CWU responds to safety concerns

Mariah Valles
Online Editor

In the event of an active shooter, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) says you have three options: run, hide or fight. CWU’s new active shooter training video, which aligns with the “Run. Hide. Fight.” protocol, was shown for the first time during Wildcat Welcome Weekend. The video was created in response to students who asked for more training following CWU’s active shooter false alarm on Feb. 6.

On Sept. 24 President James L. Gaudino sent an email to students and employees. In the email, he presented information on official emergency information services such as the “Run. Hide. Fight.” video, the Rave Alert Guardian App and the CWU emergency website.

The new Guardian App allows people to receive alerts through wilt, something the university received feedback on following the Feb. 6 active shooter false alarm.

There’s also a content directory on the app that CWU Police Chief Jason Berthon-Koch says allows for safety tips to be in the palm of people’s hands. Berthon-Koch said another capability of the Guardian App is the “Social Angel.” After activation, users are able to share their location with another person, which enables them to walk safely without having somebody next to them physically. At any moment, either person end contact 911 directly from the app.

Background
On Feb. 14, one week after the active shooter false alarm, student government in collaboration with the president’s office held an open forum during which students could ask questions about the incident.

As reported in the Feb. 21 issue of The Observer, during this forum Berthon-Koch responded to students’ concerns about lack of training. While all traditional first-year students are required to attend a session that details what to do in the event of an active shooter on campus, some students said a single session was not enough. Berthon-Koch answered that a new video would include information about what to do in the event of an emergency, how to communicate with others and where to get reliable information.

Film festival returns to Ellensburg

Cassandra Hays
Editor-in-Chief

The 15th annual Ellensburg Film Festival is returning to Ellensburg from October 4-6.

According to Ginny Ann Blackson, who is on the board of directors for the Ellensburg Film Festival, over 26 films will be shown over the course of three days at different venues: McConnell Theatre, The Kittitas County Historical Museum and Hal Holmes Community Center.

The film festival takes place on the first weekend of October each year. Blackson said the festival features films that typically would never be shown in Ellensburg.

“Often they are quirky and unusual films,” Blackson said. “We seek out films made by Washington film makers...in addition to films from all over the country.”

This years festival will have a “retro” theme, according to Blackson.

“We’re kind of going back to how the film festival was done in its early days,” Blackson said.

The festival will feature classic films such as “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off” and Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rear Window”, in addition to independent films. Blackson said the films were selected with the intention of speaking to many different generations.

Keith Alholm, a film student at CWU who is on the board of directors for the Ellensburg Film Festival, said the lineup of films this year is both diverse and challenging. The films will challenge personal beliefs and get people thinking, Alholm said.

“[Ellensburg has] a small town community feel but it’s also progressive in a lot of ways because of the university and people in the community are very forward thinking,” Alholm said.

International films from countries like Afghanistan and Japan will also be shown at the festival. These films will give insight into how filmmaking differs from country to country as well as how independent filmmaking has progressed as film equipment has become more accessible.

“It’s interesting to see what other places are doing and where the state of film is going and how it’s changing,” Alholm said. “Someone almost anywhere can pick up a camera and tell a story and it will look good.”

Opinion: Training video falls short

TyYonna Kitchen
Opinion Editor

On Sept. 23 CWU published a disappointing YouTube video called “CWU Run. Hide. Fight.” The video is on what to do in an active shooter situation while on campus. After watching it, I realized CWU dropped the ball while making the video.

First and foremost, this took seven months to complete. The false active shooter situation that prompted the creation of this video happened in February.

Seven months to create a seven minute video on how to act in the event of an active shooter is ridiculous. If it took one month to create one minute of this video, then I wish they had taken longer and done a better job.

Film festival returns to Ellensburg

Cassandra Hays
Editor-in-Chief

The 15th annual Ellensburg Film Festival is returning to Ellensburg from October 4-6.

According to Ginny Ann Blackson, who is on the board of directors for the Ellensburg Film Festival, over 26 films will be shown over the course of three days at different venues: McConnell Theatre, The Kittitas County Historical Museum and Hal Holmes Community Center.

The film festival takes place on the first weekend of October each year. Blackson said the festival features films that typically would never be shown in Ellensburg.

“Often they are quirky and unusual films,” Blackson said. “We seek out films made by Washington film makers...in addition to films from all over the country.”

This years festival will have a “retro” theme, according to Blackson.

“We’re kind of going back to how the film festival was done in its early days,” Blackson said.

The festival will feature classic films such as “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off” and Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rear Window”, in addition to independent films. Blackson said the films were selected with the intention of speaking to many different generations.

Keith Alholm, a film student at CWU who is on the board of directors for the Ellensburg Film Festival, said the lineup of films this year is both diverse and challenging. The films will challenge personal beliefs and get people thinking, Alholm said.

“[Ellensburg has] a small town community feel but it’s also progressive in a lot of ways because of the university and people in the community are very forward thinking,” Alholm said.

International films from countries like Afghanistan and Japan will also be shown at the festival. These films will give insight into how filmmaking differs from country to country as well as how independent filmmaking has progressed as film equipment has become more accessible.

“It’s interesting to see what other places are doing and where the state of film is going and how it’s changing,” Alholm said. “Someone almost anywhere can pick up a camera and tell a story and it will look good.”

 Continued on Page 9

Central Transit adds new routes

Page 3

Wildcat Farm kicks off season

Page 5

Racanelli chosen as starting quarterback

Page 10

In this issue...
On July 15 Lynn Franken began her tenure as the university’s interim provost, replacing former Provost Katherine Frank. Appointed by President James L. Gaudino, Franken is the former Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College at Thiel College. She will continue as the interim provost until a long term provost is selected after a national search.

