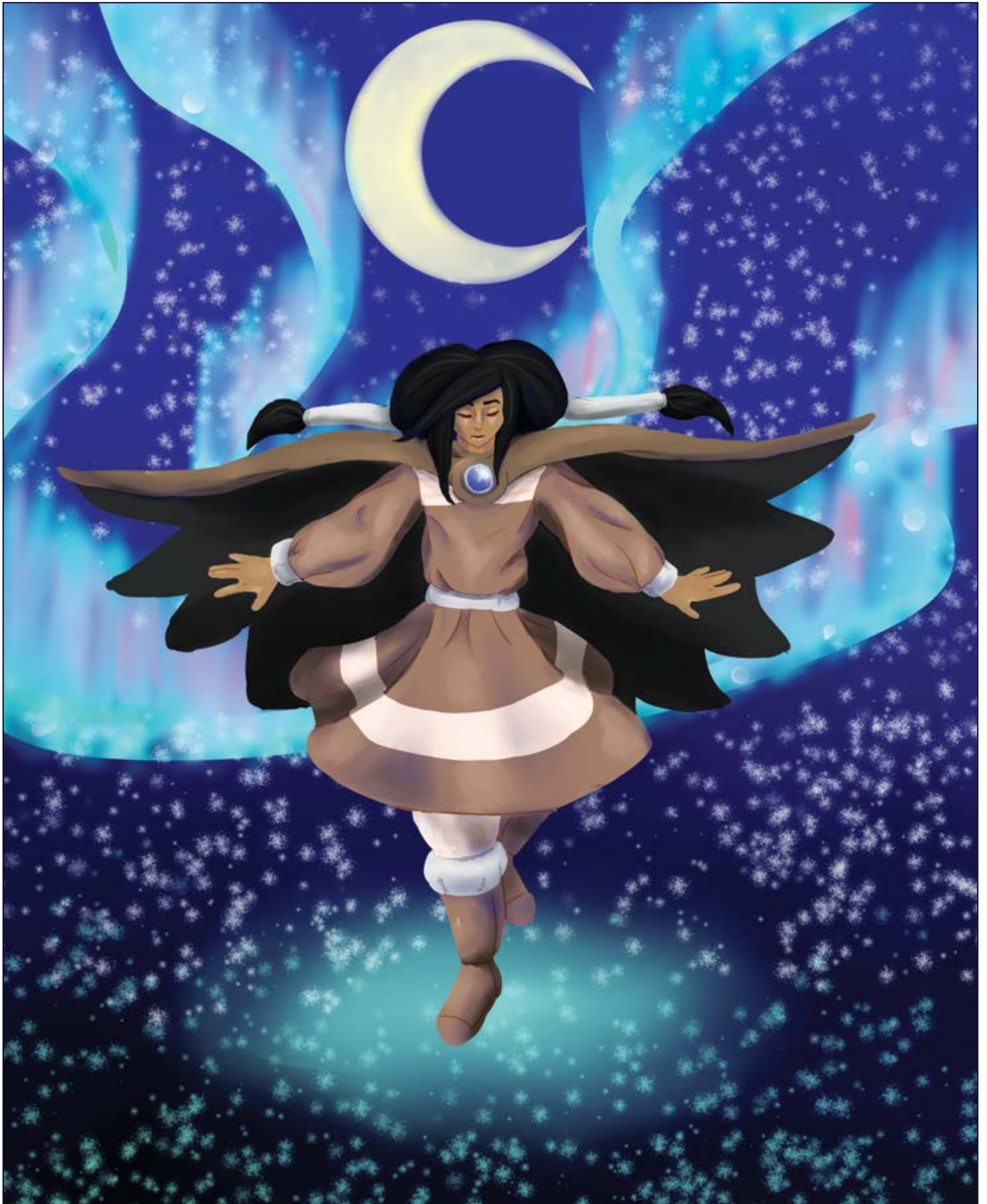


COMMUNITER

VOL. 48 EDITION 12  NOV. 30, 2016



COVER ART:

Created by LBCC student Ceph Poklemba from his "Magical Girls of the World" series. Poklemba found his inspiration for this piece in the local history of the Kalapuya tribe of the Willamette Valley. Poklemba is a member of the Student Leadership Council and president of LBCC's Gender-Sexuality Alliance.



**JUST SHY OF
PERFECTION...**

Pages 6-7

THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty and students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters, and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

Letters Welcome

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to:

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Phone:

541-917-4451, 4452 or 4449

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commuter@linnbenton.edu

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Dear Readers...

To our readers and the students, staff, and community members of LBCC

So much has happened in these first few months of the 2016-17 school year; change heaves through our nation and our own community feels the pulse of its ripple effect. As fall quarter draws to a close, students scramble through the last weeks of class, and we prepare to take leave of campus for the holidays, I want to remind everyone why The Commuter is here. The time has come to reiterate our intentions as your student-run news publication.

We strive to provide this community with relevant, vital news; to tell stories and speak truths from all walks of campus and community life. The Commuter remains a platform for all student voices; a place to express, create, and spark open conversation in the campus community. The Commuter shares Linn-Benton's value of diversity, and we strive to contain

and express as many distinct perspectives and voices as possible.

This publication is a safe haven for all student and community voices. Every person in our community plays an integral role, whether it be as student, educator, administrator, coffee-maker, or custodian. Each voice is a strand in the fabric of our community; each individual strand strengthens this tapestry. The lives and stories we weave together create a wholly unique community, rising from between the folds of our voices, beliefs, religions and political views, races and genders, identities and orientations.

We encourage you to join us in our mission to address pertinent issues and open conversations throughout the campuses. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this ongoing journalistic and creative endeavor should stop by our

office or send us an email, regardless of whether you think you possess a relevant skillset. If you have the interest, there's an abundance of ways to participate.

Lastly, without this diverse community to serve, The Commuter has no purpose. I want to thank everyone for the education and opportunity we receive as your student-journalists, and the Linn-Benton Community College for their efforts towards providing a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Thank you,
Emily Goodykoontz, Editor-in-Chief



CAMPUS VOICE

What are your coping skills for finals week?



REBECCA MEYERS
(FOREIGN LANGUAGE
(SPANISH))
"I PRIORITIZE BY
IMPORTANCE, AND
TRY TO GET A DECENT
AMOUNT OF SLEEP"



HOLLY LUCAS (GEOLOGY)
"KNIT A LOT AND TRY TO
RELAX"



JAZMINE CARIATI
(PSYCHOLOGY)
"I HAVE NO IDEA,
JUST STUDY FOR
HOURS; 2 HOURS
FOR MATH, 2 HOURS
FOR WRITING, AND 3
HOURS FOR HEALTH,
AND I USUALLY DO
ON A DAILY BASIS
AROUND 6 HOURS OF
HOMEWORK"

JERRY PHILIPS
(FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY)
"PUT TIME ASIDE EVERY DAY FOR
EACH SUBJECT, AND SOMETIMES
JUST FOCUS ON ONE"



HASSAN ALABDULAZIZ
(COMPUTER ENGINEER)
"JUST STUDY ALONE,
READ, AND PRACTICE"



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
ELLIOT POND

Dear Students...

A word from our president:

Over the past couple of weeks I have been visited by a number of amazing faculty and staff, sharing with me the concerns that some of our students have about their future safety. The worry that their race, gender, nationality, political or religious beliefs might be used to single them out and threaten their ability to pursue the very education that we are committed to providing them. One of these faculty shared with me written comments from students in one of her classes and, as I have read them again (and again), I am moved to tears by the anxiety that some of our students feel.

