

Congratulations Class of 2019 - See Page 5

THE LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUNITER

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THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

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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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WELLNESS WEDNESDAY

COURTESY OF **LISA HOOGESTEGER**

NEAT

While I was tabling at the Health Fair on the Albany campus in early May, I asked a student what they were excited about learning. The response was "the NEAT principle"; (thanks to Kristi Murphey - HE220 Epidemiology/Health Data Analysis). The student was jazzed to think about all the little things he does daily adding up to calorie expenditure. Without needing to put on gym clothes, go to a fitness center or intentionally do that formal "E" thing.

NEAT = Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis

"NEAT is the energy expended for everything we do that is not sleeping, eating or sports-like exercise ... energy expended walking to work, typing, performing yard work, undertaking agricultural tasks and fidgeting. Even trivial physical activities increase metabolic rate substantially and it is the cumulative impact of a multitude of exothermic actions that culminate in an individual's daily NEAT. NEAT increases with overfeeding and decreases with underfeeding."

Non-Judgment

I was reading stories last weekend about four deaths in four days, by climbers attempting to summit Mt. Everest. Beyond the debate about human, government, and environmental factors contributing to the deaths, were discussions about "why do something so dangerous?" Here is an excerpt from an article by Brendan Leonard.

Mountains are wonderful places because they are dangerous. There are no warning signs and no safety railings. In a world full of rules, wild places offer freedom to roam and explore, both the terrain and our own limits.

"Why?" is a question we'll always ask when people die doing something we perceive as dangerous. People don't set out on a climb believing they will die doing it, just as no one who dies in an automobile accident on the way to work does. You control the variables you can, and in your mind, you make peace with the risks.

This led to my thinking about different fears that we each have - heights, spiders, flying, public speaking, having broccoli between our teeth... It is not ours to judge. And sometimes there is no other "why?" than "just because" or "because it's there."

What are you
doing this
summer?



JEREMY SCHAFER
MARINE STUDIES

"I'M WORKING AT THE COAST. I'M DOING KAYAKING TOURS AND VOLUNTEERING AT THE AQUARIUM. I'VE BEEN DOING IT FOR FOUR YEARS. THE OTTERS ARE HILARIOUS."



FRANCESCA DOW
HORSE MANAGEMENT

"I'M GOING TO BE WORKING. I WORK AT DIFFERENT BARNS AND I TRAIN HORSES, GIVE LESSONS, AND GO TO BARREL RACES. IT'S A LOT OF FUN."

BRITTANY FRANZONI
HORTICULTURE

"WE ARE PLANNING MANY CAMPING TRIPS ALL OVER OREGON AND HOPE TO BOND AS A FAMILY. THE FIRST PLACE WE'RE GOING IS HONEYMAN PARK IN FLORENCE. I HAVE FAMILY COMING FROM IDAHO, CALIFORNIA, ALL DIFFERENT PARTS OF OREGON."



MOLLY ROBERTSON
DENTAL HYGIENE

"I'M GOING TO HAWAII FOR MY 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY."

JOSHUA SHARP
ENGLISH

"I PLAN ON GOING UP TO NEW YORK THIS SUMMER, GOING TO SEE A FRIEND."



STORY AND PHOTOS: KAREN CANAN

HORTICULTURE: A COMMUNITY'S LOSS

LBCC's decision to cut horticulture affects students and surrounding businesses

COLUMN BY **AUDRIC MACONE**

Jeff Cope, owner of the local nursery Home Grown Gardens, expressed his concerns with LBCC's decision to suspend the horticulture program.

"It was a decision without input from the community and input from the staff," said Cope.

Cope, originally from Santa Barbara, was on the advisory committee for Santa Barbara City College's horticulture program for 12 years, and then taught classes in the program for eight years.

Cope also has a degree in horticulture and a master's in public administration.

"The way to do it, if they're concerned about the performance of the program, is to make that an issue, and set goals for the level of enrollment. Let's come up with a plan," said Cope. Cope is not the only person who's voiced their concerns.

Local businesses who have hired LBCC students sent their concerns about the suspension; President of Peoria Gardens Inc. Ben Verhoeven; owner of Straub Landscape Dave Straub; owner of Spring Hill Organic Farm Jamie Kitzrow; vineyard manager Merrilee Buchanan Benson; and produce manager at the First Alternative Co-op North Store Patrick Monroe.

"In this time of climate change and hyper ecosystem sensitivity, it is more important than ever that we have managers and business owners that are educated and trained in the proper management of our land. Without our land ... we have nothing," said Straub.

"The Willamette Valley is such a great growing region, and it has been such a great region for educating people on the different crops we can grow here," said Merrilee Buchanan Benson, vineyard manager of Tye Farms.

Home Grown Gardens and other local businesses are going to feel the repercussions of LBCC's decision to suspend the horticulture program. LBCC is located within the Willamette Valley, where horticulture is a vital industry.

Cope said, "The suspension not only cuts the student off, but it cuts off employers like myself, and other nurseries, landscape companies, and farms in the community who want to hire people who have some knowledge. Now where are we going to get them from?"

The college's administration cited a few reasons to suspend the horticulture program: graduation rates were low in the program, student and teacher ratios were low, and the college is trying to save money.

The suspension is planned to save the college around \$100,000 a year, which arguably is not a huge expense compared to other programs offered at LBCC.

Why not make cuts throughout other programs, or give faculty in programs with low statistics goals to work towards, or even look at registration rates of classes rather than graduation rates?

This year the Oregon Legislature proposed a budget of \$543 million, that is 4.8 percent below the current budget. What legislators look at when creating a budget for community colleges is graduation rates.



PHOTO: ALEX GAUB

Brittany Franzoni stands with a sign supporting LBCC's Horticulture Program at a board meeting on March 20.



PHOTO: TRAVIS JONES

LBCC President Greg Hamann tours the greenhouse on Monday, April 29.



PHOTO: KAREN CANAN

Looking at graduation rates makes sense for universities, but for community colleges, this approach seems questionable.

Many people who go to community college are taking just a few classes to become more qualified for a job. Many other students decide to transfer to a university before finishing their degree. Plus, other students take classes to satisfy their curiosity.

The Oregon Legislature's budget has started to blur the line between university and community colleges. Community colleges are supposed to be utilized by the public in part to professionalize local industry.

"A lot of students I taught were not going on to get a degree, they just wanted the technical training to get out in the workforce," Cope said. "That's what community colleges need to remember."

When a program is placed into suspension, a program can be revived without further state approvals for three years. During this time, a program might be updated or re-designed to better meet the industry and student needs. If the suspension becomes permanent, it could cost more to revive the program rather than work on the current condition of it.

"If the program is eliminated, it would be very hard to revive it with the same skill level and industry respect that Stefan Seiter now provides," said Kitzrow of Spring Hill Organic Farm.

Seiter is head of the currently suspended horticulture program.

When asked if the college's concerns about

"They should not suspend the program, but they should identify how they can... bring it to the standards that the college has for it, and for all the programs,"

- Jeff Cope

the horticulture program were ever expressed before the suspension, Seiter said that neither a Dean or Vice President had spoken to him nor has anybody expressed concerns to the Agricultural Science Department, which is the academic home of the suspended Horticulture and Crop Production programs.

According to Seiter, the college has not asked him to re-design or update the now-suspended program.

Let me rephrase, the head of the horticulture program was never told by anyone higher up about the concerns of the program. The decision to suspend the program was made without input from anyone in the program.

Setting criteria to improve a program can promote people to develop innovative ideas to reach the standard.

"They should not suspend the program, but they should identify how they can... bring it to the standards that the college has for it, and for all the programs," said Cope.

This decision could damage our local economy and workforce within horticulture. It is easy to get a job while still in the horticulture program because a certificate is not required. However, in many programs that LBCC kept, you can only find jobs after you graduate with a certificate.

This technique boosts statistics for better graduation rates, but takes away from the labor pool for local businesses within horticulture.

I hope that LBCC seriously reconsiders its decision to suspend the horticulture program for the benefit of the students, faculty, and ultimately the community. The program started at LBCC 38 years ago, it would be a shame to see 38 years of work ended so abruptly.