According to CWU’s website, Franken was one of several candidates suggested by The Registry. The Registry is a national organization with over 500 higher education executives who are available on an interim basis to assist universities.

“As a longtime academic administrator, I have found the best results occur when there is mutual trust and mutual regard built into the process of working together,” Franken said in a release on the university’s website. “I look forward to working collaboratively with the faculty, staff, and students at Central to help set a course for the future direction of the university.”

The day following spring commencement, June 10, President Gaudino sent an email to employees stating Frank would no longer be the university’s provost, effective immediately.

No reason for the change in staff was divulged. The university said emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost.

Neither the June 10 or June 13 emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost. On June 11 a spokesperson for CWU said they would not discuss personnel issues regarding Frank no longer being the provost. Former Provost Frank has not responded to emails and messages requesting interviews.

“I would like to thank Dr. Katherine Frank for her excellent work as Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Life and for her dedication to the success of Central Washington University for the past three years,” Gaudino wrote on June 13.

Franken thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of interim provost. Some include opening a new instructional site in Sammamish, producing a comprehensive report examining the strategic process by which the university might pursue Hispanic-Serving Institution status and several others.

Gaudino thanked Frank for her dedication to student life and for her willingness to step into the role of Provost. Some include opening a new instructional site in Sammamish, producing a comprehensive report examining the strategic process by which the university might pursue Hispanic-Serving Institution status and several others.

Gaudino thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of Vice President for Academic Innovation, a position he said will help CWU plan for the future.

“Dr. Frank is uniquely qualified for this role and passionate about how institutions like CWU continue to provide access for students, serve our regions, and influence the direction of public higher education,” Gaudino wrote.

On July 15 Lynn Franken began her tenure as the university’s interim provost, replacing former Provost Katherine Frank. Appointed by President James L. Gaudino, Franken is the former Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College at Thiel College. She will continue as the interim provost until a long term provost is selected after a national search.

According to CWU’s website, Franken was one of several candidates suggested by The Registry. The Registry is a national organization with over 500 higher education executives who are available on an interim basis to assist universities.

“As a longtime academic administrator, I have found the best results occur when there is mutual trust and mutual regard built into the process of working together,” Franken said in a release on the university’s website. “I look forward to working collaboratively with the faculty, staff, and students at Central to help set a course for the future direction of the university.”

The day following spring commencement, June 10, President Gaudino sent an email to employees stating Frank would no longer be the university’s provost, effective immediately.

No reason for the change in staff was divulged. The university said emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost.

Neither the June 10 or June 13 emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost. On June 11 a spokesperson for CWU said they would not discuss personnel issues regarding Frank no longer being the provost. Former Provost Frank has not responded to emails and messages requesting interviews.

“I would like to thank Dr. Katherine Frank for her excellent work as Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Life and for her dedication to the success of Central Washington University for the past three years,” Gaudino wrote on June 13.

Franken thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of interim provost. Some include opening a new instructional site in Sammamish, producing a comprehensive report examining the strategic process by which the university might pursue Hispanic-Serving Institution status and several others.

Gaudino thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of Vice President for Academic Innovation, a position he said will help CWU plan for the future.

“Dr. Frank is uniquely qualified for this role and passionate about how institutions like CWU continue to provide access for students, serve our regions, and influence the direction of public higher education,” Gaudino wrote.

On July 15 Lynn Franken began her tenure as the university’s interim provost, replacing former Provost Katherine Frank. Appointed by President James L. Gaudino, Franken is the former Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College at Thiel College. She will continue as the interim provost until a long term provost is selected after a national search.

According to CWU’s website, Franken was one of several candidates suggested by The Registry. The Registry is a national organization with over 500 higher education executives who are available on an interim basis to assist universities.

“As a longtime academic administrator, I have found the best results occur when there is mutual trust and mutual regard built into the process of working together,” Franken said in a release on the university’s website. “I look forward to working collaboratively with the faculty, staff, and students at Central to help set a course for the future direction of the university.”

The day following spring commencement, June 10, President Gaudino sent an email to employees stating Frank would no longer be the university’s provost, effective immediately.

No reason for the change in staff was divulged. The university said emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost.

Neither the June 10 or June 13 emails provided an explanation for why Frank is no longer the provost. On June 11 a spokesperson for CWU said they would not discuss personnel issues regarding Frank no longer being the provost. Former Provost Frank has not responded to emails and messages requesting interviews.

“I would like to thank Dr. Katherine Frank for her excellent work as Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Life and for her dedication to the success of Central Washington University for the past three years,” Gaudino wrote on June 13.

Franken thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of interim provost. Some include opening a new instructional site in Sammamish, producing a comprehensive report examining the strategic process by which the university might pursue Hispanic-Serving Institution status and several others.

Gaudino thanked Frank again for her willingness to step into the role of Vice President for Academic Innovation, a position he said will help CWU plan for the future.

“Dr. Frank is uniquely qualified for this role and passionate about how institutions like CWU continue to provide access for students, serve our regions, and influence the direction of public higher education,” Gaudino wrote.
Central Transit overhauled

The Central Transit bus system has received a complete overhaul to its routes and schedules. Looking at the new route map, commuters can immediately see that the old loops have been exchanged for a more linear system. According to Margaret Reich, communications and government relations officer at the city of Ellensburg, this was due to a combination of rider feedback and preexisting expansion plans which city officials hope will make the bus system more convenient and less confusing.

“We hope that riders will find that it is easier to get on a bus that’s closer to where they live, and get off the bus where they work or play or shop,” Reich said. “We hope that people will see that riding the bus is easy. Seventy percent of CWU students come from the west side. They know transit. We want to make it a seamless experience for them.”

