

THE WESTERN FRONT

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Close wins, tough losses



Lead found in water in 9 Birnam Wood apartments

Eva Bryner
THE WESTERN FRONT

Water from nine Birnam Wood apartments tested above 15 parts per billion lead content, exceeding the Environmental Protection Agency's standard for water quality according to Sue Sullivan, director of environmental health and safety.

"Residents in these nine apartments are being provided bottled water for cooking and drinking."

Liam Cary-Eaves
University Residences
Communication
Consultant

The EPA has set its maximum lead content goal to zero. Lead is a toxic metal, and ingesting any amount is extremely dangerous, as it can build up in the body over time, according to the EPA.

Residents in these nine apartments are being provided bottled water for cooking and drinking, said Liam Cary-Eaves, communication consultant for University Residences.

"[University Residences] have been in constant communication with [residents] when more water is going to be delivered as well as requesting that those folks, I believe 35 to 36 individuals, will reach out to us if they're running low," Cary-Eaves said.

Lead in drinking water can have serious long-term effects, such as increased blood pressure, kidney failure and reproduction

see LEAD, page 4

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April Barker addresses a crowd of her supporters at the Local Public House after receiving news of her loss in the race for Mayor of Bellingham on Nov. 5. "It's a loss in this moment and we won't be in a position to have the impact that we really hoped, but what we have created is truly a movement," Barker said. // Photo by Alex Moreno

Former HomesNOW! president arrested

Ella Banken
THE WESTERN FRONT

On Saturday, Nov. 2, HomesNOW! board member Doug Gustafson announced that the month long investigation of former board members had ended.

Jim Peterson, former HomesNOW! president and co-founder, was arrested Friday, Nov. 1 and booked into Whatcom County Jail for alleged first-degree theft. Peterson was released on bail of \$10,000 Monday, Nov. 4.

The total conservative estimated amount was found to be around \$75,000 in funds em-

bezzled from the non-profit organization by Peterson for personal use, according to Lieutenant Claudia Murphy of the Bellingham Police Department. Gustafson's original estimate was \$8,000.

"The next phase is the trial, but what we're doing as an organization is we're looking to focus on the future," Gustafson said.

The investigation showed that purchases totaling nearly \$21,960 were made at fast food restaurants, a marijuana dispensary, an alcohol and tobacco

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Jim Peterson, former president of HomesNOW!, at SafeHaven on May 11. // Photo by Zachary Jimenez

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Manatee Commune's show in the Multicultural Center on Friday, Nov. 1. // Photo by Claire Ott



Illustration by Chloe Halbert

The Western Front

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Bellingham to create Immigration Advisory Board

Board intends to lay groundwork for specific needs of immigrant community

Garrett Rahn
THE WESTERN FRONT

The city council approved an ordinance establishing a new Immigration Advisory Board Monday, Nov. 4. The advisory board was proposed as a solution to an issue the city faces with separating the jurisdiction between the federal and local government with respect to immigration enforcement, as well as public outcry that the city has not done enough to protect the immigrant community, according to Hannah Stone, Bellingham City Council member. The Bellingham Police

Department publicly stated their primary role is to protect the community and everyone in it, not enforcing immigration policy, Stone said. So as a solution, the advisory board will work directly with immigrants and community members to make recommendations on immigration policy for the city. As laid out in the ordinance, the group would consist of at least nine but no more than 12 community members to represent directly-impacted immigrants, human rights advocacy, the legal sector, the youth and

education, religious groups, healthcare, the service industry, agricultural labor, and business and economic development. "The idea is that the group would meet monthly to discuss what they deem is most important to the immigrant community here," Stone said. The board will also be informed of any communications or data from departments of the local government, most importantly from the police department, as stated in the establishing ordinance. According to Drew Pettus, local immigration

attorney, the police have the option to contact the federal government with information involving illegal immigration, but not necessarily the obligation to help with the investigation. "It's my understanding that that happens less often in Bellingham than in other jurisdictions," Pettus said. The board is the most recent action the city has taken to transform Bellingham's attitude toward immigration. In April of 2018, the city installed the "Arch of Reconciliation and Healing" outside of the downtown public library, and this

September added new plaques with "welcome" in six new languages. This advisory board hopes to uncover what the city can do next to help these members of our community while remaining transparent and building trust, said Stone. "What work will be coming from this advisory board I really want to be coming from the impacted community members directly, rather than the city saying "this is what you need," Stone said.

HOMES

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store, two different area casinos and several coffee shops, according to Murphy. Over \$17,000 was spent at Fred Meyers on fuel and other non-business related purchases, Murphy said. Approximately \$69,000 was withdrawn in cash at ATMs for apparent personal use. According to Murphy, investigators reviewed surveillance footage at some locations that confirmed Peterson to be the one making the transactions. The police investigation of the misappropriation of funds began after Gustafson reported misconduct of former board members at the end of September, Gustafson previously told The Western Front. The organization was founded over two years ago by Peterson and Gustafson, according to HomesNOW!'s website. Unity Village is the third temporary encampment permitted by the city that HomesNOW! has organized in less than a year. "Between the months of May to September of 2019,

HomesNOW! took in roughly four times the amount of money than it did in the previous two years combined," Gustafson wrote in the Facebook post. HomesNOW! conducted a fundraising drive in order to construct tiny homes for Unity Village, Gustafson said. "We took in a lot of money in a short period of time, so that's why the accounting kind of got away from us," Gustafson said. According to Gustafson, HomesNOW! is funded solely by donations, and all board positions are unpaid. HomesNOW! is working to ensure that something like this could never happen again, Gustafson said. "We're basically having to redo everything from scratch," Gustafson said. "We're actively trying to repair everything." In Gustafson's Facebook post, he outlined a few new policies that the organization will be implementing, which include procedures for handling financials and sexual misconduct. They are continuing to restructure old and new policies, which will be presented on their website and Facebook page, Gustafson said. Some of the organization's



Jim Peterson, former president of HomesNOW!, gives a speech to the crowd at the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Unity Village on Sept. 14. // Photo by Zachary Jimenez

management structure may still change, according to treasurer Carol Winikoff. HomesNOW! board members are working with volunteers to "learn the ropes," according to Winikoff. "We're not positive yet if I'm going to stay as treasurer, but if I do I am going to get some actual training," Winikoff said. "I never had any formal

training." While the investigation was going on, HomesNOW! was unable to admit any new residents to Unity Village, which left five tiny houses sitting empty, Gustafson said. Now that the investigation is completed, they are jumping into action and hope to have the houses filled by next week. "I'm just glad that it's over so we can move on," Gustafson said. Interviews of potential residents have been completed, they are waiting on background checks and approval from the city, Gustafson said. Then, the current residents of Unity Village get the final say in who is admitted into their community.

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Faculty senate votes to approve Code of Ethics revision

Kiaya Wilson
THE WESTERN FRONT

After passing a motion to create an ad hoc committee to work on the revision of Section II in the Faculty Code of Ethics on Oct. 7, the faculty senate unanimously passed a motion to include the revision in the Faculty Code of Ethics on Monday, Nov. 4.

The new revision states, “the faculty recognize that the university community (faculty, staff and students) is predominantly white. Moreover, the university is the product of a social system born in and shaped by institutional white supremacy, hetero-patriarchy, and class inequality... Faculty members are encouraged to consider student diversity and sensitivity and how best to present material so that the audience can absorb it, reflect upon it and be edified.”

Faculty senate members agreed to revise Section II of the Code of Ethics after three informal reports were made at the Equal Opportunity Office about an anthropology professor using the n-word in class, according to a previous Western Front article.

The subcommittee consisted of three students and three faculty members and was tasked with creating

an actionable and legal document that reflects the spirit of the revision voted on in June 2019. The original revision stated “the faculty are to avoid and condemn racism ... In particular, faculty condemn verbal use of the n-word racial slur in learning environments.”

