

COMMUNITER

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MAY 17, 2017

Diversity Day

Pages 6-7

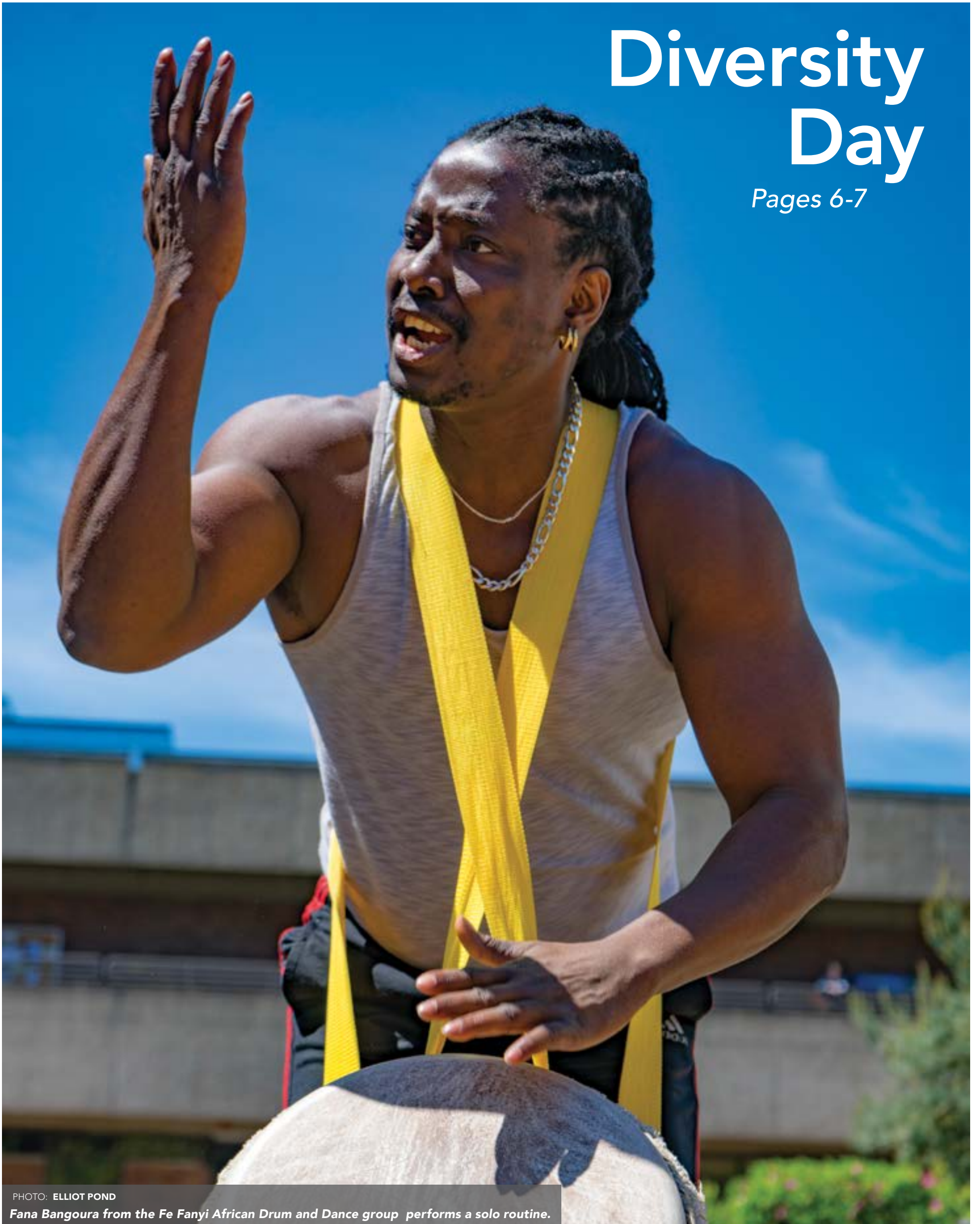


PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

Fana Bangoura from the Fe Fanyi African Drum and Dance group performs a solo routine.



LB Baseball

After winning the Southern Conference, the Roadrunners are back for more.

Pages 8-9



"No Rights to Homosexuals"

An unenforceable law comes out of the closet. Page 3

THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



COMMUTER

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

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

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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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NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

May 4:

President Trump signs an executive order that he claims is to further protect religious freedom and freedom of speech.

May 9:

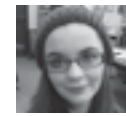
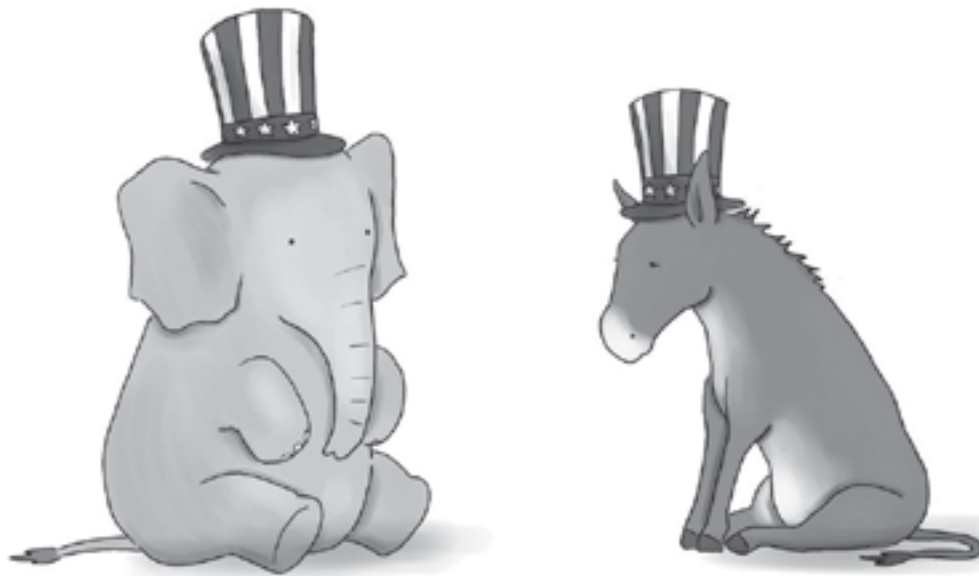
President Trump fires FBI Director James Comey.

