Emily Smith, the Coordinator at Diversions Café on campus, recently received a promotion to Catering Coordinator. “I am excited for the opportunity to work with more of campus and the greater Tacoma community in my new role. I have a background in event planning and hospitality and can’t wait to put that to use in a new way,” Smith said.

Smith’s new position means that she will be moving up through the ranks of Dining & Conference Services (DCS), but naturally it also means that she will have to leave her current position at Diversions. “Accepting this new position was bittersweet for many reasons. My position as the Diversions Café Coordinator was a very fulfilling job,” Smith said. “I did not realize when I took this position three years ago that I would have such a role in the development of student staff. Watching students succeed has been a highlight of my time so far at Puget Sound,” Smith continued.

Smith highlighted working with students and customers as high points of her former position. She will still have a role with student staff in Catering, but it will not be the same as in Diversions, which is almost entirely staffed by students. “I will definitely miss pouring latte art for Diversions customers and making people smile. I still work for DCS and I am sure I will hop back there from time to time if they need a hand,” Smith said.

There is not yet a replacement Coordinator for Diversions, but Smith thinks that won’t be a problem. She believes that the student staff have it under control. “I have no concerns about leaving. The transition happened at a really good time. We did not have any new staff for the spring semester — so all of our baristas are experienced. Also, the student Lead team is really strong. I have been checking on the café and they’re so well trained they haven’t needed much help so far this semester. A new Coordinator will be in Diversions before you know it, but until then the Diversions staff has got this — and the DCS team is here to back them up if they need anything,” Smith concluded.

The student employees at Diversions have a different opinion on the situation, but they don’t blame Smith and her promotion for how they feel. “I think that Emily did not do anything wrong — I want to say that. I don’t really want to talk about her part. But I think the workload put on the Leads is unfair and not in our job description,” Joy Risley, a student lead at Diversions, said. “I believe that being paid $13.42 is not enough to do our regular lead responsibilities, let alone the extra work put upon us. We didn’t really get any heads up and we didn’t have any say. Now we have taken on more responsibility and a lot more pressure is out on our performance,” Risley continued.

According to the Career and Employment Services Annual Report, 25 percent of non-faculty staff at the University are students, and most student employees work 10 hours a week. The student leads at Diversions are taking on extra work and extra hours on their already limited salary, which at the University is pre-allocated. “I don’t think any DCS lead is paid enough. The money allocation the school decides on is completely unjust in my opinion. I have worked at the café since the beginning of freshman year, and I love it there so much, however right now I am not too happy about the situation,” Risley said. “I do not put any blame on our former coordinator, however I wish that DCS heads thought about the consequences and toll that their decision brought on us leads,” Risley concluded.

By Marcelle Rutherfurd
Clay Club disbands following disagreement with advisor

By Christina Conry

The University of Puget Sound Clay Club has held a presence on campus since its founding in 2012, but now faces disbandment due to disagreement with the club’s advisor, ceramics Assistant Professor Chad Gunderson. Students can join Clay Club by paying a $15 per-semester fee and signing a waiver outlining the rules they must abide by in order to hold membership in the club.

The contract includes respect of the ceramics studio, the club’s tools and the ceramics students. It concludes with the acknowledgement that: “If problems arise, Assistant Professor Gunderson reserves the right to revoke the keycard access of individuals or the entire club.”

That’s exactly what happened. Clay Club officers began to clash with Gunderson over issues of accessibility and finances, and as a result now find themselves denied keycard access to the ceramics studio.

Recently the officers have been working to reform the club and make it more accessible to students. “Clay Club is here for students, for manifesting that interest and curiosity towards just a completely natural and fundamental art form,” club advisor Kristen Lee said.

Since taking over leadership of the club in 2017, Lee has taken more notice of the mandated fee imposed by the club advisor. “Throughout the years I have been here, it has increased from $15 a year to $15 per semester and then to $20 per semester. We were able to bring it back down to $15 per semester, collecting the fee through the ASUPS office for more transparency,” Lee said.

Members have begun to question what exactly these fees are funding and where their money is going. This membership fee does not include clay, and Clay Club has their own features, including all tools and the studio space maintained by club officers.

Lee voiced concerns over halted efforts in making Clay Club more accessible to students due to Gunderson’s unresponsive behavior. He has refused to lower the membership fee while also failing to provide club officers a detailed accounting of the disbursement of the fees. “Last semester alone we brought in $540 in membership fees, but Chad has refused to tell us how the funds are being spent,” Lee said.

The club’s funds are reserved to pay for the ceramics studio’s raw materials, but the fluctuation of club fees is reflective of the revenue. “The club’s membership might not have the financial means to afford this club but possess a genuine interest in participating. As of this semester, Clay Club is officially disbanded. All members have been revoked of their keycard access to the studio, leaving some members unable to retrieve unfinished work or personal tools. The only way to regain access is by enrolling in a class taught by Gunderson.”

An ongoing question is how to involve students who do not have the financial means to afford this club but possess a genuine interest in participating.

For ceramics studios, a $15 membership fee is not unreasonable, but as Lee highlights, “those are legitimate businesses who are trying to earn money. This is an education institution to which we already pay a tuition.” Speaking on behalf of the club and its members, Lee expressed a desire for compromise and an understanding of the necessity of a small fee, but with a detailed explanation of its purpose and where it is going. The future of Clay Club remains unknown.

At the time of printing, Assistant Professor Gunderson has not responded to requests for comment.

Dean’s List requirements change

By Sofia Vazquez

Each fall and spring semester, students with high GPAs are recognized for their achievements through inclusion on the Dean’s List. In the past, relatively few students have made the list, but this year changes to the requirements mean more students will.