Faculty senate members voted to approve the original revision, but it could not be added to the Code of Ethics because it wasn't legally enforceable. There is no legal definition of racism, and banning the use of a word violates the First Amendment, Rich Brown, president of the United Faculty of Western Washington, said in a previous faculty senate meeting.

Student committee members Abdul-Malik Ford, LaShaiah Dickerson and Lydia Ashenfie read a statement at the faculty senate meeting on Nov. 4 after the latest revision was approved.

“After much reflection and discussion, we have concluded that [creating an actionable and legal document] is not possible, that the master's tools are still inadequate for dismantling the master's house,” the statement read. “It has become clear to us that our choice is to either write an unenforceable rule

that could be abused or to write yet another vague, vanilla statement of support for diversity and inclusion.”

Faculty senate members said they were aware that the Code of Ethics couldn't specifically include banning the n-word.

“I agree that we could never have banned a word,” said Jeff Young, faculty senate president. “But we can charge faculty to better support students.”

Several students at the faculty senate meeting on Nov. 4 expressed disappointment with the process.

“We're telling you why we're hurt, and you're telling us why we shouldn't be,” said Olivia Ford, a first-year student at the meeting. “We're asking you to move that stone because we're already underneath it.”

Student committee members agreed.

“This outcome is extremely disappointing,” Dickerson said.

Four faculty senate members said their departments are participating in diversity trainings and discussing ways to better accommodate students of color.

Health and human development professor Jasmine Goodnow, Wilder Distinguished Professor of Business and Sustainability

Craig Dunn, biology professor Jose Serrano-Moreno and communication studies professor Rae Lynn Schwartz-DuPre all said their departments are working on diversity training and student programs to support the students of color.

Students at the meeting agreed these programs and discussions are good, but the university needs to be more open with their work.

“Why are we not more transparent with our students?” said Gloria Guizar, a student at the meeting.

Several students and faculty senate members agreed that the university needs to be more transparent with their work and include students in the process.

“We need face-to-face conversations,” Serrano-Moreno said. “We are not dealing with items, we are dealing with humans.”

Olivia Ford said this discussion between students and faculty senate members is similar to discussions that took place in her predominantly white high school.

“I was a poster child for my high school because there were four [people of color] in a class of 200,” Olivia Ford said. “Your campus is predominantly white, so they won't even understand. It feels like such a huge waste

of time to be around people who don't get it.”

University President Sabah Randhawa said during the meeting that it is his goal and the goal of his administrators to continue working with students of color to better understand what it is like to be a student of color on a predominantly white campus.

“I am personally committed to continue working with black students and other students of color,” Randhawa said.

The work students are putting in to help the university needs to be compensated, although that is not always a driving factor, they said.

“I don't think our time was well spent,” Abdul-Malik Ford said. “Y'all paid us to waste our time.”

Abdul-Malik Ford added that if he was given the choice now, he would decide not to be on the committee, despite being compensated.

After much discussion on the latest Section II revision, faculty senate members unanimously passed a motion to create a faculty referendum where all faculty members will vote on whether to agree to the revision. The referendum will be sent out to faculty members on Friday, Nov. 8, and will be completed on Nov. 15.

Whatcom county library system celebrates 75 years

Library system holds true to mission through partnerships, collaborations and generations

Melody Kazel
THE WESTERN FRONT

The Whatcom County Library system will celebrate its 75th anniversary on Thursday, Nov. 7. After being created to provide equity in service throughout Whatcom County, this anniversary will celebrate how the system still lives up to that initial mission, the people who have helped them over the years and all the residents they provide service to.

“We had over two million items checked out last year, hundreds of thousands of visits,” executive director Christine Perkins said.

When the Whatcom County Library system opened in 1944, it had an office within the Bellingham Public Library. They built their headquarters in 1972, Perkins said. The Whatcom County Library system and the Bellingham Public Library still have a close relationship, library collection maintenance specialist and public services assistant Maggie Mae Nase said.

“I like to think of us as roommates,” Nase said. “We have different funding and different policies ... We share materials, like when you go into roommate's closet and borrow her top. We share all of our books.”

Sometimes the Whatcom County Library system and the Bellingham Library even go through changes together. In 2020, they are partnering to

make a change to their policies. The Bellingham Library and the county Library system will eliminate charging overdue fines, Perkins said. She said charging fines doesn't typically change people's behavior. Sometimes they're willing to pay a few extra cents a day to keep a book longer.

“That works just fine for people who have some means to pay, but it doesn't work very well for people who are really down to the wire with their monthly budget,” Perkins said.

The Whatcom Library system also partners with other libraries in the area through their program Whatcom Libraries Collaborate. Anyone with a Whatcom Library systems card can borrow materials from any participating library. They can also return materials to any collaborating library or book return in the county, according to their website.

One of the library collaborations that stands out is Whatcom County Library system's relationship with Northwest Indian College. The library director at Northwest Indian College, Valerie McBeth, was present when Whatcom Libraries Collaborate first got its name.

“The library directors decided to meet once a month for breakfast and that was when we developed the Whatcom Libraries Collaborate name,” McBeth said.

McBeth said it's been wonderful that the library

directors meet and have a continuous communication going. She said the collaboration has also made collection development easier because she can concentrate on other priorities, like collecting books by Native American authors.

“We are focused on curricular support and particularly the interests of native people here,” McBeth said.

Because of their library's focus, McBeth said Whatcom's system allows people at the college to access other materials. For example, sometimes people get movies through it. Northwest Indian College also has a majority of nontraditional students, according to McBeth. She said the college has a higher proportion of parents and even grandparents enrolled as students, compared to most mainstream academic institutions.

“Many of our students are parents and our children's collections are not huge,” McBeth said.

These library system collaborations help provide equity in service throughout Whatcom County, something the library was originally created for, Perkins said.

Back in 1944, a group of people from the Whatcom County grange movement — a movement focused on the economic needs of farmers and advancing agriculture — wanted to bring library service into rural areas that didn't have access.

“They got together to put

an initiative on the ballot to form the rural library district, which is what is now known as the Whatcom County Library System,” Perkins said.

Recently, the Whatcom County Library System invested in a new bookmobile to drive around and deliver library materials to rural residents of the county, Perkins said.

“The cool thing about the bookmobile is that they have way more person to person interactions with all of their patrons because it's such a small space. It's almost impossible not to,” Nase said.

The people working in the bookmobile often try to remember what kind of books people like so they have them available for browsing, Nase said.

Perkins said the bookmobile was added to their service because the library determined it is a cost-effective, efficient way to deliver service to the more rural parts of Whatcom County. The bookmobile was one of the original services provided by the library system when it began and now they're providing the same service the system did 75 years ago.

To celebrate this history, and the changes the library system has made over the years, all of Whatcom County Library System's 10 library locations will be hosting anniversary events. There will also be celebrations at the bookmobile, said Perkins.

Nase grew up in Ferndale and recalls what it was like to use the

library when she was a kid.

“It was very brown,” Nase said. “The carpet was brown and the shelves were brown ... and you just kind of felt enveloped. Not in a bad way, but like all the books were hugging me.”

Nase said she started as a page in the library, putting books back on the shelves, and worked her way up to the job she has now.

For their anniversary event, Nase said they have ordered nearly 3,000 cupcakes to distribute throughout their locations. The cupcakes will be chocolate and vanilla with no sprinkles because it makes it hard on the custodians, Nase said.

“We had to think about the cleanup of sprinkles en masse,” Nase said.

Perkins said it's exciting, and a little bit nostalgic, to plan this anniversary and look back through the Whatcom County Library system's history, remembering all of the people who have been involved over the years.

On Nov. 9, two days after the anniversary celebration, the Whatcom County Library system will be hosting a library champions event to honor individuals in the community who have stood up for the library system over the years.

