

“ LOVE IS A
GROSS EXAGGERATION
OF THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN
1 person
& everybody
else. ”

- GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Happy Valentine's Day
from the Commuter Staff

The Albany, Oregon
Commuter
LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Love Coupon
Redeem for:
e of your choice...
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Love Coupon
Redeem for:
Day/Night

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VALENTINE'S HISTORY

Love stinks, unless a person is currently in love. Even then it has its ups and downs, its trial and tribulations that must be faced. Or a person could be a hopeless romantic, idealizing love through the rose colored glasses.

So who was it that led the way into this romantic endeavor we call Valentine's Day? To this day it is not certain who or how it all began, but there are several legends that people consider to be the start to the Valentine's Day festivities. In the Catholic Church, they sainted three different Valentines or Valentinus. No matter which legend that is considered, a priest made a sacrifice for love.

The first legend involving Valentine occurred during Emperor Claudius II reign. The Emperor banned all marriages for the young men he sought to use in the army. Valentine, finding this unjust, defied Claudius II and performed the marriages in secret. When he was discovered, he was martyred.

The second legend involved Valentine helping Christians escape Roman prosecution. When he was arrested, he fell in love with his jailor's daughter and wrote her love notes. His final note was signed "from your Valentine," thus the first Valentines. In a variation on this one, Valentine healed the young daughter and they fell in love.

Many cultures and countries celebrate a day of love, while the most prolific is Valentines day that developed from Christian and Roman traditions. The Romans celebrated Lupercalia, the Ides of February that fell on Feb. 15. Lupercalia was a fertility festival focused on Faunus, the god of agriculture, and a celebration of the birth of Romulus and Remus. Priests would sacrifice a goat for fertility and a dog for purification. They would "bless" the land and women by rubbing the blood on the ground and the legs of the woman. Afterward, men would draw names of single women and be paired up for the next year, often ending in marriage.

This tradition continued until the 5th century, when the Church considered the celebration as unchristian. To continue some of the tradition, Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 as St. Valentine's Day, a celebration of love.

It wasn't until the 15th century that written valentines and poems began to appear. In Great Britain, the oldest known and confirmed valentine is a poem written by Charles, Duke d'Orleans to his wife while he resided in the Tower of London. During this time, King Henry V had a valentine note composed for Catherine of Valois by John Lydate. Other writers like Chaucer and Shakespeare are known to write about St. Valentine.

In England and France, Valentine's Day was tied to observations of bird mating, which was believed to begin

"Love Stinks"

on Feb. 14. John Donne united the two thoughts of mating birds and marriage in a poem celebrating the marriage of Princess Elizabeth and Frederick V. By the 17th century, valentines became popular and by the middle of the 18th century all social classes were exchanging tokens and love notes. Greeting cards began to replace love notes in the 20th century.

The US celebrated Valentine's Day with handmade valentines in the 18th century. Esther Howland began to mass produce these handmade valentines in the 19th century. Her creations using real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures earned her the name of "Mother of Valentines." This eventually led to the mass produced card that we have today.

Besides cards, flowers are another popular token. This tradition began as a sign of fertility and the start of spring.

Flowers were easy to give since spring was beginning in the more tempered regions. Hothouse flowers also became fashionable in England in the 19th century.

The British can be thanked for the chocolates given as tokens of love for Valentine's Day. Richard Cadbury began marketing his excess chocolates in decorated boxes including the heart shaped box that is popular for the love holiday.

Valentine's Day is celebrated similarly on Feb. 14 by the US, France, Mexico, United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada, though they are not unique in this celebration.

Other cultures have adopted the commercial holiday of Valentine's Day, giving chocolate and flowers as tokens to loved ones and friends. In Finland, friendship is celebrated. St. Valentine's Day is not about love in the Greek tradition, instead they celebrate a different Saint of love, Hyacinth of Caesarea in July. Most countries have a holiday to celebrate love and friendship, no matter what day it falls on. Many do occur in early spring or summer to correspond with pagan rituals that celebrate fertility and bounty of the land. "Dia del Amor y la Amistad", "Dia del Carino", or "Dia dos Namorados" are traditions in Latin and South America that celebrate "Day of Love and Friendship", "Affection Day" or "Lover's Day."

So, the idea of love has been woven throughout history in all customs and cultures. Perhaps, the commercialized version of Valentine's Day has gained popularity throughout the world, but the tradition of celebrating love and friendship has more modest roots. Choice of how to celebrate is up to the individual, a love poem, a hand-written note, a handful of posies, or a dinner celebrate with candy, flowers and diamonds. ♡

STORY BY **ELIZABETH MOTTNER**

TOKENS OF LOVE

Valentine's Day. The mere mention brings smiles to some, shudders to others, and groans to grown guys and girls.

So now comes the big question, what to do for Valentine's Day? It is simple, so keep it simple. If in doubt on what to give, ask a friend for some ideas. Tokens of chocolate, flowers and jewelry are great examples of gifts. It is best to personalize the gifts, by discerning what the individual likes and dislikes. Does he or she like chocolate and nuts, chocolate and fruit, or perhaps they are a classic chocolate lover.

What type of flowers does he or she like? Cut flowers, elegant or simple in design, or perhaps a flowering plant, that will last longer and keep memories alive. Often overlooked are personalized tokens like a picture together, a book by a favorite author or going back to the place of first date.

If money is limited, be creative. A "love" coupon book, a poem or love note only takes time and creativity. The book

is full of coupons that can be redeemed for a movie night, a foot rub, or if the loved one is a parent, a day or night out without the children, to name just a few ideas to include. Or consider a single rose, cooking a nice meal or homemade bakery goods.

"It's the thought that counts." And it is. No matter what the token is given, make sure to offer thanks and a compliment. Remember if there is something truly wanted, leave hints or get a friend to help relay the message, don't expect him/her to be a mind reader.

Other, creative ideas for gifts: a basket full of spa items, candles and candies, a stuffed animal holding a piece of jewelry, a handmade card, or a candy bar with a personalized label.

Remember, this is about love, friendship and showing how much a person cares by giving a unique token of that love or friendship. ♡

STORY AND PHOTO BY **ELIZABETH MOTTNER**



RADIO REDUX LOVES LOVE



Two plays about love will be performed by Radio Redux next weekend at the Wildish Theater in Springfield.

The production, "Radio Daze," will feature two classic radio plays—"Love Affair (Screen Guild Theater), in which a couple falls head-over-heels in love, and "The Undead" (Inner Sanctum Mysteries), in which a wife suspects her husband is a vampire.

"Radio Daze" will be performed for one weekend only—at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14-15 and 2 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Wildish

Theater, 630 Main St., Springfield. Tickets—\$13-\$18—are available at the Radio Redux box office 541-206-3283. Information at www.radioreduxusa.com.

Radio Redux is a Eugene theater company that specializes in radio-style storytelling featuring sound effects, voice, music and scripts often taken from the Golden Age of Radio.

Because its annual "Radio Daze" production falls on Valentine's Day, Radio Redux is exploring the polar opposites of romance—one couple falling in love, and one couple falling out of love.

Director Fred Crafts calls Radio Redux, "radio theater—theater of the imagination—at its best. 'Love Affair' is the sweetest romance ever, popularized later in the film 'An Affair to Remember,' and 'The Undead' is a spellbinding thriller."

"Love Affair" features Kim Donahey as the heroine

and Dan Pegoda as her suitor, while "The Undead" stars Maggie Muellner as a terrified woman. Bary Shaw, Achilles Massahos, Judi Weinkauff and Steve Wehmeier play numerous character roles. Sound effects will be by Jonathan Ward.

In addition, the production will have lobby displays of vintage Valentine's Day cards by Lane County Historical Society director Bob Hart and of historic radio collectibles by Sutherland radio enthusiast Dennis Wright. And a free public lecture, "Love in the Air," on the production's soap opera aspects by author Patrick Lucanio will be held at 6:45 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Springfield Public Library (inside City Hall, at 225 5th St., Springfield) and 6:45 p.m. Feb. 15 at the Springfield Museum (590 Main St., Springfield). ♡

RADIO REDUX **PRESS RELEASE**

FINDING STUDENT DISCOUNTS

One of the biggest obstacles for college students these days is the ever growing cost of tuition and living expenses.

Many students across America have been able to help cut their costs by taking advantage of the wide variety of discounts and benefits available to help make student life easier. From local businesses to major chains to worldwide companies, there are tons of great deals and discounts to help students keep their wallet just a little heavier. It just takes a little looking.

Unfortunately, LBCC students may have to look a little harder than others. Discounts at major franchises around the City of Albany are few and far between. There are many local businesses that offer discounts, but they may require a bit more effort to discover. Mainly, businesses that offer services such as haircuts, oil changes or tailoring are good places to start.

