

ON AIR



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CRIME PODCASTS P.7**

THE LEDGER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA

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REMEMBER TO INCLUDE:

- First and last name
- "Dear Editor," as the opening of your piece
- Word count between 150 - 300 words
- Respond to one of our articles or happenings on campus

Huskies in the hallway:

COMPILED AND PHOTOS BY MADI WILLIAMS

What is your New Year's Resolution?



Ruby Nugent
Junior
Environmental Science

"Ride bike to school as [sic] when weather prohibits."



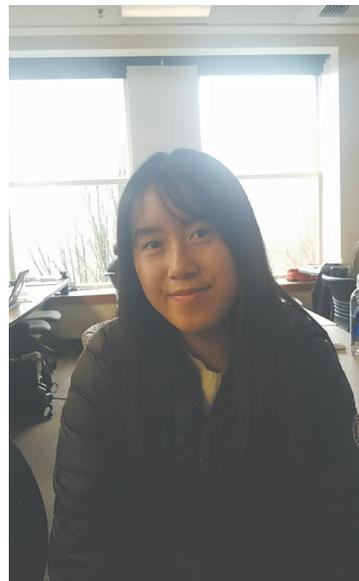
Zoey LeBeau
Senior
Creative Writing

"Try not to be such a perfectionist."



Navjoat Kaur
Senior
Psychology

"To not disappoint everyone in my life."



Mymy Nguyen
Senior
Psychology

"To take better care of my mental health and practice meditation."



Dr. Ellen Bayer
Faculty
School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

"Run at least 5K everyday."

The Ledger

UWT's weekly student publication
Jan 13, 2020 | Vol. 24, Issue 13

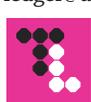
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Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-3:20 p.m.
Friday: 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

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An older piece of art finds its new home at UW Tacoma

“Yantra” sculpture now resides in south lobby of the Mattress Factory.

By MITCHELL FERMO
NEWS EDITOR

The Mattress Factory welcomes a new permanent art piece in its southern lobby. The piece, Yantra, was created by local artist Gerard “Gerry” Tsutakawa and donated to UW Tacoma by Dan and Pat Nelson. Yantra was unveiled to the UWT community during a ceremony on Jan. 7, hosted by the Office of Advancement. During the ceremony, Chancellor Mark Pagano explained that the sculpture will serve as the focal point for plans to turn the south lobby of the MAT into a study space for students.

“Facilities [Services] is going to be working with Mentha [Hynes-Wilson] and her team to put furniture around this space over the next quarter or so, so that students can have a place to sit where they can enjoy the serenity and the quiet here,” Pagano said. “And maybe even do some studying here.”

According to the artist, the meaning behind Yantra comes from Sanskrit meaning good luck or good fortune.

The Nelson family, represented by their daughter Lori Ann at the ceremony, are known for their philanthropy and patronage for the arts and higher education in the South Sound area. They wanted to move the sculpture, which

Tsutakawa originally created in 2001 for them, from their private space to the public eye.

“It is a pretty good size sculpture, but on a larger campus outdoors it kind of gets lost and it doesn’t hold itself in a very, very open space,” said Tsutakawa. “So, we were walking through here and I thought ‘wow, this might be a great place’ ... after about 15 minutes of hemming and hawing I thought ‘wow, maybe this will work’ ... I wanted a place that was intimate, but you could still get around it.”

“The power of formal sculptures is that the audience finds their own meaning,”

Pagano, Tsutakawa, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Mentha Hynes-Wilson, UWT Senior Lecturer and member of UWT’s campus art committee Tyler Budge and UWT student Paola Chua all helped pull the cover off of the piece to officially reveal it to the community.

“The power of formal sculptures is that the audience finds their own meaning,” said Budge. “I’m excited to bring my students here.”

Tsutakawa is the son of George

Tsutakawa, who worked as a professor at the UW art school for over 30 years and was known for his fountain designs. The younger Tsutakawa got his start apprenticing in his father’s workshop. In 1979, he created his first piece of public art. Tsutakawa would then go on to create numerous other works of art, including MITT in 1999 for the newly constructed Safeco Field in Seattle.

In 2014, Tsutakawa created Maru, which can be found at the northern end of the Prairie Line Trail on campus. The piece was made in honor of the Japanese Language School which was demolished in 2004.

For Tsutakawa, having Yantra find a new home here at UWT means that it will not be sitting in his workshop where he thought it would end up after the Nelsons discussed removing it from their property.

“It’s been outdoors for 19 years,” Tsutakawa said. “So, you get the weather, the birds — you get a lot of those things. It’s good that [it] is in [a] protected space now. It’ll do well inside.”



PHOTOS BY NICKOLUS PATRASZEWSKI
Tsutakawa unveils a new sculpture on the ground floor of the Mattress Factory while students, faculty, and people from the public watch and listen to the statues purpose for the space and how it will serve the campus.

Recognizing faculty partnerships with community

The Distinguished Community Engagement Award is given annually to UWT’s faculty who have shown tremendous efforts in producing work that benefits public communities.