“As the executive director, looking back on our history, I am blown away, time and time again, by how members of the public came together to form the system,” Perkins said.

LEAD

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problems, according to the EPA. Students with concerns about lead were told to refer to the student health center, Sullivan said.

Birnam Wood resident Amanda Thomas said she received an email about lead in the community but hasn't had communication from the university since.

“I have no idea anything beyond the initial communications, like ‘oh this happened, and we're working on it,’” Thomas said.

Schools and universities in Washington state are not required to test their water sources for lead, according to the Washington State Department of Health.

Western started testing its water in 2008 and found that 16 buildings on campus had two or more sources of water with over 15 parts per billion lead content, according to the previous sampling results from EHS.

“For the areas that tested above 15 parts per billion, we decided to replace the taps,” Sullivan said. “That ended up being what's called a minor capital project that was done in 2013. It took some time to develop the scope and to allocate the funding for that work in 2013.”

After samples were taken, it took five years for Western to fund and complete the replacing of taps or pipes in buildings that tested above 15 parts per billion, according to Sullivan. Signage was also posted alerting people of the “non potable water.”

“Birnam Wood was not

tested in 2008 and that's why we prioritized testing there this time around,” Sullivan said.

The EHS used all of their allocated funding for sampling in other locations before Birnam Wood and subsequently did not test it until this year, according to Sullivan.

The sampling in 2012 was solely to focus on mitigation locations from testing in 2008 to see if replacing fixtures had changed lead levels, according to Sullivan.

All samples from Birnam Wood apartments were taken from the tap after at least 16 hours without being used to ensure accurate results. Some apartments had been unoccupied all summer, and received testing after this extended period of non-use, said David Keeney, safety officer at EHS.

When water sits in a pipe, it is more likely to have high lead content, Keeney said.

“Time is the controlling factor here,” Keeney said. “The samples that we've been taking all summer have been as conservative as possible to run the clock up as high as we can to try to find lead if it's there. We did that somewhat intentionally because when we sample we want to sample as a worst-possible case scenario ... because if you can't find it in the worst case then you know you're good otherwise.”

Western has resampled more than 700 drinking water locations on campus, with 95% of sample results being below 15 parts per billion, according to EHS.

EHS is yet to release its in-depth report, showing the results of locations tested in 2019. This is anticipated to be



Birnam Wood apartments on Monday, Nov. 4. // Photo by Eva Bryner

released in early November, according to Sullivan.

“We have nearly 900 locations that [Keeney] has spearheaded in testing,” Sullivan said. “So it's a lot of data to compress and in order to put out in a format that everybody can access.”

City of Bellingham's testing of drinking water in 2017 showed an average of 4 parts per billion lead content after sampling from homes with lead and copper pipes. The testing reported that any lead found is a direct result of lead pipes or faucets, and is not due to sourcing from Lake Whatcom,

according to the 2018 Water Quality Report.

The use of lead to weld together pipes that deliver water was banned in 1986, Richard Hoover, water quality specialist for Public Works, said via email.

“However, as a utility, we have no way of controlling the plumbing inside of people's homes,” Hoover said. “That is why we apply corrosion control to the water that is delivered as protection against leaching from older household plumbing.”

Corrosion control measures ensure that lead or copper are not leaching into the water when it travels through

service lines delivering water to houses, according to City of Bellingham Copper and Lead Rule Corrosion Control study.

The Water Quality Report also dictates there are no lead pipe service lines delivering water in Bellingham and testing for lead in household drinking water will be conducted again in 2020.

“[Western's] average is right along the city's average for lead, which is around four to five parts per billion ... we're right along where we want to be given what the city's data is,” Sullivan said. “I think we're doing pretty good.”



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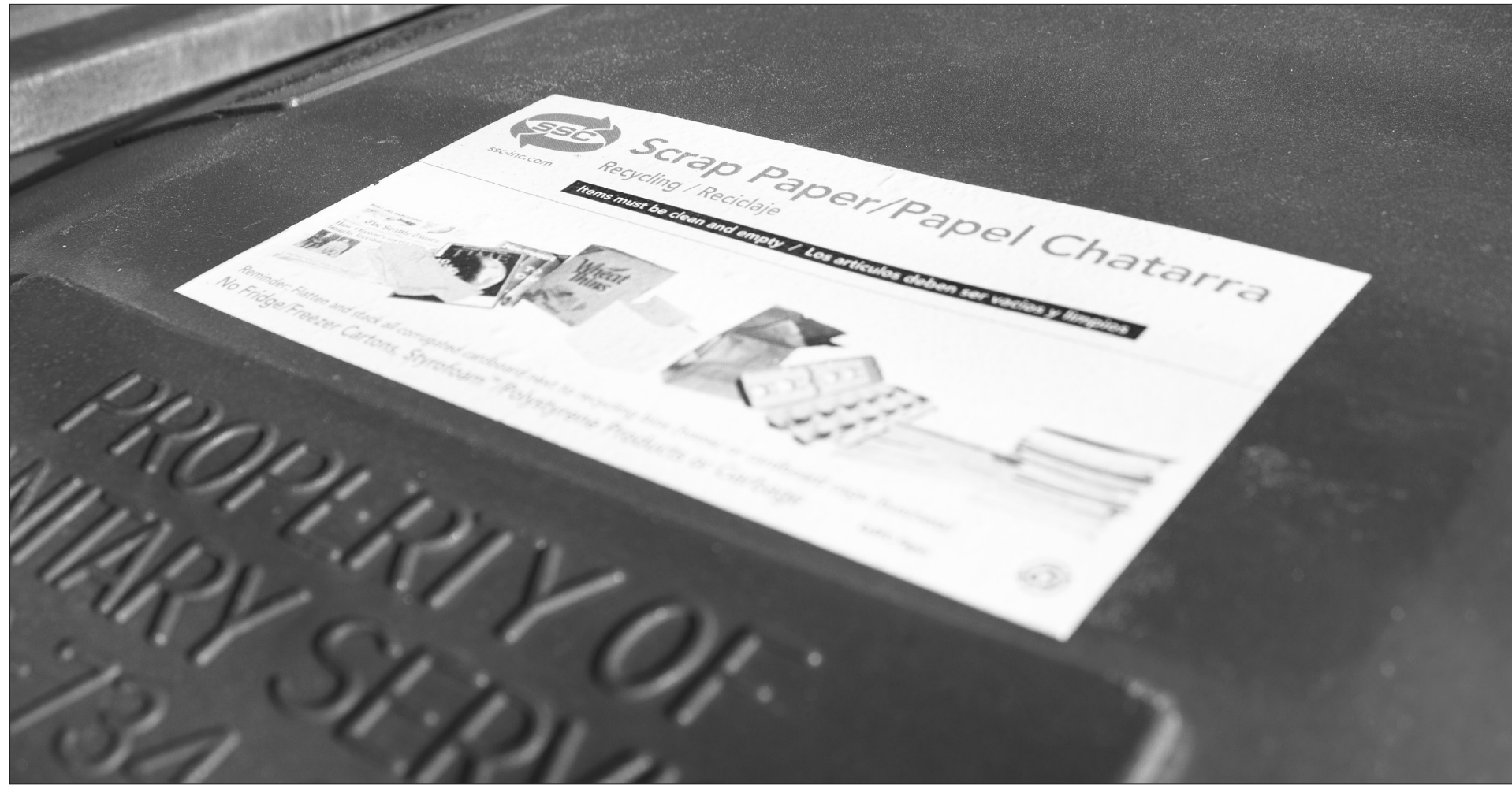
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Responsible recycling: when in doubt, throw it out



Paper recycling bin on Friday, Nov. 1. // Photo by Merrideth McDowell

Merrideth McDowell
THE WESTERN FRONT

The moment of hesitation when it comes to deciding if something is recyclable is relatable. Many think to themselves, "Does the cereal box go into cardboard or paper?" or "Is it okay to recycle this dirty old jar?" But before tossing it in, double check.