May 11:

- President Trump signs an executive order aimed at strengthening the cybersecurity of federal networks and critical infrastructure.
- President Trump signs an executive order to assemble a Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity.

May 12:

More than 150 countries and 200,000 computers are hit by a type of ransomware known as WannaCry that encrypts the data and promises the release of files upon the payment of a certain number of bitcoins (an anonymous digital currency). Thankfully, the United States missed the bulk of the attack thanks to an anonymous British Cybersecurity Researcher, who inadvertently stopped the attack from spreading.



STORY BY
KATELYN BORING
@K8DOESTHINGS

What makes a person beautiful to you?



MEGHAN LIEN
GENERAL STUDIES

"I THINK WHAT MAKES A PERSON BEAUTIFUL IT'S THEIR PERSONALITY BECAUSE EVERYBODY'S PERSONALITY IS SO DIFFERENT AND IT REALLY MAKES THEM UNIQUE."



JAMES TOW
ENGLISH

"WHEN SOMEONE HAS PRINCIPLES AND THEY HOLD FAST TO THEM THAT MAKES THEM BEAUTIFUL TO ME."



KEVIN MAHONEY
FACULTY

"FOR ME IT'S A COMBINATION ABOUT EVERYTHING OF WHO THEIR ARE; LIKE PERSONALITY, THINGS THEY FIND FUNNY, THINGS THEY LIKE TO DO, AND THE WAY THEY INTERACT WITH PEOPLE."

EMMALY LITTLE
PSYCHOLOGY

"I THINK THAT PEOPLE'S SENSE OF HUMOR MAKES THEM BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE I LOVE WHEN PEOPLE CAN MAKE ME LAUGH."



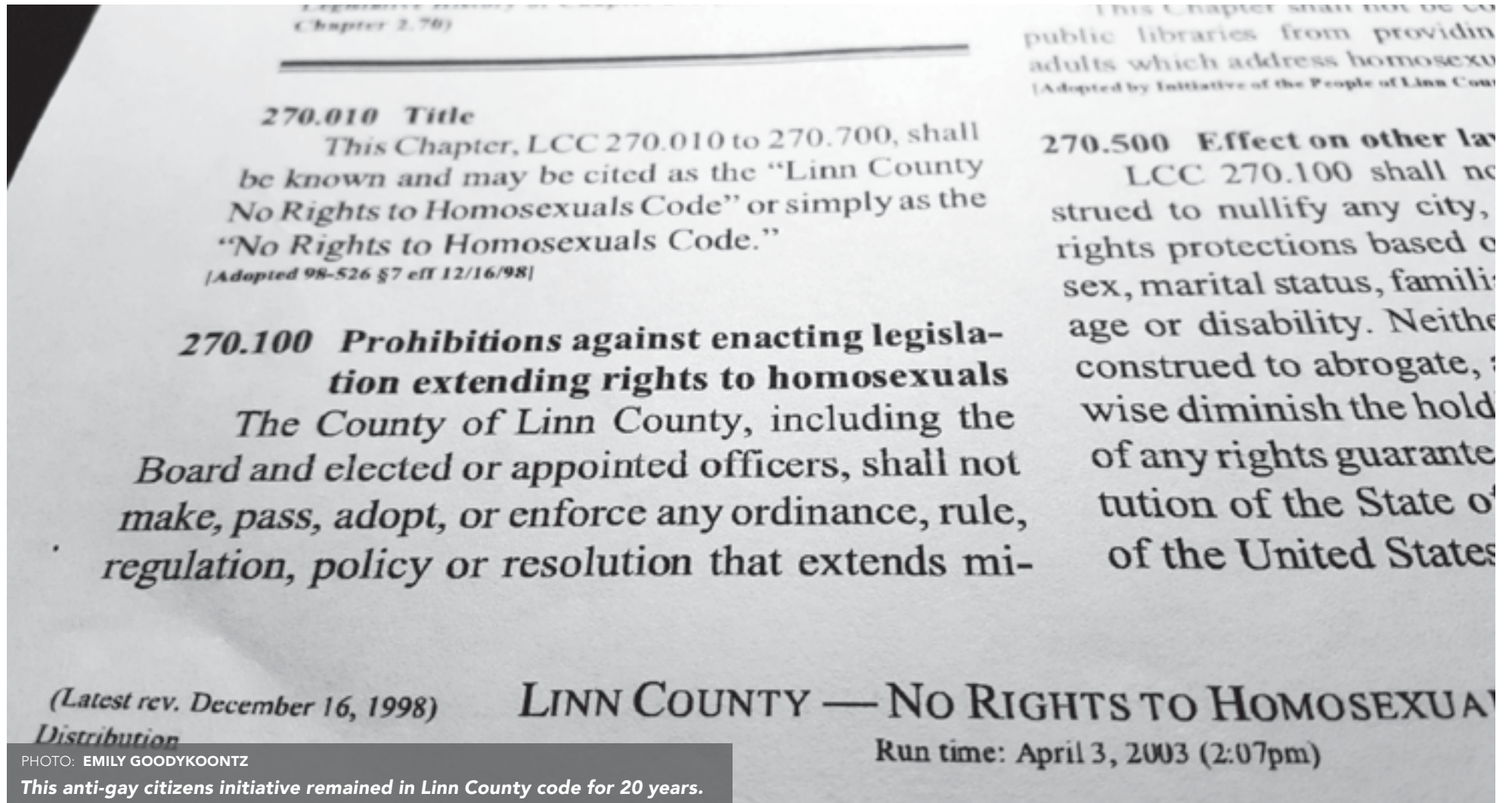
LEVI WILKE
MECHATRONICS

"A PERSON IS BEAUTIFUL TO ME WHEN YOU CANNOT ADD OR TAKE ANYTHING AWAY FROM THEM TO CHANGE THEIR BEAUTY."



STORY BY
SAUL BARAJAS

PHOTOS BY
WESLEY RANKIN



LYING IN WAIT

Linn County's "No Rights to Homosexuals Code" removed after 20 years

Michaela Martin felt shock when she stumbled across a Linn County code entitled "No Rights to Homosexuals" on the county's website in November 2016.

"When I first read it I didn't know that it was unenforceable. I was terrified," said Martin.

