

The Cooper Point Journal

STAFF: Editor-in-Chief Sako! Chapman Creative Director Grace Selvig Business Manager Jae Andersen News Editor

Hero Winsor Arts Editor Kaylee Padilla Distribution Manager Belle Mayne Graphics Artists Akemi Nakagawara Alec Phipps Stoff Writers Isak L. Urrego Bailén Sofia Malo Web Moster Kavon King CPJ Helpers: Nathan Tippmann Gabby Tucker Teresa Eastlick Chris Tanner Victoria Hesse-Morgan Ramsey Huffinger

CONTACT: Office

TESC CAB 332 2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW, Olympia, WA Email cooperpointjournal @gmail.com Social Media FB/INSTA: @yourCPJ TWITTER: @the_CPJ Office Hours (fall) Mondays 11-1 pm Wednesdays 3-4pm 3rd floor of the CAB

THIS ISSUE:

Cover Art Belle Mayne Layout & Design CPJ Staff Gabby Tucker

HOW WE WORK:

The Cooper Point Journal is run by students attending The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. We are funded by a combination of subscriptions, local advertisements, and student fees. We aim to provide information on public art, events, and culture both for Evergreen and the larger Thurston County and Olympia communities.

WORK WITH US!

The Cooper Point Journal thrives on community submissions. We think YOU can provide the best stories and content for our local community, because YOU are a part of it. Specific affiliation to the Evergreen State College is not required. Send article, art, and letter to the editor submissions to:

cooperpointjournal@gmail.com

The Cooper Point Journal maintains editorial control over submissions, therefore publication is NOT guaranteed upon submission of material.



WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM



featuring a welcome figure. Photo by Zach Lehman

My Dread and My Academics

Alex McCarty's carvings

on the Fiber Arts Studio,

Hello. I am the creative director of the CPJ, co-coordinator to the hard-working and fast-moving Sako Chapman.

Where do I even begin?

This issue of the CPJ is being assembled and laid-out in the second week of the spring quarter. The workload seemed to overwhelm me before it began. As some of you know, there was a student forum on April 10th where members of Evergreen leadership made themselves available for students to ask the questions they have been holding onto for a while. Why a public forum? Accountability. A few of us have had small group meetings with Dexter Gordon over the course of last quarter, and conversations with him and John Carmichael at their Wednesday open hours in the CAB. Those meetings and conversations were important and necessary, but they were private, just a start. As you will read in my article on page 4 covering the event, there were aspirational statements made of how to better engage students in the process/function of Evergreen as an institution. Making these statements publicly, and cementing their place in the history of Evergreen in the pages of the CPJ, will hopefully hold leadership accountable. Accountable to the spirit of the Evergreen State College.

Remember, we didn't come here because we wanted an experience like UW. I wanted an educational experience that treated me as a collaborator in learning, not just a recipient. An experience that valued interdisciplinary studies. To the credit of the teaching staff here at Evergreen, my education has been mostly that experience. The faculty that I've had the great privilege to work with have given me an experience that I do believe is incredibly valuable, and I believe I am a better person for it. But their support ends at academics. As for the rest of a college experience, housing, facilities, food, resource offices, and student employment, these areas are where it is the institution's responsibility to uphold the Evergreen promise of collaboration and progressive thinking. This, in its nature, requires a pro-active model of operation. Yes, the stakes are high. That is the job. These are people's lives, their quality of life.

I wanted to pursue higher education at Evergreen. That meant leaving my hometown, my family, my entire support system. Leaving the beautiful landscape that I call home, leaving behind all my favorite things because I wanted to better myself and take all of my newfound knowledge back to my community.

Of course we are going to have expectations of how things run and what conditions our housing is in. When students come to Evergreen they have to make it their home, they have to create new communities, new support systems, find new things to love, this is how we survive. Students who take 16 credits a quarter, have a part time job, and are in student governance positions are doing 52 hour weeks. That is all before you account for the time to feed yourself, meal plan, exercise, bathe, travel from task to task, and schedule in moments of rest. It is exhausting.

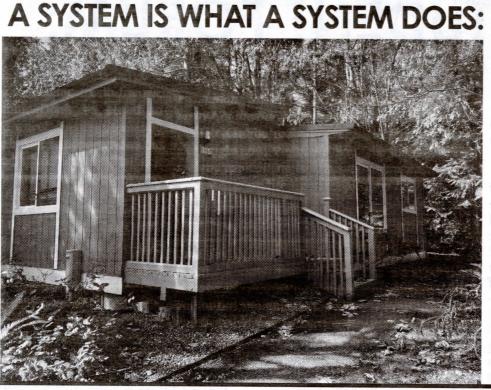
In February I started having dreams about the institution. Before I would even fall asleep I would lie in the dark, begging myself to become too tired to think. My head was full of college bureaucracy bullshit. The mis-steps by the college, the moves made by staffers, the underhanded comments, I began to question my perception of reality.

Dear Admin, do you think I want to criticize you? Do you think I want to spend my time tracking movements, attending meetings, and constantly taking in information? Not at all. When I came to this college I became a part of something bigger than myself, when I started working at the paper that became even more true. Evergreen is a home to many and I want to do right by them. The issues of this institution lay heavy on my chest, I feel it in my ability to breathe air. It is my dread, I recognize this dread and keep pushing forward because to stop everything and say I can't handle it would be to go against the spirit of the education that I have fought so hard to receive.

What students need at this time is to feel heard and seen. More than that, the students need to see proactive engagement from administration, and to be brought in as collaborators. Think about everything they have been through. Covid went through their communities, changing them forever. The politicians that mainstream media accuse of being leftist, liberal, commies are actually money-hungry centrists at best, leaving little hope for the working class, communities of color, communities in poverty, and reproductive rights. On our campus specifically, they have seen the arts get less and less support. They have seen their classmate die. And they have to watch a genocide unfold over the internet, while our government doesn't just sit by but participates in it through the aid and weapons sent to Israel. Every single student who makes it to class, does their work, and keeps going despite all of this, is accomplishing something great. I keep going for them. Let's keep going for each other.

Sincerely, Grace Selvig Creative Director

News



Much of the coverage of December 11th focuses on the night of. Upon receipt of public records and the findings of the Washington State Patrol, it is evident that the systemic issues that caused the death of Jonathan began well before that evening. The Cooper Point Journal will be breaking our coverage into three parts beginning with the events leading up to that night.

The students living in the mods had reported a smell of propane since the beginning of fall quarter. Half of the mods used propane to fuel the tankless water heaters in each unit. After Thanksgiving break residents in Mod #305 reported a problem with having no hot water and heating in the unit. After inspection by Residential and Dining Services (RAD) maintenance staff an outside HVAC contractor, Olympia Sheet Metal was brought in to fix the issue with the tankless water heater. The technician from Olympia Sheet Metal noted that there was debris in the existing heating unit and that attempts to clean it were unsuccessful. On December 1st the propane unit was replaced and the technician returned to finish connecting the new heater to the piping in the Mod on December 4th. They returned again to finish the insulation for the heater and to dispose of the old unit the next day. Olympia Sheet Metal declined to comment anything further to WSP apart from providing the written documentation of the installation. It was found after the fact that an improper connection of the exhaust pipe caused the carbon monoxide leak that spilled over 4,000 ppm into the utility room of Mod #305 and 1,000 ppm into the bedrooms of the Mod.

Multiple residents of the building ex-

perienced symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning such as fatigue and headaches, however they attributed these symptoms to weariness from the end of the quarter and finals. At 5:41 AM on December 11th the alarms began sounding. The residents and Jonathan evacuated and waited for the expected arrival of the fire department. The residents themselves had to call the RAD (Residential and Dining Services) dispatch number before anyone arrived.

Consistently throughout the day the alarms were viewed as being faulty. The alarms themselves had a mode labeled as supervisory which alerted yellow and not red and was viewed by maintenance staff as being a warning of a fault in the alarms themselves. Even though 4 out of the 6 alarms in the building were going off, the mod was not evacuated. The supervisory warning was not taken seriously and there was no system set in place for evacuating the building if a supervisory warning continued. Instead, the next step was to call the alarm contractor, Convergint Technologies LLC, about a fault in the alarm system.

There had been multiple "supervisory," alarms that month for carbon monoxide and smoke in the mods. The alarm system was relatively new, the switch to new alarms in campus housing being completed in the past couple years, however Convergint has been the contractor for the college's alarm system since 2007. Whether all previous carbon monoxide alarms were false or not is currently unknown, however the alarms were reported by staff to go off often since their installation. The panels would frequently sound and have to be shut off by maintenance staff in both the

WSP INVESTIGATION CONFIRMS INADEQUATE ALARM RESPONSE PROCE-DURES IN STUDENT HOUSING

By Hero Winsor

ON DECEMBER 11TH, 2023, our fellow student Jonathan Rodriguez died from carbon monoxide poisoning while visiting his girlfriend in campus housing. The site of the CO leak, modular housing unit (Mod) #305, was also occupied by two residents of the building who had to be hospitalized because of their exposure. The students of Evergreen, Jonathan's loved ones and the Cooper Point Journal have spent the past few months grieving and awaiting the findings of the Washington State Patrol. In March, the WSP released this report and determined that the event was "tragic yet avoidable."

mods and the apartments. There were consistent problems with the fire alarms going off in A building which was opened up to students at the beginning of the school year after being closed since 2020.

The Residential Maintenance Technician (RM) manual provided to the investigation was from 2017. It had only one mention of carbon monoxide in a list of functions of the alarm system and no specific protocol for how to respond to a CO alarm. While the manual does say to treat every alarm seriously, this is only applied to the "alarm," signals indicated by a red LED light on the control panel. The yellow "trouble," alarms are only treated as an indicator of a fault in the system itself in the manual. Upon contacting Convergint, the maintenance crew was advised to remove the alarms and clean them with compressed air. One alarm accidentally was sprayed with WD-40 after the cans were mistaken for each other. During this time, the maintenance crew allowed the residents and Jonathan back into the building while they opened the windows and doors to air out the apartment.

When the alarms continued to sound after being cleaned, Convergint was contacted again and a meeting was set up for a technician to inspect the alarms which were still considered faulty. The alarms were removed and multiple attempts were made to reset the panel by maintenance staff while waiting for the Convergint technician to arrive at the designated time of 6 pm. The technician reinstalled the alarms with the on-duty RM while not interacting with the occupants of the building. The technician did not bring a CO detector and it was only after inspecting the devices, finding no faults, reinstalling them and having them go off yet again was maintenance notified to evacuate and emergency services were notified. By then it was 8 pm, over 14 hours since the original alarm had gone off.

The tankless water heater was improperly installed, the alarms raised were disregarded due to a history of faults in the alarm system and the alarm system itself failed to notify emergency services despite going off in multiple bedrooms in the mod. The student workers who responded to the event were improperly equipped to respond to this type of emergency situation made worse by assumptions based on the consistent failure of the alarm system. The RM manual, with all its flaws, was not even made available to many of the RMs according to an anonymous source. Student workers are consistently given deadly serious jobs, told they are simply auxiliary to staff, improperly trained and then underpaid for their work. Lower campus has been poorly maintained for years with many residents reporting mold growth, clogged ventilation and leaks in their spaces: spaces which cost them \$6,150 to \$9,120 an academic year not including the required \$792 minimum per quarter for dining services.

.

"No one will care about what you do, unless you fuck up..."

These are the last words of the Evergreen RM handbook. It is one thing for mistakes to be made, but when all systems are set up to fail, they will.

Community News

EVERGREEN'S STUDENT FORUM: a Recap by Grace Selvig

The CPJ will be working to make the full transcript of this event available to the community in the coming days. The following Q&A's are not presented in chronological order.

On April 10th at 2pm in Purce Hall, members of the Evergreen Administration sat down to answer the questions of students on campus. The panel consisted of President John Carmichael, Vice President Dexter Gordon, Director of Student Activities and New Student Programs Kayla Mahnke-Hargett, Dean of Students Holly Joseph, and Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs David McAvity. Also present in the audience was William Ward, the Chief of Administrative Operations who temporarily oversees Residential and Dining Facilities in addition to Campus Facilities. His presence was requested by students to be a panelist but was not seated amongst them. Many of the students' expressed urgent concerns around housing and Ward had to turn and stand to answer several of the questions posed.

Kayla Mahnke-Hargett served as the facilitator of the panel, directing the flow of questions, reading out-loud the written ones and checking in on time. Speaking of time, the panel was only one hour in length. Some members of the panel had obligations at 3 o'clock, while others stuck around to have oneon-one's with students. The organization of this panel was well planned. There were staff members dedicated to question collecting who also walked to the back of the room and asked the students there if they could hear everything okay. The microphones and sound system worked the whole time, and the conversation was overall respectful.