And, I am moved to say something too... something that I hope will be an assurance and affirmation of our shared commitment to a purpose that stands against anything that would threaten the safe pursuit of a better life by any who come to us, any who are a part of the LBCC community.

Our Mission states that it is our purpose “to engage in an education that enables ALL OF US to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from the cultural richness and economic vitality of our communities.” I have added my personal emphasis to the words “all of us” because this is the part of our Mission that is feared to be under threat. I would also suggest that the emphasis is already there. There, in our commitment to Equity in our Strategic

Goals, and there in our commitment to Inclusion in our Statement of Values. We are built on the foundational premise that no distinctions, no variable of our differences, no means of disaggregations of separation can be used to limit the educational opportunity that we have committed ourselves to providing for ALL. All of our students, all of us.

Our Mission rings hollow if the word “All” is missing or is in anyway compromised. And so, as I have considered these visits from dear faculty and staff, and have also considered this season of thanks for all that has been given us - entrusted to us - not just for our own benefit but for us to share in benefit to others, I want to recommit myself to the “All” in our Mission, and to all of you. We have been a community college for ALL who come, and I commit myself to ensuring that this will remain true of us into the future. I want to invite all of you to do the same. I believe that it is in this manner that we together will be best positioned to protect and inspire all whom we serve.

With my sincere thanks,
Greg Hamann



The Faculty Senate, Faculty Association and the Part Time Faculty Association have joined together in support of the following statement to our students:

Whereas, the Linn-Benton Community College Faculty wish to maintain a free exchange of ideas in a cohesive community environment; and

Whereas, there has been a recent documented rise in hate-motivated harassment, vandalism, violence, and protest, including cases in Oregon and at institutions of higher learning in the United States; and

Whereas, our community has been affected by rhetoric that targets immigrants, Muslims and other religious minorities, people of color, LGBTQ people, women, people with disabilities, among others; and

Whereas, our students have expressed concerns about their physical safety, their ability to live and study in this country, and their future prospects; and

Whereas, the Linn-Benton Community College Faculty strive for the educational success of ALL students;

Be it resolved, the Linn-Benton Community College Faculty reaffirm that:

- We will continue to provide opportunities for all residents of Linn and Benton Counties to pursue their educational goals; and
- We will continue to ensure that students receive the academic and emotional supports necessary for them to remain engaged in their college experience; and
- We will guard, whenever possible, against hostilities directed at our students; and
- We will remain committed to promote respectful dialog that includes people from diverse backgrounds and political views; and
- We will continue to work for the success of every student of every race, citizenship, religion, sexual orientation, gender, (dis)ability, and political viewpoint.

Dear LBCC Campus Community:

The impact of the results of the 2016 presidential election on students and employees is still reverberating, and people are beginning to come to terms with the ramifications. People on campus have experienced a swath of emotions: everything from elation and exhilaration to shock and anger. The Linn-Benton Community College Values, Inclusion and Cultural Engagement (VICE) Council encourages everyone to care for themselves, and seek the support necessary in order to perform at maximum capacity as students or employees of the college. VICE Council also encourages everyone on campus to treat their peers and colleagues with understanding, civility, and respect.

“LBCC recognizes and affirms difference and variety as integral to an inclusive representation of humanity and the educational community. To thrive as an academic institution, LBCC fosters a learning and working environment that encourages multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas.” (Values, Inclusion and Cultural Engagement Council, 2015)

As challenging as it may be to listen to your peers and colleagues discuss what may come next, it is incumbent upon you to allow for the space that encourages mutual dialogue. And as impossible as it may seem sometimes, our college exists for moments like these. If we can not engage in difference here at LBCC, then where?

VICE Council acknowledges that the work of being an inclusive campus is extremely difficult, as the results of the election clearly demonstrate that there is a sharp divide amongst us. Yet we are faced with the reality that obliges everyone to discover healthy outlets to find one’s voice. We are hopeful that in so doing, it is done in the most productive way possible. Admittedly, it is a daunting challenge and we recognize it.

Our goal as an educational institution is “to promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free

exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.” (Faculty Handbook, 2016).

Whether one supports the outcome of the election or not, LBCC is well-positioned to be the place where we as a community model engagement with others with whom we differ. As sweet as the electoral victory tastes for some or as bitter as what just occurred is for others, everyone continues to be part of our college community.

As a final reminder to everyone touched by the college, LBCC has established principles—our College Values—which we all should embrace. We would do well to recall them as we move forward, together.

Our Values:

At Linn-Benton Community College, our values serve as the foundation that inspires our actions and unites us as a community. As responsible stewards, we are committed to:

Opportunity: We support the fulfillment of potential in ourselves and each other.

Excellence: We aspire to the highest ideal with honesty and integrity.

Inclusiveness: We honor and embrace the uniqueness of every individual, and promote the free and civil expression of ideas, perspectives and cultures.

Learning: We commit to the lifelong pursuit of knowledge, skills, and abilities to improve our lives and our communities.

Engagement: We openly and actively connect as students, faculty, staff and community.

Sincerely,

Linn-Benton Community College
Values, Inclusion and Cultural
Engagement (VICE) Council



options
Pregnancy Resource Centers

**Pregnant?
We can help.**

Scan to schedule a confidential appointment and take control of your unplanned pregnancy.

867 NW 23rd St, Corvallis 1800 16th Ave SE, Albany
541.758.3662 541.924.0150 possiblypregnant.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 1

LBCC Women's Basketball Game vs. George Fox

5:00 p.m. at the LBCC Center Gym

Fall Choral Concert: "Wrapped in Wonder"

7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Russell Tripp

Performance Center, Albany Campus.

Tickets \$7 for staff and students, \$10 for general admission.

Join the LBCC Young Democrats for political discussion and free pizza

Noon in the DAC: Tell us your thoughts, worries, hopes, etc. in a respectful, safe, thoughtful setting.

Pastega Holiday Light Display

5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Benton County Fairgrounds, 110 S.W. 53rd St., Corvallis

Dec. 2

2016 Winter's Eve Corvallis

5:00 to 9:30 p.m. at Madison Avenue, between 2nd & 3rd, Corvallis

Coffee with a Cop

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Cellar Cat in downtown Albany.

Dec. 3

Santa's Elves Bazaar

10: a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Auditorium Board Room & Auditorium Hall, Benton County Fairgrounds, 110 SW 53rd St., Corvallis

Dec. 4

Downtown Twice Around Christmas Parade & Community Tree Lighting

5:00 p.m. in historic downtown Albany

Heritage Mall "Pet Photos with Santa"

6:00 p.m. Heritage Mall, 1895 14th Ave. S.E., Albany

Dec. 6

LBCC's 50th Anniversary

11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the college Commons cafeteria, 6500 Pacific Blvd. S.W., Albany

Men's Basketball Game vs. Pacific University

7:00 p.m. at the LBCC Activities Center

Dec. 9

Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center Winter Bazaar

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center, 128 S.W. 9th St., Corvallis

Legacy Ballet & LBCC Presents "The Nutcracker"

7:00 p.m. at LBCC, 6500 Pacific Blvd. S.W., Albany

Dec. 10

Breakfast with Santa at Novak's

9:00 a.m. at Novak's Hungarian Restaurant, 208 S.W. 2nd Ave., Albany

MEET MARIA

LBCC creates new latina/o outreach position to encourage college completion

Attending college can be intimidating for a first-generation college student. Having a friendly, approachable person like Maria Solis-Camarena to talk to can make all the difference in the world.

Maria Solis-Camarena is the new Latina/o Outreach and Retention Specialist (LORS). Her life has prepared her for this role. She was the first high school graduate in her family and a low-income, first-generation Latina college student.

"I know the struggle," said Solis-Camarena. "Balancing home life and work, while at the same time helping family, and still setting goals and thinking about a future for yourself."