LEATHERNECK TO LEARNER

Former Marine Matthew Ward finds meaning in his family and studies at LBCC

STORY BY CAILEY MURRAY

Laughter is the first thing you hear when entering LBCC's Veterans Center. On closer examination though, while laughter is the most prominent sound, it isn't the most important.

In every corner and on every mismatched couch sits a veteran, all unique in their experiences, and yet distinctly connected. They yell and argue like old friends, even though many of them have only just met.

The Veterans Center is a safe haven for all, and continues to be the place where they all come in between classes to study and be social.

One of the more prominent voices, standing out through all of the chit and chatter, is Matthew Ward.

"It's nice not to be around teenagers all the time, the Veterans Center is full of people at similar places in their lives," Ward said.

Ward is an engineering major, and as comfortable in the Veterans Center as he is at home with his wife, and 11-month old daughter.

Ward spent five years in the Marine Corps stationed in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

"Don't get me wrong, I don't want people to think I am a war vet. I was a helicopter mechanic, and spent most of my time surfing," said Ward, who then went on to express how hard it was to move to a place with an ocean as cold as the Oregon Coast.

Ward misses the structure that the military gave him.

"One of the hardest things about being out of the military is having to worry about civilian duties, like paying bills and scheduling things," along with the mission. "Doing something with a purpose, something



you believe in, inspires you to work hard."

Now what inspires Ward most is his 11-month old daughter.

"I want to create a better world for her, I want to see her smile," he said, "I don't care if she's the smartest person in the room, I just hope she's always smiling."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AGE:23

MILITARY SERVICE: Marine Corps

EDUCATION: Engineering Major

GOALS: "A happy life"

Ward and his family found their way to Albany when his wife got accepted to OSU, so he decided to start out his schooling at LBCC. He's not entirely sure where he's going to end up, but is excited to explore LBCC and find out what this next chapter of his life holds.

Ward's favorite class for this term has been his Cultural Anthropology class. "It really makes me think," he said. The instructor, Lauren Visconti, feels the same, describing Ward as "incredibly engaging, genuinely curious and knows how to respectfully question everything."

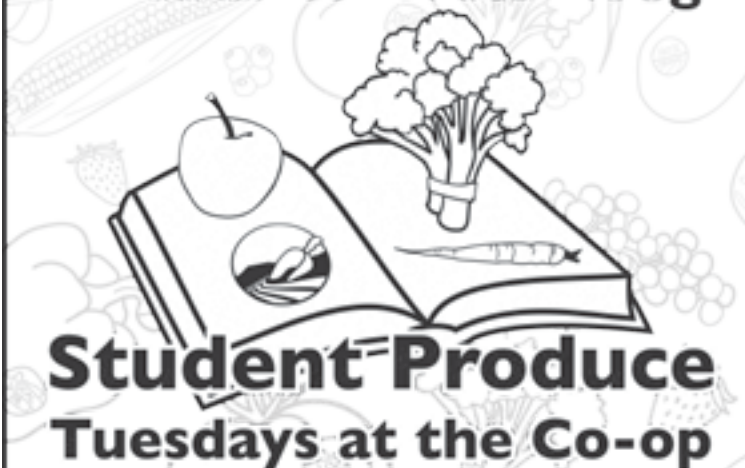
Anyone who has shared a class with Ward has heard his out-of-the-box thinking and experienced his outspoken nature.

A diamond in the rough, Ward is one of a kind, "a gem of a student," Visconti said.

His voice can often be heard laughing and talking with those around him, whether in a classroom, in the Veterans Center or walking along in the courtyard. At first glance, Ward may appear just like everyone else, but as soon as you see him raise his hand in class and hear him question something, you know he's not.

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PHOTO: EMILY MEYERS

Governor Kate Brown to send off LBCC class of 2019



STORY BY SARAH MELCHER

LBCC's Graduation Commencement ceremony will be held Thursday, June 13 at the Linn County

Fair & Expo Center at Willamette Event Hall, 3700 Knox Butte Rd. NE, Albany. The doors will open for seating at 6 p.m. Graduates walking in the ceremony should arrive between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. The commencement begins at 7 p.m. Governor Kate Brown will be the keynote speaker and guests should not bring in any camera bags, backpacks,

handbags, or any other type of bag that is not clear. Water bottles and other drink containers are also prohibited. For a full list of approved and restricted items, go online to <https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/schedule-and-learn/graduation/commencement-ceremony>.



PHOTO: JAYA LAPHAM

A group of LBCC's graduating veterans pose for a photo at an appreciation event held on Tuesday, April 30.



PHOTO: KAREN CANAN

Anthropology Club's 2019 graduates.

<p>4/7 Study Jam: 10 - 8 Learning Center: Enjoy extra hours and available math and writing drop in help with free food</p>	<p>4/8 ENGR 202/203 10 - 4 IA 215: come down and work on previous exam problems and get help as needed.</p>	<p>Student Leadership Council, Learning Center, & Library</p> <h2>STUDY JAM</h2> <p>Extra study help, free food, free printing, and a great place to study for finals</p> <p>Friday & Saturday before finals 10 am to 8 PM Albany Campus Learning Center</p>
<p>4/7 Writing Center: 11 - 12 WH-225: Writing 121 Final exam workshops. 2 - 3 (Come write with us!)</p>	<p>4/8 Chemistry Q & A: 10 - 12 Learning Center: Come ask question or just hangout and study with Mike Hruschka</p>	
<p>4/8 Physics: 1 - 3 MH-112: Physics 213 review with Heather Hill.</p>	<p>4/8 Study Jam: 10 - 8 Learning Center: Enjoy extended hours and available math and writing drop in help with free food!</p>	
<p>Food schedule: Friday: Snacks at 2 pm & pizza at 5pm Saturday: Snacks at 10 am & Pizza at 1 & 5pm Free Food, Printing, and Extra Hours Provided by SLC</p>		
<p><small>Requests for Special Needs or Accommodations: Please contact us at least 10 days in advance to the Learning Center, 1000 Knox Butte Road, 3rd Floor, Albany, Oregon 97331. Phone: 503-862-4700 or the Oregon Telecommunications Relay: 711 or 1-800-735-2989 or 1-800-735-2122. Make sure requests concerning or need other accommodations are made at least 10 days in advance. Make all other requests at least 72 hours prior to the event. LBCC will make every effort to honor requests. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution and employer.</small></p> <p><small>LBCC's Comprehensive Statement of nondiscrimination: LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, gender, age or marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status prohibited under applicable federal, state, or local laws. For further information, see Board Policy 1000 on our Board Policies and Administrative Rules. Page 10, 11 & Section 502. Equal Rights: 11-238, 140-802, 140-803, 140-804, 11-237B, 140-801, 140-802, 140-803, 140-804. Albany, Oregon. To request translation services, please contact: support@lbcc.edu</small></p>		

THE WRITER'S WALL

COURTESY OF **CHESSIE ALBERTI**

When was the last time you read an essay written by another LBCC student? For many of you, that answer might be "...Never?" Often, the writing we do in college is done for class and turned in for a grade, with no wider audience beyond the instructor.

The Writer's Wall, sponsored by the Writing

Center and the Library, is here to change this. One of the best parts of working at LBCC's Writing Center is that our staff get to act as an audience for many of the essays LBCC students put so much hard work into every quarter. Our students generate so much fantastic writing, and we want to share it with the world. Whether written for a research paper, a personal narrative, or just for fun, these pieces deserve to exist beyond the classroom.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about the Writer's Wall, please go to the Writing Center's web page, www.linnbenton.edu/writing-center, and click "The Writer's Wall."