Adopted in June of 1993, Linn County Code Chapter 270 "No Rights to Homosexuals" denied minority or protected status to individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ and prohibited the spending of county funds in ways that express approval of homosexuality.

"I want it gone," said Martin. "This is something that will affect people that I love and it's wrong. The title alone, 'No Rights to Homosexuals' is incredibly detrimental. The message that conveys is harmful."

On Tuesday, May 16, "No Rights to Homosexuals" was struck from the books with an emergency ordinance and unanimous vote at the Linn County Commissioners meeting.

"I just want to acknowledge and thank you for your persistence on this matter," said Commissioner Roger Nyquist to Martin at the meeting.

Martin is a dual-enrolled LBCC student currently studying communications at Oregon State University. Formerly an active member of the Student Leadership Council, LB's student government, Martin takes a keen interest in politics and intends to pursue a career in social justice work. This interest in local processes motivated her to peruse Linn County's code during the November general election, leading her straight to the offending Chapter 270.

Appalled that her home county retained an anti-gay law in its books, Martin immediately called the Linn County Commissioners and discovered that the code had been unenforceable for nearly 20 years.

A leftover political time capsule from the early '90s, Chapter 270's language made clear that it was left in county code to lie in wait for a time, if any, when it would become relevant.

At the time of Chapter 270's passing, a political battle for LGBTQ+ rights smoldered in Oregon. A series of bills were introduced at the state level, beginning with Ballot Measure 8 in 1988, which repealed Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's executive order ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation among state employees.

The Oregon Citizen's Alliance (OCA), a Christian political organization, pushed the conservative victory further with the introduction of 1992's Ballot Measure 9, "Government Cannot Facilitate, Must Discourage Homosexuality, Other Behaviors." This measure sought to deny LGBTQ+ individuals minority rights

"Unenforceable or not, it's really a symbol of homophobia in Linn County."

and protections, and included specific educational policy requiring the state explicitly treat homosexuality as "unnatural and perverse" in public schools. Measure 9 was voted down by a 12.9 percent margin.

However, the OCA pushed their platform at the local level all across the state with watered-down versions of Measure 9, introducing more than 29 initiatives on county and state ballots between 1992 and 1994, including Linn County.

In a victory for minority rights activists, House Bill 3500 passed on Aug. 2, 1993, rendering Linn County Chapter 270 and other initiatives like it null. Prohibiting local measures that "single out citizens or groups of citizens on account of sexual orientation," HB3500 was upheld by the Oregon Court of Appeals in 1995 as "valid and constitutional."

However, rather than remove the unenforceable code, the Linn County Board of Commissioners issued Resolution 93-484 on Aug. 11, 1993, stating they would not enforce Chapter 270 "until such time as HB3500A may be decreed to be invalid or until further action by the board that is consistent with relevant law."

"If anything were to happen in higher court saying the state can't supersede the will of the county or anything that might be unrelated to this passes in a higher court, that would make it so this [270] is enforceable," said Martin.

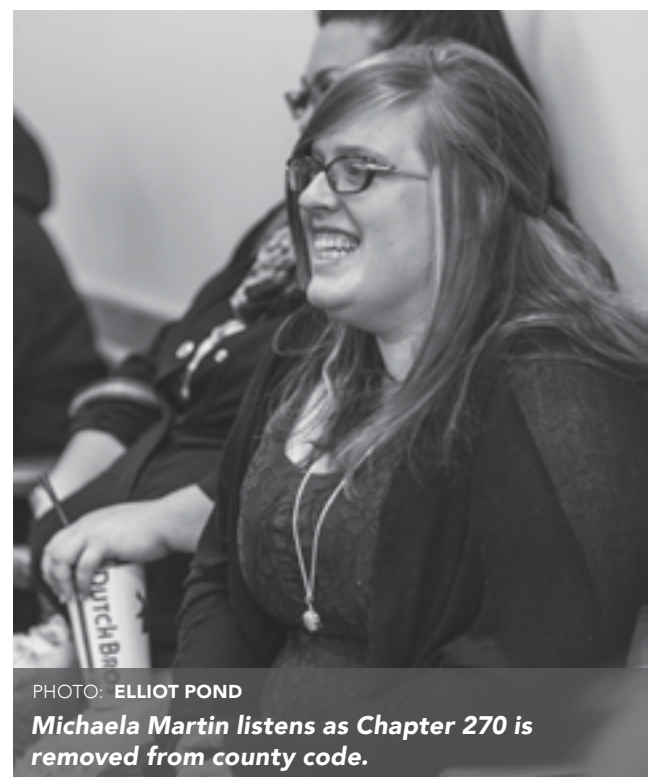
Although the code remained unenforceable, Martin believes it serves as a beacon for homophobia in Linn County.

"Obviously it conflicts with state and federal law," said Ralph Wyatt, Linn County's administrative officer. "From the county's point of view, from an organizational point of view, it just sat there."

After being alerted by Martin, the board of commissioners removed the code from the county website in December and began the removal process for Chapter 270 and other irrelevant codes.

"Overall, it's really a cleanup of our codes, which needs to be done periodically," said Wyatt.

Since she found the code in November, Martin



repeatedly contacted the Linn County Commissioners and the County Attorney's office, asking them to remove the code from county law and attempting to gain information about the legal removal process.

"Every time I called I got a different answer. They sent me back and forth from the county attorney's office to the county commissioner's office but nobody could give me a straight answer as to how the removal process worked," said Martin. "They didn't seem the least bit interested in removing this bit of archaic code."

A receptionist questioned Martin about the validity of her concern because the code was unenforceable.

"It didn't make the feeling go away; it didn't make me feel any better," said Martin. "Unenforceable or not, it's really a symbol of homophobia in Linn County."

After more than five months of waiting for answers, Martin received the news the code would be removed this May.

"Quite frankly I think there's a variety of motives for getting rid of it, including that it doesn't reflect the county's position on the subject," said Wyatt.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX

SHORTER PATH FOR MATH

New changes to LBCC's math coursework aim to create a swift student path

Starting summer term of 2017, the LBCC math department will implement vital changes that have been incorporated to the mathematical education system.

The changes that are designed to save students not only time, but money as well.

Hollis Duncan, the Mathematics Department Chair, advocates for the math course change that's happening within the math community.