According to Bruce Clemetsen, Vice President of Student Services at LBCC, there was a movement about ten years ago to establish a program for student discounts, but it was ultimately unsuccessful.

"There was virtually no interest in the business community to offer discounts and the large chain stores did not have the authority to create discounts. General sentiments were that students already have services they go to in the community because they live here and discounts would not be large enough to get students to change," said Clemetsen.

Fortunately, there are still options available for LBCC students looking to save a buck or two.

Local businesses can still be a valuable resource when trying to save money. All students need to do is keep an eye out for signs posted either outside, at front counters, or in menus.

Restaurant chains such as Burger King and Arby's have good student discount programs, offering 10% off orders. Not all stores participate in these programs so it is important for students looking to take advantage of these great offers to simply ask them. The worst they can do is say no.

One of the best options that many students overlook are the amazing deals offered through online companies such as Apple or Amazon. Apple often has great back to school discounts. Amazon also has many great perks, like six free months of two day delivery for students and great deals on new, used, and rental textbooks.

Also keep in mind that the local bus routes also offer free rides for anyone with a student ID and a current term sticker.

There are plenty of deals out there for people looking to save a bit of cash. All you have to do is find them. ♣

STORY BY **MATT BROCK**



DID YOU KNOW?

Cooked eggs have twice as much digestible protein as raw eggs!

SALT YOUR FINANCES

New program to ease college loans

College years only last for so long, but the cost of that time is expensive. SALT offers a possible solution.

SALT, a non-profit free educational resource, was created by the American Student Association to assist students in making better decisions about finances. The American Student Association created SALT, a non-profit free educational resource, to assist students in making better decisions about finances. SALT to the rescue.

As of Nov. 2013, Linn-Benton Community College became another school involved with SALT. With a focus on providing learning opportunities for students and graduates, SALT teaches students what to do with their student loans.

"SALT provides good financial literacy tools for when students leave school, [provides] financial planning, helps find scholarships, and assists previous students getting current on their loans," said Bev Gerig, the Director of Financial Aid at LBCC.

Students have the ability through SALT to learn how to answer tough questions about school loans through SALT, like how much to borrow and how to be prepared to repay them later.

"They are developing financial literacy curriculum," said Gerig. "The need [for SALT] is great, students have to borrow money to go to school and it's important they don't borrow too much."

The goal of SALT is to help students get a hold of their finances after college," said Allesandra Lanza, a representative for SALT and American Students Association. "In the last five to seven years we have seen the delinquency rates start to rise."

"I was glad to be able to take some of the online courses," said Winston Wright, a former student at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. "I had never obtained that amount of debt

before; it was very helpful to have information that steered me the right way."

According to Gerig, the program at LBCC has two main goals. One is for students to be more financially informed when they borrow their student loans. The other is for after graduation when they go into repayment so they will have a well managed system to deal with their loan debt. The other is that after graduation, they have a well managed system to deal with their loan debt when they go into repayment.

"We are trying to be proactive to get this information out to students earlier," said Gerig. "Most people if they know they have an alternative will take advantage of it."

If students or graduates get behind or default on their loans, SALT will know and not only offer help, but will hold the school accountable as well.

"The schools are rated by many previous student loans," said Gerig. "If they default on their loans it will be recorded and will tell the Department of Education whether the school can get student loans for their students. If you are over 30% default, you are put on a short financial leash."

"[The] Current default rate is 22.2% [for LBCC] and we get a new default rate each year," said Gerig.

According to Gerig, as of Dec. 2013, LBCC contacted 8,523 eligible students and 429 have activated their SALT membership.

SALT is free for all students. Once per term emails are sent out to students, beginning with those who have received financial aid. There is a link to SALT on the financial aid webpage under debt management. Students can go there to enroll as well. ♣

STORY BY **PHILIP STEINER**

HORSE BARN COLLAPSES

LBCC's horse barn was no match for the 18 inches of snow that piled up on its roof.

The east wall of the 53rd Avenue barn gave out on the morning of Saturday, Feb. 9, causing the roof to collapse. Fortunately, no horses or barn staff were injured.

According to Karissa Mobley, an exercise science major who lives next to the barn, she heard a loud bang around 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning and saw that "the horses were running around." She put her boots on as quickly as possible and ran outside to see the collapsed roof.

"So.. the barn fell down," Mobley (@mobley_karissa) later posted on Twitter, using the hashtag #StayStrongBarn. The photo that accompanied her tweet showed the extent of the damage.

Scott Krambuhl, Director of Facilities at LBCC, went out to inspect the 40-year-old barn and found that while there are still a few weak spots, the overall structural stability is good. Barn staff were instructed to check for any other damages every two hours.

The barn has never had any major damages and even had extensive roof renovation three years ago. The section of the roof that fell landed on a horse pen that normally houses Cole, one of the male horses. Luckily, Cole was moved to the adjacent arena the night before.

Due to the long, snow-covered roads, contractors were not able to come out to assess the damage. In addition to the caved in roof, there were some damages to the electrical systems. According to Equine Science Instructor Jenny Strooband,

the barn is insured and the insurance will cover the cost of the damages.

There is an emergency plan in place for the horses, but Strooband doesn't feel that is necessary. She said that horses would be taken to the Linn County Fairgrounds in case of fire or other natural disaster. She believes that the horses are safer where they are, rather than being taken across town on the dangerous roads.

"The safety of our staff and horses is our first priority," Strooband said. ♣

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **WILLIAM ALLISON**



Outside view of the collapsed horse barn roof.



The crushed stall that Cole normally occupies.

NANOTECHNOLOGY

The smell of cookies and coffee filled Kearney Hall at OSU on Monday afternoon.

Thomas Woodson, the science and technology professor at Georgia Institute of Technology recently made a trip to Oregon State University to talk about Nanotechnology and how this could be a way to solve global issues.

Nanotechnology, or nanotech, is matter on extremely small scale. This matter can be transformed and molded into different forms. It can be used for countless things from making tennis balls last longer, to purifying water around the world.

The door to the auditorium kept opening and closing, as new attendees entered, but eyes stayed focused and minds stayed attentive on Woodson.

The majority of Woodson's lecture was about the applications of nanotech in the health field. Woodson claims nanotechnology can be "revolutionary" because the scientist have found that "matter behaves differently at an atomic scale."

This is important to the health field because these advanced findings can help people to do things like purify water in places it is otherwise extremely difficult to do so.

Woodson expressed that the difficulties with nanotech right now is the expense. "Research is millions of dollars."

According to Woodson, the practical usage right now is just "too expensive" but he says that millions of private and public dollars are going into nanotechnology research.

Woodson claims that nanotechnology will be invisible to most Americans, because it will not make any groundbreaking changes to our lifestyle. Instead he explained that it will "enhance our current lifestyle with little things."

Such enhancements of little things include faster phones, less wear on car tires and clothes that are more stain resistant. ♣

STORY BY **ANDREW NIELSEN**

TRANSFER DAYS

College Transfer Days offered a ton of information, yet students walked right by...

The sound of footsteps walking by filled Takena Hall last Wednesday when over 20 college representatives from around the state came to LBCC to offer students information about transferring to a four-year college or university.

College Transfer Days allowed current students to ask colleges representatives from around Oregon about their transfer programs and what they should do to start the transferring process.

"[Transferring to a four-year university is] very easy, especially if you use an Oregon Transfer Degree. It [makes for an] easy flow," said Eastern Oregon University representative Terry Walters.

"If a student already has a major in mind that they are interested in, start looking at different schools that offer that major, and see what their requirements are to get in their school so you can properly prepare a year of community college," said Oregon Tech representative Kai Bautista,

about students looking to transfer to a four-year university.

"I always recommend transfer students to look at the curriculum maps from different schools, that way you can see that the classes you're taking at your community college will transfer easily into the program, rather than taking a bunch of classes that don't really count toward the major you're going into," said Bautista.

Walters agrees saying, "Connect with an advisor, and [if] you don't know what you want to do, clarify your educational and professional goals. That way you are not taking any classes you don't need and not paying money you don't need to pay."

LBCC freshman Melissa Meyhoff said about Transfer Days, "There's a lot of colleges to pick from."

Meyhoff was one of the only students this reporter saw talking to college representatives. Takena hall was rather busy, but students just walked right past the booths full of information. ♣

STORY BY **JUSTIN WILLIAMS**

Clouds Afire

With each thought in hand
And each memory at command
The search for what is to be
And quest to be set free
At every turn and twist
No rock unturned or missed
Seeking each cloud anew
The past surrounded by blue
The sun sets the clouds afire
With wind ascending higher
Each shape created of old
Surrounded with the evening gold
It is you above I do see
In the clouds of this eve
It is with my life's hope
And in my mind's scope
That on the morrow
To look without sorrow
Up in the sky so high
You and I
Together forever
In the cloudy weather

By Elizabeth Mottner

Love Stinks

Love stinks
until you are
wrapped in and embraced
its gentle and passionate grace

By Elizabeth Mottner

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BY PHONE: 541-917-4531

BOX OFFICE HOURS:

Week of performances
Weekdays: 1-4 p.m and one hour
before performance.