Untitled

*The strands of time hold the souls of the lost
You saved the hands of those you knew
They refused to see past them, and this was the cost
In the time that we have, who we save from times flow
The music from oblivions reach comes from the open night sky
Hearts of those who love are lost if they wander too far
Walking past arms reaching out, I dive deeper and deeper
How can I find what I seek when I search for myself
I hide my fears in twisted wings of arrogance and power
A darkness I find that has a use for everyone
Can we see the difference between a life and its value
Each tool we use is a friend we will lose
I have never feared the dark, I fear my dark
I look around me, in the wasteland of my making
Is it that I was always doomed to give in
Or did I chose power over my humanity
The collapse started when truth became fiction
Nothing was the black that covered the sky
Before, birds fly, fish splash, and beasts roar
First towers rise, smoke, waste, fear and God
Hatred born from righteous anger, ideologies bred from differences
A crusading fear from which I need to save myself
A growing shadow is the best and worst defense from the light
The quiet whisper makes an offer I can't refuse
Why can't I forget you, like I've forgotten all of them
The only last words I remember are yours
You told me, do what you must, so I will
When there is nothing around me, I wish to rejoin you
I cannot bring you back, this world will crush you again
They took you from us, and told us you took yourself.
The darkness never sought to incite fear, a promise with a new beginning
When they told me we needed to destroy to restart, why not
Balance, losing it leads to all fall, who cares if you fall up or down
After bargaining I agree to be their sword, my only choice is to bow to someone
My hand brings fire, they bring demons and deities to serve me
A silver tongue to turn those who cower from the light, to follow me
Rotations that repeat, days weeks and years
A routine with slight changes, play the game they said
Onward we endure, becoming more with the tears
Down down down, a descent in my mind, a battle in my head
Free to be me, a force bringing reckoning
What if they planned this, feed the light to need the dark*

*When I sought my first followers, they were friends
When they heard me, they heard my reason, fear, and desperation
Some chose to join me, others support from a distance
The four who joined me became my horsemen, and my supporters my dark apostles
I looked to my family, and they preached only the light
Behind me only dust, I have found my new family in the dark
Those I swayed took a new name, but kept their faces as a reminder
Ascia of death, Garlea of war, Pangborn of famine, and Liberty of pestilence
One from a school, one from a town, one from online, and one only ever in my dream
An unstoppable tide of devastation, it was beautiful and we found love in the dark
I loved them in the best way, mostly, as family, most of them
Garlea had a way about him, a perfect presence to bask in when I felt down
Oh That friend of mine
When he is here I have peace
The answer to my question
He has a pure joy
He is my biggest weakness
His soul here with me
I am in shadow
Love where it doesn't belong
When darkness rises
If I had the choice
I would choose you every time
You have someone else
Even with them I am breakable, I make a request
I cannot make my mark in a human form
I describe my desire as a shape from legend
From my thoughts they craft it, a weapon
A fluid shape impenetrable and sharp
A look that will strike fear in the devout to the light
They grant me a form, wings claws and teeth
As the conquest begins, I find a dark joy to the hunt
Without the fear of myself, I slaughter with a smile
All who have wronged me, their taste is satisfying
How does who I am that I've gained measure
To who I was that I lost, that fragile human
There is an honor in my massacre, but not from the enemy
Their guns and bombs show fear and cowardice
Unfazed by their attempts we burn their emblems of light
We look face to face, before and after their head is removed
They look to their light, for now it is silent
It arrives, not their legend, but a manifestation of their purification*

By Patrick Baer

MAKTUB

COURTESY OF **KARINA INFANTE**

Nobody comes to your life by chance, every encounter is a destination and every person has a reason. In a country where it is not so easy to establish strong friendships, he was the exception. I met him the second day of school, even he sat next to me. I had been in the country for five days and I did not speak neither understand English, so the beginning was not easy. With time we got to establish a closer friendship in such a way that he offered me his friendship, his time and sometimes his fingers have served as a handkerchief to dry my tears. It is said that there are people who know and test you, others who teach you great lessons, but there are other people like him who bring out the best in you. He encourages me to keep going, encourages my ideas and is sometimes an accomplice to my madneses.

He is the amber light that illuminates my mornings. He starts his day with a cup of coffee and a

smile that is ambrosia for my soul. His body erect on his strong legs seems a robust tree of majestic bearing, he is an oak that sometimes covers the sun to offer me his shadow. His face is square and strong, his big eyes are framed by thick eyebrows, he has a big and highlighted nose. His mouth is medium, with thin lips, the lower lip slightly thicker than the upper one, which, together with his wide cheekbones, are covered by a thick autumnal forest, where the sun plays to find the golden reddish flashes between the predominant brown color, the same as his short hair. His fair skin makes a perfect combination with his eyes, his eyes have honey. That is the reason of his sweetness of his eyes, which often make mischievous winks, accomplices of his laughing lips

His aroma is manly, with subtle sweet and salty notes in a delicate touch that makes his essence pleasant. The rub of his hands reveals scars that time has impregnated, but he is capable of turning it into the most tender and soft caress. He is a lover of stillness and

silence, but like the sea, he can sometimes be calm and sometimes restless. There are moments when he speaks, as if the Haruj volcano emerged from his voice, affirming his fire and his word, and his strong character seems to sprout from the core of the Earth. But nevertheless, no matter how angry or sad he is, he always smiles and looks for a way to make you happy. His past is his home and his memory is the land where he lives, which sometimes reminds him of those experiences that, like a dagger pierced his heart, causing his nostalgia to emerge through the window of his soul.

He has taught me to see life in another color, to live life with more intensity and to enjoy every moment. Living my present, living every moment and every experience without anticipation, without conditions and without fears. He is so authentic that it has marked a before and after in my life, leaving an indelible mark on my memory. Now I know, he came to my life for a reason... IT IS WRITTEN.



THE POWER OF PLASTIC

Global plastic pollution is a problem that can only be solved on an individual basis



PHOTOS: ANGELA SCOTT

At Garten Services recycling facility in Salem, Oregon, workers wear handkerchiefs and long sleeves to protect themselves from dust and sharp objects while sorting.



Sixteen to 20 percent of curbside recycling that ends up at Garten's facility is not able to be sold due to contamination or poor recycling habits.

Steven Vogl has worked at Garten Services for 25 years and is set to retire this year.



STORY BY
ALEX GAUB

A gritty dust clings to the air, and glass shards on the concrete crunch under your feet as you walk through the dimly lit warehouse that holds the majority of Marion County's recycling.

Sunlight beams through a large doorway at the end of the building, and a large front-end loader comes into view carrying a pile of recycling that's about to be sorted.

"There is supposed to be no glass -- you can see all the glass," said Gaelen McAllister, the resource development manager at Garten Services.

At Garten Services, located off of the train tracks in Salem's industrial district, glass doesn't belong in their recycling piles. Yet, there is a lot of it. For the 140 people who work at the facility, their job is to take the massive two-story pile of mixed recycling and sort through it for what is desirable on the market.

With the commodities market being generally low across the board at the moment, it's harder than ever to find a buyer for recycling that can be reworked into a usable product. And with China lowering their contamination limit, it is worthwhile to recycle only some of the plastics that come through the facility.

For Garten Services, items that are not meant to be recycled -- like food waste and non-recyclable plastics -- are doubling or tripling the cost of running their business.

"That's what makes it very tricky," said McAllister.

Garten Services is unlike many recycling facilities -- it is a non-profit that employs people with disabilities and provides them with career and retirement options.

While having more contaminated recycling means that the facility needs to employ more workers -- helping support more people with disabilities -- it also means that there is more cost to do business, and with the value of recycling so low, Garten is losing money.

Oregonians place a high value on recycling. It is a feel-good thing. But what people don't know is that a lot of the time we do more harm than good when we recycle a product that is either dirty, or has little value on the market. In part, it is the intricacies of how to recycle that have brought us to where we are in terms of planet-wide plastic pollution.

Standing on a metal platform in the center of the facility, the front-line of Garten's workers presort what the front-loader operator drops onto a belt that snakes its way through the building. It's one of the first true summer days of the year, but the workers wear long sleeves and handkerchiefs around their heads to protect themselves from sharp metal and glass particles.

One worker picks up a garbage bag and empties the contents onto the conveyor belt -- it is a pile of shredded paper. According to McAllister, the shredded paper, had it been recycled properly, would have gone

to a paper mill. But someone put it in their curbside recycling, which means that no worker is going to have the time to pick each individual paper shred out of the pile -- it will end up going to a landfill.