A total of 34 bus stops have been added or realigned, which were in response to conversations city officials had with ASCWU President Jasmin Washington and VP of Legislative Affairs Zack Turner. According to Reich, Washington and Turner helped to identify stops that they thought were specifically important to students, like the ones at The Verge apartment complex and the CWU aviation building.

Reich and other city planners also used survey information which was gathered in March. At least 45% of the responses came from CWU students which, according to Reich, led many of the changes catering specifically to students. One of the biggest changes is the new schedule, which Reich said has been redesigned to correlate better with class and work schedules.

The only major point that Reich said hasn’t yet been addressed is the span of service. The buses currently run from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., which the survey indicated that riders would like extended. Once the new routes and schedules have been tested over the coming months, these hours may expand.

Central Transit has added one new bus to the existing fleet, and has hired new drivers as well. This was paid for by a 0.002% sales tax increase that voters approved of during the last election. This increase provides dedicated funding for Central Transit and is why the system can remain free. Central Transit is also paid for by a $3 university fee that CWU students pay, but this will not increase.

Ellensburg is growing fast, with one of the top 10 fastest-growing populations for a micro-region nationwide.

“We’re seeing not only an influx of people that are a part of the silver tsunami, people over 60 that want to retire here, but also an influx of people that have had it with the Puget Sound and the cost of living there,” Reich said. “We anticipate that the system is going to evolve over time.”

That evolution is happening quickly to meet the rising need. Reich said that greyhound-sized articulated buses are a long way off, but roughly every three years Central Transit is evaluated for changes and expansions. Until then, officials like Reich hope that the recent changes will make the system more useful for students and residents alike, and that riders give feedback on things they would like to see happen differently.

Central Transit has a Facebook page where riders can find more information or be notified of route changes, holidays and graduate if they see people like them,” Cleary said. “Mentoring becomes more effective, accessibility becomes more effective and for students, learning becomes more effective.”

CWU has been awarded the 2019 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. This is the fifth time in six years that CWU has won national awards for its efforts towards inclusivity and diversity, making it the only university in Washington state to receive such recognition.

“You can tell students, ‘this college is sensitive to making sure opportunities at the university is sufficiently open to all,’” CWU President James L. Gaudino said in a CWU press release. “At [CWU], inclusivity is one of our values. It doesn’t matter where you’re from -- when you come to [CWU] you’re going to have an opportunity to succeed.”

The HEED Award winner is decided by the INSIGHT Into Diversity staff, which measures an institution’s level of achievement and the intensity of its commitment to diversity.

“The HEED award process consists of a comprehensive and rigorous application that includes questions relating to the recruitment and retention of students and employees, and best practices for both continued leadership support for diversity and other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion,” said Lenore Pearlstein, publisher of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. “Our standards are high, and we look for institutions where diversity and inclusion are woven into the work being done every day across their campus.”

CWU has made several decisions over the years as it strove towards diversity. Delores “Kandee” Cleary, Ph.D., CWU Vice President of Inclusivity and Diversity, is one of the leading decision-makers in these efforts.

She and other faculty members make use of many strategies to broaden the range of people who attend CWU.

“A meeting of the Employees of Color Equity Council, who submits recommendations to Cleary. "Part of that is embedding recruiters into the communities in which they’re going to recruit from which allows them to develop relationships," Cleary said.

Cleary also has initiatives with the goal of recruitment. To create a sense of belonging for students at CWU, plans are underway to recruit faculty and staff with diverse backgrounds. Research in both academia and business world has shown that more diverse groups are better at innovation and problem solving.

"[Students] are more likely to stay and do that the most is by being in a diverse environment. You never know what you’re going to get until you get there, but it starts you off on the right foot when you have a school community who prides themselves on being better and diverse.”

"CWU’s inclusivity and diversity efforts have been focused on race and ethnicity for a long time. According to Cleary, this will expand going forward, but the focus on race is a result of student feedback on the culture of CWU.

“Students have insisted, for the last five years anyway, that they can go through [CWU] and never have a faculty person of color in any class,” Cleary said. “That’s our first focus. In some departments we have focused more on gender, in engineering, for example, women are a minority.”
CWU says if you don’t see it, don’t post it

Editor: Nicholas Tucker

Continued from Page 1

Video
On Sept. 23 the promised video was published on the university’s official YouTube channel. It’s titled, “CWU Run. Hide. Fight.” The video runs seven minutes and seven seconds long. Early on, it’s stated that since 2001, 15 active shooter scenarios have been reported on college campuses.

Definitions of an active shooter incident vary by source, but the FBI defines it as, “individuals actively engaged in attempting to kill people in populated areas (excluding shootings relating to gang or drug violence.).”

According to the FBI, 15 active shooter incidents in the United States have happened on college campuses from 2000 to 2018. The report is available on the FBI’s website and does not include data from 2019. CWU used this data in the statistic shown early on in the video.

“It’s important to include that information to show that active shooter incidents do happen but they’re not as frequent on college campuses as what the perception is,” Berthon-Koch said. “That statistic is there to show you in reality.”

From 2000 to 2018, there have been 23 high school active shooter incidents according to the FBI report.

“Run. Hide. Fight.” Following the DHS’ “Run. Hide. Fight.” protocol, the first option in the event of an active shooter is to run away from the area.

Watch and Spread the Word
The CWU Police Department hopes everybody on campus will watch the video at least once a quarter. Twaites said the department wants the campus community to be informed about what to do in an active shooter situation. He also said the police department is available to come to offices, residence halls and other places on campus to help educate.

“If we can get [the video] into classrooms, it would be phenomenal,” Twaites said.

Twaites said by watching the video at least once a quarter, minds will be refreshed and people will know what to do in the event of an active shooter situation.

