

THE WESTERN FRONT

Welcome Back Edition

Volume 185, Issue 1

westernfrontonline.com

@TheFrontOnline

Monday, Sept. 24, 2018

In this issue:

News

Rec center employee under investigation
//page A3

New LGBTQ+ director
//page A5

Campus

Campus surveillance
//page B1

First-generation student experience
//page B2

Community

Makerspace 3D-printing lab
//page C4

Waterfront redevelopment
//page C6

Sports

Women's soccer season preview
//page D2

New men's basketball recruits
//page D6

Welcome to Western

President Randhawa welcomes students to campus for the 2018-19 academic year

Welcome to the 2018-2019 academic year, and thank you for choosing Western. Fall on Western's campus is a magical time of year. Even as the falling leaves and cooler temperatures remind us that the natural world is preparing for seasonal slumber, our campus is coming alive with the energy of new and returning students and faculty. Whether this is your first year at Western or your last, I hope you are as excited as I am by the opportunities that lie ahead to learn about others, ourselves and the world we share.

Supporting your success both in and out of the classroom is the primary mission of Western, and it's a commitment shared by more than 2,000 faculty and staff in a wide variety of roles.

Western's excellent faculty are not only engaged in groundbreaking research and creative work, they care about you and are deeply invested in your learning and success. One of the smartest things you can do as a new student is to take every

opportunity you can to engage with them by speaking up in class, attending office hours and seeking out their advice on how to achieve your aspirations in your academic and career path. Although it may initially be intimidating, being proactive about your education will create exciting opportunities for work closely with faculty on research, internships or study abroad.

Many graduates of Western say their most transformative learning and growth experiences happened outside of the classroom, so don't forget to explore your path there as well. With more than 200 student clubs, intramural sports, outdoor excursions and activities, volunteer programs and myriad ways to be involved with the Associated Students, there is literally something for everyone at Western. I encourage you not to think of these as "extracurricular" activities or distractions from your academic pursuits. On the contrary, these are student-centered learning spaces that

develop leadership, independence and build community in ways that wonderfully complement classroom learning. I hope that you take advantage of your time at Western to follow your curiosity and stretch yourself to learn beyond your usual comfort zone.

With so many exciting opportunities to learn, meet new people and engage in new activities, it's easy to get run down quickly. Even as you dive in to your studies and other interests, please remember that your success depends on taking care of yourself and being willing to ask for help when you need it. If you find that you are becoming overwhelmed, or see someone else who is, Western has resources to empower you on your journey.

Welcome again to the start of the school year. Each one of you is an important part of our campus community, and I am always curious to know what we can be doing to make the student experience better. Every quarter I host public listening ses-



President Sabah Randhawa // Photo courtesy of University Communications

sions with students — with free food! — and I would appreciate it if you would drop by to tell me about your experience. If you can't make it, please don't hesitate to say hello and introduce yourself if you see me walking around campus. I am always eager to learn more from the student perspective and look forward to hearing from you.



@thefrontonline



@thefrontonline



facebook.com/westernfrontonline

Sign up for our weekly newsletter

For all the news you won't find in Western Today

westernfrontonline.com

Students march against Aramark

Food justice summit critiques dining provider's contract with university



Students and community members marched from Western's campus through downtown on Sept. 2 to voice their concerns about the university's contract with Aramark. // Photo by Suzanna Leung

Suzanna Leung
THE WESTERN FRONT

Shouts echoed as roughly 50 protesters took to the streets with their signs and made their way from Red Square to Maritime Heritage Park. "What do we want? Food justice! When do we want it? Now! If we don't get it, shut it down!"

The Real Meals, Not Dirty Deals! march on Sept. 2 marked the end of a three-day food justice summit on Western's campus run by the Real Food Challenge. According to its website, "The Real Food Challenge leverages the power of youth and universities to create a healthy, fair, and green food system."

The event consisted of Western students, Bellingham community members and Real Food Challenge organizers from across the country. All converged for the march to oppose Western's dining contract with Aramark, a food service company operating primarily in the cafeteria industry.

The event began with a sign-making session and progressed into the march. The group's first stop was in front of the Viking Commons, where event organizers discussed Western and Aramark's dining contract. From there, protesters chanted and marched down High Street and through downtown to the Whatcom County Jail to discuss Aramark's hand in the prison system.

Aramark has dining contracts with jails across the country, and the Whatcom County Jail is one of them. Maggots were found in Michigan and Ohio correctional facilities contracted with Aramark. The Michigan incident resulted in 30 prisoners coming down with food poisoning, USA Today reported in 2014.

Local Michigan news website MLive reported two incidents of food violations by Aramark in 2015. In Saginaw County, Michigan inmates were served food from the trash, resulting in an Aramark employee being fired.

In Kent County, Michigan inmates were served rotten chicken in their tacos.

Fourth year Fairhaven student Emmaline Bigongiari helped organize the Real Meals, Not Dirty Deals! march and food justice summit. She cited the incidents in Michigan and Ohio as reasons why Western shouldn't align itself with Aramark. Bigongiari is also a member of a new student club, Students for a Self-Operated Dining System that is launching a campaign called "Shred the Contract" to end Western's relationship with Aramark.

"We recognize that a lot of Aramark's practices don't match [Western's] values. We have the same food service provider, and yet we know the food that students are getting compared to the food that incarcerated people are getting are vastly different," Bigongiari said. "We as a student group feel that Aramark profiting off of these prisons is really reflective of how they operate overall as a company."

As the protestors stood outside the Whatcom County Jail and chanted their support for the prisoners, inmates let them know they heard by banging on the walls of the facility.

Mike Callicrate, a food and livestock producer from northwest Kansas, attended the event as a speaker on behalf of the Real Food Challenge organization. He has experienced the pressure of competing with big food corporations as a local farmer and seeks to expose the malpractices of the big food industry.

"If only people could taste the human exploitation in the food that they eat," Callicrate said. "If only they could taste the environmental degradation in the food that they eat, and the animal abuse in the food that they eat, we wouldn't have this problem. We have to inform people about the injustice in our food system."

see ARAMARK, page 4

The Western Front
 The Western Front
 Western Washington University
 Communications Facility 222
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Newsroom number:
 360-650-3162
 Email address:
 westernfrontonline@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief
 Gwen Roley
News Editor
 Logan Porteus
Campus Features Editor
 Suzanna Leung
Community Features Editor
 Zoe Deal
Sports Editor
 Hailey Palmer
Copy Editor
 Kristina Rivera
Photographer
 Kelly Pearce
Letters to the editor:
 westernfront.opinion@gmail.com
Press releases:
 wfpress.release@gmail.com
Faculty Adviser
 Marianne Graff
 Marianne.Graff@wwu.edu
Advertising Department
 360-650-3160
Advertising Manager
 Annie Becker

The Western Front is published once weekly in the fall, winter, spring and summer quarters. The Western Front is the official newspaper of Western Washington University and is published by the Student Publications Council. It is mainly supported by advertising. Opinions and stories in the newspaper have no connection to advertising. News content is determined by student editors. Staff reporters are involved in a course in the department of journalism, but any student enrolled at Western may offer stories to the editors.

Have story ideas? Email us at westernfrontonline@gmail.com to send them our way or discuss sharing information confidentially.

Corrections
 The Western Front strives for accuracy in our coverage. Please notify us of any inaccuracies at westernfrontonline@gmail.com.

Rec center employee under investigation by Bellingham Police, found dead in Spokane

Police say roughly 198 pieces of evidence found after reporting of shower filming incident



A press conference with the Bellingham Police Department on Sept. 13 after Leonetti's investigation and death were announced the day before. // Photo by Hailey Palmer

Hailey Palmer
THE WESTERN FRONT

An employee of the Wade King Student Recreation Center, who has been identified as Kip Leonetti, was found dead in a Spokane hotel room on Monday, Sept. 10 in an apparent suicide. Leonetti was also an associate coach and general manager of Bellingham Slam, a semi-professional basketball team.

At his time of death, Leonetti was under investigation by the Bellingham Police

Department on suspicion of video recording two Bellingham Slam players while they were showering after an event at Seattle Pacific University the weekend of Aug. 25-26. The players reported the incident to the Bellingham Police Department on Sept. 4.

Leonetti was contacted, interviewed and released by Bellingham Police on Sept. 6 because probable cause for arrest had not yet been established, according to a Western Today article.

Leonetti was placed on ad-

ministrative leave and relieved of his duties at the rec center on Tuesday, Sept. 4, by Western.

At a press conference on Sept. 13, Bellingham Police Chief David Doll said around 200 new pieces of evidence were seized from the home, including Leonetti's cell phone, from a search warrant. He had no previous criminal history.

"This investigation is of the highest priority for the Bellingham Police Department," Doll said. "We have some forensic analysts who are look-

ingham Police Department to conclude the investigation.

Lieutenant Danette Beckley said detectives searched through Leonetti's cell phone. Since the investigation is ongoing, the Bellingham Police Department is not able to comment on what it found outside of what was originally reported.

"We were able to view his cell phone and the detectives were able to confirm late Friday night that the images that were reported were on his phone," Beckley said. "At that point there was probable cause for voyeurism, however, the investigation was still continuing because there was so much more evidence."

Paul Cocke, Western's director of communications and marketing, said Leonetti was an employee at the rec center for 12 years in a clerical capacity.

"My understanding in terms of Mr. Leonetti is he was not involved with any programming whatsoever for any of the programs at Wade King," Cocke said. "He did scheduling, he worked on the website."

Doll said the Bellingham Police Department is providing care and outreach to victims, as is University Police. Rasmussen said University Police is reaching out to all faculty, staff, students and visitors affected by the incident.

The Bellingham Police Department said to call 360-778-8823 with any tips or information regarding this investigation. Students can contact the Student Counseling Center at 360-650-3164. Employees can contact Washington State Employee Assistance Program at 877-313-4455, or 866-704-6364 after hours, for support.

University Police Chief Darin Rasmussen said it is currently working with the Bell-

360.650.3160
 WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM

MAKE YOUR MARK IN INK
 ADVERTISE WITH THE WESTERN FRONT

YELLOW CAB INC
 Bellingham, Burlington, British Columbia & Beyond
 Locally Owned & Operated

20% DISCOUNT ON AIRPORT TRIPS!

LARGEST FULL-SERVICE FLEET NORTH OF SEATTLE
 24-HOUR SERVICE • GPS DISPATCHED • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

4 WAYS TO BOOK A CAB:

TEXT 360.333.8294
 Include name, address, # riders, date, and destination

CALL 360.733.8294
 and Toll Free (877) 766-8294.

DOWNLOAD FREE APP
 Coming soon!

BOOK ONLINE
 yellowcabinc.com/order-cab

St. James
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"A Welcoming Christian Community in Historic Fairhaven"

910 14th St
 (360) 733-1325 • www.saintjamespres.org



Students chant at the Real Meals, Not Dirty Deals march and food justice summit. // Photo by Suzanna Leung

ARAMARK

continued from page 2

Callicrate also hopes to expose a practice that shuts out family farmers and ranchers from the market called “kickbacks.” The practice involves companies like Aramark, Sodexo and Compass Group promising exclusive purchase to food corporations, like Tyson Foods, in order to receive a bump in pay.

Callicrate advocated for a fair food system that treats animals well, cares for the environment and pays workers legal wages.

Bigongiari and other members of Students for a Self-Operated Dining Sys-

tem continued to collect testimonials from students about Aramark’s exploitation of student workers on campus. Some of the testimonials involved sexual harassment by Aramark management and managers threatening to fire students if they didn’t work despite being sick. However, many Aramark student employees are scared to speak up, particularly those in higher positions.

The executive director of the Real Food Challenge, Anim Steele said the organization reached out to Aramark prior to the event but didn’t receive a response. He hopes one day Aramark will work with the Real

Food Challenge to move away from big food.

“The cafeteria industry flies below the radar for most people. On the one hand, most people in their lives have eaten in a cafeteria. On the other hand, we don’t know what goes on behind the kitchen door,” Steele said. “We don’t get the sense that it’s a big industry, and now we’re waking up to that fact.”

Western is contracted with Aramark until Aug. 31, 2021. Until that time, Students for a Self-Operated System will continue their “Shred the Contract” campaign to keep the university from re-signing with Aramark after it expires.

The club seeks to create a dining system that respects labor rights, uses local and sustainable foods in dining halls and has students at the forefront of deciding which foods are best. They also want to create a union for student workers while preserving Western’s current dining union.

“Food impacts all of us. Not just as students, just as humans. It’s a really powerful way to create change because it impacts all of us,” Bigongiari said. “We can also find food as a way to empower ourselves and start to recognize that we deserve different than what we’re being served right now.”

Participants available for media comment and interview at the march wore green stars on their name tags. All other participants were informed to direct all media to these specific organizers. Steele said this allowed those most excited about the issue to speak.

The Real Meals, Not Dirty Deals! march ended at Maritime Heritage Park with a debrief of the three-day food justice summit. Participants will go home after the event — to Kansas, to Colorado and many back to their Bellingham homes — with new knowledge on Western’s food system and how to change it for the better.



On the left: Emmaline Bigongiari address the crowd after organizing the Real Meals, Not Dirty Deals march. On the right: A protester leads the call as participants take their march through downtown Bellingham. // Photos by Suzanna Leung

Interview with L.K. Langley, first-ever LGBTQ+ Director

New position aims to build community and coordinate with campus resources and groups

Logan Porteus
THE WESTERN FRONT

L.K. Langley, former manager of Equal Opportunity Programs, will serve as the first-ever LGBTQ+ director at Western.

“The position really broadly serves students as well as faculty and staff at the university,” Langley said. “The mission for LGBTQ+ Western is to advance the holistic thriving of the diverse LGBTQ+ students, faculty and staff.”

To best fulfill this role, Langley said they will aim to collaboratively engage with the Western community through transformational knowledge, access to resources, advocacy and celebration.

Steps to uphold these driving principles are already underway. Langley created a new website, lgbtq.wvu.edu, for students, faculty and staff to access resources, learn more about LGBTQ+ events and clubs and stay up to date with announcements.

Linked resources on the website include where to find gender-neutral restrooms, how to apply for gender-inclusive housing options, how to file a name change through the Registrar’s office and a list of additional campus resources.

“The website will hopefully be a very useful hub for students and faculty/staff,” Langley said. “It’ll offer a comprehensive understanding of what re-

sources exist on campus, which resources exist in our broader community, what events are coming up and to share written learning materials as I develop those. It will also look at the different ways to get academically engaged with sexuality and gender identity.”

LGBTQ+-related studies are offered at Western, and a number of clubs and groups, including Western Aces, Queer Club, Queer and Trans People of Color Club (QTPOC) and Tag-Team, a club for trans students, of which Langley serves as the adviser.

“We have wonderful programs of study in women, gender, sexuality studies,” Langley said. “We have a queer studies minor in addition to the WGSS major and minor, and we have some classes across lots of disciplines that explore topics of gender and sexuality. So, there are opportunities to get engaged academically through the curricular side.”

Langley first began working at the Equal Opportunity Office in October 2011. They served as the manager of Equal Opportunity Programs until starting as LGBTQ+ Director on Aug. 6. During this time, like many people on campus, Langley had been working to fill some gaps left by the absence of a position they now hold, they said.

“To their good credit, the university leadership recognized the need for a posi-

tion at a pretty senior level that’s dedicated to serving LGBTQ+ people on campus in a really coordinated, deliberate way,” Langley said.

Less than 15 percent of American colleges and universities have a full-time employee whose job duties are at least 50 percent dedicated to queer advocacy and resources. While some schools have had such positions for years, others still don’t, Langley said.

“I think there is a recognition at Western of the importance of having leaders who are dedicated to doing this work in the day to day and moving all of us forward as we think about equity and inclusion for all of our community members,” they said.

Langley stressed the importance of their new position of working as a leading partner — not a replacement — to aid collaboration without rendering other LGBTQ+ organizations and resource providers obsolete.

Langley said the new LGBTQ+ director position has four overarching goals:

To engage individuals and departments in dialogue, learning opportunities and review of practices to better include LGBTQ+ students and colleagues.

To examine Western’s built environment systems and practices to remove barriers to inclusion and full participation. This includes examining barriers within information systems



Langley began working at the Equal Opportunity Office October 2011, and was Manager of Equal Opportunity Programs prior to their new position. // Photo courtesy of L.K. Langley

and structural environment at Western and addressing them.

To facilitate LGBTQ+ people’s connections to campus and community resources that further health and wellness.

Building community and advancing the visibility, understanding and celebration of LGBTQ+ cultures at Western. This would take the form of community

events that are either academically focused or social and community building.

“I’m grateful and truly excited to be in this role, serving the vibrant LGBTQ+ communities on campus,” Langley said. “I encourage students faculty and staff to reach out to me if they feel the need to do so and to check out the website!”

Upcoming LGBTQ+ Events

International Pronouns Day- Oct. 17 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

LGBTQ+ Western is endorsing the first-ever international pronouns day. The event will include a lunch and learn session, offering an opportunity to learn about the importance of pronouns and practice sharing pronouns in conversation.

Student Listening Sessions- Oct. 24 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Oct. 25 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Faculty and Staff Listening Sessions- Nov. 6 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. and Nov. 14 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

These two events will center around community dialogue with Langley, offering students, staff and faculty the opportunity to express what they think is working well and where there are opportunities to grow as a community.

To learn more and access LGBTQ+ resources, visit lgbtq.wvu.edu

SUMMER HEADLINES

Here's what you may have missed

Western lacks commitment to sexual assault prevention

Western's work group on sexual violence response and prevention is understaffed. There is a lack of student representation within sexual assault prevention. Experts say that one-time online prevention courses, like the one used at Western, is not enough to effectively lower rates of assault.

Whatcom County raspberry farms struggle as imported berries flood industry

Whatcom County produces over 90 percent of raspberries sold in the U.S. This year, the market saw a spike in imported berries two times that of previous years, lowering the market stake of farms in Whatcom County.

Odyssey of Science and Arts program aims to engage kids during summer break

The Western-hosted program is designed to offer elementary and middle school kids classes in subjects like robotics and survival science. This year, the program combined academically-focused courses and recreation time, rather than only hosting classes.

New house show venue aims to promote inclusivity and safety

A new house show venue, Luigi's Mansion, was created as a place to enjoy the local music scene while promoting safety and representing bands from marginalized communities. This is in response to a culture that some see as forgiving of predatory behavior and lacking representation.

Large power outage impacts over 4,000 Bellingham residents

On July 30, much of the Samish Hill and Sehome neighborhoods lost power, including all businesses of Sehome Village. The power outage began at 7:09 p.m., and all customers regained power by 10:48 p.m.

Primary election ballot holds highest number of women candidates in history

Whatcom County's primary election broke a record for the most women running for office in the county than ever before. This came after a slow increase in percentage of women in state legislature since 2001. Washington is one of the top-10 states for most women represented in state legislatures.

Woodway Assisted Living residents protest poor living conditions

Residents of local assisted living facility protested outside of the building, noting insufficient diets, expired prescriptions and poor treatment. Woodway responded, noting that some complaints would be addressed.

Bellingham annual Pride festival now the second largest in Washington State

Bellingham Pride's theme this year was the Stonewall Riots and included Tree Sequoia, a gay rights activist and an original bartender at the Stonewall Inn. The Bellingham Pride festival was reportedly twice the size of attendance as last year.



BELLINGHAM BEER GARDEN

TWIN SISTERS
BREWING COMPANY

CHECK OUT BELLINGHAM'S NEWEST

BREWERY!

LOCATED IN THE BEAUTIFUL
SUNNYLAND NEIGHBORHOOD

DOG-FRIENDLY BEER GARDEN, FULL BAR,
AND A FRESH, LOCALLY-SOURCED MENU.

360.922.6700 | HELLO@TWIN SISTERS BREWING.COM

500 CAROLINA ST. BELLINGHAM WA

TWIN SISTERS BREWING.COM



the **Y** YMCA

Volunteer • Intern • Work • Join

Welcome back Western Students!

WHATCOM FAMILY YMCA www.whatcomymca.org



PRIMARY HEALTHCARE AND FAMILY PRACTICE

Birth Control
Sports/Travel Physicals
Coughs and Colds
STI, UTI Testing
Depression, ADD
Acupuncture, Weight Loss



NEAR WWU

Same-Day Appointments
Most Insurance
Ask About Discounts!

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!
360-756-9793
WWW.BELLINGHAMHEALTH.COM

The end of an era for Terra Organica and the Public Market

Keeping a local organic grocery store up and running proves too much to bear in Bellingham's current economic climate

Gwen Roley
THE WESTERN FRONT

Terra Organic & Natural Foods emptied slowly after it was announced they would be closing in a Facebook post on July 25. There used to be pops of color from produce and unique natural brand labels but as these ran out, they gave way to the building's hidden gray. Despite this industrial overhang, people were still doing their best to go about things in a normal, cheerful way.

Machines beeped as people got their merchandise rung up. The owner and general manager, Stephen Trinkaus, was at the front of the store, greeting customers and thanking them for coming in. They chatted about how long the store has been open and how many of them have been coming in since the beginning. One person gave Trinkaus a bow while extending a piece of healthy purple cabbage. All of them said they will be back at least one more time

before the end of the liquidation sales. Once all the store's stock was gone, Terra had until the end of the lease on Aug. 31 to empty all parts of their business from the building.

After a several month-long fight to balance the books and keep the business running, Trinkaus announced the store was shutting down. For many years, Terra has been the only independent organic and natural grocer in Bellingham. Terra Organic & Natu-

ral Foods — sometimes referred to as Terra Organica or just Terra — was the main business in the space known as the Public Market. The smaller businesses — Ambo Ethiopian Cuisine, Electric Beet Juice Company, Film is Truth, Living Earth Herbs, Maki Sushi, Mount Baker Books and Wild Whisper Cafe — were renting out space in the building and had to find new locations once Terra closed.

The way Trinkaus described it, his whole adult life seems to have led up to the idea of Terra and natural eating. When he was a student at Western, he worked at a now-closed factory by the waterfront called Bellingham Frozen Foods where they processed local produce. There were a lot of migrant workers there, and since Trinkaus spoke Spanish, he befriended some of his coworkers and would occasionally act as a translator. These relationships were his first introduction to the struggles and dangers many workers face in the food industry. This was driven home even further by a lecture he saw by César Chávez at Western in 1991, he said.

"One of the things that really hit me was [Chávez] talking about the incidents of cancers or birth defects among migrant farm workers because of their exposure to industrial chemicals and pesticides," Trinkaus said. "I walked out of there pretty devastated, and because of my connection with the community, it really hit me harder than it typically would a middle-class white guy."

Trinkaus is in his fifties, has grayish hair, glasses and is soft spoken. However, he constantly checks his privilege and reflects on ways he can use it to help change the system. He speaks animatedly about the younger generation's duty to smash the patriarchy and how much needs to change for our society and economy to become more fair and balanced. So, it makes sense these words from Chávez are what moved him toward the path to opening Terra.

He said he started eating organic and shopping at the Community Food Co-op, a

member-owned natural grocer. After he graduated later that year, he started working in a factory pressing organic flaxseed oil. This experience exposed him to more information about nutrition and organics and lifted the rose-tinted glasses even further. "That's where the idea for the store came from. I assumed that when you shopped at a health food store they wouldn't sell you stuff that wasn't really healthy. But that turned out not to be the case," Trinkaus said. "I decided to start my own business and do it right. The idea was that we would resource everything so we would just have the purest, best stuff."

The original Terra Organic & Natural Foods opened on March 21, 1997 at 929 N. State St. The original building and The HUB were on the same block and are set to be demolished to make way for student housing developments. Bellingham shoppers embraced the small store right away because many believed in Trinkaus' philosophy. Even then, Trinkaus said, the building was not in great shape and the business outgrew the space. Soon, he was looking for a new place to house his grocery.