"Math has kind of gotten a bad rap, people love to hate math [but] we don't want to be a barrier, we want to be a key to success," said Duncan

The new math courses aim to eliminate all of the difficulty and confusion that takes part with registering for required math courses.

The changes will consist of a decrease in the number of courses required to begin transfer level courses, and require an alternative online resource which is considered to be the advancement in adaptive software.

The new software, ALEKS, will allow students to work on their math skills outside of the classroom. ALEKS will help students maintain their own pace within the class environment, as well as spend time on topics that they have not yet mastered, which means that they will be losing less or no time on topics they have already mastered.

"The math department is really excited about not having to spend class time with the basic skills because ALEKS will help the students do that," said Sheri Rogers, math instructor at LBCC. "We're really excited about being able to spend class time investigating the concepts and applying the concepts."

ALEKS will be used outside of the classroom for homework or additional study so that the

"The new math courses aim to eliminate all of the difficulty and confusion that takes part with registering for required math courses."

students can focus on their mathematical needs within the classroom.

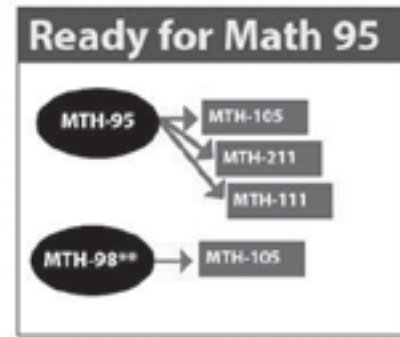
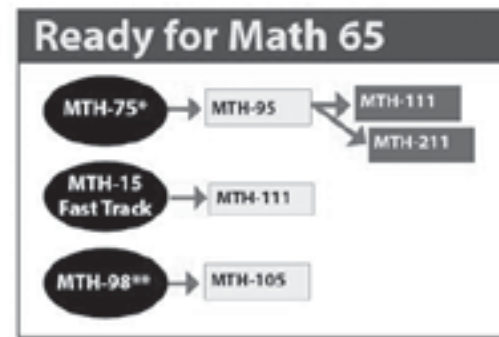
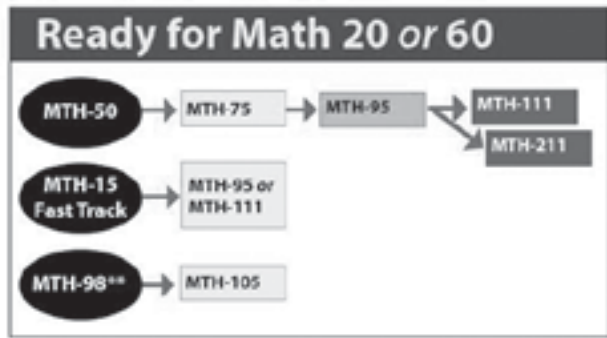
The changes will ultimately save students time and money by decreasing the number of courses required to begin transfer level courses and lower the number of drop points: points at which a student can fail to complete their developmental math sequence.

New and returning students should contact either their academic advisor about which courses are now required for their degree, or if you have any questions, contact Hollis Duncan at duncanlh@linnbenton.edu.



STORY BY
SAMANTHA GUY
@SAMGZWRITE

LBCC NEW DEVELOPMENTAL MATH SEQUENCE



*Summer 2017 students ready for Math 65 should take MTH 015, (Math 75 won't be offered until Fall 2017).

**Math 98 does not have a prerequisite and is intended for students who do not need to take Math 111.



\$1 MILLION IN STUDENT SAVINGS

LB's OER's and other resources save students money

LBCC needs textbooks.. Or so you thought! The LBCC Campus Store and college staff have prioritized finding affordable education materials and textbooks for students on campus.

One of the methods staff have used in order to make materials more affordable is the use of Online Educational Resources (OER). Examples of OERs are free online textbooks, YouTube videos, websites, and worksheets.

Other colleges and universities like Oregon State are taking notice, and are using OERs.

Resources like the LB iLearn campus have been using and working to get OERs used campus-wide.

"[For] All of our courses, we look at all the different options that there are for textbooks and materials, and then if at all possible we will go with an OER, or a less expensive option," said Stacy Mallory. "OERs have really good content out there that people have created that could be used without putting the burden back on students."

Regular textbooks on campus can get expensive, ranging from \$10 for a lab manual, to hundreds of dollars for one textbook. The push for making things more affordable for students has been pertinent around campus; so pertinent, in fact, that LBCC reached a financial savings of \$1 million dollars for students through their purposing of OERs.

"We are trying to keep costs down for students. Often times we will create our own content," said Mallory.

Open Oregon Education Resources, a catalyst in the OER movement for higher education, awarded Richenda Hawkins and Lawrence LaJoie of LBCC with the Oregon OER Champion Awards. According to the Open Oregon Education Resources website, the Oregon OER Champion Award is an honor given to those who "...have done outstanding open education work in



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND
Lawrence LaJoie, Book Manager at the LBCC bookstore



Richenda Hawkins, Librarian Department Chair at LBCC

Oregon's community colleges." LBCC's campus board of directors will invest thousands in OERs over the next couple years, ensuring affordable materials for all students.



STORY BY
HANNAH BUFFINGTON
@JOURNALISMBUFF



PEACE BE UPON YOU

PHOTOS: ANGELA SCOTT

Falya Lazarus as Sumaiya.

LBCC presents an educational play about the Islamic people

Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts presents a new, informative production about the people of the Islamic faith. “Peace Be Upon You” aims to educate viewers about Islam and break stereotypes that American culture may associate with the religion.

The play “Peace Be Upon You,” is the latest form of community-engaged theater, written by LBCC performing arts instructor Dan Stone, through collaborations with students of the Islamic faith. Presented in a “black box” format with seating on stage, the play runs May 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m. and May 20 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center. Tickets are \$10 for general admission or \$7 for students and seniors.

“I have a lot of international students, a lot of them from the Middle East. I just felt with all that is happening in the news now, and even before, with all the misrepresentations about people from the Middle East, that this was a great topic,” said Stone.



Falya Lazarus as Sumaiya getting ready for the dress rehearsal.

“Peace Be Upon You” centers around Sumaiya, a Muslim woman from Iraq, and Chelsea, an American woman who has a lot of misconceptions about Islam. It focuses on the two character’s interactions as they room together in a college dorm and tells the story of how they work through their cultural and political differences.