By LAUREN ZENT
NEWS REPORTER

Each year, UW Tacoma examines faculty members to identify up to three individuals who have taken significant strides to provide innovative community-based work and recognize them with the Distinguished Community Engagement Award.

A variety of criteria are considered for the recipients of this award. An applicant’s work may be long term or short term with a single or multiple partners on various subjects. However, the actions must have taken place in the last three years, and an ethical mutual benefit is expected in such work between the public community and the university’s community.

2020 marks the seventh year presenting the award. The application and nomination process for this year’s recipient is currently underway. Students, staff and faculty can nominate who they deem to have merit. Self-nominations are also accepted. The deadline for submissions for this year’s award is Jan. 17.

In 2019, there were two recipients of the award: Dr. Michelle Montgomery and Dr. Turan Kayaoglu.

Montgomery was recognized for their strides in building relationships between multiple sectors and geographies. They are committed towards increasing collective knowledge of histories, cultures and political struggles of indigenous populations.

“Being a brown, Indigenous woman ... educator and scholar that navigates the institutional racialized realities of power and privilege with over twenty years of experience ... I was truly grateful and astounded to be acknowledged as a valued Indigenous faculty member of urban serving community,” Montgomery said.

Montgomery is an enrolled member of the Haliwa Saponi and descendant of Eastern Band Cherokee. Their successes include collaborations with Tribal Colleges and Universities, Indigenous pedagogy through the lens of Eco-Critical Race Theory. They are the advisor for the Indigenous Climate Change Work group and committee member for Rising Voices of Indigenous People in Climate Science, providing a indigenous, multi generation decolonized platform to share resources that interconnects our identities to nature.

“As a Critical Race Theorist, race is

seen as a social construction, but it is also understood to have very real effects that are cultural, psychological, and material,” Montgomery said. “Hence,

it is important to focus on curriculum, community partnerships and pedagogy. If an urban serving university wishes to meet the needs of a diverse body of students and communities, then such populations should have positive, empowering experiences in their classes and transparent, ethical partnerships.”

Kayaoglu’s engagement with the community primarily focuses on bringing understanding and awareness to global issues as well. They are dedicated to promoting tolerance, creating support and dialogue for Muslim communities that is both inter-faith and inter-cultural.

Kayaoglu collaborated with Tacoma’s Muslim community to bring speakers to class. They are a faculty adviser for the UWT’s Muslim Student Association and was vice president of World Affairs’ Conciel for many years. Under his term with WAC, he provided quarterly World Classroom events. They also writes articles challenging American Muslims to combat anti-semitism in their community.

“After accepting my position at

UW Tacoma in 2005, I immediately engaged in building a stronger, Muslim community on campus and beyond,” said Kayaoglu. “I stepped up as a Muslim partner in Tacoma’s inter-faith coalition in order to advance religious freedom and tolerance in the South Sound.”

Kayaoglu also worked besides the Associated Ministries of Pierce County, the University of Puget Sound, and the

Pacifica Institute to establish Tacoma’s first interfaith iftar. Iftar is known as the dinner after sunset that breaks the fast during the first month of Ramadan.

“As a catalyst for building community and connecting individuals and institutions in

lasting interfaith coalitions, I know that these gatherings will continue to impact the greater Tacoma community for years to come,” said Kayaoglu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE UWT WEBSITE
Dr. Michelle Montgomery (left) and Dr. Turan Kayaoglu (right) are the recipients of 2019’s Distinguished Community Engagement Awards.



YOU BELONG HERE

Upcoming Events and Activities UNIVERSITY Y STUDENT CENTER

WINTER INTRAMURALS

Winter Intramurals are about to begin and are free for students!

- o Head to the University Y to participate and check out what we are offering or contact us at 253-534-4732.

ADULT ART CLASSES

New adult arts classes now available at University Y! Perfect for singles, friends, and couples, these classes are the perfect antidote to the winter blues. Sign up for one, or ALL of the sessions below:

- o Beginner Hip Hop Dance
- o Beginner Salsa Dance
- o Beginner Modern Dance
- o Visual Art Making
- o Short Form Writing
- o Intermediate Modern Dance

FREE GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

- o Classes happening every day from Boot Camp to Yoga
- o Check out the new Functional Space on the 3rd floor!
- o Weight Loss Program - 12 week small group meeting 12:30-1:30pm Fridays starting February 7

FREQUENT Y'ER CARD

Get rewarded for simply visiting the University Y Student Center! If you visit 12 times in one month, you will be entered into an drawing for a monthly prize. Two winners are picked each month.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES...

MLK DAY BREAKFAST

On January 20, the Y will host the annual MLK Day Breakfast. Our track will be closed for the event from 6am-12pm.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- Programs and fitness classes at the University Y Student Center are FREE to all students
- Child Watch is available at the University Y while you're using the facility
- State-of-the-art facility and equipment

BRING A FRIEND!