LORS is a brand new position at LBCC.

"This is a statement from LBCC in that we want to be responsive to changing demographics in our service district," said Javier Cervantes director for the Department of Equity, Division and Inclusion. "Within the last five years, Latino enrollment has gone up from about four percent to nine percent."

The position's aim is to get students college-ready by connecting with parents and children starting in high school.

"We want LBCC to be the first step in their college education," said Solis-Camarena.

Once a student starts at LBCC, Solis-Camarena can assist students with anything from looking for scholarships and helping them navigate the resources, to just being someone to talk with.

"I want them to feel an actual human connection, not just be someone handing them a pamphlet," said Solis-Camarena.

Solis-Camarena grew up in Mesa, Arizona. She attended the University of Arizona receiving a bachelor's in psychology with a minor in Spanish in 2011.

While at the university, Solis-Camarena sought assistance from the TRIO program.

TRIO is made up of eight federally funded outreach and service programs that assist low-income, first-generation college students or those with disabilities navigate the school system from high school through doctoral programs.

Solis-Camarena became a TRIO peer mentor during her junior year and wrapped up her senior year as a program coordinator. This set the stage for future positions.

After graduation she worked for organizations that serve low-income and first generation students by making them college-ready.

During that time, Solis-Camarena began working on a master's degree in education leadership with an



AT A GLANCE

Maria Solis-Camarena
Forum F-121
Albany Campus
541-917-4292
soliscm@linnbenton.edu

Other locations Solis-Camarena worked:
GEAR UP Tucson, Ariz. Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program (GEAR UP) prepares low-income high school students to enter and complete postsecondary education.

Upward Bound through Pima Community College at Marana High, Marana, Ariz.

Casa de los Ninos, Tucson, Ariz. A non-profit that facilitates visits between parents and children who cannot have unsupervised contact.

"I want them to feel an actual human connection, not just be someone handing them a pamphlet"

emphasis on higher education from Northern Arizona University, graduating in 2015.

In mid 2015, Solis-Camarena moved to Oregon. Her position prior to coming to LBCC was as a permanency caseworker in the Linn County Department of Human Services Division of Child Welfare. She started at LBCC on October 20.

"Her personal testimony and narrative from her own life made her the most qualified candidate," said Cervantes. "She is smart, competent, and compassionate."

Last week she was at South Albany High School's financial aid night, helping families fill out the FAFSA, answering questions about college and translating conversations among attendees.

South Albany, Corvallis and Philomath high schools

are her primary targets as well as the Juntos program. Juntos is part of Oregon State University's extension mission, uniting school, family and community efforts to enhance student access to higher education through parental involvement.

Solis-Camarena wants to craft the LORS position to best serve the Latino community by getting feedback from them on what they need, as well as from counselors and administrators.

According to Cervantes the LORS position was created to serve any student in Linn and Benton counties, but with the Latino population almost 17 percent at South Albany High School and 15 percent at Corvallis High School there's a need to reach out to Latino students specifically.

"We don't want them to get lost and lose out on resources just because [LBCC] couldn't respond," said Solis-Camarena.

Solis-Camarena's motivation for working with students and the community goes beyond just connecting them with resources.

"You become a part of their life and they become part of yours," said Solis-Camarena. "You don't remember the day and time of tutoring. You remember the person who helped you find that tutor in the first place."



STORY AND PHOTO BY
DANIELLE JARKOWSKY

A CAMPUS TRADITION

LBCC takes on growing hunger issue

Food insecurity in Oregon has risen more than in any other state in the past three years.

“Oregon recorded the sharpest increase in food insecurity of any state, even as nationally the share of families struggling to put food on the table declined and the Oregon economy grew.”

That statement was released by The Oregon Center for Public Policy in late November.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, more than a dozen volunteers worked hard to prepare over 200 food boxes for students and staff in need during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Committee chair Tammi Drury, who has been involved with this event for more than ten years, also serves as the Transcript/Degree Evaluator at LBCC.

“The Thanksgiving Food Drive is important to me because I want to help make a difference in people’s lives. Most of us have been in the position of needing help – this is my way of giving back and helping to make the holidays special for others,” said Drury.

LBCC has always had a tradition of helping students and staff. The Thanksgiving Food Drive is one of the ways the community gives back, by helping families struggling to put food on the table have a Thanksgiving dinner for their immediate family members.

AT A GLANCE

The event is made possible by a collaboration of multiple groups and organizations.

These include:

LBCC Faculty, Management, Classified Staff, Student Leadership, AAWCC, The Faculty Association, and the Independent Association of Classified Employees of LBCC. The greater Albany community also stepped up with donations, including Oroweat, Franz Bakery Outlets, MegaFoods of Albany and Lebanon, Albany Grocery Outlet, Safeway, and Walmart.

Students and staff using the program filled out a short electronic form and then arrived on Saturday to pick up their food boxes. Families unable to drive to campus on Saturday were able to pick up their food box the following Monday at the LBCC centers in Sweet Home, Lebanon and Corvallis. A few emergency situations were thwarted by staff who stepped up to hand deliver food boxes to the students’ homes.

Boxes included the usual items a family would need to prepare a Thanksgiving meal, plus extra items that helped make the food boxes very plentiful.

The LBCC community spends over a month collecting food items and raising money to make this annual event a success. This year, a record number of food box requests were made, so the

organizing committee had to step up their game to create food boxes for everyone that requested one.

Combining all the food donations, together the committee creates a shopping list of items needed to complete each food box. Using funds donated by multiple groups on campus, the committee hit local grocery stores to purchase thousands of dollars worth of groceries to complete each box. Stores are warned in advance of their arrival and food shelves are wiped bare as the committee shops for all the items on the shopping list.

“I love the food drive for many reasons – it is a lot of work and takes lots of organizations, but the rewards are high. You get to see many grateful people picking up their boxes, we get to see young volunteers learn about the gift

of volunteering and many co-workers working on this project that don’t normally work together come together for this project. It takes so many volunteers to make this event possible,” said Drury.

The LBCC Printing and Mailing Department volunteer space each year to make this event possible. The shop is transformed into a food pantry for nearly a month while food is collected, and then on Saturday it serves as the staging area for the creation of all the food boxes. Families were able to drive on to campus right up to the front door of the Luckiamute Building, where they were greeted by volunteers, who helped load their cars with their food box, along with a 10-pound bag of potatoes.

“I am super thankful to see our LBCC community come together year after year to make these boxes possible,” said LBCC Financial Aid Advisor Michelle Slay. “If you have not been out to see us in action, I invite you to join us next year!”

If you are interested in volunteering next year please contact the Committee Chair, Tammi Drury, at 541-917-4818 to learn about volunteer opportunities.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LETA HOWELL



LBCC’s Thanksgiving boxes contain all one needs for the perfect meal.



Michelle Slay, Marie Arne, Jeanine Howell, and Tammi Drury check out with Walmart cashier Kevin.



Walmart cashier Kevin holds up the receipts for the Thanksgiving boxes.



After undefeated regular season, Roadrunners earn second place at the NWAC Volleyball Championship

Linn-Benton's volleyball team led an unexpected season.

LBCC remained undefeated through both the pre- and regular seasons, entering the Northwest Athletic Conference Volleyball Championships with 39 straight wins, intent on taking home a title. On Nov. 20, they took on the Lower Columbia Community College's Red Devils for the 2016 championship title, and lost.

Held in Tacoma, Wash., the NWAC Championship game had players diving across the court to make split-second saves, the volleyball ricocheting off outstretched arms to skim the net. Screams, cheers, and the thud and thwack of the volleyball boomed through the echoing Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, as deafening and intense as the game itself.