"Usually, we find something goofy, like a bowling ball," McAllister says as a baby car seat goes by on the conveyor belt.

"A baby car seat does not belong in recycling," she said with a chuckle.

At Garten, 16 to 20 percent of all curbside recycling they receive they aren't able to recycle due to contamination or lazy recycling. This contributes to an annual trash bill of about \$16,000 to \$20,000. According to the Republic Services website, "aspirational recycling" is a term that describes the act of tossing something in the recycling in the hopes that it will be recycled somewhere down the line. Basically, recycling without proper knowledge of how recycling works.

"Plastic bags are not supposed to be going in the recycling, but we still get thousands and thousands every day," said McAllister.

And that's an issue. Plastic bags and other non-recyclables can clog machines, and cause damage -- which leads to more cost for repairs and workers having to go home for days at a time as repairs are made.

The continuing practice of "aspirational recycling" is causing problems for everyone in the recycling business. While it is a great thing to want to help solve the plastic problem, much of what goes in a recycling bin ends up in the landfill anyways.

In a dark corner of the Salem warehouse, tucked away and concealed by stacks of 20,000-pound bales of good recycling, sits a huge pile of dirty or unwanted bales. These bales are not destined for a new life -- they are destined for a dirty grave in the Oregon countryside. We have a consumer lifestyle that China isn't dealing with anymore.

"We were exporting our pollution," said McAllister.

As 2017 drew to a close, China had enough of being burdened with the world's plastic. They had



China has lowered their contamination level for recycling to 0.5 percent, making it difficult to find buyers for mixed recycling.



Gaelen McAllister is Garten Services resource development manager.

previously been the dumping ground for the plastic problem, because they could take recyclables and turn a profit – using the plastics coming from Western Europe and the United States to use in manufacturing new products.

However, importing plastics became more of a problem than anything. After decades of receiving contaminated plastic, the country found itself awash in trash. To combat this problem, China reduced the acceptable contamination level for recycling to .5 percent. Contamination refers to recyclables having any food waste, or dirt, that makes it difficult to process into use for another product. This pertains to other recyclables too, such as mixed paper, and glass.

When recyclables are exported to China and they are too contaminated, they end up in a dump – or in the ocean. China, being a massive consumer economy in and of itself, creates a massive amount of plastic as it is, even without the import of plastics from other countries.

China recycles through a largely unregulated network of family owned recycling businesses. The process takes plastic, shreds it, and melts it down to make it usable again – creating pollution that winds up in rivers, streams, the soil, and in the air. A study by Science magazine in 2015 also showed that 30 percent of the plastic pollution in the world’s ocean was attributed to China.

What can we do?

At LBCC there are about two dozen 96-gallon recycling bins located across campus. While our recycling doesn’t end up at Garten, it ends up in a similar facility in Clackamas. This means that the rules about contamination still apply to what we recycle here on campus. And with the large volume of recycling that LBCC creates, it is up to every individual to be aware of what we are putting in each bin.

“If someone put a coffee cup in one of those barrels that says paper, it’s all trash,” said Stacy Braun, assistant facilities director at LBCC.

Republic Services, the company that hauls off our recycling, has recently changed the guidelines for what they are taking for recycling. Just like Garten, they are dealing with the fact that China has sealed its borders to contaminated recycling. For Braun and other facilities administrators this means retraining staff and getting the word out to avoid recycling items that should not be placed in bins.

“It took everyone a long time to be trained on what to recycle. Now, we are having to go back and say, ‘Sorry, we have to retrain you on something different,’” said Braun.

The world is facing a plastic problem -- and while it’s daunting, there is hope. But, it lies in knowledge of recycling, and a will to stop supporting single-use plastics.

So, if you are planning on tossing that plastic Starbucks cup into the recycling, think again. Just because it may have a recycling symbol on the bottom,



This pile of recycling is too dirty or unwanted on the market, so it will end up adding to Garten’s \$16,000 to \$20,000 annual trash bill.

doesn’t mean that recyclers are taking it. Below is a list of what to recycle if you are using LBCC’s bins.

Plastics

- Bottles and jugs, with the caps off. That’s it.

Mixed Paper

- Junk mail
- Greeting cards (no foil or glitter)
- Magazines
- Newspaper
- Phone books
- Paperback books
- Paper bags
- Paperboard
- Waxed cardboard

Metal

- Steel cans
- Aluminum cans

Glass

- Bottles and jars

“If in doubt, throw it out,” says Republic Services. And never bag your mixed recycling.

To properly recycle, all plastics that are dirty must be emptied, cleaned, and dried. Some people thinking that this isn’t worth their time must be reminded of the current state of the world’s oceans.

According to a report in Fortune magazine, in 2015 there was an estimated 5.26 trillion pieces of plastic floating around in our oceans. About eight million tons are added each year – the Great Pyramid of Giza weighs in at six million tons and is made of solid rock, not lightweight plastics. This pollution is a threat to the vital marine ecosystems that provide food for global consumption.

For almost three decades we have relied on another country to bear the weight of what we consume – now we have to find our own way to cope with it. In the past we could try to recycle as much as we could, and even if it didn’t end up recycled – at least it wasn’t buried in our soil. Now, however, it very well could be.

“Maybe, the emphasis should have been on reducing,” said Mcallister.



Stacy Braun manages LBCC’s recycling program as assistant facilities director.

Garten Services is a non-profit that helps comply people with disabilities, supporting them and helping them achieve retirement.



"Radiant Dot"

There are trillions and trillions of stellar stars
in the infinite sky, majestic and sparkling.
When I gaze up at them I wonder:
do our eyes greet each other
when we look together?
Do they discover
the very same
twinkling
distant
dot?
If only I could give you that one glittering light;
take that gem woven in the fabric of the night
and weave it onto your heavenly heart.
How you'd shine ever more divinely;
forever my man, my radiant dot.

By Waldo French

"Detritus Valentine"

Wrapped in your mucus, we sink
Take a deep mossy breath, sweet and fallow
My decay blossoms and wriggles at your touch
Drip downstream with me, fill bogs and gulleys
The heart's cacophony swells
And the damp wood smells like it always has

You have such ancient warmth

By Caleb Barber

"The Winter Bug"

I bumped along in the violent night 'til I blew
sideways into a golden tree hollow
That cold dark wind delivered me warm up there
and almost orange
The cinnamon firebowl lit vibrating vein and
vacuole
Great grinning bubbles churned in big hollow hearts
I felt my ears pop every couple of minutes at the
pressure change
Of this breathing room

That horrible storm sent whips of furious air
That laughed and coughed past this opening
Whose geometry produced such holy notes
That curled sleeping dandelions in ecstasy

Swirling, steaming bodies cried and rumbled
Crushing spices into the emulsified air
Rushing jovial intent
Echoed the mighty note

Feathered spirits blew cacophony
Tiny stones gripped and pulled open this hollow
ceiling
Revealing so mesmerizing a distant insect
Who metabolized those frosted winds into such
delectable warmth

Now back in this white desert
I carry with me one of the oddities
At the behest of the emboldened folk
And at the comfort of my sternum

Frigid claws scratch at my face and hands, tie a rope
to my spine
Grasping at unstoppable vitality, unable to reach
past
This unnatural bastion of mandible and carapace
It's legs pound rhythms of that unknowable
merriment

By Caleb Barber

"Sonnet of Summer Sunshine"

The sun ablaze above the marble earth
with golden light that crowns my lazy head,
enlivens me and fills me full with mirth.
While watching summer from my daisy bed,
I bask in beams of light upon this hill
observing butterflies and bumblebees.
I sit relaxed and quiet, calm and still.
I'm hypnotized, in awe of how the trees
all shimmer like a grove of chandeliers
as rays of light reflect on leafy glass;
in awe of how the gentle wind appears
to set in motion ocean waves of grass.
As dusk begins to turn to night I pray
tomorrow brings another sunny day.

