarily and legally stay in the country.

DACA has allowed young



Doris Martinez

undocumented people to receive a period of two years at a time of deferred action from

See DACA, page 19



Farrah Casseus/THUNDERWORD

Student Chloe Zabrek voices her concerns at the presidential search students forum on Wednesday.

Students tell Trustees what they want in a president

By David Slettevold
Staff Reporter

Highline students called for an open-minded president from a diverse background at yesterday's Presidential Search Student Forum.

Board of Trustees member Fred Mendoza and chair Debrena Jackson Gandy listened to concerned students talk about what they wanted in their new Highline president.



The forum is the most recent in a series of events following President Dr. Jack Birmingham's retirement last summer.

Dr. Jeff Wagnitz became the interim president shortly afterwards.

With promises from the Board of Trustees to involve students in the search for a new president, Highline is hosting listening sessions for students and staff to share their opinions.

"We volunteer to do this for the success of the college," Mendoza said. "We

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Dr. Jonathan Brown leaves Highline with a bittersweet goodbye



Farrah Casseus/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Jonathan Brown will leave Highline at the end of the quarter to take up a position at Seattle University next year.

By David Slettevold
Staff Reporter

A senior administrator and inspiration for many Highline students is leaving at the end of the quarter.

Associate dean for the Center for Leadership and Service Dr. Jonathan Brown first announced his decision at a Student Government meeting on Nov. 28.

Dr. Brown, who will become the assistant vice president for Alumni Engagement

at Seattle University next year, has had a 17-year history at Highline.

"I've really grown up at Highline as a professional," he said.

As a graduate of Seattle University, Dr. Brown said it's like he's going from one home to another.

"In some ways, I'm leaving my home at Highline to re-engage with another home space for me," he said.

Under his tenure, Highline gained the Student

Union Building, for which he served as the chairman of the funding committee.

Dr. Brown also has received many awards for his service, both from Highline and on a national level.

Dr. Brown said that he's making the switch because he wants to do something more with what he's learned.

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series of close games

Crime & Punishment



Car club available in Building 8

Save big with a voucher

By Chase Carvalho
Staff Reporter

You lock your house doors when you leave home, and you may lock your car doors when you park. But thieves have ways of getting into your vehicle even if it's locked.

Any car can be stolen and thieves are getting smarter. They prey on certain vehicle types they know will make for easy targets. The list includes:

- Honda Accord
- Honda Civic
- Toyota Camry
- Acura Integra
- Nissan Sentra
- Jeep Cherokee

Highline Public Safety, State Farm and The Club have combined efforts and are selling discounted steering wheel locks in the bookstore.

These locks make it almost impossible for thieves to steer after they have stolen your car. The main thing is that thieves look for easy targets and the steering wheel lock makes it not worth their time.

The locks are available in the book store for \$5 with a voucher.

Public Safety has left vouchers on the windshields of at risk vehicles in the parking lot and are now extending the opportunity to everyone at Highline.

Pick up a voucher from the public safety office in Building 6 and take it to the bookstore to purchase your lock.

Happy holidays from the Thunderword.

Police investigate kidnapping report

By Chase Carvalho
Staff Reporter

A 27-year-old man was reportedly kidnapped on campus and then sexually assaulted by his assailants at an unknown location last week.

Because of the nature of the crimes the case is being handled by Des Moines Police.

Des Moines Public Information Officer Sgt. David Mohr said the victim alleges that at about 10 a.m. on Nov. 28 he was knocked unconscious in Highline's East parking lot on the pathway that leads to South

240th Street by four males. He said he was then taken by the four suspects to an unfamiliar location where he was sexually assaulted by the suspects.

After roughly 24 hours on Nov. 29 the victim was released on Pacific Highway South in Kent. He then went to report what happened to Des Moines Police.

Des Moines detective staff are actively investigating the report and are asking for the public's assistance.

"If you know anything regarding this incident or saw anything, please report it to Des Moines Police Department.

Any bit of information can help with the investigation," Sgt. Mohr said.

Public Safety issued a timely warning on Nov. 29 shortly after learning of the incident.

The department has been active in ensuring student's safety campus wide. They offer escorts for anyone who feels unsafe while travelling around campus.

Emergency phones are available in the parking lots that call straight to Public Safety.

"This incident is alleged, and is in the process of being investigated by law enforcement. There have not been any oth-

er alleged incidents and this is an isolated case. The campus community should always take the proper precautions, but I do not feel they should panic or be alarmed. As the investigation unfolds we will provide more information" said Director of Public Safety, David Menke.

To enhance personal safety, along with personal escorts, they suggest: travel with others, stay off your electronics while walking, always be aware of your surroundings, take well lit paths and walkways, report all suspicious behavior and activities to Public Safety.

Learn about sustainable farms

The Science on the Sound speaker series will pick up again in January 2018.

The presentation will be called From Farm to Ocean – Unconscious farming and the future of sustainable agriculture. The presenter will be Bobby Butler, faculty and director of Urban Agriculture Program at Highline.

This event will take place Saturday, Jan. 6, at noon, in the MaST Aquarium at Redondo. The event is free and open to the public.

For directions and more information on the MaST Center you can visit mast.highline.edu/

New fundraiser joins Foundation

The Highline Foundation now has a new director of development, Asha Bhaga.

Bhaga holds a master of science in industrial organizational psychology, and came from Tacoma Community College as



a foundation operations coordinator, where she worked for five years.

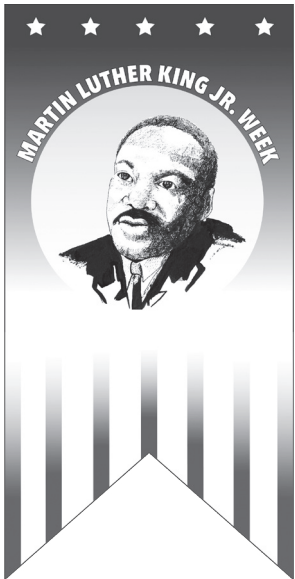
MLK Week returns in winter

The second week of Winter Quarter will be Martin Luther King Jr. Week at Highline.

MLK Week is Highline's annual celebration and exploration of the legacy of the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Following the Jan. 15, 2018 observance of Dr. King's birthday, Highline will present a series of forums and events to examine the current state of civil rights in the United States.

Dr. King's birthday is a federal holiday, which means in addition to Highline's campus being closed, many business-



es and public services will be closed or will operate on a holiday schedule in observance of the holiday.

Give big this holiday season

Women's Programs is still looking for sponsors in this year's Giving Tree.

The Giving Tree is an event put on by the Women's Programs to help low-income students enrolled in the Workfirst

or Women's programs, or adult basic education provide toys and much needed items for their families.

The Women's Programs staff is still asking for sponsors to donate toys and clothes to help students' families this holiday season.

To sponsor a family, email Women's Programs event coordinator Maria Toloza-Meza at mtolozameza@highline.edu with your name, phone number/email, and number of children.

Show you care

Highline Cares is collecting donations for immigrants and refugees enrolled in the Adult Basic Education/ESL programs and Highline students.

Many of these students are unable to buy necessities due to limited financial resources.

If you would like to donate necessities such as clothing, household items or anything else, you think that it can be useful when starting a new life, bring them to Building 2, on Jan. 16, 2018, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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Legislators listen to concerns at breakfast

By Rachael Horath
Staff Reporter

Highline students pleaded with local legislators about the importance of finding adequate resources for higher education in the upcoming legislative session.

"The goal of today is to bring some new voices to the table," said Interim Highline President Dr. Jeff Wagnitz.

Highline held a Legislative Breakfast on Wednesday, Nov. 29 as a way to connect students and faculty with Washington state legislators.

The first segment of this event allowed a number of students to discuss issues that posed as obstacles preventing them from being a successful student at Highline.

The second portion was roundtable discussions. This allowed students a chance to interact with legislators individually, to ask questions, and discuss the issues.

Legislators who participated included State Rep. Mike Pellicciotti, D-Federal Way; State Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon, D-West Seattle; and State Sen. Bob Hasegawa D-Tukwila.

They were joined by Savio Pham, who represented U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, D-9th District.

Among the student speakers, Chloe Wihelm offered a suggestion to redefine the term "basic education" in the Washington State Constitution.

She explained that currently basic education is defined simply as K-12 education and should also include technical certificates or associate's degrees.

"Money shouldn't stop a student from getting an education," Wihelm said.

Often, individuals don't have access to the resources available



Farrah Casseus/THUNDERWORD

Students voiced concerns about higher education to state legislators at Highline last Wednesday.

to attend higher education institutions, she said. Providing funding for those interested in pursuing an education could potentially make a competitive workforce and strengthen the state's economy.

Louis Ihrig shared his experience of being a military veteran struggling to adjust to civilian life, which resulted in prison time because he couldn't connect with resources for the help that he much-needed.

"Rehabilitating into civilian life has been difficult. Since being out of prison finding job employment and housing has been incredibly difficult," Ihrig said.

These obstacles make it impossible to return to a normal life after committing a crime. He suggested removing the check boxes on screening applications that ask if individuals have ever committed a

crime.

"We're trying to solve a 21st century problem with a 19th century solution," Ihrig said.

Removing the question would allow individuals an equal opportunity and access to employment and housing regardless of their criminal background, he said.

Chalisa Thompson relies on an underfunded need grant in order to attend school.

She explained that she was able to attend school and be successful because she didn't have to worry about funding her education.

Yet, when funding became unavailable because of its unpredictability, Thompson struggled to maintain her grades while trying to pay for her education.

"This quarter and last quarter, I have had to work three jobs ... and that has taken a toll on

me, mentally and physically," Thompson said.

She suggested increasing the affordability and the accessibility of educational resources for most courses offered at community colleges, which would create more open educational resources.

This would ensure that students would be provided with much-needed help to become successful.

Isaac Gutierrez said he has faced many hardships associated with being an undocumented student attempting to pursue higher education. Many undocumented students are unaware of existing resources and scholarship funding to aid them in their higher education goals.

Faculty and staff are unprepared to help undocumented students achieve their goals,

Gutierrez said.

He asked for legislators to widen the access to affordable higher education opportunities for those who are undocumented citizens.

"This country was built by immigrants. I feel like we're forgetting that," said Gutierrez.

Fnu Azizullah spoke about the halt in renovations for Building 26.

"The rooms in Building 26 are not suitable for classroom use," Azizullah said.

The nursing program and tutoring centers have moved away because of the conditions of the building.

"We need a capital budget to be passed," Azizullah said.

By passing the capital budget, projects that were dependent on funding, like Building 26, can be renovated.

The capital budget was a hot topic during the roundtable discussions between students and legislators.

The discussions operated almost like speed dating as legislators were only allowed 10 minutes at each table, rotating clockwise around the room.

This allowed students one-on-one time with the legislators to ask more specific questions regarding the capital budget and how it might affect students at Highline.

Since money cannot be taken from other sectors receiving funding from the state, the only other way is to increase the revenue available.

By growing the pie, more money could be made available if we increased sales tax or implemented an income tax, said Sen. Hasegawa.

"I anticipate that the capital budget will be brought to the floor as soon as new Senate leadership is elected, hopefully no later than January," Rep. Pellicciotti said.

Gold Hill Associates to help Highline president search

By Madelyn R. Brown
Staff Reporter

The Board of Trustees has hired a national firm to help in the search for a new Highline president.

Since 1990, Gold Hill Associates has specialized in executive searches for community colleges.

"There were several compelling factors," in choosing this firm, said Debrena Jackson Gandy, president of the Board of Trustees.

Staff qualifications, experience, references and "the ability to develop a diverse candidate role," were all contributing factors, she said. As well as "their

experience with higher education."

But, Highline doesn't need to hire this firm; it opted to, college officials said.

"We looked at the internal money and time resources required, the demand of staff, and increased workload burden for staff," said Gandy, "as compared to hiring an external, objective expert whose forte and specialty is presidential searches."

The Board of Trustees chose the latter.

Gold Hill Associates have had multiple successes to support the Board's decision.

According to the Gold Hill Associates website, the firm has

"successfully completed over 100 searches for a variety of college populations."

Now that Highline has the extra help, active recruitment for a new president will begin before Christmas, Gandy said.

"We have not yet finalized the specific position requirements," she said. "We are seeking a president that will be the overall 'best fit' for Highline's campus; a campus that we consider very special and unique."

The future Highline president will need to meet a few general standards, though.

"Foundationally, we will evaluate candidates on their ex-

perience and track record," said Gandy. As well as "the type of leader, administrator, strategic thinker, manager, relationships-builder...and communicator they are."

According to the Gold Hill website, their goal is to establish an open and inclusive search process for the college to find the best possible choice.

When recruiting begins, "Regular communication and updates will occur via reports from the search firm," said Gandy. This will include "email, phone and video meeting updates."

But for now, Highline wants students, faculty and staff to

help in the search.

"We want to first give the entire campus community and our community stakeholders the opportunity to share input on the desired and important qualifications for Highline's next president," she said.

On Dec. 6, Highline hosted multiple meetings for the campus community in order to hear these opinions.

"We will take this input into consideration as we develop the presidential profile and qualifications," said Gandy.

For more information, go to <https://www.highline.edu/presidential-search/>.

Spread the holiday cheer through the year

It's that time of year again: Christmas lights twinkle, gifts get wrapped and charities are inundated with donations and eager volunteers.

Soon after the wrapping paper is strewn across the floor however, the Christmas cheer seems to dry up.

The season of giving is often the favorite time of the year for people across the nation who like to get as jolly as old St. Nick in the spirit of the holiday.

Charity organizations are often flooded with all those St. Nicks to the point that they have to direct volunteers to other organizations.

Food pantries experience similar trends during the holidays, sometimes having to make extra space for all that is donated.