Trinkaus would bike past a place called Crazy Prices, where they sold returned items from places like Costco at a reduced markup, at 1530 Cornwall Ave. nearly everyday. He used think about what a great space it would make for a business like his. This building had much more space than his store's location at the time. One day, he walked in and asked if they would mind sharing the space. It turned out they were looking to move out entirely, but Trinkaus still needed to find other vendors to share the lease with to afford the building. Thus, the Public Market, with its shared vendor spaces, was born.

"Leasing to these people is like having roommates. It's not for the weak of heart to figure out how a place can work for all these people," Trinkaus said.

Ashton McNeely, an employee at Electric Beet Juice, said having a lot of vendors in one space gener-

ates a lot of traffic for everybody. Most people working at one of the vendors were a frequent shopper at all of the businesses.

"All of the businesses support each other," she said. "We kind of connect over food."

The new iteration of Terra and the Public Market opened on May 17, 2005. Trinkaus added he remembers this because it's the same date as his son's second birthday. With this new location, a mission statement that was attractive to Bellingham consumers and other vendors leasing the space, business continued smoothly for the next few years.

"I don't like big stores at all, you know? A Costco or Walmart or Fred Meyer is just overwhelming for me, I get sensory overload from it," Trinkaus said. "So, I think there are people out there just like me who enjoy small stores that aren't crowded with not a million choices."

Soren Burns was Terra's wellness buyer and said she chose to work there for the opportunity to educate customers about what was in their food.

"It's not like any other grocery store," she said. "The smaller store really provides a community mindset."

In 2012, Trinkaus said he took terrible care of his business. Terra became overextended, and Trinkaus had already gone to the investors

to tell them he couldn't move forward because they didn't have the cash. Stressed out and reeling from a terrible headache, he got his first bit of sleep in a few days and woke with an idea of how to save his business.

"I'll ask the community," Trinkaus said.

Trinkaus posed a plea for support and people came in droves. The Co-op encouraged customers to shop at Terra, and some people bought all their groceries there. Many loaned or donated money to get the business back on its feet. This was the response Trinkaus was trying to recreate in May 2018, when he sent out another call for help over Facebook as his business began to spiral again. There was another wave of support, and for a few months it seemed as though Terra could continue to soldier on. Now, has concluded its liquidation sales.

"It feels like I ran a marathon and people said, 'You will never, never finish this.' I felt like I could never finish this because it was so daunting," Trinkaus said. "I felt like I was a literally inside of the finish line and just collapsed."

Trinkaus can still laugh at the tragic irony of the store ending now instead of back in 2012. He acknowledges all his business mistakes from six years ago and sees Terra's comeback as something the community accomplished together. This



Electric Beet Juice Co., previously located in the Public Market, can now be found at 1313 N. State St. // Photo courtesy of Electric Beet Juice Co.

oncoming closure is something he blames more on market forces.

The obvious precursor is the opening of Whole Foods, which was a serious encroachment on Terra's market at a location less than a mile away. But Trinkaus points out the forces at play here are much bigger than that. He says consumers have to take a step back and look at the entire culture of

eating organic and natural foods. These perspectives have shifted from being about organized resistance against economic paradigms to being about individual lifestyle choices. Trinkaus raised his voice passionately when he talked about this.

"People say, 'I'm going to drive a hybrid car and eat organic or be vegetarian or be vegan.' Those are choices; things you make as an in-

dividual hoping that billions of people make that same choice so we'll actually have an effect," he said. "Which of course never happens. But we're sold on that and the organic industry goes along with that."

see TERRA, page 12



Terra Organica and the Public Market's lease officially ended on Aug. 31. // Photo by Kelly Pearce



The closure of Terra Organica and the Public Market came after several months of struggling to keep the business running. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Plans for affordable housing lag as waterfront construction progresses

A required 10 percent of housing construction in downtown waterfront must be classified as affordable housing



Waterfront construction is expected to be complete by fall 2020.

// Photo by Zoe Deal

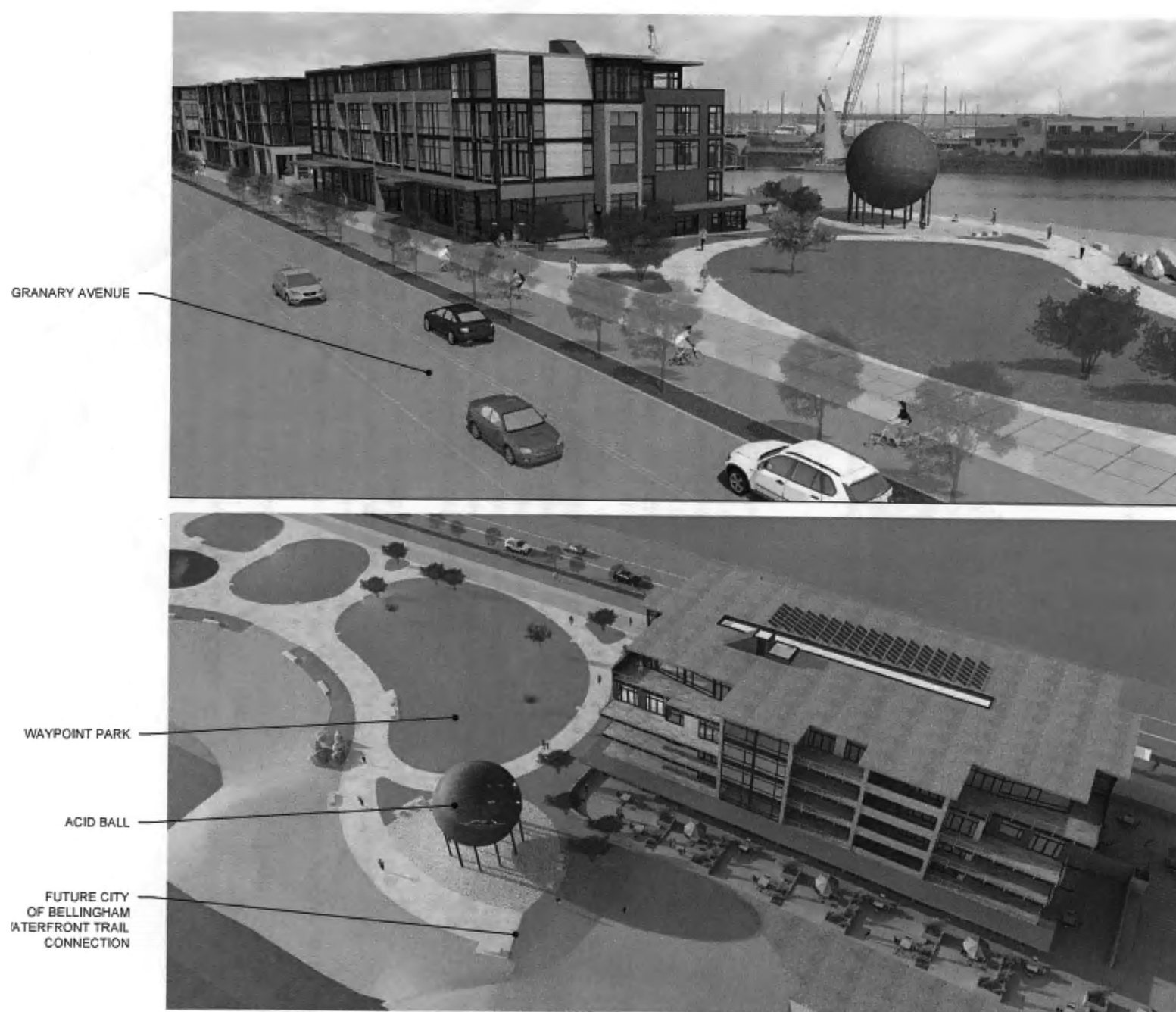
Schuyler Shelloner
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Port of Bellingham sold 1.733 acres of Bellingham's downtown waterfront to Harcourt Developments in May this year for the construction of three new condominium complexes. Harcourt is an Ireland-based construction management company that has exclusive development rights to 19 acres of Bellingham's downtown waterfront. Construction is anticipated to be completed by fall 2020. According to the architectural proposal, the structures will include commercial space at the ground level for restaurants, drinking establishments, retail and water-oriented businesses, as well as below-grade parking and storage space. The uppermost residents will enjoy unobstructed views of Bellingham Bay and the San Juan Islands.

The condominiums adhere to the Port and City of Bellingham's mission to create a mixed-use neighborhood with a combination of commercial, institutional, and educational retail services and housing in the downtown portion of the waterfront, but they will not qualify as affordable housing. According to the City of Bellingham's Affordable Housing Development webpage, housing facilities are considered affordable when households earning 80 percent of the area's mean income can afford to live in them without spending more than 30 percent of their income to do so.

The Port of Bellingham requires 10 percent of housing constructed in the waterfront meets the criteria for affordable housing. The 10 percent is a minimum guideline and more may be constructed if proposed.

Brian Gouran, Director



The downtown waterfront construction lot is 50 acres large and will include businesses, public spaces and mixed-income housing. //Illustration courtesy of Harcourt Developments

of Environmental and Planning Services for the Port of Bellingham, acknowledged the urgent need for housing in Bellingham.

"It's not a coincidence that the first project is a housing project," Gouran said. "Even though they're going to be higher-end condominiums, it kickstarts the site, it gets people down there."

While the downtown waterfront does present be-

tween 50-60 acres of opportunity to relieve the densification burden from existing neighborhoods, there's more planned for the waterfront than housing.

"This is not designed as the solution to all of Bellingham's housing issues. The intent of this space is to be an extension of downtown, with some housing and a whole mix of uses," Gouran said. "It's an element, which is why we have a minimum

requirement, but it's not anticipated to be the solution for affordable housing. It was focused on job creation, our marine trades area, our shipping terminal, public access."

Businesses, jobs, public spaces and mixed-income housing are a lot to stuff into a 50-acre box. But that's precisely what's called for in the 2013 Waterfront District Sub-Area Action Plan. Patrick Power, director of Har-

court, said in an interview that the company intends to build co-living and senior housing pending an area action plan review next year. There are also plans for a hotel, two new roads and a park.

Quality development can be a double-edged sword, Bellingham City Councilmember Michael Lilliquist said. Lilliquist worries that developers will have a market incentive to build more

high-end, high-cost housing and little incentive to construct affordable housing beyond the mandated 10 percent minimum requirement.

"My fear is that because we've succeeded in laying the groundwork for a really cool and attractive waterfront, it will also be a relatively high-end waterfront," Lilliquist said. "But what about everyone else?"

PROJECT RED THREAD

SHOWCASE EVENT AT

BOUNDARY BAY BREWERY

LIVE MUSIC BY

FLUENCIE | METSÄ | WMD



RIGHT AFTER PAINT BHAM BLUE

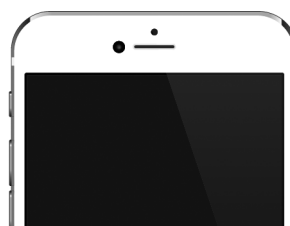
WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 26TH | 9PM – 12AM

FREE | ALL AGES UNTIL 11 | ALL PEOPLE

PROJECT RED THREAD SUPPORTS BELLINGHAM ARTISTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION, PROMOTION & INTERACTION WITH THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

READ
the
WESTERN FRONT
ONLINE

BREAKING NEWS
ADDITIONAL CONTENT
MOBILE DEVICE FRIENDLY



EVERYBODY
DESERVES
EXPERT CARE
Never wait weeks for a
family planning
appointment.

1.800.230.PLAN | mbpp.org
Bellingham • Mount Vernon • Friday Harbor



Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood

Washington state general election

What you need to know to vote in Whatcom County

Dates and Deadlines

Election Date: Nov. 6, 2018
Ballots Mailed: Oct. 17, 2018
Accessible Voting Units Available: Oct. 17, 2018

Registration Deadline for address changes, in-person, mail-in and online registration: Oct. 8, 2018

Registration Deadline for new WA voters in-person registration: Oct. 29, 2018

- No stamp needed for this election. By-mail ballots must be post-marked by Election Day

- Drop boxes will be open Oct. 17 and will close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

For a full list of positions on the ballot, drop box locations and more information visit www.sos.wa.gov/elections

Washington State Representative (Position 1), 40th Legislative District

Debra Lekanoff Prefers Democratic Party
Michael Petrish Prefers Republican Party

Washington State Representative (Position 2), 40th Legislative District

Jeff Morris Prefers Democratic Party (incumbent)

Whatcom County Council At-Large Position B

(non-partisan)
Carol Frazey **Mike Pectoom**

Information provided by: *Washington Secretary of State*

TERRA
continued from page 9

This shift corresponds with a strong and consistent increase in American consumption of organic foods, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Services. This has led to the success of companies like Whole Foods, as well as other large grocers, such as the Albertsons-owned Hagen, attempting to capitalize on the desire to eat organic. With all these huge corporations taking up all this space in the market, it

is difficult for an independent business like Terra to survive. Trinkaus also points to economic factors more specific to Bellingham. “[People] are spending half their paychecks to live in not the greatest places with a lot of roommates,” Trinkaus said “So, I feel like there’s a lot less disposable income here, especially for people who aren’t professionals or didn’t get in the real estate market early.”

At different points in the last year, rent in Whatcom County has risen at a rate faster than Seattle, one of the largest housing markets

in the country.

Now, the huge space on Cornwall Avenue sits vacant.

As the customers strolled in for the final sales, Trinkaus continued to talk with them, putting on a smile to let them know he appreciated them coming in. Trinkaus said there are a handful of people who moved to Bellingham when they found out a store like Terra existed. One woman stopped with a cart full of bulk grains and canned food to tell him that not only her, but also her parents had been coming in since the beginning. He thanked her

and said he hopes to see her again before they close.

“I almost want to cry. What if I never see her again?” Trinkaus said. “I don’t know. It’s so hard and there are hundreds of people like her.”

The other vendors in the Public Market continued to operate as usual but are now in the position of re-locating or permanently closing, like Terra. Film Is Truth has already moved to a new location at 1418 Cornwall Ave. in a shared space with Allied Arts and the Pickford Limelight.

Trinkaus said he doesn’t know what’s next for him.

U.S. Senator for Washington State

Maria Cantwell Prefers Democratic Party (incumbent)
Susan Hutchinson Prefers Republican Party

U.S. Representative, 1st Congressional District

Suzan DelBene Prefers Democratic Party (incumbent)
Jeffrey Beeler Prefers Republican Party

U.S. Representative, 2nd Congressional District

Rick Larsen Prefers Democratic Party (incumbent)
Brian Luke Prefers Libertarian Party

Washington State Senator, 42th Legislative District

Pinky Vargas Prefers Democratic Party
Doug Ericksen Prefers Republican Party (incumbent)

Washington State Representative (Position 1), 42nd Legislative District

Justin Boneau Prefers Democratic Party
Luanne Van Werven Prefers Republican Party (incumbent)

Washington State Representative (Position 2), 42nd Legislative District

Sharon Shewmake Prefers Democratic Party
Vincent Buys Prefers Republican Party (incumbent)

Infographic by: *Gwen Roley*

He railed about how terrible the job market is in Bellingham and joked about going even deeper into the organic industry and starting a small farm. He said his ideal job would be something that would allow him to call out corporations for appropriating the organic movement for profit.

“Professional caller of bullshit,” I like the sound of that,” he said. “We need to call bullshit on what the organic industry has become and we need to get back to what it was supposed to be. Or something else has to take its place.”

Paqui Paredes Méndez begins term as Dean of College of Humanities and Social Sciences

The Spanish professor and former Modern and Classical Languages department chair began new position on July 23.



Paredes began working at Western in 2002. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Gwen Roley
 THE WESTERN FRONT

This fall will mark the beginning of the first full academic quarter Paqui Paredes Méndez will serve as dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Paredes was appointed

to the two-year term in May after the former dean, Brent Mallinckrodt, announced he would be stepping down in March.

Paredes is a Spanish professor and served as chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages for six years before being selected as interim dean. She entered this leadership role on July 23 after her predecessor had faced criticism from within the college about meeting department expectations, such as lack of transparency with faculty and students and failure to support diversity, as previously reported by The Western Front.

Since beginning her term, Paredes has made it her mission to understand the goals of different departments, faculty and staff have for the college.

“I’ve spent almost two months now reading like crazy so that I can start going on that,” Paredes said. “I don’t come with any big

changes in mind or big ideas other than listening to what people want to do and how they envision us moving forward.”

Brent Carbajal, Western’s provost and vice president of academic affairs, said in an email that Paredes was appointed to the position after strong cross-department support.

“Dean Paredes has served as chair of a large and complex department and also co-chaired the university’s strategic planning committee,” Carbajal said. “A dean takes a leadership role at both the collegiate level and the university level, and Dr. Paredes’ experience affords her perspective that will serve her well in both roles.”

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences is the biggest college at Western and houses 13 academic departments. One of the big projects for the college this year will be completing its strategic plan, which Paredes said she hopes will give her more insight into what the community wants moving forward.

“One of [Paredes’] greatest strengths is her ability to be impartial and make objective decisions, which I think is critical as the leader of our college,” said Holly Childs, the department manager of modern and classical languages.

Paredes was born in Spain and said one of the reasons she chose to live in Bellingham was its resemblance to her rainy native province of Galicia. She has degrees from the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela and the University of Kansas and came to Western in 2002.

“During my interview on campus I had the opportunity to teach a class and the students were amazing,” Paredes said. “They made my job really easy. I had interviewed at other places and that was not the experience I had.”

Since stepping into her position as dean, she has come to admire Western’s dynamic and culture. She said since she began her duties a few weeks ago, she has been amazed by all the things the students and faculty are doing within the college.

Paredes said one of the things she would like to emphasize within her college is close contact between students and faculty. She encourages all students, especially freshman, to attend faculty office hours to get to know their professors.

“For many of them, it will be those relationships they build at the beginning that will really define their college experience,” Paredes said.

Paredes will serve a two-year interim term. Carbajal said a national search for a long-term dean, of which Paredes may be a candidate, will begin in fall 2019.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2018

TICKETS AND INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 LIP SYNC BATTLE DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	2 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET	3 90'S TIL NOW FT. BOOMBOX KID 9:30PM, STUDENTS FREE	4 PASS AUX DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	5 WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS CUMULUS DOORS AT 7:30PM, \$15 ADV	6 KUIINKA GENTRI WATSON DOORS AT 8PM, \$10 ADV
7	8 LIP SYNC BATTLE DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	9 AUSTIN JENCKES CHRY REEBE & THE CROOKS DOORS AT 8PM, \$10 ADV	10 90'S TIL NOW FT. BOOMBOX KID 9:30PM, STUDENTS FREE	11 OTT KAYA PROJECT NICK HOLDEN DOORS AT 8PM, \$15 ADV	12 MINNESOTA CHARLESTHEFIRST CELLA DOORS AT 8PM, \$15 ADV	13 VOYAGER SPECIAL GUESTS DOORS AT 8PM, \$8 ADV
14	15 LIP SYNC BATTLE DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	16 CREED BRATTON SPECIAL GUESTS DOORS AT 7PM, \$12 ADV	17 90'S TIL NOW FT. BOOMBOX KID 9:30PM, STUDENTS FREE	18 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET	19 PETTY OR NOT BOOMBOX KID DOORS AT 8PM, \$10 ADV	20 BRIAN FALLON CRAIG FINN DOORS AT 8PM, \$25 ADV
21 PAPADOSIO LAPA DOORS AT 8PM, \$15 ADV	22 LIP SYNC BATTLE DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	23 THE DODOS PRISM TATS DOORS AT 8PM, \$15 ADV	24 90'S TIL NOW FT. BOOMBOX KID 9:30PM, STUDENTS FREE	25 RANDOM RAB SPECIAL GUESTS DOORS AT 8PM, \$12 ADV	26 GANZ SPECIAL GUESTS DOORS AT 8PM, \$10 ADV	27 black eyes Sneekies NO-FI SOUL REBELLION THE WEDNESDAYS DOORS AT 8PM, \$10 ADV
28 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET	29 LIP SYNC BATTLE DOORS AT 8PM, FREE	30 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET	31 90'S TIL NOW FT. BOOMBOX KID 9:30PM, STUDENTS FREE	1 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET	2 LIL B SPECIAL GUESTS DOORS AT 8PM, \$25 ADV	3 MORE INFO AT WILDBUFFALO.NET

UPCOMING SHOWS 11/4 YOUNG IN THE CITY • 11/10 J MASCIS • 11/11 DIRTWIRE • 11/15 MEDASIN • 11/16 PEDRO THE LION • 11/17 DESERT DWELLERS • 12/2 PINBACK • 12/7 PSYMBIONIC • 12/15 RED FANG • 1/12 NITE WAVE • 1/24 CURSIVE •

VOTED "BEST PLACE TO SEE LIVE MUSIC" & "BEST PLACE TO DANCE!"

208 W. HOLLY ST. BHAM, WA 98225

[/WILDBUFFALOMUSIC](https://www.facebook.com/WILDBUFFALOMUSIC)
[@WILDBUFFALO](https://www.instagram.com/WILDBUFFALO)
[@WILDBUFFALO](https://www.youtube.com/WILDBUFFALO)
[@WILDBUFFALO](https://www.tiktok.com/@WILDBUFFALO)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Sept. 24

Men's Golf WWU Invitational, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Ensemble Auditions Cont., 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 25

Men's Golf WWU Invitational, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 26

Paint B'ham Blue for WWU, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Revisiting World Mythologies: A Global Overview of Mythic Tales, Patterns and Archetypes, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 27

History is All Around You, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The New Sciences Behind Gardening, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Social Movements in America: Protest and Social Change from the Sixties to the Present, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Third-Annual Paint B'ham Blue for WWU, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 28

Modest Farms of Biocultural Hope, 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 29

Viking volleyball versus Montana State Billings, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer versus Concordia, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 2

Friction Quartet, 7:30 p.m.

For more information and a full list of upcoming events, go to calendar.wvu.edu

Infographic by: Logan Portteus

Guest editorial: *Divest Now, Do the Right Thing*

Co-authored and submitted by James Louky of the anthropology department, Jill MacIntyre-Witt of the environmental sciences and health and human development departments, Peter Sakura of the language & culture programs and the Western Students for Renewable Energy



Then sophomore Amy McDowell leads students during a divestment rally in Red Square on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. McDowell, who was majoring in urban development and planning, chanted through the march "Divest now Western."

// Photo by Alex Powell

Western Washington University lies in an unparalleled location — on the shores of the spectacular Salish Sea, below the Cascades and within the traditional territory of indigenous peoples who have lived here since time immemorial. Yet we also see in heartbreaking accounts of recent deaths of resident orca whales that the sea and its denizens are seri-

ously endangered — including the threat of increasing oil tanker traffic. We see shrinking glaciers whenever we look at the mountains. And we look with gratitude to our Lummi neighbors for their leadership in environmental stewardship.

Why, then, is Western not among the U.S. universities that have formally committed to divesting from fossil fuels? They in-

clude Oregon State, Seattle University, Lewis and Clark, Pitzer, University of Hawaii and the University of Maryland, among others nationwide. And how can this be so, when everywhere we see evidence that worst-case climate change scenarios are coming true, and that the window for effective response is closing quickly?

Several arguments may

be the reasons why Western is not moving more swiftly away from investments in climate-damaging endeavors. One is that fiduciary responsibility requires maximizing returns on endowment investments. While investing in the energy sector for diversification, growth and income is standard practice, investing in harmful and inherently risky commodities exposes

that endowment to unnecessary peril. Evidence from performance analyses of portfolios reveals that re-investment in responsible endeavors does not reduce returns. Public institutions especially need transparency and money managers who provide fossil-free and sustainable investing options.

see *DIVEST* page 16

Impacted by Sexual Violence or Harassment?

