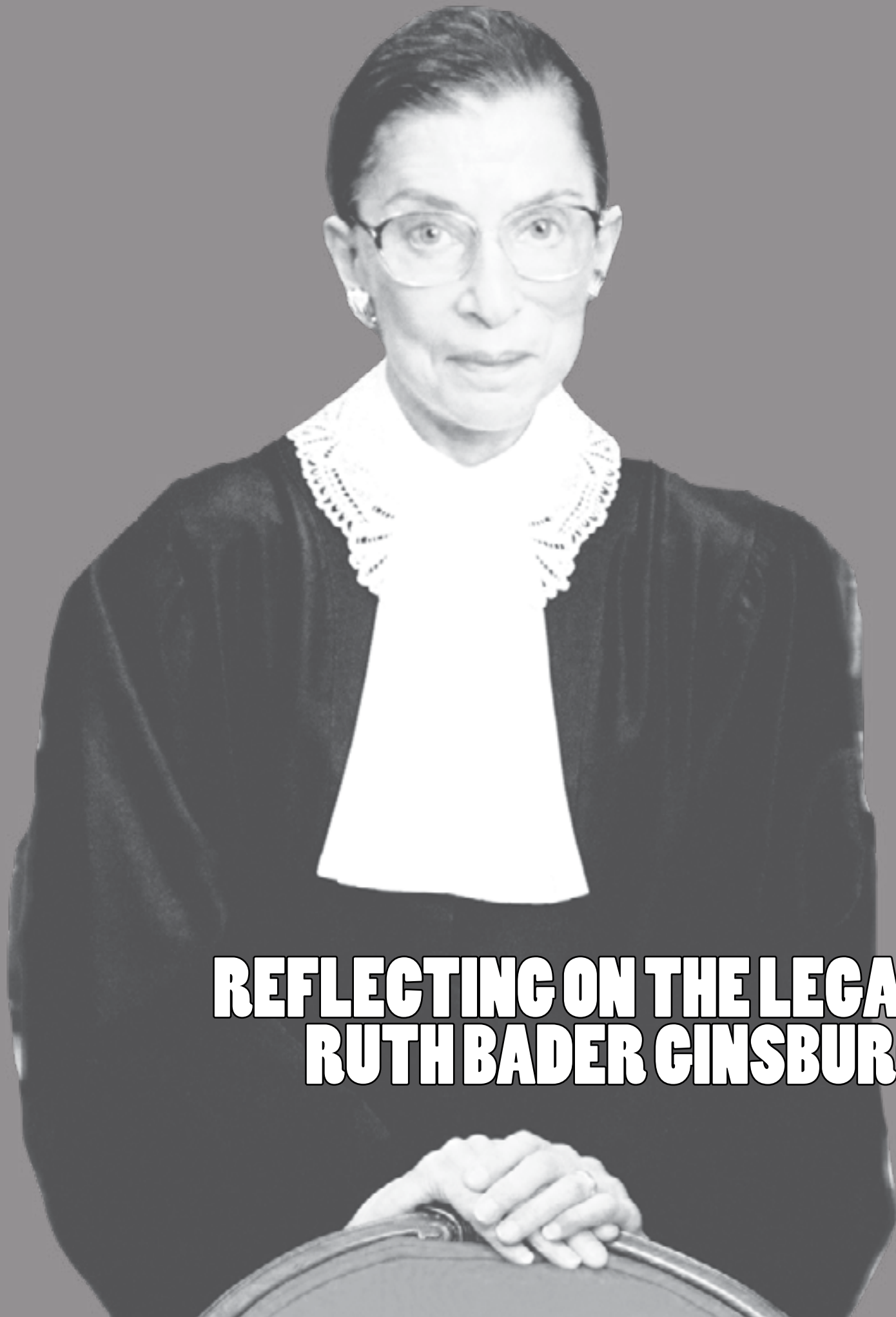


# THE LEDGER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA



**REFLECTING ON THE LEGACY OF  
RUTH BADER GINSBURG P.5**





Chancellor Mark Pagano and his team of vice-chancellors discussed several updates about the campus in preparation for the new school year in their latest virtual town hall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UW TACOMA EXTENDED

## Talking with the chancellor: UW Tacoma as a beacon of hope

Chancellor Pagano discusses UWT's role as a center for the community.

By MITCHELL FERMO  
NEWS SECTION EDITOR

While most students, staff and faculty will continue to work and study remotely due to COVID-19 regulations, several aspects of the UW Tacoma campus are continuing to change and expand upon its role as the anchor for the downtown district of Tacoma. Chancellor Mark Pagano, now entering his fifth year as chancellor of UWT, stated that UWT remains a beacon of hope and community for both the members of UWT and the Tacoma area.

"I don't want to be so bold to say we are the most integral part, but we are a major part," Pagano said. "We are a key entity in helping the community rebound. We want to rebound to COVID-19 ... we are a major [part]."