By Waldo French

"Dreams of Wings"

Sometimes
On the hardest of nights
I dream I have wings
To carry me far from my sorrows
My pains
And my fears
Wings to carry me
Strong and free
Nothing can catch me
As I fly free
Up with the birds
I so desperately want to join
I am at peace
I am whole
But then I awake
And I am only a girl
No wings
No freedom
No form of escape
From this life I live now
On those mornings it aches
My back
As if something were missing
Stollen away from me
It hurts deep inside
But as soon as it came
It is gone
The ache of things long gone
As I get ready for the day
I quickly forget
The freedom
My heart bursting with joy
Untamed
Unchained
Completely free
Soaring on wings with the birds
But every now and again
The place those wings would be
Begins to ache again
As if something
A deep part of me
Was missing
And I remember
That heavenly dream
And I smile serenely
As I pray to have it again
So I can remember the feeling
Of flying on wings
Long since gone from my life
No longer a part of me
But graciously returned
In my dreams of wings

By Rebecca Winnett

"Lily and Lotus Blossom"

A lone white lily
Beautiful and pure
Broken and scared
And a small blue lotus blossom
Fearful and hurting
Yet lovely and calm
The two wind together
Keeping sweet company
The lily and the lotus blossom
Serene and calm
Beneath the rolling
Tumbling waves of moonlight
Gently bathing the two
In sweet silver rays
Supported by the petals
And leaves of each other
Two fragile souls
Broken
Beaten down
by the weight of the world
Each beautiful
In their own strange
Unique way
And each content in their solitude
Able to stand alone
And grow strong and tall
But together
They are so much more
A perfect pair
Wound together
Never to part
The lone white lily
And the small blue lotus blossom

By Rebecca Winnett

"Stoke the Fire"

The tarps have been withdrawn
from our sopping piles of oak.
We dredge through snow, with load in tow,
to keep the fire stoked.

The mounting bite of Winter
descends upon our faces
It gnashes against the firmament
of our lovely cordial spaces.

These chilled stone walls
echo the tragedy of the past.
We stack our logs up, one-by-one
with a satisfying "clack!".

Now we stoke the fire.
The woodstove's embers play
with a renewed sustenance,
In an incendiary display.

Just as this fire dances,
and melts the ice away.
our dutiful efforts,
our callused hands,
has defrosted our reservation.
And, by this radiant warmth,
With you,
I feel the love today.

By Daniel Glen

“Folding”

The crease compelled me
I ran my finger over the peak
Turned it over
Let it slide through the valley
Like a hinge, there was no doubt about the movement
No uncertainty

I wonder: did they think about that when they unfolded?
When they saw an edge that did not cut
That did not linger above or below another edge
Just rounded, smooth, solid.
What drove them to find the other end?
The place where you could thumb apart two sharp edges
And, pulling them apart, reveal
Two vast plains divided only by the scar of the crease

So I honored the edge
A remnant of when one surface became two
And two only by virtue of the fold
By virtue of the fold, one becomes two, or three
Even after someone thumbs apart two edges
Runs their hands over the surface
Presses their thumb over the ridge

Even if they get it to stay...
Do they know their thumbing and pressing
Are empty gestures
Made by empty hands
As empty as my own gesture
I'm only following instructions

All the while I'm wondering:
What compelled the one
Who folded first?

By Tristan Striker

“The Illusion of Composure”

The illusion of composure
Is shattered
With the cracks of a bat.

There is comfort in suggestion.
A nervous cradling,
Fingers pressed hard against moist leather
Seams scraping broken nails and calloused fingers
Followed by a release of tension

The ball belies
the nervous hum of the crowd
Echoing the repetition of the spinning ball.
The crowd, like frenetic fingers
Find comfort in their restlessness.

Yet the ball finds its way across the maw
Back into leather.
A thud replaced the Crack
Fingers and people rewarded by ritual.

So much fuss over a ball
That always ends up exactly where it was meant to go.

By Tristan Striker

Untitled

I've had a favorite name for quite a while now. But it's not the one given to me. It's a name I've known for quite some time but those that have heard it don't realize what it is. It's not like I wish it was mine or that the person I imagine it is something special. No, the name itself just makes me smile no matter the time or circumstance.

I've never met someone with this name, but if I did I'd smile all the same. Something about it within my mind just is pleasant to all my senses. It would be great if someone whispered it to me but they would have to know it first.

I've had a favorite name for quite a while now, and I think I'll give it to my first.

By Jon Clough

Untitled

Sick kicks,
On the low down high fly
Hit list,
As I roll by through the night
Won't miss,
Got a new pair,
Be jealous,
I know I'm good.

Black, red, tall
Won't fall
Show it all off every day for you to see
me
style on the controversy
that is your lack of fashion sense in the
Face of my diversity
That will shake you to the very core and
Revelate your basic needs to
Witness, follow, and trust my lead
till you too stand for your own feet

By Jon Clough

“Forest”

White fog covers the ground,
Soft, like a blanket

Birds sing their sweet melodies
Unheard by the human ear

A river flows close by
Swiftly cleaning the riverbank

Green trees spread their roots below
As their leafy arms stretch to the sky

Deer lope through the forest
Unseen by you and me

Rain mists the air
Coating everything with a beautiful sheen
The forest is barely awake
As the first rays of sun shine their golden light

By Jake Erdman

“If you never say your name out loud to anyone they can never ever call you by it”

Whether I'm noisy or spacey or too impolite
There's something about me that seems not quite right.

I've learned to keep quiet, I've learned to be still
I've learned to lean quietly on people's goodwill

I've worked hard to learn every rule that I can
to mostly seem normal, if just a bit bland.

It's like building tolerance, I teach myself now
So nobody will take me away to learn how

And maybe a little poison can make you immune
But it makes you a little sick all the time too.

A little numb, a little dull, a little weak, a little sad
But if it means being human, it can't be that bad

So we live half a life, maybe more if we try
Wait- sorry, I'm sorry, I said 'we,' I meant 'I'

That's weird, am I weird? Tell the truth, please say no.
(Please say no, please say no, please say no, please say no.)

I'll do better, I'm better, there's no need to ask,
If you know what's beneath, then what good is a mask?

By Floria Mitchell



DEEP FOCUS WITH NICK SLOVER

Local filmmaker talks projects and future aspirations



STORY BY
RUTH NASH

Filmmaker, director actor, screenwriter.

Camera in hand, police badge on chest. The stage is set for the newest episode of "Cops." Behind the scenes is a writer director and filmmaker. Friends agree to act, so he gets to writing the script. His dreams of becoming a movie director start out with the small films shot in backyards of Albany, Oregon. Numerous films around the town have helped this young aspiring director make his name in the town. Watch out, it won't be the last time his name is heard.

How did you first get into filmmaking?

"I used to film movies with my webkinz and G.I. Joe's when I was little. When I was 15 I watched 'Pulp Fiction' and I was like, shoot, I want to do that. So I used a little camcorder my dad gave me to make a movie called 'The Wanderer' on a snow day in 2017."

What's was your favorite film that you've made so far?

"I guess a remake of 'The Wanderer' that I did about a year and a half ago. I've never been truly proud, because I know I always need to be better, but I was impressed with that one the most given the little resources I had."

Are there any filmmakers who influence you



in your filmmaking and why?

"Quentin Tarantino has always been one of the biggest, but also musicians such as Kurt Cobain and Tyler, the Creator have helped me see things in different creative lights. I think being able to look to different mediums is the key to good ideas."

Who are people in your life who have supported and inspired you during your time making

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

YouTube channel: [youtube.com/channel/UCBvjW02kal1zgpp1l4Gfiug](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBvjW02kal1zgpp1l4Gfiug)

Instagram: [southpawfilms](https://www.instagram.com/southpawfilms)

films?

"My mom, dad, and grandma and grandpa and all my friends. They support me by telling me I should continue on the path I'm on and keep going for it, and they just act as support if I need advice on anything."

Where do you see yourself in 10 Years, with your career?

"In nine years I want to have made my first wide-release feature film and hopefully the Oscars after that. I set a goal when I was 18 that in 10 years I wanted to have my movie in movie theatres."

What are the steps you're taking right now to make that happen?