RESOURCES & REPORTING OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

Confidential Resources:

- Consultation and Sexual Assault Support (CASAS), Old Main 585B, (360) 650-3700
- Student Health Center, Campus Services, (360) 650-3400
- Counseling Center, Old Main 540, (360) 650-3164
- Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County (DVSAS), 24-hour help line (360) 715-1563 or (877) 715-1563

To Report:

- Western's Title IX Coordinator - Sue Guenter-Schlesinger Equal Opportunity Office, Old Main 345, (360) 650-3307 Sue.Guenter-Schlesinger@wwu.edu
- University Police, (360) 650-3911 (emergency) or 650-3555 (report)
- Bellingham Police, 911 (emergency) or (360) 778-8800 (report)
- If you live in University Residences, your Resident Director or Resident Advisor

Provided by the
Equal Opportunity Office
Title IX Coordinator
Old Main 345 • eoo@wwu.edu
(360) 650-3307 or WA Relay: 711
www.wvu.edu/sexualviolence



3547 Lakeway Drive
or text 360-510-8506

UNFURNISHED HOUSES

FREE TV IF YOU RENT:

Available Sept 1, 2018

1623 Iron st \$3500

1019 Jersey St Brand New Construction \$4200

833 High St \$975

If you are interested in any of these rentals text (360) 510-8506 with the day and time you would like to see it in order to schedule a showing.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT ONLINE

READ THE
WESTERN FRONT
WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM



Hand-made perfection in the European tradition.

Welcome back WWU students and families!

Bring in or mention this ad for a FREE small Italian Ice Cream.

Offer good through October 7, 2018

2 BELLINGHAM LOCATIONS:

4600 Guide Meridian #109 • 360.676.0589

1408 Commercial Street • 360.733.6666

www.chocolatenecessities.com



DIVEST
continued from page 9

A second rationale is that divestment would politicize financial decisions, yet the reality is that no investment is apolitical. Investing responsibly yields powerful possibilities to positively influence change. So, why are we not moving in a direction that most benefits earth and life itself?

Living well on earth and with each other involves intricate interweaving of social, economic and ethical practices and principles that ultimately are political in nature.

Third, divestment has been characterized as being grounded in stigmatization. In fact, it is aligned

with growing awareness and agreement about the serious state of the world. The wider public, as well as shareholders and leaders in numerous enterprises, are part of a unison of people across the country and worldwide who recognize we cannot continue business as usual. For us to not take a stand is to choose the status quo.

Institutional inertia is common. Universities are notoriously slow to change, particularly when more than incremental changes are needed. Western isn't immune to these tendencies. Yet, today, nearly 1,000 institutions worldwide have divested over \$6 trillion. They include universities, faith-based insti-

tutions, foundations and even cities, states and countries that have committed publicly to move promptly toward a sustainable model of investing called for by the need to address the climate crisis.

Western's motto "Active Minds, Changing Lives," affirms that universities can be powerful change agents. Our fundamental responsibility is to ensure that teaching, research and outreach address the pressing issues of our time. Climate change is the greatest challenge facing humanity. It is not simply a single issue among many. As planet and posterity cry out for action, a university's priorities and investment decisions can and must accord with

its mission and its potential. Growth, commoditization and overconsumption are forces to be challenged rather than reinforced, even implicitly. A shift in investments would further ensure our reputation and role as an environmental leader, something that will, in turn, be reflected in Western's attractiveness for potential students and new faculty — not to mention Sierra Club and other school rankings. It will also increase donor support for scholarships.

Students have voted overwhelmingly to divest from fossil fuels. Over 500 faculty and staff members have called on Western Washington University to do this as well. Divestment

means screening out fossil fuels and reinvesting through instruments and money managers with abilities to bring investments into greatest harmony with one's values. By investing in the future, Western's president and the Western Foundation will encourage synergies and solutions, while also emulating the advice of Martin Luther King Jr., that "it is always the right time to do the right thing."

To learn more or get involved:

WWU Students for Renewable Energy: westernsre@gmail.com

WWU Faculty/Staff: facultystaffdivest@gmail.com

WWU Alumni: westernalumnidivest@gmail.com

Guest editorials are approved by the editorial board, but do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Western Front staff.

If you would like to submit an editorial or letter to the editor, email us at: westernfrontonline@gmail.com



OPTIONAL MEAL PLANS

LIVING OFF CAMPUS OR IN BIRNAM WOOD? PURCHASE YOUR MEAL PLAN TODAY!

PLAN 1 UNLIMITED MEALS

With full access and no restraints, a great value for anyone.



- Unlimited meals
- \$300 Dining Dollars
- \$1,569 Per quarter
- 10 Guest Meals

PLAN 2 95 BLOCK PLAN

Great if you eat 1-2 meals per day, 5 days a week in the dining commons.



- 95 Meals per quarter
- \$300 Dining Dollars
- \$1,110 Per quarter

PLAN 3 65 BLOCK PLAN

Great if you eat 1 meal per day, 5 days a week in the dining commons.



- 65 Meals per quarter
- \$300 Dining Dollars
- \$855 Per quarter

PLAN 4 33 BLOCK PLAN

Best if you eat 2-3 meal per week in the dining commons.

- 33 Meals per quarter
- \$400 Dining Dollars
- \$682 Per quarter

SAVE MONEY OVER PAYING WITH CASH AT THE DOOR WITH A MEAL PLAN



BRING THIS AD IN TO EDENS #109 WHEN PURCHASING YOUR PLAN TO BE ENTERED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$100 ADDED TO YOUR WESTERN CARD*

*All entries need to be brought in by Oct 5th

VISIT: WWU.CAMPUSDISH.COM CALL: 360-650-2970 OR STOP BY EDENS HALL #109 8A-5P MON-FRI

B

Campus

Welcome Back Edition

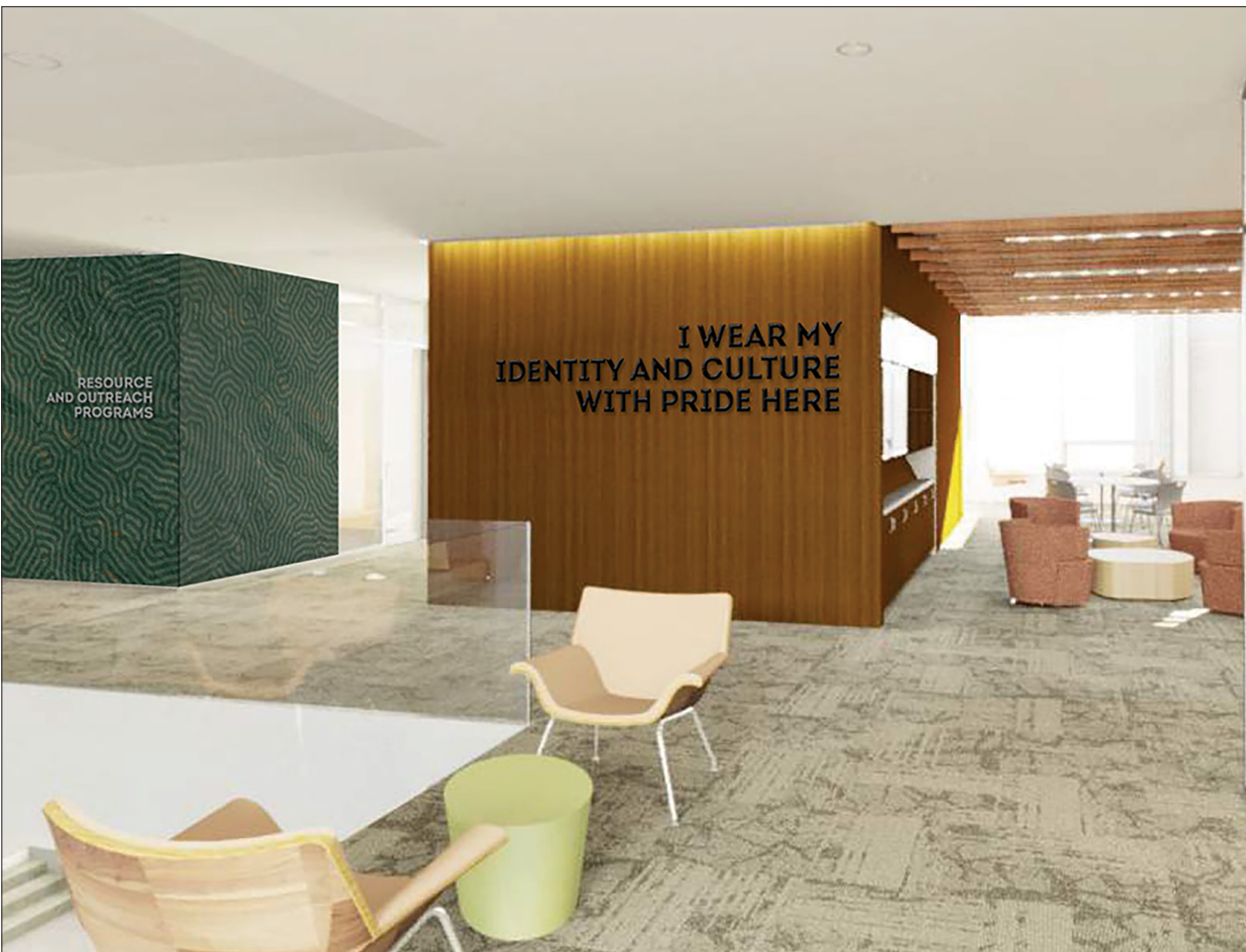
Volume 185, Issue 1

westernfrontonline.com

@TheFrontOnline

Monday, Sept. 24, 2018

Multicultural Center construction progresses



Drawing by Opsis Architects of the prospective resource center after construction.

Sabrina Batingan
The Western Front

Students voted together in support of more diversity and inclusivity in 2016 by electing to expand Western’s Multicultural Center, a costly project of \$20 million. Now, with the project well underway, students are expected to see the Multicultural Center completed by June 2019.

“Good progress is being made on the project,” said Paul Cocke, Western’s director of

communications, of the new Multicultural Center in an email.

The Multicultural Center is now in phase two of construction after beginning Spring 2018. The construction will continue throughout the 2018-19 school year until its completion. In the meantime, access to the Viking Union will be restricted to a path leading from the Performing Arts Center during the school year.

The Multicultural Center is an expansion of the Ethnic Student Center, previously lo-

cated on the fourth floor of the Viking Union. It will also include gender-neutral restrooms, the Womxn’s Identity Resource Center, the Queer Resource Center and the Disability Outreach Center.

Along with a larger space for many of the ESC clubs to gather, increased visibility is one important aspect of this expansion.

“Western’s campus is really white and lots of people don’t have the awareness of cultural groups at our school,” senior Sherab Li said. “But with the Multicul-

tural Center, everyone will be able to see it. Everyone knows it’s being built, it will make people aware.”

According to Western’s student diversity statistics on the Western website, 71.7 percent of the student population identifies as white. The next three largest populations are Asian at 10.5 percent, Hispanic at 8.8 percent and Black or African American at 2.6 percent.

see *CONSTRUCTION* page 11

Nature of campus surveillance

Erasmus Baxter
The Western Front

After a man was reported in the women’s bathroom of a Kappa residence hall last fall, Annie Gordon met with resident advisers and community members concerned about their safety.

As the Associated Students vice president for student life, Gordon dealt with campus safety concerns. There were many concerns as campus and the surrounding area were besieged by a string of indecent exposures, voyeurism incidents and an on-campus groping attack. One solution multiple students approached Gordon about was installing security cameras around campus.

The idea of increasing the number of cameras on campus is noth-

ing new. In 2004, two students whose cars were burgled under Nash Hall told the Front they wished cameras were installed to deter thefts.

A 2016 survey by Campus Safety Magazine found 74 percent of higher-education institutions surveyed either adopted or upgraded video surveillance technology. An additional 13 percent considered doing so in the next 3 years.

This increase is attributed in part to a decrease in cost: in 2004 Western’s assistant police chief told The Western Front that installing cameras under Nash Hall would cost \$70,000 to \$80,000 — now, a system with 16 IP cameras goes for under \$9,000.

see *SURVEILLANCE* page 4

More features inside

First-generation college student experience

Page 2

Safe spaces on campus

Page 7

Q&A with Associated Students Board of Directors

Page 12



@thefrontonline



@thefrontonline



facebook.com/westernfrontonline

Sign up for our weekly newsletter

For all the news you won't find in Western Today

westernfrontonline.com

Experiencing Western as a first-generation college student



Abby Abe | Photo by Kelly Pearce

you're first gen and you're also bicultural, you're super connected [to family]," Abe said with a nod. "That space can help you find who you are."

Born in Sana'a, Yemen, Abe immigrated with her mother and father to Bellevue in 1999. Abe was book smart but felt disorganized and didn't know if college would be the right path. It wasn't until her sixth grade teacher, Ms. Goebel, took interest in her and introduced her to the Advancement Via Individual Determination program.

"I thought, 'You know, I'm a minority and my parents don't have

a lot of money,'" Abe said. "But going through AVID really helped me see that college was an option."

Abe wanted to go to college to make her parents proud. But she also wanted to meet a diverse group of people who could introduce her to new ideas and help guide her decision making about her future. She knew she wanted to do medical mission work in Ethiopia but didn't know the track she wanted to take. Abe started school with three other friends who

were also first-generation students. Unfortunately, they couldn't establish networks of support. By her second year, her friends dropped out of Western. She stresses the importance for first-generation students to actively seek support. While many students can turn to parents for college advice, first-generation students have to take the initiative to seek help from outside sources.

"The Counseling Center is really great if you have any stress related issues.

"There are people there you can talk to, and they can help you cope better. Not asking for help can be really damaging academically."

Abby Abe, 23

There are people there you can talk to, and they can help you cope better," Abe said. "Not asking for help can be really damaging academically."

Abe finds being a minority and needing to negotiate an identity between two cultures made her feel like an other at Western. Her grades show she belongs, but it's hard to get past that feeling. That's why she's so glad the Ethnic Student Center is expanding.

"No matter how well I do, there's an element of impos-

ter syndrome because I'm like, 'Oh, okay, I don't know if I really belong here,'" Abe said. "I know it's just in my head, but that's an aspect of [college]."

In her third year, Abe finally landed on the track she wanted psychology. She mentored at-risk youth at Shuksan Middle School, which helped her feel less alone. Many of the students will also go on to become first-generation students, and their shared experiences gave her a sense of community.

Abe is graduating in fall 2018 and wants to go to graduate school to study

global health so she can do medical mission work for non-governmental organizations. She also wants to work with minority first-generation students to show them resources are available if they need it.

"Keep an open mind and take [college] day by day," Abe said. "You may not land in the degree path that you originally settled for, but you'll find something that you love if you just stick it out. Reach out if you need help."

Suzanna Leung
The Western Front

Even at the elementary school level, college is planted in the minds of youth as being the route to personal success. Today, 30 percent of all entering college freshman are the first in their families to enroll in college or university. Twenty-four percent of those students are low income. Without advice from their parents, first-generation students experience roadblocks with the application process and seeking aid. Many balance their schedules between work and being the first in their families to navigate a complex education system. According to the First Generation Foundation, an organization advocating for the success of first-generation college students, more than a quarter of these

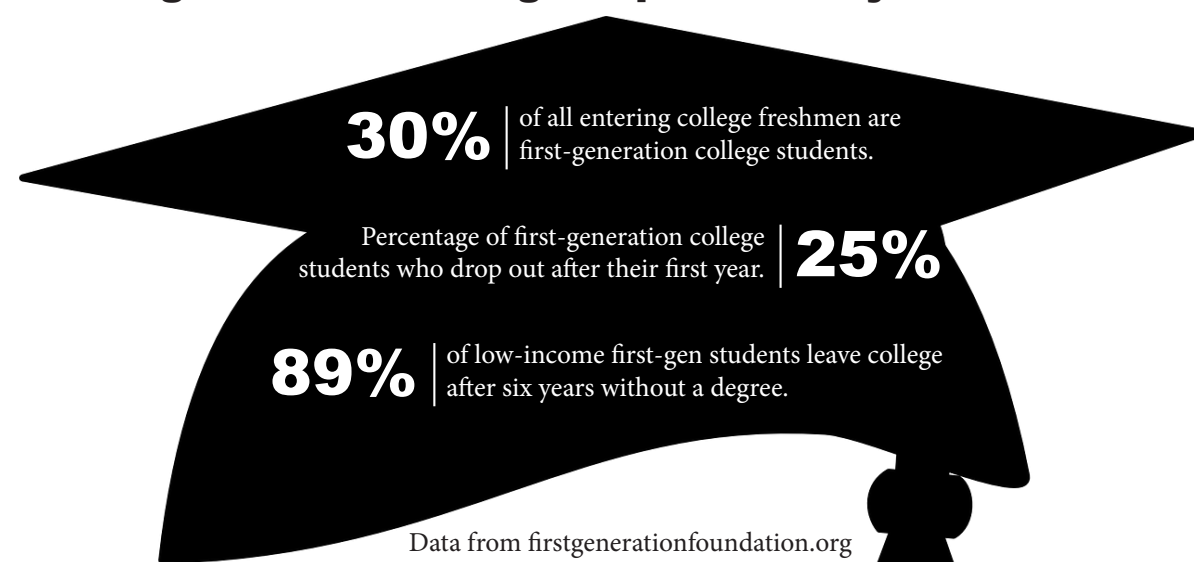
students drop out after their first year. Despite the odds, many of these students are pushing through to achieve their educational goals.

Name: Abby Abe
Pronouns: She/Her
Age: 23
Class Standing: Senior
Major: Psychology

Abby Abe's six-year college journey is nearing its end. In fall of 2012, college was new to her. Moving away from family, finding her way through college as a first-generation student and developing her ethnic identity in this new environment didn't come easy. But finding herself as an adult and as an individual is her favorite aspect of college.

"A lot of times when

First-generation college experience by the numbers



Data from firstgenerationfoundation.org

Infographic by Suzanna Leung

Name: Alexander Smith
Pronouns: He/Him
Age: 20
Class Standing: Junior
Major: Business Administration - Operations Management

chance to experience those things." Smith moved from Oak Harbor to his sister's home in Mount Vernon, where he still lives, to cut down on rent costs. He commutes 30 minutes to get to his classes and work.

In his first year, Smith struggled with the academic pacing expected of college students. He didn't feel high school prepared him for the courses, and as a first-generation college student, it was difficult for him to under-

Military or college: the two paths Alex Smith saw available to him.

Raised in Oak Harbor, WA, Smith lived around many military families. His father chose the military when he was young, but Smith's parents always wanted him

to get a college degree. To them, college was the pinnacle of being a student.

If he joined the military, he'd have a guaranteed paycheck. Choosing college would mean facing many financial barriers. Still, he chose college.

"I just didn't want to do that to my [future] kids and be gone for half the year or the year," Smith said. "To me, it just wasn't worth it to miss your kid's first steps. I just said, 'I'll take the dive into college then. Even if I don't finish it, I'll have that

"I'll take the dive into college then. Even if I don't finish it, I'll have that chance to experience those things."

Alexander Smith, 20

stand the nuances of college without guidance.

Smith started with a heavy course load but didn't do homework and placed more emphasis on hanging out with friends. His grades dropped, and he failed a class. Smith's parents were disappointed when they found out, and he decided he had to rework how he saw college.

Understanding college was a gradual learning process,

but he found a mentor in a distant uncle living in Salt Lake City, Utah, Larry O'Donald.

"Every time I call him, he'll pick up and tell me all this advice and these great big metaphors that are crazy," Smith said. "Just to help me through college and make sure I'm comfortable with what I'm doing."

Along with school, Smith supports himself financially. He worked full time at an auto licensing shop while also being a full-time student.

The hours were overwhelming, so he was forced to quit. However, he still had to pay

for school and other living expenses. Now, he works a more physically laborious job with fewer hours at a UPS warehouse.

Since his first year, Smith's grades have skyrocketed. In his past two quarters, he's aced all of his classes and is finally getting accustomed to how much work college takes.

Smith feels the pressure of finishing college because his family is relying on him.



Alexander Smith | Photo by Mathew Roland

He knows how important graduating is to his parents, and even though they are encouraging, he knows they'd be disappointed if he didn't finish.

"It is a big accomplishment, but to them, it's greater than anything they ever did," Smith said. "Even if that's not necessarily true."

Smith wants to focus his degree on helping others, although he doesn't know yet what form it will take as a career. He also wants to ensure a secure future for him and his family.

see FIRST GEN page 15

YOU BELONG HERE.
DISCRIMINATION DOESN'T.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE:
WE'RE HERE FOR YOU



WWU is an equal opportunity institution.

CONTACT US FOR ASSISTANCE

Equal Opportunity Office
Title IX & ADA Coordinator

Old Main 345
(360) 650-3307 (voice)
711 (WA relay)
eoo@wwu.edu
www.wwu.edu/eoo

EMBRACING
herbal wisdom

Non-GMO | Organic
Environmentally Friendly | Socially Responsible

YOU BELONG HERE.
DISCRIMINATION DOESN'T.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE:
WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Do you want a rewarding career
in the natural health industry?

Visit:
www.florahealth.com

FLORA

Your local natural supplement manufacturer and distributor since 1988

360.650.3160
WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM

MAKE YOUR MARK IN INK
ADVERTISE WITH THE WESTERN FRONT

Red Square web cam

It's a sunny summer afternoon in Red Square. A steady trickle of people pass through as junior Tess Davis works on her biology homework. Wesley Tran, a recent Computer Science alum, quietly focuses on his laptop in the shade.

Unbeknownst to them, and many of the hundreds of people who assemble in Red Square, they are being watched. A webcam perched on the fifth floor of Bond Hall is constantly streaming images of Red Square to the internet.

Neither Tran nor Davis are too concerned by this, however.

"I'm not doing anything wacky," Tran explains when he finds out.

Davis feels similarly, but she's conflicted. On one hand, she thinks it's good to have a camera there for security reasons, but on the other, she worries about the prevalence of surveillance.

"We don't have a lot of privacy today," she says.

While Western does have cameras installed in some labs to protect equipment, this camera doesn't offer much in surveillance capability. It doesn't store footage and only provides one zoomed-out view of Red Square.

The camera mainly serves as a way for parents to view campus and for staff to check on the weather, Max Bronsema, whose WebTech office currently houses and maintains the camera, said in an email. It's consistently one of

the most popular web pages at Western, according to Paul Cocks, director of communications and marketing.

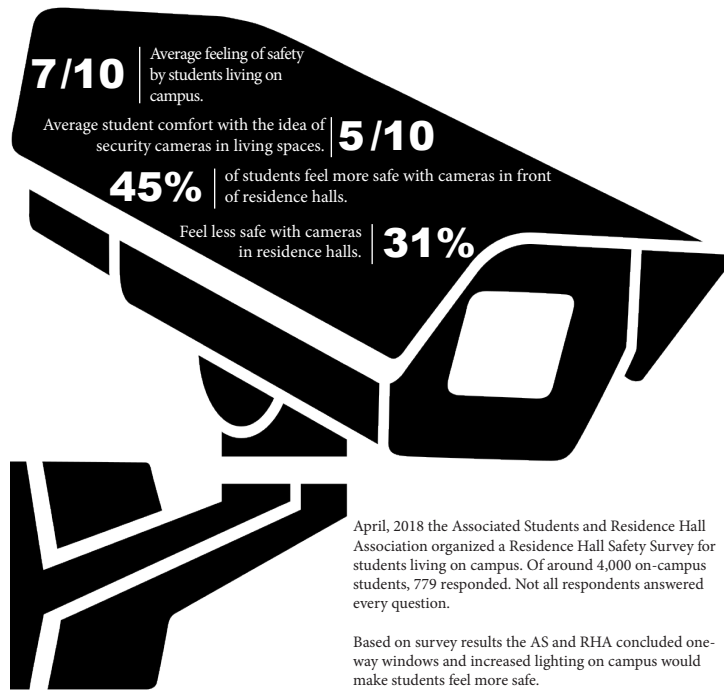
ATUS Director John Farquhar believes the webcam was first installed around 2000 when the office housed Western's data center. Besides a brief stint in Miller Hall, it has remained there since.