On the side of the members of the UWT community, Pagano pointed out

several new changes that have been made for fall quarter to better promote education and help ensure student success. This includes opening certain spaces around campus up for study use, complete with proper social distancing safety guidelines, sanitary stations, the ability to reserve study stations and the hiring of student employees to act as safety monitors of the spaces.

For students needing access to WiFi but wanting to still remain separated from others, UWT is expanding their WiFi network in the Cragle parking lot to allow students to work in the security of their car on their laptops. Students using the WiFi in this way will not have to pay for parking, but the regular rate for parking and attending class or using the study spaces still applies.

As for the campus engaging with the greater downtown Tacoma community and the South Sound com-

munity, Pagano stated that UWT is an "anchor institution" to the area, and pointed towards an opinion piece by the Tacoma News Tribune's editorial board titled "University of Washington Tacoma helped save downtown 30 years ago. It can do it again" to further show how intertwined the campus is with the Tacoma community.

"They referenced the successful campaign," Pagano said, reiterating the Tacoma News Tribune's article. "The success we've had in bringing new degree programs to campus. The success we've had in encouraging the legislature to fund this new building ... and some new programs to provide access and equity in the South Puget Sound for some of the high-demand degree fields ... I believe what they said: that it is our responsibility. We are an anchor institution."

The campaign Pagano mentioned was the 10-year fundraising goal.

Originally, the fundraising goal was \$45 million, which was completed two years ago. The fundraising managers then extended the campaign goal to \$55 million, and by the end of the campaign on June 30, UWT gained a total of nearly \$57 million. This money helps to fund several scholarships and programs around campus.

"We catapulted past that goal in 2018," Pagano said. "We all decided to stretch it to \$55 million. That was a little bit of a risk. We could have sat on our laurels and enjoyed making the goal two years early, and on the ... last two days of the campaign we received two major gifts that pushed us past that \$55 million."

Looking forward, the chancellor has stated his excitement for the mechanical and civil engineering programs in which the university is in the process of officially starting. Pagano did note, however, that the future was

not without its own challenges. One challenge he explained is that the UWT community still faces a problem of distance, separation and detachment from the physical campus.

"It's very quiet [and] it's not full of people," Pagano said, describing the current atmosphere of the campus. "People, I think, are struggling with the loss of connection with each other ... with our students, with our faculty, we're all eager to go back and see the people that we work with. Most people that work at UW Tacoma enjoy working here and enjoy the comradery of their fellow workers and fellow students."

Pagano ended on a note of positivity, saying that he hopes the campus can return back to a semblance of normality soon and safely so that everyone can have a chance to succeed in their studies and in building their communities.

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: Professor Krayenbuhl on online education and summer pastimes

Talking summer, hobbies and returning to school in this new world.

By LUCAS CASSOL  
NEWS REPORTER

The Ledger got a chance to speak with Professor Pamela Krayenbuhl just before the beginning of the quarter. Discussing a variety of topics ranging from her academic past, teaching during the pandemic and what she has been up to over the summer, here's a brief look at what she had to say.

Professor Krayenbuhl studied at UC Berkeley, getting a dual BA in Rhetoric and Global Arts and Culture. She went on to Northwestern University to pursue her masters and doctorate degrees in Screen Cultures along with studying abroad in countries such as the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France and Luxembourg.

When asked about her favorite part of teaching, Krayenbuhl said that it was the different talks outside of the classroom she had with other members of the universities.

"By far the best part of my job was the unofficial chats with students and colleagues — between classes, during breaks, just running into people were

when some of my most satisfying and renewing conversations happened," Krayenbuhl said. "Now there's no such thing as happenstance; all interactions must be scheduled and planned. As a result, I now feel more like a YouTube content producer than a professor. I'm constantly planning, recording, and editing videos, which is definitely not what I signed up for!"

Krayenbuhl spoke more on the dramatic change in teaching.

"My teaching is also way less interactive and group-oriented now; there used to be a lot of small group work and options for bigger group projects, but now I really try to limit group work because it can be so difficult to coordinate online," said Krayenbuhl. "In short, everything is streamlined to be simpler and more efficient, which probably pleases some of my students, but I miss the nuance and more engaging nature of my in-person courses."

The loss of in-person contact has made for a different learning environment, presenting its own problems.

"The biggest change has been in complexity and depth. When we were

face-to-face/in-person, I was usually able to help students tackle tough reading material together, and I facilitated some really interesting, thoughtful analysis and conversation," Krayenbuhl explained. "There's just no replicating that online, so to make things less overwhelming I've had to cut the reading in half for most of my courses."

Apart from teaching during summer quarter, Krayenbuhl has spent most of her summer preparing for fall writing an article about tap dancers, "The Nicholas Brothers," and thankfully was able to muster some time for fun.

"Like everyone, I tried to make some room for self care in there," Krayenbuhl said. "I learned how to crochet, I got back into the lost art of burning mix CDs, and I rewatched Firefly. As one small means of trying to work through everything happening lately, I also purchased and read Zadie Smith's "Intimations." Like many people, I've struggled to focus most of the time but Smith's writing was the one thing that managed to hold my attention. I definitely recommend it."