Getting to the content of the panel itself, John Carmichael opened with a statement acknowledging that we are all still carrying our grief from the death of our classmate Jonathan Rodriguez. He let the crowd know that pro-staff had been informed on the issues brought to light at the GSU town hall back in February, naming some of the mentioned concerns around the "Israel/Palestine War" and the forms campus policing, offhandedly mentioning the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics distressing new rules around transgender athletes. Carmichael also recognized that we need to elevate student voices on campus.

When Carmichael was asked directly about the release of the WSP report and how it revealed just how preventable Jonathan's death was he said:

"What I can see reading that full report now is that the way we were training people to understand and respond to alarms was not adequate and so we fixed that. We've changed how we're responding to alarms, have changed how we're talking to the staff that are responding to alarms and bottom line we don't have anybody in any units that have propane now. So I feel very comfortable that we're not going to have another propane incident on campus and that gives us space to get to these deeper systems. We're double checking and triple checking the alarm systems, double checking and triple checking how we train, making sure we're adding our position to oversee the RAD facilities operation, we're taking it really seriously, I feel that responsibility".

A question asked by the CPJ's News editor concerned the alarm system at Evergreen: "Going forward, will Evergreen continue to contract services from Convergint [Technologies]?" Ward claimed his position's responsibility over the life safety systems of campus and said that currently the college is reviewing the contract made with the company. He also claimed that a third party had reviewed the system which was identified upon further questioning as the contracted party was Evergreen Fire Protection. Ward claimed that if "performance issues," were found then the contract might be changed. Carmichael stepped in later to directly address the hesitancy when discussing the contract:

"...we're being a little bit careful about how we talk because we have both a legal process that we're going through and a business contract process that's governed by state law... if we get too far out ahead of that process and then we may not end up at the place that we need to end up.. So the caution you're hearing our voices is that we gotta follow those steps so that we don't accidentally prevent ourselves from taking an action that needs to be taken."

One student asked "Why is Evergreen continuing to host campus tours and promote campus housing despite numerous safety concerns?" Dexter Gordon responded by mentioning the work order indexing and risk prevention processes that have occurred since December 11th, in the same level of detail outlined in the previous quarters community updates. He stated that Evergreen can with confidence say they have done the best of their ability to make our community safe, and that incoming students do not face outstanding risk. He elaborates:

"No one can guarantee full safety. We can do our best to make sure that we minimize risks and vulnerabilities. We believe it is important to keep Evergreen as a valuable entity. That means continuing programs of the college, to grow the college. That means continuing to ensure we bring new students to join us. That means, to some extent, rebuilding the vibrancy of the college but more importantly that means to advance the educational mission that we all share together."

A follow up question asked about the replacement of student ambassadors by pro-staff on admissions tours in the face of recent protest disruptions. Gordon addressed that this decision was made with students workers, tour participants, and protesters in mind.

"With the Evergreen approach... We respect students' rights to protest. We also expect that students will understand that there are shared responsibilities that we all have. While we will facilitate the reality that students want to make statements or want to protest, we also have a responsibility to other students who want to make sure they're safe." He also mentioned that pro-staff have been added partially for their knowledge of the student code of conduct. "We want to honor our student code and invite the students to be responsible participants in honoring that code."

Informal dialogue with a number of student ambassadors has suggested that their work hours have not been decreased in the face of these rearrangements.

Also mentioned at the forum was that flyers related to Jonathan Rodriguez have been taken down across campus. Holly Joseph said that in the event that flyers do get taken down on campus it is for the reason that they do not follow Evergreen's posting policy. This policy includes posting in the designated bulletin boards and having a

form of contact information on them. A student asked if this policy could be changed or if additional boards could be added to higher visibility areas, the response to the first was yes, the policy could technically be changed, but that would involve a longer conversation with the deans. William Ward answered about the bulletin boards saying, yes, bulletin boards could be added, students would have to submit a facilities related work order. Students who see flyers getting taken down without proper cause should report it to the dean's office.

A big question of the forum was "The RA's in student housing have been asking for fair pay and better working conditions for years. When will they be fairly compensated and why is it taking so long?" The panel acknowledged that they were not exactly the people to be speaking on RAD affairs, and that Susan Hopp (in charge of RAD) is an interim fill-in for Sharon Goodman, who passed away. They said that the reason this position has not been filled with a designated long term staff member is because they are in the process of updating the job description and analyzing the position itself. They said that they are expecting to have the position filled for the next academic year. The mention of this job position left many with more questions, as the conversation never went back to RA compensation.

Aramark, the contractor that provides the food for the Greenery, was also mentioned. When a food supplier gets contracted to work for the school the contract lasts a few years. Soon, this contract will expire and the college will be taking new bids. The student who brought this up inquired about alternative methods of fulfilling this service, possibly local. Here is what John Carmichael had to say about this topic: "...I think we can look at how it's structured and figure out if there is a way that we can structure it that would get us more bids from more different kinds of contractors." Carmichael also mentioned as an agency of the state of Washington the bidding process has certain procedural requirements. He also mentioned that student involvement in the bidding process and reviews of the bids is something that needs to be started as well.

Some other context regarding Aramark is they are a company that is contracted to **supply food for prisons**

Community

as well, a fact often mentioned by students. At the forum, explicit mention was dodged but alluded to in explanation: "Running a food service operation is complex and expensive... that often leaves us with large corporations that may have ties that are not our favorite... that aren't the areas that we want to have affiliations with, but oftentimes they're just limited in our choices and so that's where we end up with organizations like Aramark"

Only one student addressed a question to David McAvity, who otherwise had contributed very lightly to the panel. In reference to Nancy Koppleman's comments at the What is My Responsibility? Four Jewish Perspectives webinar on February 21st of this year they asked: "Do you have any intention of reprimanding the faculty member who called Palestinians medieval peasants live on Evergreen programming and why has there not been additional effort by Admin to offer a four Muslim or Palestinian perspectives panel?" McAvity seemed confused by this question and what it was in reference to. He clarified that panels are initiated by individual faculty and programs not administration, later asserting that although out of his primary area of leadership, he has been working with staff and faculty to put on panels that "advance the educational mission of Evergreen. That includes grappling with difficult issues like the just devastating war we're looking at right now and to make sure that there are voices representing the Palestinian interests and the Palestinian cause is part of our planning." All students were then encouraged to approach the deans in their offices below the clock tower should any formal complaints or concerns against faculty members need to be lodged.

One student came forward to speak about the institutional treatment of black students and the lack of support that they receive. "Jonathan was a black man, one of the few black men on this campus, I mean look around the room. I just feel like Evergreen doesn't really care about the way the black students are treated. We have BSU going through so many hoops to become an official club and no one is trying to help... Is there anything ever going to be done realistically in the future, even after I'm gone, are there gonna be people still trying to support us?" Dexter Gordon responded by saying "It is very important to acknowledge the small number of black students on campus. That's an issue that we have to address. I also want to acknowledge your observation that there is no BSU on campus, that has to do with the laws of the state and to say in response to that, that that issue has come to my attention. I know of people working on

that issue and I'm actively working with those persons to support student efforts to get an organized way for black students to be able to come together and I'm fully committed to that issue, fully committed to the steps necessary to make it so."

Another student brought forward a concern of seeing an asbestos van outside the CRC. William Ward said he would inquire on that specific instance, saying he wasn't sure. He also clarified that with any facilities project that happens on campus, asbestos testing needs to be done. To quote him directly: "Nobody can even poke a hole in a wall or hang something or do anything without getting testing done first". The same student also mentioned concerns for the concrete structures on campus and water leaks, to which Ward said "We're going to be spending close to about \$800,000 this summer working just on concrete repairs and stuff of that nature as well, too. It's a great big campus. There's a lot of work going on here but we're doing the best we can to maintain it and take care of it and make sure it's safe for everybody".

At the end of the forum I reached out to a few members of the audience to ask how they thought the event went and if there were any issues they wished there was time to speak on. Between their one on one conversation with the lingering executive leadership, I took their comments. Here is a summarized list of their thoughts (they asked to remain anonymous):

- One hour felt like too little time.
- Other colleges in the state of Washington have BSU email addresses attached to their institutions, so in what aspect is establishing a BSU a state-issue?
- There have been several RA's who have not been able to use their meal plans, they go to the Greenery and they just do not show up in the system. (RA's are compensated for their labor through housing and meals, so not having access to these meals is them not being compensated). Also, in years past RA's received over 10 meals a week. Currently it is 7 for Apartment RA's, and talk is that RAD leadership wants to reduce it to 5.
- A-Dorm RA's only recently receive 12 meals a week, and it is because with no access to a kitchen many were reportedly going without food.
- The 6th floor fire panel in A-dorm keeps going off.
- RA's were not compensated for the three week training that they underwent.



For Your Additional Consideration...

During the student forum, an audience member posed an impassioned invitation to lay out next steps. Frustrated, they spoke:

"...I appreciate that this space is being opened but I'm extremely concerned that Jonathan Rodriguez died on December 11th and only now in April we're starting to have these student forums. During these student forums there is still not intentional space for specifically addressing Jonathan Rodriguez's death and specifically addressing housing and safety concerns.

"I am wondering why there wasn't immediately a coalition opened between admin, faculty, staff, and students to address this... I feel that after his death, there should have immediately been some sort of organization that could have offered resources, funding to allow students to facilitate spaces with mourning and to facilitate spaces of sharing these concerns.

"I'm extremely concerned that when students did organize a vigil last week, we put in a facilities request and foldable tables never arrived. They never arrived because folding tables were not available. A student died on campus and it is extremely devastating that there couldn't be two foldable tables. It feels disrespectful so I would really appreciate some kind of context on why it's taken so long to get details, to get organized support, and if following this meeting will you open more space to have more facilitated dialogue and response concerning the specific event rather than just a general statement form."

In response, Carmichael fumbled.

"..I'll accept that critique in the spirit that is offered and I guess I'll say we're doing the best we know how to do. If we're not meeting needs it's like.. I want to know more about what that space would look like to you because I do think we're trying to find ways to create space for some of the things that you're naming. If the space we're creating isn't the right space, I think we just need to understand better what the right space looks like, so thank you for the critique."

The forum as it occurred was a request made by students starting in week 4 of last quarter. This request was delivered through Dr. Gordon to Executive Leadership throughout the meetings with students in winter. Many students, staff, and faculty cannot envision the 10 weeks of stalling and poor publicity for the student forum as wholly unintentional.

Specifically, an anonymous group of students and staff submitted a selection of their observations on Evergreen Leadership's engagement of the campus. They named the lack of care towards the student forum as an ongoing pattern from the President's Office that minimizes community engagement, awareness, and de-prioritizes internal concerns, turning top resources instead towards outward facing initiatives (such as external media relations, fundraising, and enrollment). Many of these observations came from an understanding of the student worker, staff and faculty sides, but translate well into the student context.

First, they noted how the announcement of the student forum... (cont. p6)

Community News

STUDENT FORUM P.5

...once during the week before and once day of, despite 10 weeks of potential planning, significantly lowered participation. They wrote:

"This is something the President's Office (specifically Carmichael and Gordon) have done a few times to staff as well. Sometimes they've been better, but often it's announced day of, and they usually remove the hybrid/remote option. We don't know if this is intentional, or just them not knowing how to be organized, or if these only come about as a reactive response to rising complaints."

From various positions within the college, the group wrote of their experience on the morning of December 12th, prior to the announcement of Jonathan Rodriguez's death:

"There was a pre-scheduled pancake party, and they actively withheld releasing the Evergreen email until 2 hours later [at 11am] when we were all back in our offices. Which was also awful since we have student-workers and staff that work front-desk/phone settings, and [they] could've gotten community calls about it since it was released in the press."

To close, they attached an overview of

what they recognize as an early instance of Evergreen Leadership dropping the ball for ongoing dialogue sessions, at the cost of important information being circulated.

'Conversations in Leadership: A Series' was a one-time event that was advertised by Jadon Berry and Senior Leadership/the president's office as a continuing conversation about how to handle concerns raised by staff and faculty managers about the lack of assistance, order, and training for managers to help Evergreen run better. They said it'd be a 50/50 dialogue where they wanted to hear from us. Instead, it was like a stand-up comedy routine/lecture by Carmichael and Gordon (they literally sat on stools with a microphone). They said 'we don't want to focus on the past' and talked about their grandmothers and the Admissions Director as being 'great examples of leadership' for about 50 minutes. Didn't offer a single solution or point of contact for following up. The last 10 minutes was Q&A where they dodged questions like politicians and ended the session early. The whole idea was dropped immediately after, despite people emailing to ask for at least a follow up to the promise."