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 541-917-4690 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. LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OLYMPICS SCHEDULE

Wed. Feb. 12

4:30 a.m. Nordic combined: Individual Gundersen NH/10 km Cross-Country
6 a.m. Speed Skating: Men's 1000 m
7:45 a.m. Figure Skating: Pairs Free Skating
7:45 a.m. Luge: Doubles Run two
9:30 a.m. Snowboard: Ladies' Halfpipe Finals

Thur. Feb. 13

1:30 a.m. Freestyle Skiing: Men's Ski Slopestyle Final
2 a.m. Cross-Country: Ladies' 10 km Classic
4:05 a.m. Short Track: Ladies' 500 m Finals
6 a.m. Speed Skating: Ladies' 1000 m
6 a.m. Biathlon: Men's individual 20 km
8:15 a.m. Luge: Team Relay Competition

Fri. Feb. 14

2 a.m. Cross-Country: Men's 15 km Classic Alpine Skiing
3:30 a.m. Men's Super Combined Slalom
6 a.m. Biathlon: Women's 15 km individual
7 a.m. Figure Skating: Men's Free Skating
8:50 a.m. Skeleton: Women's Heat Four
10:12 a.m. Freestyle Skiing: Ladies' Aerials Final Three
11 p.m. Alpine Skiing: Women's Super-G

Sat. Feb. 15

2 a.m. Cross-Country: Ladies' relay 4x5 km
4:06 a.m. Short Track: Men's 1000 m Finals
4:20 a.m. Short Track: Women's 1500 m Finals
5:30 a.m. Speed Skating: Men's 1500 m
8:15 a.m. Skeleton: Men's Heat Four
10:35 a.m. Ski Jumping: Men's Large Hill Individual Final
11 a.m. Alpine Skiing: Men's Super-G

Sun. Feb 16

1:40 a.m. Snowboard: Ladies' Snowboard Cross Final
2 a.m. Cross-Country: Men's Relay 4x10 km
6 a.m. Speed Skating: Ladies' 1500 m
7 a.m. Biathlon: Men's 15 km Mass Start

USA's Gold Medal Winners

Jamie Anderson - Snowboard:
Women's Slopestyle

Sage Kotsenburg - Snowboard:
Men's Slopestyle

Medal Leaders by Country

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Norway	4	3	4	11
2	Canada	4	3	2	9
3	Germany	4	1	0	5
4	Netherlands	3	2	3	8
5	United States	2	1	4	7



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The Commuter Presents

Arts & Entertainment

PICKS OF THE WEEK

FEB 12

"Genius of Bohemia"
LaSells Stewart Center - OSU

FEB 13-23

"How I Learn to Drive"
LaSells Stewart Center - OSU

FEB 14-15

"Radio Daze III"
Wildish Theater - Springfield

FEB 15

"Androcles & The Lion"
Russell Tripp Theater - LBCC

FEB 15

"Scheherazade" Ballet
Silva Concert Hall - Hult Center

FEB 16

"Hitler's Children"
Darkside Cinenma

FEB 22

"Animal Instinct"
Hult Center - Eugene

FEB 26

"Ailey II" Ballet
Silva Concert Hall - Hult Center

MAR 2

"An Afternoon with Bill Cosby"
Silva Concert Hall - Hult Center

TEN RIVERS FILM

The East Linn Food Film Series began on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at the Boys & Girls Clubs in Lebanon. Hosted by Ten Rivers Food Web, this film series engages the community in different aspects of local food systems.

Last Tuesday, the stars of the show were honeybees. Before the film, Art Martinak, a local beekeeper from Tangent, began with a discussion about the surge in media attention that honeybees have gotten over the last five years as a result of the discovery of Colony Collapse Disorder. Since this discovery, OSU has developed a Honey Bee Lab and local beekeeper associations have seen a huge growth in membership.

Martinak concluded with an overview of how individuals can help support bee populations. Some actions include using native flowering plants in your landscaping, minimizing the use of outdoor chemical sprays, and purchasing local honey.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WHERE: Lebanon Boys And Girls Club

WHEN: Tuesday evenings

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

DATES: Feb. 18, March 4, March 18

If you missed this event, there are three more opportunities to watch some eye-opening food films. They will take place every other Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. from Feb. 4 to Mar. 18 at the Boys & Girls Clubs in Lebanon on the corner of 5th and Rose. Admission is free and local hot cider will be available for purchase.

Feb. 18: Symphony of the Soil, an artistic and scientific exploration of soils, presented by film contributor Harry MacCormack, an organic farmer at Sunbow Farms in Philomath.

Mar. 4: The Greenhorns, a celebration of young farmers in America, presented by Dirk Detweiler Leichty & Lydia Short, vegetable growers at Fry Road Nursery & Garden in Albany.

Mar. 18: Truck Farm, a musical film about unique urban gardening, presented by OSU Extension Linn County Master Gardeners and Vickie Lathrup, gardener and food program coordinator at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lebanon. 📍

TEN RIVERS PRESS RELEASE

CONCERT SNOWED OUT

The Waltzing Brahms' Requiem

The Corvallis Repertory Singers' Friday, Feb. 7 concert, Brahms' Requiem, has been postponed due to weather and will be rescheduled to Sunday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church.

Tickets already purchased for the concert will be honored for the rescheduled date. Individuals who cannot attend on the new date may contact Caroline Zaworski at (541) 231-3419 or cj.zaworski@gmail.com for alternatives.

"We hate to postpone, but we must be concerned for all our fans and singers' safety first," said Steven Zielke, artistic director. "We have audience members and singers who travel from all over the Valley to attend or participate in our concerts, some as far away as Salem and Portland."

Tickets, priced at \$15 and \$20, are available online at repsing.org or at local ticket outlets. In addition to purchasing online at www.repsing.org, tickets are available



locally in Corvallis through Grass Roots Books, Gracewinds Music and Troubadour; at WineStyles in the Timberhill Shopping Center; and in Albany at Sid Stevens Jewelers.

High school and college students are admitted to concerts at no charge by showing school identification. In addition, Oregon Trail cardholders may purchase up to two concert

tickets for \$5 each at the door on the night of the concert.

For more information, visit The Corvallis Repertory Singers website at www.repsing.org, or follow them on Facebook. 📍

CORVALLIS REPERTORY SINGERS PRESS RELEASE

QUARTET BRINGS MAGIC

The award winning roots music quartet Kathy Boyd and Phoenix Rising will bring their unique musical magic to the stage of the Troubadour Music Center on Saturday, Feb. 15 beginning at 8 p.m.

This concert has turned an all around celebration of welcoming fiddle/mandolin player Tim Crosby to his new hometown of Corvallis.

Kathy Boyd & Phoenix Rising is all about the stories, and the stories of everyday America are what you get from these four personable entertainers.

Members include the 2008 RMA Bluegrass Songwriter of the Year, the 2010 City Love Music Songwriter of the Year,

and lead singer whose songs have been compared to those written by Woody Guthrie and Bruce Springsteen.

Warm hearted, personable and fun, Kathy Boyd & Phoenix Rising are an ensemble who not only connect with the audience from the stage, but who also make every effort to give back to the community. With multiple CD's receiving airplay around the world, this group has fans everywhere they go, and they work social media well to stay connected with those fans at all times. This group is guaranteed to deliver. Connecting with people is what they do.

The group both began and ended 2013 with releases

that were the No.1 CD's downloaded for radio airplay in their genre – IN THE WORLD. Their concert at Troubadour Music will take the audience on a journey through their five original CD's – sharing the tales that are truly the stories of everyone.

Troubadour Music is located at 521 SW 2nd Street in Corvallis. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Children under 10 are free. Call (541) 752-7720 for more information.

ROOTS PRESS RELEASE

ART SHOW: ROBERTO ORAN

Meet the artist during the reception! Roberto Oran will be on display at the Majestic Theatre in downtown Corvallis, located at 115 Second Street. Oran's reception will be on Feb. 15 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"My art is based in what I see and observe in the Latino people of my community. I draw and paint their daily obstacles as migrant community. I also focus on their deep convictions as a spiritual people and their livelihood."



COURTESY: MAJESTIC THEATRE

Roberto Oran in front of his artwork.