Ways to deal with the hardest season in Washington

A round-up of tips to help you cope with the dreary weather.

By MEGHAN RAND
OPINION EDITOR

The season that seems to drag on endlessly in Washington: winter. Where some states face days of snow or clear skies with bitter cold, the weather in Washington maintains a three-month long cover of clouds. The sun

goes down early, comes up late, and in between when you would normally want a bit of sunshine, Washington instead gifts us more darkness in the form of suffocating overcast. So, essentially we rotate between pitch-black darkness with no moonlight and dim gray light flooding everything for three months straight.

Some people don't mind the dreary

weather, but for those that struggle with it, winter can seem like an endless dark tunnel with no light at the end. Personally, the weather bothers me during this time of year, so here are several habits that help me during the down days to make the season more bearable.

BLOCK OUT THE BAD WEATHER

A lot of people support the idea of keeping the blinds open all the time while you're indoors to allow natural light to come in, especially during the winter. However, I've found this to be unhelpful to me. Instead, I keep the blinds closed when the weather outside makes me feel down. This way, I'm not seeing it as a reminder and it can't influence my mood as easily. Then, I'll keep my surroundings well-lit with warm lights. I use lamps during the day, and at night, candles and string lights help to wind down.

UTILIZE WARM, SUNNY BACKGROUNDS ON YOUR PHONE AND COMPUTER

Something that always helps me is making my backgrounds look like a bright sunny sky in one way or another. My favorite thing to do is use a picture I took during warm weather, such as at the beach. Since I spend so much time on my electronic devices, I find that the sunny picture mimics the idea of looking out a window, even

if it doesn't replace it fully.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR HEALTH

I'm including all of the generic healthy living things under this category. Make sure you're getting a little bit of exercise every day, you're drinking plenty of water, avoiding unhealthy habits, and eating nourishing foods — and having enough to eat, too. It's difficult to be mentally healthy when your physical foundation is shaky. Just make sure to pay your health a bit of extra mind during harder times. If nothing else, drink extra water and make sure you're staying warm, too.

TRY TO GET A CHANGE OF SCENERY

The best case scenario here would be to fly somewhere warm and sunny for a little while. However, this hiatus is likely not possible for many people, due to time or financial restraints. Even so, taking a day trip to somewhere nearby like the ocean, or even driving to a new area and exploring can be helpful. Breaking up your routine is very helpful in getting yourself out of a slump.

DON'T STOP YOUR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

If you enjoy getting outside when the weather is nice, chances are your mood would be lifted if you had the opportunity to do so, even with gloomy weather. Some hikes are that much more magical in the rain. Don't be intimidated by the weather — bundle up in

some extra layers and grab your bike, or hit the trails if that's something you enjoy. There are many hobbies that can only be enjoyed in opportune weather, but removing something you love out of your lifestyle for a long period of time is sure to put anyone in a slump.

TRY TO EMBRACE THE SEASON

Whether it's snowing or raining, every season has unique merits that make it special. For example, winter is the perfect time to enjoy all of your favorite hot drinks, load up on ramen, and wear outfits that would make you sweat during any other time of the year. Also, winter quarter is the one with the highest likelihood of days off from class, between holidays and cancellations due to weather.

These tips will help to make you more comfortable during a rough time of the year, but it's also important to know when it may be something more serious. There are legitimate medical diagnoses for people that suffer an abnormal amount. If this time of year is unbearable, do not hesitate to reach out for additional help. UWT offers counseling services, so if it becomes necessary, do not hesitate to reach out to the resources like these that are at your disposal.

There is light at the end of the tunnel — spring starts only about two months from now on March 19.



Reading fiction can help improve creativity

Fiction transports us to a new time and place and can improve cognitive function.

By NICOLAS LUNA
OPINION COLUMNIST

As students, we are forced to read numerous academic papers, textbook chapters, novels, etc. that we normally would not even think to recreationally. Seventeen years of this can taint the experience of reading, and can cause you to form a prejudice against any book you could potentially enjoy.

But reading due to interest rather than being forced to do so is much more useful than one would think. In particular, reading fiction can increase brain function. Despite this, a Pew survey discovered that 42 percent of college graduates never read a book again after graduation. Paired with an increasing level of technological integration in the world we live in, this number is sure to continue to grow.

According to Psychology today, the area in the brain that is affected by reading and learning from a novel is the left temporal cortex. This area is associated with language and embodied cognition. An example of embodied cognition would be visualizing yourself playing a sport, such as football or basketball, which can potentially activate neurons

in this area of the brain that is associated with the physical act of playing those sports.

"Despite learning potentially important lessons about the world through the author's eyes, it is a literal mental escape and allows those who read it to dive into another world."

Neuroscientist Gregory S. Berns had said in regard to a study he led on the subject that, "the neural changes that we found associated with physical sensation and movement systems suggest that reading a novel can transport you into the body of the protagonist." This is essentially the main function of reading fiction. Despite learning potentially important lessons about the world through the author's eyes, it is a literal mental escape and allows those who read it to dive into another world.