Suspicious Person
The actor who portrayed the active shooter in CWU’s “Run. Hide. Fight.” video wore jeans, a sweatshirt, hat and watch, and carried a black duffel bag.

“People’s behavior can help indicate whether or not they’re suspicious or not, but you’re not going to be able to generalize every person with a duffel bag,” Twaites said. “It’s problematic when you want to say everybody with a duffel bag has a gun because we know that’s not realistic.”

Twaites said to call 911 or the non-emergency number if you believe another person is acting suspiciously.

“The police will respond and investigate and talk to whoever that may be at any time of the day or any situation that may occur,” Twaites said.

The blue-in phone towers are another safety precaution. According to Twaites, there are about 30 placed strategically throughout campus. If you press the button on the tower, 911 is immediately contacted.

The Fire Alarm Scene
At 2:55 in the video, the “active shooter” pulls the fire alarm in an attempt to bring people out of the rooms they are in. A few seconds later, an actor looks out the door, realizes there isn’t a fire and begins to hide.

Berthon-Koch said the students did the right thing by hearing the fire alarm, going to evacuate, realizing there was not an actual fire and hiding in their room. He said this scene’s lesson was to be aware of your surroundings.

“Don’t have your face in your phone, don’t be reading text messages or tweeting or snapchatting or [on] Instagram or whatever it may be,” Berthon-Koch said. “Be aware and then make those right decisions.”

Preparedness
The video is important for students to be aware of what to do under [active shooter] circumstances,” ASCWU President Aaron Washington said.

Washington said the active shooter false alarm on Feb. 6 revealed the university was not as prepared as it thought it was for an active shooter situation.

Now, Washington said, students can prepare and know exactly what to do if a similar situation happens again. Washington recalled her experience on Feb. 6, saying she was in the Wellness Center when she received a text message about a possible active shooter. She remembers yelling at students eating dinner in the SURC, telling them they needed to clear the area.

Social Media
During the Feb. 6 active shooter false alarm event, social media played a role in the event. Misinformation spread on Twitter and Facebook.

“Don’t post it!” Berthon-Koch said in the event of an emergency to turn to official sources only such as the university’s official Facebook page and Twitter. (@CentralWalShU)

“People believe what they see on social media without first-hand information,” Berthon-Koch said. Berthon-Koch said people who post about emergency situations on social media without first-hand information cause problems for emergency first responders and put people’s lives in danger.

Air Force ROTC Det 895
Building Tomorrow’s Leaders Today

College Scholarships Available!
• Covers: tuition, fees, and textbooks
• Plus a monthly allowance
• Rewarding job upon graduation

Choose a Challenging Career
Offering more than 200 career paths, featuring:
• Pilot - manned and unmanned
• Cyber intelligence - protect the nation’s security
• Space Systems - launch and control satellites
• Combat weapons - fire a missile

For more information, please visit us in Lind Hall, Room 202A, call 509-963-2314 e-mail afrotc@cwu.edu or cwu.edu/airforce

Central Park
BRAND NEW UNITS! NOW LEASING!
• Close to CWU Campus
• Full Sized Washer & Dryer In Unit
• 120” Projection Theater Room
• Resort Style Pool & BBQ Pavilion
• Basketball Court & Play Ground
• Study Lounge with FREE WiFi
• FREE Cardio Fitness Center
• FREE Parking for Residents
• FREE Community Events & More!

Facebook.com/centralparkkoch
Instagram.com/centralparkkoch

1200 E. Helena Ave. Ellensburg, WA 98926
centralparkWA.com

Central Park APARTMENTS

Air Force Benefits
• $60,000 starting pay/benefits
• Life Insurance available
• Educational opportunities
• 30 days paid vacation per year
• Retirement after as little as 20 years
• Medical/Dental Care

October 3, 2019 cwwobserver.com
Ellensburg Film Festival to showcase diverse films

The Ellensburg Film Festival will also feature films created by CWU students. Three independently directed films will be shown at 2 p.m. on Saturday in McConnell Theatre. According to Alholm, the festival has always tried to keep a strong connection with the film program at CWU. He encourages people to come out and experience a wide range of low budget, independently directed films.

“Why you go to a film festival, you’re supporting up-and-coming filmmakers,” Alholm said. “I think that is an essential thing to do, because these are the people who are going to make the movies of tomorrow.”

The Ellensburg Film Festival will feature many short films which Alholm said most people would never get to see on a big screen. The diverse selection of films as well as the community experience of the festival have kept people coming back year after year, according to Blackson.

“I think it’s one of Ellensburg’s best little festivals... it’s just a tradition in town,” Blackson said. “We have people come from out of town and they come back each year, and we have our local people who are always there. We have a good set of volunteers who help us out and a strong board of directors.”

The festival will kick off with a cocktail reception for pass holders and sponsors at the Kittitas County Historical Museum on Friday night. A full schedule of films as well as screening times and locations is available at ellensburgfilmfestival.com.

Continued from Page 1

Alholm emphasized that the experience of watching a film on a big screen can change the way a film is interpreted or perceived. The social environment of a film festival is one of many reasons to try to attend, Alholm said.

“A film festival is a communal experience and the communal experience changes how we experience the film,” Alholm said. “It becomes much more of a social event that you’re sharing with other people.”

The Ellensburg Film Festival will also feature films created by CWU students. Three independently directed films will be shown at 2 p.m. on Saturday in McConnell Theatre. According to Alholm, the festival has always tried to keep a strong connection with the film program at CWU. He encourages people to come out and experience a wide range of low budget, independently directed films.

“Why you go to a film festival, you’re supporting up-and-coming filmmakers,” Alholm said. “I think that is an essential thing to do, because these are the people who are going to make the movies of tomorrow.”