"I am working to constantly make content to get my name out there. I started making schedules and plan to do three movies by the end of September and submit them into some film festivals and competitions."

TYLER, THE CREATOR "IGOR"



REVIEW BY
DAVIS IHDE
@DAVISI

Since he broke into the music scene in 2011, Tyler, the Creator has created six full-length albums, each bringing a different style to a rap industry that seemed all too plain. He has created everything from the dark and edgy "Goblin" to the pleasing and nostalgic "Flower Boy."

On May 17 he released the album "IGOR," culminating all of his styles and influences to create a true display of his talents. The buildup for the album was short, but still had the internet on high alert. He announced the release date of the album only 16 days before its release, and fans immediately had high hopes due to the success of his 2017 Grammy-nominated album "Flower Boy."

Tyler got his first glimpse of fame in 2007 when he and a group of his friends and small-time rappers formed the rap group Odd Future, a niche group that Their album "The OF Tape Vol. 2" quickly rose to fame for its hard-hitting rap verses and controversial lyrics.

In an interview with Alexis Petridis for The Guardian, Tyler (when referring to Odd Future) said that he "woke up one morning \$100,000 in my f*cking bank account." He also said other big-name artists suddenly "give a f*ck about what I have to say."

Since then, Tyler's musical skill and maturity has grown exponentially, and that growth shines bright on "IGOR," which he produced, arranged and wrote himself.

In Tyler's previous albums, he was dealing with the absence of something (a girl, critical acclaim, etc.), but on IGOR he goes track by track through the process of a breakup.

He starts the album with the bass-heavy and hard-hitting instrumental "IGOR'S THEME" accompanied by distorted vocals from rapper Lil Uzi Vert. He then goes straight into the song EARFQUAKE, which is the now his most popular song on the Spotify charts. It features an explosive bass and piano instrumental in the background while Tyler sings about not wanting to break up with the person the album is written to, his main line being: "Don't leave, it's my fault."

As the album goes on, he starts to move towards accepting the split with songs such as "RUNNING OUT



COURTESY: WIKIPEDIA.ORG

OF TIME," in which he calmly raps about running out of time to make the relationship work. Some lyrics that sum up the mood of the song:

*Oh, you spin my head around
I been lookin' for it
I been runnin' out of spells
To make you love me*

Finally, at the end of the album, in the songs "GONE GONE / THANK YOU" and "I DON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE," Tyler has come full circle and is over the toxic relationship he was once in.

"GONE GONE / THANK YOU" is a light and cheery song where Tyler admits that he no longer has feelings for the other person with high-pitched vocals and a retro synth. He has lines that reflect his feelings at the end of the album such as:

*You finally flew south
The bird gon' leave the nest, it's so comedic
At least I had it
Instead of never
Or maybe I'm too dramatic*

The overall sound of "IGOR" is unique from his other albums, featuring some more gritty and raw sounds

ALBUM REVIEW:

IGOR

ARTIST: Tyler, the Creator

LABEL: Columbia/Odd Future

RELEASED: May 17, 2019

GENRE: Hip-Hop/Rap

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

Available on all major music platforms.

and more singing as opposed to rapping, which is the opposite of his approach on his last album, "Flower Boy."

However, the rough and gritty sound isn't a bad thing. Tyler has cemented himself as one of the best producers in the industry with the clean and polished production on "Flower Boy," which shows that the distorted sound of this album was an artistic choice rather than a lack of musical knowledge or skill.

He wears his influences on his sleeve, as many of his creative choices resemble work from the likes of Kanye West and Pharrell Williams, who have both been mentors to him. In an interview for GQ Style, Tyler said he once actually cried upon hearing a Kanye West song.

"When I heard 'Violent Crimes.' Those chords, like, I can't explain what they do to me. I always talk about chords and probably sound like a dork, but since I was 4 years old, I would always say it was a slant or it went up, because I didn't know what chords were, but it was a thing that music did that I just felt in my body," Tyler said.

After five albums of tweaking his music style and finding his musical identity, Tyler, the Creator has put together an album that encompasses everything that he has learned from his career as a musician. While "IGOR" may be his alter ego for the album, this record is Tyler, the Creator in his purest form.



COURTESY: ROCKSTAR GAMES

RETRO GAME REVIEW:
Grand Theft Auto-The Trilogy

PUBLISHER: Rockstar Games
DEVELOPER: Rockstar North/DMA Designs
PLATFORM: Playstation Network
ESRB RATING: M
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★



REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

The “Grand Theft Auto” series is easily one of the biggest series in games today, with widespread critical acclaim and selling millions of copies across multiple platforms. This collection of the three installments released on Playstation 2, known as “Grand Theft Auto: The Trilogy,” is an ideal way for fans to relive their experiences and a great way for newcomers to try them for the first time.

While the first two installments (as well as the spinoff “Grand Theft Auto: London”) on the original Playstation were entertaining in their own right, it was the release of “Grand Theft Auto III” on the PS2 in the year 2001 that truly set the stage for future games

in the series. Playing as a criminal exploring the open world of Liberty City (a pastiche of New York City), you are tasked with doing a variety of missions while in the employ of a local crime boss.

In 2002, a spin-off was released with “Grand Theft Auto: Vice City.” Taking control of gangster Tommy Vercetti, your journey takes you through the titular Vice City (a spoof of Miami, FL) in the 1980s; with the visuals and tone being influenced by the TV series “Miami Vice” and the

Brian de Palma version of “Scarface.”

The 2004 installment, “Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas” set the benchmark for all future entries in the series. With the sheer scale of its open world and massive amounts of content, its effects can still be felt within the franchise and the “open world sandbox” genre overall. Following Christopher “CJ” Johnson

in the year 1992, the eponymous setting incorporates elements of Los Angeles, Las Vegas and San Francisco to create an immersive environment that’s become the standard for years to come.

Though the once state-of-the-art technology may now be a product of its time, it’s nearly impossible to overstate the impact the series has had since these entries were initially released. Many have tried to recreate the scope and success the games have had, but few have succeeded.

With the trilogy’s effects still being felt in 2008’s “Grand Theft Auto IV” and 2013’s “Grand Theft Auto V,” there has never been a better time for fans to revisit the PS2 installments and for newcomers to give them a try. On that note, “Grand Theft Auto: The Trilogy” is definitely recommended.

DON'T BE STEAMED

Gaming culture should welcome more diversity in digital storefronts

COLUMN BY JAMES SCHUPP

The tensions of computer gaming culture have been unreal in the last couple of months. The Steam storefront for online games has been the standard for a long time now. For anyone uninitiated, Steam is sort of the GameStop for all games on the PC, because while you can still buy physical games from stores like GameStop, a lot of modern developers are releasing them digitally exclusively.

This has given many other independent developers the opportunity to release games they make themselves without the budget to print and distribute them physically. Essentially, it's an online store akin to Amazon where the products are downloads for everyone's favorite games. That is what Steam has been. Steam has also always been a place where you can meet new people and friends, have a social connection through their messaging system, and an easy way to talk to each other through their voice networks.

Over the years, other companies have risen up to combat the monopoly that Steam has on the digital PC market with other services such as UPlay for Ubisoft's games, and Origin for EA's more modern titles. In the past year, another competitor has entered the scene and has not only acquired exclusive deals for their own games on their store, but is actively seeking out games to make exclusive in their store. The Epic Games Store.

Many of you may have heard of the craze that is “Fortnite.” Well, that is Epic Games' work, and with the money they earn from “Fortnite,” they have opened up their own competitor to Steam, along with their own slew of games exclusive to their platform.

This has many gamers angry that now they have to split their games between two storefronts. The peak of this gamer rage came when a highly anticipated game “Metro Exodus” had been listed and was taking pre-orders on Steam, when they suddenly announced that it was going to be an Epic Store exclusive, at least for a time, and alienated the people who pre-ordered on Steam with the cold shoulder and a refund.

The frustration of players elicited a reaction from an employee of 4A Games that indicates the headspace of moving to the Epic Store Front, “I can only say that they were not our players either, they are not interested in our work, which means that, for example, the opinion of such people is not interesting for me either.” This seems like a scummy thing to say to your fans, but let's talk about why the developers of “Metro Exodus” might have done this.