Wishful recycling, when someone recycles with doubt if it is recyclable or not, is a recurring problem everywhere, particularly for Western residents. Richard Neyer, recycle center manager for the Associated Students Recycle Center, said this is a common issue for campus residential recycling. "I think people want to

help, or wish something is recyclable, but when you are doing this you are actually hurting recycling," Neyer said. Neyer and his team regularly find trash in the recycling, which he explained could be due to students coming from places that practice single-stream recycling, meaning all trash and recycling go into the same bin.

Marty Kuljis, operations manager at Northwest Recycling, Inc., said personal education is beneficial for households to better understand recyclable materials. Most recycling stations will have instructions and guidelines listed on the containers, but not always, which means people need to take time to do their research. "Keeping things clean and keeping things in the right bin are the most important to us," Kuljis said.

A lot of contamination or dirty recycling is found in the plastic, tin, aluminum and glass categories for the facility. Northwest Recycling, Inc. has a 1-1.5% contamination rate, while a single-stream system could have a 10-30% rate. Kuljis and his coworkers pride themselves in not throwing recyclables in the landfill, so communal efforts to recycle correctly help keep the system efficient and less contaminated with waste.

A significant issue on campus is lack of education on the difference between paperboard and cardboard, AS Recycling Center staff manager Megan Spencer said. The center is producing posters to help with these discrepancies.

"We'll find a lot of compostable materials in the paper recycling," Spencer said. "Sometimes we will find actual food waste in the recycling."

Spencer thinks this is where laziness plays into contamination, she said.

On a campus with compostable materials offered, this can become confusing for people when there are also strictly recyclable plastics. According to Spencer, increased awareness of recyclable versus compostable materials is needed. The AS Recycling Center is working on furthering this education on campus.

How to avoid contaminating recycling

- Fully clean containers before recycling
- Buy recyclable materials and avoid buying harshly packaged items
- Ensure you are only recycling what is supposed to be in a labeled container
- Avoid plastic film and use reusable bags
- Do not throw away any food into recycling vesicles
- Check local recycling center to see where speciality containers/ materials like tetra paks are allowed in your bins

Recycling Guidelines for Bellingham

Mixed Paper

Accepted

- Any paper product
- Envelopes with plastic film window (there are certain amounts of other product that is able to be filtered out in processing)
- Paper with staples
- Paperboard (i.e. cereal boxes and toilet paper rolls)

Not Accepted

- Tetra Paks (hybrid plastic/ paper containers commonly used for milk and broths)
- Inseparable hybrid material containers
- Single use products (i.e. hygienic products, paper towels, and toilet paper)
- Cardboard
- Wrappers with plastic coating, like granola bar wrappers

Plastic Bottles, cans and glass

Accepted

- Any plastic, aluminum or steel cans, and glass
- Labels on containers (plastic or paper)

Not Accepted

- Plastic Film
- Styrofoam
- Dirty containers
- Small, loose pieces such as unscrewed caps
- Straws

Sculpture returns to campus

After 6 years, \$195,000 spent, Donald Judd's "Untitled 1982" once again graces south campus

Ana Soltero
THE WESTERN FRONT

Donald Judd's sculpture, "Untitled 1982," returned to campus on Oct. 29.

This sculpture can be described as a box consisting of six cor-ten steel panels. It first sat near Old Main and Edens Hall, but was removed in December 2013 when the sculpture was deemed to be rusting and unsafe by former director of the Western Gallery, Sarah Clark-Langager.

"The rusting in one of the panels ... was probably rusted for an inch or two at the bottom," Kit Spicer, the dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts, said.

While the green lawn near Edens was selected as the resting spot for "Untitled 1982" by Donald Judd himself, what no one thought about is how Western sits on a bog.

"There was a pond there and it had been filled, but still the water [level] is very high, which meant that the sculpture never dried," Hafthor Yngvason, director of the Western Gallery, said.

When cor-ten steel rusts, it creates its own protective surface. Under the right conditions, the rusting stops.

"[What] they did not know when they placed the sculpture



Donald Judd's sculpture "Untitled 1982" in its new location on south campus on Wednesday, Oct. 30. // Photo by Ana Soltero

is that if cor-ten steel does not dry, it just keeps rusting, so that location was terrible," Yngvason said. "It was always like it was raining inside of it because of all the humidity or the water constantly around it."

Approximately six years and \$195,000 later, "Untitled 1982" sits near the Flag Plaza and Academic West. Yngvason said the location was chosen

because the green lawn area is similar to its original location.

Yngvason and the Judd Foundation worked with the geology department to pick the right location, he said.

"They provided me the testing showing what's under here," Yngvason said. "There is no problem with water, it just runs off. There is more wind here so that helps to dry the sculpture."

Only half of the six original cor-ten steel plates were kept. The rest were refabricated. At first, only five of the six panels were thought to be salvageable.

"There is the question whether, if Donald Judd [was] alive, whether he would have said, 'That's fine.' He had to have the steel fabricated. He did not make it," Yngvason said.

During the restoration process, Yngvason said they talked to Flavin Judd, Donald Judd's son. Flavin Judd felt uncomfortable about rebuilding the sculpture, Yngvason said. Two conservators from Fabrication Specialties, a restoration company in Seattle, looked at the sculpture and concluded that the outside panels could be saved, but the inside panels were gone.

"I can't tell by looking at them," Spicer said.

Fourth-year political economy student Evan Shuster said he believes the sculpture, "increases the general beauty of Western's campus."

However, not everyone has the same appreciation for the art.

"If I wanted to observe things [that are] random and beautiful, possess[es] intricacy, strength and grandiosity, I would look no further than the forest," said Spencer Mills, a fourth-year accounting and management student.

Spicer, on the other hand, said he enjoys seeing the sculptures as he walks through campus.

"I think these are such a present part of daily life," Spicer said. "You almost forget they are here and what the magnitude of them is."

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Lynden Skateway rolls on

MacKenzie Dexter
THE WESTERN FRONT

Nearly 800 roller skates and blades stack the shelves of Lynden Skateway, the only remaining skating rink in Whatcom County. The glow in the dark carpet embedded with patterns of roller skates leads to the wooden rink, waiting for fresh skates to glide over during the next lesson of the day. Brenda VanOrnum, the owner, stands behind the counter counting change and prepping skates while Terri Johnson, VanOrnum's daughter and manager of Lynden Skateway, hustles to finish tasks before they open for the day.

Lynden Skateway, located in Lynden, opened in 1976 when VanOrnum and her husband, Pete VanOrnum, bought the property. They moved their family up from Olympia to follow their dream of owning a skating rink.

VanOrnum started skating competitively at the age of six and continued into her twenties. VanOrnum and her husband met at a skating rink and continued their shared passion for decades to come.

Johnson shares her mother's love for skating. She started skating when she was a toddler and hasn't stopped since. Johnson and VanOrnum continue to pass down the family legacy to their children. They even made toddler-sized skates for Johnson's daughter so she could skate from an early age, VanOrnum said.

"We're a family-run business and we pretty much want to keep it like that," VanOrnum said. "A very family-oriented business, you don't see those very often anymore."

Tiny pink and purple skates sitting on the counter for display mark the growth of Johnson's daughter's skating career as well as the history of the skating rink.

The couple started working and coaching at skating rinks in the South Puget Sound area before moving up to Lynden. At the time, the business was a roller rink and bowling alley, called Lynden Skateway and Bowl, that had been operating since 1946.

In August of 1994, the original Lynden Skateway and Bowl burned down after a fire. According to Johnson,



The skating floor at the Lynden Skateway on Saturday, Nov. 2. //Photo by Claire Ott

it is believed a cleaning machine was left on, and a mix of chemicals combusting and hot weather most likely triggered the fire.