MAJESTIC PRESS RELEASE

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Grimm is on Friday nights at 9:00 p.m. on NBC. It's considered a supernatural drama. The show is about a Portland, Ore. detective named "Nick" (played by David Giuntoli) who is also a Grimm. He can see Wesens (pronounced vesin) or creatures from fairy tales. The show is based on the Grimm brothers' fairy tales and is filmed in Portland.

Though each of the main characters, "Nick" and his partner "Hank" (played by Russell Hornsby) have appeared in other shows as guests, their claim to fame is Grimm. The show is a hit on NBC. Each episode is an hour long.

The show is mainly for people in their late teens to mid forties. I think the reason it works for so big of an age gap is because it has action and a love story behind it. All the people in the show dress just like you and me - well some may dress a little better, but not by much.

What's nice about this show is that it was filmed on location in Portland which makes the show that much more interesting. I like seeing familiar places. I don't think

the show really has any stereotypes. They make it to where good is not always good and bad is not always bad, and it works.

The only shows I can think of that are similar to Grimm are Supernatural or Once Upon a Time because they both deal with monsters. Other than that, Grimm is not really like any other.

This show doesn't seem fake. The graphics of the monsters and the way they transform is really impressive.

If someone from another country saw this show, they might think that people in Portland are all weirdos. And frankly, I don't think the people in Portland would mind that, as they enjoy being know as "weird."

I always look forward to Friday night to see what happens on Grimm. In some parts of the show, it reflects "real life" as in the fact that there are murders and police and how they go about looking to find the bad people, but the rest is fiction. I like the fantasy and the action. 📍

MOVIE REVIEW:

Grimm

STARRING: David Giuntoli, Russell Hornsby, Bitsie Tulloch

CREATORS: David Greenwalt, Jim Kouf, Stephen Carpenter

GENRE: Action, Adventure, SciFi

RATED: PG-13

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

PHOTO COURTESY: NBC

REVIEW BY **MACY OMSTEAD**

VALENTINE SWEETS

As a display of love, make some delicious homemade tokens to hand deliver bound in a pretty ribbon.

These recipes are full of tasty and fruity goodness. The first recipe taste like a cherry pie but is easily cut into handy bars. Other fruits can be substituted for the cherries. Place these on a pretty plate, wrap a bow around them and include a special note or card, and it makes a perfect token to give to a loved one.

The muffins are a great token to surprise a loved one at work, so they can share the joy among friends. Again, you can mix the fruits up if you want. Place in a nice basket and tie a pretty bow on the handle and you are good to go.

Enjoy! 📍

COURTESY OF **ELIZABETH MOTTNER**

Raspberry and Chocolate Muffins

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup non-fat plain Greek yogurt
- 6 ounce raspberries, rinsed, drained, and blotted dry with paper towels
- 1/2 cup dark chocolate chips

Adapted from: family recipe

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spray muffin pans with non-stick spray. In large bowl beat eggs with an electric hand mixer. Add white sugar and beat until combined. Pour in the oil and then add vanilla and mix. In a separate bowl, mix flour, salt and baking soda. Using a wooden spoon, mix flour mixture into wet mixture, a little at a time, alternating with the yogurt. Add the raspberries and chocolate chips and carefully fold in to the batter with the wooden spoon just until combined. Divide the batter between the prepared muffin cups. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from oven and allow muffins to cool for about 10 or 15 minutes and then carefully remove from tin to cool completely. Store leftovers in an airtight container.

Cherry Pie Bars

- 1 cup of butter softened
- 2 cups of sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 32 oz of cherry pie filling
- Preheat Oven to 350F

Adapted from: Budget101.com

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350. In a mixing bowl, cream your butter and sugar. Add in eggs and extract. Mix well. Add flour and salt, stir thoroughly. Spread half of the batter in a greased 9x13 pan. Spoon the pie filling over the batter. Randomly drop tablespoons remaining batter over the pie filling. Bake for 35 minutes. Glaze with simple frosting of 1 cup of powder sugar, 1 teaspoon almond extract, and 2 teaspoon milk, then drizzle over the top.

WINTER WONDERLAND - NOT

Welcome to a white winter, not Oregon's classic rain-riddled season. The Willamette Valley is used to getting a few flurries of snow or a dusting on the valley floor.

This year, Linn and Benton counties have seen more than the usual snowfall. Given this, it is not surprising that many citizens were unprepared, and the limited road crews were overtaxed dealing with the snow. Some hard choices were presented when the snow began to fall. Who is willing to venture out into the snow, who can, and who should?

After the last snowfall in December, many of the emergency services requested that citizens stay at home and not venture out and about. To many this was a blessing, especially the kids who were able to enjoy the white winter wonderland. It provided hours of fun for those able to enjoy the fluffy white stuff, creating forts, making snowmen, and holding snowball wars.

On the flip side, it created a time of worry for those college students who would have to drive in the snow to make classes, especially those with mid-terms. It was a slow start with the decision-making by LBCC on whether they would close campus. On Thursday, the decision was made by 8:35 a.m. to close the campus at 12:30 p.m. Announcements were sent out via email, text, and news services about the closure and letting students know if

they were not on campus to not come to campus. This was an improvement in timeliness over last December. Many on Facebook requested that the decision be made sooner rather than later and that consideration for those students, staff, and faculty who live in the outlying areas – who routinely deal with harsher weather conditions – be factored into the decision on safety issues that result in closures.

The college made the decision and announcement the day before it was to be closed, preventing the need for students to begin the trek into school. It appears the administration has heard the wishes of students and is willing to protect the safety of the faculty, staff, and students during inclement weather.

Stephen Gibbel, a student at LBCC, wrote and sent a letter to the college last December with his concerns. He did so in a respectful manner, listing logically why he feels the college needs to make these decisions sooner than they have been. He offered a voice to all those who live outside of the Albany area. A copy of this letter is printed on this page.

"I'd also like to mention that I'm impressed with how the campus responded (they got out an initial response within the hour, no small feat on a Sunday evening), and although

my aim in writing said letter was not to convince them to close, I think they made the right decision in doing so since many of the roads in the valley were still unsafe," Gibbel said about the most recent school closures.

President Hamann did address the concerns about the timeliness of the closures in his question and answer session with the faculty and staff in January. He responded to questions about the inclement weather and closures last December and stated that they messed up on the timing on closing the campus on Friday, Dec. 6. The students, staff, and faculty are being heard and LBCC is being proactive in their closure choices.

So please remember, safety first when dealing with extreme weather conditions. Be prepared with snow chains if traveling is a must, stock up on candles and batteries and some easy to prepare food in case the power goes out for a day or two, as it did for many of the residents in the Linn-Benton area. Enjoy the snow from inside a cozy home with hot chocolate or all bundled up sledding down the hills. The snow days here in the Willamette Valley are rare, but not apparently as rare as they use to be. 📍

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **ELIZABETH MOTTNER**



Ice captured Japanese Maple.



LBCC Courtyard blanketed in snow.

STUDENTS' VOICE

This letter was sent to LBCC President and Public Safety Office in December, 2013

Dear Dr. Hamann & LBCC Public Safety Office,

In my humble opinion, LBCC's recent inclement weather-related closures have not been handled in a particularly safe manner.

I'm a full-time student at Linn-Benton Community College, I take my academic work seriously and have completed over 90 credits here while maintaining a 4.00 GPA, and will be transferring to OSU in the spring to pursue a degree in physics. I don't skip class unless there's absolutely no other option.

I live in the mountains about an hour's drive away under normal conditions, which turns into nearly two and a half hours when the roads are covered with snow or ice.

Last Friday morning I checked the LBCC website before leaving to see if the campus had closed, but the only notification was that it opened at 10 a.m. I made sure to leave my house early so that I would be sure to get to class on time, but when I got there I found out that the campus had been closed, with the closure notification going out at approximately 9:40 a.m. - just

twenty minutes before it was scheduled to open.

I ended up driving for more than four hours round-trip over "significantly" less than safe roads for nothing. I passed five cars in the ditch on my way in, one of which was on the corner of Allen and Pacific, just a few hundred feet from campus.

If you do decide to close the school but don't notify people in time, they'll just end up driving in anyway -- which isn't any safer for them than if LB just stayed open. If anything, it would seem that LB should close earlier than OSU and the other valley schools when the roads are unsafe, since (as far as I'm aware) the vast majority of LBCC's students drive themselves to campus.

I don't believe that it's in the students' best interest to have to drive under unsafe conditions (especially given that many of them are inexperienced young adults), and thus by extension it is not in the school's best interest to make them do so.

Regards,
Stephen Gibbel

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Happy V-Day!

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Attention LBCC students!

This year, the Visual Arts Club is proud to present Valentine's Day cards designed by our very own graphic designers. We will be selling them for \$4 for large cards and \$2.50 for small ones. Come check out our booth located in the courtyard, and give your special someone a beautifully crafted letter of love.