PHOTO COURTESY OF UW TACOMA DIRECTORY



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

## An update on the UWT Pantry

The Pantry will reopen with new guidelines in place to ensure the safety of students.

By OLUWASEYI FALEKE  
NEWS REPORTER

The Pantry, a core resource for the UW Tacoma campus, is a service that provides free essential products to help support students and their families. This service will be open and running again this year starting Oct. 5. Due to an almost fully remote learning quarter, most student services will be offered virtually as well. The Pantry has posted new guidelines to ensure students will be able to receive essential and necessary items during the pandemic.

"The security of basic needs for

students is essential to their success in the classroom as well as improving graduation rates," reads the message on the Pantry's website.

Students are able to order food and sanitary supplies once a week. Essential food items can be ordered online and are sorted based on dietary restrictions. Students can pick between the gluten-free, kosher, omnivore, vegan and vegetarian bag options. Hygiene products can be added to food bags as well if needed.

"Our mission is to provide supplemental, nutritional and culturally relevant food and hygiene items to UWT students with compassion, dig-

nity and respect," is the Pantry's mission statement available on their official website.

Students can choose between an in-person pickup or a delivery option for students that live within a 30-mile radius from campus. It is important to remember to bring a UWT Student ID or other information stating current enrollment at the campus to pick up an online order.

The Pantry will be open for in-person pickups on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Online orders made before 12 p.m. on Friday will be delivered the following week on Wednesdays and

Thursdays between the times of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

While the Dougan building will remain locked during the autumn quarter, the Pantry will be open Monday through Friday but closed on weekends. Students can call (253)-692-4765 to notify the personnel to be let into the building. When picking up orders in-person, students are asked to follow proper sanitary measures and social distancing guidelines.

The Pantry accepts donations of personal hygiene items as well all kinds of food — including perishables. The Pantry's donation hours will occur Mondays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**MAKE AN ONLINE ORDER**  
@  
[HTTPS://WWW.TACOMA.UW.EDU/THEPANTRY](https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/thepantry)

**ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY FRIDAYS AT 12:00PM TO RECEIVE GROCERIES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD.**

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UWT's weekly student publication  
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# What's new with the Library and TLC

Understanding the new changes to the Teaching and Learning Center and the library during the covid pandemic.

By LUKE DENUELLE  
NEWS REPORTER

The UW Tacoma Library doors have been closed since Mar. 17 when the campus shut down in order to comply with state regulations regarding COVID-19. The Library scrambled to try and find solutions to problems it barely knew existed with only a few days of notice. Justin Wadland, Interim Director of the UW Tacoma Libraries, discussed how they have been handling these changes.

When asked how he was feeling about the COVID-19 pandemic and how the Library had to respond, he explained it was an incredible ordeal.

"How do you close down a library?" Wadland questioned.

Issues presented themselves to the library staff quickly and in numerous ways. Numerous problems that confronted them were obvious enough: How does a library, a traditionally physical space, transition to an online only provider? Another problem that arose revealed the intersectional nature of the virus. Many of the staff members suddenly found themselves without child care assistance normally provided by schools and daycares,

which had also closed down.

Wadland also discussed the new joint project between the Teaching and Learning Center, the Library and the Center for Equity and Inclusion. Named the Learning Commons, this is projected to be completed sometime between 2021 and 2022, but with the campus consisting of primarily remote learning, online outreach has been difficult.

"It's hard to do this work because if it was here right now we couldn't be in it," Wadland said.

However, it has not been all setbacks at the library. Wadland described how RealLit[erature]—a library program aimed at helping individuals understand a wider range of experiences by reading narratives from varying perspectives—had shifted over online. Normally it ends during the summer, but this past summer quarter it was asked to keep going due to popular demand and won the 2019–2020 Team of the Year award.

"Social infrastructure is sickened by COVID," Wadland said. "These are the things that because of COVID we cannot go on in a normal way. Cafes are closed. Some reopened, but restaurants, public libraries, all of these places are restricted. But with RealLit[erature], they transitioned onto

an online model in the spring and it allowed them to continue."

With so many strange hurdles, Wadland talked about the different things he and his team had learned:

"I've learned a lot about stuff like I've had to educate myself a lot about covid transmission like HVAC, airflow, masks, so, I think Libraries and library staff are uniquely suited to quickly learn unique domains of information and adapt that and analyse information and base decisions on that . . . As we have shifted to this fully online realm we are very aware of the power and presence of physicality."

When asked what advice and information he had for students, he explained that students should start at the website and that library staff is available to help. There is a 24/7 chat reference available and drop-in chat being experimented with. He also wanted students to know that the UWT Library was working to get curbside pickup—which would include items such as laptops and calculators—quickly running. Finally, they recognize the need for study space, and as soon as it is available they will be offering it again.



COURTESY OF FRED SCHILLING, COLLECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

## Reflecting on the legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Change does not occur in the halls of power, but rather in the street with the masses.

By ANDREA NADAL  
OPINION EDITOR

Ruth Bader Ginsburg should not be placed on a pedestal.