However, VanOrnum and her husband rebuilt the rink on the same property nearly two years later in 1996. They looked at other potential properties in the area but decided to rebuild on the same land.

"Everybody knew this as the property of Skateway, so we needed to stay here," VanOrnum said.

VanOrnum said the bowling alley was not rebuilt, only the skating rink because that is what she and her husband enjoyed the most. She said since there are other bowling alleys in the county, it made sense to just have a roller rink.

According to VanOrnum, rebuilding the roller rink took a lot of time and energy. It took six to eight months before the family could start building the rink. It also

became very costly to rebuild the business from scratch. People from the local skate club donated their time to help put in the new wood floor.

Since a new wood floor would be too expensive, the VanOrnum family re-used wood from since shut-down skating rinks throughout the region to build their new floor. The same wood floor is still skated on by beginners, like Johnson's daughter, to experts, like the Bellingham Roller Betties. Shelves, counters and tables were also donated from other rinks that went out of business.

Even years after the fire, the family still has support from skating rink regulars, such as the Bellingham Roller Betties, that helped install a new glow-in-the-dark carpet that reflects the neon lights and disco ball hanging over the rink.

For the past 10 years, VanOrnum and Johnson have



Leslie Nieuwsma marking a pair of roller skates Saturday, Nov. 2. // Photo by Claire Ott

when she has free time.

"[Lynden Skateway] bridges the gap between older generations and younger because a lot of times people will come here and be like, 'oh, I haven't been skating in years,'" Williams said.

Williams said a great place for children to spend time at the rinks is at their after school skate, which takes place on Tuesdays from 3:30 -5:30 p.m.. Johnson said they will occasionally donate gift cards to local schools for fundraisers.

"For schools that support us we usually support them somehow," Johnson said.

Lynden Skateway has many events throughout each month that are open to the public, such as Friday night skate, discount nights and GLOW Skate. Private rentals are also available for those who wish to hold a birthday party or small group skating party, VanOrnum said.

The roller rink is also hosting a monthly adult skate, a themed night of roller skating for people 21 and up. October is the first time in five years the event has been hosted and they will have a DJ, Johnson said. The next adult skate will take place on Nov. 30.

While the skating rink is a place for families to go

have fun, VanOrnum also said it is very hard to run a business. From cleaning the floors to maintaining the skates and snack bar, VanOrnum and Johnson are constantly on the clock. Johnson is also the one who teaches all the skating lessons, so either VanOrnum or Johnson are always at the rink, VanOrnum said.

"They don't see all the hours we put in to make this a good place," VanOrnum said.

According to VanOrnum, it is getting harder to run the business due to the rise of minimum wage. However, they're hanging in there and hope they can continue to stay in the community.

VanOrnum said roller skating is one of the few activities everyone in the family can participate in. In many sports, parents can only watch their kids, but skating allows them to participate instead of just watching.

"It's a good family activity," VanOrnum said.

While the family business has its ups and downs, they continue to roll into new decades with the same passion. Skaters of all ages are welcome to participate in all the events and lessons Lynden Skateway has to offer.



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Zero-waste cafe takes bite out of downtown

ANMLY Cafe 'deviates from the expected' in a movement to be environmentally aware

Alina Simone
THE WESTERN FRONT

Sleek mason jars topped off with rich, warm coffee, cloth napkins and locally sourced ingredients are all key parts to Bellingham's environmental cafe revolution. ANMLY (a-nom-a-ly) cafe in downtown Bellingham is leading a movement for cafes and coffee shops to be more aware of their environmental impact and is encouraging their guests to do the same.

Located on Commercial Street, the cafe is in a prime location for guests to make environmentally conscious choices on their way to work or to stop in for a peaceful study break. With wall-to-wall windows, natural light keeps ANMLY feeling fresh and open. The innovative cafe serves quality coffee and a Mediterranean inspired menu, all with the goal of reducing their waste production.

The ANMLY motto is "Deviate from the expected" and the team at ANMLY are dedicated to that mission. ANMLY is a zero-waste coffee shop with reusable to-go packaging. Customers can get their food for here, bring in their own reusable to-go packaging or they can get reusable jars and packages from the cafe.

The tight-seal glass jars and reusable food containers are available to customers on a dollar deposit and they get a 25 cent discount when they bring the packaging back for reuse. If patrons do not want to bring the jars back for reuse, they can return the jar and get their dollar deposit back.

"The goal is to find efficient and reasonable ways to reduce our waste in this environment and inspire others to do the same," shop owner Emile Diffley said.

While the cafe is known for its reusable jars, reducing waste does not stop at the food packaging.

To cut down on restaurant food waste, nothing on the menu is premade. The team works hard to keep prep schedules tight by prepping less food more often. It takes a little more time and effort, but their mission is worth the extra work in the end. They also work to incorporate all the ingredients into a dish and compost anything left over.

ANMLY's menu is constantly rotating as new dishes are discovered and others are retired.

"Our food is bright and



Georgi Shillington serves Zach Clarke at ANMLY cafe on Nov. 5, 2019. // Photo by Alex Moreno

lively and chef-driven," Diffley said.

New ideas are always welcome from everyone on staff, as well as suggestions from patrons. The menu is kept light and zesty to provide the community with different options.

"I like that they have a lot of creative options," Adam Nichols said eating breakfast with his daughter. "They have food that's fun and delicious that we both can enjoy."

ANMLY keeps nutrition in mind while still prioritizing flavor. Georgi's Banana Bread or their classic Breakfast Burrito full of rice, peppers, chorizo, chipotle-lime aioli and other ingredients are some of the most popular things on the menu said Diffley.

While in ANMLY, patrons can grab a coffee priced around \$4 or a sandwich varying from \$5-7. ANMLY makes environmentally friendly choices more accessible to the average community member.

Ingredients and food packaging are integral ways restaurants impact their waste production, but ANMLY made conscious choices to reduce and reuse even while constructing the cafe. All the furniture in the cafe is built from recycled materials, found on Craigslist, from other restaurants and the ReStore. ANMLY opted to reuse as much as they could.

The ANMLY apparel merchandise is one of a kind. The team thrifts flannels



Emile Diffley pours a latte at ANMLY Cafe on Oct. 17. // Photo by Alina Simone

and button downs for their merchandise. All of the apparel is thrifted and then rebranded for ANMLY in a unique and personal step against fast fashion.

"We're not 100% positive that we found the right answer," Diffley said. "But it's a step in the right direction."

The team at ANMLY is passionate about educating and helping people handle reducing their waste production. An environmental pledge board in the shop. Customers are encouraged to make a simple, small step in reducing their waste, from bringing a reusable cup when

getting their coffee to ordering takeout less. Customers can enter contests and win prizes when they commit to making a change in their life in support of protecting the environment.

While the shop received a warm response from the community, not everyone is on board with ANMLY's mission statement. Patrons have left the store in frustration when they are offered a jar for a \$1 deposit for their drink instead of a paper cup.

"I've only had a couple people react negatively to our zero waste system, but for the most part everyone is at

least understanding," team member Georgi Shillington said. "Most of the time when I tell the newbies about our reusable deposits, their faces light up with hope for the environmental future, and they will opt for the reusables." Sometimes it can be discouraging Diffley said, but the team at ANMLY is not backing down from their mission to bring an easy alternative to the paper cup to Bellingham's coffee community. Holding fast and not wavering on their goals is something ANMLY prides themselves on.

I wasn't going to vote, but I'm glad I did

Gaining perspective on voting could take you a long way

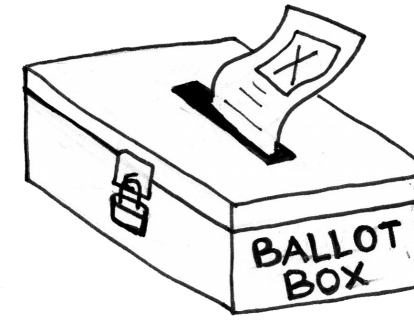


Illustration by Shannon DeLurio

Emily Erskine
THE WESTERN FRONT

I wasn't going to vote.