Joe Ritchie, the Campus Executive Chef at Dining Services, served soup made from pumpkin, delicata and Kabocha squash and grilled corn, which were all grown on the farm.

Ritchie said that over the summer, Dining Services used many of the vegetables and herbs grown here.

“The farm grew a ton of basil,” Ritchie said. “So we made huge batches of pesto, froze them and thawed it whenever we needed some.”

Ritchie said Dining Services will move in a more sustainable direction when providing single-use items like napkins and tableware.

“At Northside Commons, everything is served in compostable ware, same thing at Panda Express,” Ritchie said. “We’re moving into it, bit by bit.”

Doughty said that supporting local farms is also a way to help the environment.

“A lot of our food travels many miles, hundreds if not thousands of miles, to get to our plates and the emissions from that make a big impact,” she said. “Local food doesn’t have to travel as far to get to us, regardless of how it was produced.”

By next year, when the high tunnels are operating, Doughty said they will plant crops more intentionally so that Dining Services will be able to use them for fall and winter quarters.

To prep for the falling temperatures, she said they will get the field all cleaned up, get the summer crops out, and “hopefully the fall crops will survive the [frost].”

Doughty said there is still much to do to try to make large-scale composting happen and to prepare the yield for next summer.

To get involved, she said, “You can just show up, no experience necessary, just interest and enthusiasm and curiosity.”

Volunteer hours can be found on the website but Doughty said the best way to get updates is to follow the farm on Instagram or Facebook, in case volunteer hours get cancelled.

Madelyn Dickens, a student majoring in French and minoring in environmental studies who attended the kick-off event, said she plans to volunteer at the farm.

“I’m from Spokane, I really liked working on farms during the summer and sustainable farms became a huge interest of mine,” Dickens said. “A lot of people don’t know about [the farm], but it needs volunteers, it needs help and it needs a community.”

INFO BOX

Tickets can be bought at Gallery One or online at ellensburgfilmfestival.com. They are cheaper if bought ahead of time.

General
One screening: $6 or $8 at the door (all screenings): $50 or $60 at the door, includes free t-shirt or tote bag

Students
One screening: $3 or $4 at the door
Passes: $10 any time (does not include t-shirt or tote bag)

Seniors
Instagramming: $4 or $7 at the door
Passes: $25 or $30 at the door.

*Pass holders get preferential seating

Wildcat Farm kicks off into fall

Wildcat Neighborhood Farm harvested various crops like okra, carrots, kale and squash. The farm sits on East Dean Nicholson Boulevard across from Student Village.

Mary Park
Scene Editor

This summer, food grew right out of CWU’s backyard and was served on plates, fresh as a farm-to-table meal can be.

At Wildcat Neighborhood Farm, located on East Dean Nicholson Boulevard across from Student Village, loads of crops sprouted from the once-empty ground.

After starting its pilot season five months ago in May, the farm had an abundant summer harvest, from okra, carrots, beets and radishes to kale, cucumbers and squash and more.

Approximately 1000 pounds of produce were sent to CWU Dining Services and about 200 pounds more were donated to FISH Food Bank and Presidents United to Solve Hunger (PUSH) pantries.

On Sept. 27, the farm hosted a kick-off event to allow people to come and see its progress and find out how they can get involved.

Farm and Sustainability Manager Kate Doughty led a group of about a dozen people on a tour of the farm, showing them the high tunnels, the compost piles, the pumpkin and melon patches and the crop field.

“I was surprised at how well things grew, given that this land was totally empty before,” Doughty said. “It’s really cool to see the changes happen, sometimes it feels like you look at something and it’s just barely sprouting, and you look again and it’s growing.”

Attendees got to experience some hands-on farm work like shucking corn husks and cutting melons off the vines.

“[The farm] grew a ton of basil,” Ritchie said. “So we made huge batches of pesto, froze them and thawed it whenever we needed some.”

Ritchie said Dining Services will move in a more sustainable direction when providing single-use items like napkins and tableware.

“At Northside Commons, everything is served in compostable ware, same thing at Panda Express,” Ritchie said. “We’re moving into it, bit by bit.”

Doughty said that supporting local farms is also a way to help the environment.

“A lot of our food travels many miles, hundreds if not thousands of miles, to get to our plates and the emissions from that make a big impact,” she said. “Local food doesn’t have to travel as far to get to us, regardless of how it was produced.”

By next year, when the high tunnels are operating, Doughty said they will plant crops more intentionally so that Dining Services will be able to use them for fall and winter quarters.

To prep for the falling temperatures, she said they will get the field all cleaned up, get the summer crops out, and “hopefully the fall crops will survive the [frost].”

Doughty said there is still much to do to try to make large-scale composting happen and to prepare the yield for next summer.

To get involved, she said, “You can just show up, no experience necessary, just interest and enthusiasm and curiosity.”

Volunteer hours can be found on the website but Doughty said the best way to get updates is to follow the farm on Instagram or Facebook, in case volunteer hours get cancelled.

Madelyn Dickens, a student majoring in French and minoring in environmental studies who attended the kick-off event, said she plans to volunteer at the farm.

“In Spokane, I really liked working on farms during the summer and sustainable farms became a huge interest of mine,” Dickens said. “A lot of people don’t know about [the farm], but it needs volunteers, it needs help and it needs a community.”

Anyone with questions about the farm or sustainability on campus can contact Kate Doughty at katherine.doughty@cwu.edu.
After two years since its conception and the three months since its groundbreaking, Dugmore Hall has been finished. The new residence hall is now housing just over 400 students. This is, so far, the largest part of the north campus renovation and expansion project, which has also added new sports fields and a dining facility.