Community-engaged theater, or theater of place, is a type of play that looks to educate an audience about a micro-community that is either misrepresented or has an important story to tell. Past plays recalled stories about veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, the latino community in Independence, Oregon, loggers and their families in the Pacific Northwest, the elderly, and more.

Stone writes the plays with the help of members of the micro-communities in a year long process that features multiple interviews in gatherings known as story circles. The goal is to have members of the story circles pitch ideas so that Stone can get insight into what specific subject the play should explore. Stone wrote “Peace Be Upon You” with the help of several students at LBCC from the Middle East who practice Islam.

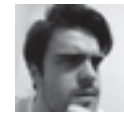
“Often times when I write these kinds of plays I look for a common denominator within the community to write about,” said Stone. “When I interviewed people from the Middle East that live here, the common denominator amongst that group of people is: they are just like anyone else, they’re human beings just like everybody else. Other than their religion they are no different than everybody else. So the idea of the play is to humanize these people that Americans typically see as completely foreign and different from them.”

Community-engaged theater is cutting-edge and LBCC’s Performing Arts program is on the forefront, one of the only programs in Oregon creating these types of plays. They were recently invited to the University of Oregon to do a presentation on this innovative play writing concept. Already looking ahead to their next project, the LBCC Performing Arts program has partnered up with the Oregon Coast Aquarium to create a series of children’s plays that focus on several ecosystems of Oregon.

Stone, who has written these types of plays for just over ten years, explained why he finds community-engaged theater to be important. “Theater isn’t just a form of entertainment,

it’s learning about who we are and who the people that live around us are.”

For more information about “Peace Be Upon You” contact the LBCC box office at 541-917-4531 or email them at theater@linnbenton.edu.



STORY BY
JOSHUA STICKROD
@STICKRODJOSH

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PHOTO: ANGELA SCOTT

PHOTO: ANGELA SCOTT

Madeline Crowell listening to Monmouth Taiko drumming.



PHOTO: ANGELA SCOTT

Jessica Sandoval, Zakeiba Ofoso



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

Andrew Wadlow, catering Chef, grills meat in preparation for lunch.



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

From The LBCC's Welding Department, Charles Beard and Drake Harrison sell garden ornaments made out of horseshoes and wind chimes.

GOOD AND CAMPUS

OneVibe Diversity Day unites LBCC students

Students, staff, and members of the community came together for a day of cultural celebration and appreciation on Wednesday, May 10.

LBCC's OneVibe Diversity Day is an annual event that was held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Albany campus courtyard.

OneVibe Diversity Day was a free and open event put on by the Diversity Achievement Center (DAC) bringing culture, international food and performances to LBCC.

"This is Diversity Day; this is one of the largest events for LBCC and it just brings out all the clubs and cultures and communities who want to come on campus and attend," said Raven Womack, an administrative staff member for the DAC.

As the events began, over thirty tables were set up for campus clubs, organizations, international food vendors, and non-profits from all over Linn and Benton counties.

PHOTO: ANGELA SCOTT
Perla Pulido (left), Jenny Hernandez



PHOTO: ANGELA SCOTT
Kate Jaffer plays with other members of Monmouth Taiko, a Japanese drum ensemble.

VIBES US CULTURE

Students

The tables at the events ranged from the Part-time Faculty Association, to Students for Life, and from athletics like the Soccer Club, to nature-based clubs like the Garden Club. The LBCC culinary program put on a courtyard lunch of chicken and stir-fry, a cookie, and a beverage of your choice. All proceeds benefitted the LBCC Horticulture Club. A variety of colorful performances played to everyone's ears, including the Monmouth Taiko drum group; bagpipe player, Mark Mullaney; Miss Dharma Prada MacPherson; and Fe Fanyi West African Drum & Dance Troupe. "The smile on people's face's are feedback enough," said Javier Cervantes, the Director of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion.

PHOTO: HANNAH BUFFINGTON
COLUMN BY
HANNAH BUFFINGTON
@JOURNALISMBUFF



PHOTO: JOSIAH LOVE



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND
Alison Lamplugh (left), Tina Leonard enjoy a joke at the LB iLearn table.



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

Jack Bauer bats the winning run for LBCC in the last minutes of the game.

HEADING FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP

After clinching the Southern Conference the Roadrunners are soaring high

The Roadrunners took on Edmonds Community College on Friday, May 12, in a non-league doubleheader. The boys split the two game series with a victory of 7-6 in game one and a 10-2 loss in game two.

In game one LB battled back from a four run deficit. The team gave maximum effort, and played their brand of baseball.

Despite their efforts in game two they fell to Edmonds in another hard-fought battle.

On Saturday, May 13, the game was unfortunately canceled in the fifth inning due to rain.

The team awaits the results of the upcoming games between Lane Community College and Clark

Community College on Sunday, May 14 and Monday, May 15, in which the Titans must lose at least one game in order for Linn-Benton to skip a regional game and go straight to the championship.

The NWAC Championship will be hosted at lower Columbia College in Longview Washington . May 25 to 29.

If Linn-Benton keeps the number-one Southern conference spot they will face the East cross-region winner on Thursday, May 25 at 12:35 PM.



STORY BY
QUENTIN JEANS
@QL_ROSE



PHOTO: QUENTIN JEANS

Colton Cosner attempts to tag out the baserunner.



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

Cole Carder dives onto home plate to win the game.

RED HOT AND ROAD-RUNNIN'

LB's Colton Cosner leads team with his competitive fire

Sports are often a battle of wills. Who wants it more? Who's willing to lay it all out on the line to win the game? For LBCC, the answer is Colton Cosner. A first baseman, Cosner has been one of the driving forces leading LBCC to a 19-5 record in league play, 30-10 overall. The Roadrunners are currently first in their division.

"Colton has improved our play by being one of the best lead-off hitters in the NWAC," said Head Coach Ryan Gipson. "He also makes us better by helping lead this young club in many ways."

Cosner's batting average currently sits at an impressive .287, with 41 hits, 14 RBI, and a home run as well. His consistency at-bat remains evident, giving the team somebody to count on when it comes to hitting.