Regardless of intention, Leadership has consistently employed evasive

strategies and avoided providing information and dialogue to its staff, faculty, and students. The affirmation of critique should be viewed as a dangerous strategy, one that quickly leads to inaction. Immediate action is possible, we have seen this used on the student tours to protect student workers, tourists, and protesters. The student body at large has not experienced this level of immediate action and prioritization since the Community Gathering on December 13th, critiqued for its news outlet presence. It is frankly insulting that it has taken this long for Executive Leadership to return to a public forum and address the concerns of its community directlv.

Even despite this, the civility demonstrated in the questions from the forum's crowd of nearly 50 able to attend this last-minute advertised event communicates a profoundly strong commitment from the student body towards collaboration. Leadership acknowledged that as they move forward, "they must build in student voice, and be responsive to it." Beyond voice, power must be seized and guaranteed.

Let this be a first step towards successful dialogue. And let the student forums not be the only space students look to leverage change in the institution.

All that you

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP WERE REQUESTED TO HOLD A SECOND STUDENT FORUM, SUGGESTED FOR WEEK 5 IN THE QUARTER.

THE CPJ WILL UPDATE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE WITH MORE INFORMATION.

Instagram: @yourcpj cooperpointjournal.com

thoughts of your own? send them to cooperpointjournal@gmail.com

Undergraduate Commencement Speaker Auditions

Date: Monday April 22 Time: 3-5 pm Location: Purce Hall: Lecture Hall 1

Auditioners should prepare a speech no longer than five minutes, incorporating the 2024 commencement theme:

"All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you. The only lasting truth is change." -Octavia Butler.

*Anyone who can't make the live auditions can submit a speech recording to be played at the auditions. Audition recordings are due on April 17, 2024. Media Services is offering some times for students to come record their auditions on the Olympia campus – info is in the form RE dates/times. **Auditioners should sign up to audition using this form, whether they are auditioning in person or using a recording**: https://forms.office.com/r/ fiTCMgTdPw (QR code of form below) Only degree-seeking undergraduate students graduating in academic year 2023-24 can audition. Graduating seniors who don't plan to audition are invited to enjoy snacks and vote on their class speaker and only undergraduate seniors are allowed to vote. tonebyout thanges. All that you changes thanges you. The only lasting that is changes octavite Butler REARCHING FOR THE **BARCHING FOR THE BARCHING FOR THE BARCH**

Scan the QR code to register for the UG Student Commencement Speaker Audition

Oops! All Ads



APRIL 17TH, 2024/ THE COOPER POINT JOURNAL

Community



EVERGREEN STUDENT GOVERNMENT PROFILE .

Geoduck Student Union

JOB: Advocate for the needs of

- the Evergreen student body.
- Follow key legislation that will
- have impacts on higher
- education and college students.
- Host events for student
- community. Learn ethical
- governance and decision-making in action.
- **OPENINGS:** 9 positions
- TIME COMMITMENT: 14-16
- hours/week
- COMPENSATION:
- \$2,800/quarter
- **COLLEGE IMPACT:** 5 stars
- Find 2024-2025 Jobs on joinhandshake.com!

........

EVERGREEN STUDENT GOVERNMENT PROFILE

Student Trustee on the Board of Trustees

Represent Evergreen Students on the Evergreen Board of Trustees. Learn about the direction of the college, governance, strategic planning, and more! Build relationships and network with students, staff, and faculty. The Student Trustee is a volunteer nominated by the college and then appointed by the Governor.

OPENINGS: 1 Student Trustee **TIME COMMITMENT:** 9-12

- hours/month
- COMPENSATION: volunteer
- COLLEGE IMPACT: 5 stars
- 8 WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM

Washington Student Association Conference By Juniper Campbell

Geoduck Student Union (GSU) Director of Legislative Affairs

This past winter during this year's legislative session, I went into the belly of the beast to lobby the state legislature on behalf of the Evergreen student body as a part of an organization known as the Washington Student Association (WSA). If you saw my article in the 2024 February issue of the CPJ then you know the WSA is an organization run by students for students wherein the legislative officers from across thirteen of Washington's public colleges come together to lobby for bills at the state level.

Each year the Washington Student Association creates a general agenda which is to represent the interests of all the students of the member colleges, over 150,000 students, this is the general agenda that was the basis of my lobbying activities this past winter. During the spring General Assembly (GA), the WSA creates a provisional agenda which is then established with further rounds of discussion and voting in the following fall. It's important to note here that lobbyists from each college that are part of the WSA don't just lobby for the general agenda, but each also usually create their own agenda with communication from their students about what their priorities are which they lobby for alongside the general agenda, which often overlap in some parts. Since the GSU is once again a part of the WSA we were invited to attend this Springs GA from April 6th to April 7th at Bellevue College. I was thankfully able to attend both days.

The picture there was incredible, a whole room of students on the third floor of what was supposedly Bellveue's "nicest building" (sincerely the nicest college building I've ever been in) wearing suits and ties, scattered across round tables and percolating over to a fancy sandwich bar.. Most of the colleges had multiple people from their student governments such as their Presidents, Judicial Senators, Student life senators, Communications officers, and so on.

When I first came to the conference I wrote in my notebook a few things that I COM

wanted to get out of the meeting. It was important to me to frame it for myself, and I was, after all, getting to stay in a nice hotel on student money. I should make sure I'm making this worth our money. This notebook was my talisman, friend, and comfort object, simply having it in front of me gave me a power and capacity to engage in other ways I would not have been able to. So, here's a shout out to my notebook.

Saturday consisted of a couple talks, a few workshops and then the initial proposals, debate, and brainstorming for the draft policy agenda among the legislative officers. The important bit of information I got from the workshops was the fact that colleges feel reliant on the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) to get money for new infrastructure due to the decarbonization regulations. Soon a call to repeal the CCA will be on the ballot, if this goes through then the colleges will be looking for other ways to fund infrastructure projects... such as tuition.

As stated above, one of the essential aspects of this event was to debate on the policy agenda.

Due to the nature of this General Assembly occurring quickly after the legislative session I was not able to go through a process of collecting proposals from the student body, and to be sure this will absolutely be done for an Evergreen specific agenda. However through conversations with many members of the community and after some reflection I decided on four proposals. These were:

- 1. The creation of community police, security, and safety response review boards on all campuses.
- 2. The creation of a community housing safety review board
- 3. Renovation and better maintenance for student housing
- 4. Expansion of the supporting students experiencing homelessness program and basic needs program

Sunday involved the most important moments of the event. Now was when we had to actually vote on whether or not to put our proposed policies on the draft agenda. Thankfully my proposals passed, however this was not without pushback. Particularly one comment comes to mind, regarding the proposal for community police review boards: "Is this not just an emotional evergreen thing", which was quickly answered by others before I could even get to it. Some of the other policies that were passed onto the draft agenda I consider of high importance were:

-Expansion of financial aid -Collective bargaining framework for operation student workers

-More funding for mental health

-Making colleges have to do more to protect their students from sexual violence

For the finale of the event we had the election of multiple positions to the WSA such as the president, the communications officer, and so on. During the last two days if you listened carefully to the conversations going on around you you could hear people making deals saying if you endorse me I'll endorse you, I'll say something good about you during my speech and so on. Most interesting was the formation of what was basically a friend group or team of people who tried to do what they could to fill all the positions, and while this was unsuccessful it was quite amusing and unnerving.

In the end I returned to my notebook writing that there were really no true friends to be made here, certainly no comrades. It is precisely the nature of the org as a youth org, which are learning to play the theatre of bourgeois politics, that makes contradictions so elusive to them. It's precisely by realizing that these contradictions are actually there that I was able to act distinctively on behalf of the Evergreen student body **Get in Contact:**

evan.campbell@evergreen.edu

MAKE CHANGE AT EVERGREEN JOIN STUDENT GOVERNANCE FOR NEXT YEAR!

By Kayla Mahnke Hargett & Natalie Arneson Student Activities Staff

Student governance positions will soon be accepting applications for nex year! There are over 20 positions fo students to serve in a wide range of ca pacities across campus. These roles put certain decision making in the hands o students and are a great way to partake in a deeper involvement in The Ever green State College's campus community.

"What is going on around here?"

Have you ever walked around campus and wondered how it all works? Get ting insight into the inner workings o an institution can seem like a daunting task, especially when you don't know where to start. Student governance is a great way to help peel back the curtain and become an active participant in institutional decision making. Specifically, student governance includes the Geoduck Student Union, Services & Activities Fee Allocation Board (S&A Board), Clean Energy Committee, Cooper Point Journal (bet you didn't think I'd add you here, Sako, but the CPJ is def a tool of student engagement). Additionally, the Geoduck Student Union appoints student representatives to shared governance committees across the College, including but not limited to: Board of Trustees, Health and Safety Committee, and the Space and Land Use Group (SLUG).

Through student governance at Evergreen, you can decide where the money goes, provide feedback on critical decisions, host college events and activities, and determine the key priorities for the improvement of student life at Evergreen. There are many levels of commitment - everything from 1-2 meetings a quarter to 12-15 hours per week, depending on the role. Find more information about specific job duties, hours expectations, compensation, work schedule, and application process on Handshake.

You can build your skill set in a variety of ways, gaining a deeper knowledge of governance, grant writing, communications, meeting facilitation, non-profit management, event planning, organizational budgeting, building effective working relationships, understanding how large organizations function-just to name a few! Not only will you develop a better understanding, you will also be given opportunities to put these skills into practice. For example, our S&A Board holds budget hearings to decide how student fees will be used and how much funding our student clubs receive.

You are walking down the path that the students of yesterday worked hard to build through student-led and shared governance of the college. These countless Evergreen students carried the voice and needs of students to college administration, to the Board of Trustees, to the state legislature, and beyond. Thank you for your interest in being a part of the student legacy at Evergreen! We look forward to reviewing your applications!

REMEMBERING Alex Swiftwater McCarty

Interviews Collected by Chris Tanner

On April 3, 2024, I attended the college's service for Alex Swiftwater Mc-Carty held in the House of Welcome. At this event staff, former students of Alex, and his family gathered to pay tribute to him. The stories from his brothers were particularly touching; he was, as they said, the best of them. Also moving was a story told by his child of wolf spirits being deceived by a trickster, and a song they all sung in his honor. I had not been in his classes, had not even met him. I simply went to the event as someone curious and supportive. I did not know what to expect.

What met me was a sea of emotions: great wellsprings of grief combined with fond nostalgia, many cute and funny and lovely stories being told all of one man. This struck me. I asked myself how this was possible, how one person could touch a community so much. How so? What must he have been like? With this in mind I made it my mission to talk to those among us who HAD known him, his students.

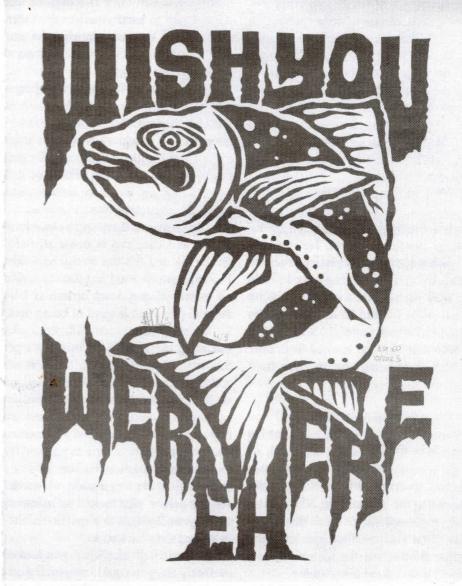
What follows are a set of curated interviews, anecdotes and reminiscences from those of us who were in his class and carry with them his living memory.

Victoria Hesse-Morgan, First Year

"I took Alex's studio art class in my first quarter at Evergreen. I grew up in Olympia so I've always felt really close to this state, especially the forests and waters local to us. I've always loved the Native art style around here but I didn't really think it was possible to learn that style, it felt forbidden, I didn't know where to look or who I could ask to even start to understand it. Getting to learn it from an Indigenous expert, from a teacher that wants you to understand how to actually construct it, not just how to emulate something that 'looks native,' in 2D and 3D forms, as well as screen printing was pretty incredible. He was a wealth of art knowledge and local native history, as well as telling fun anecdotes about his time living on the Makah reservation in Neah Bay. He was really a mentor to everyone.