This is the first hall to be built since Barto Hall was opened in 2012. Dugmore comes with many new design choices that are the results of lessons learned during the construction and subsequent student experiences at Barto and Wendell Halls. According to one of Dugmore Hall’s two first-floor Residence Assistants Ronnie Burris, these lessons have so far led to a vibrant and strong community.

“Having lived in one of the newer buildings on campus and one of our Bassetti buildings, I would say it’s like the best of both worlds combined into one,” Burris said. “You still have that really strong, vibrant community where you can have everyone keeping their doors open and people are super willing to talk and hang out inside of the building.”

One of the design choices that was made to socially connect students more was to change the layout of bathrooms in the halls. In Barto Hall many students have rooms facing a bathroom corridor area, which Executive Director for Housing and Residence Life Tricia Rabel said made students feel isolated since students opened their doors to see a large blank wall. Bathrooms at Dugmore are at the ends of the hallways, and rooms face each other.

CWU Housing and Residence Life also received smaller points of feedback. For instance, the lights in Dugmore Hall are dimmable and the hallways have lots of large windows, making the space feel much more open. As a part of a campus-wide initiative, Dugmore Hall also has 22 gender-inclusive restrooms which are now included in every new building and have been added to many existing buildings.

“We know that it takes time, but every time we have an opportunity, we’re going to make sure our students feel comfortable where they live, and there’s been really positive student feedback,” Rabel said.

The location of Dugmore Hall on the north end of campus is one of its main advantages. Previously, the space was home to Peterson Hall which housed CWU’s ROTC programs as well as the Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute building, which housed five chimpanzees including Washoe, the first to learn American Sign Language.

Both buildings were demolished and the two currently-surviving chimpanzees are now at a sanctuary in Quebec, Canada, leaving the high-value location free for Dugmore to be built.

“Students like the location, they always rave about it,” Burris said. “It’s so close to the brand-new dining facility and the new Bistro that’s over there. It’s also close to Farrell Hall, the library, the Language and Literature building, and then there’s a lot of athletes that live in [Dugmore]. It’s in a prime location next to Nicholson Pavilion where all their games are. So, I think the location is perfect for a lot of students here.”

Rabel said that the students living in the hall are mostly freshmen, 320 of them, and the rest are returning students, totaling at 402. Originally it was designed to be a building entirely for first-year students but some returning students made specific requests to live in Dugmore. Whether they made that decision to be closer to their classes, to be in the new building or for the community, according to Rabel, their presence adds a sense of tradition and experience.

Dugmore Hall exists because two years ago, the CWU Board of Trustees saw a need for student housing as enrollment grew, as well as a need to eventually renovate many of the buildings that already existed, such as the Brooklane complex and Stevens-Whitney. Renovating often requires that large sections of buildings be shut down, and slack was needed so students didn’t end up being stranded. With Dugmore Hall now open, that slack is given.

“From a residential standpoint, we’re pretty happy with where we’re at right now,” Rabel said. “We want to balance both building new buildings with renovating. We’re trying to find the right blend of spreading our funds because our funds are students’ funds. We want to invest it back into the students’ space in the most resourceful way possible.”
Protect yourself from seasonal blues

Mary Park

It’s exciting to be on campus after summer break, meeting old and new friends and going to welcome events. But fall quarter can also bring another set of emotions for some people.

As we roll into shorter and overcast days, people may experience low energy, changes in appetite and sleeping patterns and social withdrawal.

The official term for this is called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and is more commonly known as the fall or winter blues.

Dr. Cindy Bruns, a psychologist and the training director at the Student Medical and Counseling Clinic (SMaCC), said fall and winter tend to be the busiest quarters for the clinic.

The SMaCC provides individual counseling, as well as group counseling and workshops that teach students on topics such as how to manage stress and how to help protect mood.

The SMaCC’s data reports that in fall 2018, 500 unique students were seen for 2,159 individual or group appointments. In winter 2019, 342 unique students were seen for 2,005 individual or group appointments.

And in spring 2019, 161 unique students were seen for 1,420 individual or group appointments, a significant drop from fall and winter.

Bruns explained that the numbers are smaller for spring partly because of shortened daylight can disrupt the body’s internal clock.

The brain produces too much melatonin, a sleep aiding hormone, causing drowsiness. Meanwhile, the body produces less serotonin, a neurotransmitter that helps regulate mood, leading to low energy.

Bruns said there are a number of helpful remedies to lessen the effects of SAD, like “[going] outside and getting exposure to natural light, exercising on a regular basis and having good nutrition, social support and not isolating [yourself].”

For family and friends who want to help loved ones experiencing SAD, Bruns suggests providing support and listening instead of turning to problem solving.

“[That] doesn’t mean that problem solving isn’t helpful,” Bruns said. “But sometimes listening first and then problem solving later feels more supportive.”

She also suggested inviting the person to participate in activities and to keep extending the invitation.

“Sometimes for people struggling with any kind of depression or mental health concerns, it can be hard to say ‘yes’ to the invitations,” Bruns said. “Sometimes, it’s tempting for friends or family members to encourage and think somebody’s not interested but keep extending the invitation, because you never know when somebody will be able to say ‘yes.’”

The SMaCC’s “Let’s Talk” program, which piloted in 2018, allows counselors to give regular drop-in consultations each week at several buildings on campus, including the Brooks Library and Nicholson Pavilion. A student can come by and talk to a counselor for five to 15 minutes about any concern, in a private and safe setting.

Crisis Support Services

Here are available crisis lines you can call if the counseling clinic is not open.

In a life-threatening emergency, please call 911.

Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health:
Ellensburg - (509) 925-4168
Cle Elum - (509) 674-2881
OR
Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Crisis Text Line: Text 741741 when in crisis. Available 24/7 in the USA. A live trained counselor will receive the text and respond quickly.