Sale dates are Tuesday through Thursday,
Feb. 11-13 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

ARTWORK BY: **TRAVIS SMITH**

EXPERIENCES AT COLLEGE

Upon entering my first term at a community college, I experienced a handful of mixed emotions. Anticipation was the forerunner. I couldn't wait to attend courses and have the opportunity to gain knowledge. The interesting part is, my anticipation was also to obtain my two-year certificate and hurry off to go pursue my other dreams, perhaps check a few items off my bucket list. An education naturally fuels desires by offering knowledge in areas that one takes interest in. With that said, I also understand that not every required course will tickle you pink. Many people have very different motives why they choose to further their education. Some are pushed into it, others want to be a part of the family legacy, and maybe some have genuine intent to impact the world in some powerful way. Those are reasons I could choose to speak about, but they would be third party since those reasons listed aren't why I chose to attend.

Another reason some attend community college is to use it as a stepping stone to gain acceptance into a university. This is what Liz Addison did, on which she wrote an essay titled, "Two Years Are Better Than Four." In that essay, she supports the value that community colleges offer to attending students, or to those curious of becoming part of the academic world. Addison projected another strong point for community colleges, saying that if you strip away the entitlement that comes with a university level degree, you're still left with the fundamentals of gaining knowledge, a privilege denied to many due to finances. If you're like me, perhaps you have/had a bit of fear taking the initial step of becoming a student. Addison states in her writings that community college, "unconditionally allows its students to begin. Just begin." This is exactly what I have done, which gave me the chance to read her words and feel a connection with them. As mentioned, many people

have different motives as to why they enter a facility to further their personal growth. I could try and make those connections and speak for other individuals, but instead these words will tailor my personal experience on why I feel two years are better than four.

I didn't continue an education after I prematurely left high school. Let me rephrase; I didn't attend a facility to further an education after high school. Instead, I went out seeking life experiences, created memories and traveled around seeing new places and meeting fresh faces. Please don't take offense, I realize time spent receiving an education is quite an experience within itself, but I was young. Like a baby bird learning to fly, the last thing I wanted was to feel stagnant or like I was trapped in a specific place. So I flew. Up, up and away from the nest of standardized education, I glided through life without immediate worry of the future. I was young, full of energy, and wanting to overturn every stone and see certain things where others never cared to look. I viewed college as another venue that simply groomed young, vibrant minds to be drone-like, stripping them of their free will, creating the next generation of worker bees.

Now as a worker bee attending my first term, I can't help but feel foolish for having a preconceived notion of something I had zero experience with. You can read a book about sailing time after time after time, but until you get out there and feel that damp air on your face it's fair to say you truly don't know how to sail. I'm not arrogant enough to call myself a sailor just yet, but I have picked up a few nice rope tying techniques in my short time attending a community college.

As mentioned, I'm personally obtaining a two-year certificate which makes the most sense for my needs. Why only two years? First and foremost, my field of

study happens to fall into that category. What makes that so special? Attending two years at a community college frees me up to get back out there and spread my wings, feeling the breeze known as personal freedom. No restraint of worrying about a long-term degree or the duration of attending six more years of schooling. Not to mention the amount of debt that comes along with it. One thing I fear for younger kids enrolling is them not truly knowing what they want to pursue. Next thing you know they're 24 and realizing that they don't want to be doctors anymore, but they'd rather be an artist that paints landscapes portraits.

So here I am at a community college, actively participating, feeling connected as a whole, knowing we're all here for the same value this "public service gem" has to offer. Will we all take the same measurable amount of value when we leave this place? Realistically, no, but the value still remains, regardless of the purity. We all experience things differently. If we all acted, thought, or spoke identically, that would in fact make us drones. We're all here on the same common ground, to become educated in the fields that interest us, not necessarily for reasons of academia, but to blossom into a more well-rounded person. Some can do that without the need of an education, which is something I both envy and loathe at the same time. Neither is wrong or right for this, but the important thing is to find your personal balance that compliments your own growth. For me personally, I couldn't have landed in a better place than this facility. I have found a stone worth recommending for others to overturn whenever they feel fit for it. The diversity alone is enough to feel humbled, seeing so many different faces all equipped with completely different backgrounds, yet knowing we're all in the same boat together. ♡

STORY BY **BRENT HEADRICK**

ADVICE FROM WEISS

Question: I'm being told I need to pick a degree so I can graduate. But how do I pick? There are so many; how do I know what to pick?

Answer: Picking a degree is a complex and important decision. So please, see your adviser to get some help. If you don't know who your advisor is, come to the first stop center in Tadena Hall, or the counter at any one of our centers, and we'll tell you.

That said, LBCC has four basic kinds of degrees. It seems like more, because most of our degrees have versions and variations towards majors, but let me explain them individually.

We have an "Associate of Science Degree." This is a degree created for students who want to transfer to Oregon State. An Associate of Science Degree does not mean more science courses, it's just a code phrase for OSU transfer. So although you can get an Associate of Science in Biology or Chemistry, you can also get one in Art, Psychology, or English. For this degree you need to know two things: That

you want to go to OSU, and what you want to major in when you get there.

We have a second kind of transfer degree, the Associate of Arts. Again, this doesn't mean more art classes, it's a code phrase for general transfer. The Associate of Arts is a degree that all community colleges in Oregon offer, and all state universities accept (including most of the private schools also).

The Associate of Arts does not require that you name a specific major, but you can pick an emphasis. This degree is about a third electives, which can be used toward a major if you know what you want. But if you haven't picked a major, you can still get this transfer degree and be a junior when you arrive at the university. Once at a university you would just have to be prepared to zero in on your major in a big way.

Then we have the Associate of Applied Science Degree. This is a degree aimed more at the job market, and not necessarily designed to help you get to a university. There are many possible majors within the broad category of

Associate of Applied Science. They include Auto Tech, Nursing, Welding, Mechatronics, Heavy Equipment/Diesel, Culinary Arts, and several others. The main thing to keep in mind is the word "Applied," because the point of one of these majors is to help you apply your skills to the workplace.

Finally, there is a General Studies Degree. Almost no one comes to college to be a General Studies major, but occasionally it ends up being a good fit. The General Studies Degree is mostly electives, which can allow students to gain more than one kind of skill in order to pursue a job. It's also a great fallback position for someone who has tried one or two or three majors, has a lot of credits built up, but not enough in any one major to graduate.

So, while hoping that explanation is clearer than mud, I know, realistically, that there is a lot more to explain, and for you to get help with. So please, see your advisor.

Sincerely,
Mark Weiss

OSU CHOSEN: CLIMATE CHANGE HUB

Today, Oregon Representative Peter DeFazio and Oregon Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley applauded the Obama Administration's selection of Oregon State University to be one of seven Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change.

As announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, the OSU Hub will address increasing risks due to climate change such as fires, invasive pests, devastating flood, and crippling droughts in the Pacific Northwest.

"Oregon State University has long been a leader in climate change research so it makes perfect sense the Obama Administration chose it to be one of seven Climate Hubs in the country," Rep. DeFazio said. "By combining OSU's body of work with federal funding, our region will be better-equipped than ever before to not only understand

but to take action against the devastating effects of climate change, whether it's reduced snowpack or more severe and frequent wildfires. The information developed and analyzed at OSU will benefit communities across the Pacific Northwest, providing critical information to our fishermen, foresters, ranchers, farmers and vintners."

"Climate change is the paramount environmental challenge of our time, and farmers, ranchers, and the forest products industry are already grappling with its effects," Senator Wyden said. "Science tells us that these industries can be a part of the solution to reduce emissions, and also that they could get hammered if they don't have the best information about how to adapt. I'm glad Secretary Vilsack has chosen the Pacific Northwest Research Station in Corvallis to provide Oregon's agriculture sector with the tools it needs to address the threat of climate change."

"Carbon pollution is a direct assault on the Northwest's farming, fishing and forestry," Senator Merkley said. "We need strategies to both combat climate change and to help our iconic natural resource industries adapt to the changes that are already happening. I am pleased that the administration has recognized OSU's role as a climate research leader and is acting to help put these strategies in place."

According to the USDA, nearly one quarter of the land in Oregon, Washington and Idaho is agricultural. The region produces over half of the nation's potato crop, about 17 percent of the nation's wheat, and 11 percent of the U.S. milk supply. ♡

CONGRESSIONAL **PRESS RELEASE**

LIBERALLY LENIENT

The Global Warming Denial



COLUMN BY
FRANK CLARK

Is Global Warming here? How is it present and how can we tell? What is our reaction? I'm going to explore my view of the issue that I believe is a common sense and reasonable outlook of such. In a world of partisan ambiguity this issue has been forced to either being true or being false. The latter of such is a ridiculous argument to which this article attempts to debug...