To make the Dean’s List prior to the fall 2018 semester, undergraduate students had to be enrolled full time (taking three or more graded units), have no incomplete grades or withdrawals from an academic course and have a grade point average placing them in the top 10 percent of students. But beginning in the fall 2018 semester, the necessary grade point average was changed from the top 10 percent to any student with a 3.70 grade point average or above. All other criteria remain the same.

In order for this change to be made, the policy was proposed, discussed, and voted on by the Academic Standards Committee – Policy Subcommittee. The proposed policy then goes to Faculty Senate, and the further along to the full faculty for a vote before it is officially approved,” Michael Pasteur, member of the Policy Subcommittee and the University’s Registrar wrote via email.

These changes will make it possible for more students to be a part of the list and could encourage more students to work harder to be on it.

The students who make it on the list for Dean’s List must be enrolled full time, either semester, and have a 3.70 grade point average. From the top 10 percent to any student with a 3.70 grade point average or above.

The students who make it on the list for Dean’s List will not only receive mention of their membership in their academic transcript, but also receive an invitation to an annual celebration sponsored by the Academic Dean’s Office. The Dean’s Lists from the last three semesters are available on Puget Sound’s website.

The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. The Trail acts as an archival record for the university, serves as a link between University of Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community, and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.

Visit trail.pugetsound.edu for the full mission statement.

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Dining and Conference Services fails to increase wages for full-time staff

By Kylie Gurewitz

Minimum wage in the city of Tacoma has increased to $12.35 per hour, beginning Jan. 1, 2019. This new minimum wage is following the trend of increases that have taken place over the last few years. In 2015, voters approved an initiative to raise Tacoma's minimum wage to $12 dollars an hour over the course of two years. In 2018, the $12 mark was reached, and according to the city's website, the 2019 raise in minimum wage is adjusting for the rate of inflation.

Dining and Conference Services (DCS) at the University has, of course, adjusted for the changes in minimum wage. Student workers (with the exception of student leads) currently make slightly above minimum wage ($12.50/hr). Wages for full-time Dining and Conference Services staff vary, but generally starts at the same rate, just above minimum wage.

Unlike other campus departments, DCS is operated not only by the University, but also by Columbia Hospitality, a Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting company owned by Puget Sound alumnus John Oppenheimer.

According to the Columbia Hospitality website, “Puget Sound Dining & Conference Services is proudly owned and operated by the University of Puget Sound in collaboration with Columbia Hospitality. Their exceptional team is committed to serving the Puget Sound region by offering nutritionally sound meals, mentoring students, providing hospitality with integrity and leading our community in sustainable initiatives.”

So are DCS full-time staff employed by the University, or Columbia Hospitality?

According the University website, “Dining and Conference Services proudly employs 100 professional staff members who ensure the entire Puget Sound community has a positive dining experience. With team members ranging from recent alums to those who have worked for the university for 35 years, you will be sure to receive your meal with a smile.”

These 100 professional staff members work at many different venues, including the cafes, the Cellar, and catering. The majority of full-time staff, however, work at the Diner. Given the nature of working throughout the day, the full-time staff at the Diner tend to take the lead in most tasks, delegate tasks to the student workers, and train new employees.

In the opinion of many, to have any full-time staff compensated at the same rate as student workers is problematic. Given the nature of working full-time, these workers take on more of a leadership role.

“Anything I do, I ask the full-time staff. They’re definitely more in charge” one student worker said.

At one of the stations I worked at there was a few days where students would call out sick and she [the full-time worker] would have to cover all of their work,” the student worker continued.

“Though our actions and tasks appear identical, I believe the responsibility the staff has differs greatly from our student workers. For the staff this is our J-O-B, not a supplement to our education. We are responsible for upholding the quality, safety, and standards of DCS,” one full-time staff member at the diner said.

Many full-time staff at the diner were also affected by the recent weather problems. When campus is officially closed due to snow, DCS full-time staff are compensated at a double-time rate because the Diner is considered an essential service. However, many DCS staff commuted in the snow and were not compensated for double time, on days like Feb. 4 when campus was closed starting at 1 p.m., and Feb. 5 when campus had a delayed opening at 11 a.m.
Simple hacks to chop your expenses: Why you should move off campus ASAP

By Bailey Gamel

In the last issue of The Trail, I explored the issues with the University’s move-in and move-out dates for on-campus housing. This week, I would like to explore another problem of on-campus housing: the cost.

To get a sense for the cost of living off campus, I found 10 recent houses that were posted as available in the Housing page on Facebook. The prices per room ranged between $380 and $699 with an average of $592.9. (It is worth noting that the $699 house is much more expensive than the other houses; it is over $100 more expensive than the other houses). The prices range from $699 to $499 per month.

This week, I would like to explore another problem of on-campus housing: the cost. This uncertain and misleading warping of the truth is unsurprising that this liberal governor has a history with racism — truthfully, all white people do — but it’s even more surprising that his first action when confronted with the issue was to transform it into self-defense dipped in ignorance.

“Ralph Northam and the politicization of ignorance”

By Isaacs Sima-Foster

In the current age of digital media, the playbook of politics has been rewritten into something entirely new, personal and relentlessly critical. Politicians are slowly learning that speaking to younger Americans means speaking a different language than that of Capitol Hill, and that can be just as much a blessing as it is a curse. Virginia Governor Ralph Northam is presently navigating his way out of a messy debacle and feeling the sharp end of the digital media stick, after a photo from his medical school yearbook page went viral. The photo depicts two men, one dressed in an antebellum suit and covered in blackface, the other wearing the hood and robe of the Ku Klux Klan. Both of the men are holding what appear to be beer. Neither of their faces is identifiable.

In an article titled “Virginia Gov. Northam says he wants to ‘heal that pain’ of racial injustice, won’t resign,” Veronica Stracquazhari writes, “Northam initially apologized and said he was one of the people in the photo.” Later, he recanted in a 14-hour-long news conference saying he was not in the picture. He also revealed that he had worn blackface in a separate incident, when he performed dressed as Michael Jackson in a dance competition in the 1980s.