I was bored and overwhelmed with the politics circulating my everyday life, and frankly, it was all too easy to just blame my apathy on being busy. Busy with school, busy with work, busy with all the other things that demand my time and attention.

But the closer election day got, the guiltier I felt. Maybe my vote did matter.

I'm grateful for my peers and for my elders for holding me accountable, for the constant pressure and interrogating of whether I submitted a ballot or not. I see now what they were seeing all along.

As I sat at the voting office, filling out this small piece of paper, I looked to my right and saw something that shook me to my core: an older, white, seemingly upper-middle class male filling out his ballot as well, and that's when it hit me.

As a 22-year-old, black, unmarried woman, my vote counted just as much as this man's to my right. And nothing he could say or do could ever take that away from me.

So I rejoiced. Voting is a right that those before

us fought long and hard for, and voting is something we should hold more dearly. If this was 100 years ago, I wouldn't even be able to declare my opinion.

Now I get to educate myself, form my own thoughts and views of the world and take the time to select the candidates I respect.

So, I hope you all voted. If you didn't, I hope you'll change your mind next time.

Want to submit a letter to the editor or a guest editorial? Email us at:

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Seasonal depression is real, but we're in this together

Tips on how to survive the dark and dreary months

Emily Erskine
THE WESTERN FRONT

Not to state the obvious, but college is hard.

It's actually really, really hard.

As the sun goes down earlier and the quarter gets tougher, it's even harder to stay afloat. How does anyone stay optimistic when we come home from class at 4 p.m. and it's already dark outside?

At the tail end of summer, we long for crisp fall mornings filled with pumpkin spice lattes, cozy scarves and warm blankets in front of the TV, but the reality of fall in Washington is constant rain, freezing cold mornings and sickness after sickness. I guess that old saying is true: hindsight is 20/20.

As someone who easily falls into a nasty trap of self-loathing, bed dwelling and social avoidance from October to March, I've tried to resist

my urges the older I get. I know everyone is different, but if you're struggling like me in these dark and dreary months, here is what I have learned:

1. Pretend like it's not so dark outside, and do the things you wanted to do anyways. If you look out your window at 6 p.m., and it feels like midnight, it's easy to avoid all responsibilities and climb into bed. Don't. Resist all temptations to veg, and get in your car and go to the store, go to the gym, go see your friends.

2. Rejoice in the things you were excited about. Splurge and get pumpkin lattes, do your homework somewhere by a fireplace, bake cookies with friends and watch all of the Meg Ryan movies you can.

3. Be as social as possible. With the school year starting up again and the nights getting colder, social interactions are usually the first

thing to go. But keep your friends close. They're more valuable this time of year than you may know.

4. Go to those "cheesy" support groups Western offers for seasonal depression. They're not cheesy, and you might meet some awesome people going through the same thing as you, and you might actually learn something.

5. Make a plan for your school work. Procrastination is never a good thing this time of year. Especially if you get sick and realize you're already behind on your class load. Stay on top of things, that way if you need to take a sick day or a mental health day, you won't fall behind.

6. Take a mental health day. Every quarter I allot myself two days to take care of myself, stay home and gain some piece of mind. I know school is important, but don't burn yourself out. Remember to show yourself gratitude.

How do you combat seasonal depression this time of year?



Austin Ford
Communications

"I use my mornings to walk to school, and I think that gives me the time to start the day fresh and take everything in."



Madison Macro
English

"Block out time to do things that bring me joy."



Matt Klein
Computer Science

"Just making sure to make time to spend with friends and family. When we're all indoors it's easier to stay together."



Alima Curylo
Business

"For me, I mainly just sleep and just eat."



Cole Carpenter
Plastic and composites engineering

"Definitely caffeine and stimulants, but also try to make my study space as warm and cozy as possible."

Compiled by Aidan Wiess

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Everything you need to know about the positions you're electing

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Determines the fair market value of all real and personal property to calculate property taxes.

CITY MAYOR

Exercising general supervision over the administrative affairs of the City; the responsibility for the appointment and removal of personnel; and the execution of the laws and policies as adopted by the City Council.

SHERIFF

Is in charge of law enforcement, jail facilities, civil and legal processing, and emergency operations.

COUNTY AUDITOR

Administers elections, maintains voter registration, processes vehicle and vessel licenses and titles, records and preserves documents, marriage applications and licenses.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

CEO of the County; supervises and manages county administrative and executive departments; responsible for enforcement of ordinances and statutes, budgets, comprehensive and capital improvement plans, contracts, claims and deeds.

TREASURER

Collects, reports, invests, and manages all monies and debt for Whatcom County, and all other junior and special purpose districts.

SOURCE: WHATCOM COUNTY VOTER'S PAMPHLET

2019 ADVISORY VOTES

WHAT AN ADVISORY VOTE IS AND WHAT MEASURES WERE UP FOR VOTE THIS ELECTION

ADVISORY VOTES DO NOT CHANGE THE LAW. THEY PROVIDE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC ON MEASURES THEY PASSED WITHOUT THE VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

Advisory Vote No. 20

The legislature imposed an additional wage premium for long-term care services, costing an indeterminate amount in its first 10 years, for government spending.
- Wage premiums compares the additional average wage paid to employees of an organization to the average wage paid for a similar job in a similar industry.
- Long-term care is a range of supports and services that someone may need to meet their personal care needs, such as someone with a chronic illness or disability.
(definitions courtesy of the Global Impact Investing Network and longtermcare.gov)

Advisory Vote No. 22

The legislature increased retail sales tax on architectural paint by adding an assessment to the purchase price, costing \$6 million in its first 10 years, for government spending.
- Architectural paints are paints and other coatings used to coat buildings and homes.
(definition courtesy of astm.org)

Advisory Vote No. 24

The legislature imposed an additional service and other business and occupation tax for certain specified business activities, costing \$2.253 billion in its first 10 years for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 26

The legislature expanded the application of the state tax code to certain remote sellers, marketplace facilitators and others, costing \$1.051 billion in its first 10 years for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 28

The legislature increased sales and use taxes on certain nonresidents by limiting the exemption applicable to them, costing \$313 million in its first 10 years for government spending.
- Sales tax is a tax on the sale, transfer or exchange of a taxable item or service.
- Use tax is a tax on the storage, use or consumption of a taxable item or service on which no sales tax has been paid.
- Exemption is a source or amount of income that is free from taxation.
(definitions courtesy of salestaxinstitute.com)

Advisory Vote No. 30

The legislature increased the business and occupation tax on certain travel agents and tour operators, costing \$28 million in its first 10 years for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 21

The legislature extended the business and occupation tax for extracting, manufacturing and selling timber and timber-related products, costing \$21 million in its first 10 years for government spending.
- A business and occupation tax is gross receipts tax. It is measured on the value of products, gross proceeds of sale, or gross income of the business.
- Gross receipts are the total amounts the organization received from all sources during its annual accounting period, without subtracting any costs or expenses.
(definitions courtesy of the WA Dept. of Revenue and the IRS)

Advisory Vote No. 23

The legislature imposed a tax on the sale, use, consumption, handling, possession and distribution of vapor products costing \$178 million in its first 10 years for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 25

The legislature imposed an additional business and occupation tax for certain specified financial institutions, costing \$1.036 billion in its first 10 years for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 27

The legislature increased taxes on petroleum products, costing \$2.76 billion in its first 10 years, for government spending.