The camera in Red Square was upgraded to one with a slightly wider field of view this year, but it had nothing to do with surveillance, according to Bronsema. The camera would only work in legacy browsers, which few people use, so he paid for an upgrade out of his office's budget.

Darin Rasmussen, Western's police chief, won't rule out that police might check the webcam in future, giving the example of a mass evacuation scenario, but he's unequivocal that they haven't used it to monitor Red Square in the past. A public records request for screen grabs of Red Square taken by University Police in the last year returns no results.

In the meantime, Davis continues her homework. The knowledge she is being watched doesn't bother her too much. She doesn't plan on doing anything different in Red Square, she says -- with maybe a few exceptions.

"I wouldn't scratch my butt or something," she says. But on the other hand, "maybe that would be funny."



April, 2018 the Associated Students and Residence Hall Association organized a Residence Hall Safety Survey for students living on campus. Of around 4,000 on-campus students, 779 responded. Not all respondents answered every question.

Based on survey results the AS and RHA concluded one-way windows and increased lighting on campus would make students feel more safe.

Infographic by Suzanna Leung

SURVEILLANCE continued

In spite of this proliferation, expanded cameras are unlikely to come to Western soon. In a series of interviews, administrators, student activists and a former Associated Students board member all expressed a deep skepticism about expanding surveillance capabilities at Western.

However, the quiet implementation of another technology with large surveillance implications emphasizes how complicated the balance between privacy and technology can be.

Cameras at Western

Currently, surveillance cameras at Western are set up in labs to protect computers and other equipment. The cameras stream to University Police dispatch but are only checked if an equipment alarm is triggered, according to Darin Rasmussen, Western's police chief and director of public safety.

The agenda from a subcommittee Rasmussen chaired last fall that considered what Western would do in a situation like Charlottesville shows they discussed a long-term need for cameras. From an emergency operations standpoint, cameras would allow them to access events and know what was going on in real time and to avoid needing a warrant or permission to view bystander video after the fact.

In an interview, Rasmussen said the conversation was just brainstorming. After a meeting of the larger committee on Sept. 20, cameras weren't mentioned again in the agendas.

"There would have to be campus support. There would have to be student support, faculty and staff, and there just wasn't the time to generate that, develop it, or even have the debate," Rasmussen said. "So, we moved on to things that we thought we could move on."

He pointed to Western's culture of free speech as one of the reasons why there are no

seven out of 10. Comfort with security cameras living areas averaged five out of 10. Around 45 percent said security cameras at the entrance to residence halls would make them feel more safe, and around 31 percent said they would feel less safe or didn't like the idea.

"Based off that, I don't think it's really likely to happen," Gordon said. Instead, she thinks it's important to focus on safety measures, like better lighting, that don't come with as many concerns about privacy.

"Cameras aren't getting at the roots of violence," she said.

Safety for Whom?

When Samia, a WWU Students for Palestinian Equal Rights' (SUPER) steering committee member, heard University Police discussed expanding security cameras, her first reaction was to shake her head in disbelief. (Samia asked to only be identified by her first name due to past harassment.)

"As a predominantly Arab and Muslim student group who grew up after 9/11, we are no strangers to government surveillance and the horrible impacts it had on our community," she said. "I think the way that surveillance has damaged a lot of our communities is a testament to why that shouldn't go forward."

In a joint interview, Samia, Nadya Sharif, another SUPER steering committee member and Kate Rayner Fried, a SUPER member and Jewish Voices for Peace organizer, all described issues they had with surveillance at Western.

All see potential increases in surveillance as part of a larger picture of police surveillance of communities and activists of color. The way their Red Square display was handled last spring only serves to reinforce their concerns.

Timed to commemorate Nakba, the mass expulsion of Palestinians from what is now Israel, the week-long display featured a table to distribute literature and a mock wall. The wall symbolized the walls around Palestine and on the U.S.-Mexico border. Peacekeepers were also present, trained to defuse any potential trouble.

The Thursday before the display, administrators told SUPER that police and administrators would be coming to check on the event. SUPER requested they announce their presence and any police be unarmed or not in uniform — something Samia said administrators agreed to.

"We felt that police, especially armed police, would really escalate any situation, and we were really uncomfortable with that," Samia said. "Also, a lot of the students organizing [the display] were students of color, students whose communities have really difficult relation



Security camera in a computer lab in Academic West 306 | Photo by Kelly Pearce

ships with police, and so we wanted to make sure we were all safe while we were out there just trying to educate people."

Despite this, on Wednesday, three armed and uniformed police officers came by the display without announcing their presence and hung around the wall.

"The fact that the police decided to show was really frustrating and annoying, especially when we specifically said we don't want this to happen because we're not doing a demonstration. This is just an educational thing we're trying to spread awareness about," Sharif said.

Rasmussen has limited knowledge of what happened that week because he was out of state, but he said he was never informed of a request to not have police present. If he had, he would consider it in light of what he thought campus safety required.

"The overall approach that I have on events, demonstrations, protests — all of those

kinds of things — is to provide a safe and secure space for people to exercise their freedom of expression," he said "This is no different, and a request to have or not have police presence is really going to be met with my overall assessment of what I think the safety and security of the campus needs."

SUPER's other issue was the constant presence of administrators at the event. Very few announced their presence as SUPER was assured they would, Samia said. Instead, they stood 10 feet from the wall and watched them. They all wore name tags, but they were hard to see unless you were looking for them.

What warranted such a large monitoring presence?

Rasmussen said his biggest concern was the side of the border wall prop about the U.S.-Mexico border. He felt it might draw off-campus protesters who might damage the display, so he considered the situation dif-

ferent than someone at a table distributing flyers. In general, he tries to allow Student Life to handle any issues, only involving officers if people's safety or property are in danger. Even if there are disagreements or flare ups between groups, they'll allow it to occur before getting involved, Cocks said.

However, SUPER members are skeptical. Rayner Fried attributed the presence to concerns about allegations of antisemitism and wanting to shut down conversations before anyone could make that allegation.

"I also think there's a big racial element to this," Samia said. "You see police presence at ME-ChA's lowrider show, but you don't see police presence when there are student groups led by predominately white students doing events in Red Square."

The same racial element undercuts her concerns about police surveillance.

"I think that is a really ridiculous proposal to expand surveillance of students in hopes it will make certain people feel safe," Samia said. "I don't feel more safe when I'm being surveilled."

Chilling Effect

Studies confirm people act differently when they know they're being watched.

A 2016 study published in the Berkeley Technology

Law journal found a dramatic decrease in traffic to Wikipedia pages related to terrorist groups directly after Edward Snowden's revelation of NSA surveillance of internet traffic.

Due to such differences in behavior, theorists argued privacy is essential for individual dignity, identity and even intimacy. The authors of the study on Wikipedia traffic argued the chilling effect of surveillance prevented people from acquiring information they need to make informed decisions in a democracy.

Rayner Fried worries about surveillance cameras having a similar chilling effect at Western, especially considering how difficult it is to get students to show up to events in the first place.

"Sometimes the things you're doing are pushing the boundaries a bit — and that needs to happen — but knowing that you're going to be on camera because of that is not a good incentive for people to get out there and do things," she said.

Concerns about surveillance don't just come from the university but from external groups too. Samia and another member of SUPER were doxxed — their personal information posted online as a target for harassment — and placed on a list that accused them of racism and supporting terrorism. In June, The Intercept reported the FBI

questioned student activists based on their presence on the same list, which is not vetted and is funded by David Horowitz, a racist troll.

Samia worries that, without privacy protections, footage could be used to identify and target student activists.

"We as Arab and Muslim student organizers aren't safe, and the university should be protecting us before they're protecting the interests of the FBI or whatever group wants to surveil us," she said.

SUPER had their own cameras to record what happened at their display, but they draw a distinction between the administration hypothetically recording the display and them doing so.

"They're in a position of power and for them to be surveilling their own students is, I think, really different than us just keeping a camera to make sure police didn't aggravate students of color who were working at the wall," Samia said.

Balancing student privacy with obligations to release footage under Washington's public records law is one of the potential questions that would need to be considered in any discussions about installing cameras, Rasmussen said.

SURVEILLANCE continued on page 6



Screenshots of the Viking View web cam of Red Square from Western's website.

89.3fm
KUGS
www.kugs.org

LIVE PROGRAMMING
DEMOCRACY NOW

STUDENT OPERATED

+STREAMING NEW MUSIC
40 HOURS / WEEK

Campus safe spaces and services

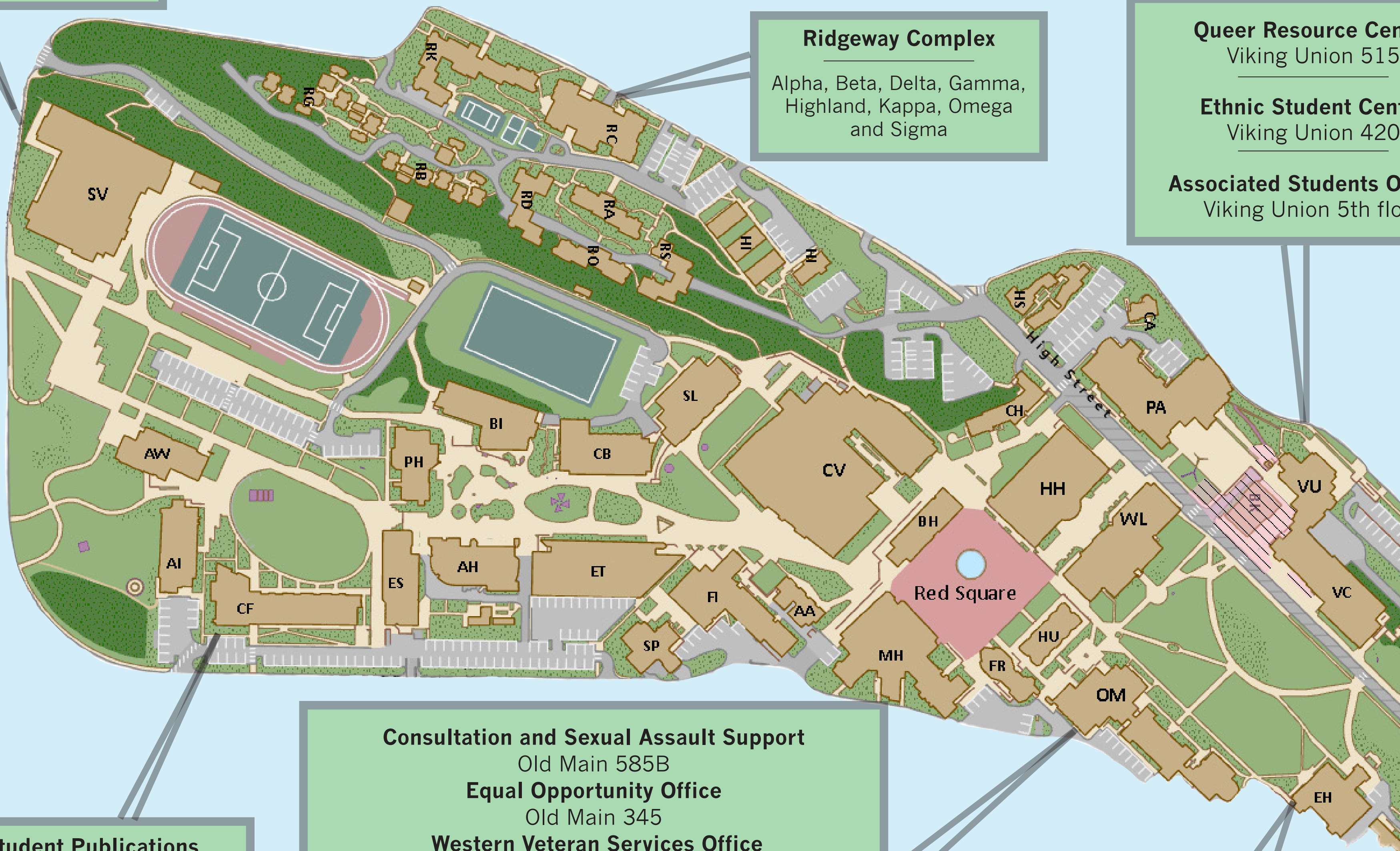
Wade King Recreation Center

Ridgeway Complex
Alpha, Beta, Delta, Gamma,
Highland, Kappa, Omega
and Sigma

Queer Resource Center
Viking Union 515

Ethnic Student Center
Viking Union 420

Associated Students Offices
Viking Union 5th floor



Student Publications
The Western Front
Klipsun Magazine
The Planet Magazine

Consultation and Sexual Assault Support
Old Main 585B

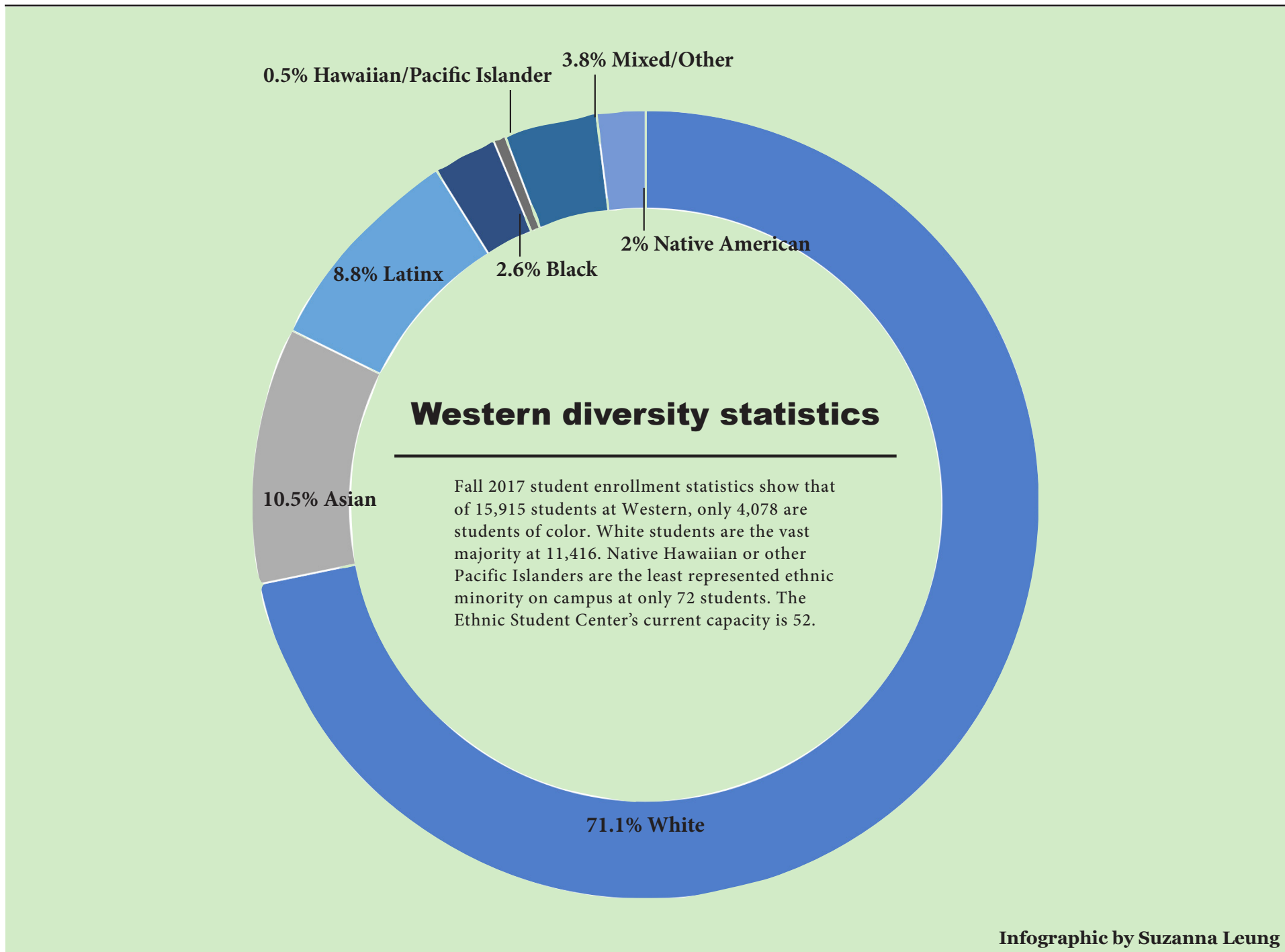
Equal Opportunity Office
Old Main 345

Western Veteran Services Office
Old Main 280

Counseling Center
Old Main 540

Alcohol & Drug Consultation & Assessment Services
Old Main 560C

ID Services
Edens Hall South-facing
entrance



Welcome Back Students!

day

Is your ID working as a bus pass?

If you are a full-time student, and registered for fall classes, your ID should be working as a bus pass.

If your ID is **NOT** working as a bus pass, and you would like one, and are registered for classes: Contact transportation@wwu.edu with your Western ID # and request the \$26.25 Transportation Fee.

Is your bus route the same as last year?

To learn about changes to WTA routes and schedules visit www.ridewta.com. Visit WTA's table in the PAC Plaza Sept. 26 and 27 with questions.

For questions, or complete information on the student bus pass and Transportation Fee www.wwu.edu/transportation or call 360-650-7960



Need a late night ride?

The Late Night Shuttle is in operation! 7 days a week

Check out the map, schedule and Shuttle Tracker app at www.wwu.ridesystems.net or www.wwu.edu/transportation

Fairhaven Complex is now a "flex stop" served by both routes. Let your driver know if you want this stop and they will drop you off.

night

CONSTRUCTION continued from page 1

Alumnum and ESC Summer Program Coordinator Erick Yanzon started as a member of the ESC upon entering Western four years ago. They advocated for the expansion of the ESC as they realized the space provided was not big enough for the growing community.

"I am excited for this building because, inherently, it's going to provide us visibility, and I think that is the biggest thing," Yanzon said. "It'll be great being on the seventh floor and for us to actually feel like the Ethnic Student Center actually exists."

The ESC was created in 1991 when five ethnic clubs didn't feel like the spaces provided for them were adequate for their needs, Yanzon said. These five clubs include the Black Student Union, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan, Native American Student Union and the International Club.

The ESC's current maximum capacity is 52, but the number of minority students on campus reaches close to 4,000, according to Western's student diversity statistics.

ESC members advocated for a stand alone building but had to compromise in



Drawing by Opsis Architects of the prospective social space looking into the multipurpose room.

order to get some sort of expansion.

"Some students were really critical about accepting just a floor because, if we did, it

would then take us longer to get a stand alone building, but we needed to do that,"

Yanzon said. "It was about timing."

"I am excited for this building because inherently, it's going to provide us visibility and I think that is the biggest thing."

Erick Yanzon, ESC Summer Program Coordinator

According to the frequently asked question page on Western's Office of Facilities

Development and Capital Budget, "Sustainability has been a driving principle for the Multicultural Services project from the

beginning based on clear direction and emphasis from students." This is being

done by working with local Native American communities, using "featured local and salvaged materials" and integrating environmental sustainability such as daylighting and improved indoor air quality.

The Multicultural Center will be located on the seventh floor of the Viking Union as it is being expanded onto the top of the bookstore. After completion, the bookstore will move back to its original location between the Viking Union and Performing Arts Center.

The new building will house the Multicultural Center, Viking Union, bookstore, multipurpose room and KUGS.

The student referendum voted in by students in 2016 included a \$30 Multicultural student center fee charged each quarter to students taking six or more credits to fund the project.

Cocke said the project is still within its \$20 million budget, 68.7 percent of which is being paid by student fees. The rest of the budget comes from institutional funds, Viking Union-Bond refunding savings and Associated Student reserves, according to the frequently asked questions page for the project.

Updates on the construction are posted online on the project website as well as on an update board located next to the work site inside of the Viking Union. Demolition and construction for the 7th floor took place on July 9, and will include four single occupant restrooms and new entrance for KUGS.



Drawing by Opsis Architects of the prospective Ethnic Student Center welcome desk after construction.

Meet the Associated Students Board of Directors



Millka Solomon | Photo courtesy of the AS.

Ellis Thomson
The Western Front

The key word is accessibility.

Every spring at Western, students vote a fresh round of student representatives into the Associated Students Board of Directors. It is their job to access and assist the needs of the general student body. They oversee over 175 committees, staff, student employees and oversee and support all AS programs. It's a big job and they know it.

Millka Solomon: AS President

Why is the Associated Students important?

The Associated Students are students for students. So, many of the events that you'll see posters for, like the Outback Farm or movies that happen outside, have students doing them. A lot of those students are in the AS.

"The president's job is to understand students' needs and take that information to the administration."

What is the role of the AS President?

The big job is going over and approving operating budgets for the AS. This is like how much money the AS needs to function. I'm super interested in it.

Representing students. The president's job is to understand students' needs and take that information to the administration.

Sounds like a difficult task. How do you go about doing this?

Traditionally, the idea is that office hours would accomplish this. But office hours are really underutilized, so we are planning outside office hours.

Outside office hours would allow me to physically go to Red Square, or the rec center or wherever

students are, so I can set up a booth and say hello.

How can freshmen get involved in AS?

Go to the Info Fair! The AS has its own fair, and every club is going to be there. We have like 200 clubs.

What issues are you hoping to address this year?

I really want to work on having a college of ethnic studies. We used to have one and reviving that and having more ethics classes would be great.

I also really want to have more school spirit by building community and getting people excited. I feel like it's a more fun school experience. People care more about each other and are more engaged in the community.

Levi Eckman: AS Vice President for Academic Affairs

Why is the Associated Students important?

The biggest thing for freshmen to know is that the AS is here to support students. It is not the seven of us sitting evily behind closed doors, laughing and snickering as we make a ton of decisions without students. It really is support for students.

All of the board members make sure that each other are acting in this role of shared governance, which I think is a concept kind of special to Western, where administration and faculty and students all kind of make choices together.

What is the role of the Associated Students Vice President for Academic Affairs?

I serve as the liaison between students and administration regarding academics and work with the faculty governance to kind of say, 'How can we make sure this is all accessible to students?'

What issues are you hoping to address this year?

Next year, I will be working on re-establishing a Student Senate. This is a lofty goal. But for three years now, this position has wanted to have the Student Senate reenacted. The most important barrier is that students are not paid for their work very often. We cannot ask students to do these jobs, work extra hours and not pay them for their work.

I would like to help continue the work on college outreach and specifically looking at how GURs are accessible to students

and making sure we are accounting for GURs for students with identities that are traditionally underrepresented in our community.

How can freshmen get involved in AS?

There are clubs! That is an amazing way to get involved. Last year, I was the secretary of the Arab Language and Culture Organization. I thought that was such a fun experience and such a nice community to be a part of.

I have to be really real when I say if students don't get involved, that is a bummer choice and you are just hurting yourself at the end of four years here. Or two years, for our transfers. Get involved!

There is a million and one ways, and if you are ever curious, my office is VU 504E and I will plug you in with the person that will get you involved. I pinky promise. Anytime. Anywhere.



Levi Eckman | Photo courtesy of the AS.

see AS BOARD page 14

"I serve as the liaison between students and administration regarding academics, and work with the faculty governance."



Your official Western AS bookstore is here to make sure you have the tools you need to succeed from day one

Use our website tools to make online textbook reservations, buy or rent course materials, compare bookstore prices with other vendors and find deals on used books.