Being that winter is often cold and wet, especially in western Washington, this time of the year can generally be harder for those who rely on those donations and volunteers.

Whether it's the spirit of the season, the last chance to donate for a tax deduction, or holiday bonuses that increase giving, there seems to be no shortage of good will between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day compared to the rest of the year.

Trends show charities have a harder time helping those in need during other times of the year, such as directly after the holiday season and during summer months when kids are out of school and may not receive free or reduced cost lunches.

No one is complaining about the high amount of people willing to donate time, money or food to our vulnerable neighbors during the holidays, but waiting until December to donate is closer to being an opportune time to dump clothes and food that nobody wants, with the added benefit of saving some money on taxes at the last minute than actually attempting to help.

No matter the motivation behind charitable actions, we can individually hold ourselves to a higher standard and help those in need by spreading some of those good deeds throughout the year.

Actions as simple as setting up a small monthly contribution to your favorite charity, planning days throughout the year to contribute to pantries, or serving food are ways to stay involved.

With the exception of serving food, these options would be as easy as scheduling a note in your calendar and showing up.

Between how easy it can be to contribute to charities throughout the year and Americans' love of Christmas — a holiday based around giving — contributing throughout the year should be a win-win.

Spreading the giving through the year could be good for more than the people who receive it.

Those who rely on help from others would have more consistent assistance, while those who enjoy the holiday season would be able to relive that Christmas feeling without having to wait until December.

Just because Santa only gives once a year doesn't mean we have to follow suit.

Have something to say? Write to us

The Thunderword asks for students and all members of the campus community 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 all submissions to thunderword@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday.



Christmas is the worst

I hate Christmas.

Christmas is often regarded as a favorite holiday among Americans. But not everyone is as enthused by what it has to offer.

While the first group is energized by the lights, the gifts and placing tree ornaments, the second group's experience is much less comfortable and can involve feelings of stress, loss and loneliness.

As a part of the second group, I personally think it's an awful holiday for more reasons than missing out on warm feelings.

The inherent materialism that sends holiday shoppers into an anxious panic in search of the perfect gift, the way that anxious energy can sour human interaction, and on a lighter note — the unavoidable nature of Christmas carols.

We can't do a lot about those incessant carols, but those dealing with the holiday blues have options as to how to cope.

People who find themselves coping with the holidays instead of enjoying them are often those who are alone due to the death of a loved one, said Dr. Bob Baugher, a Highline psychology professor.

A loved one's absence is highlighted when the senses recognize all the familiar stimuli that was present the last time that loved one was around.

Similarly, the ripping-off of this proverbial bandage can occur when the happy memories of previous holiday seasons find

Spring into thought



Stephen Springer

a way to make one's current reality an underwhelming experience, which I have found may be a source of my scrooge-like tendencies.

To add to the possibility of a rough holiday season is regular, old stress.

"Life can be stressful enough, and then you add the holidays," Dr. Baugher said. "It adds to the stress of it all."

The holidays themselves bring stress because of all the extra things people are generally expected to do. Finding gifts for loved ones, attending holiday gatherings, and carving out time to cook for those gatherings are just a few examples of stressors that can impact your mood.

Dr. Baugher suggests we mitigate the stress largely through planning.

"Ask yourself what you would like your holiday to look like,"

Dr. Baugher said.

Who you want to be around, do you want to put up a tree, do you have time to go out and celebrate?

When you figure out the answers to these questions, make a to-do list and don't procrastinate on getting it done.

I left my interview with Dr. Baugher thinking about how to write this column and ended up investigating my feelings about Christmas in a new context.

This has shown me that some of my personal holiday jeer comes from memories of happier celebrations as a child, and not exclusively the more reasonable holiday gripes associated with society's shared experience of the season.

I remember putting out cookies and milk for Santa, waiting up all night to catch the jolly old fellow in the act, and spending time around the Christmas tree with my small and close-knit family.

These feelings faded as I got older and as things changed.

My family grew apart, my parents quit celebrating Christmas in exchange for the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, and as a 25-year-old, the idea of an old man sneaking into houses to give gifts to children didn't age well.

I will personally take Dr. Baugher's advice this year and limit my holiday participation to what I feel comfortable with: Spending time with as many family and friends as I can wrangle.

the Staff “ That was not meant to be a high five. ” E-Mail: tword@highline.edu

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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 was the former name of the country Burkina Faso?
2. MEDICAL: What common malady would you be suffering from if you had ephelides?
3. ASTRONOMY: Where is the SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) Institute located?
4. MOVIES: What country was the film *The Killing Fields* about?
5. LITERATURE: In what 20th-century novel did the Gamekeeper Oliver Mellors appear?
6. MUSIC: Which 1960s-70s band was associated with brothers John and Tom Fogerty?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What type of liquor drink is Courvoisier?

8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president popularized the phrase "the buck stops here"?
9. U.S. STATES: Which of state's nicknam is The Bay State?
10. MYTHOLOGY: What Greek goddess was believed to possess a universal remedy?

1. Republic of Upper Volta
2. Freckles
3. Mountain View, Califor-
4. Cambodia
5. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*
6. Creedence Clearwater
7. Cognac
8. Harry Truman
9. Massachusetts
10. Panacea

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Puzzle answers on Page 20

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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1 2 4 4 5 6 7 8 9

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Use an old phone
- 5 Plastic user's accumulation
- 9 Yon bloke
- 12 Resting
- 13 Neighbor-hood
- 14 Expert
- 15 Shipwreck site
- 16 Ancient Briton
- 17 Say it's OK
- 18 It's right on the map
- 19 Shell game need
- 20 Took the bus
- 21 — canto
- 23 Mainlander's memento

- 25 Flower cluster
- 28 Heckle or Jeckle
- 32 Baking potato
- 33 Any of four that chase Pac-Man
- 34 Aberration
- 36 Last syllable of a word
- 37 Ultra-modernist
- 38 Meadow
- 39 Dressed
- 42 State of matter
- 44 Infamous lyre player

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54				55					56			

- 48 Fond du —
- 49 Abrupt
- 50 Fed
- 51 Bonfire residue
- 52 Soft cheese
- 53 Dryer collection
- 54 "How come?"
- 55 Celeb
- 56 Therefore

DOWN

- 1 Tragic
- 2 Concept
- 3 Hearty quaffs
- 4 Forgotten, maybe
- 5 Spotted
- 6 Huron neighbor
- 7 Soothe
- 8 Body art, for short
- 9 Good ring?
- 10 On the rocks
- 11 Apportion (out)
- 20 90 degrees
- 22 Overact
- 24 American emblem
- 25 Carnival city
- 26 Throw in
- 27 Scoundrel
- 29 Luau bowlful
- 30 Doctrine

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make a start on that new workplace challenge. But get more information before you find yourself too deeply involved without knowing in which direction you should go.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You might find things becoming tedious as your schedule slows down for the holidays. Use this time to get information about a possible post-New Year job change.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The creative Twin finds outlets for her or his ideas in the early part of the week. The practical Twin takes it a step further and rallies support to turn the ideas into reality.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It's time to stop being intimidated by someone's negative behavior. Start taking positive steps on your own to help strengthen your position down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Look closely at that so-called golden opportunity. Best to be a cautious Cat who approaches things slowly, than



one who pounces without knowing where you'll land.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your apology can resolve that personal situation before it overshadows the holidays. You'll feel better, even if you're only partly to blame for what happened.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Avoid overtaxing yourself, even if your energy levels are high and you feel that you can do it all. Best to pace yourself so you won't run yourself down before the holidays.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your sense of humor helps get you through a stressful period. Some of your quick quips can take the edge off any remaining negativity being aimed at you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your artistic talents not only help you express yourself these

days, but they also set up a line of communication between you and someone very special.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) It's fine to appreciate the importance of "proper form" for doing things. But relax a bit in order to allow newcomers on the project to feel less intimidated by you.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Use your boundless reserve of optimism to persuade others to work with you to resolve a difficult workplace problem before it can ruin your holiday fun.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You brim over with self-confidence as you begin to tackle a new challenge. And, before you know it, you're not alone: Others have taken the plunge with you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a highly defined sense of commitment to others. You would make a fine social worker.

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LatinX club creates place for diverse students

By Dylan You
Staff Reporter

Before she made her mark as the president of the LatinX Student Association, Erika Juarez felt alienated from the Highline community.

“Before joining this club, I felt very alone and I felt like there weren’t many other Latino students on campus,” Juarez said. “I felt really isolated and excluded within the community and college itself.”

She soon realized she wasn’t alone; during last year’s LatinX summit, the previous club president convinced her to join. Juarez said she found comfort in connecting with other LatinX students.

“We’re able to create an environment where we feel like family and it makes us want to come to school and enjoy being at school instead of just going to class and going home,” Juarez said. “We’re able to take a moment to enjoy our experience here.”

Although members feel the club provides emotional and academic support, Juarez said many students don’t feel the need to join a club.

“People think they don’t have time,” Juarez said. “But once people come here, they realize it’s a breather and you’re not just a stressed college student.”

Even students who feel detached from their Hispanic origins can find themselves rekindling their connection.

“It’s provided me a connection to my culture that I previously didn’t know I had,” club member Astrid Duenas said. “It connects me to other people who have the same culture and gives an open space to share your culture.”

Juarez said the club doesn’t just sit back and stay quiet. Last year, it was crowned the club of the year, organized a rose sale and attended an array of forums.

“We make everything here important,” said a club member. “We attend every event on campus. It’s not a group that’s isolating themselves.”

Whether one is only a quarter LatinX or doesn’t have a drop of LatinX blood, Juarez said anyone is free to join.

Club meetings are held in Building 8, room 302, every Wednesday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

International enrollment dropping

By Teresa Watanabe
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — After years of rapid growth, enrollment of first-time international students in U.S. colleges and universities dipped last year amid concerns about political uncertainty, tuition increases, visa delays and reductions in scholarship money, an annual survey found.

California remained the nation’s most popular destination for foreign students, with 157,000 coming to the state in 2016-17. They made up nearly 16 percent of more than 1 million international students in the United States that year, according to the survey of more than 2,000 institutions released Monday by the Institute of International Education.

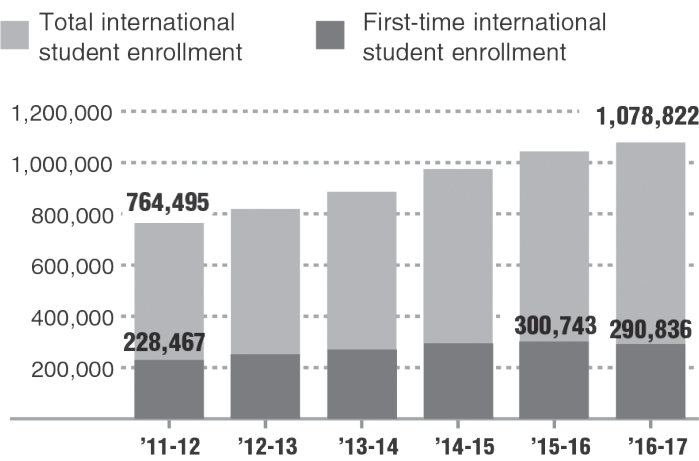
Alyson L. Grunder, a deputy assistant secretary of State, said the U.S. ability to attract the world’s largest number of international students was “testament to the unmatched quality of American higher education.”

But the roughly 3 percent decline in new foreign students in California and nationally was the first drop the institute has recorded in the 12 years it has collected such data, and the decline appears to be deepening. The institute’s separate tally of data from about 500 colleges and universities found a 7 percent drop in enrollment of first-time students this fall — mostly at less-selective campuses.

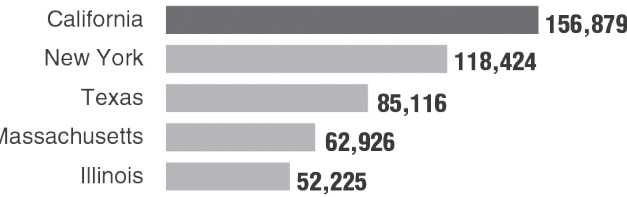
Institute officials were diplomatic, and repeatedly declined to pinpoint President Donald Trump’s hard-edged attitudes

International student enrollment

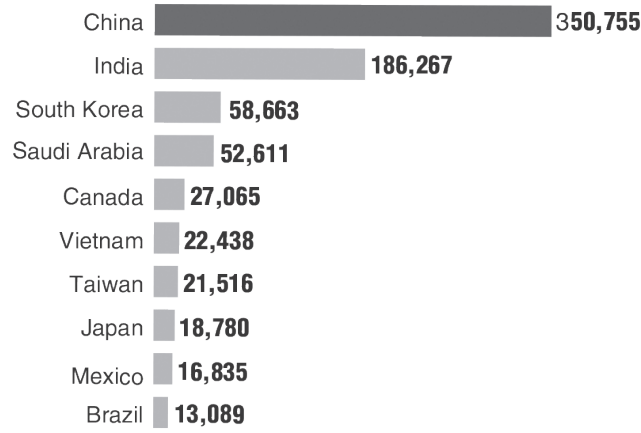
First-time enrollment of foreign students in U.S. colleges dipped last year.



Top U.S. states hosting international students*



Top places of origin of international students*



*All figures for 2016-17 academic year
Source: Institute of International Education

Graphic: Los Angeles Times/TNS

toward immigration and foreign visitors from countries he considers sponsors of terrorism.

“It really is much too soon for us yet to tell what is the definitive factor,” said Allan E. Good-

man, the institute’s president. He said U.S. institutions need to redouble efforts to recruit more foreign students because they enrich campuses and collectively contributed \$39 billion to the U.S. economy this past year.

“It’s a very healthy ... wake-up call,” Goodman said.