Advisory Vote No. 29

The legislature increased the real estate excise tax on certain sales of real property, costing \$1.747 billion in its first 10 years for government spending.
- Real estate excise tax is tax on the sale of a real estate property, typically the burden of the seller.
(definition courtesy of dor.wa.gov)

Advisory Vote No. 31

The legislature increased the business and occupation tax on certain international investment management services, costing \$367 million in its first 10 years for government spending.
- International investment management services: includes services like investment research, investment consulting, portfolio management, fund administration, fund distribution, investment transactions, or related investment services.
- International investment: type of investment that involves purchasing securities, a certificate or other financial instrument that has monetary value and can be traded, that originate in other countries.
(definitions courtesy of the WA Dept. of Revenue)

Infographic by Garrett Rahn and Melody Kazel
Information sourced from the Whatcom County Voters Pamphlet

WHO'S WINNING?

As of Nov. 5...

State Senator:

Elizabeth (Liz) Lovelett - 72.88%

Executive:

Tony Larson - 50%

Mayor:

Seth Fleetwood - 58.1%

City Council:

Hannah E. Stone - 64.64%

Daniel Hammil - 78.52%

Lisa Anderson - 71.13%

Hollie Huthman - 79.42%

County Council:

Kathy Kershner - 75.71%

Ben Elenbaas - 59.44%

Carol Frazey - 60.36%

Sheriff:

Bill Elfo - 70.93%

Assessor:

John Romaker - 50.71%

Advisory Votes:

No. 20: REPEALED - 58.67%

No. 21: REPEALED - 59.51%

No. 22: REPEALED - 58.63%

No. 23: MAINTAINED - 67.99%

No. 24: REPEALED - 59.88%

No. 25: REPEALED - 53.57%

No. 26: REPEALED - 51.21%

No. 27: REPEALED - 56.74%

No. 28: MAINTAINED - 58.91%

No. 29: REPEALED - 60.36%

No. 30: REPEALED - 53.33%

No. 31: MAINTAINED - 57.64%

Initiative No. 976:

NO - 52.95%

Referendum No. 88:

APPROVED - 52.11%

Constitutional Amendment:

APPROVED - 65.59%



A crowded cafe erupts in applause and cheers after hearing Seth Fleetwood is leading in the polls with 58% on Tuesday, Nov. 5. // Photo by Kyle Tubbs

2019 INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Initiative No. 976

Initiative Measure No. 976 concerns motor vehicle taxes and fees. First, this measure would repeal, reduce or remove authority to impose certain vehicle taxes and fees. Second, it would limit annual motor-vehicle-license fees to \$30, except voter-approved charges. Third, it would base vehicle taxes on their value according to the Kelley Blue Book guide.

Referendum No. 88

The legislature passed Initiative Measure No. 1000 concerning affirmative action and remedying discrimination. Voters have filed a sufficient referendum petition on this act, therefore the people now get to have a direct vote on this measure. Initiative 1000 would allow the state to remedy discrimination for certain groups and to implement affirmative action. Affirmative action allows employers and educational institutions to take sex, race, color, or religion into account when hiring in an attempt to provide opportunities for minority groups who are discriminated against. In this case, affirmative action would be implemented without the use of quotas or preferential treatment (as defined), in public education, employment, and contracting.

2019 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Proposed Constitutional Amendment No. 8200

The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment concerning legislative powers in times of emergency. This measure would add "catastrophic incidents" to the specified times of emergency that the legislature may take certain immediate actions to ensure that critical state and local governmental operations continue in an emergency situation. "Catastrophic incidents" are defined by FEMA as, any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism, that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions.

Infographic by Garrett Rahn and Melody Kazel
Information sourced from the Whatcom County Voters Pamphlet

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NCAA softens policies on endorsements for student-athletes

NCAA Board of Governors voted unanimously for student-athletes to benefit from "name, image and likeness"

Nolan Baker
THE WESTERN FRONT

The NCAA Board of Governors voted unanimously Oct. 29 to begin the process of allowing student-athletes to make money off their name, image and likeness during their college career. This ruling could possibly end a decades long policy which forbids college athletes from accepting any monetary compensations not in the form of a scholarship.

The vote by the NCAA came only weeks after California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the Fair Pay to Play Act, which made it legal for athletes in California universities to accept endorsement money. At least ten other state governments, including Washington, have begun work on similar legislation by the time the NCAA's ruling was announced.

In a brief response to the passing of the California act, the NCAA stated, "it is clear that a patchwork of different laws from different states will make unattainable the goal of providing a fair and level playing field," for college athletics.

As NCAA policy currently states, all student-athletes are considered amateurs of their sport. This means that college athletes cannot be paid in any form for playing in games, cannot sign with a professional agent and will lose their eligibility to play in college if they ever accept payment for their play.

In short, the only money

any student-athlete receives for their play comes in the form of a scholarship and cost of attendance stipends.

The NCAA claims that requiring all athletes to play as amateurs keeps the sports business world and all of its supposedly unethical agents and businesses out of college athletics.

Allen R. Sanderson and John J. Siegfried in the Journal of Economic Perspectives said that while the NCAA, universities, broadcast companies and their advertisers bring in millions of dollars of revenue, the athletes who create the entertainment are being left uncompensated for their labor.

This rule change signifies that the NCAA recognizes the scrutiny they are receiving from legislators around the country, and it could help student-athletes receive a slice of the revenue that college athletics create. However, the rule does not require universities themselves to pay their athletes for their work, only that athletes may be able to market themselves to outside sponsors.

In response to the nationwide political pressure, the NCAA created the Federal and State Legislation Working Group, a task force of administrators, athletic directors and student-athletes from universities from all three divisions to hash out the minutiae of policies that would fairly allow athletes to profit from their name, image and likeness.

In a statement posted to

their website, the NCAA was tentative to unveil any concrete details of how their new ruling would be implemented, and whether it would be anything like the Fair Pay to Play Act signed into law in California just weeks earlier.

Michael V. Drake, chairman of the NCAA Board of Governors, said in the statement that, "modernization for the future is a natural extension of the numerous steps NCAA members have taken in recent years to improve support for student-athletes, including full cost of attendance and guaranteed scholarships."

Adam Wright, an assistant professor of economics at Western, disagrees with the points the NCAA is making about the new rule change. He cautions that although the NCAA is opening a door for players to make money during college careers, athletes are far away from being fairly compensated for their labor.

"They are only relenting on that one very specific aspect, that is, making money off of your likeness, or endorsements basically," Wright said.

When asked if the NCAA uses amateurism as a tool to keep athletes from getting a fair share of the profits created by college athletics, he cautioned against subjectivity.

"I think people follow their financial incentives, and it's certainly in the NCAA's financial incentives to keep the labeling of amateurism," Wright said.

"I keep reading this, 'we're

going to change the rules, but consistent with our model of amateurism,'" Wright said. "To me, that is a way to give [the NCAA] some wiggle room to kind of make these rules kind of as beneficial to them as possible."

It is still unclear what the impact of this decision will be and how much latitude the NCAA will allow student-athletes to have in terms of marketing themselves during their collegiate careers. This hasn't stopped a firestorm of comments from both sides of the argument, and from some of the most influential members of the collegiate sports world.

Money made by student-athletes themselves would siphon resources away from other athletic programs who often rely on advertising from local businesses, said Larry Scott, Pac-12 conference commissioner during the conference's basketball media day.

"It'll come from money that's already going to our campuses, in my view," Scott said during the press conference. "So there will be less resources, I believe, that our campuses will have, and they'll have to make some adjustments."

For Western athletics specifically, the issue is a unique one. Western does not offer full-ride scholarships to student-athletes. Some work part-time jobs in order to pay for their living expenses and some of their equipment.

For junior cross country captain Jane Barr, her commitment to the team, her part-

time job at Starbucks and her school work gives her a schedule that often tallies over forty hours a week.

"Twenty hours of running, you work maybe 15 hours and you're also in school for another 15 hours, that's over full-time," Barr said. "Running shoes are expensive, those are \$120, we have to buy four pairs a year. We have to come up with cash in other ways."

Barr understands that although cross country does offer prize money for races once she completes her collegiate career, her sport doesn't offer the professional promises of male-dominated sports like football or basketball.