Deifying her in this way points out exactly what is wrong with our system. The fact that one woman, one vote, one unelected position is all that kept so many Americans from losing their rights is corrupt. Plain and simple. This is a system that does not serve us.

One old, sick woman should not be the only thing that stands between my rights and an oppressive government. We have been preemptively mourning her death for years now. So, I understand why so many people are mourning her loss now. Why they are afraid of what is to come. Why they are coming out in great support for an idea of what she stood for . . . but this idea is not the reality.

Despite her supposed great feminist rulings, there were also several rulings with terrible consequences for other vulnerable populations. Knowing all that is before us in the wake of her death—a new supreme court nominee, the fear of rights being rolled back, the fear of a new justice altering the composition

of the court for who knows how long. We also need to understand the reality of the situation and be critical of those with power over our wellbeing.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was not the "liberal" or "progressive" justice that many are making her out to be. She made a name for herself fighting for women's rights and became a true feminist icon. Ruling in favor of access to birth control, abortion rights, etc.

However, there are many women that were still left behind long after these cases had been decided. These supposed "rights" are still not accessible to many individuals from marginalized groups. Those of lower socioeconomic status, women of color and trans/nonbinary individuals still face numerous barriers to accessing these rights.

Despite Roe v. Wade standing, abortion rights are almost non-existent in some states today. Trans and Non-Binary individuals face many barriers when it comes to accessing reproductive health care.

The halls of power work as a way to silence the calls of those on the streets. They take ambitious movements and pacify them. They water them down until they hardly resemble what was

being demanded.

The rulings made by Bader Ginsburg are not an exception to that. She was a woman dedicated to "procedure, principles of federalism, judicial independence and ensuring that government does not wield arbitrary power over regular people . . ." as Kimberly Wehle in her article entitled "The Surprising Conservatism of Ruth Bader Ginsburg" puts it. These things are not hallmarks of a progressive justice, rather they show a commitment to the rule of law and its strict application.

With this strict application, Bader Ginsburg was unafraid to make rulings that negatively impacted marginalized people. Tatiana Cozzarelli and Ezra Brain provide two definite examples of this in "RBG or Not, Abolish the Supreme Court." As the two put it, "City of Sherrill v. Oneida Indian Nation of New York, where RBG and the whole Supreme Court ruled against tribal sovereignty or Department of Homeland Security v. Vijayakumar Thurasigam, where Ginsburg ruled against asylum seekers"

From these rulings, it is clear that Bader Ginsburg held no allegiance to progressive ideas. There was never a

place on the court dedicated to real social change, never a place for a real upheaval of a system designed to keep us down.

For many people, Ruth Bader Ginsburg felt like the only thing standing between our rights and a government ready to take them. That is the great lie that has been sold to us. Bader Ginsburg held no allegiance to the people. This needs to be a wake-up call.

Social change does not come from the courts. It does not come from those in positions of power. It comes from everyday people showing up and standing together against a system of injustice. This is the sort of thing we need to place the emphasis on. We cannot sit idly by. We need to organize and continue organizing.

We need to demand accountability from our government and our elected officials. And with this in mind, we need to be rid of the Supreme Court. Those in ivory towers have no concern for those of us on the ground. They have no way of knowing what we are facing, and they should not have the final say on any of our rights.

Be critical. Be angry. Be active. Don't let our collective power go to waste.