Overall, the number of international students in the United States went up by 3 percent, signaling a slowdown in what used to be double-digit growth. Institute officials said other countries, notably Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom, are recruiting foreign students more aggressively. Trump’s travel ban and fears of crime also appeared to be factors, they said. But only 20 percent of institutions surveyed in the smaller sample said international students had expressed a desire to leave the country because of the social and political climate.

California remained the most popular destination for foreign students, but new enrollment declined by 2.8 percent in 2016-17. The state’s share of first-time foreign students could decline further since the 10-campus University of California system limited its international and out-of-state students for the first time and raised tuition by 2.5 percent this year.

More than 200 countries sent students to the United States, a record high. China was the top country of origin in California and nationally — by far. Four-fifths of campuses surveyed in the smaller sample said they were working to integrate them better into campus life with language support and address issues of “academic integrity.”

Keywords important to get accurate searches

By Jennifer Barrera
Staff Reporter

Keywords are critical when researching onweb-sourced information sites, a Highline librarian told last week’s Science Seminar.

Alison Reibel, is a writer and co-founder of the Social Justice Library Conference and has a master’s in library science.

“I’m going to be talking about how Google works, how you can search information and problems including bias,” Reibel said.

A search engine is designed to search for information when a person types in specific words and is going to get results based on those keywords.

“When typing the first word [in an internet search] and getting the result, [much happens] in that millisecond in between the process and getting the results,” she said.

Reibel went step-by-step about what goes on in the millisecond before getting the results.



Allison Reibel

The first step, is analyzing your words because Google will try to match the keywords. It does this by sending web crawlers that search the internet by clicking on different web sites and scanning words. The web crawlers determine which pages have the keywords and how often they appear.

“After that is ranking the pages that are going to be useful for me,” Reibel said.

The next step, ranking a page, involves a Black Box algo-

rithm that looks for how many times the keywords appear on a page, how many people have clicked on the web page, and how many web pages have been linked to that page.

“The greater the number of links is a sign that it is more reliable,” Reibel said.

Next, Google considers context. This is where the search engine looks at who’s doing the search in order to personalize and customize the information for that person based upon where the person is located, past searches and other websites that person has visited.

“Google knows who’s the user by searching in Chrome, Gmail or other Google accounts,” Reibel said. “This is compiled when using your phone, laptop or computer.”

The final step, is returning results. It involves providing information that is most helpful to that person’s search. Based on that keywords Google is look-

ing for, a type of format is used that is going to give news, maps, videos or statistics.

Reibel then explain how one can use Google more effectively.

The first step, she said, is to determine what type format you are looking for: news, statistics or articles. This is done by using Google Advance Search to narrow the search through the use of keywords and limiting by format types.

One of the problems Google has, has been a bias based on not knowing which pages are going to be free of stereotypes should your keywords have alternate meanings.

Reibel said alternative search engines to Google include Duckduckgo, Incognito/ private browser and the Wayback Machine.

This was the last Science Seminar for the year. The seminars will resume in sometime during Winter Quarter, said Chemistry professor Aaron Moehlig.

Alumni bring STREAM to community

By David Slettevold
Staff Reporter

Advancing the technical training of local kids is the goal of a pair identical twins who once attended Highline.

For Adam and Andrew Powers, founders of Key Tech Labs, hands-on learning works best.

The pair are currently focusing on the Midway Elementary and Pacific Ridge areas of Des Moines, which are the most poverty-stricken areas of the city.

"It's one of the most 'in need' communities," Adam Powers said. "Last September we did reach out to Des Moines to help add value to the Midway area."

Powers said his method is different because he promotes a teaching system called STREAM, which stands for Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art and Math.

"For each one of those, we have a special project," he said.

Powers said that those projects include working with microcomputers, building and working with a 3-D printer, and even using virtual reality, or VR, technology.

"Students will build a one-minute VR film about an elder in our community," he said. "Anybody will be able to walk in their shoes."

Recently, the twins have received a grant of \$3,250 from the Port of Seattle for a project called the Farmbot, which will be assembled by middle schoolers and used to manage a community garden in Pacific Ridge.



Key Tech Lab photo

Adam (left) and Andrew (right) Powers are getting younger students involved in STREAM.

"It is a robot; it will pour water and seed a garden by itself," he said.

Powers said that the robot is an open-source machine, which means anyone who wants one can get blueprints to build one themselves.

"They [the creators] want it to be built anywhere, so anyone in a community can build one," he said.

Powers said he thinks Pacific

Ridge is a great place for the robot due to the lack of fresh food available in the area.

But for this to happen, he's had a lot of help from Highline and the college's community. Powers used a program at Highline called StartZone, which helps its clients organize their business and teaches owners about what it takes to run a company. He also wants to participate in other Highline pro-

grams.

"I was going to talk at Black and Brown Male Summit," he said.

But his company didn't have enough funds ahead of time, Powers said. He plans on presenting next year at the event.

Powers said he has more important goals for the Des Moines area.

"The ultimate goal is to bring a makerspace to this communi-

ty," he said.

A makerspace is an area that young people go to in order to practice coding, 3-D printing, robotics, and small electronics. Filled with small tables and guides, it is a place children can go to in order to gain technical knowledge from real experts.

Powers said places like this are important because of a new movement created during the Obama administration called the Tech-Hire Initiative. It helped give at-risk communities electronic and computer science education for companies that needed more employees.

He said that these programs work and help give opportunities to those that had none.

"There are so many programs that if you want a job at Microsoft and Google...there is a pipeline," Powers said.

However, he sees some problems with the current system.

"These don't help students that need STEM now," he said. "I have a 3-year-old, so I'm thinking about his future."

For those who want to help, Powers said there's an easy place to start.

"No. 1, volunteer. We would love volunteers. I don't have enough of them," he said.

Powers said the major thing that is holding his program back is that he has very few teachers.

"There's so much we need. We have room for teachers and volunteers," he said.

If you want to learn more, visit www.keytechlabs.org or email at info@keytechlabs.org.

South Africa turns painful history into tourism draw

By Stephen Springer
Staff Reporter

Institutionalized racism is an uncomfortable history that countries around the world have to deal with, and the way in which they deal with that history is as varied as the languages they speak.

In an attempt to tell its story of institutionalized racism, South Africa has taken the unusual approach of marketing its struggle with apartheid as a tourist attraction, Dr. Jennifer Jones, a Highline geography professor told last week's History Seminar audience.

The first permanent European colony named Cape Colony in South Africa was founded in 1652 by Jan Van Riebeeck, a Dutch national who represented the East India Co.

"For many South Africans under the apartheid era, that is when history begins... there's nothing worth knowing about before 1652," Dr. Jones said.

Dutch immigrants who moved to South Africa named themselves Afrikaners, which translates to "the true people of Africa." These immigrants from Holland used religion to legitimize their claim to South Africa by declaring it their promised land and themselves as God's chosen people.

Because of the Afrikaners, religious beliefs, native Africans were forced to decide between death and slavery.

Dutch rule continued until the British arrived and seized Cape Colony in 1795 and by 1806, the British ruled over the Dutch settlers.

"To this day, there is friction between the [Dutch and British] and it dates back to the British coming in and taking over the land," Dr. Jones said. "And they did something that the Dutch settlers could not forgive the British for, which is to abolish slavery."

The Afrikaners, being upset with this situation, retreated inland, making what was called

the Great Trek around 1835 to 1840 to escape British rule. The Afrikaners who survived, founded Transvaal and Orange Free State.

In the mid- and late 1800s, the largest diamond mine in the world was discovered in Kimberley and gold in Transvaal.

These discoveries prompted the British to wage two wars against the Dutch called the Boer Wars.

After the Boer Wars, British and Dutch colonies consolidated their power into the Union of South Africa to exploit African labor in the gold and diamond mines.

The exploitation of labor was achieved through what was "called the Land Act of 1913... that meant no African black person could own land outside of special reserves," Dr. Jones said. "It ended up being that 87 percent of the population were limited to 13 percent of the land."

Afrikaners, who were still

not satisfied, founded the Purified Afrikaner National Party to gain governmental control and institute apartheid. After a long strategy to place party members at every level of government, they won the national election in 1948 "and ran on the slogan of apartheid," Dr. Jones said.

In 1950, the Population Registration Act was passed which issued identification cards based on race.

Later that year, "White supremacy becomes the law of the land," Dr. Jones said. This led to segregation everywhere from public facilities to benches.

Laws passed regarding racial segregation caused resistance movements that were violently suppressed through government force. In 1964, resistance leaders were arrested for treason, including Nelson Mandela, who was sentenced to life in prison.

After 27 years of brutality including the forced relocation of 3 million people, revolts and

a state of emergency where laws could be "made up on the spot," apartheid ended, Dr. Jones said.

Mandela was freed in 1990, and went on to win the presidency in the first non-racial elections in 1994. South Africa adopted "one of the most progressive constitutions in the world today," said Dr. Jones.

"So now what do you do? You've got all this history that people have lived through. ... One of the things they did was create apartheid museums," Dr. Jones said.

Many museums were opened, including Robben Island, where Mandela was imprisoned; an immersive museum in Johannesburg that is experienced differently depending on a random assignment of race before the tour; and District 6, which was one of the areas impacted by the forced relocation of black Africans.

History Seminar is on hiatus for Winter Quarter and will return in spring.

Jessica Lotz helps students through MaST

By Alexis Morales
Staff Reporter

Growing up in Kansas, Jessica Lotz said she believed she would go into dentistry.

So much for best laid plans.

Upon receiving her Bachelor's of Science degree in organismal biology at the University of Kansas, she's found herself in Washington pursuing marine science and education.

The teeth she sees today are in the bright smiles of students exploring Puget Sound creatures.

Lotz is an AmeriCorps Educational Outreach coordinator for Highline's Marine Science and Technology Center at Redondo in Des Moines. Her journey with the MaST Center began a year ago when she began volunteering and interning with the center's jelly team, helping to raise so-called jellyfish.

"I ended up interning and working with the education staff to do these education outreach programs," Lotz said.

Lotz's job at the MaST Center is to promote environmental protection by engaging the community and students, letting them know about the Puget Sound including its overall health, the animals, and how humans are affecting the ecosystem.

Interning for the education programs is what inspired Lotz to then apply for AmeriCorps,



Alexis Morales/THUNDERWORD

Jessica Lotz turned a prospective career in dentistry into one in marine and science education.

an opportunity for individuals to commit to serve their communities all over the nation. AmeriCorps is a way for graduates to gain experience in the workforce, make connections and get involved with the communities.

Members not only gain experience and training, but are given health benefits, living allowances and an education

award upon completion to help students pay for college and help repay student loans.

"The AmeriCorps is often referred to as like a domestic Peace Corps. It's a way to serve your community," Lotz said. "It helps you build a resume [that] in a lot of ways would take years to do otherwise, because you get so much experience."

Lotz said she knew she wanted

to make a meaningful impact wherever it was she went. Working with kids has given her that special difference she can make, by informing them about marine life and encouraging them to care of their environment.

"I have found such satisfaction in environmental education," Lotz said. "I feel as though I'm making a difference that can last through many gen-

erations rather than just temporarily."

Working with the education staff, Lotz works with kids from preschool to college students, in events such as career nights and local high schools where she gives students jaw-dropping information on why it's important to get involved in marine science.

Lotz is also in charge of booking field trips and educational programs for students and schools in the community for opportunities to sink their teeth into marine life.

"[They're all about] giving students more hands-on experience and learning, a lot of times getting to do some kind of activities with the animals," Lotz said.

It wasn't until she began interning with the MaST program that Lotz began to realize working with students is what she wanted to do. Hearing the children dreaming of being ocean heroes and wanting to do something about protecting the ocean has been her motivation.

"I do love biology and I want to keep being involved with it, but I think it's really important to educate the community," Lotz said. "I never knew I wanted to do education, but now that I'm involved with it, it's like my favorite thing ever. I'm super happy every day coming to work."

Highline holding annual food drive for holiday season

By Jake Cassaday
Staff Reporter

It's not uncommon this time of year to hear calls to assist the poor. But poverty is year-round and hunger takes no holiday.

Highline Print Shop manager Dave Weber has helped coordinate a food drive on campus for twenty years that knows no season.

Every year between Thanksgiving time and mid-December, barrels are placed around campus to collect non-perishable food from students and faculty. It's an important contribution to helping the least among us, but Weber can't stress enough how imperative it is that these people need food all year-round instead of just the holiday times.

"The truth of the matter is that donations aren't just needed around the holidays, like Thanksgiving and Christmas time. It's needed all year-round so I've made myself available all the time so that it's a perpetual collection of food for the needy," Weber said.

And he knows of what he speaks. Weber has been a member of Highline faculty for



Tayah Farmer/THUNDERWORD

Dave Weber has been doing a food drive at Highline for 20 years.

twenty three years and has been involved with collecting donations for the Des Moines Area Food Bank for twenty years.

Although he didn't start the collection effort, Weber jumped in because he wanted to find a way to volunteer and contribute

to a good cause.

Weber said he enjoys volunteering and said that it is easy work to do what makes such a big impact on people who need these supplies.

So, year-round he collects non-perishable food and transports it to the food bank. He also collects gently-used clothing and delivers that to the Seattle Union Gospel Mission.

He makes a trip every time the bed of his pick-up truck is full and said he's made about 15 to 20 trips to the respective locations in the past year and a half.

But he wouldn't be able to sustain this without the help of his cohorts. Whether it be the winter or spring faculty luncheon, there's always a raffle to raise funds. Highline staff and faculty tap their resources to produce prize baskets to be raffled off. Participants have a choice: donate an item and get a ticket outright, or make a monetary donation.

Either way, the goal is to raise \$2,000 for the day to keep the shelves stocked at the food bank. Weber said the actual take from these events will range anywhere between \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Weber also paid tribute to the student workers in the Print Shop for playing a big role in helping run around barrels all over campus and then picking up the donations.