"For my first screen print assignment, I made a piece featuring a salmon about a girl I dated that promised to take me fishing and then dumped me and isolated me. I felt like he really understood how deeply not being able to fish with a

Ξ



partner had hurt me. Alex loved fishing and he especially loved that fish piece and what it meant to my life and journey as an artist. I wish I could tell him that I got to meet his child October at the memorial event, and I showed them that salmon piece. It says "Wish You Were Here" and they said "That's how I feel about my Papa right now" and we both cried a bit. I made that piece because I missed a girl I was in a situationship with, and it reminded me of my family that had passed. Meeting his child and them connecting immediately with a piece he had connected with so much was really a special and deeply profound moment for me as an artist.

"When we talk about Alex and his accomplishments, where he worked or what job title he had says very little about his impact on this campus. His greatest accomplishment is his students, and future students learning under his paintings in the House of Welcome and his greeting statues over the Fiber Arts Studio."

Belle Mayne, Senior

"I took Alex's class Tradition and Innovation: Northwest Coast Indigenous Digital Design and Printmaking in Spring of 2022. I also worked partially under Alex this most recent Fall as a printmaking studio aide.

"My favorite memory with Alex was during the class that I took with him. For that project, I wanted to create a crow surrounded by jewelry using a variety of basic shapes in Adobe Illustrator instead of line art. Alex would watch me create the shapes to make the bird and talk with me about Crows and ravens and what they meant to the two of us. Each class, he would check in with me and would always bring different readings and show artworks that included crows and ravens to act as potential inspiration and to add more meaning to the project I was working on at that time.

"He taught me to have patience within myself and with my artwork when creating. During his thoughtful in depth demos how he would... *(continued p8)*

Alex Swiftwater McCarty, cont.

...always tell us to be patient with printing and creating and that everything will end up okay. If it didn't, he told us to try brainstorming solutions and see how things can be done differently. I have taken his words of advice into every medium I have learned or done since.

"Alex's attitude and being was inspiring to all. He was always so nice and willing to help anyone with anything. And the love for the craft and the amount of care he would put into anything. The best way to say anything about him is just how inspiring he was and is still, and forever will be to anyone who was able to interact with him.

With graduating in the spring, I wish I could have been able to tell him how much I was able to accomplish in my College academic career. He changed my path at the end of sophomore year to get me to where I ended up now. I would not have been where I am now without him. I wish I could have been able to just tell him how grateful I was and am to have met him and learned from him. The honor of being able to learn from him will never leave me."

Lindy Hop Muttel, Senior

"From my very first quarter working in the Print Shop I knew I wanted to arrange my schedule to be an aid in Alex McCarty's classes. When it was time for scheduling the next quarter, Alex had already requested me to work during his class. That was the first time of many that he showed me the reciprocity and respect that defined his teaching.

"Every day before class started Alex would walk in, set down his bag, and ask how I was doing, a soft but firm way to make me slow down from frantically getting materials together before a long day of print demonstrations.

"The longer we worked together, the more I noticed myself creating habits of gentle, steady work, following his example of moving with intention. His methodical, bordering on magical, technique to create 'rainbow rolls' or gradients was always the demonstration I looked forward to most because of the way it opened up a world of new possibilities for students.

"There was a noticeable difference between the creative direction of students before the demonstration, who usually created flatter, graphic designs beforehand than after, where ideas became wildly creative and expansive in all directions, exploding with dancing, wild colors. That's simply how Alex taught, humble yet talented and creative, teaching all students a respect-based relationship with Coast-Salish and formline tra-

10 WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM

ditions, and asking for nothing but the patience to listen in return.

"Returning to the print shop, I show someone how to create that seamless transition between a color gradient. Returning, I still brew two cups of tea. Alex, I turn to hand you the cup, I turn expecting to see you admiring the student's work. I will continue your good work, teacher."

Ramsey Connor Huffinger, Freshman "I was in Studio Printmaking: Form and Culture with Alex. One of my favorite memories is when I was in the print studio, and I spilled ink all over. Bright, bright red ink too, a big puddle of it. I heard him going down the hallway, and panicked, expecting him to be mad. So I'm running around trying to clean it up as fast as I can, and in doing so I slip on the ink and fall flat on my back like I'm in a cartoon. And just then he walks up to me, staring down on me as I lie there in pain. But instead of being mad, he just softly says to me, "Oh, this looks like a big mess. Let's get this. Let's get this cleaned up." He wasn't mad at all, and I felt super relieved. He also told me we have to get rid of those ink cartridges so they were gonna end up in the trash anyway. No matter how bad you messed up, he would always forgive you and try to work out a solution. He was a bit of a father figure. He was a good role model for any person who looked up to him or even spoke 2 words to him. He definitely passed the vibe check.

"It always felt like when you looked at Alex's art, you could imagine it flowing and moving, like with some sort of movement that would tell a story. Like it's alive. Like if he drew a rainy day, clouds over an ocean, you could envision those waves moving up and down in the water, and the waves churning. It's also worth adding that he didn't just stick to one medium. Usually, I would



see him draw, but he was also a sculptor, and a basket weaver. In his classes he would invite you to dive into his cultures, Sometimes that came with hard challenges. But he himself wasn't afraid to ask for help from people who were better at things than him, and he never begrudged guiding others. He never thought that he was above someone's level just because he had more experience." (above portrait by Ramsey)

The CPJ will continue to hold space for memorial submissions.

> cooperpointjournal @gmail.com

May submissions due: 5/8

This is a screen print that I designed during an ILC with Alex McCarty. It's a depiction of Buddha catching Sun Wukong, the Monkey King. The ILC was called East to West and focused on an interpretation of the Chinese novel Journey to the West. Through his lectures on Coast Salish storytelling, Alex ignited an interest in the tales of my own culture, the impact that they had on my youth, and who I am today. He showed me that even though these stories were larger than life, that they were effectively true since I was there to find meaning in them. I will never forget that.

- Parker Wong, Class of '23



BELLE MAYNE:

TERVILEW WITTH KASYLEE PAVDITLI Interviewer:Introduce yourself!

Belle: Sweet! I'm Belle. I am currently in my last quarter at Evergreen. I am an art major. I am mainly focusing on printmaking, but I am kind of a multimedia artist. I also work in the metalsmithing studio sometimes and also

my main three. Interviewer: What would you say are the most common things in your art?

the ceramic studio. Those are kind of

Belle: Bugs are probably my biggest thing. Another kind of style of my artwork would be American Traditional. I love to kind of integrate the two with one another. But mainly my bugs just 'cause I like how they look. Growing up, I was a huge bug catcher. I would go out with my siblings and we would lift whatever we could and be like, "let's see what we can find under all these rocks". And we would pick up all the worms and try to find as much as we could. My parents would go out with us sometimes. When it was just me, my dad and I would go and try to find black widows, just hiding on rocks by where we lived. My mom and I would catch tarantula hawks when



I was barely walking, so bugs have always been very incorporated.

Interviewer: I also noticed birds in your art as physical sculptures. I'm just wondering, how did you take interest in sculpting birds and what was that process like?

Belle: For birds, I've noticed a lot of things that are kind of relevant for my artwork. I'm very focused on the patterns within the little bugs or with any animal, birds especially. I'm always very fascinated with their feathers and the overall shape of how they look. A lot have fun tails or their bodies are really big compared to their heads, and like different kinds of beaks. The one that I sculpted had very curled beaks. It's a red and green winged macaw and I think that that bird especially interested me 'cause it fit in with the theme of the project I was doing. My way of sculpting is I create the base with very simple clay techniques where I make pinch pots, put, 'em together and then kind of just sculpt the details around them. There's a mess method with ceramics where you can build the whole form as solid and then hollow it out after the fact. But I'm not

> very good and precise with things like that. I like to start with a hollow body and then kind of sculpt around it. In my ceramics, I really enjoy building a very detailed base. Then after the fact, going in with like blazes and slips and making them and then just doing solid colors.

> Interviewer: You also mentioned focusing on bodies the of birds and their patterns, and that's presented in your bug drawings as well, but not posed like the birds, but

they're done in a sort of aerial view.

Belle: Yeah, my inspiration for my bug prints is pinned bugs where I see them in the shadow boxes after they have died and are preserved. I like using it as inspiration 'cause it always feels like an honor to the bugs after they've been passed.

Interviewer: I like that you're going at it through an honorary aspect, 'cause I feel

like not many people focus on the fact that this is a dead bug that they're looking at.

Belle: And most of the time people are like, "Ooh, a bug." And so I'm like, no I want to show that bugs are artwork in itself, when they are put in the shadow boxes and turned into artwork, 'cause then people are like, oh art is cool.

Interviewer: I feel like that also shows through your emphasis on patterns as well. Just really focusing on the more pleasing aspects of it. Especially for the people who are like, "oh it's a bug." But once you put detail on the intricate patterns, people start to see it differently. I also noticed the chains and necklaces you create. Could you tell me a little more about that?

Belle: A Lot of my metalsmithing work is very focused on body harnesses. You don't really see intricate art like body harnesses a lot. That kind of started the stem of like, oh yes, a very simple top part for the necklace and then kind of working down the body and creating a really cool piece essentially on the under bust, just 'cause it j keeps drawing the eye in. And I really love working with jewelry and art as jewelry.

Interviewer: Yeah, they look really sick!

Belle: Thank you!

Interviewer: The main piece that drawed me in were the bones. Are they real ones or did you create them yourself?

Belle: At the beginning of winter quarter I was very focused on goats. You always see goats, not necessarily in a negative sense, but you see them kind of referenced a lot too, to more negative ideas to some people. I was like, oh I kind of wanna honor the goat when they



are dead in a very positive light. So I used reference images of a pygmy goat and I sculpted clay into the bone shape. Then I created that series where it's a pygmy goat spine as a body harness. Then I made other parts of the bones. Then I started making finger rings as well.

Interviewer: Nice! It seems like you like to focus on the honorary aspect when you're creating your pieces. And I'm wondering, is there also some sort of other symbolism along with honoring the animals and insects? Like is there a meaning into when you are picking out these specific animals and insects to focus on?

Belle: For the goat, it definitely was a part of it. I had a couple of options to go with and the goat really drew my attention for the meaning. It emphasizes perseverance, courage and being able to adapt in the face of variety. That really meant a lot to me going forward this year 'cause I am graduating and so it's been a very scary and anxiety ridden time. This animal represents what I am dealing with this year of needing to have courage and being able to face different scenarios.

Interviewer: How has your Evergreen experience shaped you as an artist?

Belle: It has changed my art experience from night to day. I couldn't have asked for anything better in the arts department here. Especially with taking printmaking two years ago. I knew of it, but I was like, oh that's just like one of those art things I'll never learn because I don't have the experience to be able to do it. Then I did, and I took it with Alex McCarty two years ago. And ever since then, the world literally flipped around for me; it's one of those things where it clicked... (cont. next page)

APRIL 17TH, 2024/ THE COOPER POINT JOURNAL 11

Artist Feature Cont.



(continued from p11) and I was like, oh, this is for me. I did printmaking for the first time and I was like, oh holy shit, this is exciting. I'm now in the routine of constantly sketching. I'm constantly coming up with ideas and knowing and being able to know how to create those ideas, and I never had passion for art before that.

Interviewer: Yeah, I feel like that's the ever greater effect, you know? If you have one little interest in something, it just goes on to several different pathways and it's just such an exciting, weird ride for four years or so. Are there any current projects you're working on or is there something, if you've thought about it, generating after Evergreen?

Belle: Yeah, my current project is a continuation from last quarter in ceramics. I really got into making pendants with images on it. I'm just continuing that in the ceramic studio and making some more little sculptures hopefully. With printmaking, I'm working on a really big relief print right now and cranking away through that. I have ideas from my other classes, but it's like nothing is really set in stone yet. My brain is so scrambled with the like, oh God, what project am I doing in what class what am I trying, accomplish in my last quarter? It's really intimidating.

Interviewer: You said you're doing a relief project, what's that?

Belle: Yeah, so it's taking a wood block or a linoleum piece. There's a couple different ways you can sketch out a design on it, but putting a design on it and then carving out what you don't want printed and then using a brayer once it's all done, and rolling it onto the thing and then putting a paper on top and then pressing the ink onto the paper. It's huge, like 18 inches wide, 24 inches tall.

12 WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM

big grand idea that you're wanting to commit to?

Belle: Yeah, that's gonna be my big project for the quarter.

Interviewer: Do you have any idea what design you're doing?

Belle: Yeah, it's currently a work in progress right now. I'm about 15 hours in and not halfway done carving it. It's a heaven and hell themed piece with birds. I've been very interested in

swords and American traditional style stuff. American traditional swords are always classic, iconic in tattoos you'll see. So I was like, okay, how do I turn the Elden Rings style into American traditional, into my own idea of having a heaven and hell kind of themed idea.