The Roadrunners played two games against the Red Devils, coming out of the loser's bracket to win the first match 3-1. The Devils hit strong during the first set, overtaking the Roadrunners' lead by 2 points at the end of the set, 28-26. But the Roadrunners locked into rhythm during the next three sets, taking their leads early and blocking ferociously, winning 25-17, 25-14, and 24-18.

After a 30-minute break, both teams came back fighting during the tiebreaker match. LB setter Montanna Gubrud began the match with an ace and the Roadrunners stayed ahead for most of the set. But the Red Devils pushed hard, catching up to the Roadrunners 20-20. After an ace serve by Haylee Savage, several kills and out-of-bounds points, the Devils won the set 25-22.

As the teams neared the end of the tiebreaker match, the once-contained game began to spin loose of LB's grasp. Three out-of-bounds points and a service error widened the gap and the Red Devils slipped further ahead. Two LB players collided and slid to the feet of fans in the stands, attempting to save

themselves from giving up another point toward a loss.

Ultimately, Linn-Benton faltered, losing momentum and the second set 25-20. Something was off, and they couldn't get it back.

"The first game we came out and we did really good; the second game we came out we had tons of energy still, but mistakes just started piling up. We still played hard," said Katelyn Allen, freshman outside hitter.

The Roadrunners lost the tiebreaker match, 0-2.

"We didn't play our game," said LB coach Jayme Frazier. "We never hit where we have all season, which is in the 200s, close to 300s. You know, that's what we relied on all season to get us through and then we backed off; that backfired on us,

our defense didn't pick up the slack."

At the end of the match, LBCC players' faces crumbled with the realization of their loss while the Red Devils fell into a screaming heap on the court floor, celebrating.

"At the beginning of today it's certainly not where we thought we'd be, but at the beginning of the season, taking second place and getting to the championships was our goal," said Frazier.

The Roadrunners were calm and graceful as they accepted second place, though some tears were shed.

"This is a tough loss for everybody but in the end it was a very successful season, 45-2," said Frazier.

And after a season that strong, how could anyone call them anything less than champions?

"This loss feels like it almost makes a winning season into a losing season," said Peter Allen, LB fan and father of freshman Katelyn Allen. "But they dominated the conference; they totally dominated the whole season. They may not feel like winners right now, but they are."

With their 45-2 record, Linn-Benton held the top spot in the standings throughout the season. They finished ranked number two in total assists and total kills.

"I think our main thing is just playing together and that's what has kept us so strong," said Katie Allen, freshman outside hitter. "We probably won so much because we love each other and we play for each other; I think after that first loss [against Chemeketa] we really thought about that and came back together as a team."

The Roadrunners experienced their first loss of the season against Chemeketa on Friday, Nov 18. A familiar opponent, LBVB competed against Chemeketa all year in the Southern Region of the NWAC, dropping their first set of the season in a match against Chemeketa in October.

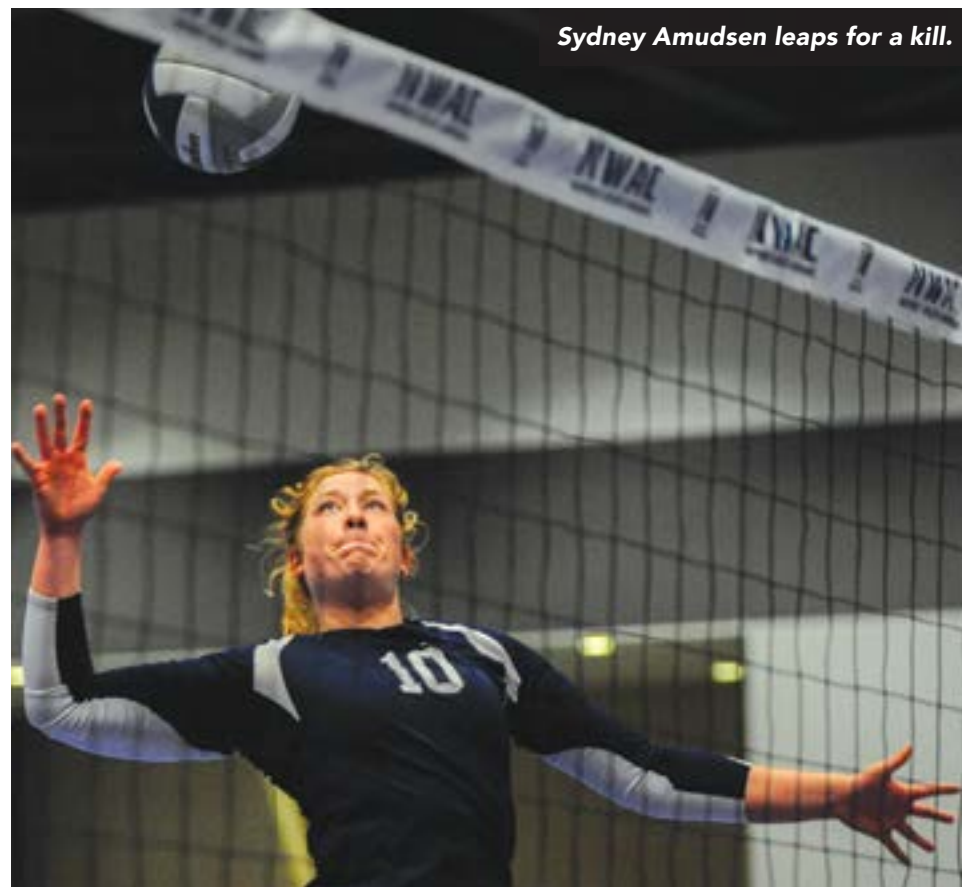
"I knew that they played really well and we didn't play our game at all, so if we got an opportunity to play them again we would play much better. They were our league opponent so I really tried to focus on not just revenge, but to come back and do it again the way that we know that we can," said Frazier.

After their first shake-up, the team rallied for three consecutive wins on Saturday, pulling them through the loser's bracket to Sunday's championship games. This included a cathartic 2-0 win against Chemeketa.

"The next three matches we really came out with a lot of passion and made it through," said Frazier.

The team, though saddened by the first-place loss, echoed their coach's attitude.

"It [NWAC Championship] was intense," said Alyvia Sams, LB's libero. "We knew we were going to be the team everyone was gunning for. I think we rose up and took the challenge. When we had that first loss it was hard, but we rallied together and came back to be in the championship. I'm really proud of us for doing that. It stinks to lose, but it was really special to be here."



PHOTOS: ELLIOT POND

Roadrunners pose after taking second place.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX

Sydney Amundsen dives for the ball during the game against the Lower Columbia Red Devils.



Montanna Gubrud returns a serve.



Katelyn Allen and Montanna Gubrud scream after the first victory at the NWAC Volleyball Championship.



Alyvia Sams (#1) and Sara Fanger (#2) pray before the championship match.

Town & Country Christmas Bazaar
At the Linn County Expo Center

December 2 - 4 2016

- Over 200 booths
- Unique handcrafted gifts
- Visit Storybook Land

Friday Noon to 8pm
Saturday 10am to 6pm
Sunday 10am to 4pm

Age 14+
ADMISSION \$2

Linn County Fair & Expo Center
3700 Knox Butte Road Albany, OR 97322
lcfairexpo.com



Roadrunners regroup to celebrate a point.

A collection of work from this term's LBCC photojournalism students



PHOTO: EMMALY WIDMER

LBCC Horse Program's "Lightening Bug" tries to eat the camera.



PHOTO: JAMES DEWEY

Benton County police officer Brian Lundy stands next to his personal squad vehicle at the downtown police department in Corvallis.