I first found myself experiencing embodied cognition while reading "The

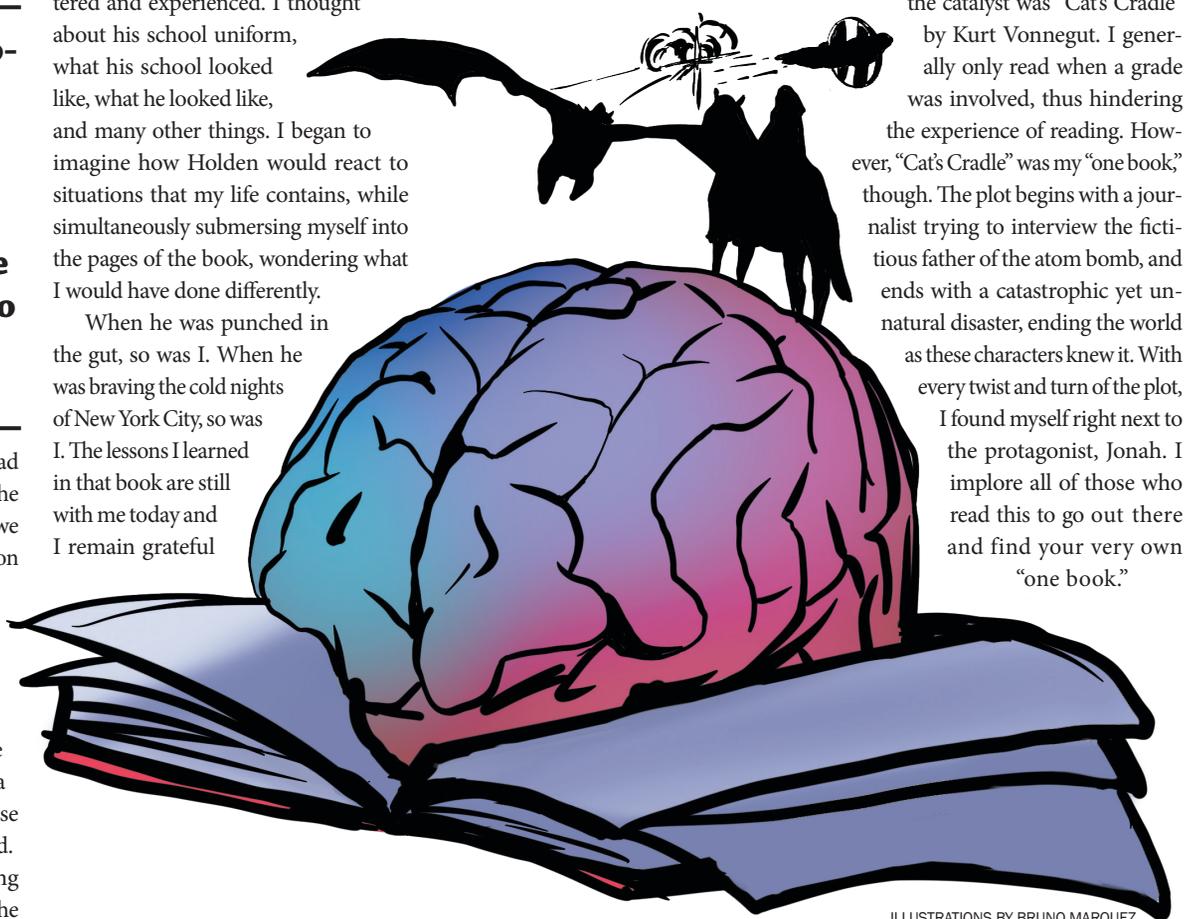
Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger. I began to imagine every detail that Holden Caulfield, the protagonist, encountered and experienced. I thought about his school uniform, what his school looked like, what he looked like, and many other things. I began to imagine how Holden would react to situations that my life contains, while simultaneously submersing myself into the pages of the book, wondering what I would have done differently.

When he was punched in the gut, so was I. When he was braving the cold nights of New York City, so was I. The lessons I learned in that book are still with me today and I remain grateful

for the perspective they have given me. All it takes is one book to change the way you think about things and to fuel your

creative brain.

While I speak highly of "The Catcher in the Rye," the one book I consider the catalyst was "Cat's Cradle" by Kurt Vonnegut. I generally only read when a grade was involved, thus hindering the experience of reading. However, "Cat's Cradle" was my "one book," though. The plot begins with a journalist trying to interview the fictitious father of the atom bomb, and ends with a catastrophic yet unnatural disaster, ending the world as these characters knew it. With every twist and turn of the plot, I found myself right next to the protagonist, Jonah. I implore all of those who read this to go out there and find your very own "one book."



Opinion: The essentials to self-love

We all need daily reminders on how important we actually are to not only others but ourselves.

By **BENGISU CICEK**
OPINION COLUMNIST

You are the best person for you. In life, we are naturally dependent on other things for happiness, such as people, materialistic objects, our paycheck, etc. It is important to note that no matter how happy we feel with these things, the ultimate happiness we can seek is only from ourselves.