Highline is also in the midst of establishing a Food Pantry on campus to bring some of the functions of the local food bank directly to the Highline community.

"Having a food pantry on campus would help take the pressure off the Des Moines Food Bank. [It] also widens the exposure for more people to donate," Weber said.

Weber said anyone can bring non-perishable food or gently-used clothing anytime to Building 16, room 132 (the Print Shop) whenever the shop is open.

**Got news?
We've got
space.
thunderword@
highline.edu**

Check out fun local events

Look into any of these festive events to make fun memories and get in the holiday spirit this season.

- The Seattle Symphony will be performing a Holiday



Winter Dorval

Hooray Tiny Tots concert this weekend.

This family concert is geared toward the younger members of the family (5 and younger).

With interactive games and stories these 35 minute concerts are perfect for the weekend.

For tickets and more information visit www.seattlesymphony.org.

- The Holiday Pops concert returns to Benaroya Hall this weekend.

This festive concert will include *Silent Night*, *I'll be home for Christmas* and other classics.

The address is 200 University Street, Seattle.

The Dec. 8 and 9 performances are at 8 p.m. The matinee is on Dec. 10 at 2 p.m.

For tickets and more information visit www.seattlesymphony.org.

- The Tacoma City ballet dances *The Nutcracker* and *The Hard Nut* this season.

The show will run Dec. 15-23.

It will be at the Federal Way Performing Arts Center, 31510 Pete von Reichbauer Way S., Federal Way.

This will be the first time the Tacoma City Ballet performs *The Nutcracker* and *The Tale of the Hard Nut* alongside each other.

For showtimes, tickets, and more information visit www.tacomacityballet.com/performance-season/.

- Burien's Momentum Dance Ensemble will be performing a variety show on Dec. 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. The dancers range in skill level, style of dance, and age.

The performance will be at the Highline Performing Arts Center, 401 S. 152nd St., Burien. For tickets and more information visit app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=mmda.

- Momentum in Burien will host A Muppet's Christmas Carol. The performance will take place at 14006 1st Ave. S., Burien.

For tickets and more information visit app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=mmda

Theater renovations aim to revamp downtown Des Moines

By **Lezlie Wolff**
Staff Reporter

Developers want to shake up the Des Moines Theater on Marine View Drive, before the building gets shaken apart by an earthquake.

The Des Moines Theater and retail space, at 22325 Marine View Drive, has been closed for years and is now being restored.

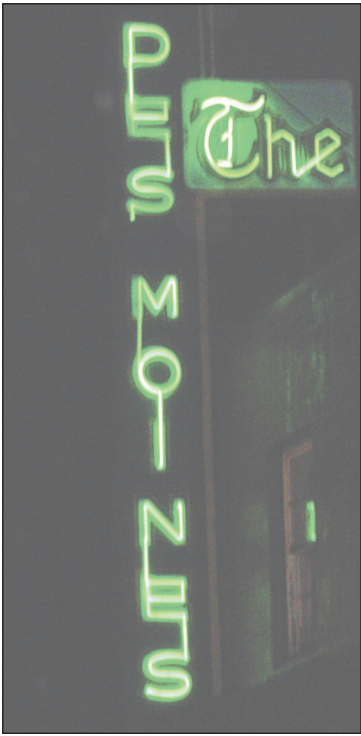
The theater project began about two and a half years ago when a Spokane developer and artist, Dan Spalding, asked friend Jefferson Angell to look for some interesting properties on this side of the mountains in which to invest, Angell said.

Spalding's main game is preserving older historic buildings, re-imagining them in a way that actually maintains the history, culture, and is useful, exciting, and forward thinking, he said.

The Des Moines Theater "is the one that caught my eye," Angell said.

The three partners, including musician Benjamin Andersen, got the building and it was more expensive than they anticipated, Angell said.

"I could see why other people didn't make it work before, because, I think they didn't realize



The Des Moines Theater sign.

this building needs a complete seismic retrofit," he said.

"That hurts because the building's been here since 1945, through three major earthquakes and doesn't show a single crack anywhere," Angell said.

The developers have to bring the entire thing up to code, which doubles the price for construction, he said.

Digging deeper and deeper to see what they could do to

save the building with a solution that would work, Angell said, meant "leaving a lot of money on the table to do it right."

They are considering making the theater a non-profit for the benefits that that will help offset some of the construction costs, he said.

In their plans for the building, which people can see on the theater windows, show lower and upper income apartments as well as quality retail space, he said.

There are people from the Seattle music scene that have flags stuck in the dirt down here, Angell said.

"A lot of the Pearl Jam guys in West Seattle and in Normandy Park and stuff like that," he said.

"The vision is to preserve the cool old building and theater," Angell said.

Angell and his partners acknowledge that the theater belongs to the city of Des Moines, he said.

When this one-of-a-kind building gets restored, it will attract people from other communities, Angell said.

Culture is something they talk about every time they talk about the theater direction,

Spalding said.

"I think it's vital," he said.

"Fostering a culture around music or something that feeds into the concept of community," Spalding said, is their vision.

"There might be people in Des Moines who decide they want to see some music, so they go to Seattle. We're hoping that they decide to stay here," Angell said.

It's all geared for people who want to be around art, live music, and have dinner down here, he said.

"I think that this building will be a catalyst to show that people [in Des Moines] have vision," Angell said.

Creative people will start looking to Des Moines as a place for them to give their ideas a shot, he said.

Mayor Matt Pina thinks the plans for the Des Moines Theater update is evidence of the Des Moines renaissance in action, he said.

"It's a new day here," Pina said. "There's a lot of opportunity for people moving here," he said.

The potential is now and this theater is evidence of that, Pina said.

He sees Des Moines as the city that realized its potential.

Rainier symphony on top of the pops

By **Kyli Pigg**
Staff Reporter

Nostalgia will be front and center when the Rainier Symphony presents its annual Holiday Spectacular concert next month.

The performance happens on Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. at the Foster Performing Arts Center, 4242 S. 144th St. in Tukwila.

This show not only features favorite songs from Christmas movies and Christmas carols but you can expect to hear more

than that, said Jeff Lund, music director for the Rainier Symphony.

"The piece we're doing on our concert is kind of a stand out piece that is associated with the holidays," said Lund. "More music of all the seasons, not just Christmas carols."

"We wanted to do music that would be in the theme of the holidays," Lund said.

"We have a lot of classical music that is associated with the holidays, but not the kind of things you hear on TV commercials."

Lund said these choices of pieces really embody his feeling about the holiday season.

"Around Christmas time it's really easy to get very nostalgic and when we get nostalgic, sometimes that is really happy memories and sometimes it's kind of bittersweet like you miss the days that have long passed," Lund said.

This show will feature a piece called, *October*, which is sure to get you in the spirit of the season Lund said.

"It's bittersweet to get older and watch the changing of the

seasons again. And I think this piece, *October*, really taps into that sense of nostalgia," Lund said.

"It's very beautiful, but it's also kind of sad."

Tickets are free for children 12 and younger, \$12 for seniors and students (13 and older) with ID, and \$17 for general admission.

Tickets for this concert are available at the door and online at brownpapertickets.com.

For more information, go to rainiersymphony.org or call (206) 781-5618.

Open Mic club seeks song, dance, poetry

By **Jennifer Barrera**
Staff Reporter

Highline Underground Open Mic is for students who like to sing, dance, rap or read poetry.

It's also an entertainment venue.

"Highline Underground Open Mic Club was created for students who want to ex-

press themselves through different forms of art," said Tevita Tupou, president.

Highline Underground Open Mic offers students a chance to express themselves through singing, dancing, rap or reading poetry.

Also, it is an opportunity to share what they have created with a broader evidence.

The Open Mic Club was

created by going around Seattle to see similar events.

Open Mic club then took inspiration from them and found it's structure.

The club meets every Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m.

The club meetings are open and if a student is going to perform and they want feedback or they want to practice, they can get help.

Club meetings are in Building 8, on the third floor.

Highline Underground Open Mic performances are held every last Friday of each month in Building 4, room 109.

"It starts at 3 p.m. We are going to know when to end the meeting depending on how many people are about to perform," Tupou said.

Find comedy under the tree in ‘The Christmas Carol Rag’ at the Burien Actors Theater

By Winter Dorval
Staff Reporter

Laugh off the stress of holiday shopping at the Burien Actors Theater this weekend with *The Christmas Carol Rag*.

This show is a comedy and musical all in one, running from Dec. 8 to 23.

“The Christmas Carol Rag is a Northwest premiere. It has not been produced at any theater in the Northwest, so it is new to the Burien Actors Theater,” said Eric Dickman the Artistic director.

Calen Winn is the stage director, and Elizabeth Bender is the musical director.

“This season BAT decided to try a musical comedy at the Holidays. This show is both fun and has a message of inclusiveness that we all seem to need right now,” said Dickman.

It also fits within BAT’s sea-

son theme, which is to explore social issues through comedy,” said Dickman.

This musical comedy is set in 1910.

“People should come see this show to get a break from the stress of the season. To laugh and enjoy the spectacle that is live theater. To be together with people experiencing the same event,” said Dickman.

Parking is free at the venue.

The address is 14501 4th Ave. S.W., Burien.

Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Matinees are on Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$17 for seniors and active military, \$10 for students, and \$12 for groups of 12 or more.

For tickets and more information, visit burienactorstheatre.org/shows/current-season/christmas-carol-rag.



Michael Brunk Photo

Actors in The Christmas Carol Rag at Burien Actors Theatre.

Festive fairytales meet holidays

By Winter Dorval
Staff Reporter

If you want to learn about the fairytales behind each of the gifts of Christmas, head to the Renton Civic Theater to see the premiere of 12 Days of Christmas, a new holiday musical.

“I was asked by a theater in Germany who had done a production of my Zorro musical to do another show with them,” said Robert Cabell, author and composer of the show.

“I didn’t have a show that I thought would be good for their theater so they asked if I had ever written a Christmas Carol that they could include in their annual Christmas concert and I said, ‘sorry, I have never written one,’” he said.

“Then they called back and asked if I would like to write a Christmas song for their concert, and I said ‘I don’t write one-off songs, I write full blown musicals.’ They called back and asked if I would be interested in writing a brand-new Christmas musical and I said yes,” he said.

Robert Cabell is from New York City, and this will be his first play in the Seattle area.

“It is very loving and funny and all about family and the spirit of Christmas but in a way you have never seen. It’s full of surprises,” said Cabell.

The musical contains 15 songs.

There is one solo, along with multiple duets and production numbers.

“The show is an ensemble play where everyone has a lead role in one or more songs so they are all equally talented and each a principal in the show in one song and chorus in the next,” Cabell said.

The cast consists of 12 Christmas carolers, and their director Paula Linnes.

“First they had to be able to sing. Then we tested for creativity by doing improv to see what they could bring to the stage as an actor. If you say to an actor ‘give me a crazy old lady’, and they can’t, you need someone who can,” w said.

The show is around 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

“I don’t think there is anything out there for Christmas quite like this. Its Honk meets Once Upon a Mattress with lots of tinsel,” Cabell said.

Showings will run from Dec. 8 to 23.

Times are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

The address is 507 S. 3rd. St., Renton.

Tickets are \$22 to 25 depending on which seats you choose.

To purchase tickets and for more information visit rentoncivictheatre.org.

Light up your holiday with Lantern Festival at Puyallup

By Natalie Moeller
Staff Reporter

Future Northwest Christmas season holiday traditions may take on a distinctly Asian flavor if the current Lantern Light Festival in Puyallup is successful.

The event features thousands of lanterns depicting everything from Chinese structures to a gigantic lighted dragon.

Included in the experience are activities such as Chinese cuisine, face painting, mining for emeralds, souvenirs, miniature golf, fireworks, dragon rides, inflatables, virtual reality rides, a Forbidden City maze, and even lion rides.

“The event is full of lights, music, acrobats as well as activities for the children such as bouncy houses and mini golf,” said the Seattle show manager, Tracey Beastly.

The Lantern Festival is traditionally associated with the Chinese Lunar New Year that takes place in late January/early February.

However, this event travels to many different cities and states year-around so it doesn’t strictly adhere to the Chinese calendar.

Those who attend can expect to be dazzled by lights, colors, shapes, and themes of Chinese culture.

“The culture around the Chinese New Year is so beautiful. We travel to many places to give people the opportunity to experience this culture with-



Lantern Light Festival Photo

A child by one of the handmade attractions at the Lantern Festival.

out having to travel to China,” Beastly said.

This tradition began more than 2,000 years ago when the emperor of China, Hanmingdi, discovered that monks lit lanterns in the temples in a religious act to show respect to Buddha on the 15th day of the first lunar month.

The emperor demanded all households and temples to light lanterns on that evening.

Today, the Lantern Light Festival is being produced by Pinnacle Productions of Minnesota and is a new venture for the company.

“We are trying to make this an annual event, but it is new to our company,” he said. “It’s been difficult for us to find space that we can use for our 8-week-long show.

Puyallup fairgrounds was very generous with their space,”

Beastly said.

The Lantern Light Festival will continue to Jan. 7 at the Washington State Fair Events Center, 110 9th Ave. S.W. in Puyallup.

Beginning Dec. 14 the festival will be open through Jan. 7, but will close early at 9 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

It will be open Christmas Day and on New Year’s Eve, Dec. 31, hours will extend to 1 a.m. the next day.

The festival will be closed on New Year’s Day and until Jan. 5 when it reopens for the final weekend.

Tickets for the Lantern Light Festival range from \$18 to \$23 online and are available at the box office up until 45 minutes before closing.

For tickets and specific daily schedules, go to lanternlightfestival.com/seattle/.