PHOTO: KATELYN BRISBY

Elena Castilla, sophomore at Philomath High School, in the middle of a calypso during The Shining Star's dance team practice.

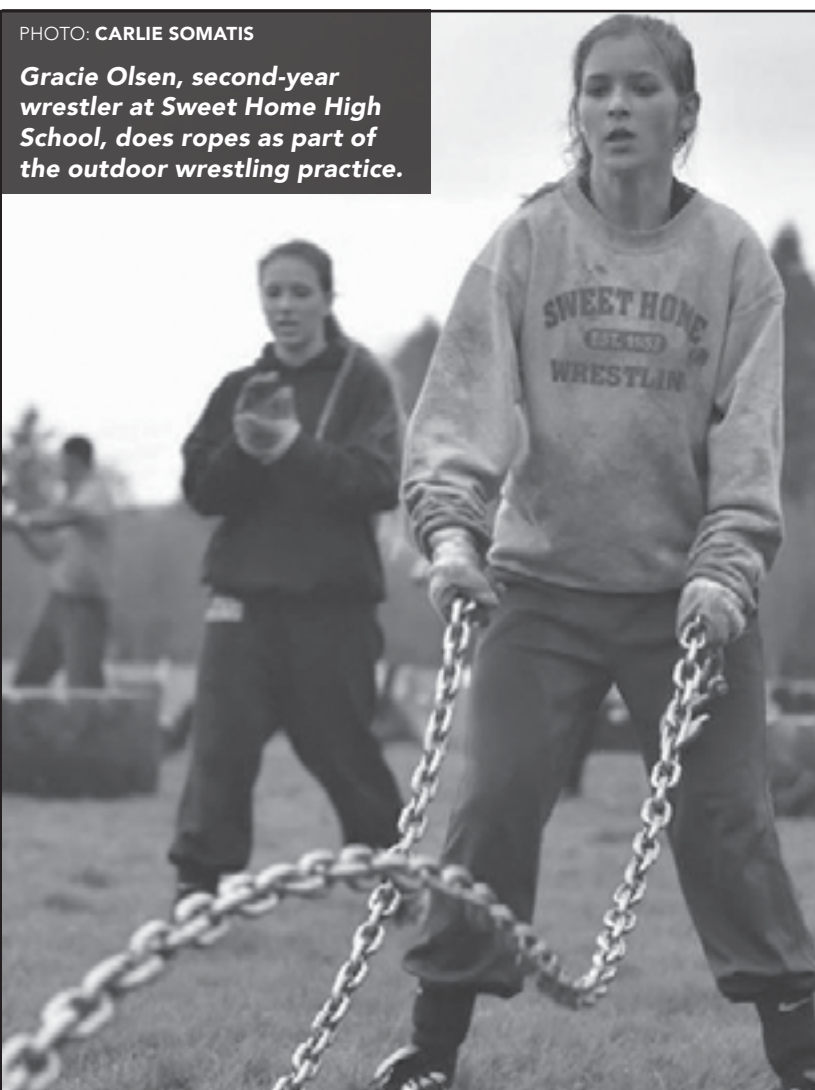


PHOTO: CARLIE SOMATIS

Gracie Olsen, second-year wrestler at Sweet Home High School, does ropes as part of the outdoor wrestling practice.



PHOTO: DEREK ESPINOZA

Gothic Romance enthusiast Savannah Dahl wanders through Riverside Cemetery.

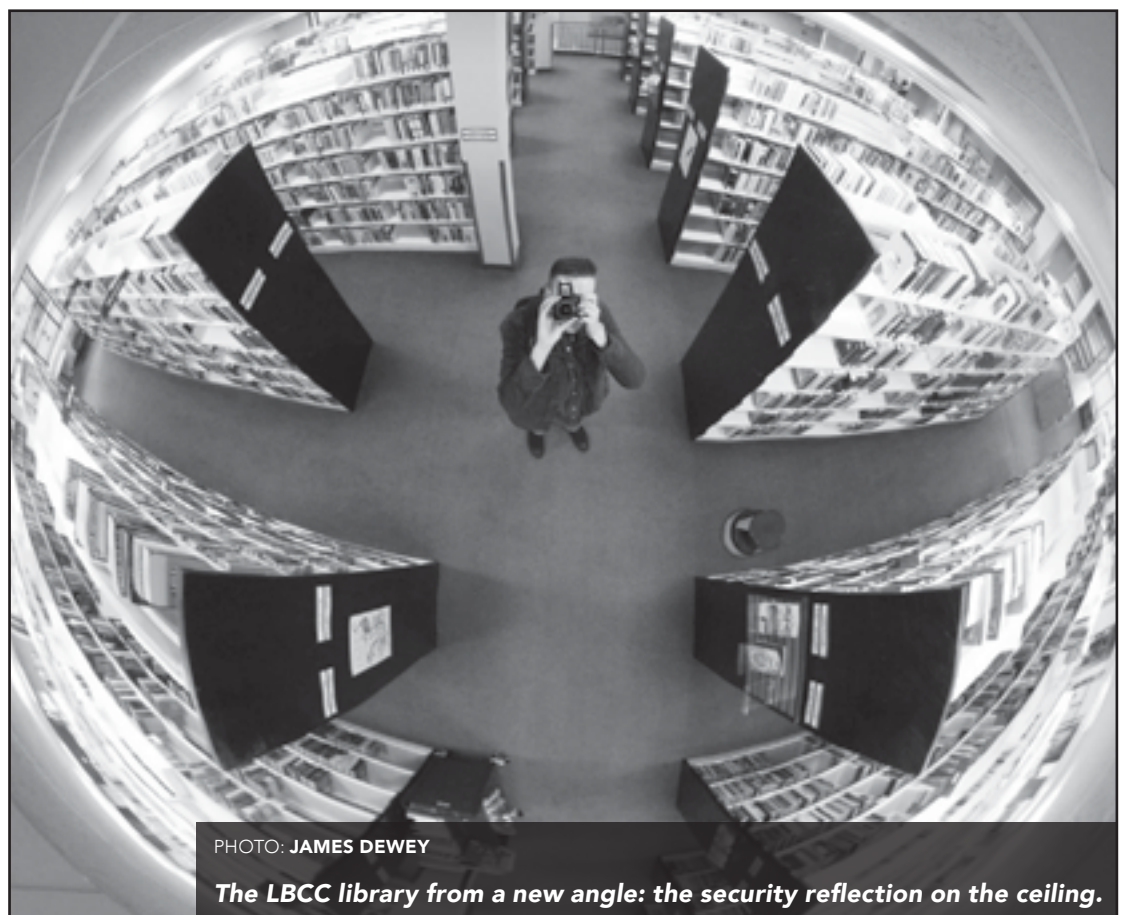
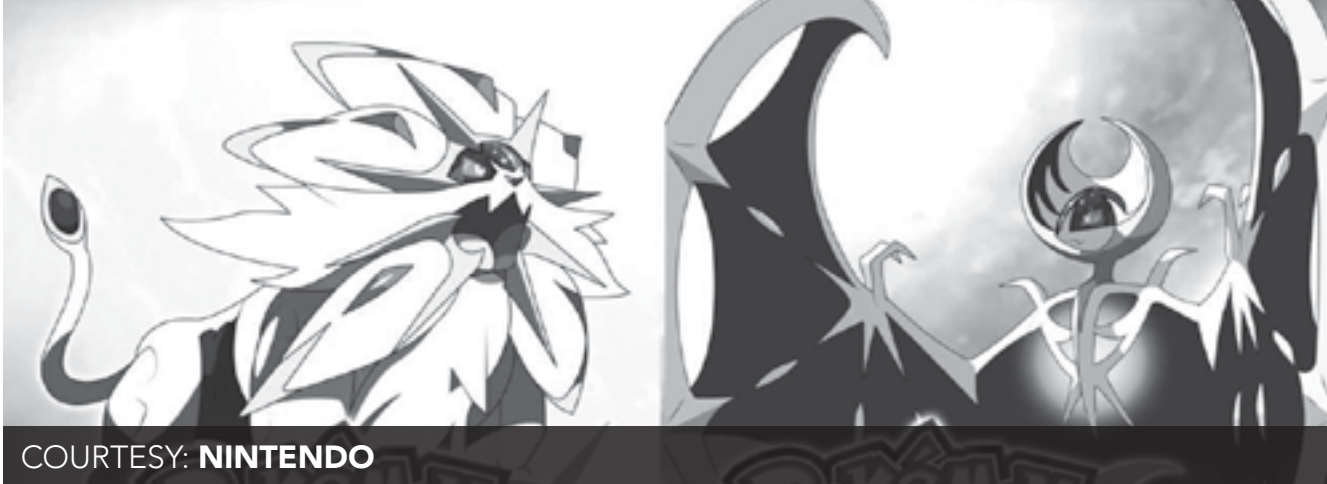