Cosner is originally from West Linn, Oregon, and currently lives in Corvallis. His major at LBCC is business and he hopes to eventually continue his baseball career elsewhere while simultaneously getting his degree.

Cosner says that Coach Gipson had a huge role in convincing him to leave West Linn and travel down to Linn County.

"What made me choose LB was the vision coach Gipson gave to me when I first visited the school," said Cosner. "I got along with him really well off the bat and he seemed really interested in getting me to the next level."

Coach Gipson also believes that Cosner is one of the most vocal leaders on the team this year, and that Cosner's number-one strength is his feel for the game, something that can't be taught.

"He really knows how to run the bases aggressively and is very comfortable in the batter's box," said Gipson.

Cosner believes his biggest strength is leading his teammates to want to win at all costs.

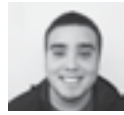
"I am very competitive and I see it rub off on a lot of my teammates," said Cosner.

Cosner's competitive edge has made its mark as LBCC is dominating the season. If the team keeps up and finishes first in their region, they will get an automatic bid into the NWAC championships where they will face off against the best teams in the entire NWAC.

"Our team has been so successful this year because of our drive to put in that extra work when no other team is," said Cosner. "This year the team is a family on and off the field, and I know stepping out on the field that each teammate would die for one another."

Cosner describes the team bond as, "Something special that I haven't felt really with any other team."

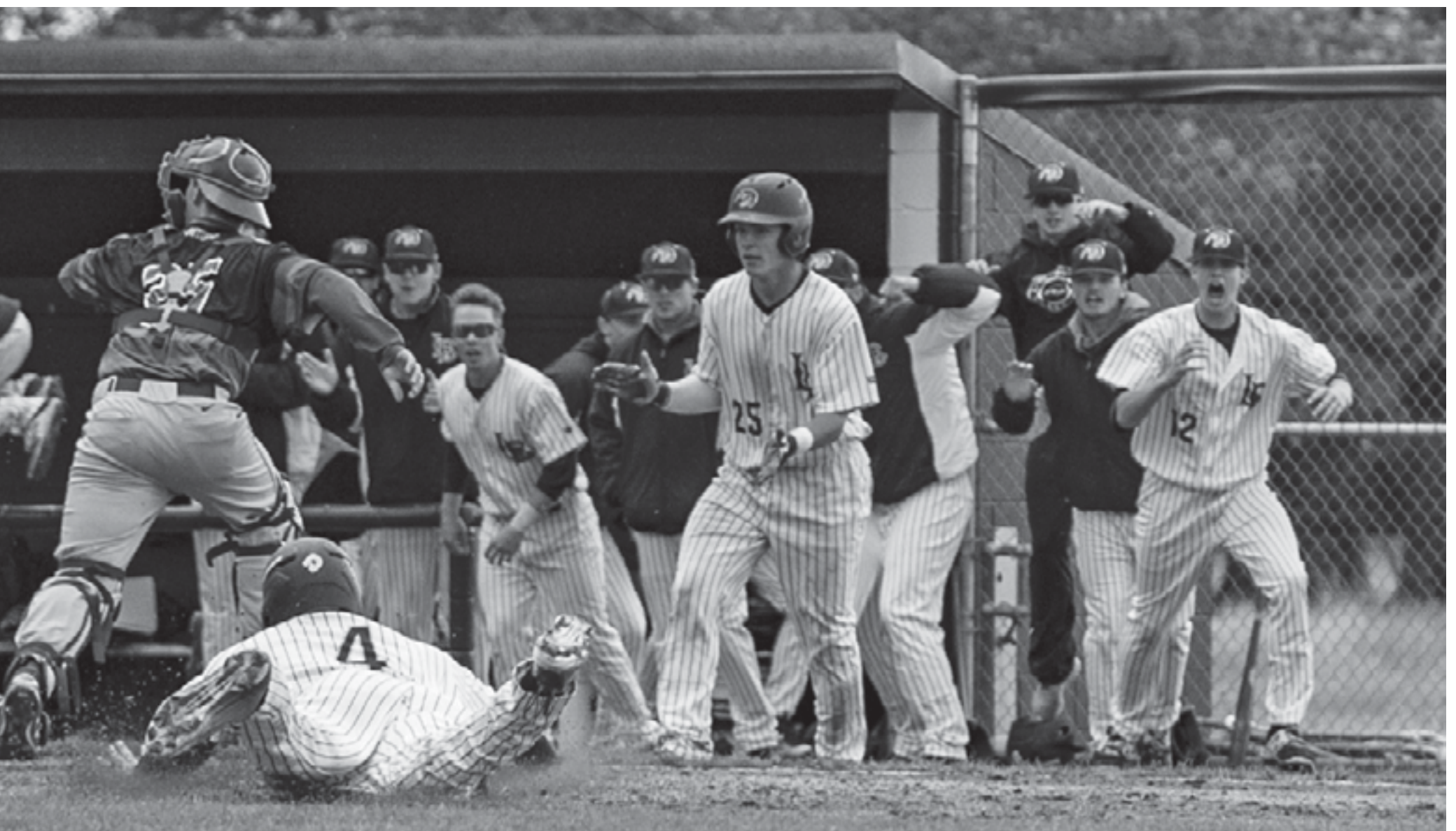
With just a few games left of the regular season, LB will be looking to hold onto their first place standing, currently four games ahead of Lane who is in second place. Cosner should be key in helping the team stay focused, and bringing home a championship for the Roadrunners.



STORY BY
NICK FIELDS
@NICKYY_ROZAYY



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND
First Baseman Colton Cosner.



CALLING FOR LIBERTY

Political organizations and campus clubs gather at the Annual Liberty Tree Fair

More than 250 years ago, Boston patriots rallied around an elm tree to protest the British Stamp Act. Dubbed the Liberty Tree, it would later serve as a symbol of self-governance to colonists before and during the Revolutionary War. While the tree has since been replaced with a commemorative plaque, and the legend disappeared into relative obscurity, it remains to some the embodiment of freedom and democracy.

According to Dr. Robert Harrison of the LBCC Our Revolution Club, the Liberty Tree's symbolic nature is the precisely the reason founders chose it as a title for the school's annual progressive fair.