Men's basketball drops three straight

By Andrew LaChapelle
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's basketball team lost all three games they played this weekend.

The T-Birds played the Seattle Mountaineers on Friday night at the Thunderdome in a game where Highline found themselves down big twice in the game.

Both times the T-Birds battled back, but it was not enough as the Mountaineers won the game by a score of 83-80.

With less than a minute left in regulation and Highline down 1, the Mountaineers missed a three-point attempt yet came up with the rebound, which forced Highline to foul.

Mountaineers player Djuan Miller missed the front end of the one and one yet Highline once again could not come up with the rebound, forcing Highline to foul again. Highline had one more chance with a desperation three-point attempt that came up short, ending the game.

Head Coach Che Dawson said his team needs to improve on securing rebounds in clutch situations.

"Part of it is initiating contact and moving the offensive



Jack Harton Photo

Desmond Hudson goes up for a close up jump shot.

player away from the basket. A lot of it is toughness and a sense

of urgency going and getting the ball," said Dawson.

Weston Vandenhazel led the T-Birds in scoring with 16 while securing 11 rebounds. Both Steffun Singleton and Antaveus Brown also contributed some impressive athletic scoring plays.

Dawson said both Brown and Singleton have flashes of good play but need to understand their roles.

"Steffun can score, but has to be more concerned about quarterbacking the team and getting other guys in position to score first.

Antaveus needs to work hard on the glass defensively and knock down open threes," Dawson said.

Travis Rice came off the bench and hit some clutch three point shots with 9 of his 11 points coming from three-point range.

"Travis is one of the guys we have who can really shoot the three," said Dawson.

Dawson said the T-Birds have not played to their ability thus far.

"We aren't playing for each other and we lack patience offensively," he said.

David Harris also agreed that the T-Birds oftentimes don't play to their potential.

"Sometimes it seems like we have to get beat up and pushed around to wake up and play to

our potential," said Harris.

Last Saturday the T-Birds faced off against Everett in a game that was not even close from the start. Everett shot out to a 49-26 lead at halftime.

The Trojans were led in scoring by guard Conner Moffatt, who dropped 42 points. The T-Birds picked up the intensity in the second half but it was too little, too late as Everett took home the victory with a score of 101-74.

Dawson said his team needs to learn it will take a complete effort to be successful in the NWAC.

"We better understand really quick that winning games at this level takes work for 40 minutes," said Dawson.

In the final game of the weekend the T-Birds faced off against Edmonds College in a back and forth contest. The Tritons sealed the victory in the last minute with a final score of 83-80.

Highline was led by David Harris, who dropped 20 points, along with a double-double by Steffun Singleton, who had 12 points with 11 assists.

Highline's next game is tomorrow vs. Skagit Valley at 1 p.m. at the Bellevue tournament located at Bellevue College.

Men's wrestling wins two despite forfeits

By Alli Hand
Staff Reporter

Highline's wrestling team earned its first victories, against Warner Pacific and Southwestern Oregon, last weekend.

At the Clackamas Duals last Saturday, Highline defeated Warner Pacific 39-6, defeated Southwestern Oregon 32-19, and fell to Clackamas 34-24.

The matches were marked with many forfeits but Highline won enough to come out the victor in two of the meets.

"We are finding out that a few of the other teams are pretty banged up as well. This opened the door up for several forfeits," said Head Coach Scott Norton on the wrestling webpage.

Against Warner Pacific there were a total of six forfeits and four matches. Of those four matches, Highline won all of them.

Austin Lister, wrestling in the 133-pound weight class, faced Logan Higganbottom and won 18-3 in a technical fall.

In an exhibition round, Patrick Wheeler won by fall in the 133-pound weight class.

At 157, Liam Corbett defeated Zhack Carrie by fall to assist

in Highline's victory over Warner Pacific.

Ben Gore, wrestling at 174 pounds, won against Jessie Johnson, 11-1.

Against Southwestern Oregon, there were six forfeits and three matches, which were all won by Highline.

Wrestling in the 125-pound weight class, Jacob Mendoza defeated Francisco Barrera 5-1. Lister, at 133, beat Christian Balgeso.

Ben Gore at 174 pounds, and Mitchell Owens at 184 pounds both won their matches as well to give Highline the victory.

During the Clackamas meet there was six matches and four forfeits.

Highline's Jacob Mendoza began the meet with a win in the 125-pound weight class.

At 157 pounds, Corbett was beaten by Isaiah Diggs 15-6.

Later in the meet Emmanuel Daigbe was moved up to heavyweight and forfeited the 197-pound weight class, giving Highline a chance to win over Clackamas. However, Daigbe was put in a headlock and defeated.

Highline's wrestling team will face Umpqua tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Pavillion.



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Outsized and outrebounded

Highline women’s basketball team struggles against taller opponents

By Donnie Moore
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds struggled this weekend, going 0-4. The losing streak started when they played Everett, losing 83-64. Peightyn Perrien led the team with 12 points followed by Aileen Kaye and Aolani Medrano with 11 points each.

“The players are working hard; I knew we were going to have some challenges because of our size and depth,” said Head Coach Daimen Crump.

In most categories Everett out played Highline, having a higher three-point percentage and field goal percentage as well.

“In the game against Everett, we just had too many turnovers and could not score” said Coach Crump.

The Thunderbirds were never able to get their footing in the game against Umpqua, losing 83-34, only managing as a team to score eight points per quarter for the first three.

Outsized, Highline was able to get 31 rebounds compared to Umpqua’s 46 rebounds

“We are getting outrebound every single game by double digits and we need to be a better ball handling team,” he said.

“Bellevue tournament was a good chance for us to see, where we needed to be in order to be competitive,” said Coach Crump.



Peightyn Perrien shoots a three aginast Umpqua.

Jack Harton photo

Highline continued to be outsized against North Idaho, losing 91-67. Jasmine Martinez was able to secure 15 points followed by Sharon Ajayi with 13 points.

“North Idaho, we played them tough for three quarters but the second quarter they put a press on us and we just turned the ball over. We had 35 turn-

overs,” said Coach Crump.

Highline managed to have a higher field goal percentage than North Idaho, while North Idaho outrebound Highline by 12, 42-30.

“Everyone works hard and they believe they can do better, they see their weaknesses and are trying to fix them,” said Coach Crump.

In the game against Bellevue, Highline was able to be more competitive keeping the loss within 10, 74-66. Sharon Ajayi got 17 points on the night, keeping Highline in it for most of the game.

The Thunderbirds next pre-season games are at Shoreline College over a three-day span of

3835
4514

Scoreboard

Women’s Basketball

WEST		
Team	League	Season
Lower Columbia	0-0	5-1
S Puget Sound	0-0	4-1
Grays Harbor	0-0	4-1
Green River	0-0	3-2
Centralia	0-0	2-2
Pierce	0-0	2-5
Highline	0-0	1-4
Tacoma	0-0	0-0
EAST		
Team	League	Season
Big Bend	0-0	4-0
Spokane	0-0	2-0
Yakima Valley	0-0	5-1
Wenatchee Valley	0-0	4-1
Walla Walla	0-0	4-1
North Idaho	0-0	4-2
Treasure Valley	0-0	2-2
Columbia Basin	0-0	2-3
Blue Mountain	0-0	0-4
NORTH		
Team	League	Season
Everett	0-0	4-0
Bellevue	0-0	4-2
Whatcom	0-0	2-2
Edmonds	0-0	1-2
Olympic	0-0	1-4
Peninsula	0-0	0-2
Skagit Valley	0-0	0-2
Shoreline	0-0	0-4
SOUTH		
Team	League	Season
Lane	0-0	4-0
Umpqua	0-0	7-0
Clackamas	0-0	4-1
Portland	0-0	3-2
Linn-Benton	0-0	3-3
Mt. Hood	0-0	1-5
SW Oregon	0-0	1-5
Chemeketa	0-0	0-4
Clark	0-0	0-4

Men’s Basketball

WEST		
Team	League	Season
S Puget Sound	0-0	4-1
Lower Columbia	0-0	4-2
Centralia	0-0	2-2
Tacoma	0-0	2-3
Pierce	0-0	1-3
Green River	0-0	2-6
EAST		
Team	League	Season
Walla Walla	0-0	4-1
North Idaho	0-0	3-1
Yakima Valley	0-0	4-2
Spokane	0-0	4-2
Wenatchee Valley	0-0	2-2
Treasure Valley	0-0	2-3
Bid Bend	0-0	2-4
NORTH		
Team	League	Season
Bellevue	0-0	5-1
Everett	0-0	6-2
Edmonds	0-0	3-1
Olympic	0-0	4-2
Whatcom	0-0	5-3
Peninsula	0-0	3-3
SOUTH		
Team	League	Season
Lane	0-0	4-0
Portland	1-0	9-0
Chemeketa	0-0	5-1
Linn-Benton	0-0	4-2
Clackamas	0-0	4-2
Clark	0-0	2-2
Umpqua	0-0	2-2
SW Oregon	0-0	3-3

Money cannot buy equality or silence

By Donnie Moore
Staff Reporter

In reaction to recent protests during the National Anthem, the NFL has offered to pay out \$89 million to “African American” causes.

This move has some players convinced that they should stop protesting. One of those players is the co-founder of the players’ coalition, Philadelphia Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins.

The coalition was first formed by five players and represents some 40 players who are participating in the protest. Jenkins is the only player in the coalition who has agreed to stop after the NFL’s offer.

“I know a lot of people have kind of made a big deal about the money that the league has proposed, but I’m more concerned and more interested in the platform they’re proposing,” he said. “The reason I started raising my fist in the first place is to draw awareness to injustices in this country, disenfranchised people of color. I wanted to draw awareness.

“And so, I think what the league is proposing is a platform and a campaign similar to what

Moore to think about

Donnie Moore

they’ve done with breast cancer awareness, My Cause, My Cleats, Salute to Service, but hopefully in an even bigger manner.”

Jenkins’ point of view is one of value.

The money would be divided as such: 25 percent of the funds would go to the United Negro College Fund, 25 percent to Dream Corps and 50 percent to

the Players Coalition to decide.

The breakdown of the money if you were to divide it by the 32 teams in the league and divide that by seven years, which is what is proposed, it would come up to \$397,321 per owner per year. To put that in perspective, the owners made \$222.6 million in revenue in 2016.

The money that would be used is already being allocated for the breast cancer awareness and salute to service and both would see a reduction.

Another member of the players’ coalition has been very outspoken about not stopping the protest. Eric Reid recently removed himself from the players’ coalition, because he felt that Jenkins was misrepresenting the ideas and causes behind the protest.

What the NFL is doing by offering this money, while in theory a kind-hearted gesture, is asking players to stop bringing attention to issues that would not stop with this money. The money won’t stop black and brown people from being disproportionately stopped by the police or incarcerated.

The ideas that started the protest is that the treatment of black and brown people in

America, which is often horrendous, and players felt something should be done.

We must remember that the NFL is a multibillion-dollar corporation that gets massive tax deductions and dollars from federal and local governments.

“Overall, taxpayers have spent nearly \$3 billion on the 16 stadiums that will host NFL games during the season’s opening weekend. And over the past couple of decades, we’ve given NFL teams nearly \$7 billion total in aid for their stadiums,” said Patrice Lee of Watchdog.org, about the NFL in 2015.

The NFL may have really just put this deal together to keep the president from pushing Congress to stop giving federal tax breaks to the organization.

If the NFL truly cared about affecting change, they would pressure local and federal governments to change laws that disproportionately targeting black and brown people.

What should we expect of a company only worried about the bottom line? The NFL themselves are not to blame for the protest, but will have to use their power to influence the change for the protests to stop.

Students want friends, family for holidays

By Mitchell Roland
Staff Reporter

It's Christmas time, and that means that it's time to either brave the lines at the mall or go shopping online to find gifts for the loved ones in your life.

Highline students reflected on the best, and worst gifts that they have received in the past, and what they are hoping Santa will bring them this year.

Bikes and the newest video games dominated Christmas wish lists of kids growing up, but as people get older their wishes begin to change.

Some students are not wishing for materialistic things, and are instead looking forward to the holidays for various other reasons.

Tanner Torr said that he is most looking forward to "spending time with family because that's what counts," and said that he doesn't "really want anything this year."

Logan Jones said that as he has gotten older, his "Christmas gift list has gotten shorter."

"I haven't really wanted anything in a few years," Jones said, adding that "the best gift that I have ever gotten though was an XBOX One when I was 13."

As for what he wanted this year, Jones said that "you can never go wrong" with a Christmas party with close friends.

That was a popular sentiment, with people grateful for the gesture rather than the actual gift that they might receive.

Valerie Hoover said that she wants something personal for the holidays, because "I feel like they have more meaning."

Bekah Johnson said that she "appreci-

ates any presents I get."

But Johnson went on to say that this year she wants an ancestry DNA test because "I'm curious about my heritage."

Nardos Shamebo said that she "hasn't received any gifts that I would consider bad."

That being said, some people said that they did receive gifts that they did not like.

Mikayla Reedy said that the worst gift she received was the toiletries from a hotel because "it didn't smell good and it gave me hives."

One student said that the worst present she had received was food because "it feels impersonal."

Clothes were a popular gift that people didn't like, either because they didn't fit right, or the gift giver had a different sense of style than the gift receiver.

Dave Evanger said that the worst gift that he had received was a jacket that was "kinda ugly."

Another student disliked a sweater that didn't fit.

But people had fond memories of some of their favorite gifts too.

Mikayla Reedy was thrilled by a trip to California to see a concert because she had "always wanted to see this person in concert and to go to California so it was perfect."

For Bekah Johnson, a replica of a Viking axe was her best gift "because I had wanted that particular one for a while."

Valerie Hoover loved receiving her dog because "it's a gift that you think of every day."