You can charge onto your Student Account

NOW
through
October 9th



Supplies and fun stuff

We also offer a terrific selection of journals, planners, calendars, Western sportswear and gifts, great books, art, school, and wellness supplies, and everything you need to make your new room feel like home.

Extended rush hours

- Sat 9/22 10:00-4:30
- Sun 9/23 10:00-4:30
- Mon 9/24 8:00-6:00
- Tues 9/25 8:00-6:00
- Wed 9/26 7:30-6:00
- Thurs 9/27 7:30-6:00
- Fri 9/28 8:00-5:00
- Sat 9/29 10:00-4:30

And every purchase supports Associated Students and campus activities

www.bookstore.wvu.edu (360) 650-3655



Anne Lee | Photo courtesy of the AS.

AS BOARD continued

Anne Lee: AS Vice President for Student Life

Why is the Associated Students important?

The Associated Students is you as a student with some elected leaders to represent you in the larger university.

What is the role of the Associated Students Vice President for Student Life?

I serve on the Board of Directors, and I represent student voices in housing, dining, transportation and sustainability.

Ama Monkah: AS Vice President

Why is the Associated Students important?

AS gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion outside of a classroom in more of an extracurricular setting. Use that as an opportunity to grow and express your interest in different aspects of the university.

What is the role of the Associated Students Vice President for Activities?

If clubs request money for certain events, it's my job to ask them questions about why they are requesting it, and whether or not that request is effective. I can also approve new clubs to the AS Club Hub.

Also, I have the ability to appoint people to sit on different committees, and if people approach me on different projects that they are interested in, I can advocate for them and help that project exist.

What issues are you hoping to address this year?

I want to try and do more engagement kind of stuff. A lot of times, the students that don't come to the VU and don't come to AS, don't really know about it and miss out on being a part of things that are outside the academic world.

I also want people to understand what types of money they can find to make their events successful.

How can freshmen get involved in AS?

Freshmen can also walk into the VU at any time! If people want to contact me, they are always welcome to come to my office at VU 504D. Having students interests at heart, that's what we want.



Natasha Hessami | Photo courtesy of the AS.

Natasha Hessami: AS Vice Presidents for Governmental Affairs

Why is the Associated Students important?

As an organization that is funded by students run by students, it's a really great way to get involved in campus life.

What is the role of the Associated Students Vice President for Governmental Affairs?

I support the Representation and Engagement Programs Office, which is sort of a political activism office here at Western. I also plan and execute Western Lobby Day, which is taking about 120 students down to Olympia in the winter to lobby directly to state legislature.

We generate the legislative lobby agenda for Western. As Western students, we have lobby power. I help figure out which topics Western will be focusing on this year.

What issues are you hoping to address this year?

"I represent student voices in housing, dining, transportation and sustainability."

What issues are you hoping to address this year?

Safety, security, housing and transportation are the big ones. It's really about ensuring that students have access to their shuttle for late-night traveling.

There is also conversation around the best way to create access, knowledge and structure for gender-inclusive student housing.

For sustainability, we are looking at a couple of things. Our campus is

known as a water bottle free campus, but there is current work by students in the environmental realm to transition into a plastic-free campus.

How can freshmen get involved in AS?

Employment on campus. It's flexible with class hours, a great way to get involved and make money. Our student employment page has lots of AS jobs open as well as opportunities throughout the year.



Ama Monkah | Photo courtesy of the AS.

"As Western students, we have lobby power. I help figure out which topics Western will be focusing on this year."

Increasing civic engagement, that's definitely going to be a big push. It's a midterm year, and local elections really matter. We have a lot of seats up for grabs in our local and state elections.

I will also be really focusing on college affordability. Lobbying on the state level to increase funding to State Need Grants and also to make [them] an entitlement program to extend eligibility to the State Need Grant.

We are also going to be working on support for undocumented students and expand the pre-health track with more courses, classes and faculty.

How can freshmen get involved in AS?

The absolute best way to get involved as a freshman is to apply to committees. They are

FIRST GEN continued

Name: Jennifer Peterson
Pronouns: She/Her
Age: 22
Class Standing: Senior
Major: Human Services

Jennifer Peterson and her mother buckled up and made the four-hour drive from Woodland, Washington to Bellingham for Western's Summerstart. She couldn't stop smiling. It was the start of a new life—the first in her family to go to college. That day, Peterson's mother, who has multiple sclerosis, found herself

unable to navigate the entire campus. Peterson hiked up to the Ridgeway Commons and back just to bring her mother's dinner to her. "She felt so bad that she couldn't be there for me. My roommate that I stayed in the dorms with [that night], her parents didn't even come," Peterson said. "And my mom was freaking out that she couldn't even go see a dorm with me! That really put things in perspective of how much my mom was sacrificing to be there."

push [college] 100 percent more," Peterson said. "My dad saw direct implications in his job. He basically did the work of about two levels above him, but because he didn't have the degree he couldn't technically get the pay for that."

Peterson's family supported her decision to go to university but couldn't afford it. Her senior year of high school was flying by, and the financial barrier still stood. Her last semester she was awarded the Wash-

ington State College Bound Scholarship, opening the door to her college career. The College Bound Scholarship goes to students from low-income households and provides a portion of tuition, some fees and a small book allowance. Peterson also earned \$10,000 in scholarships from the National Society for Multiple Sclerosis, several community organizations and worked 30-hour weeks. She'd wake up early for morning-prep shifts at Papa Murphy's, go to school, do her homework and work some more.

Peterson's college experience prompted her involvement in Futures Northwest, an organization dedicated to helping first-generation students within the College Bound program. At the organization, Peterson walks these students through the confusing FAFSA and college application process. College provided Peterson with the excitement of finding a community and studying what she loves, despite the confusion of maneuvering a system without guidance. In her junior year,

ington State College Bound Scholarship, opening the door to her college career.

The College Bound Scholarship goes to students from low-income households and provides a portion of tuition, some fees and a small book allowance. Peterson also earned \$10,000 in scholarships from the National Society for Multiple Sclerosis, several community organizations and worked 30-hour weeks. She'd wake up early for morning-prep shifts at Papa Murphy's, go to school, do her homework and work some more.

Peterson's college experience prompted her involvement in Futures Northwest, an organization dedicated to helping first-generation students within the College Bound program. At the organization, Peterson walks these students through the confusing FAFSA and college application process. College provided Peterson with the excitement of finding a community and studying what she loves, despite the confusion of maneuvering a system without guidance. In her junior year,

ington State College Bound Scholarship, opening the door to her college career.

"[My father] did the work of about two levels above him, but because he didn't have the degree he couldn't technically get the pay for that."

Jennifer Peterson, 22



Jennifer Peterson | Photo by Kelly Pearce

Jennifer took a quarter off of school to work and save money. She continues to support herself financially, is back in school and is projected to graduate in fall 2018.

Peterson interns at Secret Harbor, a youth crisis organization. After graduation, she intends to continue as a case aid there for a year

before applying for graduate school.

"My background of coming from a working class family and having a mom that has an invisible disease gave me a lot more compassion, and I think a lot more will go into human services and social work," she said.



WELCOME TO ALL WWU STUDENTS
WESTERN'S BIGGEST DOWNTOWN PARTY

DJ AND LIVE MUSIC • FOOD TRUCKS • FREE FOOD SAMPLES • LOCAL VENDORS • GIVEAWAYS • FIREWORKS
FEATURING NOISYWATERS

WHEN
WEDNESDAY SEPT 26, 5:30 - 9:30 P.M.

MEET AT
RED SQUARE

WALK TO
DEPOT MARKET SQUARE

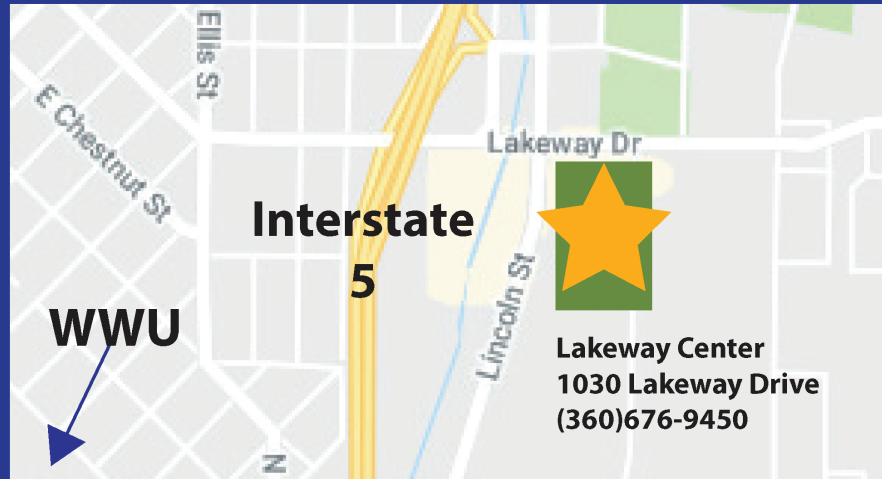
Join a procession with President Randhawa from Red Square to Depot Market Square and celebrate the new school year!

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
FREE REGISTRATION
ALUMNI.WWU.EDU/PAINTBHAMBLUE

FIREWORKS SPONSOR: ROCKET BRAND
EVENT SPONSORS: DAYLIGHT PROPERTIES, Woods COFFEE, CHEMELIK SITKIN & DAVIS P.A., Faithlife PARTNERS: WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, PROJECT B, DOWNTOWN BELLINGHAM PARTNERSHIP, ARGYLE SALON, SIGNS PLUS

LAKEWAY CENTER

WHERE WESTERN STUDENTS SHOP!



**WHOLE
FOODS
MARKET**



SEATTLE
**SUN
TAN**

SUPERCUTS®



KeyBank 

**PORT
OF
SUBS®**



menchie's
frozen yogurt

Super Track Walk in Clinic

Bellingham Cleaning Center

Rhodes Cafe

C

Community

Welcome Back Edition

Volume 185, Issue 1

westernfrontonline.com

@TheFrontOnline

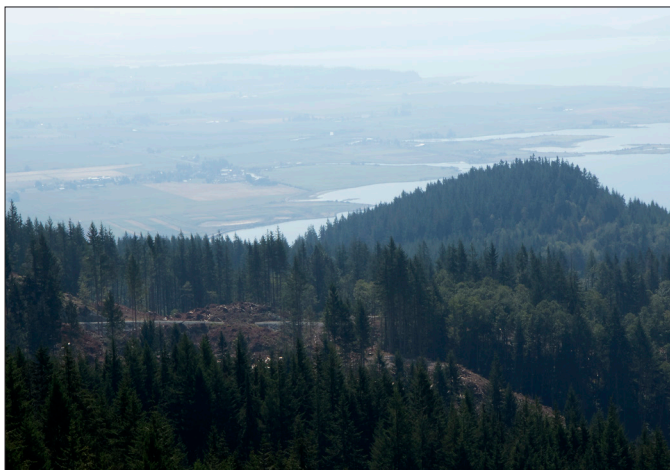
Monday, Sept. 24, 2018



What you need to know about the **WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT**, and how the public is involved.

pages 6-7

Meet the Western graduates and local business owners behind **APSE ADORN**, a jewelry shop specializing in ethical adornment. *page 8*



SAVING OYSTER DOME
page 2



ALTERNATIVE LIBRARY
page 11

 @thefrontonline

 @thefrontonline

 facebook.com/westernfrontonline

Sign up for our weekly newsletter

For all the news you won't find in Western Today

westernfrontonline.com

Oyster Dome saved from development



AFTER OVER A DECADE OF COMMUNITY EFFORT, THE BLANCHARD MOUNTAIN CORE WILL BE SAVED FOR RECREATIONAL USE.

In early 2018, Washington state legislature approved the budget to preserve Blanchard. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Shaina Yaron
THE WESTERN FRONT

It's a hiking haven loved by many and a crown jewel of Skagit County. Just out of Bellingham via Chuckanut Drive, Oyster Dome overlooks an expanse of old growth forest. The trail climbs steadily up Blanchard Mountain under dense foliage. The summit is situated atop a rocky bluff where the Cascade Mountains jut off to the Salish Sea. On clear days, hikers often watch the sun rise and set above the distant archipelago of the San Juan islands. This hike is a vital part of what makes Bellingham's outdoor scene unique, but, for nearly a decade, the area was in danger of becoming logged.

Oyster Dome is a part of the Blanchard State Forest in the Chuckanut Mountain Range. Approximately 100,000 people make their way to this 4800-acre scenic area for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding each year, according to data from the Washington Department of Natural Resources.

State plans to log Blanchard mountain in the early-2000s were met with a large community outcry. The fight lasted over 15 years, as

community organizations struggled to get funding to pull the land out of the hands of developers and loggers.

"It is a tricky landscape because it is so heavily used by the public. So a lot of people, when they want to hike, they don't like the idea of going on a trail through a recently harvested area. They want mature forest to be hiking through," said Chris Hankey, the Baker District Manager of the Washington Department of Natural Resources.

Blanchard Mountain is managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. The DNR also works through logging issues and resolves ongoing concerns.

"That's what we do, we are required to make revenue for the public. Funds that go toward things like public infrastructure or public services," Hankey said.

In 2006, the DNR put together a diverse group of leaders from different interests and on all sides of the issue, called the Blanchard Strategy Group, comprised of foresters, business people, community members, conservation groups and representatives. They were all brought together and were appointed to come up with an ecologically, socially and

economically appropriate solution. They essentially had to find a way to break the gridlock and see if they could all reach an agreement. They agreed on protecting a 1,600 acre forested core (of the total 4,500 acre forest).

However, in order for there to be a protected core, there had to be money appropriated so that the area could be set aside. The Blanchard Strategy Group would gain full protection if they were able to raise enough funds to secure and buy out the 1,600 acre core in five years. The cost was over \$12.8 million.

Instead of that money going to the trust, such as the county and the school district, the money was to go to the DNR to buy land that would be managed for the trust.

The land the DNR tried to buy was private timber that was at risk of slipping to development rather than logging. The main goal and what enabled the agreement was not only to protect Blanchard Mountain but to sustain a working forest and keep timber jobs, timber production and rural economies.

But the agreement was met with controversy. The Blanchard Strategy Group

were only able to protect a third of the 4,500 acres of state forest.

There were many concerns about how they would be able to secure enough money to help pay for the core.

"It took us 15 all-day meetings to get to that point. And to fulfill that agreement required about \$13 million. In 2008, the legislature put about \$7 million in and we were rolling. We thought that we had a chance to not only get all the funding in just a couple years but to really open a broader conversation about statelands management and instead the recession hit," said Mitch Friedman, the Executive Director of Conservation Northwest.

It was at that point that the economy collapsed, leaving the state with a more limited budget. The McCleary Supreme Court ruling was prioritized, which required the legislature to put a lot more money and focus into schools.

"And so what we thought would be a one or two year effort turned into a ten year effort - every single year making trips to Olympia as a coalition and trying to conditionalize," Friedman said.

It was challenging to reach funding, but stakeholders

were able to give them more time due to these difficulties.

In 2015, nearing the deadline, the community and constituents came together and fought their hardest to let legislature know how important Blanchard was to them. It was a tremendous community effort.

"So many people really care about Blanchard. Bikers, hikers, air sports folks, the equestrians, the neighbors who live down there. And the legislators of the 40th district, all of those people plus the other interest that stood by their agreement in 2007. Even timber interest and Skagit County and the Burlington Edison School District, everybody stood by their agreement and all the citizens cared, wrote letters, made phone calls, went to meetings," Friedman said.

In 2017, Blanchard was funded by the Capital Budget Bill, and Commissioner Hilary Franz of the DNR impeded logging so that the Blanchard Strategy Group could have more time to work with the legislators to get funding.

On Jan. 18, 2018, the state legislature approved the Capital Budget which will protect the Blanchard Mountain core from logging, according to Conservation Northwest.

"It's been a decade of work by the Blanchard Strategy Group and also supporters of protecting Blanchard throughout Skagit and Whatcom County primarily, but also people as far as Seattle and beyond have been supportive," said Molly Doran, the executive director of Skagit Land Trust.

The majority of the trails are inside the core, but there are trails still outside the core which will be impacted periodically by management operations. Timber sales and other management activities will continue on Blanchard outside the core over time.

"There's a lot of land that's still required to be managed, so logging operations and other kinds of operations will continue to occur periodically on Blanchard," Hankey said.

Hankey said that a challenge is trying to help people understand that timber harvesting, when done right, can be a huge benefit to society.

He believes that a benefit from working forests is locally produced wood that is sustainably grown, processed in local mills and produces local jobs.

"We still wind up having to import a lot of the wood that we use. I just hope people really think about that mentality," Hankey said. "Why always try to push it off onto someone else, when we can grow

it here? We can do it well, we can do it forever and so there are benefits from having working forests here."

According to Hankey, continued activities will follow forest practices, habitat conservation plans and the policy for sustainable forests. All timber sales will meet the rules, regulations and guidelines laid out on those documents.

And within the core, there will continue to be recreation maintenance, some trail improvement work and plans for some new bridges that will support the horse riding community and the mountain biking community as well as hikers.

Hankey hopes the DNR recreation management will receive more funding to assist with maintenance. He said the DNR is going to communicate with the community to increase understanding of what's happening on Blanchard Mountain.

After listening to multiple people involved in the project, it is clear that Blanchard wouldn't have been saved if it weren't for the support and advocacy from the community coming together under a common goal. Oyster Dome and its surroundings which includes forests, trails and wildlife will continue to remain preserved for generations to come.

ADVENTURES AROUND BELLINGHAM



Heliotrope Ridge // Photo by Zoe Deal

North Cascades Day Hikes
Heliotrope Ridge // Skyline Divide // Chain Lakes Loop // Winchester Mountain



Deception Pass // Photo by Zoe Deal

Best Views
Deception Pass // Diablo Lake // Lake Whatcom // Locust Beach // Clark's Point



Mt. Baker Ski Area // Photo courtesy of Eythan Frost

Other Recreation
Snowshoe, Artist Point // Mountain Biking, Galbraith Mountain // Ski, Mt. Baker Ski Area



GENDER NEUTRAL RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THESE WESTERN BUILDINGS

- Alumni House 105
- Arts Annex 266
- Birnam Wood Commons 104** 105**
- Bond Hall 157, 207, 307, 403B
- Campus Services 102, 103
- Canada House 105, 204
- Carver 111*, 226, 227, 309, 310, 311
- College Hall 130, 108A
- Commissary 103
- Environmental Studies 521
- Fine Arts 126, 128
- Library 182 (open during Library hours), 668, 669 (open 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F)
- Maths Hall 128A**, 128B**
- Morse Hall (Chemistry) 192, 193
- Nash Hall 19**, 146B**
- Old Main 100A, 100B, 567, and inside suites 200, 300 & 400
- Performing Arts Center 150A**, 151A**
- Physical Plant 214**
- Recreation Center 155, 156
- Ross Engineering Technology inside suite 204
- Steam Plant 205**
- Viking Union 351, 353
- Washington State Archives 204, 208

*This room includes a shower and lockers.
**Access to these locations is limited.
Underlined locations are ADA accessible.

www.western.edu/eoo/gnf.shtml



WWU is an equal opportunity institution.

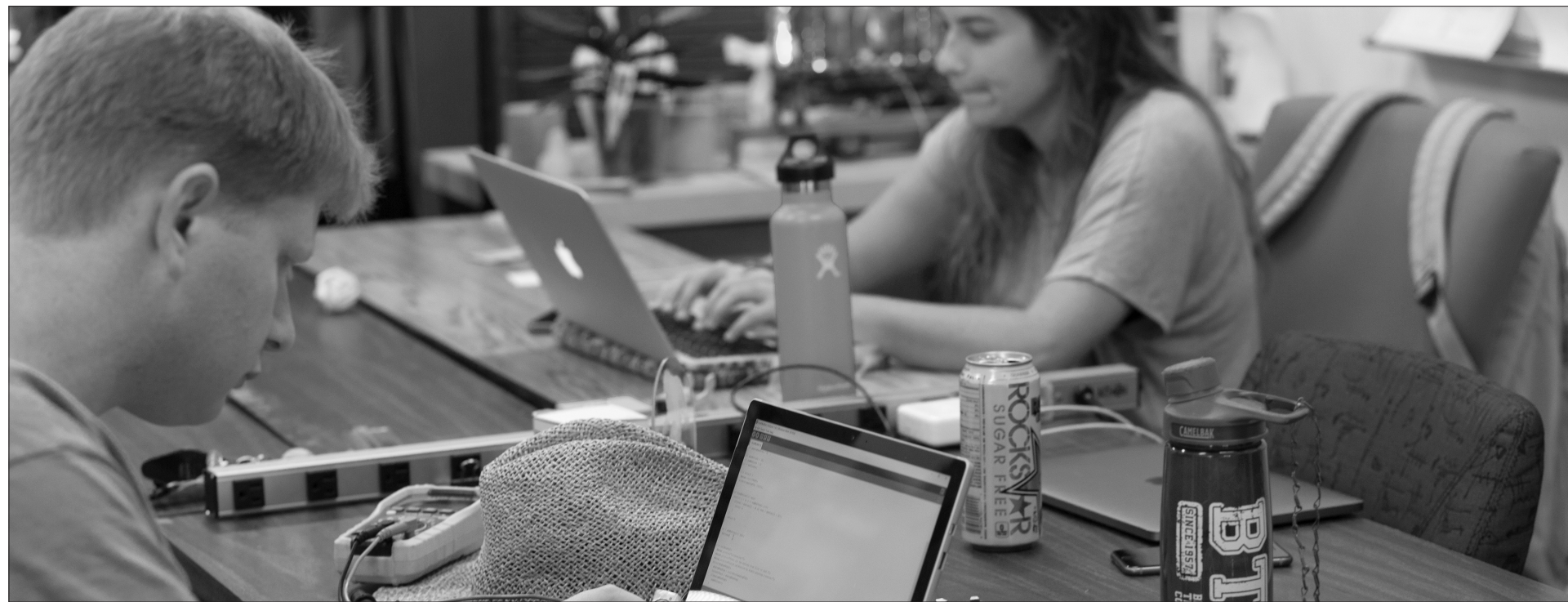


1415 RAILROAD AVE / 360.756.TACO
(RIGHT ACROSS FROM THE BUS STATION)

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram icons and @casaquepasa

360.650.3160
WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM

MAKE YOUR MARK IN INK
ADVERTISE WITH THE WESTERN FRONT



"The members that we have have such a wide array of interesting skills," Makerspace founder Mary Elliott said. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Creatives unite at Bellingham Makerspace

Jaya Flanary
THE WESTERN FRONT

A warm breeze flows in through the large opening of the garage door. The space has high ceilings and an open floor plan with woodworking materials and equipment. A side door leads to a smaller, air-conditioned room full of technology. 3D printers are methodically moving back and forth, creating.

Mary Elliott, founder and executive director of the Bellingham Makerspace, walks room to room showing everyone a fake bomb that was made earlier that week. The device's red numbers count down as it beeps, just like a movie.

Other projects clutter the area: Elliott's LED matrix cube changes color, 3D printed statues are displayed on the table and members tinker with their current projects.

Elliott is a pediatric occupational therapist. Years ago, she used a 3D printer to create a pinky splint for a 2-year-old girl. The splint had to be designed so the child couldn't pull it off.

"I ended up making a little pinky splint, sort of like a little

canoe, that slid on like jewelry. I put a bird on it and made it pink," she said.

She found 3D printing to be easier than one would think.

"If there was a place where people could go and learn and have a mentor as they're working on [something], then that removes one of the barriers to trying," Elliott said. "This technology is not the future, it's right here, right now."