Interviewer: How did you fall onto the idea of heaven and hell?

Belle: Yeah, so it originally was an idea where I was talking to my partner and I said I really wanna work on a piece with a sword. It originally was gonna be a patterned idea and I didn't know what kind of pattern to have it as. I told him to sketch something out and I will turn it into a print. So he came up with the idea of having a sword with birds surrounding it. And from his sketch I knew what I wanted to do. So I told him we can do a sword with biblical angel wings, surrounded by birds diving into a concept of hell. And he said that sounds great. Then from his original sketch, we sketched out something else and then I did the finalized sketch.

Interviewer: Yeah, I liked how it sort of looks like delving into the flames. It's definitely gonna be like a really visually incredible piece. How does the sword represent that for you?

Belle: I see it as the angel being part of the handle of the sword where you see in media and literature where it's like, heaven is on top and the angel is the one stabbing into hell. You have the angel and you have the flames and doves that are also seen as imagery you see with heaven. I like the aspect of them looking down at hell. I come from this as a non-religious person, but I really enjoy the imagery of things from heaven. I also wanted to include my crow piece that I did a couple years ago with Alex McCarty. I made that piece in his class a couple years ago. It's called a Murder

on the Night because a flock of crows is called a murder. It's a crow with jewels dripping down, and surrounded by their feet 'cause it's something that's known where if you become friends with crows they become friendly with you. A lot of the time you see people offering small gifts to the crows. I've seen people give ribbons and stuff like that. I imagined this crow broke into a jewelry box for someone and was so fascinated with all the jewels that it surrounded itself with them. Then kind of struggled like, oh God, I don't know what to bring back. I put a lot of meaningful jewelry that I own in there. This is like a little Easter egg for me. I have a piece that my boyfriend gave me for my 18th birthday and

he shaped up the lock and put on a pendant for me. I hid it within the piece.

Interviewer: A secret no one knows about.

Belle: Well now they do! With the overall experience working on this piece with Alex, we created this design using Illustrator and it was just always one where he saw me using a reference image of the crow and he asked what I was doing. And would always just come to me and be like, what are you doing with this piece? Like let's see the image, let's see the idea of it. And it was just one where he was like, "Ooh, I really want to see how your brain sees

that instead of just using lines." 'Cause he was like, "Oh we're on Illustrator. It's easy using lines" and all this. And I was like, no, I want to create a thousand fucking circles to create the bird and the wings. He would pull up a chair by me and say "I just wanna see how this goes," "I love seeing your process." He was such a process person and I admired it. His class was a change for me for my art, just watching him print and teach us all of this, and see how step by step he was, which is why I think part of that project fascinated him so much. He would just come watch me do my little shapes, give advice on how he thought some shapes could look or how the shapes could be to make the bird look more bird-like. We would just kin of talk about why we loved crows an ravens, and show me different artwork each class period and different writing just to connect like, "I kind of want t share my interest on this subject wit you through all of these different meth ods and mediums." And I would go an read things. He was just so nice with everyone and always gave advice.

Interviewer: It's really sweet the hear that, you know, like he isn't jurn hearing of someone that didn't try shard to direct their students to thing in a certain way, and you know, like let them like let their students growing the ways that they knew alread and also offering different pathway



I think that's the sweetest thing a professor can do.

Belle: Yeah, 'cause I'm especially or where it's like, if I know how I wa something to look, no one can convinme otherwise. So it was amazing for him to be like, "oh I recognize this how you want it to be and I'm gonn let you do that and so I'm just gonn be here to support." What he taught no will live with me forever.

Thank you to the CPJ's own Distribtion Manager Belle Mayne for an amaing interview!

Find Belle's art on instagram: @mimesis.illusions

Club Spotlight

EVERGREEN TERRORS: Tulpa Troubles This Week: : a dive into a terror from CHIBI CHIBICON

CONTENT WARNING: the following contains instances of gore and self harm.

15/03/2024

I don't know, nor would I dare ponder, how it was Matcha came to ascend beyond the confines of printed paper. But I am certain they are now a force greater than those who willed it into existence. Ideas are such fickle thingsone moment an extension of our very being, and the next a rogue agent beyond any measure of our control.

That's what I think they are-Matcha I mean, an idea gone astray.

Conceived in 2015 by Gabby, a now alum of the evergreen state college, Matcha at its inception was a green flying squirrel wearing goggles, a glowing medallion, and a red bead and band on its tail. They were a nameless entity until 2019 when they were dubbed Matcha. Through the years details changed slightly but one thing that always remained true was an element of reverence, a level of respect I think Matcha came to expect.

In 2020 a pandemic struck, upending as well as everything else the foundations of Chibi Chibi Con. They were forced to cancel that year's convention as well as those that came in the two years that followed. For three years Matcha was starved of attention and no longer revered in art. Come 2023, as Chibi Chibi Con was to make its return, Matcha was removed, only being lightly referenced in their core mascot's scarf as a simple graphic. I believe the combination of its three-year absence and its 2023 removal are what led to the strange events that followed. It is my hope that my findings may help prevent any future "incidents," and perhaps help to combat the claims that I am not sane, that I merely imagined what happened to me.

November-08-2022

Chibi club faced significant setbacks as members reported electronic issues that rendered materials inaccessible and made electronic communications impossible. They managed to recover materials from the corrupted electronics and borrowed devices in order to continue moving forward. Later that month a rumor got out that some of the members got together to burn their old devices in the woods-to keep "it" from spreading.

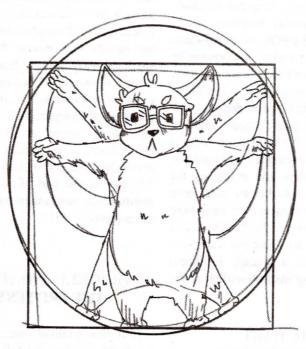
December-07-2022

A Chibi Club member reports seeing fellow member Kit Summers consume Chibi Chibi Con

2023 promotional flyers, sparking drama. Kit denied the allegations but cannot explain the vanishing 1/3of promotional flyers. The remaining 2/3 of flyers disappeared soon after replacements were printed for the missing third.

January-06-2023

Olivia Brand, an artist involved in promotional conent, was chewing her thumb nail while viewing docunents. She proceeded to eat the entirety of their nail and started to strip the flesh from her finger, to the point of revealing bone. She was reportedly unbothered and in a trance-like state as blood spilled onto the papers she was reviewing. An onlooker claimed they were frozen in shock-only once they saw her pull out and swallow her distal phalanx were they able to scream. Jostled by the scream, Olivia was said to stare stiffly at the remnants of her thumb, fainting shortly after. Following recuperation at a hospital, she reportedly stopped attending club meetings-no further information on her whereabouts is available.



February-05-2023

Simmons, a super-senior in his 5th year with the Chibi Club, was found by faculty wandering the school's steam tunnels, naked, adorned in green skin paint. He was found to have green felt loosely hot glued to his skin, and sported a thick dangling moss colored tail that had been affixed onto his body. Faculty said he was unresponsive and glassy eyed, staring aimlessly into the tunnel. The faculty tried asking him to leave, but he was uncooperative. One of the present faculty, John Budrick, tried to move him physically. Upon grasping his shoulder, David reacted by mauling John, beating his head into the ground till he went unconscious and proceeding to bite and scratch him. The other faculty fled, exiting the tunnels to phone campus security. David was arrested and expelled. John survived but lost an eye. If his claim is to be believed, David had sucked and gnawed it out of his skull. The eye is believed to have been consumed by David, but there is no concrete evidence of this.

Feb-25-2023

It was the day of the con. I, a 3rd year greener who hailed from Mississippi, had never really been to a convention or had much contact with anime, so I was excited for the experience. I got some food at the Maid Cafe and headed over to the CRC to look at the vendor's goods and artists piece's. I found the displays amusing if occasionally a little cringy, taking particular delight looking at everyone's costumes. I found myself in the artist's alley. As I people watched in a room I would later come to learn was titled Matcha Hall, I began to feel light-headed. This was nearly imperceptible at first but soon impossible to ignore as I tried to grasp onto the nearest wall, certain I was a few moments away from collapsing. The last thing I saw was a boy being pushed around in a chair as someone nearby passed out papers. I don't think I fell, and if the accounts given to the police are to be believed I and the five others walked out of that building with all my faculties intact.

My eyes opened to darkness as a oozing chill ran down my body. The air was heavy, with a chemical smell, containing lingering tones of sour milk. Tuning in my soaked crusted ears I could hear a steady drip not just from myself but people nearby. Plump flesh smacked the ground around us as some unseen giant paced aimlessly. Engulfed in darkness without even shadows to guide me, running seemed pointless but my fear would not let me stand still.

Bolting backwards I stumbled upon some unseen figure that tried grasping at my flesh.

Whatever soaked me caused them to slide off with ease; but it also turned my steps into sporadic uncontrolled slips and tumbles.

The big mass seemed to have taken notice as I could now hear the lurching mass making its way towards me along side smaller wet steps. I took to the ground hoping I could move faster by pushing off the floor with my hands and feet. Sprawled like the unfit animal I was, I instinctively and foolishly looked back into the abyss. To my surprise I was met with a clear image, unbound by photons a gigantic green decaying squirrel stood behind the squelching masses I could only hear. Its eyes were dead glossy white and its body rife with tunnel-like holes. I could see bits of it fall as it slowly lumbered forward. Urged by sheer horror I slithered across the ground with renewed vigor, eventually smashing into a steely surface. I scrambled to my feet to examine it.

My spirit elated to feel the delicate frame of a handle, I pushed the door open and ran as searing light struck my unadjusted retinas. I found myself in the bowels of the lab II building, constricted by a narrow hall, naked and covered in rancid green paint but too scared to care. I was detained quickly after surfacing, my story ridiculed and ignored. The blame for the strange green graffiti in the tunnels and the missing persons pinned on me.

Illustration by: Akemi Nakagawara

Find Chibi Chibi club on Instagram @chibichibicon

Check out @evergreen_horrors on Instagram to receive updates on more horror content and submit your accounts and stories to share with the Evergreen community!

More Evergreen Horrors podcast episodes coming soon on Soundcloud and Spotify!

Archive Spotlight

DAY OF ABSENCE by Sako Chapman

ORIGINS:

In 1972, Dr. Maxine Mimms, one of the first Black women hired at Evergreen, began the grassroots outreach that would become the Tacoma campus. Mimm's program was designed to meet the needs of Black working-class students in the Hilltop area who felt that Evergreen and higher education at large was not serving their intellectual, social, or material needs. Classes were first hosted at Mimms' own kitchen table with the help of community leaders and her Evergreen colleagues, all on top of their regular teaching responsibilities. As enrollment outgrew Mimm's house, the program sought spaces that could strengthen relationships with surrounding organizations and community. Evergreen-Tacoma was independently financed through the community for the first 15 years, ensuring the program's self-sufficiency and reciprocal community relationship. While financially burdensome, the independence from Evergreen's influence was a protective measure against the co-options that the faculty and students of color had experienced at Olympia. By the time Evergreen-Tacoma gained official recognition from Washington State in 1982, its identity, pedagogy, and political visions had been cemented.

Named after the Douglas Turner Ward play of the same name, Maxine Mimms initiated Day of Absence (DOA) for staff, students, and faculty of color on both campuses to retreat from the regular dynamics of the college and allow their white peers to reflect on the loss of their presence. Reportedly beginning in 1975, attendees would gather in Tacoma to identify the changes that would advance their intellectual, social, and material positions within Evergreen. Little documentation of the "original" first 12 years of DOA exist in the Evergreen Archives. To some degree, this can be read as intentional. The first Cooper Point Journal article to cover DOA on October 29, 1987 detailed the discussions of affirmative action versus equal opportunity, the demands of a dedicated Dean of Color to protect positions for faculty of color, and the necessary leveraging of hiring committees to gain influence for people of color (POC) within the college. The author released a letter of apology in the following issue after being approached with concerns of public circulation of "off the record" comments 'retrieved from student workand minority-only discussions.

DOA was revived as an annual tradition in 1992 after a 5-year pause, organized by iterations of the First Peoples Coalition at the Olympia campus. Day of Presence (DOP) was added as a second day to the DOA agenda some close years later as an opportunity for the whole student body to come together. The two-day annual tradition would invite Evergreen's POC to an off-campus location for a variety of community building and workshop opportunities. At the same time, another selection of workshops would be provided on campus, aimed at white "allied" students and faculty. DOP would happen on a following day, hosting a continued variety of workshops and exercises for any community member to participate in. Mimms and Evergreen Tacoma were often not far-removed from DOA/DOP, but the switch to Olympia campus's planning marked a change in intention and evolving institutionality of the event.