This uncertain and misleading warping of the truth is unsurprising that this liberal governor has a history with racism — truthfully, all white people do — but it’s even more surprising that his first action when confronted with the issue was to transform it into self-defense dipped in ignorance.

“Judging by his decision not to resign over the scandal, it’s clear that Northam, just like many Americans, can’t understand the painful historicity of blackface minstrelsy and the weight it carries.”

Dr. Dwandalyn Reece, a curator at the National Museum of African-American History, says, “So you might, with a straight face, say that the use of blackface dates back to the mid-1800s, when minstrelsy was a growing form of entertainment.”

Reece says that it was “white dresses up and caricaturing African-Americans ... mimicking their dance, their language, their music, but providing a caricature that provided comic relief at the expense of African-Americans.”

Even though Northam said he regrets he did not understand the harmful legacy of an action like that, he told his cabinet that he would not be resigning.

“I intend to continue doing the business of Virginia,” he told CNN, adding that “resigning would be the easier way out. I could spare myself from the difficult path that lies ahead. I could avoid an honest conversation about harmful actions from my past. I cannot in good conscience choose the path that would be easier for me in an effort to duck my responsibility to reconcile.”

Here we see Northam speaking the language he sees being employed by young politicians such as Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. At first glance, a humbling, self-sacrificial apology seems honorable coming from the governor, but a closer look at his actions show that he is making use of his racist incident to keep his job and appeal to a changing and deepening left-wing base, at the cost of the Virginia people who only really cares about eight months worth of eating. Even the convenience of having food cooked for you does not make spending almost $4,000 extra worth it.

AsLoggers, we move into the exciting time of year where our living plans for next year are finalized, think carefully about where you choose to live. Those of you who are in college under fire for two accusations of sexual assault, causing multiple Virginia lawmakers and 2020 presidential candidates to call for his and Northam’s resignation. Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring also confessed to wearing blackface decades ago.

All three of the Democrats, currently being nodded to as Virginia’s leftist banner, seem to be in a contest to remain in office. By politicizing ignorance and avoiding real blame, the three can expect no tangible consequences for their actions. Despite this century of futurist technology and overcoming diversity, the past few weeks have made clear that many toxic facets of American politics may never change.

Ralph Northam and the politicization of ignorance

By Isaacs Sima-Foster
The return of Queer Alliance

How it and the Rainbow Center can help you!

By Ellen Finn

The Puget Sound LGBTQ+ community has long been well-represented on campus. The Queer Alliance, a student-founded group, worked with the Rainbow Center executive director Manny Santiago to make the campus a safer place by normalizing and demystifying topics like safer sex practices, sexualities, kinks and polyamory, while shedding light on topics like trans rights, sexual and domestic violence, gender nonconformity and intersectionality. Programs, such as Queer Alliance, are a great place to be — congratulations.

But Queer Alliance had disappeared for an entire year. The club started to disband I was immediately saddened. This was the kind of opportunity for open and free club that I had to be part of since high school," said Santiago.

It is time to accept that the Abominable Sex-Cupid is on campus. Some of you already know this and, while playing in the snow, were hit by a raging arrow. Others of you witnessed the mysterious effect of a powerful death at the lingerie party when wallflowers began to grind. Perhaps, though, you were naive like me, and thought the Abominable Sex-Cupid did not exist. And even so, the consensus around campus is that many people thought they would be immune to the Abominable Sex-Cupid’s charm, but were mistaken. Unless you are aromantic, please be within your rights to stop your heart from getting frostbite.

First things first, don’t feel guilty when you get struck by that snowy bastard’s arrow.

If you are going to survive Valentine’s Week it is vital that you understand the Abominable Sex-Cupid has no method. One moment you think you’re completely into someone and then, wham! Your heart is for someone else. This is natural, and the important thing is to practice empathic and open communication.

The people you move on from (jealous people) may try to tell you to check yourself! Of course it’s helpful to check in with yourself every once in a while and make sure that you’re being the person you strive to be, but really you should not change yourself for anyone trying to make you change.

Experts say that once you are struck by the arrow you should understand what you have to offer. What is the best quality that you need to be yourself with someone you’re going to have public dates with. Of course, this isn’t like the movie “Grease” — if you change yourself you’re not going to be in a relationship, it probably won’t work out.

In order for the date to succeed, you need to know what self you are projecting and make sure it is an authentic you! Don’t be who you aren’t.

What do you like to do with your time? What makes you uncomfortable? These are some of the questions you will need to answer before you’re ready to lock and load.

Dating relationships require emotional investment. If you are in a place where you are going through changes in your body, you may not be ready for this type of connection. It is essential that you understand your body and what it needs.

Sex-Cupid does not have the ability to control relationships, but being vulnerable and open is essential to a healthy relationship. Be sure to communicate with your partner what you need and want.

If you are in a place where you are not ready to date, it is important to be honest with your partner. The Abominable Sex-Cupid wants you to be happy being yourself and everyone on this campus looks like they should be.
“Love is my religion,”
on-campus Christian group says

By Brynn Svenningsen

As a Christian group on a liberal arts campus, Lighthouse has always been committed to exploring religion in less-traditional ways. Last year, a lighthouse event on sex sparked the idea for the exploration series, which will continue with two more sex-based discussions. Each will take place during the club’s regular meeting time on Tuesday nights at 8:30 p.m. in the basement of Kilworth Chapel.

“Lighthouse is super accepting and affirming, which is super important to me as a queer person. Finding a place to practice my Christianity while being accepted for being gay is super cool,” Boyer said. During the event, Santiago spoke from his experience as a theology scholar. Additionally, he spoke from his perspective as a gay man who had grappled with the intersection of religion and his sexuality in the past.