**"A GREAT MAN ONCE SAID THAT THE TRUE SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES IS NOT THE BALD EAGLE.**

**IT IS THE PENDULUM.**

**AND WHEN THE PENDULUM SWINGS TOO FAR IN ONE DIRECTION, IT WILL SWING BACK."**

— JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG  
1933-2020

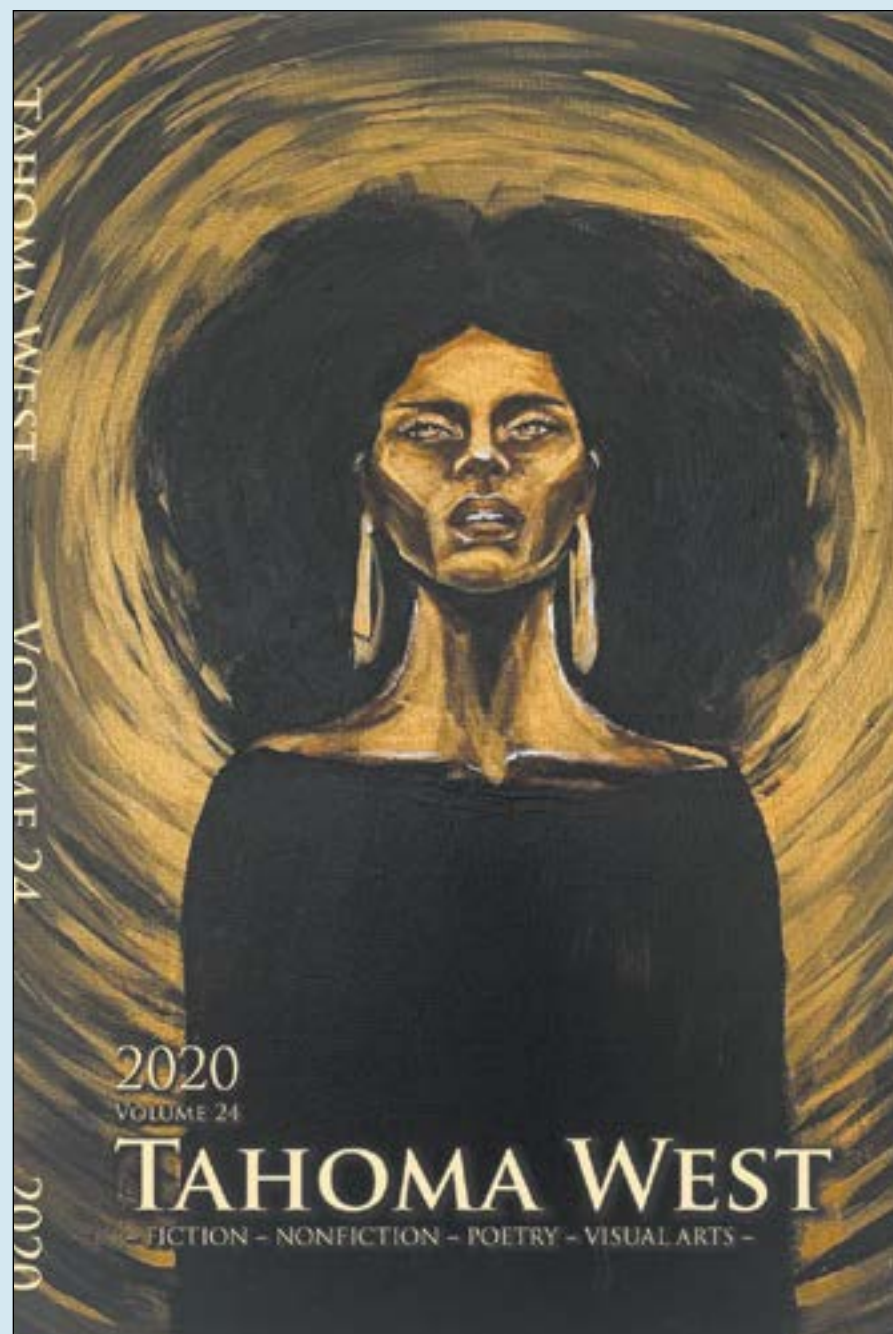
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### OCTOBER 5TH

Tahoma West will host an information session which will cover submission guidelines and the selection process.

Zoom link and time of session are TBD. Please visit [tahomawest.org](http://tahomawest.org) for the most up-to-date information.





# Uyghur businesses to support

As Uyghurs are far from home, uncertain when their return or visit will be, here are some Uyghur businesses for you to support.

By **BENGISU ÇIÇEK**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Uyghurs, a Turkic ethnic group living in East Turkestan colonized by China, have been facing persecution by the Chinese Communist Party for years now. The conflict started gaining more recognition around 2018–2019. Currently more than 1.5 million Uyghurs occupy concentration camps and many more are living abroad.

Their culture is something Uyghurs hold on to despite being thousands of miles from home. While the Chinese Communist Party is currently working towards relabeling Uyghur designs and cultural wear as their own, we need to understand the distinction and respect the autonomy of Uyghur culture as its own. There are numerous Uyghur artists and business owners here in the United States you can support. Here are a few of them:

**UYGHUR COLLECTIVE SHOP**

They can be found on Instagram @theyughurcollective. Their products include sweatshirts that have pictures of Uyghur instruments and people, masks that say “Google Uyghur,” stickers of East Turkestan along with a va-

riety of other trinkets. Their clothes are for everybody and a good way to show solidarity is by shopping from them. Their pieces are important to me, as I can incorporate their sweaters into my daily outfits.

**TWICE BOUTIQUE**

On Instagram as @twiceboutique, this is a fashion brand owned by three Australian Uyghur women. This fashion store has a wide range of clothes including dresses, jumpsuits, belts and skirts. “We continue to do everything with the same passion to bring modest, elegant and on trend styles and push modest fashion to be on the same level as mainstream fashion,” said the three girls. The styles are modest and fancy, so be sure to check out their gorgeous ‘fits.

**@ART.AYNURE**

A must-follow page that consists of handmade embroidered Uyghur art on canvas bags and hoops made by Aynure Alim, an Uyghur fashion design student. Her pieces are absolutely beautiful as she uses vibrant colors that put a story behind her work. From the embroideries of places in East Turkestan to Uyghur people wearing the Doppa, you can visually see the culture

of Uyghurs through her work.

**MODA STORE**

On Instagram as @moda\_fashion615, are art pieces made by an Uyghur filmmaker based in Washington D.C. Their shop can be found on Red-Bubble @adill44 where he sells posters, iPhone cases, canvas bags, shirts, and more. With designs depicting cities and states such as Virginia, Los Angeles, California, and Washington written in Uyghur, these are stylish ways to showcase the Uyghur language and bring it to the mainstream.