THE LAST **DAY OF ABSENCE:**

With acknowledgement to the uncertainty of POC affairs following the election of Donald Trump, program planners symbolically decided to reverse the pattern of previous DOA's-- inviting a maximum of 200 allied participants to an off-campus location and keeping their POC programming on campus. On April 12, 2017 the DOA themed "Revolution is Not a One Time Event; Your Silence Will Not Protect You" concluded with little issue whatsoever. According to the POC talk column from the April 26, 2017 CPJ, students ranged from unbothered to mildly confused over the reversal. While some criticized the loss of an intentional, independent caucusing space for POC, the students widely reported enjoyment of the community aspects, movie screenings, and student-led workshops.

Months before, the request to hold DOA on campus in empty lecture halls rather than as a retreat was narratively twisted into a ban of white people from campus by former biology faculty Bret Weinstein. The "reply-all" emails in which these comments were made came to light in the student body in late May,

ers on the staff and faculty email list.

The three and a half weeks of protest initiated by students on May 23, 2017 was framed as Evergreen's "Day of Absence Controversy" in the media. Seven years later, it is still occasionally understood as such. While it was the confrontation of Weinstein over his emails that would then spark the wave of protests and media blowout, it becomes essential to examine the complexities of Evergreen's 2017 beyond the scope of DOA. Or at least, it is valuable to understand the end of Day of Absence as one part of many

institutional rearrangements to follow the protests of 2017.

OUICKLY: WHAT WERE THE PROTESTS..?

It is this archival researcher's opinion that to explain the full events of the protests and its timeline would become its own book. The mixed-consciousness and activist orientation of the Evergreen 2017 protests create difficulty in parsing out Right-Wing Revisionism and Administration's "trauma" from the actual failures in strategy. It is to this end that the article in the 2023 Disorientation Manual decides to skip over the protests entirely and diagnose the central causes as "1) WORKER STRUG-GLE AMONG THE STUDENTS," "2) RISE OF RIGHT WING GANG VIO-LENCE IN THE PNW," and "3) EVER-GREEN COP SURVEILLANCE, HA-RASSMENT, AND RACISM." These long-standing causes emerge clearly in the demand lists made by students during the first week of protests (as recorded in the May 31, 2017 CPJ) and the demands made by striking RA's as the non-union group RAFT. Still, several of these demands concerned the immediate suspension of Bret Weinstein over his DOA comments, and it is important to define institutional racism as a core concern of the protests.

A mixture of office occupations, administrative confrontation, and Red Square pickets were employed during the protests. It is valuable to note that



these actions were rather commonplace as far as Evergreen student protests. In fact, a glance over the entire Evergreen timeline implies a pattern of protes occurring every 4 to 6 or so years con cerning administration's responsivenes to student voice and systems of shared decision making. Of further value i to recognize that multiple student pro tests had occurred even within the same 2016-2017 academic year. Convocation had kicked off in September with two student protesters taking the stage hold ing a sign that said: "Evergreen cashe diversity checks but doesn't care abou Blacks;" a Photoland gallery show had raised student criticism through its im agery featuring Donald Trump; walk outs followed the election of Donald Trump (in particular solidarity with un documented/DACAmented students) and Evergreen Police Services Chie of Police Stacy Brown's swearing-in ceremony that had been disrupted with noisemakers and the claiming of a mi crophone.

What is truly unique about the pro tests in May of 2017 is the nationa media attention. As students organized to demand changes in the institution viral footage turned Evergreen into a target for right-wing hate groups and media. For every news article about the 'wokest college in America violat ing free speech,' Evergreen community members were fending off harassment Staff, students, and faculty- particu larly Black professors and staff of the First Peoples Support Services- were filmed, targeted, and doxxed while ad vocating for themselves. Opposition to

Archive Spotlight

e protests climaxed with the arrival of atriot Prayer on June 15th and the deoyment of Washington State Troopers riot gear to "keep peace" between the societs and the counter protesters.

AFTER THE PROTESTS:

Evergreen's leadership opted for a rategy of avoidance around 2017 in the aftermath and began to initiate its posolidation around public relations. Over the course of the protests and moving into the following academic year, the Public Records office became overthelmed with requests from journalists,

ght-wing extremists (with e intention of doxxing), and udents/community members oncerned with what commuication was happening behind ne scenes. Evergreen became yper aware of its internal mail servers as public infornation and as the subject of ngoing scrutiny. A \$450,000 egal settlement was reached ith Weinstein and his wife, hile zero institutional support as provided to the faculty and taff who were targeted by the oxxing. 80 student protesters vere sanctioned via the stuent code of conduct. Reviions were made to the code uring the 2017-2018 year, xtending and clarifying its inuence. Students, faculty and taff continued to face visits

nd online harassment from trolls trying o gather content from what was now stalling news story. After an initial wave of resignation, the people most afected began to slowly exit the college, aking their testimonies and firsthand experiences with them. 2017 continues to be a fraught topic of discussion even to this day: for marketing reasons, for ustained trauma, and for the conflicting perspectives on the protest's causes/efectiveness.

Evergreen's Police Services was able o acquire seven AR-15s without public notification during the summer of 2017. The rifles were purchased under former President George Bridges with the proests cited as a main contributor for approval. This was a spit in the face to the explicit student demand for the "disarmng of the police's lethal and less than ethal weapons." The protests had called for cops off campus, both to confront the oppression inherent in maintaining a poice force and for the Evergreen Police's history of harassment towards Black, Transgender, and community members

of color. Instances in the 2017 school year had included the detainment of two Black students based on facebook memes on May 14th, the refusal to investigate and notify students and faculty about hate crimes on campus, as well as the investigation and prosecution of the students who had disrupted Stacy Brown's swearing-in. Included in the RAFT demand list, RA's had requested to "be provided with specific information on what the officers have been trained on for accountability purposes." Community awareness around the rifles did not break until October of 2018 in the CPJ, a full year after.

THE END OF DAY OF ABSENCE:

Due to protests, race relations at the college had become an issue to contain rather than address. Many of the students' demands of 2017 would not be fulfilled, and overwhelmingly students continued to feel that in their moment of need, the institution had turned its back and placed distance between them. Evergreen maneuvered its diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives into impossible corners of the college under tiny teams of often women of color to solve the outward iterations of the college's in-



The AR-15 decision blindsided the Police Community Review Board (PCRB), the once commonplace rotating task force of Evergreen community members who had prevented such rifle requests annually, with community input, since 2008. Protests on Red Square, street theater, information handbills, and the interception of news vans had been popular and high-profile tools used by student protesters against rifle armament in years prior, and particularly in 2011-12. The rifles were purchased for a total of \$10,897.76 and cost the college a projected \$5000 upkeep per year. The original email request made by Stacy Brown, which was not brought in front of the PCRB, had only asked for 5 rifles. This request was made on August 1, 2017, just days before Brown's resignation from Evergreen Police Services.

The purchase of the AR-15s following 2017 is a helpful example of the deterioration of reciprocal systems for student input and shared decision making that once had been foundational to the vision of Evergreen as an alternative college.

stitutional racism. These teams and positions continued to lack protection and support from external scrutiny, acting as lightning rods away from administration. With the media backlash to DOA, it became difficult to hold any discussions of racial caucusing within the college. This particularly affected the institutional support for student of color groups, who would now face marketing concern over any event or club meeting that could be marked as a closed space to whites. Similarly, the First Peoples office that had once been dedicated to helping students of color at Evergreen was tasked with addressing the vacuum of support named for LGBTQ+ students in the protest demands, cementing it as an overarching 'diversity' office rather than advancing the needs of POC.

DOA/DOP was deemed "too controversial" to hold again for its association with the media blowout. Following an exiled effort of students to revive Day of Absence, Evergreen returned in 2019 with its plans for Equity Symposium. The newly renamed First Peoples Mul-

ticultural Trans and Queer Support Services was given central planning tasks for Equity Symposium. Symbolically, this new identity for First Peoples would mirror the evolution of DOA: POC-centered spaces once focused on securing material demands, over time changing in vision, and finally co-opted into a vaguely progressive form that could not guarantee dedicated resources to POC-and all under a vague "celebration" of equity. The office would maintain this planning responsibility through its frequent student and full-time staff turnovers, haunting it even into its new identity as BLISS (BIPOC & LGBTQ+ INTERSECTIONAL SUPPORT SER-VICES).

Many students won't even see Equity Symposium once in their years here, but perhaps understanding it as the departure of a 25-year tradition due to the college's recoil from 2017 and its attempts to preserve reputation will mean something to someone else. For all the retreats of information sharing, antagonism against the students, and erasure of systems of advocacy to come from it, the fact that there is not a shared narrative amongst the internal Evergreen community around 2017 is significant. Just as the story of Day of Absence is more intricate than the protests, the protests themselves should be understood for the outcomes that echo into our moment today -- A closed off administration and decision-making process; a student body dramatically removed from institutional knowledge; an absent campus culture that notably lacks the presence of multicultural student groups; and a disproportionately sized and armed police force.

Images:

1. Poster for the 2016-2017 Day of Absence x Day of Presence. Accessed through the Evergreen State College Archives.

2. Photo of student protesters by Ricky Osborne published in the May 31, 2017 CPJ with the article "Students Demand Change" by Georgie Hicks. Accessed through the Evergreen State College Archives Digital Collection.

Visit the Archives Digital Collections at COLLECTIONS.EVERGREEN.EDU, or book an appointment through the library's contact page on EVERGREEN.EDU.

Find more 2017 articles online: COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM

Want to relive the media blitz? Scroll the library's reference guide to all mentions of the 2017 protests: LIBGUIDES.EVER-GREEN.EDU/EVERGREENPROTESTS

Op. from Ed. THE BIGGEST CPJ STORY OF 44 YEARS AGO!

By Kathy Davis

As an idealistic, aspiring student of journalism, I was excited and nervous at the start of Evergreen's academic year in Fall 1980. After a year of study in a journalism group contract while reporting for the Cooper Point Journal, I spent Summer quarter sharing co-editing duties and stepping up to the sole CPJ editor position.

The Orientation Issue had been well received. I had filled all the staff workstudy positions and had high expectations for the team.

While brainstorming the content of our first regular weekly issue, a student came rushing into the newspaper office to report an on-campus drug bust that resulted in the arrests of several students. Furthermore, when we learned that undercover enforcement agents had been posing as students in the sting operation, we knew what our front page story would be.

More students dropped into the office in subsequent days. The one I recall in particular was a new freshman from somewhere in the heartland who reminded me of the corn-fed farm boys I'd grown up with in my native Wisconsin. He had chosen to attend Evergreen based on the school's marketing as a diverse, progressive and welcoming place. He'd been anxious to make friends and he had. Unfortunately, one of his new best "student" friends turned out to be an undercover cop.

Dropped onto a campus far from home, he was desperate to connect and find his place. Friends were friends. He was the trusting type. But that drug bust threw him into a world of distrust and rage at the institution he was now a part of.

News vs. editorial

Back at the CPJ, the team rallied, and I assigned reporter Ken Sternberg to the story. Rereading his article today, I am impressed with the quality. It's based on facts rather than opinion. Ken interviewed the campus security chief and housing director. He attended a meeting TESC President (and former Washington governor) Dan Evans held with "concerned students," reporting on the president's statements and the audience's objections.

Ken relayed what the arrested students told him about their relationships with the undercover agents, including claims the agents "pestered" them for drugs.

16 WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM

Some said they were not read their Miranda rights when arrested and Ken got comments from the county prosecutor's office and ACLU about that point.

Meanwhile, our talented cartoonist and graphic artist, Craig Bartlett produced an editorial cartoon titled "NAR-Calypse Now!" showing Evans as Colonel Dan launching a military-style attack.

The staff had lively discussions in typical TESC seminar fashion about where to run the cartoon -- somewhere inside or next to the news story on the front page? We landed on the latter, which felt quite radical at the time.

(Side Note - Craig Bartlett went on

to creative success after Evergreen, first

working at Will Vinton's claymation

studio in Portland. He moved to LA

and worked on the Penny cartoon for

Peewee's (Herman) Playhouse. He also

created the cartoon series Hey Arnold,

which my kids watched -- as I kept tell-

ing them "I know him; we went to col-

That CPJ also ran a first-person ac-

lege together!")

count by a student who had befriended one of the undercover agents, reflecting the personal betrayal of trust several students had echoed.

Upon reflection

I dug out my personal journal and read what I wrote after putting this issue to bed.