We are often so caught up in worldly matters, whether it be work, school, being active in organizations and campus clubs, taking care of others, relationships, our families. Although these are a big part of our lives, we need to step back more often and see how we are doing, how we are holding up, and to ask ourselves, “did I take care of myself today?”

The number one thing we need to make sure of is whether or not we have a lot on our plate. If so, we need to rearrange our priorities and make sure self-care is the first on the list. If this means taking several days off of work, school and outings, do it. Nothing is more important than your well-being. If you want

to be the best you, you have to be a healthy you. There is only one of you on this earth, take care of yourself.

If you ever feel anything that is bothering you within your life, be sure to identify those things maturely. See whether or not those things are a barrier to you, or whether it adds positivity or negativity to your life. This is your life, and you only live it once, so don't waste your valuable time on things that degrade you.

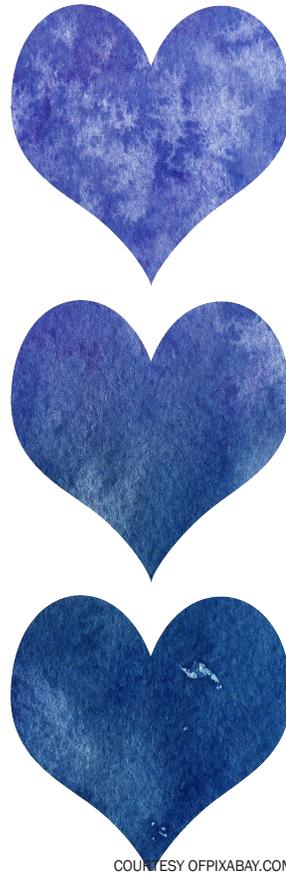
Electronics are a big part of our lives. Even if we don't like to admit it, we spend more time in front of a screen than we should. Estimate the amount of time you spend on your laptop or phone, and replace it with other activities, such as going for a hike, taking a walk, practicing some yoga, or reading a good book — anything that will add to your time and not take away from it.

If you spend a lot of time studying or working late at night, you may want to reevaluate. Instead, take a look at your schedule and see if there is an earlier time you can shift that too. Focus your nights on reading, cooking, exercising, de-

stressing, and most importantly, sleeping. We all need that eight hours.

Taking time off of work and school does not mean we are missing out on anything. It means that we truly care about ourselves and want us to be at our best, this shows that we are able to prioritize ourselves. Your health should be the most important thing to you, and if it means taking a day off for yourself from outings and such, then do it.

Doing so, you will be a better and healthier version of yourself. You will be able to assess your relationships, priorities, work, and school in a non-stressful way, allowing your body, mind and soul to be at constant peace.



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**SELF
CARE
IS THE
BEST
CARE**

Local talent shines at Honey café

Honey café hosts their open mic nights on the first and third Thursdays of every month.

By **TALIA COLLETT**
A&E EDITOR

Located inside Alma Mater in downtown Tacoma, Honey café offers open mic nights on the third Thursday of every month with the recent addition of the first Thursdays as well. Katya Smith, the host of the evening on January 2, left the open mic feeling impressed. “[I’m] always impressed by the immense amount of talent these nights bring,” Smith said. While this mic night, in particular, consisted primarily of musical acts, Katya noted that performances often range from musicians to comedians and poets to magicians. “[I was] transported to another time and place far away but always filled with good vibes,” Smith said.

Between 7–9 p.m., veterans and first-timers alike brought their talents to the stage to ensure a night of expression among individuals. With a total of nine acts between the two hours — eight of which were musically centered and one being poetry — the night offered a diverse group of artists.

The first performance of the night was by Nick Jarmon, a jazz musician since 2015 who has played at a Honey open mic once or twice before. After his set was complete, he mentioned to The Ledger that at the start of his musical career, he would seek out open mics across town.

“I would find any open mics I could

and tried to go and play about two to three times a week,” Jarmon said. When inquired about the reasoning attributed to why he plays, Nick expressed, “It’s like when you listen to an old record and you get this feeling. This feeling of joy and happiness, a sense of being alive. That’s the feeling I want to convey and pass onto my audience.”

Another café-goer of the evening, Kimberly Charchenko — who works and performs at Honey regularly — gifted patrons with a beautiful singing voice accompanied by an acoustic guitar that presented a genre that could be vaguely identified as a mixture of old country and bluegrass with soulful tendencies. Kimberly explained that having a platform available allows her to share music with others.

“A group of my best friends and I actually all met at another café that has sadly been shut down, since then we’ve all migrated over to Honey,” Charchenko said. “To be able to watch this new community of friends and artists grow and thrive is something I feel very lucky to witness and be a part of.” As the night commenced, this sense of community became apparent to everyone included.