**@ALIMADILCOUTURE**

This couture brand is owned by Alim Adil, an award-winning Uyghur Fashion Designer. He makes pieces that have the traditional Atlas design on them, a traditional handwoven cultural pattern on silk. Adil has many pieces with this design and works to spread more awareness of this special pattern that Uyghurs and more Turkic ethnic groups wear.

**THE “DOPPI PROJECT”**

In addition to these Uyghur businesses Nadir Nahdi, an online influencer and the founder of BENI — a culture lab for innovative ideas — filmed the “Doppi Project” in three



PHOTO COURTESY OF @ART.AYNURE

Uyghur Doppa by @art.aynure

episodes on his Youtube channel. Featuring Subhi Bora, an Uyghur-Uzbek Australian, the project is centered around the Doppa, a traditional embroidered hat worn by Turkic ethnic groups such as Uyghurs and Uzbeks. The episodes, consisting of Bora traveling to Uzbekistan to connect closer with her roots, are all a must-watch and showcase Uyghur culture in the most beautiful way possible.

The Uyghurs deserve to be seen and their businesses must be supported just

as much as any other brand. Despite being miles away, Uyghurs abroad are representing their culture in the best way possible. From the multiple Uyghur restaurants that serve authentic food to the textiles sold online, they bring East Turkestan to us. It’s so easy to support these businesses, rather than giving hundreds of dollars to these brands that are complicit in Uyghur Forced Labor, we can support these hardworking business owners to truly be allies.

# This smoke should be a wake up call to all

The smoke-filled summer skies are a warning sign from Mother Nature that things need to change.

By **MADI WILLIAMS**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Since the beginning of September, Washington State has been swept with wildfire smoke not only from its own fires but also from those raging in California and Oregon. With 620,000 acres burned, 400 buildings eradicated and 200 miles of power lines damaged according to a KOMO report on Sep. 15, this wild fire season has been the worst that the state has ever seen.

The Environmental Defense Fund states that the average wildfire season has become over three months longer than in past decades and the number of large fires on the West Coast has at least tripled in the last decade. These fires are progressively getting worse due to climate change, an ongoing issue caused, or exacerbated, by the following situations.

One of the more publicized fires that occurred this year was in California and was caused by a gender reveal party. The smoke generating device created sparks and in turn generated a giant fire that burned 22,588 acres since it was ignited on Sep. 5, as of Sep. 21 the fire is 59 percent contained. The fire affected more than just California though, smoke not only filled the air but also blew

into neighboring states as well which led to the creation of hazardous air quality in numerous locations.

Due to the rising temperatures over the decades, the moisture from the soil has begun to evaporate. Additionally, the snow caps from the mountains are melting at least one month earlier than in the past which, unfortunately, only adds to this problematic situation. Since the snow caps are melting earlier this means there is less snow to irrigate nearby forests to keep the plants from drying out. This, in addition to the higher temperatures and drier soil, makes them more flammable.

The rising temperatures can be attributed to greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions are the result of the burning of fossil fuels, coal, oil and natural gases. Some of the main elements that are released when these gases are burned are carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. These emissions create a widespread blanket of these gases in the atmosphere that keeps the warm air locked between the ground and the atmosphere.

There are ways that you can help with climate change. From speaking up and electing officials that have it on their agendas to sharing what



ILLUSTRATION BY LORE ZENT

Seeing the fire coming from the distance threatening the life of the trees in its path.

these people are talking about on social media. You can make or join a club at school that focuses on events surrounding climate change while also working to help educate fellow students by hosting and participating in events. You can also acquire energy-efficient appliances for your home — special refrigerators, washing machines and light bulbs. But most of all, the best thing you can do is edu-

cate yourself on the subject and do your part to lessen your impact.

Personally, some of the steps I have taken include utilizing public transportation. This is made possible through the Upass included in tuition. Even though I am just one person, taking the bus makes a big difference when looking at the whole picture. In doing this I am not releasing car emissions into the air by driv-

ing myself to campus while living only a few miles away. Even though as individuals we will never have as big an impact on climate change like larger companies do, the little things can help make a difference and battle the situation at hand. Even if it means coming together and calling out large polluters hoping they will see that they need to make a change in order to help with the cause.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY STUDIO MOTION PICTURES

Ryan Coogley is the director of “Black Panther” — a Marvel-Universe movie centered around futuristic African tribes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Jordan Peele, director of “Get Out” and “Us,” is known for redefining the horror genre.

# The importance of diversity in film production crews

Offscreen diversity can change how the media’s narrative is received.

By **LORE ZENT**  
A&E COLUMNIST

For the past few years Hollywood has focused on diversity as a selling point for their new films. In these attempts it is common to only scratch the surface level of their potential. There is a difference between following a trend and creating systemic change within the industry. While representation is important, it is also important for it to be accurate.