Making games is getting more and more expensive, and while a lot of people do not take gaming as a serious form of art expression, it is fairly hard to deny that a lot of man hours go into making a game. Games are in development for years before they come out, and some don't even come out in a finished state. “Metro Exodus” is one of those games that was in development for a really long time, being teased only when it was fairly close to completion. The Metro Series is also known for pushing the boundaries of graphics with every new title, and this new game was promised to include a highly advanced and new graphical lighting technique called ray tracing upon launch. So when you look at the split for developers on Steam compared to the split for developers on the Epic Store, you can see why it could be attractive for developers to jump ships.

Epic only takes 12 percent, while Steam takes 30 percent and 25 percent based on how much money your game makes overall. So for developers getting a higher cut of the money could boost their revenue drastically, especially for highly anticipated games, but the developers of “Metro Exodus,” 4A Games, a relatively smaller developer, that money could be everything for them. So for the gamers getting mad about people having to split their games across multiple platforms, stop being babies.

Personally I have had to have multiple launchers on my computer for years, because of UPlay and Origin, them mostly having broken friends' systems and slower-than-molasses performance, but also to play the games I wanted to play, I had to get them. From my experience with the Epic Game Store it is much more responsive

and snappy than any of the third market competitors.

The Epic Game Store also does something that a lot of storefronts do not do, and that is give out free games, not free versions, but free whole games every two weeks. There is bound to be one that you will like, and it gives people with less money the opportunity to play games that they would have otherwise overlooked because of their price tag. Most of these games are also indie games, which gives indie developers a easier way to get people excited about their upcoming games.

Another reason why gamers should man up and stop complaining, is that it is proven that any type of competitiveness improves the experience for everyone. The Steam money split numbers came out after the Epic Game Store had started to give developers a bigger cut, and Steam noticed that those numbers could be a big blow for them and changed their split to a tiered system rather than a base price cut like it was before. That is more money for developers, which means more games from your favorite developers.

The Epic Game Store might not have the social features that Steam has now, but Steam has had 15 years to develop and even now there are security breaches and server downtime, so instead of getting mad at Epic for trying, why not give them a little more time to sort things out. Like everyone had to give Steam to do when it first launched.

The only reason that Steam did not receive this heavy of scrutiny on launch is that Steam was the only place to buy games when it launched, so they held all of the monopoly on their storefront. I am not saying that you have to buy games on the Epic Store front, but what I am saying is that instead of jumping down the throats of developers and calling them greedy, and complaining about all of the features people are losing out on the Epic Store, maybe give the platform a little more time to develop past its adolescence.

The Epic Game Store might not have as flashy a name as Steam or landmark titles of “Half-Life” and “Portal” under its belt (it only has an equally liked and disliked “Fortnite”), or any social features to speak of right now, but competitiveness in a market that is seemingly dominated by one company can only improve the overall community.

So I welcome all of the store fronts and launchers on my computer because that means I can support the developers of small indie games on the Epic Game Store, play with my friends on Steam, and play all of the other games I want to play on the plethora of other storefronts and launchers that exist on the computer.



COURTESY: IMDB.COM



REVIEW BY
CALEB BARBER
@CALEBBARBER12

One of the most evident generational differences between the post-millennial 90s and 2000s babies and everybody else is the integration of social media use at such a young age. For the iGeneration it's hard to imagine growing up without the validating and comparative force of social media. For everybody else, teenage social life appears more confusing and complex than ever.

"Eighth Grade", comedian Bo Burnham's first full length feature film, explores the life of your typical everyday teenager during her last week of eighth grade. Voted "most quiet" by her peers, Kayla creates inspirational videos on her YouTube channel that get very few views. She lies in bed scrolling through Instagram, takes lonely selfies, and struggles to make new friends. As the school year comes to a close, the film focuses on Kayla's need for closure at the end of a horrible two years of middle school.

Mirroring the formative years of middle school, "Eighth Grade" is riddled with emotional peaks and valleys. Kayla's confidence will shine bright in one moment, and completely crash to the ground in the next. We see her stumble and stutter through difficult social interactions, provoking cringing and sharp through-the-teeth inhales from the audience. Even without having grown up in the same era, the audience can relate to that distinct middle school feeling of thinking everyone is looking at you, yet no one really cares about you at the same time.

Overall, the dialogue is very honest and sounds right coming out of a middle schooler's mouth. The casting was excellent, every role was played with the nuance of professional actors, despite most of the actors being too young to even drive themselves to the audition.

Filmmaker Bo Burnham focused on this age group because he felt that middle school is when people start to become self aware. In an interview with USA Today, Burnham said, "I wanted to talk about anxiety and what it feels like to be alive right now, and what it is to be unsure and nervous. I think the country and

the culture is going through an eighth-grade moment right now."

Burnham's previous works include two Netflix comedy specials and a slew of musical comedy videos on his YouTube channel. As his first venture into serious filmmaking "Eighth Grade" was incredibly successful at the box office, earning \$13.7 million with a \$2 million budget.

Producer A24 has been at the forefront of producing successful low-budget films, and is expected to continue being a prominent name in high grossing indie films.

Now available on YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, and Vudu, the theatrical release of the film was followed closely by a day of nationwide free screening for young audiences, to counteract the film's R rating. For parents concerned about whether "Eighth Grade" is suitable for their eighth grader, adult language use and mild sexuality are the extent of the mature content in this film. If they've seen "The Breakfast Club" or "Mean Girls" they should be able to handle "Eighth Grade."

MOVIE REVIEW:

Disney's Aladdin

DIRECTOR: Guy Ritchie (Based on material by Ron Clements, John Musker, Ted Elliot and Terry Rossio)
STARRING: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott, Billy Magnussen, Marwan Kenzari and Alan Tudyk
GENRE: Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy, Musical, Romance
RATED: PG
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★☆



COURTESY: IMDB.COM

REVIEW BY CAILEY MURRAY

It came as no surprise to me that one search of the 2019 live-action version of "Aladdin" on Google came up with a mirage of reviews with claims such as "an embarrassment to Disney" and "this is not what you wished for" and one scolding review after another. Those who aren't angry, are mostly just confused. It seems like most people don't really know how to feel.

I knew there would be some awful reviews, hell, I think skeptical and scolding reviews were coming out before the movie even hit the box office. It was like people were ready to hate it, looking for every reason to pick apart the movie.

The key, I think, is not to think of the movie as a remake, but its own separate story. The new live-action "Aladdin" makes some changes from the original animated version.

For starters, they attempt to delete potentially racist scenes or lines that the 1992 "Aladdin" overlooked. In the opening song, "Arabian Nights," the line "It's barbaric, but hey it's home" is switched to a less offensive "It's chaotic, but hey it's home." The director, Guy Ritchie, gave Jasmine a more feminist

role, and he tweaked the ending a bit to showcase that.

"Street rat" Aladdin is brought to life through the charming Mena Massoud. I'm not sure about the rest of you, but Aladdin was always my favorite Disney prince. A sweet, generous boy who comes from nothing and wants to show you the world? Count me in. Aladdin also, funny enough, seems to be the one with the least criticism.

Critics seem instead to focus on Will Smith as the Genie. He is in fact no Robin Williams, but Smith takes the role on in his own way, becoming a new version of the classic Genie. Smith told Angelique Jackson from Variety, "The biggest challenge was being able to find a way to not make jarring and disturbing by how different it would be," he said. "To make people feel at home while they were getting something new and special." Jackson wrote, "Will Smith brings the cocky hip-hop swagger of his earlier career." And while he will probably not be winning a platinum record with his voice, he was amusing to watch.

Princess Jasmine, played by Naomi Scott, takes on a feminist, strong, inspiring role. Josh Rottenberg from The Los Angeles Times interviewed Scott.

During the interview, she said, "In the original movie, as great as it is that she's fighting for the choice

of who to marry, that's where her ambition kind of stops. In the movie, she's more ambitious and she looks outside herself. She's trying to protect her kingdom against this evil dictator [Jafar]. It's showcasing that you can lead and you can have love. You can have both, girls, and the two aren't mutually exclusive."