On May 11, several social and political organizations congregated in the courtyard at Linn-Benton Community College's Albany campus. This spring marked the Liberty Tree Fair's fourth year in circulation, the first of which was celebrated in 2010. Beginning at 10 a.m., the event tapered off around 1:30 p.m., a half an hour earlier than the official end time, marred by cold weather and promise of rain.

As predicted, not as many students and faculty visited the tables as previous years due to the climate. The number of fair participants had also thinned. In the past, the Liberty Tree Fair included various political and social viewpoints, but this May, they decided to focus primarily on progressive values, Harrison said.

In attendance were representatives from the Linn-County Democrats, the college's own Our Revolution Club, Veterans for Peace, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Community Action for Racial Equality (CARE), and World Beyond War. There were only four tables, as some organizations chose to leave pamphlets for similar groups to distribute.

While all associations fall under the progressivism category, each one interprets "liberty" in a different way.

Bert Guptill, an advisor to the Our Revolution club, formerly the Bernie Club, compared the past and present to explain his definition. The main reason for the Revolutionary War, Guptill said, was taxation without representation. In other words, wealthy British officials ruled over poor colonists, much like corporations do with average citizens in modern day America, he believes.

"You can't be free if you're crushed by student debt," said William Hood-Douda, who has been a member of the Our Revolution Club since winter term.



GSA President Mattie Guilliams (left), and Our Revolution Club advisor Bert Guptill.

"You can't be free if you're crushed by student debt."

To organizations like Veterans for Peace, WILPF, and World Beyond War, "liberty means no war," said Harrison.

Similar to the early revolutionaries, Graham Kislingbury from the Linn-County Democrats said the group's goal is to fight against government oppression.

"We're troubled by many things in the Trump administration," Kislingbury said, particularly the firing of former FBI director James Comey.

By holding the Liberty Tree Fair in the courtyard, Harrison hoped to "give students a chance to be good

citizens and help them get involved politically and socially." Harrison also described the event as a potential "antidote to cynicism," which he said is a prominent emotion in Americans in general.

"These people weren't cynical," Harrison said, referencing the people taped to the Our Revolution Club's Liberty Wheel. The Liberty Wheel was one of the fair's main attractions. Throughout the day, people spun the wheel and on whichever face the dial landed, they had to guess the ending of a famous person's quote. The wheel consisted of individuals such as Thomas Payne, Malcom X, Martin Luther King, and Susan B. Anthony.

"Without these people, we wouldn't have the rights we do now," Harrison said. "You could be on that wheel one day."

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MEGAN STEWART
@MYANTHOLOGY

OPINION

ON MOTHER'S DAY AND MENTAL ILLNESS

How do you give a present to the person who dedicates her life to you?

Everyone will probably take this holiday a little differently: your mom could be your best friend, not be in the picture, your aunt or a close friend, have passed away when you were young, or you could simply have two amazing dads. Whatever your story is, we have so many amazing women in this planet to be thankful for in our lives.

I think the moment my Mom knew she really had it in for herself was some 16 years ago, when I was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). I can't imagine how she didn't scream right there on the spot, knowing her child was a little bit different. Then again, everyone in my family was a little off-beat. I'd like to imagine from there she just took a deep breath, bought the Tony Attwood books on Asperger's syndrome, and went from there.

I was part of a special needs preschool, and by the first grade, I was on an IEP (Individual Education Plan) for my disability. Mom was there every step of the way for every meeting, making sure I got the best help possible along the way.

When I figured out I have ASD in the fifth grade, she did a great job of always reassuring that I was going to be okay, and that it'd just take a little extra longer to figure everything out. It's nearly impossible to raise a special needs kid like myself, but somehow she

always made it work.

By the time I hit high school, her job became even more complicated. She got me into counseling, and from there, I was given Prozac for anxiety. My mother's patience to get me help and encourage me to take my prescription and have faith in myself was what I needed.

Post-high school, however, things have been going downhill at the speed of sound. Between breaking off a two-year relationship and a big reality check, you could say mourning has the better of me. Doesn't hurt that spring this year started off with a fresh diagnosis of depression, either.

This is what my mother is up against. With physical injuries like a scrape or a broken bone, repair is as easy as bandaging the wound or visiting the doctor to have it placed in a cast. With mental illnesses, you have no clue what to bandage, how to heal it, and what to prescribe. I don't know my age in terms of maturity; I have no idea how to act. My spirit animal is essentially a terrified turtle constantly taking shelter in its shell.

The help my mom has prescribed to me has been a bitter pill to swallow. She is dealing with a 20-year-old child who doesn't know what's going on with her body and does little to help herself. She has a 9-to-5 job in a town 30 miles away from home, where her

patience is tested by her coworkers and lost of passion for her work.

However, she has yet to give up. My mom is beautiful not only by the conventional standards, but because she is strong; she is a provider, a healer, and a friend — even when she doesn't have all of that in her own life.

Being a mother is a work of art in and of itself; being a mental health mother is a lesson in patience and grace on top of an already-impossible job.

Mother's day is never just about the flowers or the gifts, for how can I give a gift worthy of someone who does so much?

Instead, I reflect. I have a mother who does everything for everyone she loves, who wants to make sure that everyone is as they should. The last person my mom feeds and nurtures is herself. She's the textbook definition of selflessness and having a servant's heart. Someday, when I finally get a grasp of how life works and who I am, I want to be that great provider to her.



COLUMN BY
MORGAN CONNELLY
@MADEINOREGON97



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17

Life-Size Live Chess Match

- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the courtyard.

May 18

“Peace Be Upon You” Spring Theater Production

- 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center

Annual LBCC Student Leadership Recognition and Celebration

- 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Lakeshore Lanes

May 19

Black Friday

Head to the bookstore!