"I know we made some big mistakes. Well, maybe not BIG ones but more like several little ones. But we did it, by god! I refuse to be embarrassed or apologetic... We're students and we are all learning. This is our lab, our experiment."



In hindsight, I wish we had clearly labeled the cartoon and the personal essay as editorial and opinion to distinguish them from straight news reporting.

Upon reading other faded CPJ issues I was involved with as reporter and editor (1979/1980), I am reminded that we considered ourselves serious journalists in training. It was an era when being a professional news reporter meant striv-

ing to be objective and present "just the facts" as a public and civic service.

David Ammons, long-serving Asso ciated Press state Legislative reporter served as an advisor to the CPJ. He was also an important mentor to me as a student and beyond. Margaret Gribsko who had taught our group contract, was our faculty advisor.

One member of that fall 1980 Cl team went on to a long career as a r porter and editor at Olympia's dai newspaper. Another worked as a CN reporter for a time.

I landed an internship in House Den ocratic Caucus Communications, which led to my first permanent state job and the start of my 40-year career as a communications professional for state go ernment.

This background shapes my "o school" views of journalism and t news media. True journalism (at lea as I learned it) is flailing and shrinkin Local news reporting is nearly extin Cable news follows every actual new story with a panel of opinion commet tators. Don't even get me started on t non-credible commotion that is soc media!

Now finished with full-time work am a new subscriber and reader of t current Cooper Point Journal. I'm ta en aback at how different it seems no The articles are long and many see based on personal opinion or grievand without being labeled as such. More of says than news stories.

Having been in your shoes, I know working on the CPJ is not easy, and support the students who take on the hard work and dedication to keep the paper going. I hope those about to graduate go on to fulfilling careers that we benefit from your experience at the paper.

To the next incoming group of staff look forward to seeing where you ta next year's CPJ. And I look forward staying informed of Evergreen comm nity news and issues.

"We don't go into journalism to popular. It is our job to seek the tra and put pressure on our leaders until get answers." – Helen Thomas

Image Courtesy of the Evergreen St College Archives Digital Collection, id tifier: cpj0233. The Cooper Point Journ Volume 9, Issue 5 (October 9, 1980).

Op. from Ed. RESPONSE FROM THE EDITOR (& A STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY)

Dear Kathy Davis,

As a student of the archives, I deeply appreciate your article in outlining what it was like to be a student in the 80's at the Cooper Point Journal. I found myself excited to read of your bustling news room, your big story break, and the experiences that had brought you to the CPJ in the first place. While reading, I was struck by how differently your CPJ was structured—weekly editions instead of monthlies, at times double to triple our current writing staff, and the support available for a group journalism contract! Imagine that!

I suppose that my surprise reached its peak when I took the time to revisit your opinion article in the January 15, 1981 edition of the CPJ where— rather than being faced with even more glaring differences between our times— I found that instead your words reflected many of the problems we continue to face today. You lead with a paragraph addressing the criticisms lodged against your leadership of the paper for lack of "hard news" and too many pieces written in "term paper style," responding:

"I agree wholeheartedly that these were problems, but I would like to try to explain to those who have never been intimately involved with the paper just why this situation exists. Anyone who has been involved knows all too well."

You go on to describe the outward hostility towards specialized journalism education at Evergreen, and how its absence led to an era of ILCs and group contracts on the verge of disappearance due to faculty burn-out. You describe the lack of a dedicated journalism advisor and how, without one, your own amateur impressions and scrambled research were the only tools available to teach your staff not just methods of writing and news reporting but the basics of student press law to keep everyone safe. Finally, you posit:

"...without genuine and full-fledged support from the Evergreen faculty and administration— particularly someone designated to advise the newspaper staff— the CPJ will continue to limp along from year to year, relying solely on the ability of its staff to answer any questions which arise."

While I would not be so self-deprecating as to describe the efforts of my team or any previous years as "limping," if the problems you describe in such clear terms still remain, I am sure you can imagine the institutional hurdles that have evolved in the four decades since you last touched the paper. To name a few: the disappearance of the Publications Board to facilitate hiring, training, and recruitment for CPJ; the enclosure of

student groups and campus life following hinge points such as the V-Day uprising in 2008, the media outrage of 2017, and the cycles of recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic; the solidifying of a public relations department who at junctures have acted without awareness of and in direct opposition to student press law; the deterioration of reciprocal systems for student input and engagement at Evergreen such as disappearing task forces, dedicated committees, or advisory positions; the sequestering of information surrounding administrative changes into centralized channels without obligation of community presentation; and a campus culture that, following national trends, finds less and less pull towards printed news.

The years before me have moved dynamically with these changes, at times with the guidance of an advisor and at times not. They have through these years oscillated wildly in the effectiveness of reporting they were able to achieve. I don't write this to downplay the urgency you name towards accurate, timely reporting on the developments that affect Evergreen's students. Certainly, there are many ways that a more robust news staff than my own would be able to approach the current situations of this academic year in more traditional means. But even with that, perhaps it's too much to expect the remaining student institutions at the Evergreen State College to operate "traditionally."

Nothing says "early Evergreen student paper" to me like the idea of a twenty-something building their journalism portfolio with a big drug bust news break, made to share space with the work of a rising cartoonist and an enthralling personal account from a community member. The student paper is meant to present something that responds to student needs, and guarantees community readership. It makes perfect sense to me why you elected to run an editorial cartoon to attract the eyes of passing students into reading the harder news reporting, and why you made sure the account of a fellow student didn't get buried and separated from the overarching story. While perhaps not up to traditional, journalistic standards, I believe you made the choices that drew your readership in the most. I believe that you made the choices that were defined by the culture you were steeped in.

In this contemporary era, the CPJ has been uniquely transformed by this culture-- inheriting the aesthetics, priorities, and budget of an alienated, struggling campus culture. Circumstance has led the paper to take the shape of a monthly publication with longer-form, magazine-style articles, rather than the weekly news format you were a part of some 45 years ago. I ask you to consider these

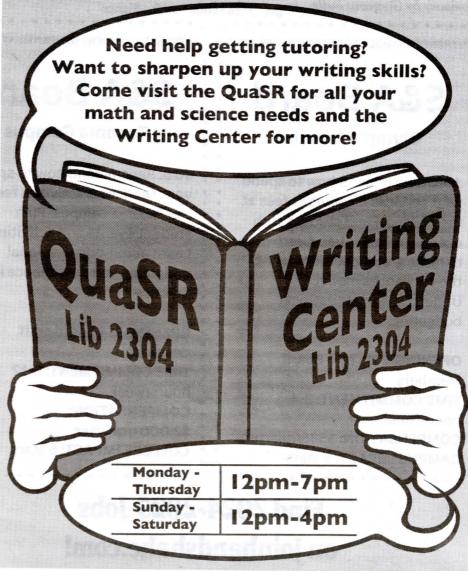
moves not just as creative but as ones of survival within an institution once so hostile to you as well. I too wish that any support for reporting existed outside of my average core writing staff of 3, but I celebrate their achievements in preserving the remaining journalistic strains of the paper. The CPJ has otherwise taken on a character to connect and prepare a disconnected student body on curated issues of institutional memory, arts, and culture. I maintain that these explorations, even in the form of commentary and opinion, hold dire weight and importance. Particularly at a time where students' concerns feel most ignored by the administration, the expression and record of these grievances become vital starting places for organization. Much like your era's featuring of personal essays, the ability for students to submit their thoughts and work to the paper is a vital means of engagement. When engagement within the student population. with print media in general, and with long form critique is otherwise at a profound low, the CPJ has taken on the form of a critical entry point. It is my deep and sincere hope that as culture rebuilds at the Evergreen State College, the newspaper can be seized and reshaped to fit the needs of an organized student body. I am grateful to have recorded this chapter of

Evergreen through the means that resonated with my peers today, and hope that the next staff evolves to a new, dynamic strategy of their own.

As you name, "true" journalists make up an ever shrinking pool in this day and age, and one that has always struggled to exist at Evergreen. Whether the refined, standard layout you wish you had provided to the drug bust story could have done a better job of responding to the unique culture of early Evergreen remains a question for me. Perhaps it is better to understand the CPJ as a product of its time, its era, its moment, and the community it is embedded in. After all, this is our lab, and our experiment. I believe the people to refine the CPJ into the form that best responds to contemporary Evergreen are out there, and that a wider spread impulse towards community journalism can return. I too look forward to the new group of students who will take this paper onwards in ways that further their ambitions and future projects.

Best,

Sako Chapman Editor-in-Chief 2023-2024 Cooper Point Journal sako.cpj@gmail.com





by Nathan Tippmann

As we leave the shadow of March's lunar eclipse, you may have had realizations about personal relationships. With Mercury stationing retrograde on April 2 and the solar eclipse on April 8, the heavens are shaking things up. Look to your sun and rising - take only what resonates.

ARIES: You might find yourself reaching out – you should – but don't get eager to please. Possible increased responsibility at work. Watch your spending on personal items. Newfound initiative is likely heading into May. *Song recommendation: Shaking Paper by Cat Power.*

TAURUS: You may be feeling more reserved but empathetic, still. If typically shy, this is your time to reach out to that special person. You're expressive and self-confident this month. At the close of April, don't get too caught up in the game of cloak and dagger. Song recommendation: Misery Loves Company by Gorgeous Bully. **GEMINI:** This is a good time to reconnect with friends, Gemini. Don't be afraid to third-wheel. Possible romantic and business opportunities lie ahead. If you're feeling in touch with your intuition, it may be due to the energy in your social life. Be wary of competitiveness. Song recommendation: Hold It Down by Quantic Soul Orchestra ft. Alice Russell.

CANCER: Gratitude in the professional arena of your life is due, specifically owed to the women in your life. Also, a good time to ask someone at work for a favor - don't get scheming. You may develop a more universal outlook on life this month, along with some new friendships. Good time to initiate new career activities or other ambitions. Be wary of butting heads with authority. Song recommendation: Ces bottes sont faites pour marcher by Eileen.

LEO: You may feel a stronger connection with higher

Find 2024-2025 Jobs

on joinhandshake.com!

spheres – culture, religion, the Earth. Seek out global art forms – luck may find you at the museum. You feel strength in your personal philosophy but watch for hypocrisy. Good time for dealings with authority figures. Opportunity in social and professional spheres. Song recommendation: You've Got a Woman by Natalie Bergman ft. Beck.

VIRGO: You're feeling very sleek right now, Virgo. We may see you capitalizing on a suave energy you've been possessed by, in business and in love. Remember, Socrates says, "All things in moderation." Good time for dealing with educational authority. Out with the old and in with the new at the end of this month. Work, love, death, taxes, you're leaving it behind. Song recommendation: Cool Cat Vibe by Babe Rainbow.

LIBRA: You're going to catch some eyes this month and you should revel in this appreciation. Remember not to take it for granted. Dynamism in business dealings. You will find new uses for old things. There will be a strong need for cooperation in your relationships at the end of the month. You should look to achieve practical results. Song recommendation: The Very Modern Dance by Destroyer.

SCORPIO: You may feel a lightness at work, Scorpio. Try asking for a raise or going out with your coworkers, just don't get lost in the sauce. Close relationships are your means of self-expression this month. Take all safety precautions leading into May, as health will be the main priority. *Song recommendation: Night Drive by Ari Lennox.*

SAGITTARIUS: Time to reconnect with your inner child. Tap back into your creative side – what did you like to do as a kid? Rekindle those lost interests. Emphasis on ownership of your work, which you may view as your creative expression. Stressful times in late April - you need to give form to your ideas and release your frustrations. Song recommendation: Just for Now by Imogen Heap.

CAPRICORN: The spring-cleaning bug is here, and you may be feeling like you want to tidy up the home. This beautifying harmony will be felt in relations with your family, whose needs you should be mindful of. High time to let

loose with beauty and comfo at the forefront of your mind try your hand at a DIY project Song recommendation: Ba Dismount by Crazy P.

AQUARIUS: This Apr you will get your point across You're well-spoken and the stars are aligned. You might en joy small day trips this mon related to art, with a good chance for self-promotion Could be time for construction action on your ideas or bus ness. Avoid any insincerities Boisterousness felt within the family, where you are a sourn ing board. Song recommend tion: Bye Bye Land by Hood Fang.

PISCES: Art and beauty w color your business transaction this month, Pisces. Don't 1 comfort get in the way of you progress. You may want to can italize on this energy if seeking financial support. You know your stuff and the people wan to listen. Be mindful of Merce ry retrograde. May be potent money moves but don't spen or flaunt excessively, the stat show potential for theft. Sour recommendation: Tears In The Typing Pool by Broadcast

EVERGREEN STUDENT GOVERNMENT PROFILE

S&A Board

Olympia Campus

JOB: Recommend how to spend your services & activities fees at the college. Fund student club events and activities. Learn how to make group decisions using the consensus model. Understand organizational budgeting.