The best gift that Haley Ruppel has ever received was a jar from her best friend full of "read when" notes. She said that she doesn't really want anything this year, and that she "really values gifts with thought and effort behind them."



Tiffany Ho/THUNDERWORD

And people did have wish lists for the holidays this year.

Keira Gish said that this year she was hoping for a Starbucks gift card.

Kyla Cleveland said that the best present she has received was money, although this year she was hoping for a tea set.

Dave Evanger said that he was hoping for "new shoes and clothes" for Christmas.

And Mikayla Reedy said that she was hoping for books and a new ukulele because her ukulele broke and she "loves to read."

You don't need a sparring partner for Boxing Day

By Lucie Winborne

First, let's get a couple of things straight: Boxing Day has nothing to do with the sport of boxing, nor did it stem from the need to get rid of a bunch of empty Christmas present boxes.

OK, so maybe you knew the first one. But what exactly is Boxing Day?

Normally observed the day after Christmas (unless Dec. 26 falls on a weekend), and classed as a bank holiday in the U.K., Boxing Day is observed in Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand and other Commonwealth countries, and takes its name from, well, take your pick.

One version claims it hails from the custom of tradesmen collecting their Christmas boxes in return for the good service they provided all year, while another traces it to a box used to collect money for the poor, placed in churches on Christmas Day and opened the following day. A third has it that



sailing ships of old carried a sealed box of money on board for luck, and at the end of a successful voyage, the box would be given to a priest for opening at Christmas, with the contents again being donated to the poor.

Still another version says that Boxing Day's roots date to Roman times, when funds to cover athletic games were collected in boxes (earthenware containers with slits cut in the top have been discovered among Pom-

peiian ruins), with the practice later spreading to British clergy.

Whatever the case, Boxing Day is, like Christmas, a day for gathering with friends, good food and fun, including shopping and sports matches. Or charitable events, such as the Boxing Day Dip.

Held in various locales around England, you won't find participants in this fancy-dress occasion "dipping" on the dance floor, but in the sea. The largest such gathering, at Seaburn Beach in Sunderland, regularly attracts crowds in the thousands, though most dippers go no farther than their knees, understandable in average temperatures of 49 F. Last year the fun netted more than \$61,000.

Perhaps the most unusual observation of Boxing Day is rooted in Ireland, where Dec. 26 is a religious holiday known as St. Stephen's Day, after the first Christian to be martyred for his faith. Tradition here holds that killing a wren brings bad luck,

unless it happens on Boxing Day. As Stephen is said to have been stoned to death so many years ago, the country's famous "Wren Boys" would blacken their faces with burnt cork, go out and stone the small birds to death, then tie their carcasses to a decorative pole and tote their trophies about town, knocking on doors in quest of money, food or gifts. In return, donors would receive a wren feather in thanks.

No doubt wrens aren't the only ones grateful that this bizarre ritual has been replaced by modern Wren Boys in swanky duds (typically women's garb) carrying stuffed birds in cages! The enterprising lads also sing carols and collect money for charity.

All in all, it seems rather a shame that we Yanks don't observe Boxing Day. Who couldn't use a little more celebration time?

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Other holidays offer variety

By Rachael Horath
Staff Reporter

Christmas and Hanukkah are popularly celebrated, but some students are getting into the festive season by participating in lesser known holidays. These bring individuals closer together, perhaps to observe religious services that have traditions as timeless, as they are unique.

The Highline community has a diverse student population, and that is reflected throughout the holidays that are celebrated throughout the winter months.

The Virgin of Guadalupe is celebrated in many churches with large Hispanic populations.

This holiday honors a vision of Mary that St. Juan Diego had in 1536.

It is custom to have a special feast day mass, but some individuals also host a reception or party in honor of the feast day by making a homemade traditional Mexican meal, decorating the table with colorful flowers, and reciting prayers to the Virgin of Guadalupe.

“Usually a few days before the holiday, we build an altar. On Dec. 11, we stay up til midnight to light candles, sing to an image of her, offer her some flowers, and say a small prayer,” said Francisco Sanchez, a Highline student.

Celebrations to honor the Virgin of Guadalupe take place on Dec. 12.

The Winter Solstice has been celebrated in many cultures all



Virgin of Guadalupe

over the world for thousands of years.

Typically, it is a celebration of light and the rebirth of the sun, which signifies the beginning of the solar year. In old Europe, it was commonly referred as Yule.

It is customary to make a Yule log, and burn it on New Year’s Eve. This was to ward off a range of misfortunes that one may encounter in the new year.

The Winter Solstice is on Dec. 21.

Boxing Day originated from the United Kingdom, and has since been celebrated in various countries once in the British Empire such as Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

It started during the Middle Ages, as a day for churches to distribute items collected by alms boxes, or collection boxes for the poor. The name of the holiday comes from the practice of giving small gifts to household servants on that day for their work.

Current customs include vis-

iting friends and going to parties, but it has become a day for shoppers to get the best deals.

Traditions have evolved, and now shops in the United Kingdom hold big sales that equate to Black Friday in the United States.

Boxing Day is celebrated the day after Christmas, on Dec. 26.

For those who do not celebrate Christmas, or perhaps have no religious ties, Festivus is an alternative as a secular holiday.

Originally, it was a family tradition of Dan O’Keefe, a scriptwriter for the sitcom *Seinfeld*. He later introduced the holiday in the 1997 episode *The Strike*.

Since then, the concept has entered popular culture for its stance as an alternative to the pressures of commercialism of the Christmas season, or for individuals who have no formal religious ties.

The holiday includes a Festivus dinner, a plain aluminum Festivus pole and various activities which include the “Airing of Grievances,” which are to be shared over dinner.

Individuals voice with one another all the ways they have been disappointed over the past year.

The “Feats of Strength” involves wrestling the head of the household to the floor. If the head of the household is pinned to the ground, then the festivities are to be concluded, otherwise to be carried on until that person is pinned.

Festivus is to be celebrated on Dec. 23.

Don’t stress the holidays

• “Save large platters that come with holiday trays to use when bringing cookies or baked goods to other parties. That way you don’t have to bring home a platter, you can just leave it and pass it on.” -- E.G. in Kansas

• “Schedule haircuts and nail appointments to coincide with holiday parties. Then you won’t have to worry about doing your hair. It will still look nice from your beautician appointment.” -- A.I. in Indiana

• “My uncle is really hard to buy for. He doesn’t get out much, and he has everything he could ever need. I hit gold with gift mail-order memberships. We’ve done beer, cheese and fruit, and this year is meat! He gets a different one every month. You can find these services on the web. Thought I’d pass it along as a gift idea.” -- W.L. in Arkansas

• “I find that the best conversation starter when visiting a large group of family or friends is a box or basket of photos. It is inexpensive to print copies, and I have all my old photos scanned anyway. Bringing them in a basket instead of an album works because we pass them around, and people can take photos home with them. Sometimes, a picture will inspire a story, and I might write it down on the back of the photo to remember it



and tuck it away. It’s more than worth the \$10-\$15 it costs to print pictures.” -- L.W. in Virginia

• Write return addresses on the back of holiday cards before disposing of the envelope. They can be tucked away for next year’s holiday cards list.

• Create your own “on this day in history” calendar, just for your family. Purchase a large wall calendar each year dedicated to memories. Start with just listing birthdays. Then you can document things that happen throughout the year. Maybe someone bought a new car, or lost a tooth. Write down visitors to your home and vacations. Then at the end of the year, transfer them to a new calendar, noting what year something happened. As the years progress, you’ll have a wonderful reminiscing calendar!

• “I keep my decorations organized using recycled household materials. I save tissue boxes to hold garland, and I wrap stringed lights around the core of a paper towel roll. Clean styrofoam takeout containers can hold ornaments, and material items, like tree skirts, stay folded but unmusty when kept in a net bag.” -- H.R. in Washington

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Kwanzaa celebrates African heritage

By Stephen Springer
Staff Reporter

Kwanzaa is an African-American holiday which is intended for people to reconnect with their African heritage roots. The Holiday lasts from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 annually, where each day is celebrated with feasts and the exchanging of gifts. Kwanzaa originated in the year 1966 and was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a professor at California State University, Long Beach. Karenga also served as chairman of Africana Studies at the school. Karenga created the holiday after the fa-



mous Watts riots in South Central Los Angeles in the summer of 1965. Karenga wanted a way to

bring together the African American community while also letting black people reconnect to their original African customs and roots. The name Kwanzaa was derived from the language of Swahili and the phrase “matunda ya kwanza,” which translates to “First Fruits.” Kwanzaa is celebrated in a multitude of ways but is set on a series of seven core principals of unity, self-determination, work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Highline student Oshaun Robinson said he looks forward

every year to celebrating Kwanzaa. “I love reconnecting to the ways of my ancestors, and I love all the food as well,” said Robinson. Each day of Kwanzaa is focused on a different principle. On the first day, the idle black candle is lit and umoja or unity is the first core principal celebrated. The candles are held in place by what is known as a kinara. Robinson said that Kwanzaa is a holiday that is very near to his heart. “Kwanzaa is a great way for people to learn and educate

on the customs and traditions of their African ancestors,” said Robinson. On days two through six people celebrate by lighting the kinara and learning or embracing one of the seven core principals. The holiday is concluded on the final day with a feast known as karamu. Various different food dishes are exchanged with roots from a wide array of African regions and countries. Some of the more popular dishes include, black eyed peas, cheese grits, Okra with greens, and jollof rice. The first day of Kwanzaa falls on a Tuesday this year.

Hoppin’ John brings luck dish for the New Year

This popular black-eyed-peas-and-rice dish is traditionally served on New Year’s Day in the Deep South. Often a shiny dime is buried inside the pot, and whoever discovers it in their portion of Hoppin’ John is assured good luck for the year. Today at New Year’s Day parties, you will find Hoppin’ John as the main attraction, often served up in grand style in the family’s silver chafing dish. You will need:

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 large onion (12 ounces), chopped
- 1 red pepper, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 package (16 ounces) dry black-eyed peas, rinsed and picked through
- 1 large smoked ham hock (12 ounces)
- 4 cups water
- 2 cans (14 1/2 ounces each) chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons salt



Black-eyed-peas-and-rice dish is a popular traditionally served on New Year’s Day in the Deep South.

- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper (optional)
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 cups regular long-grain rice
- 1. In 4-quart saucepan, heat oil over medium heat. Add celery, onion and red pepper. Cook, stirring frequently, until onion is golden, about 10 minutes. Add garlic; cook 2 minutes longer.
- 2. Add black-eyed peas, ham hock, water, broth, 1 teaspoon salt, crushed red pepper, if us-

ing, and bay leaf to celery mixture; heat to boiling over high heat. Reduce heat; cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, until black-eyed peas are tender, about 40 minutes. Discard bay leaf.

3. Meanwhile, prepare rice as label directs with remaining 1 teaspoon salt. (Do not add butter or margarine.)

4. In large bowl, gently combine black-eyed-pea mixture and rice. Makes 18 accompaniment servings

• Each serving: About 188 calories, 2g total fat (0g saturated), 9g protein, 33g carbohydrate, 3mg cholesterol, 549mg sodium.

Find more triple-tested holiday recipes at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

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New Year’s Resolutions: A New You?

By Lucie Winborne

Quick: What’s as old as time and as easy to break as a bone-dry pie crust? Answer: New Year’s resolutions. We’ve all made ‘em. We’ve all broken ‘em. A very few (only about 8-12 percent!) will actually keep them. But are we really doomed to fail at losing weight, spending more time with family and friends, paying down debt and pretty much every other type of good intention we solemnly pledge each Dec. 31? Let’s face it, that “blank slate, fresh start” feeling that comes with each new year can be a bit of a rush. There’s always the hope that this year will be different. Those blank calendar pages are loaded with unexplored opportunity! And then real life sets in. You know, the same life we were living last week, last month ... er, yesterday. The same re-

sponsibilities. The same routines. Even the same unexpected curveballs and interruptions. Where did the time go? Where did our resolutions go? Some of us prefer to call resolutions goals, as if secretly believing, even unconsciously, that giving this Jan. 1 staple a different name will disarm the shadow of past failures. “Goals!” we say. “I’m setting goals this year.” And then most of us proceed to fail at our goals as well. What the heck is wrong with us?! Well, maybe it’s not so much us as the system that’s at fault. Setting goals is a great alternative, but if we merely change the name and not the way we go about achieving our resolutions, it’s a safe bet that by February most of us will be sighing, “Blew it again!” Let’s beat that flawed system. As bestselling author, blogger and speaker Michael Hyatt has noted, five simple keys are vital to goal-setting success:

- 1) Belief
- 2) Closure
- 3) Design
- 4) Motivation
- 5) Tactics

Belief: Do you really believe that you can achieve what you want? With all your heart?

Closure: Are you ready to let go of past failures? Keep your eyes on the prize?

Design: Have you formulated specific steps to measure your progress? Bite-size swallows are easier to digest.

Motivation: What’s your reason for setting a particular goal? Have a good strong “why” before you even try.

Tactics: How will you direct your forces to carry out those measurable steps? Learn from those with proven



strategies. As every captain on land or sea knows, even the smallest change of course may radically alter your ultimate destination. So, can you realistically look forward to a new you in the coming new year? With the help of a few smart steps (to paraphrase a certain former U.S. president), “Yes, you can!” (c) 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.