To tie in theology, Santiago said. “I brought up some scripture that was reclaiming it under a queer lens in a way. Looking at something that may have seemed to only apply to a male friendship in the Bible, and seeing it as a gay relationship,” Boyer said.

Additionally Santiago brought into question God’s gender, a discussion that is extremely unique for a Christian group to partake in.

“Talking about God as a trans is the type of theology that I am. I know many people do not get exposure to, and I believe these conversations can be super transformative to the thought process of many people when they think about their faith. I look forward to attending events like this in the future and continuing the discussion with my campus community,” sophomore and Lighthouse club member Olivia Sherry said. The sexploration event is one example of the ways that Lighthouse has worked to be an inclusive and affirming religious on-campus group. For O’Leary, Sherry and Boyer, conversations about sex through their religion are new to them.

“We are Christian-centered, so that is part of our service and our curriculum, so you have to be interested in that. But the club is pretty low-key and even if you can’t want to meet a leadership member for coffee we are super interested in just getting to know you … We are an all-denominational religious group so we have people who were Catholic growing up or still identify with Catholicism, and lots of Protestants, and you can be Agnostic or even Atheist or whatever, as long as you are willing to talk about Christianity,” Boyer said.

Those interested in joining Lighthouse are encouraged to attend their weekly meetings every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in the basement of Kilworth. Boyer and O’Leary both shared their hopes that new members would feel comfortable coming to the club. Another Lighthouse activity open to anyone is their weekly visit to Hilltop Urban Gardens (HUG), where participants connect with community members and each other through community service.

“First and foremost, Lighthouse is really chill. If someone doesn’t want to speak there is no judgment. We understand that we all come from different backgrounds and that can be really intimidating. Everyone’s goal in the room is to make everyone feel welcome,” sophomore and new club member Katie Kulas said.

Out and about: Rainbow Center launches new program for LGBTQ professionals

By Juliano Estrada Donatelli

On Jan. 31, Out Professionals Network (OPN) launched their first event at North End Social Club. This program, which is a part of the Rainbow Center (RC) on Pacific Avenue, promotes community-building among LGBTQ professionals in the Puget Sound area. As expressed in their mission statement, OPN creates a supportive environment where LGBTQ professionals connect with one another, grow as professionals and support the queer community through fundraising.

Members are required to be 21 and over and pay either a monthly or annual fee that goes toward supporting both the Out Professional Network and the Rainbow Center, which is responsible for events such as the Gayla and Tacoma Pride. Keryn Giguere, a board member of the RC and key figure in the program, stated that in addition to social activities, OPN also hopes to provide a “healthy mix of events, some fun, some networking, and others focused on professional development and continuing education.”

At their inaugural event, the North End Social Club was packed with young professionals. As participants showed up, they were asked to sign in, providing an email and phone number, and encouraged to socialize with others in attendance. The bar was filled; members drank and chatted in small groups.

“It was a great night! We had over 30 young, queer professionals in attendance,” Giguere said. “The environment was positive and I felt we encountered a very comfortable engaging with people,” local real estate agent Ben Davidson said.

Davidson discussed his excitement over the program’s opening: “It think it is important for queer individuals to feel comfortable contributing to the business conversation of a city.”

Besides social events, Davidson is curious to see what OPN has in store for the future. “It will be exciting to see OPN begin to tackle specific issues,” he said. “One such issue would be getting involved with the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce, another might be hosting national networking events where similar groups from other places could come together … on a larger scale.”

Jae Bates, a University of Puget Sound alumnus, commented on the development of such a program in Tacoma: “It’s certainly helpful to have networks of other queer and trans professionals.”

Bates also discussed what he and his friends are really looking for in programs such as these: “What people are always concerned about is like the actual culture where people are working.” He mentioned that having a way to connect with others to talk about their experiences with local organizations in regard to equity, sexuality and gender would be a step in the right direction for the RC’s new program.

“My hope for OPN is that it can provide a safe space for the professional and young(ish) queer community in the South Sound to grow and socialize,” RC Board President Sergio Flores said. The next OPN event is scheduled for Feb. 28 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.; the meeting place has yet to be announced. For more information about the program contact opn@rainbowcntr.org or visit the Rainbow Center’s Facebook page.
Planning has just begun for Seeds: A Queer Latinx Book Club. On Saturday, Feb. 2, the club’s first preliminary meeting was held in King’s Books, located near downtown Tacoma. Group members were led by founder Juan-Carlos Ortega Esquinca, who is a Puget Sound alum, and laid out topics for discussion regarding the groundwork of the club before its first official meeting on March 2. Questions discussed in the preliminary meeting included: “What does Latinidad mean to you?” and “How do you feel about the term ‘Latinx?’” Preliminary meeting included future book selections and the term ‘Latinx?’

Ortega Esquinca emphasized the importance of providing community within the group.

Having moved here from San Diego two and half years ago, Ortega Esquinca mentioned that even now it is hard for him to feel connected within Tacoma, especially as a graduate. Ortega Esquinca said that he really struggled to leave the UPS bubble. “It’s been hard for me to really find community in Tacoma,” he said.

Each month, Seeds will announce a reading list to allow members to prepare before group meetings. Books can be purchased by members on-site in King’s Books at a discount.

During each session, participants will discuss the relevance of the month’s texts in regards to the diaspora of the Latinx community; readings, specifically the first selections from March 2, will provide a theoretical lens from which to guide each discussion. All people who identity as queer or Latinx are welcome to join a Latinx book club to be the highest priority in every meeting. The club will focus on ideas and principles in foreign policy.

“Once I saw there was a Latino book club I was like … yes!”

Guest lecture addresses balance of power and principles in foreign policy

Jentleson discussed how America needs to understand and balance its need for power and the democratic principles America holds so dear. He, however, talked about how principles and power have had dire consequences when America has intervened abroad.

Jentleson traced some of the issues with American foreign policy back to John Winthrop. “This is the origin of American exceptionalism,” he said about Winthrop’s sermon called “The City Upon a Hill.”