Global Warming was first brought to mainstream light by Al Gore in the documentary *The Inconvenient Truth* (very appropriate title). Since then the issue has sparked much attention through awareness and advocacy in order to attack the issue. The far right Republican demographics due to the stretch of partisan polarity, have since then reverted into not addressing the issue at all, calling it a hoax and a lie. With an increase in winter storms the term of global "warming" was poorly interpreted and understood by this demographic and thus the terminology has changed toward being Climate Change, in order to further explain and give the problem credential. Right factions were more accepting of the term, but the link between human causation doesn't really exist in their interpretation of Climate Change. It does if you look at it from the left for you acknowledge the human involvement of Global Warming. Many "deniers" are in association with religious organizations or the industrial powers of fossil fuels. They are among the demo which runs propaganda of the issue as being an entire un-invoked host of Mother Nature and God. Others have become victim to a culture that's separated itself of its own natural resource consumption, for there is not enough knowledge to know, let alone care about, the damage we cause.

"the believers of this negative human involvement effecting our livelihood and ecology, explain it in a way that will end the discussion of this issue as either being true or false"

How do we, the believers of this negative human involvement effecting our livelihood and ecology, explain it in a way that will end the discussion of this issue as either being true or false, and rather of how we solve it? I'm not fully confident that there is an answer that is effective in solving the problem in time. See, the thing about the viewpoint is that there is still a large demographic in our society (and I mean the U.S. specifically) that refuses to see the orders of science and reason as fact, where 97% of scientists agree on the issue, but would instead leave their actions up to "faith" and god. These are the naïve. But the larger problem is the order of our economy and the ways in which the fossil fuel energy enterprises have warped the market, making nations need their dependence. Clean renewable energy that is sustainable and within our grasp of capabilities, is in the short term economically unattractive to a capitalist dialogue and would require government investment. None of which we have the time for, though many experts say we must act now.

I think it is more of a common sense issue. Just because it snowed almost two feet in the Valley where it rarely ever snows, does not give reason to denying Global Warming. In fact, I say that this could very well be the start of the symptoms. People have confused Global Warming with simply the idea of the planet heating, which it is, but they do not constitute it with the idea of the climate. In their mind they think that if there was Global Warming then we would not see these horribly cold and disastrous storms. Politicians from the right have commented like this when referring to storms like Sandy and other severe weather this winter that have been drastically bitter. What they do not understand is that we are seeing hotter summers, 2010 was the hottest year on record in the hottest decade on record. This doesn't mean that we will have warmer winters and fewer storms of less destructive magnitudes. This means that everything will become more extreme. Winter, summer, storms, natural disasters, will all get worse and I think that we are beginning to see this trend start. Can you imagine the valley five years from now getting abundance of snow every winter? We might start investing in some plows.

I have experienced a good deal of change within the climate these past 20 years of being conscious to it. Sure, a good portion of that is a natural cycle of Mother Nature but I believe that we are most definitely contributing to the problem. If you have ever been to a large city such as L.A. or New York, you can see the smog and pollution. For someone like myself it is this common sense outlook to which I can judge that these effects are not beneficial to our eco-system. It is not difficult to expand on such observations and acknowledge that they carry negative connotations. We instinctively know contrary to what we can also prove. That our actions in elevating carbon levels is contributing to harmful environmental problems. You can literally see it in the air.

No matter how bad you think it is I think that we can all agree that we can do better. When our children and their children face the brunt of this problem are we going to tell them we didn't think it existed or that we did everything we could to minimize the damage? 📍

CONSERVATIVE CORNER

The Snow Job



COLUMN BY
DALE HUMMEL

For decades old people would sit on the porch with a cup of coffee or a glass of lemonade, a cigarette or pipe and talk about the weather and how it affected them or their community. They would speak of heavy rains and floods, hot weather and droughts or just beautiful sunny days while they sipped their drink or took a draw on their smoke.

Today, the delightful days of sitting on the porch and presenting small talk about the weather seems to be over, or is it? We seem to have shifted from talking about the weather and "mother nature" (or God), to the weather on a global scale involving science instead of divine control. Liberals have coined a new phrase for what happens when the weather becomes a little adverse, known as global warming or climate change, depending on the season.

Dictionary.com defines global warming as "an increase in the Earth's average atmospheric temperature that causes corresponding changes in climate and that may result from the greenhouse effect." It is common knowledge in the global warming world that carbon dioxide rises and forms a layer around the Earth which gives us the term the "greenhouse effect."

It has been said if we can eliminate the toxic gas known as carbon dioxide we can stop global warming, however, it is not that easy. According to www.merriam-webster.com carbon dioxide is "a gas that is produced when people and animals breathe out or when certain fuels are burned and that is used by plants for energy." So if people and animals stopped breathing and we stopped burning plants for energy wouldn't we fix the environment? I don't think it works that way.

"People who believe in this conspiracy seem to think that most (if not all) global warming is caused by modern man"

People who believe in this conspiracy seem to think that most (if not all) global warming is caused by modern man. It seems odd that global warming only comes to light every summer when parts of the U.S. get warmer than usual. When winter comes and storms get heavier, the theorist had to find a different name, climate change.

One of the big myths is that global warming/climate change causes extreme or adverse weather conditions. According to www.globalwarminghysteria.com there is no scientific or statistical evidence at all that supports such claims on a global scale.

Let's not forget about the shame of the environmental left, Al Gore. He predicted in 2007 that by 2014 the polar ice caps would be melted. That same year Gore was given a Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts. Now we learn from www.ancient-origins.net that Al Gore is being sued by over 30,000 scientists for his falsities in the global warming theory in which he may have profited over \$200 million according to www.bloomberg.com.

Another myth is the polar ice caps are melting due to global warming. Guardianlv.com tells us that the ice caps have grown by 60 percent. Perhaps you can remember the scientific expedition to the Antarctica last month and how their ship got trapped in the ice in their search for evidence of global warming.

Speaking of scientists, www.infowars.com reported "climate scientists allied with the IPCC have been caught citing fake data to make the case that global warming is accelerating." Why would scientists falsify records and reports?

From our conspiracy theory department we learn that the wealthy elite and some world leaders may promise fame and fortune to people who can "prove" the existence of man-made global warming so the world leaders can use these "findings" to impose restrictions and regulations on businesses and to control the lifestyle of the common man.

During the 2008 presidential campaign Obama promised to bankrupt anyone who wanted to start up a coal fired plant with restrictions. That same year Obama said in a video interview, "under my plan of a cap and trade system, electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket." Is this not forcing people to pay more for basic needs in the name of global warming?

A visit to www.globalwarminglies.com shows that there's nothing significantly wrong with our weather, even in these modern times. The global environmental conditions have been much hotter and colder than they are today without the "help" of modern conveniences.

The time I spent as a child in Alaska taught me the meaning for a story or tall tale someone tried to tell you to fool you. That term for lying, storytelling, or manipulating the truth for a specific agenda was known as "a snow job."

I believe that the progressive left, liberals, corrupt world powers, and the wealthy elite are putting up this phony front called global warming/climate change in order to convince the people of the United States and the world to do what they want while using fear as a tool. Next time someone talks about global warming/climate change, please look for the common sense truth and not what Al Gore wants you to believe. 📍

Please send opinions and responses to:

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The Commuter encourages all students, staff, faculty and administration to be engaged in conversations and discussions on current topics.

POETRY CORNER

"A Wasteland Poem"

I will get to you.
No matter what.
No matter how the buildings crumble,
Or how the mountains fall,
I will find you.

I will find you.

If the last thing done on the broken Earth by you, or me, or nobody happens,
know that I have found you.

When bombs fall, or fire rises, or tides roar, or planets sink,
I will be there with you, or I will be looking.

My broken soles will bleed into the cracked desert.

My capsized lungs will spill ashy mist into the nuclear snowfall.

The silence of my heartbeat will fade into a cacophony of spinning anguish,
desire, lavender, and sweat, and memories of

torn up carpet, debt, the cost of vinegar, why all of our books won't fit on
one shelf, why I've never met your father, the color of dinner, the taste of
contraband, why we should or shouldn't go on vacation,

and a hundred million other things that we should have known we should
have known better than to worship.

It'll just be you, and I will find you.

At the end of the world,

At the end of humanity,

And Now.

By Crash

"New Vows"

Two soul's traveled Far and wide
With different styles between the miles
When one, a dream birthed from the earth
We grow strong with a love built to last
Never mind all things from the past
With a tomorrow so bright
Everything is going to be all right.