PHOTO: JAMES DEWEY

The LBCC library from a new angle: the security reflection on the ceiling.



COURTESY: NINTENDO

VIDEO GAME REVIEW:
Pokémon Sun and Moon

PUBLISHER: Nintendo
DEVELOPER: Game Freak/The Pokémon Company
PLATFORM: Nintendo 3DS
ESRB RATING: E
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the “Pokémon” video games, and the series has delivered another stellar entry for this milestone with “Pokémon Sun and Moon.” While there are many shake-ups to the long-running role-playing game (RPG) series, the games are ideal to celebrate 20 years of “Pokémon” for newcomers and true believers alike.

The games take place in the Alola region, which is based on the real-life Hawaiian Islands. As a young man or woman, you are given the task of capturing Pokémon for the laid-back Professor Kukui and the eccentric Professor Samson Oak; the latter being the cousin of Professor Oak from the original “Pokémon Red, Blue and Yellow.” The result is not only a massive labor of love to longtime fans, but also boasts considerable appeal to those who want to get into the main series for the first time after the massive success of the “Pokémon Go” mobile game.

The four islands that make up the Alola region contain not only a host of new Pokémon to train and battle with, but an assortment of redesigned “Alola forms” of Pokémon from previous games. Notably, the Alolan Exeggutor resembles a towering palm tree, and the Alolan Meowth has a darker color of fur and more condescending demeanor than its original namesake.

One new Pokémon that stands out is Mimikyu, a ghost Pokémon contained in an old toy that wants to be as beloved as the series mascot Pikachu.

The gameplay has also been given many new additions that expand on the successes of “Pokémon X and Y” and “Pokémon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire.” The new “Pokémon Refresh” feature is a great way to heal and bond with your Pokémon with an assortment of items to groom them after battle. The gyms have also made way for a new set of challenges known as “trials,” each with unique “captains” to complete tasks for. While it may seem simpler on the surface, make no mistake: the series has built its legacy on being easy to pick up and play, but tough to truly master. Even seasoned veterans will have a learning curve in this new kind of Pokémon battle.

The biggest shake-up to the established gameplay would have to be the addition of special abilities known as “Z-moves.” Once per battle, a special crystal in a device called a “Z-ring” can be triggered to unleash powerful moves that are unique to each Pokémon type. While it may seem similar to rival RPG series “Yo-Kai Watch,” the potential these techniques have in battle is endless.

The graphics, sound and design are also bursting with appeal to longtime fans and the growing trend of

nostalgia for the 1990s. The character customization function has been expanded greatly with a new array of colorful clothes, hats and running shoes. Villain faction Team Skull also has the aura of violent thugs that would not be out of place in a rap music video from that time, covered in black clothes and possibly-stolen Air Jordans; complete with an incredibly catchy music cue every time they show up. Their leader, Guzma, also has a vendetta against Kukui and his students after a past falling-out that prevented the two of them from being trial captains.

Even though there have been many competitors over the years since “Pokémon” first was released (including the recent stateside release of “Yo-Kai Watch 2: Bony Spirits and Fleshy Souls”), few have been able to capture the same feelings of Game Freak’s venerable RPG series. With a large amount of new monsters and features at its heart, “Pokémon Sun and Moon” are easily the best “Pokémon” titles yet and some of the best games on the 3DS. With talk of a possible third entry on the upcoming Nintendo Switch, it’s clear there’s never been a better time to embrace the wonder and fun of “Pokémon.” They are highly recommended for fans of the series and anyone who owns a 3DS.

Here’s to 20 years of catching ‘em all.



COURTESY: WARNER BROS.

MOVIE REVIEW:
Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

DIRECTOR: David Yates
WRITER: J.K. Rowling
STARRING: Eddie Redmayne, Dan Fogler, Fine Frenzy, Colin Farrell, Ezra Miller, Johnny Depp
PRODUCTION: Heyday Films, Warner Bros.
GENRE: Adventure, Family, Fantasy
RATED: PG-13
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY
MORGAN CONNELLY
@MADEINOREGON97

We did our waiting. Five years of it! And it was more than worth the wait.

“Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them” marks the beginning of a new era of the “Harry Potter” series storyline, one that takes place in 1926, long before Harry became a wizarding world phenomena.

As we dove into a new universe across the pond, we were naturally introduced to American wizarding terms and branches of government. The Ministry of Magic is now called the “Magical Congress of the United States of America.” Ilvermorny is the United States’ school of Witchcraft and wizardry. “No-Maj” is the term given to non-magic folks, and they’re forbidden to marry witches and wizards.

To make matters worse, the Magical Congress is in distress, as the New Salem Philanthropic Society is trying to make American wizardry obsolete.

The character of magizoologist Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) is something of a pinnacle example as to what a Hufflepuff is. Scamander is a mischievous fellow who has faced expulsion from Hogwarts and is in New York as a sort-of layover with the hopes of finding a magical creature breeder. While his goal is to simply research the namesake “fantastic beasts” so he can explain to the Wizarding World that they’re not a bunch of scary monsters, an escaped niffler endangers his goal and nearly has him arrested.

To make matters worse, he’s caught the attention of the Brooklyn-accented no-maj Jacob Kowalski (Dan Fogler), who falls in love with the legilimency (mind-reader) witch Queenie Goldstein (Fine Frenzy). Eventually, Goldstein is held responsible for taking care of Scamander and Kowalski, along with her Magical Congress-employed sister, Tina.

On top of all this, Newt must capture his

beloved beasts before they get taken away from him by the Congress.

When an acclaimed series like “Harry Potter” announces a new movie, standards are always high. Fans have been hopeful of another “Harry Potter” series movie for years. The task of journeying into the backstory of a textbook is a bold one, but clever, especially when the character of Newt Scamander was played with much respect by an actor whose childhood was also full of magic admiring.

“I was obsessed with magic as a child,” Redmayne told People magazine for their November 21 issue. “She [J.K. Rowling] has this extraordinary imagination, but I think where a lot of these characters come from are places in her heart, or the people she knows.”

Rowling’s imagination and character relatability is something we’ve seen all throughout Harry Potter’s time at Hogwarts, and she brought that aspect in full force for “Beasts.” There was a strong feeling that this was a group of actors and moviemakers who knew what movie they were producing and wanted to do the series justice for the fans. As a massive fan of the 1920’s, the “giggly water” (Jazz Age slang for alcohol) references and period costumes made me especially geek out.