The global maker movement started when Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Neil Gershenfeld created a class called "How to make (almost) anything," which led to MIT's Fab Lab, a global network that provides experts in the STEM field. The Bellingham Makerspace is connected to this lab.

Founded in 2013, the Makerspace is a nonprofit organization that offers the tools and education to anyone wanting to make something. The organization shares a building on the marina with Western and Bellingham Technical College. The tool library includes multiple 3D printers and Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines, as well as woodworking

tools, T-shirt design printers, soldering kits, 3D scanners, sewing machines, laser machines and more.

Using some equipment requires safety certification, which the Makerspace offers through educational classes

teers. Youth education is a passion of Elliott's because she works in pediatrics, so the Makerspace offers many programs for kids. Though the technology is here now, the education system hasn't



Founder Mary Elliott works with makers.

// Photo by Kelly Pearce

and events. Monthly memberships, including a student-discounted one, are available to those who want to use the equipment. The organization is always looking for volun-

teers. Youth education is a passion of Elliott's because she works in pediatrics, so the Makerspace offers many programs for kids. Though the technology is here now, the education system hasn't

teers. Youth education is a passion of Elliott's because she works in pediatrics, so the Makerspace offers many programs for kids. Though the technology is here now, the education system hasn't

caught up to it, Elliott said. The organization offers professional development for teachers to get hands-on experience and lesson plans to bring back to their classrooms.

"I feel like this space makes things possible," Elliott said. "By taking the fear and the cost out of trying something new and showing people what's possible."

Elliott's favorite project she helped with was an LED edge lit sign for a Warehouse 420 show, which Snoop Dogg performed at.

BTC students created a robot named Sammy, made up of 314 3D printed parts, for their capstone project. Sammy has a head, torso and right arm and is able to answer questions the way Siri does. The students aim to complete Sammy and put the robot on campus to answer school-related questions.

Other Makerspace projects have included turning a school bus into a tiny home, updating a '60s trailer, 3D printing a full-size bicycle and electric cello, and an interactive map Kindle used for advertising. Members have also made things for businesses, such as light-up signs for Aslan Brewing Company.

"The members that we have have such a wide array of interesting skills," Elliott said.

One of Melody Leroy's sconces on display. // Photo Courtesy of Melody Leroy

A 3D-printed statue created by Arti Vachs. // Photo courtesy of Arti Vachs

MEET THE MAKERS

Profiles by Jaya Flanary
Photos by Kelly Pearce
Below Photo courtesy of Ryan Smith-Roberts.



Jeremiah McCoy



Melody Leroy



Shaun Baumchen



Arti Vachs



Ryan Smith-Roberts

Jeremiah McCoy has a background in mechanical aerospace testing, so he has rocket scientist credentials. McCoy spends a lot of time at the Makerspace, where he can be found tinkering with his small inventions like a cell phone tripod.

McCoy was approached by casino workers looking to make a poker table that dealt cards automatically. McCoy started to design the table at the Makerspace in October.

The table, which is almost completed, has been a complicated project.

"Because it was much more elaborate, it really pushed my boundaries of what I already knew how to do versus what I needed to learn how to do in order to finish the project," he said.

He also teaches the Junk Drawer Robotics Youth Program for elementary school kids at the Makerspace. They learn things like coordinates, rotating versus sliding, leverage, hydraulics and more.

"Seeing how the kids just kind of lit up, it really just reminded me of what I used to do when I was in elementary school," he said.

Melody Leroy met Mary Elliott when the Makerspace was at its old location on Forest Street. "She was just great. I just want to emphasize that so much, because that actually got me going," she said.

Leroy joined as a member in October and started making a wall sconce out of wood. She first got safety certified with the woodworking equipment, which she thought was a huge learning curve.

"They told me at one point that I had logged in more hours than anybody else," she said.

Her sconces are battery-operated and have LED lights. One uses an on and off push button and the other uses a remote control. Nine months after Leroy became a member, she put the sconces up for sale at the Artwood Gallery in Fairhaven.

"I've had so many ideas over the years, and that's why this is just the perfect place," Leroy said. "You get the answers there and they figure out how to make it happen."

Leroy thinks the Makerspace is a good asset to the community to show people that everyone is creative by providing them with the tools.

Shaun Baumchen moved to Bellingham from Bonney Lake, Washington in early June. He graduated from Montana State University with a bachelor's in engineering and a minor in mechatronics and mathematics.

Montana State has a makerspace, so he was familiar with the concept. In school, he learned how to use Arduino, a company that makes microcontrollers that are easy to use.

"Basically it's a hardware accessory for electronics that [allows you to] write code and program the board, and then the board will tell outputs to do things," he said.

Baumchen is creating lectures to teach members how to use Arduino by building robots that don't hit walls.

He thinks the Makerspace brings people together from the community and from the STEM field.

"The only time I've seen a makerspace in a university, but I think they should be more than just that because people can learn so much from a makerspace," he said.

Arti Vachs learned about the Makerspace during a Seattle maker convention fair. It was one of the reasons he decided to move to Bellingham, Vachs said.

Vachs, now a volunteer, is most interested in 3D printing as a hobby and future career. He calibrates the printers and helps people use them. A lot of his 3D prints are displayed at the Makerspace.

"[A 3D printer] is a box that makes toys and it's really cool. It's very much an emerging technology that has a lot of potential," Vachs said.

3D printing now uses many materials which allow you to make different items. Vachs makes his prints more vibrant by adding things like antique lacquer to wood to give it texture.

"Before I came here it was really hard for me to socialize," Vachs said. "I just did not know how to reach out to people and when I came here I felt like I belonged immediately and had a group of very positive people that were willing to help me out and to help me learn."

Smith-Roberts describes himself as a computer geek. "I do more of the software stuff and was playing with the CNC for a while," he said.

A CNC is a three-axis router, according to Smith-Roberts, with a bit that always points downward and moves in three dimensions allowing you to put three-dimensional carvings into materials.

Smith-Roberts now volunteers for the Junk Drawer Robotics Youth Program. "The community here is much nerdier than pretty much anywhere in Bellingham that you can go to that's not an actual school, and that's really nice," he said.

The Makerspace recently acquired the upstairs loft and stacked 14 computers for a computer cluster that Smith-Roberts is working on, which he compared to Apple's Cloud. The machine in the middle is called the master, and the surrounding machines are called servants.

Smith-Roberts thinks the Makerspace is unique. "We have tools here that regular people would never get access to," he said.



One of Melody Leroy's sconces on display. // Photo Courtesy of Melody Leroy



A 3D-printed statue created by Arti Vachs. // Photo courtesy of Arti Vachs

Whatcom County Pregnancy Clinic
pregnancy testing & limited OB ultrasounds
nationally accredited

www.whatcomclinic.com
(360) 671-9057
1310 N. State St.
Bellingham, WA 98225

All services provided
free of charge

WORK HARDER

advertise with the western front
complimentary graphic design

360.650.3160 · WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM · WESTERNFRONTONLINE.COM/ADVERTISING-INFO



WITH PLANNING STAGE OVER, PUBLIC INTEREST IN WATERFRONT PROJECT WANES IN TIME OF NEED

Around 19-acres of land are available for redevelopment on Bellingham's waterfront. // Photo by Zoe Deal

Zoe Deal
THE WESTERN FRONT

Waves lap gently against the rocky beach of Waypoint Park, accompanied by the steady beating of rain. The clouds overhead stretch thick for miles. It's mid-September; a couple walking their dog and an older man skipping rocks are the sole visitors of Bellingham's newest park.

The park is a the first tangible result of years of planning and one of many future parks to be housed amongst 19 acres of multi-use developments over the next 50 years.

Since the finalization of the Waterfront District Sub-Area Plan in 2013, opportunities for public reassessment have been few and far between.

The Sub-Area Plan, also known as the Master Plan, holds the future of the entire waterfront.

Now that the planning stage is over, the cohesion of the waterfront district has been placed in the hands of master developer Harcourt Developments, a property company based in Ireland.

The master developer has exclusive rights to 19 acres at the waterfront. The land, according to Bellingham Port Commissioner Michael Shepard, is the most buildable acreage on the north side.

In this stage, community involvement has waned as what Bellingham business owner John Blethen calls feelings of "idealistic" anticipation have decayed into a subdued excitement.

"Almost none of us that started this process are still engaged in it," said Blethen, who was a member of the Waterfront Advisory Group in the late 2000s. "[There was a] huge amount of public interest

in this initially, but a lot of it died."

When asked why, after over 10 years of involvement, Blethen and others chose to depart from the project, Blethen responded, "How many years can you beat your head against the wall?"

Blethen said his primary frustration was that the project was interrupted at every stage as it went through the Planning Commission, City Council, City, Port, etc.

Mason Luvera, communications director at the Downtown Bellingham Partnership, said the partnership is running into a "pervasive" lack of awareness and engagement in the broader community regarding the waterfront.

"The general consensus amongst most is really a lack of understanding of what that project even is," he said. "We want to be able to authentically connect the whole community with this insanely exciting future for the city, and it simply isn't happening."

The Port and City selected Harcourt in 2008 after putting out a joint request for proposal process for a master developer for those 19 acres, Shepard said.

"They were the only viable bidder, so they were selected," Shepard said. "What's unique about the process is not necessarily that they are an international company, but 2008 was at the height of the recession -- most U.S. companies did not have the capacity for a bid of that nature."

The Port will sell the land to Harcourt on a project-by-project basis until they've met their full allotment of 19 acres.

The first sale, finalized in May 2018, was just under two acres for around \$1.6 million. The land is planned for mixed use on the ground floor, with

four stories of condos above, Shepard said.

The Granary Building on West Chestnut Street is Harcourt's current project, which is set to be completed late this year or early in 2019, said Rob Fix, executive director of the Port of Bellingham. The project will include a restaurant,



The waterfront in the 1970s. In purchasing the property, the Port took on the cost of cleaning up decades of environmentally damaging operations. Photo Courtesy of Jeff Hegedus

deck and annex, along with office space.

Future Harcourt projects include three residential structures, an office building over structured parking and a hotel alongside the rehabbed Board Mill Building, Fix revealed at the Waypoint Park opening celebration.

Since they own the land and the buildings, Harcourt will dictate who to enter lease agreements with.

Many in the community question why an international developer was permitted to have such control over the fu-

ture of the waterfront.

"The first thing [the community] wanted was for the public to continue to own the property on long term lease," Blethen said. "That went by the wayside almost immediately."

Development companies regularly have this amount of power when a municipal-

in mind.

"Creating that sense of place is probably the most important element in making any development fit into a community," Luvera said. "I worry that we are not taking a strategic direction to do that."

Another community concern is why, after 10 years, Harcourt has yet to bring any



Children fly kites at the Waypoint Park Opening Celebration on Aug. 31. Photo by Zoe Deal

As community interest and involvement wanes, Harcourt's proposals will go through City and Port approval without significant public input. While this may quicken the process, it could be detrimental to the success of the waterfront redevelopment in the eyes of the community.

Tara Sudin, economic development manager with the Mayor's Office, said the City is excited for the opportunity to extend the downtown into the waterfront district. The City is using urban villages, or multi-use zoned areas with retail, housing and activities, as a model. The plan is to create more interest and draw the population up instead of out as culture shifts from suburban to urban living. Sudin said that by appealing to this movement, the city is appealing to millennials.

While Bellingham is attracting an increasing number of people from around the region, the economy continues to be at a standstill. The resulting higher cost of living makes it difficult for students without financial security to stick around after graduation.

A 2017 report released by Western's Center for Economic and Business Research found that Bellingham retains 8 percent fewer graduates of higher education than similar cities with mid-sized universities.

Using data from the U.S. Census American Community Survey, study author and Western MBA student Isabel Vassiliadis discovered additionally that Bellingham wages and the number of residents with a bachelor's degree were low compared to similar cities across the nation.

"The median household in Bellingham earns roughly \$7,000 less than the peer city average (\$50,899), which is a significant gap considering their similarity in cost of living," Vassiliadis said.

"There are plenty of people in Bellingham that have comfortable, secure jobs, who have an established familiar group, own a home, and are really happy with the community as it is," Luvera said. "But there are plenty of young people who are struggling to attain that very thing, and really don't see any hope for the future."

Strategies to appeal to a new demographic have been in place in downtown for a long time, Sudin said. She emphasized that the waterfront renovations are simply an extension of strides being made downtown.

If done right, Luvera said the waterfront could be a great opportunity to push Bellingham's economy in the right direction. If done wrong, a plot of land bursting with potential could become simply another generic development like Barkley Village, Bellis Fair or Cordata.

Luvera said he hopes the City and Port will find more ways to actively engage the community with the ongoing processes of waterfront redevelopment.

"The waterfront in so many ways can be the flagship of us growing Bellingham into an economically viable city for the long haul," Luvera said. "But if the community doesn't see that, and really doesn't even understand what that project is, you can't begin to turn that into that flagship. And that's a missed opportunity."

When asked to comment, Harcourt failed to respond by the publication deadline.

While phase II outlined a

plan for multi-purpose facility for conferences and large gatherings, the prospective location is now planned to house a hotel and event center developed by Harcourt.

The university is currently working on phase III, the housing of new academic facilities.

Over the past year, Western has conducted an ideation process with representation from faculty members in various fields. Waterfront prototypes were created by students from Western's Entrepreneurship & Innovation Studies Program to gauge and incorporate student input, according to the document.

However, the ideation will continue into 2019 due to a previous lack of faculty members from non-STEM fields such as the College of Humanities & Social Sciences, the College of Fine & Performing Arts, Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies and Woodring College of Education, Paul Cocks, Western's director of Communications and Marketing, said in an email. Additionally, Associated Students President Millka Solomon has also been invited to participate, Cocks said.

"Given the recent completion of Western's 2018-2024 Strategic Plan coupled with the growing momentum at the waterfront, including completion of the Granary Building and construction of roadways, parks and a first phase of residential development, we are convinced that now is an opportune time to more clearly define a new future for Western at the Waterfront," Cocks said.

Cocks said additional details on Western's future on the waterfront can be expected in spring/summer 2019.

WESTERN ON THE WATERFRONT

Western has been looking to have a presence on the waterfront since 2004, when the Board of Trustees appointed an Academic Waterfront Planning Committee to explore being a part of the proposed redevelopment of the Georgia-Pacific site.

Western's Board of Trustees handled much of the initial research, which led to a character study outlining how Western's presence on the waterfront will reflect the open atmosphere of its current campus.

A document developed by the university said, "As the third-largest public university in Washington in terms of enrollment yet the smallest in terms of geographic footprint, expanding to the waterfront provides a unique opportunity to perhaps alleviate some space constraints and to expand capacity and visibility for academic programming."

A white paper published by Western in September 2016 introduced three phases by which Western will move forward with development on the waterfront, according to the document.

The first phase, a collaborative space called the Technology Development Center, was completed and dedicated in fall 2009. The Center is a 10,000 square foot state-and-federally-funded facility located in a remodeled warehouse across the Whatcom Waterway on F Street.

The space acts to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration in primarily advanced materials engineering, according to the center webpage, and is shared by Western, Bellingham Technical College, The Bellingham Foundry and the IDEA Institute.

While phase II outlined a



Waypoint Park features a natural elements playground, art installments and beach access. // Photo by Zoe Deal



City Councilmember Pinky Vargas dedicates the acid ball at the Waypoint Park Opening Celebration. // Photo by Zoe Deal

APSE ADORN

WESTERN GRADUATES PURSUE ETHICAL ADORNMENT AND ARTISTRY AT LOCAL SHOP



Apse Adorn co-founders Hayley and Jarod pose in their storefront. // Photo by Zoe Deal



Apse Adorn gives 10 percent of each purchase to non-profit organizations that fight to preserve and promote healthy intimacy. // Photo by Zoe Deal

Zoe Deal
THE WESTERN FRONT

On a sunny Friday in July, customers flow into Apse Adorn at steady intervals, running their hands through racks of ethically-made clothing and wandering between displays of handmade jewelry and featured art. With light neutral colors, low counters and an open floor plan, the airy space reveals a type of true intimacy. A workspace in back is visible from each corner of the storefront, making it easy for visitors to see the people behind the products.

Hayley Shea Boyd, 27, and husband Jarod Owen Faw, 28, are the creatives behind

Apse Adorn, a company whose products and mission are intrinsically tied to human connection. Their storefront is just one of a slew of downtown businesses that reflect Bellingham's changing demographic of young entrepreneurs.

For Hayley and Jarod, jewelry-making is a way they pursue their passion of impactful artistry. The couple believes what one wears and makes is a direct extension of how a person functions and perceives the world.

Apse Adorn is working in opposition to traditional marketing of adornment. Hayley explained that through advertisements and popular culture,

humans are told their circumstances will be improved or they will be loved more through

Apse challenges this standard by selling jewelry with symbolic meaning and creative purpose.

"You are going to wear this because you're worth it and you know you deserve it," Hayley said. "There's so much freedom for you."

Though the co-owners exude a calm, grounded presence as they sit in their bright Pinterest-esque studio and storefront in downtown Bellingham, they say their journey was never certain. As they near Apse's third anniversary, the couple is particularly sentimental about the process by which a beautiful mess of ideas became a blossoming company.

"It wasn't ever that we wanted to start a business," Hayley said. "It just kind of formed from this passion for art and social justice and our belief that creativity can really solve a lot of problems. It was just a natural progression."

As true life partners, it is clear that in all elements of their business, Hayley and Jarod share each hat - if not equally, then in a way that seems to satisfy their respective skills and passions.

Hayley holds a serene confidence as she sits in the Apse workspace in a white tee, holey black jeans and Vans. She leads production and spends much of her time creating jewelry and curating the space.

Jarod notes that Hayley is nearly but not quite a free spirit. With a soft, compelling gaze and blonde-brown hair tied up effortlessly with a patterned square scarf, Hayley certainly looks the part. Her quiet voice is simultaneously strong and gentle, her smile both charming and unassuming.

"She has an incredible creative vision for the brand," Jarod said. "She has an amazing way of reading up on what's happening in creative culture and being able to do her part to add to it."

Thin and well-dressed, with brown hair and welcoming brown eyes, Jarod is Apse's in-house craftsman, bookkeeper and self-proclaimed "dad."

While Jarod deems Hayley to be the visionary, he is largely her partner in making her visions a reality.

"He's a caretaker, in a way. He just wants to make sure all the boxes are checked and set everyone else around him up for success," Hayley said.

The pair are joined by their pup, Bo, and current assistant Jocelyn Cremer, a Western creative writing graduate.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

The story of Apse Adorn begins with a dragonfly and a jellyfish.

So said Hayley as she listed the natural signs through which she was encouraged to pursue a dream. In a period marked by uncertainty after graduating from Western and getting hitched, she was encouraged by these signs.

It was 2015. The newlyweds and recent Western fine arts grads were working: Hayley at a La Conner jewelry store and Jarod as a cabinet maker.

They wanted a change of pace.

Jarod was itching for a job that would allow him to wear "normal" clothing, and Hayley was realizing her brainchild couldn't be done solo.

As art publications and journals became less inspiring and more predictable, the couple said they began to consider how to use their voice to encourage new forms of creati-

"THERE'S SO MUCH HEART BEHIND WHY WE'RE DOING THIS AND EVERYTHING WE STAND FOR, AND WORK FOR AND CREATE."

strongly at points in my life and for me to really be witnessing love - I was not fully thinking that it was going to last," Hayley said. "I feel like that dragonfly was like 'no, this is done' like 'you're done believing in this lie,' and you're going to be shown it in a very wild way."

While she had dealt with depression and anxiety in the past, Hayley said in the period after getting married and before Apse Adorn, she was struggling with anxiety more than ever before.

"For the dragonfly to have been gone and then to come back just like the anxiety was coming back in my life and for it to be gone for good - that was very much a sign for me," she

ferent, and the year before that: completely different," Hayley said. "I would've never guessed it."

Jarod jumped at the idea of being her business partner. Though Hayley was still tentative about embarking on the creation of a jewelry business, Jarod's excitement and support kicked the project into gear.

"Yeah, I got pretty excited. I was like 'Let's do this,'" Jarod said.

Hayley recalled an evening in the fall of 2015 that Jarod came downstairs at 10 p.m. dressed to the nines in a tie, tucked-in shirt and nice shoes. Hayley was in her pajamas watching television.

"He was like 'It's time for a

regardless.

"We figured that if online sales could cover the cost, it's just a few extra bucks here and there," Jarod said. "But it's kind of become its own thing, and now this month we're doing better in-store than we are online, so it's kind of nuts."

The northwest natives said they chose to remain in Bellingham because they didn't feel particularly called anywhere else. While some of their friends left for career purposes, the couple believe they already had it made in Bellingham and chose to stay for the community.

"I'm such a believer in building and offering something to a place that's thirsty for it," Hay-



Employee and Western graduate Jocelyn Cremer smooths out the Charity barette in the Apse Adorn studio. // Photo by Zoe Deal

said.

Then came the jellyfish, which appeared in a La Conner canal miles from open water and remained in place for over eight hours. Hayley observed the jellyfish from a window two floors up, marveling at its size (over 1 foot in diameter) and the circumstances that led the jellyfish to such an unlikely place.

"It was like a jellyfish that you shouldn't even see if you're not in the zoo. It was red and purple and had tentacles," Hayley explained.

She did research to attempt to figure out how this jellyfish was able to get to the canal, which was used to provide water to La Conner farmlands.

"It's impossible for a jellyfish, much less any other creature, to get so far inland. It would've had to have gone down so many things and taken so many turns. And then it was just like, stuck," she said.

Hayley said jellyfish are a symbol to trust the process, which was a massive encouragement to her.

"If you were to look at our business at the beginning, and be like 'how is this going to get anywhere?' The jellyfish would just be like 'trust the process.' To think what we looked like one year ago: completely dif-

meeting. We're having a meeting," Hayley said, "I was like 'okay I guess this is happening.'"

Jarod chimed in, "That was our most productive meeting ever."

Within a month of Jarod joining the project, Apse Adorn launched an Etsy page. In another month, the couple simultaneously quit their jobs.

What Hayley and Jarod lacked in income, they say they made up for in dedication. In the beginning, their brand and Etsy photos were dependent on "janky" lighting and helpful friends.

"That's just how we've gotten here: being resourceful. We started with nothing," Hayley said. "Your material things shouldn't limit what you can make and what you can do."

BRICK-AND-MORTAR

After working out of a studio downtown on Holly and Bay Streets, they made their way two blocks east to a larger space on Commercial Street in November 2017.

Pursuing brick-and-mortar wasn't a calculated approach for Hayley and Jarod. Jarod said they opened a shop because they wanted to do so and needed a studio to work out of

ley said. "I know that wherever we go, we will have our own voice, but I think that Bellingham is a community of so many creatively thirsty people. Why not offer that directly for them?"

Jarod said having the storefront is taking business owners off a mysterious pedestal. When people come in to find that Apse is a three-person team, and that Jarod and Hayley design and curate the store's offerings, Jarod explained that visitors become excited to connect with the humanity of it all. The makers are always present, something common among many downtown businesses.

Hayley appreciates the storefront for the ways it rivals online offerings and exemplifies their mission. Clothing and art from other creatives whose goals align with Apse are sold in the shop on a rotating basis.

"It makes sense with our brand and philosophy just in building community and unity and creative power," she said. "So much gets lost in translation online, and that's one of my frustrations with online business."

"There's so much heart behind why we're doing this and everything we stand for, and work for and create."

Haggen
NORTHWEST FRESH

Welcome Students!

Haggen proudly provides our community with the best quality, freshest food available from local farmers, fishers and producers.

Save 5% at Haggen with your Viking Territory Pass*

*Exclusively for WWU students, the Viking Territory Pass has all the same savings and discounts of a regular Haggen CARD plus save an additional 5% off your order all school year long!