By Kent Elliott

"so fine"

"you rock"

"ur kind"

"web site"

these chalky candies
are really convincing me
to fall in love
with you.

By Kiera Lynn

"Solitary Plum in Winter"

A plum tree stands outstretched,
A grace of snow on every limb;
The scoring upon her roughened bark,
Clearer against the white and dark,
Of the coldest morning.

On the tip of every young and hopeful twig
Pauses a February bud (so slight),
That only one whose eyes are trained,
Can see the birth, spring's life will bring.

Within a small garden, she is fenced,
So sweeping eyes of passers by
See just the wayward shoots, unpruned,
Surging over the confines of her home
To which her deep roots hold her bound.

At her base (and long), a statue sits,
The marble emblem of her spirit's rest.
He too wears a coat of snow
That hides his shape from those who know,
And in the cold, the quiet holds,
For the seventh year or more.

And though she stands with arms outspread,
Breathes brittle air with no regret,
Welcomes the woodpecker and his flash of red:
The loneliness of a tree unkempt,
With fruit this last summer, long-spent,
Whose seeds lie forgotten around bare legs,
And the unfinished winter which shrouds her head:
Tell how yearning, offered to an empty sky,
Is still unheard, and muffled now, by falling snow.

Even animals, whom for treasures snuffled
Through once golden leaves, rotten at her feet,
And careless birds that sometimes perched
And through her wooden fingers peeked,
Are long fled, hidden somewhere warmer.

To the descending quiet of winter morning,
Her strange pithy heart, sweet melody lends;
Cool sap still spritely moves,
Through each crooked bend;
And, though slender, her light and flexing frame,
Balances with ease, the weight of day.
She promises yet-folded flowers freely:
Small white blossoms, the snow of May.
Twirling gently from her waist, (willing and unbidden),
To icy gusts: cruel wind's bitter rhythm.

But, if no one, before her background,
Stops and looks, to truly see:
Who is she then? To all the world,
Just the outline of a tree.

By Dari Lawrie

HOROSCOPES

BY: **DANYA HYDER**

Aquarius: 1/20 - 2/18

Yes, this Valentine's week has been made just for you! Including that giant chocolate heart hiding under the table-wait, no it wasn't just a giant chocolate heart, appears you have a secret admirer.

Pisces: 2/19 - 3/20

For some strange reason you keep tripping on these bright red cards. Hmm... wonder what those are for? Valentine's Day might slip your mind.

Aries: 3/21 - 4/19

After seeing Pisces trip a dozen times over red cards, you remember that is Valentine's Day. Good for you! Now, if only you could figure out where that giant stuffed animal came from.

Taurus: 4/20 - 5/20

Yes, it is Valentine's Day. Yes, there is a gigantic box with your name on it. Now, why would it be moving?

Gemini: 5/21 - 6/21

Knowing it is Valentine's Day is one thing, knowing what is in the envelope with the big red ribbon will bother you. Open it, don't open it, open it, don't open it...

Cancer: 6/22 - 7/22

What's this? Yes, Cancer you have received a Valentine Gift! Through the air, by catapult, coming straight at you, isn't Valentine's Day about giving gifts to people straight at them?

Leo: 7/23 - 8/22

You have been given the task of delivering gifts to millions! Yes, that is millions, and yes it is for Valentine's Day. Don't forget to bring the catapult Scorpio gave you.

Virgo: 8/23 - 9/22

A new garden has been given to you for Valentine's Day! It is made out of chocolate. Isn't that a kind thought?

Libra: 9/23 - 10/22

You have been given two choices for Valentine's Day. Well...make that a half a dozen. Choices will be harder for you, just remember to watch out for flying packages.

Scorpio: 10/23 - 11/21

You've been hyped up on chocolate! Is that a chocolate fountain? You will be running about, and tackling people for chocolate, you know, since its Valentine's Day?

Sagittarius: 11/22 - 12/21

You have been having a great time watching others! Too bad you were so focused. You might have seen that giant, red, heart-shaped box.

Capricorn: 12/22 - 1/19

Sadly, you have made a mistake. Telling Leo you wanted to give your Valentine a gift right away, was not a bright idea. Yet, you do have free airfare on Valentine's Day.



Make an Impression this Valentine's Day.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Jeanne Calment had the longest known human lifespan of 122 years and 164 days. She was born in France in 1875 and died in 1997!

THE COMMONS FARE

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF:
2/12 - 2/18



Wednesday: Irish Lamb Stew, Fish Tacos*, Saffron Risotto with Eggplant and Tomato*. Soups: Saffron Chicken and Orzo, and Vegetarian Lentil*.

Thursday: Poached Chicken Breast, Cuban Sandwich, Sweet and Sour Tempeh over Steamed Rice*. Soup: Sausage and Gnocchi, and Harvest Vegetable*.

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: NO SCHOOL

Tuesday: Moussaka, Baked Stuffed Snapper, Portabella topped with Spinach, Poached Egg and Bearnaise over Pilaf. Soups: Chicken and Wild Rice*, and Loaded Potato Chowder.

Menu may change depending on ingredient availability. Items denoted with a * are gluten-free.

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

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

- 1 2
- 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

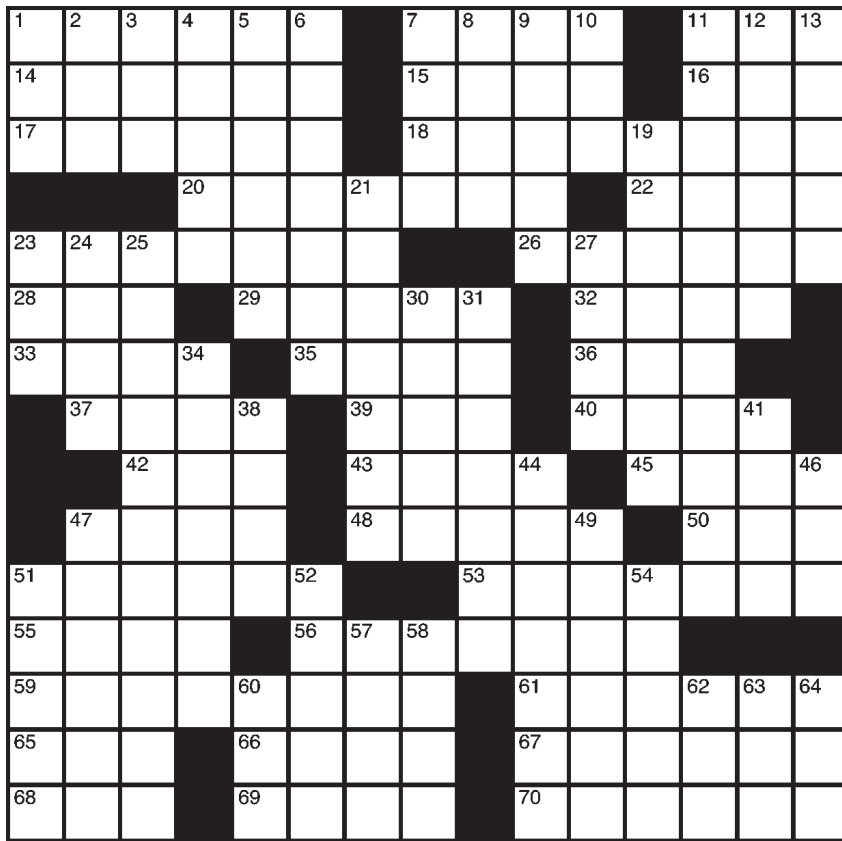
2/12/14

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Place for una familia
 - 7 Xerox insert: Abbr.
 - 11 Advanced math deg., in Canada
 - 14 With 15-Across, verifies in advance, literally
 - 15 See 14-Across
 - 16 Suffix with Capri
 - 17 Clubs with balls
 - 18 Yellow butterflies, to Brits
 - 20 Two-note keyboard effect
 - 22 Most fit to serve
 - 23 "Pinocchio" whale
 - 26 With 32-Across, warm apparel, literally
 - 28 Barcelona gold
 - 29 Kiosk
 - 32 See 26-Across
 - 33 Fam. tree member
 - 35 Old cutter
 - 36 Sign of cold feet?
 - 37 See 39-Across
 - 39 With 37- and 40-Across, nosh, literally
 - 40 See 39-Across
 - 42 Progressive Insurance spokeswoman
 - 43 B.C. law group
 - 45 Starr-struck one?
 - 47 See 51-Across
 - 48 ___ music
 - 50 Fire
 - 51 With 47-Across, former "American Idol" winner, literally
 - 53 Con artist
 - 55 Years in Claudius' reign
 - 56 Certain cracker
 - 59 Guides in the direction of
 - 61 Jason of "Harry Potter" films
 - 65 Fancy marble
 - 66 See 67-Across
 - 67 With 66-Across, 1975 Best Picture nominee, literally
 - 68 People people: Abbr.