The fictional Arabian realm of Agrabah was brought to life by production designer Gemma Jackson.

Jackson traveled all over the world, including to Burma and Marrakech, to get a sense of the type of scenes she needed to create. Jackson explained to Entertainment Weekly how they came up with the "One Jump" scene of Aladdin and Princess Jasmine running through the street fair.

"We just wanted to make it mysterious, all these fairs in Marrakech have these wonderful, secretive alleyways for running around... so we created quite long runs for the actors so the cameras could chase them through. Guy [Ritchie] loves to do real-time things and play with that so we had some great alleys you come running around and be confronted."

Whatever your feeling on remaking the old Disney movies, I urge you to go in with an open mind; if you go in hating something, you're wasting your money.



COURTESY: IMDB.COM

MOVIE REVIEW:
Godzilla-King of the Monsters

DIRECTOR: Michael Dougherty (Based on characters created by Toho Company Ltd.)
STARRING: Millie Bobby Brown, Kyle Chandler, Vera Farmiga, Sally Hawkins, Charles Dance and Ken Watanabe
GENRE: Action, Adventure, Fantasy, Sci-Fi
RATED: PG-13
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★



REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

“Godzilla: King of the Monsters” is the latest film in the long-running “Godzilla” franchise, and the sequel to the 2014 reboot by Gareth Edwards. While not the best film in the series, it does mark another solid entry in the shared universe of classic movie monsters and a good movie to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Godzilla.

Five years have passed since the events of the 2014 “Godzilla” film. As the world tries to pick up the pieces left since then, three more ancient “titans” arise in the form of Mothra, Rodan and King Ghidorah. The film sees Godzilla return to restore the balance in an experience that straddles the line between the campy monster-on-monster slugfests of the 1960s and 1970s installments and the dark, foreboding tone of the

original 1954 “Gojira” over the course of 132 minutes.

On a budget of \$170 million, director Michael Dougherty of the cult horror film “Trick-or-Treat” takes great pleasure in updating these classic movie monsters for a new generation. With the help of production designer Scott Chambliss (“Star Trek Beyond,” “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2”), the titans are given qualities that reflect decades of advances in special effects without losing the sense of childlike wonder that made the original designs so endearing to begin with. Explosive action set pieces show the beasts’ massive presence in everywhere from Antarctica to Boston, making the monster fights worthy of seeing on the biggest screen you can find.

One admitted flaw is the film has an underdeveloped and underutilized human cast. Though Dr. Serizawa (Ken Watanabe) echoes his namesake from the original films in a climactic scene that shall not be spoiled here, others such as a young woman

named Madison (Millie Bobby Brown of the hit series “Stranger Things”) are underplayed; with others still such as an anti-monster extremist (Charles Dance) are little more than mustache-twirling villains. The film’s script also does get confusing at times, especially with how it’s eager to set up more sequels for the near future (the next film, “Godzilla VS Kong” is slated for early 2020). Still, the film is far from the worst entry in the series even if it’s not the best either. Though it may not always reach the lofty heights it aims for, it’s a far better film and more respectful take on the namesake “King of the Monsters” than the infamous 1998 remake.

On the whole, “Godzilla: King of the Monsters” is a solid sequel to the 2014 film and a good way to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Toho’s famed giant monster. Whatever happens for the future of this shared “cinematic universe,” it’s clear that this film is definitely an enjoyable monster-VS-monster brawl to join the series’ legacy. “Long live the king.”

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Woman’s work basket
 - 5 Laughter sounds
 - 8 Polish border river
 - 12 Arrow poison
 - 13 Edible root
 - 14 Killer (suf.)
 - 15 Slushy ice
 - 16 School course (abbr.)
 - 17 Ancient Gr. city
 - 18 Hog’s guts
 - 20 Mate of Adam
 - 22 Mulberry of India
 - 23 Carriage
 - 24 Franchise
 - 28 Book of maps
 - 32 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)
 - 33 Royal Air Force (abbr.)
 - 35 Altar constellation
 - 36 Avifaunae

- 39 Import
- 42 Right (Lat.)
- 44 Camel hair cloth
- 45 Fearful
- 48 Fitted garment
- 52 Applaud
- 53 Amer. Expeditionary Forces (abbr.)
- 55 Cranial nerves
- 56 Cloak
- 57 Hawaiian fish
- 58 Above (Ger.)
- 59 Ivory (Lat.)
- 60 To or from a distance (pref.)
- 61 Withered

- DOWN**
- 1 Son of Ham
 - 2 Samoan port
 - 3 Singing voice
 - 4 Square-cut stone
 - 5 Stableman
 - 6 Atl. Coast Conference

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

I	A	N	A	T	O	B	E	O	A	F
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B	C	E	D	E	A	F	H	I	E	R

- (abbr.)
- 7 Canvas
- 8 Spotted cat
- 9 Port. Timor’s capital
- 10 Blue-pencil
- 11 Hebrew letter
- 19 Sup
- 21 Mountain on Crete
- 24 Vehicle compartment
- 25 Yellow Sea arm
- 26 Rhine tributary
- 27 Pack down
- 29 Indo-Chin. language
- 30 Scot. alder tree
- 31 Wilt
- 34 Dire
- 37 Didy
- 38 Sub (pref.)
- 40 Presidential nickname
- 41 Mole
- 43 State (Ger.)
- 45 Land measure
- 46 Amorphous mass
- 47 Ryukyu islands viper
- 49 Gooseberry
- 50 Elbe tributary
- 51 Laugh (Fr.)
- 54 Barely get by

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THE COMMONS
* CAFETERIA *

6/5 to 6/14

Wednesday 6/5: -BLACK BOX- Salads: Huli Huli Chicken OR Tempoh.

Thursday 6/6: Pork Adobo over Steamed Rice, Grilled Salmon*, Tofu Broccoli Stir Fry over Rice. Soups: Fava Bean w/Pasta & Bacon, African Sweet Potato*. Salads: Tonkatsu (Japanese Deep Fried Pork), Tofu-Katsu (Deep Fried Tofu).

6/10 - 6/14: -FINALS WEEK-

Monday to Friday Lunch - 11:15 AM - 1:15 PM

* Gluten Free

• HELLO •
Summer

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit.

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EATS ON THE STREETS

Food trucks located Downtown Corvallis on 3rd Street provide fuel for your engine

GETSUM ALOHA KINE GRINDS:
Owner: Bigg H & Io Wa'a

TYPE OF FOOD: HAWAIIAN
SIGNATURE DISH: Garlic Chicken - Only Available Fridays
ABOUT: Bigg H has always loved cooking since he was young. The husband and wife duo couldn't find any good local Hawaiian food and thus, GetSum was born. The truck has been around for about a year and a half.

ADDITIONAL INFO:
PHONE: (808)785-4612
FACEBOOK: @GetsumAlohaKineGrinds
INSTAGRAM: @getsum_aloha_kine_grinds



MEMPHIS BEATS:
Owner: Jeremy Cook

TYPE OF FOOD: Soul BBQ
SIGNATURE DISH: Tachos - Tater Tots, Cheese, Pork or Beef Brisket
HISTORY: Jeremy Cook moved from Memphis two years ago, bringing a bit of soul to give back to Corvallis.

ADDITIONAL INFO:
PHONE: 931-319- 1732
E-MAIL: memphisbeats@gmail.com
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM: @memphisbeatsOregon



KELL'S KITCHEN:
Owner: David Kell

SIGNATURE DISH: Burgers
DISH TO TRY: Burgers with occasional specials
HISTORY: David Kell spent 28 years working for the federal government in the Navy and in the postal service. After raising three boys, he wanted to do something for himself and decided to start a food truck.

ADDITIONAL INFO:
EMAIL: datguy541@gmail.com
FACEBOOK: Kell's Kitchen
INSTAGRAM: @kells_kitchen_541



STORY AND PHOTOS BY SARAH MELCHER AND ALEX GAUB



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