American exceptionalism is a term used to describe the belief that because of its form of democracy, the United States is “exceptional.”

This sermon was used by Winthrop to justify colonization in America. As an extension, this logic was used in the same way by later presidents.

Jentleson came to try to learn more about people’s standing on foreign policy.

The purpose of the lecture was to explore how America’s need for power can lend itself to undemocratic pursuits of that power.

Some future titles recommended during the meeting included “100 Years of Law and War,” “How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents,” as well as books by authors Rudolfo Anaya and Yosimar Reyes.

One of the group’s members, Elena Chávez, expressed her excitement about Seeds’ development and engaged with the group on Saturday, providing suggestions for books and thematic materials.

Chávez, who recently moved to Tacoma, found the opportunity to join a Latinx book club to be the highest priority. She said there are four things that need to be done for a foreign policy based on power. She said that many decisions were made to showcase American superiority, people suffered; Power, winning out over principles let rulers oppress their people.

“Once I saw there was a Latino book club I was like … yes!”

By Corrina Sullivan

February 15, 2019

“Once I saw there was a Latino book club I was like … yes!”

By Corrina Sullivan
Puget Sound Outdoors readies itself for more and more snow

By Sam Watters

With recent cold weather covering Tacoma under a blanket of snow, one can only imagine how much is coming down in the nearby mountains. The Puget Sound Outdoors (PSO) club is certainly excited for upcoming conditions and is ready to help students get the equipment and lift tickets they need to take advantage of the snow.

Maya Gilliam, a sophomore and an employee of the Expeditionary (Expy), is especially stoked for this forecast of snow and hopes that it helps increase the number of students who plan trips and rent equipment through the school’s organization.

“We are super pumped for the snow this year,” Gilliam said. “And we’re available to help people get the gear and knowledge they need to take advantage of this awesome weather.”

According to PSO’s upcoming schedule, organization head Justin Canny and other PSO leaders are in the process of planning a cross country ski demo. “It really just depends on if Todd Field can collect that the shuttle.” Gilliam said. One of the best parts of the Expy, however, is the amount of gear they have available for students.

“Because the Expy has the gear waiting to be rented out, Justin is looking to hold a course to educate PSO leaders about how to properly lend any kind of snow camping gear,” Gilliam said. Something PSO looks forward to every snow season is their mountain shuttle, which takes students to nearby ski resorts for the day. “We’re getting ready to start heading up to Crystal most weekends; some weekends that the organization will be sending out emails regarding upcoming winter trips, more opportunities to get discounted tickets at Crystal and Snoqualmie and spring break trips that are in the works.

Gilliam said, “And it’s a really cool opportunity for students to build that sort of community you can create when all of you are getting pumped for the snow in the shuttle.” Within the next few weeks, Gilliam says we’ll be going to Summit at Snoqualmie,” Gilliam said. “And it’s a really cool opportunity for students to build that sort of community you can create when you are getting pumped for the snow in the shuttle.”

Within the next few weeks, Gilliam says, “There’s just a lot of excitement here at the Expy because of the snow,” she said. Students interested in backcountry exploration might consider taking an avalanche safety course, something else that PSO offers students.

“Aera One certification gives you basic skills to navigate the backcountry on skis or a snowboard, how to look for signs of an avalanche, how to take precautions based off those signs and how to perform an avalanche rescue,” Gilliam said. With one group going up near Snoqualmie pass this weekend, PSO hopes to make the course more available in the coming weeks.

Gilliam says the winter time is a great time to find a new activity and maybe even find real love for the snow.” In Washington, there’s a lot of cool snow sports and so many ways to build communities by being outside, even in the winter,” Gilliam said.

Having the opportunity for activities such as skiing, snowboarding, camping and emergency training during the winter gives students something to do when it’s cold and dreary on campus.

“The winter is such a cool season because we put on this whole other side of our equipment and skills into play, since in the spring, summer and fall, most of what we do is centered around backpacking. But the winter gives students a huge array of new and exciting things to do during the weekends,” Gilliam said.

The snow season on campus can be dull and bleak at times, but there’s plenty offered by PSO to make the snow a bit more enjoyable. A lot of work goes into each and every trip put on by the organization, and PSO works hard to provide students with every opportunity to get outside and enjoy the last bit of winter in Washington state.

Women’s lacrosse brings new coach and attitude into the 2019 season

By Tayla MacPherson

The women’s lacrosse team is under way and the team will be playing their first game in just three short weeks. The Loggers will be playing in three non-conference games and 12 conference games in the upcoming season.

New lacrosse coach Elizabeth Daly described the team’s chemistry: “The team is full of fun, hardworking players who are improving every day. We are so excited to get on the field and show what we have been working on in practice.”

Daly most recently coached at Hendrix College (Conway, Arkansas). She is extremely passionate about the program and this season. Additionally, she has been enjoying the Puget Sound community thus far.

“As a new member of the Puget Sound community, I have really enjoyed getting to know the people all over campus, as well as everyone’s appreciation for the amazing location of our school, right in the heart of the Pacific Northwest,” she said.

The lacrosse team has many new faces in the program other than coach Daly. There will be five first-years joining the field with the remaining 10 returners this upcoming season.

Senior Hannah Nichols described the energy of the team with the new first-year: “We have been working really hard this season on fast-paced workouts and footwork skills. We have a dedicated and fun team this year! Our team is a freshman-heavy team with a lot of amazing skill.”

Another new aspect of the conference is that Willamette University (Salem, Oregon) has recently added a women’s lacrosse program.

Senior Becca Simon said, “On Sunday, April 28 at 1 p.m., we will be having our Senior Game against Pacific! It will be a really fun game and a great way to celebrate the seniors on the team!”

The team has been practicing together for three weeks, starting in January. Additionally, the team has participated in fall ball, which consisted of over a dozen practices.