Phil Curry photo

Kenyan baked fish

Add spice to Kwanzaa with Kenyan baked fish

This African dish from Kenya is called Mtuzi Wa Samki (Baked Fish and Spicy Sauce with Toasted Sesame Seeds). The deft use of peppers and spices in this traditional Kenyan dish enhances the delicate flavors of the fish without overpowering it. The use of hot peppers and sesame seeds are an African contribution to American cuisine



KENYAN BAKED FISH WITH SPICY SAUCE

- 4 cod filets, halibut steaks or tilapia filets (2 pounds), 1 inch thick
- Sauce:**
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
 - 1 large onion, sliced
 - 2 cloves garlic, chopped
 - 1 teaspoon jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped
 - 1 (16-ounce) can tomatoes, diced and the juice discarded
 - 2 tablespoons white cider vinegar
 - 1 1/4 teaspoons ground cumin
 - 3/4 teaspoon ground coriander
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 2 tablespoons sesame seeds, toasted
1. Heat oven to 350 F.
 2. To prepare the sauce: In a skillet, heat the oil until it is hot but not smoking, and saute the onion, garlic and jalapeno pepper until the onion is transparent. Stir in the tomatoes, vinegar, cumin, coriander and salt. Simmer, uncovered, about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
 3. Place the fish in an ungreased oblong baking pan. Spoon the sauce over the fish. Bake uncovered for 25 to 30 minutes. Do not overcook. Sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds and serve over rice. Serves 4.

THURSDAY



Fruitcake has a tasty history

By Lucie Winborne

“There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep passing it around.” – Johnny Carson

Love it or loathe it, fruitcake goes back a looong way.

Legend has it that ancient Egyptians valued it enough to place their version on the tombs of their loved ones, while Roman soldiers carried a ring-shaped concoction of pomegranate seeds, pine nuts and barley mash to the battlefield. (Portable and durable -- some things never change!)

If that doesn't sound especially appetizing, by the Middle Ages, preserved fruit, spices and honey brought the desert closer to what we serve today.

Of course, then as now cooks were prone to experiment.

Medieval Italians liked their panforte (strong bread) dense and spicy-sweet.

Buttery, sugar-coated German stollen dates to the 15th century.

Then there's "black cake," a booze-soaked Caribbean favorite descended from British plum pudding.

By the 18th and 19th centuries, fruitcakes were a popular feature at weddings and holidays (though how they



Deposit photos

Fruitcake deserves a better reputation.

acquired their association with Christmas is unclear), but not cheap to make. And would you believe that at one point they were actually outlawed in Europe for the crime of being "sinfully rich"?

However, since their brand of decadence had become an important aspect of tea time (especially among the Brits), the law eventually was repealed.

So far, so good. Then how did this poor loaf become the Rodney Dangerfield of desserts, even a synonym for somebody who's not quite right in the head?

Some think it has to do with early 20th-century mass production and mail order.

Others blame it on sugar – cheap sugar, imported from the American

colonies, that not only made the loaf's fruits brighter and more flavorful, but allowed previously unavailable varieties to be imported from around the world. More candied fruit equaled more cake. Ever heavier cake. Ever more garish-looking cake.

Today's fruitcake recipes are almost as varied as the cooks who bake them, but most hold to one hallowed rule: that they be made a month (or even a year!) in advance to deepen the flavor. For additional zest, many "feed" the cake by splashing whiskey, brandy or rum over it.

But what if you'd frankly rather face a root canal than a forkful of this holiday treat? Consider a visit to the town of Manitou Springs, Colorado, where the good folks gather each January for the Annual Great Fruitcake Toss. Admission is cheap – a nonperishable canned good for a local food bank – and you'll have a blast hurling, tossing or launching any unlucky loaf you've been reluctantly gifted with. Heck, you may even win a trophy.

Closer to home, various suggested uses for unwanted fruitcakes range from foot rests to cat scratching posts. Use your imagination!

Just don't imagine that fruitcake's going away anytime soon.

Turn traditional tzimmes into modern side dish

Tzimmes is an eastern European stew of carrots and/or sweet potatoes and prunes traditionally cooked with beef flanken, often sweetened with brown or white sugar, and sometimes thickened with flour. In Yiddish, the word tzimmes means "a big fuss," probably because of all the work required to make the old-style dish.

This version couldn't be easier: Skip the meat, sugar and flour, and instead roast carrots, sweet potatoes and dried Santa Rosa-type plums (or common dried prunes) in fresh orange juice until they are tender, browned, glazed with citrus and deliciously infused with orange.

Tzimmes is a great companion to brisket or chicken and also is a good accompaniment to farro or quinoa for a pareve/vegan main course. It easily can be made a day ahead and reheated.

ROASTED CARROT AND SWEET POTATO TZIMMES

- 6 to 8 oranges
- 1 lemon
- 2 pounds carrots

- 3 pounds sweet potatoes
- 1 pound shallots (about 8 large)
- 1/2 to 3/4 pound dried plums or pitted prunes (vary amount depending on how sweet and fruity you want the dish)
- 3 to 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher or sea salt, and freshly ground white or black pepper.



Tzimmes are a flavorful holiday side dish.

1. Heat the oven to 400 F. Using a swivel-blade vegetable peeler, remove the zest in large strips from 2 of the oranges and the lemon. Be sure to press down only hard enough to capture the colored part of the skin, not the bitter white pith. Juice enough oranges to yield 2-1/2 cups juice. Reserve the lemon for another use.

2. Peel the carrots and cut them crosswise into 2-inch chunks or lengthwise into 2-inch chunks (if carrots are very fat, first halve them lengthwise). Peel and cut the sweet potatoes into large, bite-size chunks. Peel and quarter the shallots lengthwise. Use kitchen scissors to snip the dried fruits in half.

3. Use a roasting pan large enough to hold all the vegetables in more or less

a single layer. Place carrots, sweet potatoes, shallots, dried fruit, and lemon and orange zests in the pan. Toss with enough olive oil to coat evenly, season with salt and pepper, and pour the juice over all.

4. Roast the vegetables, turning once or twice during cooking, until they are tender and are browned in places and most of the juice is absorbed, about 1 1/4 hours. If you want a saucier dish, add another 1/2 to 1 cup juice during the last 20 minutes of cooking. The juice should thicken slightly. Serve warm or at room temperature. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Recipe and photo courtesy The Seasonal Jewish Kitchen: A Fresh Take on Tradition by Amelia Saltsman (Sterling Epicure)

TUESDAY



Holiday cookies for your loved ones

Freshly baked cookies are a wonderful holiday gift.

Hosting family and friends for a cookie exchange party is a great way to start a new holiday tradition and get a variety of baked goods and some new recipes without spending much money.

A cookie exchange party also is an inexpensive way to entertain because the cookies provided by your guests are the centerpiece of the party, and everyone leaves with a variety of cookies as a parting gift.

You also can host a cookie bake and exchange party. Since everyone is so busy, buying good quality cookie mixes and having the guests stir them up, bake and decorate them can become a party activity.

The first cookie exchange party started more than 70 years ago. It was usually a social event for women and was extremely popular with women’s clubs and church groups.

Each person baked one or two dozen of their favorite

cookies and exchanged one with each person in attendance.

The party also offered a wonderful way to collect the personal stories behind the cookies. Sharing stories also acts as an ice-breaker and a way for guests to get to know each other.

Here are a few tips for hosting a cookie party exchange, plus a great recipe for my mother’s Peanut Butter Cookies.

- Invite eight to 12 people for the best variety of cookies and conversation. Traditionally, everyone attending brings a dozen of one kind of cookie, squares or candies for each of the other people in attendance, plus one dozen for themselves and an extra dozen for the “sample plate.”

Since this would require a huge amount of baking, I suggest that each person bring three dozen cookies: two dozen to exchange and a dozen for a sample plate.

Although each guest might not get one of each cookie to take home, this makes the event more of a real party, as your guests won’t feel pressured to turn their kitchens into a bakery. Suggest that they wrap each dozen they are bringing separately.

- Send invitations by email or regular mail a few weeks ahead of the party. Specify a start and end time for your party. Send email reminders a week



Depositphotos.com

Baked cookies are always a perfect gift for Christmas.

ahead of time. Remind guests to bring a large container so that they can take their cookie assortment home.

- Avoid duplication of cookies/recipes by asking guests to RSVP and tell you about the cookies that they will bring. You might want to suggest selecting a recipe that has a special family meaning or one that is traditional to their background. This is a great way to learn about the traditions and recipes of other cultures and ethnic groups.

- Ask each guest to bring a copy of their recipe to pass around with a little information about the origin or memory associated with the cookie. Having a list of the ingredients also ensures that people with food aller-

gies can protect their health.

- If the cookies or candies have been frozen, label them “Previously Frozen.”

- Set a beautiful table and arrange all the cookies as the guests arrive.

- Create separate sample cookie and exchange cookie areas -- either ends of a table or on separate small tables. Keep each recipe on its own plate.

- Design the table or areas in a layout that provides easy access to the treats from all sides.

- Eating sweets induces thirst! Have self-serve pitchers of ice and sparkling water on hand along with warm and cool drinks, cups, plates and napkins.

This is a gathering where you can make your own rules and

traditions, like baking these Easy Four-Ingredient Peanut Butter Cookies every year. Relax, and don’t forget to enjoy your own party!

EASY FOUR-INGREDIENT PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

- 1 cup sugar, plus 3 tablespoons for sprinkling
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Heat oven to 350 F, and line a large cookie sheet with parchment paper.

2. In a large bowl, stir all four ingredients together until smooth.

3. Using a tablespoon measure, scoop out 2 tablespoons of cookie dough and roll into a smooth ball.

4. Place pre-rolled cookies on your cookie sheet about 1-inch apart. Press down with the back of a fork and then press again from the opposite direction to form a criss-cross pattern.

5. Bake for 10 minutes, turn cookie sheet and continue baking for another 5 to 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and sprinkle with the remaining sugar. Cool cookies on sheet pan for 1-2 minutes before moving them to a wire rack to finish cooling. Makes 12-15 cookies.

6. Store in an air-tight container for up to 3 days.



Chicken in cranberry sauce? Wow!

Tasty cranberry and balsamic-vinegar pan sauce is a great way to liven up ordinary chicken breasts and Brussels sprouts.

Good Housekeeping

- 1 container (10 ounces) Brussels sprouts
- 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 medium skinless, boneless chicken-breast halves (about 1 1/4 pounds)
- 2 cups cranberries
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar

1. Heat oven to 450 F. Trim Brussels sprouts; cut lengthwise into thin slices. In 15 1/2-by-10 1/2-inch jelly-roll pan, toss sprouts with 1 tablespoon oil, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper to coat. Spread evenly in pan; roast 15 to 20



Chicken breasts with cranberry pan sauce is also low in calories .

minutes or until tender and browned at edges.

2. Meanwhile, in nonstick 12-inch skillet, heat remaining oil over medium-high heat until hot. On waxed paper, combine flour and remaining salt and pepper; use to coat chicken.

3. Add chicken to skillet and cook 6 minutes. Reduce heat to medium; turn chicken over and cook 6 to 8 minutes longer or until juices run clean when thickest part of breast is pierced with tip of knife. Transfer chick-

en to platter; keep warm.

4. To skillet, add cranberries, sugar, vinegar and 3/4 cup water; heat to boiling over medium-high heat. Cook until sauce thickens slightly, about 5 minutes. Serve chicken with sauce and Brussels sprouts. Makes 4 main-dish servings.

- Each serving: About 320 calories, 7g total fat (1g saturated), 36g protein, 30g carb., 5g fiber, 82mg cholesterol, 690mg sodium.

New quick recipe for all bacon-lovers

Looking for a dish to take to a holiday potluck?

This one is sure to be a winner on any buffet.

- 1/4 cup chopped green onion
- 4 eggs, beaten, or equivalent in egg substitute
- 3 cups frozen loose-packed shredded hash brown potatoes
- 1/4 cup bacon bits
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup fat free half-and-half milk
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Spray 8-by-8-inch baking dish with butter-flavored cooking spray.

2. Cook onion in a small skillet sprayed with butter-flavored cooking spray over medium heat until onion is tender, stirring often. In a large bowl, combine eggs, potatoes, bacon bits, Cheddar cheese, half and half, and black pepper. Add onion. Mix well to combine. Pour mixture into



by Healthy Exchanges

prepared baking dish.

3. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, or until center is set. Place baking dish on a wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Divide into 6 servings.

TIP: Raw shredded potatoes, rinsed and patted dry, may be used in place of frozen potatoes.

* Each serving equals: 208 calories, 12g fat, 11g protein, 14g carb., 241mg sodium, 156mg calcium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Meat, 1 Starch; Carb Choices: 1.

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WTU offers information security degree

By Madelyn R. Brown
Staff Reporter



A new private, for-profit college hopes to cash-in on the local demand for cybersecurity by offering classes early next year.

Washington Technology University is set to instruct its first generation of students in January 2018 in Bellevue.

According to its website, WTU "is a degree-completion college [that plans to meet] the needs of Washington state residents and the technology community."

With the high-demand for cybersecurity in the local economy, Washington state is long overdue for a new revolution in higher education, WTU officials say.

The college has had several applications submitted so far and more people are showing interest every day, said Jessica Hartmann, an admissions recruiter for WTU. Those applying are specifically community college transfer students.

"We're bringing a twist to what's commonly known to be OK for universities," she said. "We're not traditional; we want to be connected and we want to be accessible."

WTU officials say they aim to provide students with experience that goes beyond the

information found in textbooks.

"Everything is so general" nowadays, said Hartmann. "You may have the knowledge but no real-world experience."

As of right now, the college will be offering only one bachelor's degree, which will be in Information Security.

"The program is 18 months long," said Javier Abreu, another admissions recruiter for WTU. "It's non-stop, but it's worth it."

Potential students don't have to have a background in cybersecurity to participate in this degree program, said Hartmann.

Among the multiple learning outcomes stated on the WTU website, students will primarily gain the knowledge to "address a wide range of vulnerabilities and threats that affect private, corporate and government computer information systems."

"We want everyone to be on the same page; if they have an interest and motivation, we'll help them," Abreu said.