By David Poole

2/12/14

- 69 Celebrity chef Burrell
- 70 Initial stages

DOWN

- 1 Common HDTV feature
- 2 Sushi-grade tuna
- 3 These, in Toulouse
- 4 Bank listing: Abbr.
- 5 Culottes kin
- 6 Declares
- 7 Overmuch
- 8 Fidel's successor
- 9 Just starting to roll, perhaps
- 10 Econ. yardstick
- 11 Image on the Armenian coat of arms
- 12 Haight or Ashbury
- 13 "Dog Whisperer" Millan
- 19 Accepted, as a gift card
- 21 Bellyachers
- 23 Like platform shoes in the '60s
- 24 Utah city on I-15
- 25 Journalist's asset
- 27 SALT topic
- 30 Percolate

Solution to Last Edition's Puzzle

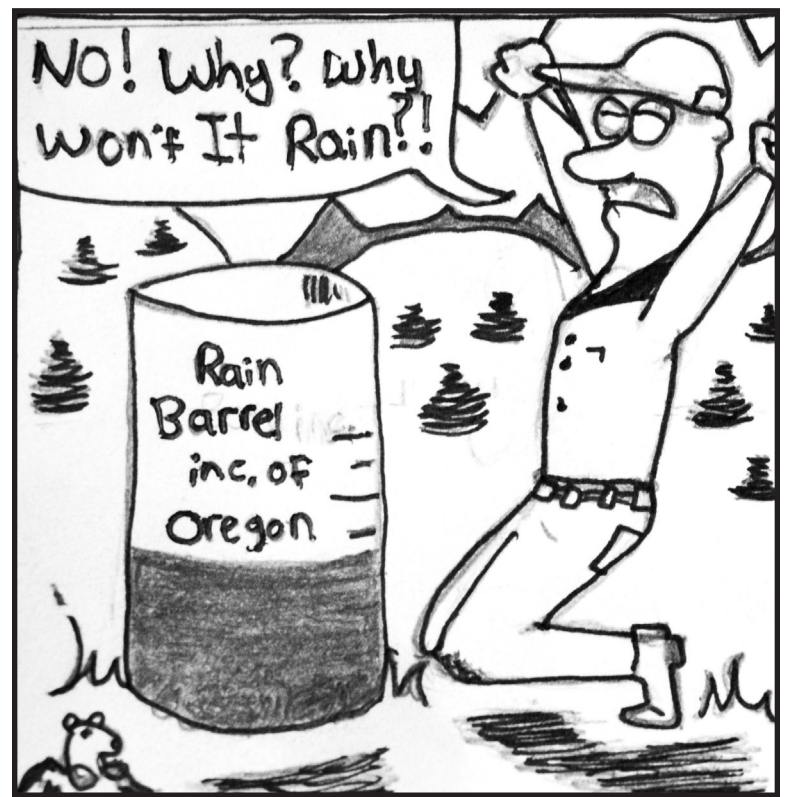
S	M	O	K	Y		F	L	A	P		A	C	H	E				
C	E	L	I	A		A	U	D	I		V	O	I	D				
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P	A	S	S	A	G	E		A	P	O	O	R						
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K	E	E	L			B	O	O	R		E	A	T	A	T			

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2/5/14

- 31 Prisoner's demand
- 34 Pepsi One's one
- 38 California wine town near Stockton
- 41 Shoshone
- 44 Ellington standard whose title is Spanish for "lost"
- 46 Nice view
- 47 Opening lines?
- 49 Attaches, in a way
- 51 Class
- 52 Pelé's first name
- 54 Some grenades, briefly
- 57 Bertie Wooster's alma mater
- 58 Road crew item
- 60 Genetic stuff
- 62 Stand buy
- 63 Jazz lover
- 64 GPS part: Abbr.

ADVENTURES OF **R.J. AND JAMES**



BY: JAKE V. & CAMERON R.

BULLETIN BOARD

Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Willamette Valley Writers will be hosting a student poet laureate in the Benton Center in Corvallis in Room 244. For more information contact Jane White at ddjane@peak.org

Feb. 13 at 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The horticulture club will be selling plants in the greenhouse, everything from pansies to primroses. Prices range anywhere from \$2-\$5 per plant.

Feb. 14 at 8 a.m. LBCC will be holding a campus tour. Future students can also sign up to take their placement test after the tour.

Feb. 16 at 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. The Garland Nursery at 5470 NE HWY 20 in Corvallis will be holding a seminar discussing what to do with freeze-damaged plants. Experts will also be answering audience questions.

Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. The Student Leadership Council will be holding a Presidential Candidate debate in the Hot Shot Cafe. Everyone is welcome.

Feb. 26 at 5:30 p.m. LBCC will be holding auditions for the upcoming play "Little Shop of Horrors" at the Russell Tripp Performance Center in Tadena Hall. Auditionees should come prepared to read excerpts from the play, prepare 32 bars from a musical to sing a capella, as well as sight read music from the show.

Feb. 26 & 27 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Voting for the Student Leadership Council presidential candidates will be held in the Hot Shot Cafe.

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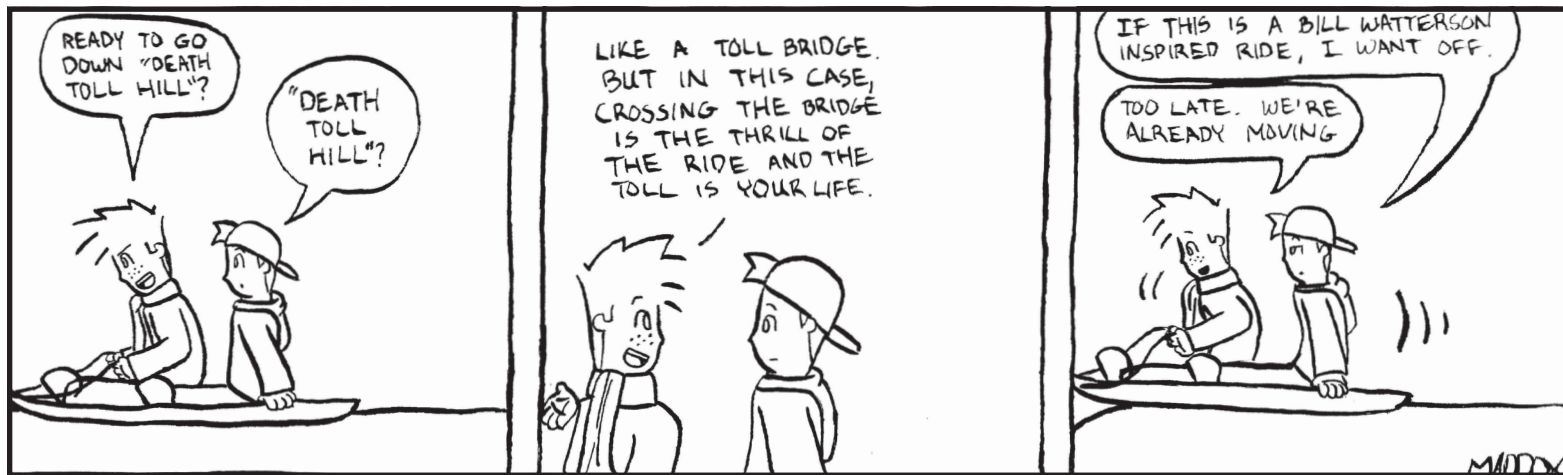
Assistant:

Nick Lawrence

💡 DID YOU KNOW?

- McDonald's saved \$278,850,000 when it removed the second slice of cheese from the Double Cheeseburger. This created the McDouble.
- At one time, McDonald's served McPizza, McLobster, and McSpaghetti... They didn't last very long.
- Merriam-Webster has "McJob" in its dictionary. It is defined as a low-paying job that requires little skill and provides little opportunity for advancement. McDonald's wanted it removed, but Merriam-Webster refused, saying, "We stand by the accuracy and appropriateness of our definition."
- McDonald's French fries contain 15 ingredients.
- There are no McDonald's in Iceland.
- There are more grams of fat in a McDonald's salad than a Big Mac. Healthy?
- If you are anywhere in the lower 48 states of the USA, you are within 110 miles of a McDonald's.
- In some European markets, McDonald's serves beer.
- McDonald's is the largest toy manufacturer in the world.
- The founder of McDonald's, Ray Kroc, has a Bachelor degree in Hamburgerology.
- One in eight Americans has worked for McDonald's.
- The golden arches are more recognizable than a cross.
- The Queen of England owns a McDonald's near Buckingham Palace.

THREE'S A CROWD BY: JASON MADDOX



THE 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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