Carlos Cortes, historian and author of “The Children Are Watching: How the Media Teaches About Diversity,” wrote an important case for how portrayals transcend to public image.

“First, whether intentionally or

unintentionally, both the news and the entertainment media ‘teach’ the public about minorities, other ethnic groups and societal groups, such as women, gays, and the elderly,” Cortes wrote, “Second, this mass media curriculum has a particularly powerful educational impact on people who have little or no direct contact with members of the groups being treated.”

If a film is focused around experiences of a certain identity, compared to normalized representation, the effort to include diversity does not end at the casting stage. Production and research also take an important role. The people who are creating the media are as important as those who present it. This conversation, sadly,

has not made its way to mainstream Hollywood. There is more room for error when people tell stories that aren’t their own. They instead can advance pre-existing stereotypes, diminish discussions and in some cases actively offend those they are trying to represent.

A great example of this is the live-action remake of Mulan, in which the negativity of the audience’s response was attributed to the character development and presentation of cultural elements by a virtually all-white production crew. Bina Daigeler, the film’s costume designer, when asked what research went into the designs for the live adaption stated, “I went in Europe to all the museums that

had a Chinese department and then I traveled to China for three weeks.” Daigeler also mentioned her designs are inspired by the Tang Dynasty, a historically disparate time period from Mulan’s story.

While there are diversity-lead works that claw their way into the mainstream — Moonlight, Black Panther, Her Story, Crazy Rich Asians, Jennifer’s Body — the barriers for marginalized creators are still considerably large. Issues such as unfair pay, not feeling safe in the workplace, lack of career advancement tools comparatively, cost to run independent studios, etc.

The 2020 Hollywood Diversity report analyzed the workplace of 11

major studios and found that 91 percent of C-level positions are held by Caucasians and 82 percent are held by males. Among all senior executive positions, it is 93 and 80 percent respectively. The film unit heads are 86 and 69 percent. These statistics reconfirm the notion that Hollywood’s green light and major decisions are largely gatekept by white men. For the film and television industry to truly be diverse, one must accept the discrepancies.

Hollywood has made a few steps forward, but still requires a lot more work. As we continue forward it must be remembered that fair representation offscreen is essential, as it feeds into how the narratives will be interpreted.

# A night at the movies in 2020

How will we get our movie night fix when indoor theaters are closed?

By **MADLINE HILLER**  
A&E EDITOR

Ever since COVID-19 forced many businesses to close and pause all regular duties, people have used innovation and creativity to keep their business alive and make it through the pandemic. Movie theaters however, have taken a different approach. Originally tackling this issue by releasing films that would have been in theaters on different platforms on your home television, some have now begun to transition to a more retro way of getting your movie night fix: Drive-in movie theaters.

Many drive-ins across the Sound have opened and generated good business despite the current situation. Providing the ability to gather a lot of people in one place without making physical contact with any of them, drive-ins have a clear advantage over indoor movie theaters. Not only this, but another possible advantage is that

aters, as stated on the CinemaSafe website, are as follows: masks are required to be worn at all times, physical distancing must be maintained, capacity must be reduced, HVAC systems must be working properly to achieve maximum air filtration, employees should be trained on proper hand-washing practices, cleaning must be enhanced and concessions must be modified. These are only some of the many new practices indoor theaters will need to employ in order to safely reopen.

Many theaters are taking their time to reopen and train employees, but in the meantime, drive-ins like Rodeo Drive-In Theater in Bremerton are still showing films throughout the rest of September.

For more information about how indoor theaters plan to keep you safe, visit <https://www.cinemasafe.org/#guidelines>.



PHOTO BY NICKOLUS PATRASZEWSKI

Movie theaters are taking a hit during this pandemic but will open again soon with new safety measures.





PHOTO COURTESY OF LIKELY STORY

A meeting with the parents is not what it seems . . .

## REVIEW

## "I'm Thinking of Ending Things"

★★★★★

**The Good:**

- Makes the viewer think critically about life and its futilities
- Surreal and entertaining look at the human psyche through a cinematic medium

**The Bad:**

- Not everyone will recognize the references to literature and poems
- Certain scenes drag on for a little too long — noticeable lack of variety in these scenes

## Hoping for a hopeless person in "I'm Thinking of Ending Things"

A woman takes a trip with her boyfriend to visit his parents — however, things start to take a surreal turn.

By HENRY NGUYEN  
FILM CRITIC

Writer-Director Charlie Kaufman is widely known for creating bizarre, outlandish films. There is no way to clearly explain the experience that comes with watching a Kaufman movie. He's written a couple of my favorite movies of all time like "Being John Malkovich" and directed cult classics such as "Synecdoche New York." So, after Netflix announced that this was going to be on their platform, I was excited to see the next installment in his filmography.

"I'm Thinking of Ending Things" is Kaufman's third directed movie. In the same vein of his earlier works this movie will leave you bewildered after the first

viewing and likely demand a rewatch. It's a film that is rich with questions concerning the philosophies of life and will leave you thinking about your own.