This degree will offer stu-

dents many different pathways on their road to success, school officials say.

For students who consider applying, accessibility is the name of the game.

"We understand that people have lives," said Hartmann. "We'll tailor studies for students."

This will be done by offering both on-campus and online classes.

For classes at the actual school, "You'll work with instructors Monday, Wednesday, and Friday," she said. Or, for students who need a more flexible schedule: "Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday."

According to the WTU website, "It is difficult for associate degree recipients to transfer to complete their bachelor's degrees in the greater Seattle/Tacoma metropolitan region where there is only one public four-year university."

However, the University of Washington in Seattle, the UW Tacoma campus, the UW Bothell campus, Bellevue College and Highline are all examples of public institutions that offer bachelor degrees in cybersecurity.

According to the Highline website, the cybersecurity and forensics degree offered by the college "expands on



Javier Abreu

Highline's already strong Computer Science and Computer Science Systems Department."

And a lot of students take advantage of this.

"Both [of the] AAS degrees that feed the BAS degree are full," said Dr. Amelia Philips, a computer information systems and computer science faculty member. "As are the 300- to 400-level classes."

Highline also offers students real-world experience.

According to Highline's bachelor's degree website on cybersecurity and forensics, the college "offers students internships and job shadowing with major international companies such as Cisco, Microsoft, and Boeing."

Also, while WTU has a strict 90-credit admittance policy,

Highline is willing to accept students who are within 30 credits of an AAS, AAS-T, AA or AS Degree.

"We want people to be able to come to WTU," said Hartmann; "we don't want tuition to be a barrier."

According to their website, students are expected to pay \$200 per credit hour.

For a 15-credit quarter, this adds up to \$3,000.

In comparison, the UW-Seattle students pay \$3,303 per quarter, while Bellevue College students give up \$1,389 per quarter.

Highline offers the lowest tuition cost at \$1,282 per quarter.

But, the university has the capacity to make adjustments, said Abreu. "If something doesn't work, there's options; right now, we're in the position to change things."

The first generation of students at WTU will have the opportunity to give their input regarding the need for improvements, said Hartmann. After all, "It's all about you and your success."

For more information on WTU, go to <https://washtechu.com/index.php>.

If students wish to get a closer look, WTU is located at 200 112th Ave. N.E. Suite 200 Bellevue.

Highline to have food pantry to help out students

By Alexis Morales
Staff Reporter

The Highline community will be doing its part to help the Des Moines community fight hunger and homelessness within the student body by setting up an on-campus Food Pantry, at which students will be able to access basic-need supplies.

The Food Pantry is expected to be open for business for Winter Quarter.

In fall of 2016, the Wisconsin Hope Lab at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Association of Community College Trustees, conducted a national survey to understand food and housing insecurity among community college students.

Highline was one of the 70 institutions from 24 states contributing to the survey. The survey showed 52 percent of Highline students couldn't afford to eat balanced meals, and 60 percent of students nationwide couldn't either.

"It's really showing it's not just a Highline problem," said Mariela Barriga, Student Success coordinator.

Actually, the Food Pantry



Tayah Farmer/THUNDERWORD

The food pantry will also have basic needs supplies next quarter.

isn't new to the Highline campus. The key is to be able to sustain such a program.

"There used to be a Food Pantry before," Barriga said. "But a lot of students obviously graduate and move on. This time around we want to take a different approach to it."

The idea of the Food Pantry began based on the needs of students at Highline. Barriga said. Some students just don't

continue their educations. That doesn't always mean it's due to grades, but due to lacking basic living needs.

"We know just from knowing our students and knowing the community and knowing the different changes happening in the community, that food is an issue," Barriga said.

The Food Pantry is expected to be located in Building 16, next to the Print Shop on the

northeast side of campus.

"The Arts Department stepped up and gave some of their space," Barriga said. "I think in times of need; a lot of times it is those artists who put themselves on the line for other movements."

With help from the Des Moines Area Food Bank and Highline faculty, staff, alumni, Board of Trustees and the community, through the charity event Giving Tuesday, raised \$4,210, enough to cover costs for a commercial-size refrigerator.

"We raised enough money and now we are [going] to take that next step and purchase it," Barriga said.

The Food Pantry doesn't plan on just being food-based, but will also help in giving resources to the community.

"We have [a lot] of partners that are helping us out on this project. We have community partners here, so people that are [going to] come in and help people sign up for different things," said Bria Nolan, a Benefits Hub AmeriCorps member.

With the Des Moines Area Food Bank being this project's biggest supporter, other com-

munity partners such as the South King County Food Coalition have pitched in to help with food demos as well.

Because the Food Pantry will be open to all Highline community members the way it will be run can depend on what systems work and don't work.

"We talked about doing intake forms, it really depends on the size of [the families] or the convenience, and distance to get home," Nolan said. "Or if you just want to grab a quick snack."

Barriga said that the process in which the Food Pantry will be run is still in the works and that it will always refer people to the food bank, which has less limited resources.

Another community partnership named Donor to Diner, an organization led by students to help students run food pantries, will be working to help set up a process on running the pantry.

[We're] just [going to] let it evolve. We are pretty sure the way we open it is not the way it's going to be operating in a year," Barriga said. "We want to be open to the changes and build our way to different things."

DACA

continued from page 1

getting deported, and a U.S. work permit. These two years were renewable.

As of right now, approximately 800,000 people in the United States are DACA citizens.

President Trump announced plans to phase out the DACA program in a six-month transition last September, and called on Congress to quickly find a replacement. The phase-out will be finalized this March.

Since then, Highline students who have been in the DACA program have found themselves at a loss of what to do next.

Fear and confusion have been the biggest reactions from DACA students, said Doris Martinez, Highline Student Diversity and Inclusion Director.

"Within the first month I had students coming in here, [saying] 'What do we do? How do we move forward? Am I going to be deported?'" said Martinez.

For Highline alumna Agatha Pacheco, DACA is a very personal subject.

"I've had [DACA] for six years now, since I was 16," Pacheco said. "It changed my life...

I have opportunity to do whatever I want now."

Many DACA students also had no control over their decisions to live in the U.S.

"For many students that are here at Highline... they did not choose to come to the United States," said Martinez. "It was not their decision, it was their parents' decision... and I bet you 10 times out of 10 the parents decided to make those decisions based on this child's future. Not [out of] negligence, not trying to take American jobs."

The U.S. is also what many DACA students now consider home.

"I don't know anything but America, I grew up as an American. I have Mexican parents, and that's my identity too, but I've been in America... I have American values," Pacheco said.

Pacheco is currently a senior at the University of Washington, and has been working in the news industry.

"Because [of DACA] ... I was able to meet my closest friends at work and I've been able to work in all these news publications," Pacheco said. "It makes me really sad that being able to do all that stuff isn't just the norm for me. I can't take that for granted."

It's important for Highline students who are not a part of DACA to not only be aware of these changes, but to also become further informed and involved as well, Martinez said.

"I believe students are aware of what DACA is, but I don't believe students understand how detrimental... the demise of DACA is to this country," she said.

For current DACA students who don't know where to turn to, there are communities and support all around.

"Make your voice heard, get involved... try to help your status and current situation any way you can," Pacheco said.

"Also, I think a big thing is not to feel afraid to call people out... [and] to find people who can help you, whether that's family or not," Pacheco said.

To learn more about DACA, or to connect with other people involved in DACA, visit unitedwedream.org.

Tutoring Center offers help, advice in a variety of subjects

By Alli Hand
Staff Reporter

Free tutoring in several subjects is available for all enrolled Highline students at the Tutoring Center on the sixth floor of the Library.

Tutors can be found in subjects ranging from Physics to Arabic. No appointment is necessary, as all tutoring is done on a drop-in basis.

Specific subjects are scheduled at certain times throughout the week. Tutoring schedules can be found on Highline's Tutoring Center webpage, tutoring.highline.edu.

According to its website, the tutoring center's main goal is to "...create an open atmosphere of learning for students."

In the past academic year, the Tutoring Center has served about 1,500 students who have spent more than 12,000 hours at the center.

Computers, books, and calculators are available to check out in the Tutoring Center if students bring a valid Highline student ID card with them.

"I was struggling in my biology class so I went to the Tutoring Center not really knowing what to expect. I got

a lot of help, felt comfortable asking questions, and walked out with a better understanding of what was going on in my class," said student Kelsey Wullger.

Tutoring Center staff recognize that students learn in different ways. A variety of tutoring methods are implemented to help meet student's individual learning needs.

If the Tutoring Center is not currently offering tutoring in a subject that you seek help in, email the Tutoring Center through their website at tutoring.highline.edu, or speak with staff at the front desk.



Edward Jones
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Brown

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"I think the reason 'why now' is because I didn't have those experiences... I've been looking for an opportunity to match my experience in professional education," Brown said.

However, Dr. Brown said he doesn't have a problem with leaving the associate dean position to his fellow staff.

"Our leader of student services, [Vice president of Student Services] Toni Castro, is hard at work making a transitional plan that should be in place by Winter Quarter," he said. "I have the utmost faith in the staff of the Center for Leadership and Service and Multicultural Affairs."

Those that work with him were both excited and sad about his announcement to leave.

"He's built such a strong legacy," said Ilesha Valencia, director of the CLS and a coworker of Dr. Brown's.

When she first heard about his leaving, Valencia said she struggled so see a future without him.

"It's going to be hard to imagine Highline without J.B.," she said. "Everyone is still trying to work through that."

Valencia said that everyone in the CLS is connected, and so someone moving on from that family can be very emotional.

"He's such an integral part of our family," she said. "There are so many mixed emotions."

Doris Martinez, Student Diversity and Inclusion director for Multicultural Affairs, also closely works with Dr. Brown.

She said that the first thing she felt was confusion.

"My first reaction was 'what's next?'" she said. "'How is this going to work without J.B.?'"

Martinez worked with Dr. Brown when she was a student at Highline. Even then, she said, he was a great influence.

"I was able to be mentored by J.B.," she said. "He makes a home for leadership. And he's built such a strong legacy, too."

That legacy, Martinez said, is what people should focus on after he has left.

"J.B.'s legacy is to focus on students," she said. "There's so many things [he does], but the generations of students he's helped is the most important."

Dr. Brown also serves as the adviser for Student Government, and has for many years.

As a result, Student Government Vice President Mahlet Tiruneh said she has

made good memories with Dr. Brown.

"I am really happy for him," she said.

While she worked in the CLS last year, she only ever made small talk with him, she said.

Now that she's part of Student Government, they've become friends.

"This is the first time I'd sit down with him," she said. "He's helped me feel confident in my job."

Student Government President Vanessa Primer also said that he's had a huge effect on campus.

"J.B. wears a lot of hats," she said. "In addition to all the things you think he does, he advises our Student Government leadership group and our capital projects committee. He serves on several committees himself."

"He put together a group of amazing people," Primer said. "Everyone in here isn't just competent, they're amazing. We have winners on our team."

As for replacement, some members of the CLS seemed unsure of what will happen next.

"I don't know if they're going to hire another associate dean," said Dominique Austin, the Inter-Cultural Center Leadership adviser.

"It [would] be extremely difficult to have an associate dean search while we have a presidential search," Austin said.

Go Figure!

answers

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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I	D	L	E		A	R	E	A		A	C	E		
R	E	E	F		P	I	C	T		L	E	T		
E	A	S	T		P	E	A			R	O	D	E	
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C	L	A	D		G	A	S			N	E	R	O	
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A	S	H			B	R	I	E		L	I	N	T	
W	H	Y			S	T	A	R		E	R	G	O	

Search

continued from page

want to make sure that the next president doesn't just speak for the board, but for all of you."

Mendoza said that it's very important to speak up for what you would like in a president.

"It's been a while since I've been in your shoes," he said. "You have unique dreams and aspirations that we want to hear."

Speaker of the Caucus Astrid Dueñas began by calling for a president with a diverse background.

"I think one thing the future president should have is a history in diversity," she said.

Dueñas said that respecting the Highline's diverse community is very important.

Dueñas also said that ideas such as more gender inclusivity would be welcome in a president.

Many other students agreed, with some calling directly for a woman of color to be the next Highline president.

Julian Burrington, the leader of Student Veterans at Highline, a group for those that have served in the armed services, wanted more recognition for veterans who are at Highline.

"We have a large veteran population," he said. "When they come home, we should

help them."

Burrington said veterans at Highline have a poor support network, with an office so small that they have to sit on the floor to fit just a few people inside.

"Having more resources would be beneficial," he said.

Kendall Evans, another member of Student Veterans at Highline, said that most of the surrounding colleges have veteran support networks. Highline, he said, doesn't.

"My veterans keep asking me, 'when will we have that network?'" Evans said.

Vanessa Primer, president of Student Government, also voiced her concerns.

"I was wondering, if they had worked outside of primary education, would that be taken into account?" she asked.

Primer said that work for a non-profit or charity organization should also be encouraged for a Highline president.

She also said that academic work is important for a president.

"If we have a president with academic credentials, they'll have a greater understanding of what we do here," she said.

Lastly, Primer said that the specific problems with Highline need to be taken into account when the interviewing process begins.

Patrick Fernandez, an academic adviser at Highline,

said that interacting with students is the most important thing.

"I would like to see a president that listens to the students," he said.

"Someone who knows what's going on, not in some ivory tower. It's very important to be of the people and for the people," Fernandez said.

Students were then asked for one trait that they don't want in a president.

Close-mindedness, apathy and carelessness are things the search committee should avoid.

If anyone would like to attend another public listening session, the Federal Way Library will be hosting the next one in Meeting Room 2 on Monday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Students can also visit <https://www.highline.edu/presidential-search/community-input/> to give their opinions on questions the Board of Trustees wants students to answer. regarding the search.

Got stories?

We've got space!

thunder-word@highline.edu

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