The final person to speak with The Ledger was the stand-alone poet of the evening, Tzil Sandoval. Sandoval has been writing poetry for 10 years and reading aloud for others to hear for about five. “No matter where I am or

what I’m reading I’m still nervous every time I step foot on that stage,” Sandoval said. While poetry can mean a lot of things Sandoval says, for her, it’s, “[Simply put] a part of who I am and what I stand for. It’s a different form of art, you know? It allows me to express my inner thoughts and feelings in an intense and crafted auditorial way.”

All in all, the community that Honey presents is both warm and welcoming. Whether you’re an artist, a performer, an onlooker, supporter, or just a mere patron of the café looking for a bite to eat and something to drink, don’t miss out on the open mic nights and the ability to connect with your neighbors in an open environment.



PHOTOS BY TALIA COLLETT

Honey café hosts their open mic nights on the first and third Thursdays of every month.



Crime podcasts to add to your playlist

Podcasts are a great way to get your daily true crime on.

By MADI WILLIAMS
A&E COLUMNIST

After a long break for the holidays and some desperately needed personal space, listening to true crime podcasts is sure to revamp your alone time. If you ran out of your favorite fear not: here's a list of 20 true crime podcasts that were popular in 2019 coming your way. Many of these podcasts can be found in podcast apps or websites that publish the specific podcast.

JENSEN & HOLES: THE MURDER SQUAD

This podcast is hosted by two retired cold case investigators who discuss unsolved cases and try to solve them while bringing the listener along with them. The hosts take this podcast a step further by urging their listeners to participate by helping them solve the cases through submitting tips to them, and therefore becoming members of the Murder Squad as well.

ROOT OF EVIL

Hosted by Yvette Gentile and Rasha Pecoraro, this podcast is about The Hodel Family and the Black Dahlia — or in other words the murder of Elizabeth Short, also known as 'Black Dahlia,' in 1947. 70 years after one of America's most infamous unsolved murders, new evidence has come to light that could implicate Dr. George Hodel. This podcast presents this new evidence and provides never before heard audio and interviews with the Hodel family. Whether it be good or bad, the history surrounding this case is being told in the fullest way possible.

UP AND VANISHED

"Up and Vanished" is hosted by Payne Lindsey and tells the stories of unsolved missing persons cases. Payne reviews old leads and obtains new ones through interviewing people who are close to the case and/or the people within the town of where the victim vanished. The most recent story is about Tara Faye who went missing on October 22, 2005 from Ocilla, Georgia.

TO LIVE AND DIE IN LA

Hosted by Neil Strauss, this podcast tells the story about the 2018 disappearance of 25 year old Adea Shabani. With dreams of becoming an actress, Shabani mysteriously disappeared in front of her apartment — ironically located adjacent to the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

CRIME JUNKIE

Hosted by Ashly Flowers and co-host Brit Prawat comes a true crime podcast that explores big and small town cases around the US. Not only does this podcast discuss murders, but it also covers missing people and unsolved cases as well.

OVER MY DEAD BODY

Robert Moor tells the story about Joe "Exotic" Shreibvogel, a man who loves animals and works at the Oklahoma Zoo with a love for cats, big and small. Over the years Joe has made some enemies, particularly the owner of the biggest big cat sanctuary in Florida. Things get heated between the two men and flames are thrown.

DR. DEATH

In this podcast, Laura Beil tells the story of Dr. Christopher Duntch; a neurosurgeon who claimed he was the best in Dallas, despite having bad outcome after bad outcome. That is, until someone brings out the truth regarding what really happens behind the mask.

ATLANTA MONSTER

Hosted by Payne Lindsey, this podcast looks back at the murders of 25 children between the years of 1979–81 in Atlanta, Georgia.

MY FAVORITE MURDER

This is a true crime comedy podcast hosted by Karen Kilgariff and Georgia Hardstark. Like many of the other podcasts, they cover a wide range of cases from small town to very well known murders, while also including survivor stories and historical events. Along with their normal podcast they also do minisodes, which are stories that listeners send in. Not only this, but they have also done other topics including paranormal, hidden objects, family secrets, first responder stories, or topics

that the host has requested.

COLD

Hosted by Dave Cawley, "Cold" is a podcast that follows a case that most Washingtonians will know about, or really anyone who was in Washington State in February of 2012 — the missing case of Susan Powell. While the case happened in Utah, it also had a prominent history in Washington due to her husband's family affiliation.

DIRTY JOHN

Christopher Goffard tells the story of John Meehan — your typical heartthrob that checks everyone's boxes with both his personality and good looks. What could be better than a man who just got back from a year in Iraq with the international humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders? Well, Debra Newell was dating John when things switched from happy couple into getting entangled in an increasingly complex web of love, deception, forgiveness, denial, and ultimately survival. It all started when Debra's family didn't approve of John.