“Tactical speaking, Coach Daly said, “A normal practice consists of stick skills, small-sided games and large-scale games playing to really work on game-like situations to prepare us for the season.”

The Northwest Conference preseason poll predicts the Loggers to finish in fourth place overall, after the Loggers finished last season in fourth place in the conference. The team hopes to place within the top three, even though the conference added a new team, increasing the conference to seven schools.

Simon has high hopes the team will succeed because of their commitment and unity. “The team has a really great connection,” she said. “Everyone does a great job at meeting each other where they are at and helping one another build each other’s skills. We are all really excited to get going with our season and are working very hard every day. We think we need to succeed this spring!”

The women’s lacrosse team will play their first game against George Fox at home on March 9.
Crew looks towards a successful spring season

By Lars Defty

Head Crew Coach Aaron Benson and his team look forward to the upcoming season with hopes of another fun and successful season. “We aim to make boats go fast. We intend to work purposefully and playfully every day as we strive to be better,” Benson said.

After a moderately successful fall, University of Puget Sound Crew begins its preparation for the spring season. Their first event is not until Saturday, March 9.

Benson acknowledges the ordinary and unique challenges that this season will bring. “The demands of the sport and the training necessary to make boats go fast remain constant,” he said. “But we have to adjust to our own ever-changing circumstances.”

According to junior Sabrina Saenz, there are 20 first-years in the program this season (eight men and 12 women). With so many newcomers, Benson intends to modify his approach to the upcoming season. “There will definitely be some attention paid to developing the newer members of the team,” Benson said.

Saenz echoed this concern: “Everyone has different habits they’ve learned during their time rowing that affect their stroke, which have to be corrected by the coach so everyone looks the same and the boat is efficient and effective come time to race.”

When asked to identify Logger Crew’s greatest strength heading into the new season, Benson pointed to the team’s unity. “Some years the men and women feel more like separate squads, and some years they feel more aligned as a single program,” Benson said.

Strong chance of putting out some medaling boats at championships if we can maintain line-up momentum,” Fournet said. Overall, Logger Crew looks forward to the spring season with high spirits and optimism. The program knows that success only comes with hard work and dedication — which they intend to exhibit.

Environmental decision-makers crack the code: Public participation is key

By Serena Hawkey

The fate of the environment is in our hands — now what?

Outdoor adventurers and lovers of all things natural gathered in Trimble Hall Wednesday, Feb. 6, to hear what the experts had to say on public engagement in the environmental sector.

The verdict? Participation by everyday people is essential to saving our planet and moving climate change legislation forward.

Lindsay Walker of the Sound Policy Institute — a University program that connects students, faculty and community members with real-world environmental decision-makers — was joined by Tony Ivey, Robb Krebbiel, Ryan Mello (10) and Sarah Griffen (19), most of whom are environmental professionals in the Puget Sound area.

Krebbiel works for the Defenders of Wildlife saving southern resident orcas, an issue that makes him very proud to work within the sector and highlights the importance of citizens in this struggle. “All good policy needs to start with connecting people to their environment and to their legislators,” Krebbiel said.

Krebbiel not only works with doctors and scientists to save the orcas, but also with elementary school children, teaching them how rain collection on their schoolyards can help save these friendly giants. The value in working with kids, he said, is creating a bond between community members and their surroundings from a young age.

Ivey, who works for the Washington Environmental Council, has a tougher approach to getting involved. He says that what most people consider the pinnacle of political engagement — voting — is only the beginning.

“You need to figure out a way to extend your vote, double your vote, triple your vote. The way you do that is by getting engaged and volunteering your time. Contact, call your legislator — it is not enough to say, ‘I voted and did everything I could.’ That is the least you can do,” Ivey said.

Mello, who is a Tacoma City Council Member at Large and the Pierce Conservation District Executive Director, agreed with Ivey, adding on that agenda setting is another powerful tool the public can use.

“You guys are the advocacy community. You have to come in and set the agenda. I am never going to be able to set an agenda without your help,” Mello said.

The most recent community battle was over Washington Initiative 1631, an ambitious carbon emissions fee measure that was ultimately shot down in the November election. While the panel members are still disappointed over how the measure was opposed — $40 million was poured into the opposition by Big Oil — they saw their defeat as a strategic loss and ask the public to do the same.

“You’ve got to be able to value both incremental wins and strategic losses. Introduce bills that will never pass just to introduce topics and get the conversations going,” Krebbiel said.

“That’s where we come in,” Krebbiel says: “Go talk to legislators. Go talk about your own experiences. Don’t show them facts and figures. Go tell your story.”
Search and rescue recovers hiker lost in President's Woods

By Bean McQueen

A three-week long search finally ended this week when Washington Search and Rescue (WSR) found missing hiker Kristy Canover, who had become lost in the President's Woods while hiking alone.

"At that point, we were expecting to come across a body," Bill Gillespie, director of Washington Search and Rescue, said. "Most people don't have the survival skills or equipment to make it that long in the wild, particularly in February. And a region like the President's Woods is particularly harsh — a lot of sources of fresh water, little wildlife, sometimes people go in and smoke weed. We were astonished to find Ms. Canover alive," Gillespie said.

Volunteers were also amazed to have found Ms. Canover. Hilda Hockingbrett, a veteran volunteer at WSR, said not only did she not expect to find the hiker alive, she was doubtful they would ever recover a body.

"It was getting around to that time that there were rumors of giving up the search. Of course we do what we can, but when you're dealing with an area the size of the President's Woods — over 1.7 acres — ultimately you have to be pragmatic, you have to get real and you have to throw your hands up and say: okay, I couldn't do it this time. I'm so glad we didn't. This is a miracle," Hockingbrett said.

Margaret Canover, Kristy Canover's mother, was tearful with relief.