From a surface glance, this film is about a small town woman — played by Jessie Buckley — going on a road trip with her boyfriend, played by Jesse Plemons. Having only been together for a couple of months, now it's time to take the next step in their relationship and see his parents. However, unsure if she wants to stay in the relationship, Buckley decides to go on the trip regardless due to her inability to say no in uncomfortable situations.

Once they arrive the trip turns into a surreal and disjointed meeting of the parents and the plot eventually thickens. The movie slowly transitions from

a film that depicts a failing relationship to one that depicts people confused about where they're headed in life.

There is something to love about Kaufman's movies. Whether it's the uncanniness of them or the philosophies behind each, there is always something to unpack beneath the surface of the film. His movies challenge his viewers with questions about humanity through a cinematic medium.

Since the couple reach their destination by car, instead of skipping this travel sequence the viewer travels with them. Most of these travel scenes tend to drag on longer than needed and the dialogue ranges from thought-provoking to downright pretentious. Ultimately, there is a lack of variety presented and could have been cut down. The

characters go back and forth over philosophical debates to making references to poems and other works of literature that not everyone may recognize.

With a majority of the dialogue consisting of philosophical debates, the film does not fail to challenge its audience. Most of these debates revolve around the idea of how humanity constructs concepts like hope and time which, arguably, heavily distinguish us from other living beings.

One of the best scenes of the movie is driven by Kaufman's ability to depict these themes in the movie. Similar to "Synecdoche New York," once things start to become more surreal at the parent's house, certain characters appear young then old and then young again within a blink of an eye.

Resembling how thinking of the past is often rendered scattered and inconsistent, this is one of the many ways the movie remains unpredictable.

The scene at the parent's house also generated great performances by Toni Collett as the mother and David Thewlis as the father. The ways in which they showcase each point of their characters' life, as well as their age, feels real and successfully conveys their ranges as actors.

If a linear story and a straightforward plot with fast pacing are what you are looking for, then perhaps skip this one. However, if you enjoy Kaufman's earlier works or psychological movies in general, then it's a movie worth your time and most likely deserves a second watch.

## SPORT REPORT

*Why the Seahawks are legitimate Super Bowl contenders*

By Brooks Moeller

At the time this is being written, the Seahawks currently sit at two wins with zero losses and are in a three-way tie for first place in the NFC West. Coming off their hard fought win over the very talented New England Patriots team — who seem to have not lost a beat since the departure of Tom Brady — showed why the Seahawks can be viewed as favorites to win the NFC and compete for a Super Bowl championship. However, it also revealed where they need to improve which could end up being what

holds them back.

All offseason we heard fans and analysts beg for the Seahawks coaching staff to "let Russ cook" — they wanted to see quarterback Russell Wilson let loose and throw the ball more. Through two weeks, it looks like this is just what they are doing.

In the week two 35 - 30 win over the Patriots, Wilson completed 21 of 28 pass attempts for 288 yards, five touchdowns and one interception. The interception came from the hands of tight end Greg Olson and should not be counted against Wilson. The previous week, Wilson threw for 322 yards and four touchdowns. It is clear that head coach Pete Carroll and the rest of the coaching staff are putting more trust in Wilson's arm to win them games. This is the main reason I believe they will still be playing

on Super Bowl Sunday.

Wilson is easily one of the most talented quarterbacks in the league and can make throws no one else can. Personally, I would rank him above Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes at the moment, which would raise some eyebrows. But, Wilson's decision making and deep throw accuracy put him ahead of any quarterback in the league, making him the current MVP front runner.

Credit also needs to go to the Seattle receiving core led by Tyler Lockett and DK Metcalf who, when combined, have accrued 23 catches, 346 yards and three touchdowns. I am most impressed with the massive jump Metcalf has made from his rookie to sophomore season. His talent was always undeniably there, but now he is running more precise

routes and making plays over some of the top defensive backs in the league.

Heavy criticism followed the acquisition of pro bowl safety Jamal Adams, but it seems that the trade will work out heavily in Seattle's favor. Adams has already accounted for 22 total tackles including three and a half tackles for loss and one sack. I noticed right away the edge Adams brings to this defense. He is someone who can cover anyone as well as step up in the box and shut down the run.

This, however, leads to the sole reason why the Seahawks may be held back from competing for a title and it is a familiar problem: no pass rush. We simply cannot rely on Adams for our entire pass rush, which has been a common occurrence thus far. Opposing quarterbacks are throwing for large amounts

of yardage but our secondary should not be blamed. With no pass rush from the defensive line, NFL receivers will eventually open up, which is exactly what we are seeing.

The loss of Jadaveon Clowney plays a part in this, but our pass rush proved to be a problem last year as well. Young defensive players such as LJ Collier, Rashem Green and Jordyn Brooks will need to step up and learn fast. In order for the team to play up to its full potential, they will need to be key contributors.

Although there were a few negatives from the first two weeks, I was very impressed with what I saw out of this team. What stands out to me most is the quickness of the team as a whole — something they lacked last year. If the pass rush can be worked out then there is no limit to where this team could end up.