Purchase your 2018-2019 Viking Territory Pass at WWU today, or online @ wu.vikings.com

Valid now-6/30/19

©2018 Haggen • 180906-04

Haggen Food & Pharmacy • See website for store hours • www.haggen.com
Barkley Village • Sehome Village • Meridian & Illinois • Fairhaven • Ferndale

THE BEST OF DOWNTOWN BELLINGHAM

according to the Western Front staff



Downtown Eats

Breakfast, Mount Bakery // **Lunch**, Avenue Bread // **Dinner** Bayou on Bay // **Vegan**, Wild Oat Cafe, Leaf and Ladle // **Late Night**, AB Crepes, El Capitan's

Mount Bakery // Photo courtesy of Amanda Kerzmaneat

Downtown Coffee

Vibe, The Black Drop // **Local**, Lettered Streets Coffeehouse // **Hippest**, Camber (hemp milk!?) // **Staff favorite**, Avellino



Camber Coffee // Photo courtesy of Camber Coffee



Downtown Venues

Dancing, Salsa Lessons at Cafe Rumba // **Recreation**, yoga and climbing at Vital // **Music**, Wild Buffalo (21+) // **Art**, Make.Shift Art Space

Friday Art Walk at Make.Shift // Photo by Zoe Deal

STONES THROW BREWERY

FRESH HOP 🎵 🔥 🚲 🚚

BLOCK PARTY

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 20th | 11-8 PM

GROOVEBOT • THE NAUGHTY BLOKES

BACK EAST BBQ • NEW PUBLIC CAFE • KURLY FRIES

\$3 PINTS MONDAYS 12-6 PM

FOOD TRUCK TUESDAY-SUNDAY

TRIVIA EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

LIVE MUSIC WED/FRI/SAT NIGHTS

DRINK LOCALLY AND SOCIALLY!

Fairhaven, Bellingham Learn more at stonestrowbrewco.com

YOUR AD
COULD
BE HERE

WESTERN FRONT

complimentary graphic design contact 360.650.3160 or [www.westernfront@gmail.com](mailto:westernfront@gmail.com)



The Alternative Library sees success catering to Bellingham's subdued strangeness

Alexia Suarez
THE WESTERN FRONT

David Zhang, mortgage holder for the historical Karate Church, chief technology officer and Alternative Library volunteer recalls a time in the library when a couple stopped by in search for a book on demonic possession.

Zhang described the couple as intense as they approached in search of more information on demon possession and exorcisms. He directed the couple to the book, Entity Possessions: Freeing the Body of Negative Influences. He believes this interaction is something that perfectly describes what the Alternative Library is all about.

"If Bellingham is the city of subdued excitement, we are subdued strangeness," Zhang said.

The volunteer-run, member owned non-profit is providing alternative forms of education through a library of their own. The Alternative Library provides eclectic genres of books, classes run by anyone willing to teach and various creative opportunities for artists in the Bellingham area.

Walking through the heavy front door one is greeted by thousands of books, whose genres vary from spirituality and anarchy to books typically banned by public institutions. The books line the walls from floor to ceiling and volunteer-made rolling book shelves litter the small space. Open walls are covered in art and mirrors. The space's relaxing lighting is home-y, while also provoking creativity and imagination.

The Alternative Library

was started by Future T. Man roughly 10 years ago as a small collection of graphic novels lent and sold to the community out of his house on Billy Frank Jr. Street. As time passed, his collection grew, forcing the library to move throughout the city of Bellingham to accommodate their expanding library.

From the Sushi House to Make.Shift to a location on Railroad Avenue, the Alternative Library has had many homes. In January of 2017, the library finally settled in the place it now calls home; a 127-year-old historical building known locally as the Karate Church.

The passion within its volunteers on alternative education tangibility for a community makes the library a pillar of resources for alternative Bellingham.

Volunteer Meg Duke said the Alternative Library values its community and its people, "We are a co-operative. Our members make us."

Duke volunteers her time at the library and the Bellingham Food Bank because she feels her work is bettering her community and connecting it as well.

"I don't believe in the fact that we promote greed over need. I don't believe in the fact that we value profit over people. And I don't like the fact neighbors who live literally next to each other are strangers towards one another," Duke said.

Her love for her community and her desire for a more cohesive and collaborative community has brought her to spend her volunteering hours at the Alternative Library.

"A space that promotes non-mainstream value systems is an incredible resource for a community that lacks that," she said.

Her belief that time is the most valuable thing a person can have pushes Duke to spend her time volunteering for the library.

Tatum Kenn from Mount Vernon spends her time commuting to be a member of this unique library.

"This fosters a community of those who want to learn what the government doesn't want to teach us," Kenn said.

Her love for alternative learning has taught her so much about herself, the world around her and different perspectives she never would have learned without the desire to educate herself.

The Alternative Library is always accepting open minded and driven community members to be a part of the upkeep and expansion of this ever-growing library through volunteer work. Membership to be a part of the Alternative Library family is \$5 a month until one reaches \$100 - then you're a member for life. As of now the library is around 2,000 members and growing.

"We want to be a side you've never even heard of in a society with only two sides," Zhang said.

He said this library is for everyone. Especially those who are seeking a new perspective or a new take on information presented. The Alternative Library is a place where creativity and knowledge expansion is encouraged, fostered, cultivated and challenged.

The library is currently housed in a 127-year old historical site known as the "karate church" // Photo by Zoe Deal



The Alternative Library houses various genres ranging from spirituality and anarchy to banned books. // Photo by Zoe Deal



Membership is \$5 per month until you've contributed \$100, then you're a member for life. // Photo by Zoe Deal



The Remain studs. Each Apse Adorn piece has a story behind it. // Photo Courtesy of Apse Adorn



Apse Adorn sells the goods of other local artists on a rotating basis. // Photo by Zoe Deal

APSE
continued from page 9

MISSION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Apse Adorn has had a clear mission since its beginnings, though that mission has gotten more specific as they've found the words to articulate what they're feeling, Hayley said.

With a firm foundation on social justice, Apse donates 10 percent of each sale to one of three nonprofit organizations.

"We wanted to pick three so that we could give the customer

an option and showcase that you have power in your purchases," Hayley said.

It has taken time to settle on the current organizations: A21 Campaign, Fight the New Drug and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County (DVSAS).

Each of the organizations align with Jarod and Hayley's passion for preserving and promoting healthy intimacy. The global A21 Campaign works to end the sex trade industry and support survivors. Fight the New Drug is a national organization which looks to publicize the harmful effects of pornog-

raphy on the brain, heart and world. DVSAS offers support to Whatcom residents experiencing domestic violence and sexual abuse through counseling, legal services and safe housing.

Partnerships with Fight the New Drug and DVSAS have resulted in collaborations.

For DVSAS, Hayley designed a set of four pendants based on the story of the symbiotic relationship between the yucca moth and the yucca flower.

Jarod and Hayley explained that the story connects to the DVSAS mission of advocacy and Apse's passion for healthy

intimacy.

"It's this completely amazing self sacrificing intimate relationship. I really felt like it was an illustration of healthy masculine/feminine relationships but also very much a sisterhood/ brotherhood thing too," Hayley said.

"Each person has something to give, and hopefully they'd be open to receiving something too," Jarod added.

Hayley worked with Jessica Heck, of DVSAS, on the collaboration. Heck said the partnership shows how Apse Adorn is empowering survivors of domestic violence and sexual

assault in their own way.

"You never know what someone is going through and so having lots of different ways to make a connection is very powerful," Heck said. Because we, at DVSAS, are not jewelry-makers, Apse Adorn is able to engage the community in a way that we never could."

For more information on Apse Adorn, their mission or to shop their ethical goods you can visit their website at apseadorn.com. Though, if you're in Bellingham and interested in meeting three down-to-earth, inspirational humans, stop by the shop at 1307 Cornwall Ave.

WELCOME BACK!

delicious eats • open every day • free wi-fi

**FULL SERVICE
DELI & BAKERY!**

made-to-order sandwiches,
yummy salads, espresso bar,
and SO MANY baked goods

SALAD BAR!

fresh organic greens
and fixings with six
housemade dressings

Just one mile
from Red Square
to your Co-op!

FREE WI-FI

pw: eatlocal

Community

FOOD CO-OP

LOCALLY GROWN • COMMUNITY OWNED

Downtown — 1220 N. Forest St.

Bakery Café — 405 E. Holly St.

Cordata — 315 Westerly Rd.

communityfood.coop • 360-734-8158



The Western volleyball team celebrates during a match on WECU Court at Carver Gym. // Photo by Kelly Pearce



Defender Emily Nelson fights for the ball during a game against Colorado School of Mines. // Photo by Kelly Pearce



Cameron Retherford takes a shot for Portland Community College. // Photo courtesy of WWU Athletics



Western intramurals is one way to get involved on campus. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

 @thefrontonline

 @thefrontonline

 facebook.com/westernfrontonline

Sign up for our weekly newsletter
For all the news you won't find in Western Today
westernfrontonline.com

Women's soccer eyeing return to national stage

Western's women's soccer team hoping for another deep postseason run

Anna Kasner

THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western women's soccer team got off to a fast start to its new season, winning five of its first seven games.

While they were in California, the Vikings were scheduled for a rematch against the team that knocked them out of the 2017 NCAA DII Tournament, the University of California, San Diego.

The Vikings went on to lose that match 1-0.

The women's soccer team won the 2016 NCAA DII national championship. They're aiming to win another by not only working hard during practice, but also putting in work outside of practice.

"It's not a game you can take off even if we're playing the last place team in the league," senior defender and co-captain Annaliese Laurila said. "We still have to work on the game to get better and just improve as much as we can."

Last season, the Vikings led the Great Northwest Athletic Conference with 55 goals scored, 14 shutouts and a 0.397 goals against average.

"We have a very balanced team," head coach Travis Connell said. "We have a lot of great attacking weapons. We are coming up with one of our best defensive years and have a lot of returning players on the back line. We will have a very balanced team that can attack and defend."

Returners are coming into the season determined and motivated. Gabriela Pelogi is going into her senior season with 36 career goals — the sixth highest amount in Western history.

Not only does the women's soccer team work together on the physical side of the game, but it also spends time together outside of its training.

The Vikings use team bonding as a way to build trust and chemistry between players, which helps build good relationships while on the field.

"We definitely pride ourselves on having that good relationship, so that when we



Defender Emily Nelson controls the ball. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

get on the field, we trust each other," Dierickx said.

The team lifts weights or runs together to get into shape and bond outside of practice.

Some of the players coach for the Whatcom Rangers, a premier soccer team in Bellingham. Coaching builds team-

and a sophomore transfer from Texas Woman's University, defender Tivona Tinsley.

Diaz, from Granite Falls, Washington, said she is looking forward to spending her collegiate career at Western.

"They gave me an opportunity, and I just took it. I really

and coaches, so I'm excited to be back with them," sophomore midfielder Darby Doyle said. "I'm excited to see how far we make it into the tournament. Just getting back and working and building on how far we make it as a team."

The Vikings first home game was against Holy Names University on Thursday, Sept.

6, where they came out with a 4-0 victory.

Western went on to win five of its first seven games including victories over nationally ranked Metropolitan State University of Denver and Colorado School of Mines.

"We are coming up with one of our best defensive years and have a lot of returning players on the back line."

Travis Connell
Women's soccer head coach

work and leadership skills, so the players can take those skills to compete on the soccer field.

New to the team for the 2018 season are freshman forward and midfielder Mia Powers, freshman forward Dayana Diaz, freshman midfielder Caylie Etherington, freshman goalkeeper Claire Henninger

like the campus because it reminds me of my home," Diaz said. "This is a family that I would love to spend the next four years with."

As the Vikings continue to train for the upcoming season, they're eager to head back onto the field to play together again.

"I really miss my teammates

UPCOMING GAMES

- Sept. 27 - @ Saint Martins
- Sept. 29 - @ Western Oregon
- Oct. 4 - vs Seattle Pacific
- Oct. 6 - @ Central Washington
- Oct. 11 - vs Montana State Billings
- Oct. 13 - vs Northwest Nazarene
- Oct. 18 - vs Concordia

Men's soccer adds new recruits and transfers

Ten new players join the Vikings this season as they look for a trip to the playoffs



The men's soccer team during a match against the University of Hawaii at Hilo at Harrington Field. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Max Gleiberman
Ethan Skorniakoff
THE WESTERN FRONT

After an up-and-down 2017 season, the Western men's soccer team hopes to improve its record in 2018.

Last season, the Vikings finished in a tie for third in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, with a conference record six-game unbeaten streak at the beginning of the season.

The Vikings ended the season with a 5-4-3 conference record and an overall record of 6-6-5, missing the postseason. The team did have five

all-conference players: Anthony Dean and Tyler Visten on first-team, Luke Olney on the second-team and Georg Cholewa and Stephen Jinneman as honorable mentions. Dean was named to the United Soccer Coaches All West Region third-team and Drew Farnsworth and Visten collected GNAC player of the week awards.

Junior Christian Rotter thinks a younger team will bring a new style to the team's play.

"This season we have a few new faces to replace some seniors that graduated, so the team dynamic will look a little different," Rotter said. "New

bon said.

Brisbon said no one is bigger than the program and to carry that out on the field is a must.

"Players need to want to work for each other, want to play for each other," he said. They need to be in the best physical shape they can be and, overall, they need to have talent specific to their position/roles on the team."

Brisbon said he is always excited to start the season, especially with the anticipation of the first non-conference

game against Sonoma State University

The Vikings went on to beat Sonoma State on Aug. 30 in California. A golden goal on a penalty kick in overtime was the difference maker in the game as the men's soccer team came out on top 4-3.

Western played Saint Martin's University on Thursday, Sept. 20, losing by a score of 3-1.

The Vikings next game was played after publication date on Saturday, Sept. 22.

INCOMING PLAYERS

Derek Carpenter - Klahowya Secondary School

Blake McMillian - Tacoma Community College

Teagan Eldridge - Enumclaw High School

Jacob Ramos - Woodcreek High School

Lucas Richardson - Skyline High School

Ryan Schaefer - Kennedy Catholic High School

Iakov Shmelev - Eastlake High School

Dakota Stamnes - Mount Vernon High School

Alessandro Tomasi - Squalicum High School

Gus Diehl - Sehome High School

OPEN EVERY DAY AT 8 AM

SERVING BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

Village Inn
PUB & EATERY
SINCE 1971

BIG SCREEN TVS
POOL TABLES
DART BOARDS

FULL SERVICE BAR
PULLTAB BAR
VIDEO GAMES

3828 NORTHWEST AVE. BELLINGHAM, WA 98225 - 360.734.2498

A FAMILY FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD PUB

TATTOO & BODY PIERCING

1146 N State St
Downtown Bellingham

(360) 676-7330

bellinghamtattoo.com

Always !!!
10% Student Discounts

CHAMELION INK

Facebook, Instagram, Visa logos

MAKE YOUR MARK IN INK
ADVERTISE WITH THE WESTERN FRONT

360.650.3160
WWW.WESTERNFRONT@GMAIL.COM

Volleyball looks to repeat success

The Vikings are seeking a possible return to the NCAA Tournament after reaching a No. 7 national ranking last year

**Kyle Fang
Ethan Skorniakoff**
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western women's volleyball team looks to carry its momentum into the 2018 season after achieving a top 10 national ranking last season.

The Vikings brought home the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship this past season, which marked the eighth GNAC championship in program history.

They finished the season with a 27-4 record, going 19-1 in conference play and 10-0 at home. This led the program to a high national ranking at seventh in the American Volleyball Coaches Association poll. The team was also a finalist in the NCAA II West Regional.

The team will welcome six new recruits this upcoming season: Malia Aleaga from Burien, Rylee Born from Gig Harbor, Tupu Lologo from Federal Way, Kasey Woodruff from University Place and Calley Heilborn and Anna Maracich from Auburn Riverside High School.

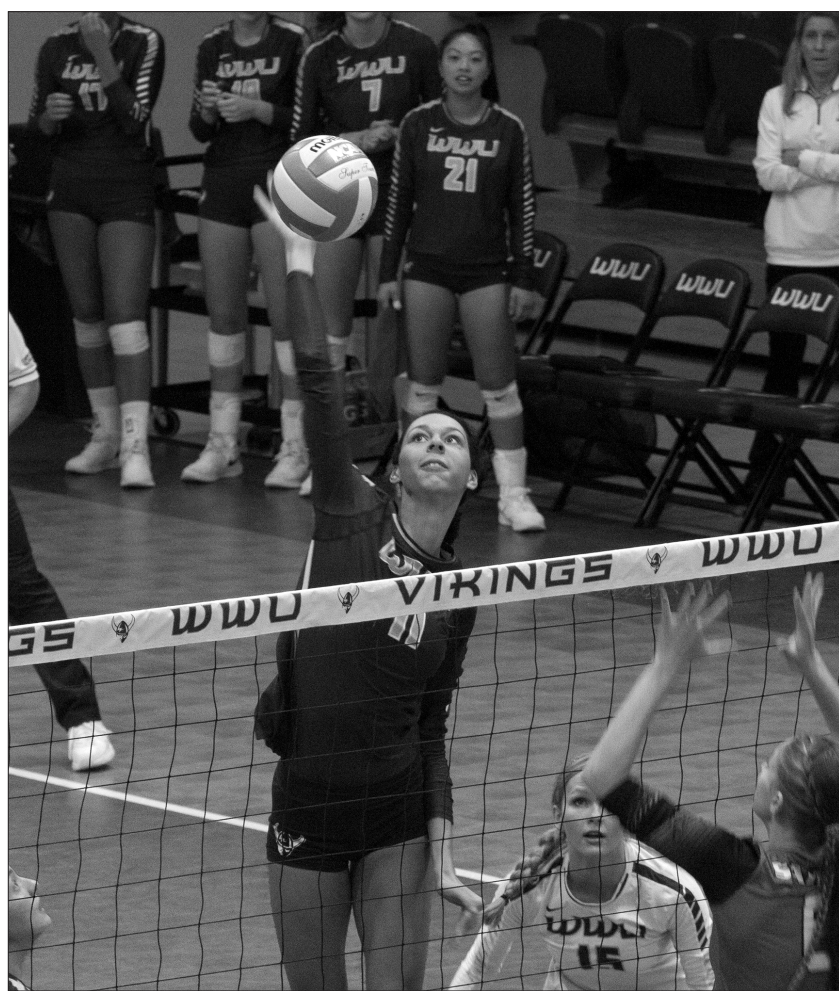
Sophomore setter Janae Payne believes the new recruits will be a nice fit with the team.

"I think the newcomers will fit in great," Payne said. "Not only do coach Diane and James recruit extraordinary talent, but they also find people who have great character and heart for others. We're excited to have them be a part of the Viking family."

Payne is confident the team will achieve the same level of



The volleyball team won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship last season. // Photo by Kelly Pearce



Kayleigh Harper during a match on WECU Court at Carver Gym. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

greatness it had last season.

"I believe my team will make it past the regional final this year," Payne said. "Our team goal is to win the national championship."

As for any pressure going into this season, Payne said it's definitely there, but the team is doing its best not to let the pressure impact its play.

"I think there will always be pressure for teams to reach similar success, but we try to not let our expectations distract us, since we're not the same team going into this season," she said. "We try to work with what is in front of us, which is making each contact, game and practice better than the last."

Senior All-American and reigning GNAC Player of the Year Abby Phelps will return this season. Joining her is All-American honorable mention Brette Boesel.

Junior middle Kayleigh Harper said the team is using the past as a learning experience for the future.

"After every season, successful or not, we do

a good job of regrouping and figuring out how we want to keep getting better as a team," Harper said. "We try to learn from the past seasons."

Harper said she is excited to have the new freshmen on-board.

"The new freshmen bring a fun energy to the team, and they really elevate our play in practice," she said.

During the offseason, Harper said she is working on her individual skills, and the team is still aiming to reach its goals.

"After every season, successful or not, we do a good job of regrouping and figuring out how we want to keep getting better as a team."

Kayleigh Harper
Junior middle

"As a team, one of the goals we've really been honing in on is ball control," Harper said. "My only individual goal is to improve my play every day."

Incoming freshman Maracich is looking forward to joining the hard-working group. "Everyone is so good, and I am so excited to bring in my energy and weird cheers to cre-

ate the best bench Western has seen," Maracich said.

Maracich said she is thrilled to join a program with teammates and coaches who she holds in high respect.

"They are such amazing coaches, which is reflected in their talented players and great accomplishments," she said.

From high school to college, Maracich's main goals have been finding confidence in her abilities to compete at a high level. She also wants to be adaptable to her team's needs.

The Vikings schedule began with the West Florida Invitational in Pensacola, Florida, Aug. 24 to 25. The regular season started with a rivalry game against Seattle Pacific University on Sept. 6 on WECU Court at Carver Gym where the Vikings won 3-1.

Western continued GNAC play with matches against Saint Martin's University, Northwest Nazarene University, Central Washington University, the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Women's rugby preparing for new season

Camaraderie brings Western's women's rugby team together on and off the field



The women's rugby team after a match. // Photo courtesy of WWU Rugby

Nicole Martinson
THE WESTERN FRONT

Junior Madison Spradling had never played rugby before college.

Neither had sophomore Rose Bryers or senior Megan Stark. They were drawn in by the women's rugby team's camaraderie and challenging athletics.

"It was so welcoming and such a wonderful group of women that I was automatically drawn to it," Spradling said. "I started playing fall quarter fresh-

man year and fell in love. It's a great group of girls, and I've really enjoyed being part of the team."

As a freshman, Bryers easily adjusted to the new sport with help from her teammates. With a large inpouring of new players, most come in with little to no knowledge about rugby, Bryers said. She said although there is a steep learning curve, the team is great about helping players adjust and learn.

"I really like the team feel," Bryers said. "It's basically just

40 badass girls who all have each other's backs on and off the field."

Stark found comfort in the team as soon as she got to Western her freshman year.

"It's like a big family," Stark said. "Coming from out of state, I didn't really know anyone. Joining the team, it was all of a sudden, I had a family of 30 people."

As a backs captain, Stark works with the forwards captain to manage the spirit of the team and make sure the motivation is there for the players. She said it is a position of leadership where the team looks to you for advice.

Spradling was voted by her teammates to be president this upcoming season and said it is important for her to give back to her team and help them progress. The president's role involves logistics such as planning transportation and lodging for away games. Providing new players with a good example and giving them encouragement to try their best is important to being president, she said.

"I think that's one thing the women's rugby team does really well," Spradling said. "Ensuring that all the players are comfortable, happy, safe and really show-

ing solidarity between the women on the team."

Bryers was voted vice president for the upcoming season and said one of the hard parts of playing a contact-heavy sport is the risk of injury. Broken and bruised ribs are common and can be hard to watch as a teammate.

Both the president and vice president are in charge of organizing group bonding events such as group training sessions, study

sessions and banquet gathering in joining the team should attend practice which starts fall quarter.

"Come check it out, because knowing how to tackle someone can be a confidence booster," Bryers said. "It's kind of a cool sport for women because it gives us that physical edge that you don't see a lot in female sports. That's one of the things I like about it."



The team begins practice at the beginning of fall quarter. // Photo courtesy of WWU Rugby

Students, get the speed you need to study and stream.

Xfinity delivers the reliably fast Internet you and your roommates need plus customizable streaming TV. Stream fast and watch better with the best in-home WiFi experience and take your favorites on the go with the Xfinity Stream app. **Simple. Easy. Awesome.**

Get up and running fast with this limited-time student offer.