"I told her not to go there," Margaret Canover said. "The President's Woods is the Bermuda Triangle of the Pacific Northwest. Daughters go in, sisters, mothers, friends, brothers, uncles, mailmen and bodies come out. But she was so persistent, so headstrong, finally I told her 'do what you want'. I'm just so glad that's not the last thing I said to her."

"It's true that The President's Woods is notoriously difficult to navigate. Since the small forest in the corner of a college campus was planted over 70 years ago, over one hundred outdoor recreationists have gone missing while exploring the region. Less than 70 percent of those have survived."

In recent years, the Board of Trustees has come under fire for keeping such a dangerous wilderness so closely integrated into life at University of Puget Sound. Critics claim that the President's Woods pose a serious threat to student safety.

"When I wake up in the morning, I wonder: am I going to get lost in the forest and die today?" junior economics major Sean Grophic said. "And when I go to bed at night I wonder: did I get lost in the forest and die today?"

Undeclared senior Gregoir Boindois argued that the forest's presence was a matter of gender, economic class and privilege.

Undercover, under the covers: Uncovering Puget Sound hookup culture

By Grizz's Toe

Investigative journalist and Harvard graduate Jenny Jensen here. Last Friday I took the red eye (first class) from New York City to the Seattle-Tacoma airport to dig into, uncover and expose a reveling phenomenon amongst the collegiate youth — hookup culture. Some call me bold, some call me brave, some say my niece goes to the University of Puget Sound and is super confused about sex, but — no, stop, you guys — I’m just doing my civic duty.

Before my night of expose journalism I prepared my outfit: a vintage green and gold Puget Sound off-the-shoulder crop top, socks with the words “moon jeans” written all over them, Birkenstocks, and a pair of bike shorts (for comfort). Then I picked a discreet pseudonym for myself for the night: Dolly Parton. After fully embodying my alter-ego, pre-gaming with my niece in the Todd Philips third floor lounge and getting written up by an RA, I embarked into the Civic Duty.

By Grizz’s Toe

February 15, 2019
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COMBAT ZONE

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By Bean McQueen

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COMBAT ZONE
On Thursday, Feb. 7 at the Tacoma Art Museum, two professionals from seemingly opposing fields combined their expertise to bring awareness and environmental issues in a new and accessible way. Seattle-based artist Mary Coss and estuarine ecologist Roger Fuller presented their collaborative work, “Silent Salinity - After the Dig,” drawing attention to human beings’ relationship to their environment.

Fuller works with the Skagit Climate Science Consortium, a nonprofit organization that studies environmental patterns in the Skagit basin. Along with important scientific research, the group’s mission is to heighten awareness of climate change and help the state and public address and heal negative environmental impacts.

Fuller knew he had to get creative in order to instill the importance of glacial and estuary health for the local environment. Fuller and the Museum of Northwest Art, located in the heart of Washington State’s estuary, came up with a plan.

“We started this art show about climate change impact on the local ecosystem and the idea was to engage artists and scientists together in a conversation about the science and then the artists would express that,” Fuller said at Thursday evening’s talk.

Through this art show, Fuller came into contact with Mary Coss, a local artist whose passion brought “Silent Salinity - After the Dig” to fruition. “The idea of working with a scientist where I could actually brainstorm together and be inspired by the raw data was so intriguing to me,” Coss said.

After speaking with Fuller about the rising salinity levels in the local estuary, Coss was inspired to create a series of visually and emotionally impactful artworks. Coss, who works in metaphor, wanted to find a way to communicate to the public the importance of reversing this salinity.

“I was playing with this idea of what would happen if this continues and we don’t do anything to stop this. What happens eventually if all of the water becomes saline?” Coss asked. Coss imagined a world completely overtaken by salt. She encased household items in salt, making their once-familiar forms look foreign and ancient. In one piece, “What Remains,” featured in the show, objects encased in salt such as a typewriter, fan and a suitcase blend into a gut level, “Artists are great at communicating to the entire person, to the whole person, so communicating at a gut level through imagery, through touch, through you know, all kinds of different mediums,” Fuller said.

Coss’s artwork certainly provokes a gut reaction. The dystopian future she creates within her salt-encrusted pieces reminds us that climate change is something that will impact us all sooner or later.

“When you talk about global warming and you talk about ocean rise, it’s in such little pieces that people don’t really think about or understand the impact of what eventually will happen if it isn’t turned around,” Coss said.

Coss’s goal is to touch the emotional side of our understanding of climate change and what it means for the individual. For a scientist like Fuller, a personal and emotional understanding of climate change is difficult. Coss had Fuller write about the way he felt about climate change rather than focus on raw data and fact as science requires.

“I had asked him to write a journal entry that spoke to the science, but talked about it in a personal way, like, ‘How would you tell this story to your grandchild,’” and he wrote this very poetic journal entry,” Coss said.

Coss used this journal entry to create one of her largest pieces, “Net Loss.” She took Fuller’s words and shaped them out of wire, then she strung them together into a large fishing net shape and encased the entire piece in salt. The result was not only aesthetically pleasing, but full of readable words like “gone” and “change” which gives the audience a tangible way to feel about climate change.

Coss and Fuller proved that art and science can live symbiotically. Science can give us hard facts, but art can tell us why we care and inspire us to make a change. It is through these community initiatives and the dedication of the people running them that reversing the impact of climate change could become a reality.

Coss’s work is on display at 950 Gallery in Tacoma until Feb. 21.

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On February 15, 2019

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Why we need art and science to combat climate change

By Arielle Harvey

Ted Bundy — we all know him as the infamous serial killer and the first result when you Google “University of Puget Sound notable alumni.”

Recently portrayed by Zac Efron in the semi-biographical crime thriller “Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile,” Ted Bundy was a prominent serial killer active in the 1970s who is estimated to have killed upwards of 30 women according to news headlines shown in the first episode of the show.