The movie was a refreshing alternate take on the wizarding world. Where “Harry Potter” dedicated itself to the antics of a young boy trying to fight the good-vs.-evil battle, “Beasts” explored a different aspect of magic: a wizard dedicating his life to researching animals and enlightening the world that these creatures are not to be feared, but to be loved.

The way the producers took advantage of today’s special effects is incredible. Waiting for this movie to come out included making the most of Hollywood’s special effects to such a degree where every feather and

every emotion of Newt’s creatures look astoundingly realistic. Even though book-based movies don’t usually go for Oscars (save for Redmayne’s “Theory of Everything”), the dedication to making the creatures come to life deserves an award for its CGI.

Much like Newt’s briefcase, J.K. Rowling again reminded us that her imagination is seemingly endless. To top it off, we’re promised four more movies in the series. As a Potterhead, I can vouch that we’ve been praying for a new adventure, and the idea of basing a story on the makings of an important Hogwarts textbook is the very story many of us have been waiting to discover.

Simply put, “I haven’t got the brains to make this up!”

If you can’t make it to theaters, I highly suggest getting your hands on a copy of the “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” script. The storyline was exceptionally touching to me as an individual who prefers puppies over people, with tear-jerking moments like when Newt pleaded to the Magical Congress, “Please don’t harm my creatures!”

We may fear the unknown, but we also must embrace it. With climate change being such an important topic being discussed, the movie also serves as a reminder to love the Earth.

“Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them” reminds us that the “Harry Potter” saga is not only endless, but quite literally timeless. The film takes full advantage of Hollywood’s special effects and imagination, while giving the utmost respect to Rowling’s incredible visions.

I promise you that even a no-maj may find beauty in this film, especially if they enjoyed the Harry Potter movies, and I hope that they do.

THE SIMPSONS 600 MARATHON



Since the launch of the TV network FXX, one of the most common programming blocks is a marathon of “Every Simpsons Ever,” consisting of the bulk of the long-running animated sitcom “The Simpsons.” It’s proven to be one of the easiest ways to draw viewers to the network; so much so that a marathon of all 600 (and counting!) episodes has starred on this past Thanksgiving day.

While the series has seen much change since it began life as a series of shorts on “The Tracey Ullman Show,” it still commands a sizable fanbase. Although not every episode or season may be a classic, the look at life in the small town of Springfield has appeal to many people in some way, shape or form.

The marathon began with the pilot episode, “Simpsons Roasting on an Open Fire,” where the family must pull together in order to salvage their Christmas season; and will conclude with the milestone 600th episode of “Treehouse of Horror XXVII.” The latter episode contains delightfully twisted sendups of films such as “The Hunger Games Saga,” “Hide and Seek” and “Kingsman: The Secret Service;” among other films. The episode even acknowledges in a James Bond-inspired end slate that there are entire series that don’t even manage a fraction of the episodes “The Simpsons” has accumulated, to the point of playfully listing them off in song.

Even if the series has had a massive variation in quality since the early seasons, it still holds considerable appeal in its premise. While not every family is as dysfunctional as this one, the numerous characters in the cast provide someone for any potential viewer to relate to. The humor the series mines from poking fun at life’s foibles and popular culture still continues to this day, with celebrity guest stars being a continued staple and a recent viral video showing that not even Homer is immune to the craze of the “Pokémon Go” mobile game.

With the series being renewed for a record 30th season, it’s clear that “The Simpsons” has left its mark on popular culture since it first began airing. So, this marathon will be an ideal way to deal with one’s turkey coma, since it will be taking place over the course of 13 days. Thanks to the idea of “binge-watching” being an increasingly popular concept in modern TV viewing, watching “Every Simpsons Ever” is indeed something to be thankful for in a time when we need to the most. It’s definitely worth checking out.



STORY BY
STEVEN PRYOR

POETRY CORNER

Post

*Upon Meeting Underneath
Pole light in the street moving loose.*

*Molding shape forming (skin of brains/Wrinkled
in nostalgia)*

*Our bodies occupy coats/ layers in flat
shadows cutting torched skin*

Recede into the sleeping night

*Asphalt, dirt in the corners of curbs, grass,
Reflective windshields in the driveways, houses
roofs chimneys stars*

Monet and the fiddler

Find themselves taking heat from your cheeks

“When,”/ Addressed.

“I was left there with her”/ Undressed /hands

Finding themselves in seasonal pockets.

loomed-

as a tired Warden

Trapped listening

To active whistles

In solitude

‘Vowels fall gentle and rare,

*Decay drums dropping into the pits of
resonating silence*

Thinking of you.’

Stop.

By Angela Scott



Mama

*I could write her a thousand novels,
Even sing her a thousand songs;
But even after millions of words,
And music playing so incredibly long,
If she said she knows how much I love her,
She would still be so wrong.*

*I could hold her every second,
To show her how my love is strong;
But even after an eternal embrace,
Spent in my arms where she belongs,
If she said she knows how much I love her,
She would still be so wrong.*

*My heart relies on her warmth,
And won’t survive without our bond.*

*I miss her so much,
When she’s not even gone.
If she said she knows how much I love her,
She would surely be wrong,
Because no words can do justice,
No mind can fathom,
The uniquely pure relationship,
Between a child and their mom.*

By Grace Allen

Linn-Benton Community College
Performing Arts Department
presents



Wrapped in Wonder

Fall Choral Concert
December 1, 7:30pm

linnbenton.edu/tickets



Join the team. Be the News.

The Commuter has open positions!

Email us at commuter@linnbenton.edu
Stop by the office at Forum Room 222



NETFLIX RECOMMENDATION

“We Need to Talk About Kevin”

2011's We Need To Talk About Kevin deserved an Oscar. No, really. It's a dreamlike but tense psychological thriller that delivers convincing performances and, at times, is so tense you'll be left gripping your seat. Giving too much away would spoil the journey, but needless to say it's an emotional rollercoaster through a twisted mind.



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the average human brain contains around 78% water?

THE COMMONS Cafeteria

... MENU ...
11/30 - 12/7

Wednesday 11/30: Chef's Choice (this day is a black box cook test as part of their final- the menu will remain secret, but will be emailed out to campus before we open for service.)

Thursday 12/1: Shredded Beef Enchiladas*, Beef Brined Chicken with Pan Gravy, Tempura Vegetables with Steamed Rice. Soups: Shrimp and Corn Chowder, and African Sweet Potato*.

December 5,6,7: The Commons will be open for regular hours (10:30 to 1:30) and lunch service, but will be closed December 8 and 9 for cleaning.