CASEFILE

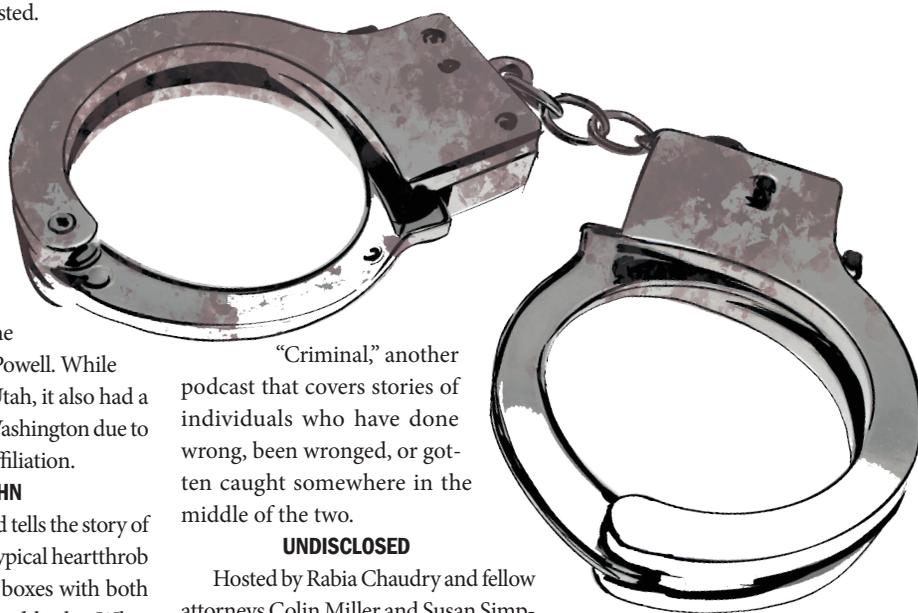
Hosted by Dean Laffan this podcast deals with unsolved or cold cases that are often related to well known murders or serial crimes.

IN THE DARK

Here, the host Madeleine Baran produces a podcast with two seasons about two separate crimes. Season one is about the abduction of Jacob Wetterling that has had no answers for 27 years. This crime led to the creation of the nation's sex-offender registries and crime solving accountability within departments. Season two is about Curtis Flowers, a man that has been tried six times for the same crime and for the past 20 years and has maintained his innocence despite these trials.

CRIMINAL

While they only upload new episodes twice per month, Phoebe Judge hosts



"Criminal," another podcast that covers stories of individuals who have done wrong, been wronged, or gotten caught somewhere in the middle of the two.

UNDISCLOSED

Hosted by Rabia Chaudry and fellow attorneys Colin Miller and Susan Simpson, this podcast is about people who have been wrongly convicted of crimes. The three hosts dig into the investigation and trial while also following the wrongly convicted person and their journey through the system.

SOMEONE KNOWS SOMETHING

Hosted by David Ridgen this podcast has a whopping five seasons. Ranging from seasons about missing persons cases to others concerning murders that have yet to be solved, "Someone Knows Something" brings each episode to life.

SERIAL

Sarah Koenig generates a true crime podcast that has three seasons, each about a specific case. Season one is about Hae Min Lee who went missing her senior year in Baltimore 1999. Season two is about Bowe Bergdahl and the Black Hawk helicopter that went down in May of 2014. During season three, the host decides to look at ordinary cases and at the criminal justice system as a whole in Cleveland.

S-TOWN

Brain Reed tells the story of John who doesn't like his hometown in Alabama and decided to do something about it. One day, he asked an investigator to investigate the son of a wealthy person who continues to declare he committed a murder. Shortly there-

after, another person is murdered and secrets surrounding one man's life becomes unraveled.

AMERICAN SCANDAL

Hosted by Lindsay Graham, this podcast covers a range of high profile scandals that have been associated with large businesses or celebrities and discuss how they thought they'd be able to get away with them.

UNSOLVED MURDERS

Hosted by Roy Carter and Wennedy Mackenzie, this podcast offers twists and turns of 'whodunits' regarding several unsolved cases. Some of the cases being about Jack the Ripper, The Oakland County Child Murder, The Zodiac Killer, Jeffery Dahmer, Edgar Allen Poe, and The Phantom Killer.





PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES

Andrea Riseborough plays detective Muldoon in "The Grudge." Soon she'll have a grudge against her agent.

'The Grudge' returns...and it's not pretty

Latest horror remake falls short on horror.

By **ANDREW BROWN**
FILM CRITIC

After an 11 year hiatus, "The Grudge" is back in cinemas, and after viewing this pointless remake, you'll wish it stayed that way. This new version has the dubious honor of being the second time the story has been remade, yet it seems that no improvement has been accomplished in that time.

The plot concerns a Japanese curse — for some reason known as "the grudge" — that stems from a terrible murder in Japan. The victims' ghosts then haunt those who visit the site of the murder which causes them to convulsively kill those close to them. Conveniently, the curse also follows these people to their own homes, which is how it shows up in a small Pennsylvania town. After an American housekeeper returns from living abroad

several mysterious murders ensue, and newcomer cop Muldoon starts digging into the case.