Service is free of charge. Cell phone plans with AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint or Verizon are free if texting to 741741.
Continued from Page 1

“Run. Hide. Fight.” CWU’s way

The protocol of “Run. Hide. Fight.” has been around for years. It’s a nationwide procedure that is followed by schools, workplaces and the FBI alike. CWU knew the protocol and giving us an informational video after an active shooter incident shows borderline carelessness. If CWU had made a video before we needed it, then perhaps the mass hysteria and social media rumor mill would not have taken over the event.

The gunman pulls a fire alarm to draw students out of their rooms. While this may be a possible ruse, it could be a dangerous statement for CWU to make and stand by.

When I saw the video I took it as CWU saying, “Hey there students, if you hear any fire alarms, please barricade yourself in your rooms and assume that you will be shot. There is no fire. It’s a gunman trying to kill you.”

By this time next year, we will need a “What to Do in a Fire Drill” video because if CWU was going to keep the fire alarm scene in, it would’ve been proactive to have a small blurb mentioning how frequent fire drills are or what to do in the event of a fire.

Other “Run. Hide. Fight.” videos have been made and can add perspective as to if CWU’s video holds up. Florida State University (FSU) and Northwestern University (NU) were both recently published in 2018.

The similarities between FSU and CWU’s video were uncanny. I would find it rather hard to believe that the maker(s) of CWU’s video did not draw some (or most) of their inspiration from FSU’s. The videos’ beginnings are nearly identical and watching them back to back or side by side is like a “spot the difference” challenge. Both videos begin with informative text, the chosen gunman in a car and the gunman entering a building before firing at students. Both active shooters pull fire alarms to lure students and are stopped by barricades. The police officers arrive and take down the threats by shooting and then handcuffing them.

The videos end with back and forth shots of what to do during and after a shooting while police officers and faculty educated the audience. One thing that gave CWU a leg up against FSU was the recap of what “Run. Hide. Fight.” means. It is not a bad thing that the videos were similar. Following a protocol like “Run. Hide. Fight.” would mean that similarities are bound to pop up. However, I believe that the video made for NU was better than both FSU and CWU’s.

NU’s video was almost completely different from the other two. The audience was shown how to effectively use the “Fight” in “Run. Hide. Fight.” The beginning started with information being given by professionals. NU also showed the shooter being suspicious, something that CWU neglected to do for the most part.

Videography

Which leads to another issue that I took with the CWU video was in the “See something, do something,” portion of the video. From 5 minutes, 46 seconds to 6 minutes, 13 seconds, the gunman is seen walking around while the voiceover prompts students and faculty to call the police. The problem with this portion of the video is that that is all he does. The gunman walks around campus, wearing all black, carrying a duffel bag.

There was no shuffling of the bag. No overly suspicious behavior. The actor portraying the active shooter was walking and that was the reason the students decided to call the police. He was not given the opportunity to be a bad guy during this part of the video.

The audience and actors know he is the bad guy, so he should be arrested without actually doing anything. This was a flaw in the script and/or the direct for the video, but it was an important one. Between the fire alarm and the duffel bag carrier this video’s directing causes more confusion and more hysteria than not having the video at all.

NU proved that just because the schools are following the same protocols does not mean we need to experience the same videos over and over again. If CWU used FSU’s video for reference, they should’ve used NU as well. NU’s video was more direct, the script was written better and “Run. Hide. Fight.” was better executed.

Resources

Overall, I appreciate the effort by CWU. However, it shouldn’t have taken seven months to make. For taking seven months, the video was unimpressive and a letdown.

For even more on CWU emergency information, check out CWU’s active shooter threat page.
Canon Racanelli: starting quarterback

Canon Racanelli has been chosen as the starting quarterback for the 2018-19 season. Racanelli was one of three potential quarterbacks who had to compete for the starting position in the offseason. The toss-up was between Christian Moore, Tai-John Mizutani and him.

The potential quarterbacks had big cleats to fill after the departure of the previous starter Reilly Hennessey. Hennessey set multiple CWU records for rushing yards by a quarterback and touchdowns scored by a quarterback in consecutive games, according to his bio on the Wildcat Sports website.

Head coach Chris Fisk said that Racanelli put in the work and performed well during spring ball. Fisk said the competition for starting quarterback is never a lopsided one if the athletes have been recruited well. Racanelli was able to stand out by being the most consistent and proving that he could make explosive plays.

Racanelli said one of the things that helped him improve and stand out to the coaches was the fact that he stayed local during the summer. He said he was able to get a job at Suncadia Resort and that allowed him to keep working with the team and to get more comfortable with the receivers.

"Honestly, we’re getting better every week. And obviously, we still have a lot to work on. But we can see in film that we’re really close. And we know that I personally have to get better. And I think a lot of it does come on if I do my job better," Racanelli said. "We probably win those first two games. It’s simple things that just need to get executed."

The Wildcats have finished their 3-game preseason with one win and two losses. Fisk said that while Racanelli still needs to work on his passing game, he has done a good job of managing the offense and running the ball. During CWU’s win over Western New Mexico University, Racanelli racked up 59 rushing yards, according to the Wildcat Sports website.

“His work rate in practice was outstanding,” Fisk said. "He’s been getting better every week, and he’s working hard to improve. He’s also a great leader on the field, which is something we really need in our quarterback.”

Racanelli said he was excited to be able to compete for the starting job and to show what he could do.