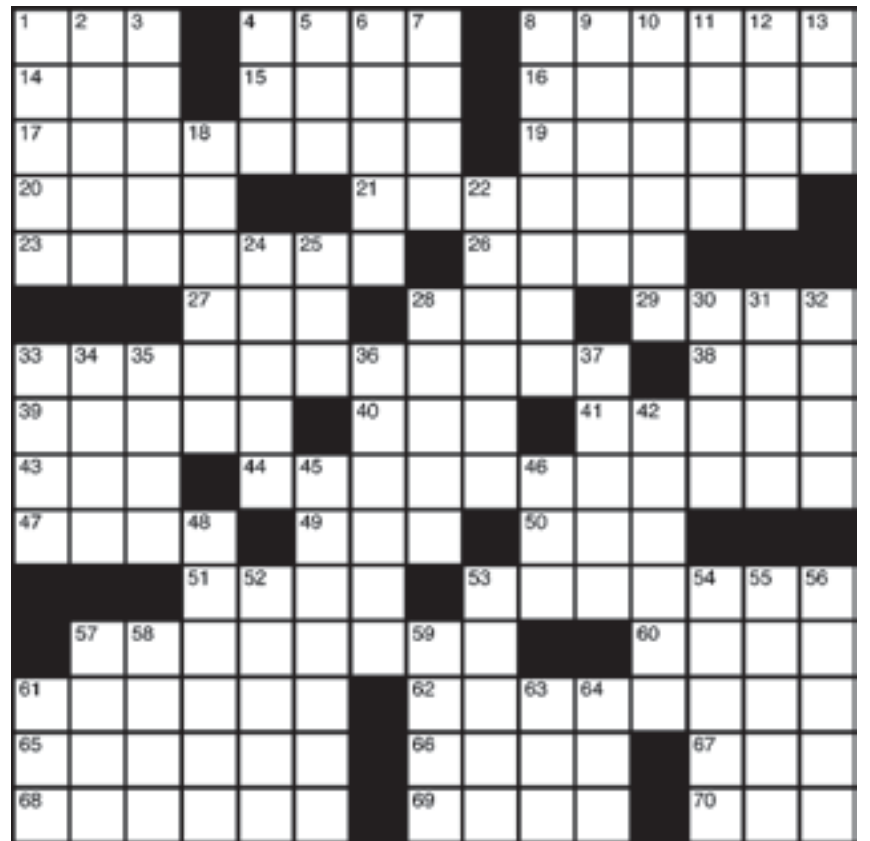
*Gluten Free

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- “That’s enough from you!”
 - City whose tower’s construction began in 1173
 - Pops out of the cockpit
 - Seoul-based automaker
 - Bulky boats
 - Hit one’s limit, in slang
 - How poets write?
 - Like a classic French soup
 - Tree of Knowledge locale
 - How moonshine is made?
 - Quick summary
 - Learned
 - Actress Thurman
 - Bath bathroom
 - Go to the bottom
 - How parts of a whole can be written?
 - Middling grade
 - “Doctor Who” actress Gillan
 - Taylor of fashion
 - Strong glue
 - Lyrical preposition
 - How a priest preaches?
 - Electrically flexible
 - Lyrical preposition
 - Feel crummy
 - World power until 1991: Abbr.
 - Spirits brand with a Peppar variety
 - How kangaroos travel?
 - Former Cubs slugger
 - Meadow lows
 - How some paper is packaged?
 - Land on two continents
 - Squeaker in Stuttgart
 - Big fan
 - 1987 Beatty flop
 - Freelancer’s detail
 - Big primate

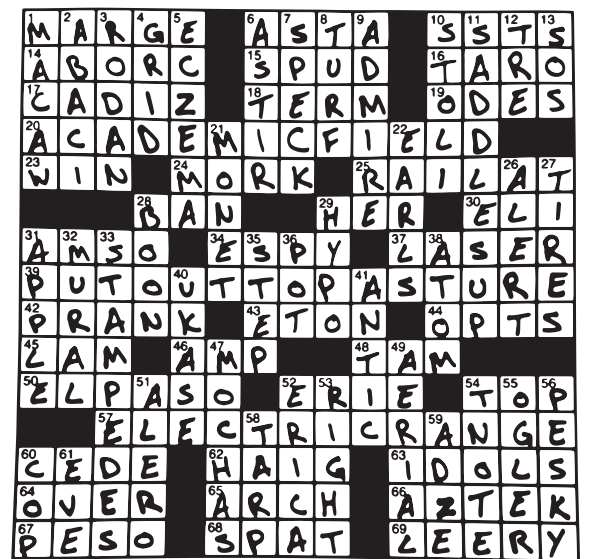


By Doug Peterson and Patti Varol

4/1/15

- DOWN**
- One going downhill fast
 - ___ Kush mountains
 - Port in a storm, so to speak
 - Score to shoot for
 - Taxing initials
 - Part of LPGA: Abbr.
 - What the cold-blooded don't feel
 - She performed between Creedence and Sly at Woodstock
 - Sends away
 - Aloof
 - Napa vessels
 - Piggery
 - Last
 - Needs a fainting couch
 - Saudi neighbor
 - WWII female
 - Hard-hit ball
 - Clickable image
 - Coming up
 - Florida ___
 - Blue-and-yellow megastore

The Commuter Has Solutions



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4/2/14

- Stash finder
- Justice Sotomayor
- Willard of “Best in Show”
- “Easy-peasy!”
- Brewpub
- Fictional Doone
- Pre-final rounds
- Go through entirely
- Speaker between Hastert and Boehner
- Small bite
- Short notes?
- Small bite
- Coffee order
- 59 Lowers, as lights
- Pickup at a 36-Down
- 61 X-ray kin
- Picasso, for one
- 63 Ont. neighbor
- 64 L.A. campus

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



THE COMMUTER HAS SOLUTIONS

8	3	7	5	1	2	6	9	4
5	1	2	4	6	9	8	3	7
4	6	9	7	8	3	1	2	5
7	5	8	1	9	6	2	4	3
9	2	1	3	7	4	5	6	8
3	4	6	8	2	5	7	1	9
6	7	4	9	5	1	3	8	2
1	9	5	2	3	8	4	7	6
2	8	3	6	4	7	9	5	1

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

		6	4	5	2			
		5					2	
4	3		8	7				6
	9						4	
5								7
		1						6
3				1	4			2 5
		7					9	
				5	9	6	7	

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



PHOTOS: LETA HOWELL

Patricia Rincon Diaz

International Culture Night brings students of all backgrounds together

On Friday, students, staff, and visitors were presented with a colorful display of talent and fashion from all over the world.

From 7 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 18, dozens gathered in LBCC's Russell Tripp theater to witness the 2016 International Culture Night. Among the performances were traditional dances, songs, and even some magic tricks from places like Mexico, Mongolia, India, Saudi Arabia, China, and the UK.

"It was great, and a lot of fun. We don't normally do events like this, so it was nice to see us try something new" said Diversity Achievement Center director Javier Cervantes.

The Culture Night was put on as part of the greater International Education Week, an annual LBCC tradition organized this year by international student adviser Sharece Bunn and other staff involved with international students.

"Everything was amazing. We have such incredible,

talented students here," said Bunn.

The purpose of the Culture Night and the greater International Education Week is to promote awareness of the many different international students here on campus, as well as providing opportunities for international and domestic students to interact. While the Culture Night took place on Friday, other events throughout the week included an International Student Panel on Monday, the weekly Culture Tables on Wednesday, and the International Education Fair on Thursday.

The emcees of the night were Ganjiguur Batsaikhan of Malaysia, and Camila Monegatte of Brazil. Both were excited about hosting the event and pleased everything went off without a hitch.

"I'm surprised at how well everything went. I gotta say, I was expecting less and got more, since this is my first time," said Monegatte.

Mounir El-Jamal, a student and international

ambassador from Lebanon, described the night as "very fun," and appreciated the opportunity to perform magic tricks for the audience and show off traditional Lebanese dress. Yuting Zhou, a student from China, sang a traditional Chinese song while exhibiting traditional dress.

"Everything was great," said Zhou. "The night went perfectly."

After the performances, students, staff, and visitors were given a chance to mix and mingle and partake in some refreshments in Takena Hall. An amicable spirit filled the building, as friends and family talked and laughed. Great anticipation is already building for next year's show.



STORY BY
TRUMAN TEMPLETON

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THE HARDEST
climb

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Lebanon Center 11 am - 4 pm
Benton Center 10 am - 4 pm

Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-937-4789 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

CORVALLIS-OSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Marlan Carlson, Music Director

The Holiday Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 3:00 PM

The LaSells Stewart Center, OSU

OSU Chamber Choir

Steven Zielke, conductor

Bella Voce

Sandra Babb, conductor

OSU Meistersingers

Russell Christensen, conductor

Corvallis-OSU Symphony Orchestra

Marlan Carlson, conductor

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