"[Running] is a side hobby, there's no way — unless you're a crazy fast athlete — that you're going to go pro," Barr said.

"It would be speculative for us to comment on the impact of athletes benefiting from the use of their name, image and likeness on Division II athletic programs and our program at WWU, until formal rules are adopted," Steven Card, Western Athletic Director said in an email.

In Card's statement, he said the Western athletic department anticipates, "that there will be a significant amount of dialogue over the next several months, including the NCAA Convention in January."

Volleyball achieves 39th consecutive home win

Viking women improve to 21-1 overall and 13-1 in GNAC with 3-0 sweep over Montana



The Western women's volleyball team celebrates after winning a set against Montana State University Billings in a 3-0 sweep on Saturday, Nov. 2. // Photo by Jordan Shepherd

Jordan Shepherd
THE WESTERN FRONT

The No. 4 women's volleyball team brought out the brooms Saturday night as the team beat Montana State Billings 25-21, 25-15, 25-20, to record its 12th sweep of the season.

This victory marked the 39th consecutive home game win at Sam Carver Gymnasium. A record that dates back

to the 2014 season and is the longest in school history.

"I think we did a good job of bringing the energy we needed to bring, we have been working on some certain things in practice that is starting to translate into the game," head coach of 20 years Diane Flick-Williams said. "We try to get 3% better each week, so we're not going for huge gains, we're just trying to make the little gains

each week which are actually attainable, and win the next play."

With this win, the Vikings beat Billings in 11 consecutive matches and now improve to 21-1 on the season, and maintain first place with 13-1 record in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference play.

All-American senior middle Kayleigh Harper led the Vikings with 13 kills, five blocks and a hitting percentage of 0.632. Making five of six points — 4 kills and 0.5 blocks — during the 6-0 run that helped push the Vikings to a victory in the third set.

Harper now stands in fifth place of all-time for career kills in the Western women's record books with 1,198 career kills. The fourth spot is held by former player Gretchen Haakenson, who tallied at 1,228 career kills.

"Kayleigh was outstanding in mixing up shots and really seemed to be in command of her game," Flick-Williams said. "She has been working hard to improve, and I'm happy for her that it has paid

off."

Sophomore outside hitter Gabby Gunterman also dominated the game and recorded her 13th double-double of the season with 13 kills and 11 digs. Senior Mae Thungc had 10 digs, moving her total to 976 digs for her career with the Vikings.

"I think we did a good job of implementing everything we have been working on this week," Thungc said. "It was a hard week of playing Simon Fraser on Tuesday, and then having to play again on Saturday. I just feel great contributions from everyone, and we stayed steady through it all."

Sophomore middle Chloe Roeticoender had seven kills and five blocks for the Vikings, while redshirt freshman outside hitter Calley Heilborn had six kills and 11 digs. Redshirt freshman Malia Aleaga had 40 assists in the game, with two blocks, six digs and an ace, and redshirt freshman utility player Tupu Lologo had 10 digs and led the team with two aces.

The Vikings, now 21-1,

have reached the 20 win mark for the eighth consecutive season and for the 30th time in the 48-year history of the women's volleyball program. Flick-Williams coached the Vikings to at least 20 wins in 15 of her last 20 seasons and recorded a 195-38 record during the eight-season streak.

"We always say 'be us,' because a lot of the times in games we be ourselves with things we are doing, other teams do great things as well," said Gunterman. "I think a lot of the times when a game starts to go a bad way it's because of what we're doing. So, in a sense, 'being us' is doing our jobs and always doing our positions to the best of our ability."

The Vikings will now go on a stretch that sees four of the final six matches on the road. Western will take on Seattle Pacific University on Thursday, Nov. 7, and Saint Martins on Saturday, Nov. 9. The Vikings will play their next home game on Thursday, Nov. 14, against University of Alaska Anchorage.



Western forward Estera Levinte races for the ball against two players from Northwest Nazarene on Saturday, Nov. 2. // Photo by Ian Haupt

Sports Roundup

Viking athletics climb the national rankings

Wilson Turk
THE WESTERN FRONT

As the regular seasons draw to a close for fall sports, postseason championships are ramping up.

Women's Soccer

After their wins against Seattle Pacific University and Central Washington University, the Viking women moved into the seventh place national ranking. "We are trying to take every opportunity to get better," junior goalkeeper Natalie Dierickx said. "These conference games just prepare us for the postseason and with only a couple games left, it's critical that we use them to make our game better."

The women won the regular season Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship with their 4-0 win against Northwest Nazarene. Junior midfielder Darby Doyle notched two goals and an assist in the match. The Vikings have one last regular season game against SPU on Thursday, Nov. 7, at Interbay Stadium in Seattle before the GNAC championship tournament Nov. 14-16.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team will enter the regular season with a first place ranking in the GNAC. "Being ranked first is a fun thing because it means that teams have us on their radar and that they respect us but the end of the year standings are what really matter," redshirt senior Logan Schilder said.

Thursday night ended the men's basketball preseason against University of Washington with a 61-87 loss. "It's a cool experience to play in a big arena and against some of the top talent in the country, but it's more of a building block for us to compare our team to a top team like the University of Washington," Schilder said.

Volleyball

The Viking's volleyball team recorded its 20th win for the eighth consecutive season, winning 3-1 against Simon Fraser University. The Vikings ended the match with a season high of 80 digs, led by senior libero Mae Thungc, who recorded 19 digs during the match.

Senior middle Kayleigh Harper added seven more kills to her career total of

1,185 kills, moving into sixth place in Viking history.

Women's Cross Country

The Viking women had three top 10 finishes at the GNAC championships in Billings, Montana, which led to an overall team win. Jane Barr came in eighth, followed by Rebecca Lehman in ninth and Tracy Melville in 10th. Sophia Galvez and Tovah Swartz-Ireland followed close behind, placing in the top 15. The women beat second place University of Alaska Anchorage by seven points. This conference title was the first won by the women's team since Western joined GNAC.

The GNAC championships results moved the Vikings up to 11th place in the national rankings.

Men's Cross Country

The men won the GNAC championships with four top 10 finishes. James Jaspersen led the team in fourth place, closely followed by Edward Kiobasa in fifth, Deyago Peraza in sixth and Liam Cossette in seventh. Eric Hamel rounded out the top five runners for Western, finishing in 16th.

The Viking men became ranked 21st in the nation after their performance at the GNAC Championships.

Men's Soccer

Western men's soccer team is ranked 23rd in the nation for Division II soccer after their win against Simon Fraser. "There is definitely more excitement around being ranked, and I think it is pushing us to work even harder in training and in matches," fifth year senior Jeremiah Lee said.

Thursday night's game was a 4-0 win against SPU. "[It was a] big win tonight," Lee said after the game. "It's fantastic to see different people getting on the scoring sheet and stepping up in the big games. That speaks to the depth and strength of our roster."

Women's Golf

The women's golf team closed out the fall season at the Dennis Rose Invitational with a third place finish at 17 shots over par. Freshman Elise Sumner finished in sixth place with 12 shots over par.

Men's Golf

The men's team placed fourth overall with 21 shots over par at the Dennis Rose invitational in Hawaii. Redshirt sophomore Aidan Thain shot three under par to lead the Vikings with a third place individual finish.

The men finished the fall season with a 30th place ranking in the nation.

Women's Rowing

At the Head of the Lake Regatta hosted by UW, Western's two teams placed second and third in the collegiate 3V8+ heat behind University of British Columbia's team. The course was a 4,800 meter route through Lake Washington and Lake Union.

Women's Basketball

Three of the Viking women were selected for the all-GNAC preseason team. Senior guard Lexi Bland, senior center Anna Schwecke and junior forward Kelsey Rogers were among the 15 GNAC players selected.

Viking women received a pre-season GNAC ranking of second place.

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