Anyone familiar with the yearly movie schedule knows that January and February take the notorious distinction as the 'dump months.' This is when major studios release almost exclusively the worst films they have in their pipeline in the hopes that by the end of the year cinema audiences will have forgotten about them. Well, they've done a bang-up job with this latest cinematic dud. Does it bode well for these new 'roaring twenties' that the first film I saw in the decade might very well turn out to be the worst?

"The Grudge" began life as a Japanese horror film called "Ju-on," and was later remade in English starring Sarah Michelle Gellar. It was an enormous success, raking in a healthy \$187 million, and spawning two sequels. Therefore, it's safe to say that

its reputation and name recognition are the only reasons this latest film in the franchise exists because it certainly wasn't made to tell an interesting story.

The concept of a curse following every individual within a certain household has been done more successfully in other horror films with better writing, unlike this script, which is stretched thin like a fat man's pants desperate to make something out of it. Writer/director Nicolas Pesce — who had the ego to end the film with two separate title cards crediting himself — is no newcomer to the horror genre, which makes it that much less impressive how blah the script is. He clearly knows how to direct a horror film, with a decent sense of atmosphere and solid lighting by cinematographer Zachary Galler.

With this being said, the promising ambiance is shattered due to the over-

reliance on jump scares. This involves long periods of time consisting solely of characters wandering through the environment, in supposedly tense silence, followed by some ghost popping out and screaming at the camera. It is the refuge of lazy filmmakers and consists of no substance, just like the rest of the movie.

With grindingly slow pacing, an ill-defined curse, generic characterization and a pointless R rating, "The Grudge" (2020) kicks off the new year very poorly indeed. It has some commendable performances and a competent crew behind the camera to say the least, but the bare-bones script leaves far too much emptiness for the film to be compelling. Anyone who sees this will not remember it within the span of a few days. The audience I watched it with, who spent most of the screening laughing, should indicate how poor the movie was in successfully generat-

REVIEW

"The Grudge"

★★★★★

The Good:

- Decent atmosphere.
- Good acting.
- Well done makeup effects.

The Bad:

- Derivative.
- Poor pacing.
- Dull story.

ing cinematic scares and inducing a sense of horror.

SPORT REPORT

Husky basketball faces struggles to begin year

By Brooks Moeller



While the Husky basketball season is in full swing after wrapping up their first two weeks of conference play, they still have a lot to prove on the court. The team came into the year with high expectations but has

yet to show the consistency needed to legitimately contend for a second straight conference title and a national championship. Facing a very difficult stretch in their upcoming schedule, the Huskies will provide insight as to what fans can expect from the

team moving forward this season.

The Huskies opened the season with a promising win against Baylor, who at the time was ranked as the 16th best team in the nation and have since climbed their way up to 10th. After bringing in the 11th best-recruiting class in the county, this win elevated their standings and guaranteed high expectations.

Their next challenge stemmed from SEC powerhouse Tennessee. Coming off a season where they advanced all the way to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament, the team was held in high regard and presented a considerable challenge. It appeared that one of the team's main issues was handling the ball; they finished the game with 17 turnovers while only shooting 40 percent in field goal attempts. Moreover, this game proved that the Huskies still have a large number of flaws to work on in order to compete with the best after losing 75-62.

The next five games came from lower-level opponents and finalized the Huskies' record to seven wins and only one loss going into one of, if not, the

biggest games of the year with cross-state rival Gonzaga. Gonzaga has dominated the series as of late and continues the trend this year beating the Huskies 83-76 in Seattle. UW kept within striking distance for the entirety of the game but were ultimately unable to slow down Gonzaga's offensive attack. While UW head coach Mike Hopkins appeared positive after the loss, it was apparent he knew his team had areas to work on.

"No question, there are a lot of positives. I thought, for the most part, we obviously fought and our biggest thing was to leave it all out there," said Hopkins in his postgame press conference. "I felt like in the first half when you play in a big game we got a little bit anxious. We had 12 turnovers in the first half that lead to some baskets and we talked about the two biggest keys were defensive rebounding and turning it over."

Finishing the nonconference schedule with a record of 10-3, the Huskies looked to solidify themselves in the top tier of the Pac 12 opening with home games against USC and UCLA. However,

UCLA had other plans as the Bruins stunned UW 66-64 in one of the ugliest games this season.

With the team struggling to score all season, it didn't help that the Huskies' second-leading scorer and member of the top five recruiting class, Jaden McDaniels, fouled out with seventeen minutes left in the second half. In turn, this placed all eyes on Isaiah Stewart, who has proven to be one of the top players in the entire country, to lead the Husky offense. Stewart finished the game with 24 points and 11 rebounds, but it still wasn't enough to overcome an 11 point halftime deficit.

"We have so much talent, we just have to put this together," Stewart said as he was the only Husky to answer questions from the media following the game. "Let's see how we respond. We've had great home crowds, great intensity. We all have to do the right thing. It's all I can keep harping on."

They now turn their attention to Oregon and Oregon State this upcoming week where a win over top-ranked Oregon will be beneficial in strengthening their NCAA tournament chances.