According to “Cannes: Zac Efron to Play Ted Bundy in ‘Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile,’” an article from The Hollywood Reporter, the upcoming docuseries, created by Joe Berlinger and the last 20 minutes of the episode showcases footage of the hordes of people surrounding Florida’s death row. These taped interviews also serve as a sort of post-mortem narration by Bundy himself. The docuseries, created by Joe Berlinger and the last 20 minutes of the episode showcases footage of the hordes of people surrounding Florida’s death row. These taped interviews also serve as a sort of post-mortem narration by Bundy himself. The second episode of the show is even titled “One of Us,” and, throughout each episode, it is repeated by multiple people who were close to him, such as his mother and former girlfriends, that Bundy seemed no different than the average person is a recurring theme.

“I was interested that there were a lot of very poetic journal entries,” Coss said. “I had asked him to write a journal entry that spoke to the science, but talked about it in a personal way, like, ‘How would you tell this story to your grandchild,’ and he wrote this very poetic journal entry,” Coss said.

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Ted Bundy in court in 1979

"Conversations with a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes’ Reviewed"

By Keara Wood

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Honey & Alma Mater hosts workshop for aspiring writers

By Carlisle Huntington

On a snowy Thursday night, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m., aspiring authors from all across Tacoma came to share their work at Honey Coffee and Kitchen in Alma Mater’s third monthly writer’s workshop. Founded in December of 2018, the group is part of the organization’s larger mission to serve as an “incubator for artists,” as their website states. “Alma Mater is all about artists,” local writer and workshop participant Alex Napeléon said. “They just want to be a hub for artists. They had tackled art, they had tackled the art galleries and exhibitions, but they haven’t been doing anything for writers really and this was their first step in that direction.”

And what a grand step it was! Six total came to the gathering, and for many it was their first time attending the burgeoning group. Carrie Sorossay, for example, had just recently found the group through Facebook. “I’m a transplant from L.A.,” Sorossay said, “and I’ve been looking for a writing workshop so I can stay focused on the novel I’m trying to finish.”

Napeléon, a freelance writer who was leading the discussion for the night, is also working on a novel, in addition to some short stories that he has previously workshopped with the group. When asked to describe his work, he said, “It’s like speculative fiction. It’s definitely science fiction but it’s more about the people than the technology. Then some of my writing is just literary fiction about family and life. But I’m just very much a beginner.”

While some participants were just starting to discover their own literary voice, others were seasoned and published writers. One member, Paul Barach, had published a memoir in 2014 entitled “Fighting Slicks and Burning Mountains,” about his 750-mile hike through a Buddhist Pilgrimage in Japan. But regardless of age or experience, all of Thursday’s group’s shared Google drive. At the meeting, participants are expected to come prepared with copies and comments for the designated writers. This month it was the work of 22-year-old Americano volunteer Abi Banover and 29-year-old school teacher Rob Hurst, that was scheduled for discussion.

First, the group discussed the work being discussed, resulting in a fun, friendly atmosphere that was fruitful for creative discussion. Work is due online on the third Thursday of every month to the designated writers. This month it was the work of 22-year-old Americano volunteer Abi Banover and 29-year-old school teacher Rob Hurst, that was scheduled for discussion.

When it came to Banover’s poem, however, the author was surprised to hear that people took away a far different tone than she had initially expected. “I really enjoyed hearing this and that you made me feel like it was more much more benign than my motivation behind the writing of it,” she said.

The overall experience for writers and readers alike was a productive evening of creative collaboration. Around the table, there was a feeling of inspiration as a group of writers spoke, and see the beginnings of great literary community that will surely continue to grow.

Rise Up: The Hamilton Tribute Band live review

By Evan Welsh

Tribute bands have never really been my thing, but on Friday in Schneebeck Concert Hall, the Seattle-based “Hamilton” tribute band Rise Up put on a wonderful performance that got the audience moving in their seats and sent them home singing refrains from their favorite “Hamilton” songs. It’s a difficult task to construct a setlist of songs that, originally, are very purposefully placed within the narrative of a play — and it is hard to know how songs will sound when they are performed out of chronological order and without the same cues of intricate choreography and lighting.

When the artifice of intricate stage design and the content of the play’s narrative are stripped from musical theater songs, the songwriting and performances become the things that stand out most. The performances were all well done — however, it was, at times, difficult not to compare the members of Rise Up to their Tony-winning inspirations — and each song in the setlist was performed with a lot of enthusiasm and energy.

Rise Up’s show really showcased how well-written music to “Hamilton” is, even when they were offering slightly different interpretations to these incredibly popular songs. The inclusion of a synthesizer and some more contemporary drum beats on some tracks made them stand out from the original cast recording that many people are accustomed to. Even with the songs being performed out of their natural order, the show never felt like it was disjointed or incoherent.

The second half of the show felt a bit more lively than the first, as all of the performers felt a little more settled in and the crowd was more open to interaction. Rise Up is, at its core, a “Hamilton” tribute group, but their performances of songs outside of that catalog made for some highlights. Their rendition of “The Song That Goes Like This” from “Spamalot” was lighthearted and joyful enough to get the crowd to pull out their phones for the 21st-century version of lighters illuminating the concert hall. The group also gave a beautiful performance of the mash-up song “Found/Tonight,” that includes pieces from the plays “Hamilton” and “Dear Evan Hansen,” and was originally written for the “March for our Lives” movement.

It feels odd saying that Rise Up did a good job of picking “the hits” from a Broadway musical play, but the group’s selection highlighted the fan favorites and got the crowd singing along and dancing, including the concert closer, “The Schuyler Sisters,” and the encore, “Yorktown (The World Turned Upside Down).”

While I don’t believe this could stand in as a substitute to seeing the real thing, Rise Up offers up a wonderful evening that will be sure to please fans of “Hamilton” and Broadway musical theatre of all kinds.