<p>INTERNET + INSTANT TV</p> <p>\$44⁹⁹</p> <p>A month for 12 months <small>Equipment, taxes and other charges extra, and subject to change. See details below.</small></p>	<p>UPGRADE TO 150 MBPS FOR JUST \$10/MONTH</p> <p></p> <p>For 12 months</p>	<p>CUSTOMIZE WITH CHANNEL PACKS</p> <p></p>	<p>NO TERM CONTRACT</p> <p></p>
--	---	---	---------------------------------

Go to xfinity.com/college, call 1-800-xfinity or visit your **Bellingham Xfinity Store** at 1145 E Sunset Dr #105, Bellingham, WA 98226



Offer ends 9/30/18. Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. New residential customers only. Limited to Internet Plus Instant TV customers with Limited Basic and Performance Plus Internet. Equipment, installation, taxes and fees, including Streaming TV Fee (up to \$8.00/mo.) and Regional Sports Fee (up to \$6.50/mo.), and other applicable charges extra, and subject to change during and after agreement term. After applicable promo, or if any service is cancelled or downgraded, regular rates apply. Comcast service charge for Internet Plus Instant TV is \$75.95/mo. and for upgrade to Performance Pro is \$10/more a mo. (subject to change). Limited to service to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. TV: Up to two simultaneous streams per account. Not all programming available in all areas. **Internet:** Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed.



Men's basketball's new reloaded roster

The Vikings have added five players to their roster from last year in hopes of another 20-win season

Kyle Fang
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western men's basketball team will welcome five new players to help boost their roster for the upcoming season. The team hopes to make a return to the playoffs after an early exit from the Great Northwest Athletic Conference in 2018.

Last season, the Vikings finished with a 21-8 record. This year, the team seeks another 20-win season, which would mark the 20th such season in school history.

The Vikings will add two incoming freshmen: forward Jalen Green from Renton and guard D'Angelo Minnis from Covington.

The three other new players are transfers. Guard Tucker Eenigenburg comes from Bakersfield, California, and forwards Cameron Retherford and K.J. Bosco come from Portland, Oregon.

All five newcomers will strengthen the backcourt and frontcourt depth of the team.

Bosco, who stands at 6 feet 8 inches, said the winning nature of Western's basketball team ultimately made his decision to transfer easier.

"It was one of the highest ranked schools to attend," Bosco said. "That's important to me because I really want to win a championship. I also want to continue playing basketball after school, and I feel like WWU has the connections to get me there when the time comes."

After recovering from knee surgery this past season, Bosco is focused on overcoming this



Jalen Green takes a shot for Lindbergh High School. // Photo courtesy of Joshua Bessex/The News Tribune

obstacle.

"Dealing with this knee surgery from last year was challenging, so I'm making sure that I get the right things done, and physical therapy will be important for me to reach my goals," Bosco said.

Joining Bosco will be his former teammate Retherford, a 6-foot-9-inch forward from Portland Community Col-

lege. Retherford averaged 13.3 points and 7.4 rebounds per game in 59 appearances during his two-year stint with Portland. Retherford and Bosco will be juniors when they suit up for the Vikings this upcoming season.

The Vikings will also add Eenigenburg, a 6-foot-3-inch guard from Bakersfield College. Eenigenburg will look to

instill his competitive spirit on Western's basketball team.

"I bring toughness and a strong competitive nature," Eenigenburg said. "I also try to be the best teammate I can be and lead by example. I love to win, so I'll be a good fit in Western's very competitive program."

Many factors influenced Eenigenburg's decision to transfer to Western.

"The school and basketball program fit with what I wanted in a university," Eenigenburg said. "The campus is beautiful, they have strong academics, the coaches are great and the high level of competition in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference."

Eenigenburg said he has worked on improving all aspects of his game during the offseason.

"I've been focused on getting my handles tighter, increasing my arsenal of moves and creating my own shots in higher volume," Eenigenburg said. "My game is coming along nicely."

Additionally, the Vikings will introduce Green, a 6-foot-7-inch forward. Green was a dominant scorer, achieving strong individual success during his career at Lindbergh Senior High School. Last season, he averaged 26.7 points per game and 13.6 rebounds.

Green is a three-time first team all-league selection and scored over 1,000 points during his career.

The shooting ability of Green will be an X factor for the Vikings.

"I feel like I bring a versatility and good scoring option while I'm on the floor," Green said. "I will help stretch the floor and open up options for my teammates."

The addition of Minnis, a 5-foot-11-inch point guard from Kentwood High School, will help bolster the perimeter shooting for the Vikings.

"My strengths are my 3-point shots, shooting ability and my quickness getting to my spots in order to create advantages for my team," Minnis said. "I also think my on-ball defense is a strong suit."

Minnis has been working on his game this offseason to take his skills to another level.

"I've been working on a lot of floaters and layups since I will have to be a lot smarter around taller defenders in college," Minnis said.

The men's basketball team will begin its season on Nov. 9 in La Jolla, California, against California State University Dominguez Hills in the University of California San Diego Tournament.

Getting involved with intramurals

Different sports give students a way to be active and involved at Western



Two intramural players square off during a game of Bubble Soccer during a spring quarter match in 2018. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Alfred Fuentes
THE WESTERN FRONT

Intramurals is one of the many ways to get involved in organized activities at Western. Intramural participants can benefit from activities through

social interaction, leadership skills in a team setting, personal development establishing positive attitudes and voluntary participation.

Each quarter, there are different intramural sports students can sign up for. People

can gather a group of their friends to sign up or ask to join a team. There's a variety of sports available for people, regardless if they know how to play.

From basketball, dodgeball, flag football, ultimate frisbee

and many more, there is a list on the Wade King Student Recreation Center's website of sports to choose from.

Junior Denny Ng will head into his third season with Western's ultimate frisbee team. Ng said he had a passion for frisbee in middle school.

"Once I heard Western had a frisbee team, I was hooked from the start," Ng said. "I had experience in the past playing in middle school and a little in high school. I felt that this was a good step to get more serious about the sport."

Ng said he has had an amazing experience with the team this year. Attending tournaments and weekly practices are expected, and the team goes out to camp to build group chemistry.

"The camping really helps build the bond that I have with the others," Ng said. "Some of the players have never been out camping and the timing was perfect for them to join."

He said intramurals is also a great way for people to get involved and meet new people. "I would encourage people to join any intramurals," Ng said. "I'm a shy guy, and I get that it's hard to meet new people, but at some point you have to make that leap."

Ng said he has never been

an energetic individual, but that all changed when he knew he had to communicate with his teammates and coaches.

Junior Enrique Gomez participates in both varsity cross country and track. Running since his freshman year, he said participating in sports helped him succeed in his academic career. Being a varsity athlete at Western, Gomez can't participate in intramurals because they interfere with his varsity schedule. He encourages others to take a chance and try out for the sports Western intramurals offers.

"I'll admit, I wasn't really happy because I had little free time, and I can't do any intramurals," Gomez said. "But running did help me release some stress, and I feel more focused in class than I did before, and I'm sure being active will benefit others as well."

Gomez said he feels energized as he continues to train six days a week while maintaining his time between three classes.

No matter what age, no matter how fit and no matter the experience, intramurals are open to all who are curious and who want to try something new.



Cameron Retherford during a game for Portland Community College. // Photo courtesy of WWU Athletics



Alec McAbee keeps his eye on the batter in the middle of softball game on June 2. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Getting back in the saddle

The Western equestrian team competes during fall and winter quarter

Nikki Zieche
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Western Equestrians is a student-led sports club that combines sports, competition and a love of horses to enjoy the equestrian experience, according to its website.

The team operates through Western's sports club program, which makes it possible to have a variety of student-run teams that are not varsity sports in Western's athletic department.

Western gives the equestrian teams a small amount of money, but most of the team account is funded by quarterly team dues, fundraising and donations.

Both Western style and English style equitation are included in the program to accommodate different riding styles.

Co-president of the Western team Rachael Beebe said between 15 and 20 people try out for the Western team, and the others try out for the English team.

"I don't know the exact number, but we probably have about 15 people try out from the 40 or so that sign up," Beebe said.

Beebe has been a member of the team for two years and will be leaving this year when she graduates.

Before trying out for the team, each student must make an account with the Interscholastic Horse Show Association and attend a Western Equestrians team meeting.

The Interscholastic Horse Show Association is a national organization made of 37 regions and eight zones across the country. There are over 500 colleges represented by more than 9,000 riders, according to the team website.

The Western style teams belong to Zone 8, which includes teams from Washington, Oregon, California, Colorado and many more surrounding states, along with British Columbia.

Kylee Moneyppenny, co-president of the English team, said the tryout process takes time and is very detailed.

"You need to fill out this big questionnaire online," Moneyppenny said. "You need to take your time and put it in correctly or you get screwed over with the results."

This was Moneyppenny's first and last year with the team as she is graduating this year.

The results of the questionnaire are sent to the coaches and presidents of the teams at tryouts, where they assess each



The Equestrian team has had around 40 people try out for the team in the past. // Photo courtesy of Kylee Moneyppenny

person's riding level based on their questionnaire answers and their visible competitive riding abilities on a foreign horse.

Students are placed either in a higher or lower category based on their abilities to ensure they are placed in the best category to succeed.

"We usually cut a lot of the people who come to try out," Moneyppenny said. "We have limited resources and can't accept everyone who tries out. We just don't have enough horses."

Most members of the team don't own their own horses and lease them from coaches or other outside sources.

After the team is established and the horses needed are found, the training for show season begins.

Show season begins in the fall and continues into the winter, and it's optional for the teams to ride in the spring. Teams are usually dismantled for summer quarter due to

many students going on vacation or returning home.

Suzy Huizenga, a trainer for the English team, has trained the school's teams at her stable, Twin Maples Farm, for the last three years.

In the early 1980s, Huizenga co-founded the Whatcom County Pony Club and served

on to bigger jumps."

Huizenga said she focuses on the understanding of correct positions and applying those positions correctly, as well as basic flatwork to ensure the best performance of the horse.

"I usually leave [Huizenga's] really tired and sore," Moneyppenny said. "She definitely works us."

An important part of Huizenga's training are basic dressage

principles that are applied to every aspect of riding.

Huizenga will enlist the help of an assistant this upcoming year to help with the intensity of show season.

"I love it," Huizenga said. "It's probably one of the best aspects of what I do."

Coaches are paid for the use of their horses and facilities. They also provide help networking in the local horse community when it comes time for shows.

As the Western Equestrians are student run, the leadership

and decision making comes from the students. Coaches are not involved in any team-related decision making or entering members in shows.

Students are assigned practice times based on their school schedules to ensure they have time to succeed academically.

Being a part of the Western Equestrians requires school enrollment, and students must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA in order to participate in shows and remain on the team.

Most students meet at the stable one to two times a week. Those who ride twice a week pay \$275 a quarter, and students who ride once a week pay \$150 a quarter. Quarterly dues cover lesson costs and travel fees for shows, according to its website.

Every year, the team invites experienced riders in the area to host clinics for the students to help improve their riding and understand their horses better. Clinics cost between \$25 and \$40.

"It's a big time commitment," Moneyppenny said. "Horses take a lot of time."

As a club sport, students are also responsible for having at least 10 hours of volunteering for the riding season. Volunteering is done locally at places such as the Whatcom Humane Society and Animals for Natural Therapy, according to the team website

The horse shows are orchestrated entirely by the team, so attendance is mandatory. Since shows are hosted by each school, only the host team is responsible for setting up the venue. No other teams or outside assistance is permitted, Moneyppenny said.

Because of this, during recruitment, students are made sure to understand if they cannot attend shows, they are not wanted on the team, Beebe explained.

Students are not required to compete, however. Students may choose to opt out of competing but must attend at least two shows. Those with little to no experience still participate in training and events but do not compete.

"I don't compete. I don't really like competition," Beebe said. "I'd rather goof off and have fun."

The Western riding team and English team seem to mirror the feel of the school. Some of the English riders on the school's team and those on the Oregon teams are more competitive, but for the most part, the WWU teams are more relaxed and laid back, she said.

Outdoor recreation in Bellingham

Alfred Fuentes
THE WESTERN FRONT

Bellingham has many opportunities to explore what the city has to offer. Feel the sunshine and fresh air with activities such as boating and hiking. Bring a friend along to the many shops, restaurants and various ways to explore the city. Here are a few activities and places you can explore to find some tranquility and photo opportunities.

Community Boating Center
The Community Boating Center in Fairhaven offers paddleboards, row boats, kayaks and a variety of nautical classes. Rates are affordable, and the staff welcomes people of all experience levels at this certified marina.

"The CBC is an amazing place for families and for those

who want to learn more about the waters," Operations Manager Erica Reed said.

Being a Western alumni, Reed is familiar with Bellingham, which helped grow her appreciation for aquatic and small boat recreation.

She started off as a sea kayaking student at the Community Boating Center, then she started to volunteer before joining the crew back in 2015. Ever since, Reed said she loves "to help locals and engage others in aquatic education."

Lakewood Watersports Facility

Located on Lake Whatcom, this boathouse gives the public access to many small watercraft, such as paddleboards and canoes. There are also hiking trails that surround the area, picnic tables and rope challenge

courses. Each summer, sailing courses are available through Western.

Oyster Dome
South of Bellingham, you can walk on a five-mile round trip hike at Oyster Dome. It features a vast open area, birds flying among the clouds, the line of trees from afar and blue water on a sunny day.

Teddy Bear Cove
Head over to Chuckanut Drive and find Teddy Bear Cove. Sit back, skip some rocks and watch the sunset. The closer you get to the tunnel, the windier and louder it gets.

Fairhaven
Not too far away from campus, you can find plenty of shops and entertainment at your disposal in the Fairhaven Historic District. Enjoy music, movies and gelato with your

friends and family. Fairhaven is a small village surrounded by trees and water and is packed with things to do.

Bellingham Farmers Market
It's not the biggest market, but it offers a lot for the public. Fresh vegetables, berries, flowers and bread are just a few of the things you can buy. It's a great way to start your weekend as it is only about a mile away from campus on Saturday mornings.

South Bay Trail
Take a stroll on the South Bay Trail along the boardwalk near Boulevard Park. It offers beautiful ocean views, coffee shops nearby and a long, scenic trail. It's a popular area for visitors and residents with its play area for children, picnic tables and sunsets.

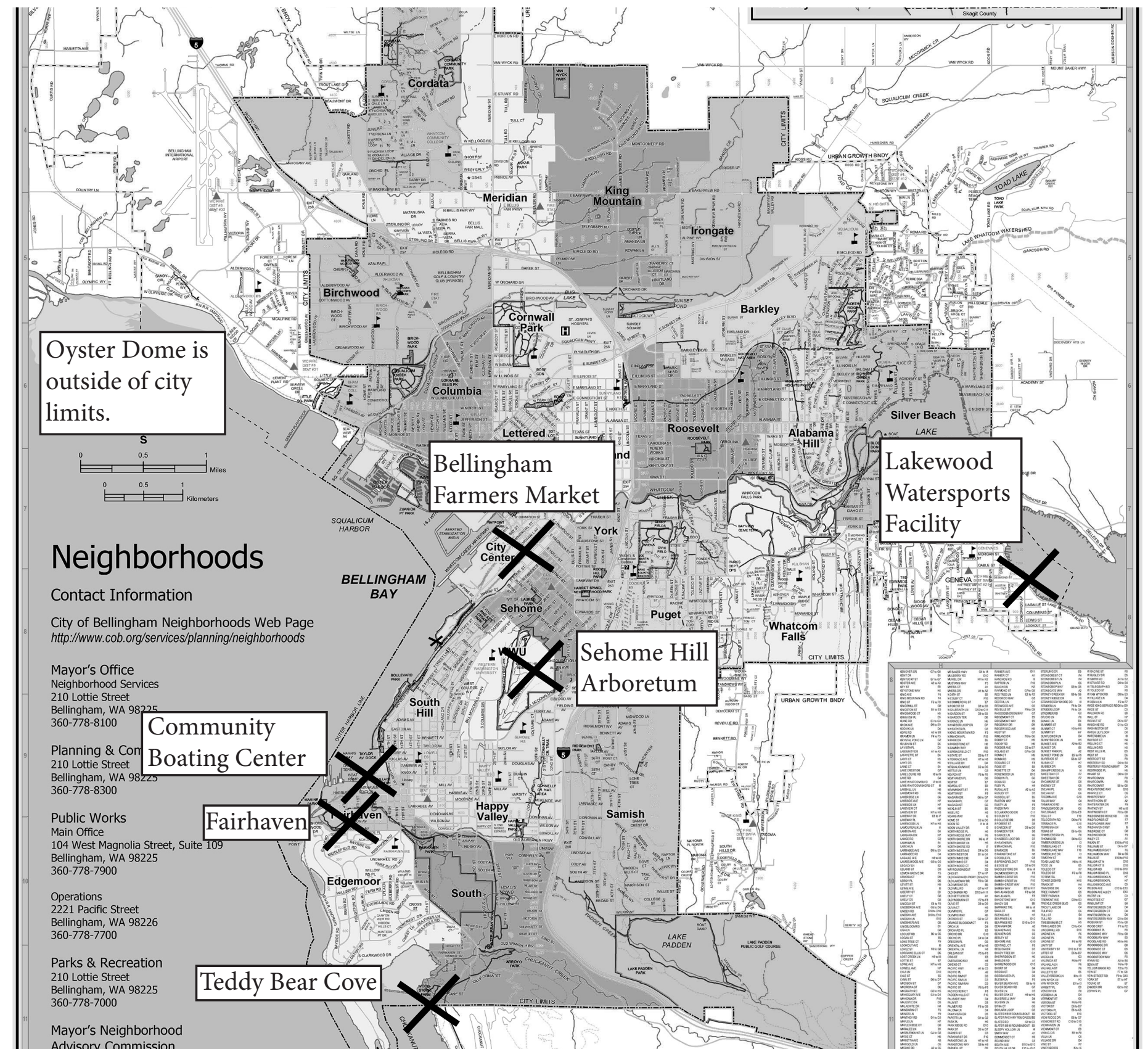
"I like to take my workouts

outside, and I always find myself running around this area," junior Enrique Gomez said. "The sunsets are amazing and there's always lots of people around."

Gomez runs all around the city, finding new trails, parks and landmarks. He finds himself coming to this location when the sun shines because he says it is relaxing.

"I don't mind stopping at a bench to catch my breath," Gomez said. "I just lose myself and clear my thoughts easily coming here [more] than anywhere else."

Sehome Hill Arboretum
About half a mile away from campus, take a nice, comfortable walk in the Sehome Hill Arboretum. Listen to the trees rattling, the birds chirping and the leaves crunching under your shoes.



Map courtesy of the City of Bellingham

Women's soccer takes down Colorado School of Mines

Hailey Palmer
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Colorado School of Mines women's soccer team hadn't given up a goal all season. That is, until Western senior forward Gabriela Pelogi snuck a shot past goalkeeper Shannon Mooney into the far post of the net in the 15th minute of the game.

The No. 15 Vikings beat the No. 7 Colorado School of Mines on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at Robert S. Harrington Field by a score of 2-1.

"I just remember Liv [Larson] passing to me and I'm like, 'This is it, I gotta get in one,'" Pelogi said.

Freshman forward Dayana Diaz provided the Vikings' other goal off a penalty kick in the 75th minute of the contest.

The Vikings were outshot by the Orediggers, but it proved to be a nonfactor, as the only goal allowed by Western's Natalie Dierickx was a shot in the 82nd minute.

Head coach Travis Connell said the way Colorado attacks on offense was a new challenge for Western.

"It's hard to defend against a team that plays on the counter-attack," Connell said.



Gabriela Pelogi moves the ball against Colorado School of Mines at Harrington Field. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

"You're really not defending, and then all of a sudden you have to be defending. It's one of the more challenging of-fenses to go against."

Dierickx was a highlight of Western's defensive effort with

six saves coming off of seven shots on goal by the Orediggers.

Connell said it's hard to predict how a game is going to unfold, but the Vikings were able to slow down Colorado

for most of the game.

"We wanted to limit how fast they could play, and we did that for big chunks of the game," Connell said.

The win pushed Western's overall record to 5-2-0. It was

the final nonconference game of the season for Western, and it began conference play after publication date on Saturday, Sept. 22, against Simon Fraser University.

Volleyball wins 18th straight match at Carver Gym

Hailey Palmer
THE WESTERN FRONT

The No. 8 Western women's volleyball team took its nine-game winning streak into a match with the University of Alaska Fairbanks to continue Great Northwest Athletic Conference play on Thursday, Sept. 20, at WECU Court at Sam Carver Gymnasium. The Vikings won in straight sets by scores of 25-19, 25-15 and 25-19.

The win marked the team's 10th in a row after dropping its first three matches to start the season. All three of those matches were played against nationally ranked opponents in Wheeling Jesuit University, Southwest Minnesota State University and Regis University.

"We played some pretty tough teams in those first three matches and I think that showed us the things we need to do to get better," head coach Diane Flick-Williams said. "We just took things from each one of those matches to improve on in the next one. We knew it would come, we just had to put it all together."

The win also made it 18-straight victories in Carver



Michaela Hall springs into the air during a match against the University of Alaska Fairbanks. // Photo by Kelly Pearce

Gym for the Vikings.

"Carver is a special place," Flick-Williams said. "It's our

home. We like to defend home

court. It's a very special place to play in, and it's not a place

that other people like to come

to." Western hasn't lost a set

since its match against Seattle Pacific University on Thursday, Sept. 6.

The Vikings won the first set of the match by a score of 25-19, which included an 11-3 run after trailing 11-8 in the set.

Junior middle Kayleigh Harper said the team takes its season one game at a time.

With the victory, the Vikings improved to 10-3 overall on the season with a 5-0 record in GNAC play. It was also the Vikings' 23rd consecutive GNAC win.

Since 2012, Western is 104-15 in GNAC play.

"I'm just excited to see where we can go," Harper said.

The Vikings swept Northwest Nazarene University and Central Washington University the week prior.

During their current win streak, the Vikings have won 26 of their last 28 sets, including Thursday's match.

Western's next match was played after publication date on Saturday, Sept. 22, against the University of Alaska Anchorage, a matchup between the top two teams in the GNAC.

RIDE THE AIRPORTER HOME

PICKUP RIGHT ON CAMPUS!

DAILY SERVICE TO SEA-TAC AIRPORT & SEATTLE

Ride Bellair Charters / Airporter Shuttle from WWU to SEA-TAC AIRPORT and SEATTLE! Easy connections from Sea-Tac to Columbia City, Westlake, U District, Bellevue & more! Convenient pickup right on WWU campus, at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on High Street. Ten trips a day!

Advance reservations are REQUIRED and can be made at airporter.com/wwu and by calling 1-866-235-5247.

More info at AIRPORTER.COM/WWU

SUPER CONVENIENT **WESTERN STUDENT TRANSPORTATION** **BELLAIR CHARTERS & AIRPORTER**

North Nut 601 WEST HOLLY ST BELLINGHAM

South Nut 11937 HIGGINS AIRPORT WY BURLINGTON

Try our Monthly Local Food Specials!
Friday Liters All Day Special Price!

Growler Fills & Kegs 2 Go at both locations
Giant Jenga & Corn Hole in our Beer Gardens

WWW.CHUCKANUTBREWERY.COM • FOLLOW US ON FB & INSTAORAM

advertise with the western front
www.westernfront@gmail.com 360.650.3160 complimentary graphic design

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

plants are the perfect roommates

FIND YOURS AT **GARDEN SPOT NURSERY**

BEHIND TRADER JOE'S

I won't stay up late!

I'm quiet!

I won't eat your snacks!

900 ALABAMA ST, BELLINGHAM WWW.GARDEN-SPOT.COM

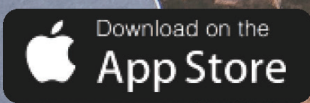
10% OFF WITH STUDENT ID



Viking Food

From Your Pocket to Your Front Porch

With the ordervikingfood.com app, the fastest ordering experience is right at your fingertips!



360-922-0819 • ordervikingfood.com