“Peace Be Upon You” Spring Theater Production

- 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center

May 20

LBCC Industrial Tech Car Show

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at LBCC

“Peace Be Upon You” Spring Theater Production

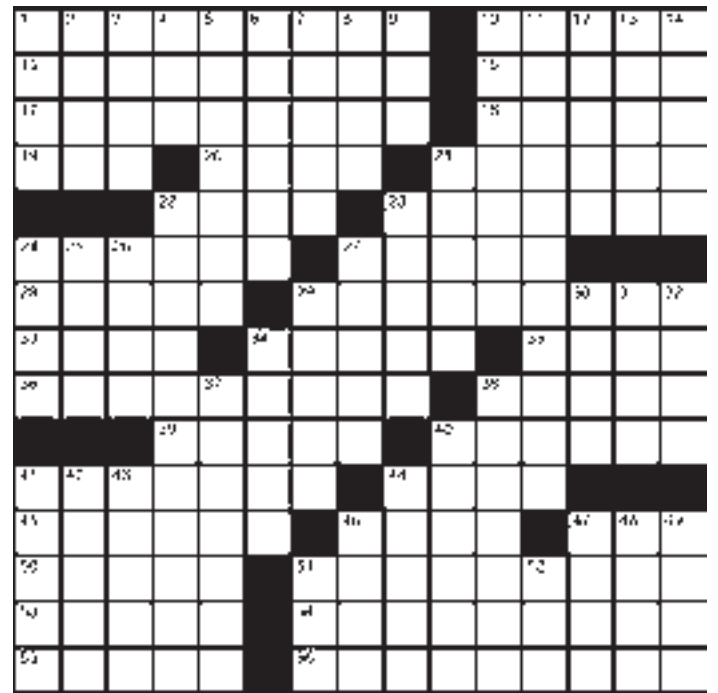
- 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Pet's plaything
 - Syrian Ba'ath Party leader
 - Fools
 - Fool
 - Semi lubricant
 - Longtime Cleveland Orchestra conductor
 - Galaxy download
 - Baby bugs
 - Freight not permitted in some tunnels, familiarly
 - Edsel feature
 - Foolish
 - Two-player whist-like game
 - ___ and Jack: kids' clothing shop chain
 - 2012 N.L. Manager of the Year Johnson
 - Prepare to compare
 - Eczema soother
 - Pool components
 - Wash unit
 - Numismatist's concerns
 - Base boss
 - Something up grandma's sleeve?
 - Snowsuit clip-on
 - Like some pot roast
 - Knitting rib
 - Beachgoer's wear
 - Something to fill
 - Get dolled (up)
 - “For the Love of Mike” columnist
 - Sierra Mist flavor
 - Run the roast
 - Brand used by police in lieu of a sketch artist
 - Nobility
 - Gridiron defensive rush

- DOWN**
- Fountain buy
 - Words of Hope
 - Sch. whose mascot is Paydirt Pete
 - First of seven?
 - Hotel extra
 - Detroit Tigers great Al
 - Brings (out)
 - Mayberry sot
 - Monogram on some high-end scarves
 - Old name of London's Whitefriars district
 - Fajitas server
 - Boss's terse summons
 - Traveler's aid
 - Fools
 - Help for those at sea?
 - One who doesn't follow the crowd
 - Auto detailer's supply
 - Dutch export
 - Colombian city
 - Big name in romance novels
 - Inferior
 - Spasmodic
 - Dutch astronomer who found the first evidence of dark matter
 - Fragrant herb



By Barry C. Silk

5/17/17

Friday's Puzzle Solved



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5/10/17

- Fall setting
- Mobs
- Tropical fruit
- One in doubt?
- Molly who sells cockles and mussels
- Amoxicillin target
- Jim who is the most recent member of the 600-home run club
- Big name in luxury travel
- Lilith Fair performers
- Overhaul
- ___ bar
- Drop
- Stan with a sax
- 1963 Cleo player
- ___ Wolf: Big Bad's son, in Disney comics

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LBCC Chess Club

Wednesdays: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursdays: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Gathers weekly in the Commons Cafeteria

Beginners

Welcome!



THE COMMONS Cafeteria

... MENU ...

5/17 - 5/23

Wednesday 5/17: Tomato and Balsamic Braised Pork Shanks, Roasted Turkey with Sage Cranberry Demi, Portobello with rice Pilaf, Poached Egg and Hollandaise, Soups: Beef Barley and Potato Leek

Thursday 5/18: Saurbraten, Fish and Chips, Pan Fried Polenta with Roasted Red Pepper Coulis, Artichoke Hearts and Feta, Soups: Saffron Chicken and Orzo and Roasted Winter Squash with Apple and Wild Rice

Monday 5/22: Coq Au Vin, Shrimp Tacos, Eggplant Parmesan, Soups: Chili Mac and Coconut Curried Carrot

Tuesday 5/23: Poached Chicken with Mushroom and Tarragon Cream Sauce, Toasted Pork Rack with Jus Lie', Potato and Cauliflower Curry with Steamed Rice, Soups: Lentil Bacon and Dilled Potato Chowder

• Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m. •

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

1 2

3 4

SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

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



NETFLIX
RECOMMENDATION

“Dear White People”

A multi-faceted story, “Dear White People” follows events at a university that glaringly expose the racism black students face at the college daily. A serious topic seen through many perceptive lenses, this show remains funny, quirky and honest, and is filled with moments of truth and brevity. A must-see!

CORVALLIS-OSU
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MARLAN CARLSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Corvallis-OSU Symphony Society and OSU School of Arts and Communication present

“Music Transcendent”

Tuesday, May 23, 7:30 p.m.
The LaSells Stewart Center, OSU

Debussy: La Mer
R. Strauss: Die Frau ohne Schatten Suite
Wagner: Scenes from Götterdämmerung

Reserved Seats: \$22, \$27, \$32
General Admission: \$20
COSUsymphony.org and Box Office
Grass Roots Books & Music

CAFA and student discounts apply

For accommodations for disabilities,
contact Nancy Currans, 541.286.5580

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ARE YOU READY?
Come find out!
Black Friday Events May 15-18




11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. EACH DAY!

- **Monday, May 15**
Sports Day, Albany Campus Courtyard
- **Tuesday, May 16**
Trike Races & Photo Booth, Albany Campus Courtyard
- **Wednesday, May 17**
Life-Size Chess (Chess Club), Albany Campus Courtyard
Carnival Games, Benton Center (1-4 p.m.)
- **Thursday, May 18**
Slingshot!, Albany Campus Courtyard

REGISTER ON Black Friday!
BLACK FRIDAY • MAY 19
linnbenton.edu/blackfriday

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Please bring questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations ahead of time. Contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, 825 S.W. 40th Street, 97102, OR 97102. Phone 503-527-8800 or 503-527-8800. Contact Us at 503-527-8800. Contact Us at 503-527-8800. Contact Us at 503-527-8800.