"I feel super grateful that I am playing and starting. So I’m just gonna do all I can to keep that up and let the team take care of itself. I think that the biggest thing is just do my job and not try and do too much,” Racanelli said.
Wildcat football has finished their preseason and have moved into the regular season with a 1-3 record. The Wildcats lost to NCAA Division I-FCS Idaho and number two ranked team Ferris State University in the first two games. They were able to secure their first win of the season against Western New Mexico University (WNMU) in their third game before falling to the Western Oregon University (WOU) Wolves.

Head coach Chris Fisk said the team is currently working hard to get to where they want to be. He said it’s taking more time than coaches and fans may like and that may be a result of the age of the team. Fisk said the starting offense is young, with a lot of freshmen and sophomores stepping onto the field on Saturdays. Fisk also said that while the starting defense is comprised of older players, their backups are mainly young guys.

During their first game against the University of Idaho’s Vandals, the Wildcats were slow to start and did not find the endzone until the second quarter, according to the Wildcat Sports website. Fortunately, the defense was able to keep the score low until the offense could find their stride and put some points on the board.

Starting quarterback Canon Racanelli said starting slow is an issue the offense has been trying to work on. He said they need to start bringing enthusiasm from start to finish each practice.

“We’ve been trying to fix that in practice. We need to make sure from play one we’re executing, executing, executing,” Racanelli said.

Fisk said one of the ways they have been working on starting faster is a “kickstarter” period at the beginning of practice. He said they start off practice by pitting the starting offense and starting defense against each other in a short-tempo team session.

“We work hard on it. It hasn’t happened for us yet but it’s something we work hard on. It’s not something we just need to work hard on it year-round,” Fisk said.

Another area of improvement for the offense is being able to score when they get into the redzone, according to Fisk. He said that in their third game versus WNMU, the offense found themselves in the red zone five times and were not able to convert and score a touchdown.

Fisk said the team is currently working on things like red zone offense and third-down efficiency to become more effective when it comes time to put points on the board.

“Offensively, we’re moving the heck out of the ball every game and moving up and down the field. I think we’re one of the top teams in the country or top in the GNAC in terms of yards per game,” Fisk said. “We just need to find some consistency when we get into the red zone.”

Running back Michael Roots said the offense has room for improvement. Despite this, Roots feels they have been playing fast and doing a good job of doing the little things right. Roots said even though they are going into the regular season with a losing record, he feels confident in their ability to rein in some wins in the upcoming weeks. From a defensive standpoint, the Wildcats need to improve their run defense, according to Fisk. Despite some trouble stopping runs, Fisk said the defense has come out strong in the first couple of games. Especially in the game against WNMU in which the defense was able to turn the ball over and cause the Mustangs to punt frequently.

Defensive safety Jeremiah Vasquez said he feels the defense is coming together well this season. He said that while there is still some learning to be done, the starters have been doing a good job of coming downhill fast.

“That’s what we try and do, we try to play with speed,” Vasquez said. “We try to use that to our advantage because if you look at us, we aren’t the biggest team in the world but we win with our athleticism.”

Vasquez said his top game so far has been against number two ranked Ferris State University (FSU). Although FSU took home the win with the final score being 62-28, Vasquez said going up against tough teams is important for the defense to grow.

“It’s a good experience. Going against the number two team in the nation. Having that feeling is something real. It shows us where we’re at and shows us where we can be,” Vasquez said.

The Wildcats will go into their fifth game of the season against West Texas A&M with a 1-3 record. 

Next up

Who: West Texas A&M
Where: Buffalo Stadium
When: October 5

Who: Azusa Pacific
Where: Tomlinson Stadium
When: October 12

Michael Roots is averaging five yards per rush. He has nearly 500 rushing yards in the 2019 season.
#FreshmenAdvice

Freshmen,

First and foremost, welcome! Take a deep breath. You've made it! As a senior who's been involved in student media for all but one quarter of my time at CWU, I strongly advise you to get involved with the university. Join a club, go to an event or attend student government meetings. Trust me, being involved will put you years ahead of those who don't. I've built connections through my work with The Observer, connections I wouldn't have ever been able to make without being on staff.

Go to class and do your homework, but remember to have fun. Every week I make a checklist on my phone of everything I need to accomplish each day. I always make sure one day a week I have no school work to do, so that I can focus on myself and get away from academic work. You should do the same.

Get to know your professors and advisors. While some may be harsher than others, they're here to help you succeed. Also, please keep track of your credits and requirements closely. You're not in high school anymore. If you don't ask for help, you're on your own.

Make memories. These years of your life will go by fast. It would suck to look back and have nothing to remember it all.

Good luck out there,
Mariah Valles
Online Editor

---

Wildcat Facts

12,300 About 12,300 students
135 More than 135 majors
125 More than 125 clubs, organizations and associations
20 Average class size of 20
17 17 residence halls
13 13 varsity athletic teams
5 5 apartment complexes

Want to see your art published in The Observer? Contact us to learn about the submission process.

Email: cwuobserver@gmail.com
Call: (509) 963-1073
Drop in: Lind 115, Mondays at 5 p.m.

---

Growing up in Idaho, Teagan always wanted to be an artist. However, it matured into a love for graphic design and digital illustration when she used Photoshop for the first time. Quickly, she found as many opportunities as she could to learn more. Teagan worked for the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho and the Idaho Falls Arts Council developing those skills preluding her move to Washington in September 2018.

Outside of working as a designer and comic, Teagan can be found climbing trees, adoring her family and friends, and running rampant in the woods. She also finds herself happily working as a barista part-time. Although the dream is ultimately being able to make a living by being a graphic design artist, she has admitted to being okay with being a barista indefinitely.

Teagan also loves finding ways to live sustainably. After college, Teagan hopes to ultimately go to graduate school abroad to study sustainable design. Until then, she is happily acting as the comic and graphic design artist of The Observer as she finishes her degree.