OPENINGS: Up to 6 Board Members TIME COMMITMENT: 3-4

- hours/week
- COMPENSATION: \$535/quarter
- CAMPUS IMPACT: 5 stars

S&A Board Tacoma Campus JOB: Recommend how to spend your services & activities fees at the Tacoma campus. Plan

student events and activities. Learn about organizational budgeting and governance in practice.

OPENINGS: 4 board staff positions TIME COMMITMENT: 9-12 hours/week COMPENSATION: \$2,000+/quarter COLLEGE IMPACT: 5 stars

ARIES March 21st - April 19th Eastside Store-1021 Rogers St. NW Olympia WA 98502 OPEN DAILY 8att - 9ch

Poetry

to lesbians, lewis county and the color lavender by Sofia Malo

you have ten black ice air fresheners and a picture of us hanging from your rearview mirror. zoom in on the photo booth slip - "lights camera action!" s printed boldly on the bottom and our faces are pressed together smiling. then we're being silly. and in the last frame, all i can see is your celestial smile as i kiss your cheek. this picture was taken ight after the 80's lesbian gore muscle momny movie we watched and you have yet to stop hinking about it. this new addition to your bruised and beaten car is in the frame of every cinematic shot my mind directs while we drive through lewis county. us, two black lesbians passing a magenta lab pen back and forth as i continuously say, "this s so brokeback mountain!" driving through lewis county. (you always smile, you always scoff, you always laugh. you might be falling in love with ne).

nere, the blue sky unhinges its jaw for us ny invitation must've gotten lost know if i wasn't with you 'd float away back to where i came from

- don't know where that is
- out i don't belong here

we drive on route 507's concrete tongue expect it to swallow us whole any second out would i mind being killed in a place like this? a sea of green behind me a field of blue above me a lover beside me

- you share the same smile as the sky
- absolute and alive
- t's that smile that says
- 'this is the street i got called the n-word on"
- he teeth in the grin of this town, can see the fangs

he sound of your voice, synonymous to wind in evergreen trees, brings me back to you. "do you think one day, when your mom meets me she'll think 'm super west coast and hate me?" the question s laughed out the side of your crooked smile. my eyes crinkle with a cackle, "oh my god, shut up! she won't hate you... but she will think you're super west coast. there's just something about you," i stop. how come i never noticed your skin glows the same way grass turns golden in the sunlight? you blink at me, angelic and curious, "i can't put my finger on it..." i finish and tear my eyes from your direction because if i kept looking, i'd never stop.

you tell me that i stare at you so much, you've earned to feel my gaze in your peripheral. we watch portrait of a lady on fire and agree that i'm marianne and you're héloïse. darling, please understand that im a moth to your flame, or rather a poet o your muse. yes, an eager insect, all yours, stupid with devotion. and everyone can see it, everyone can smell the stink of love on me. i'm sorry i don't nake us more inconspicuous. we are a puzzle the locals are trying to solve

there, in the arcade, we topple each other in giggles

while you struggle to open something you and your plum acrylics flash me a pout

there, in the hot breath of nuclear families on my neck

as i open the bottle for you, in the prayers for invisibility

that our coordinated sunset colored outfits won't allow

there, in the gas station, with the drivers door open

i slide my credit card in your hands and coo, "let me take care of you" there, in the taste of pennies on my lips while the white man in front of us stares

in the way i'm always ready for a fight

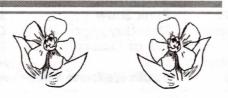
there, in the roller rink, i sit on a bench while you float and glide in a blur of lavender

im mystified at your coordination there, in the sweetness of our gazes that become opaque

in the swivel of multiple heads between us

in the fact i've never felt so alone

so i look at the garden of eve outside my window instead. i've heard that this is "god's country." all horse tail flicks and little ponds with little docks that little families take care of. wine colored vintage trucks that i always say are "cunty" and "dykeish" and "very bella swan." piles of chopped evergreens and bills and so much sky. wild tufts of grass grow out of the ground like little curly heads. i, of course, can only think what if we miss our turn and have to back out in someone's driveway and are shot. or, the car breaks down and we're stuck here and we're shot. or, what if, stay with me, we're shot. i concentrate on the top of the terrain and think about touching the tippiest top pine needle of the tallest evergreen tree. oh, to be on top of the world with you. no one would hurt us up there.

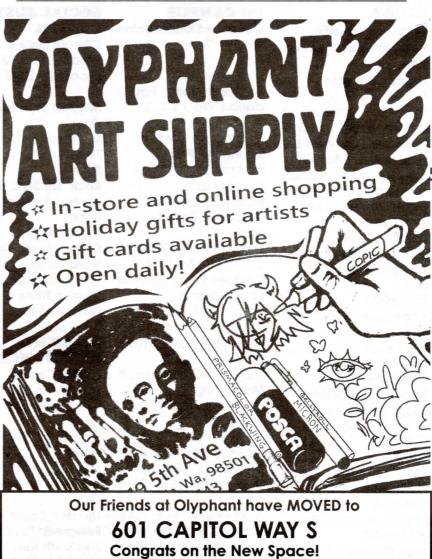


downtown centralia is quiet

the unspoken silence of our distance we, parallel lines, itch to hold each others pinkies queer love is resistance, i tell myself and what am i if not radical?

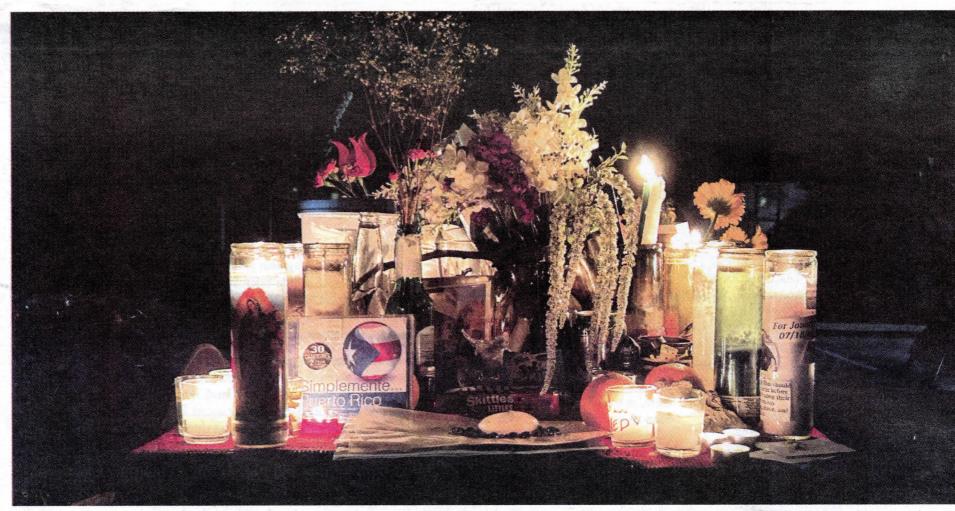
we become perpendicular and liberated (i brush my shoulder against yours) "that" you point to a little brick building, "is owned by nazis" everything buzzes and is tinted red i try not to touch you again

we zip by trump 2024 posters and american flags and we laugh, what else is there to do? the air thickens while i wonder how many love stories have been lost to this land. how many initials have been carved and abandoned, how many secret kisses shared, how many hands held hidden. the same sun that shines on us has shined on all those that came before us and i now know these hands are immortal. here, i think in poems that have been written before. there they are, nestled between the waves of rolling hills and the sticky sweet on the lone evergreen tree. there, in the strands of smoke that tickle my nose and the pang in my heart while i watch you mumble along to tupac songs. there, on top of the gear shift, you lay your hand palm up, fingers outstretched like rays of sunshine, like a proposal. the song of growing lavender and hyacinth and violets crescendos around me. i liberate myself for them. my hand answers yes.



for more updates follow @olyphant_artsupply on insta





Jonathan's Altar at the MOD smoke pit during his vigil. 4/5/24. Photo from @forjonathanrodriguez2 on instagr



CLUBS: (For more info, visit student activ-

+

ities) **Arcade Projects** Office Hours: Mon 9-5 Thu 4-7:30 at the abandoned Flaming Eggplant. Meet @ Wed 6 Astronomical Society Mon 6:30-8pm CAB 301, Fri 7-9pm tennis courts **Black Student Union Bike Co-op Climbing Club E-Gaming Guild Evergreen Tabletop** Guild La Familia Yoga Club Mon 6-7:30pm Wed 2-3:30pm CRC 306 **Scream Queens** Chibi Chibi Con **Humans v.s Zombies Giant Clam Improv** Sun 4-6pm Sem II E1105 G.R.A.S. G.A.P.S Mon & Wed 1-4pm Purce Hall 7, Sat TBD **ELM Club** Wed Com. 117 4-5pm WASHPIRG Yes! Greeners Helping Greeners **Ecology Club** 20

ON CAMPUS

Geoduck Student Union Virtual General Meetings Mondays 4-5 Fermentation Foundation Wed @1:30 week 4,6,8,10 farmhouse kitchen **Spring Art Fair** Fri April 26, 12-4 PM **Red Square** Equity Symposium Loretta J. Ross Keynote Thurs April 18, 7 PM in **COM Recital Hall**

Cooper Point Journal Job Shadow Wed April 24 2:30-4 PM Email cooperpointjournal@gmail. com

The Arcades Projects **Movie Night**

Thursday April 25 and Thursday May 9, 2024 7 PM in Purce Hall **Bicycle Day Fest: Psy**chedelics Art Show & Bicycle Club Bike Clinic April 192-4 PM in CAB

125 and Red Square Farm Worker Justice Day 2024 Wed April 24, Evans Hall

SOCIAL JUSTICE CENTER

Climate Cafe with Class Wednesdays 12:30-2:30 Evans Hall 2205

Mindflul Practice Mondays

Mondays 12:15-12:45 Zoom SEAL

Rock 'Em SOC 'Em: Students of Color Social Hour

Thurs 4:30-6PM Glitter Hour: Queer & **Trans Social Hour** Tues 4:30-6PM Vinalia: Trans Women & Femmes Support Group Fri 6-7pm

STUDENT ASSISTANCE

Writing Center M, T, Th 12-7PM F-Sa 12-4PM LIB 2310 SafePlace Advocacy Hours Mondays 1-3PM Student Wellness Services **Thurston County FB**

Evergreen Foodbank 2nd & 4th Tues : 2 - 4pm BNARC in CAB, Next to **Greenery Exterior**

Student Wellness Services Mon-Thu 10-12pm, 1-3pm Fri 10a-12p SEM 2 B 3rd Floor

OFF CAMPUS Thurston Youth Climate Coalition

Ages 13-21 2nd and 4th Fridays Olympia Timberland Library **Trans Only Open Gym** Sundays 3:30-4:30pm Pressing On Fitness \$0-25 Sliding Scale Live Music Sat April 20, 6 PM at The Crypt 21+ \$5 Saturday Market West Central Park Starting May 6 Saturdays at 10am-3pm The Red Hot Chilli Pipers Fri April 19 7:30 PM at

Washington Center for the Performing Arts \$39-\$69 **Punk Show** Thursday April 18, 7 PM at Dumpster Val-

ues Youth Wellness & Ad-

vocacy Summit Sat April 27 10:30 AM-3:30 PM at Evergreen State College Tacoma Campus Presented by Flystarts Youth Art Club **Expungement Work**shop Sat April 27 12-4 PM at Tacoma Campus Mamma Mia! May 3-11th, Capital High School Performing Arts Center Capital City Chorus

May 3-5, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Free admission **Olympia Juneteenth Celebration of Liberty** and Freedom Sun June 18, 1-5 PM Rebecca Howard Park

Adopt a Pet Plant Sale Sat May 11, 9 AM-3 PM www.adoptapet-wa.org **Emerald City Music**

Solo Show: Jinjoo Cho Sat April 7:30 PM at Washington Center for the Performing

2nd Annual Flower Rave

Fri May 3, 2024 8 P at the Mortuary 18+ \$10-\$15

Sweat and Sashay Fri April 19, 2024 7-PM at Fusion - 302 Columbia St NW

Sliding scale from

SUBMISSION

for the May 13th CPJ

Open NOW thru MAY 8th

Poetry! **Creative Writing** Events! **Opinion!**

Our pages will be open to ongoing memorial submissions.

office hours mo 11-1 wed 3-4 cab 322

WWW.COOPERPOINTJOURNAL.COM