

# THE COMPUTER

Wednesday  
February 18, 2009

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 40 No. 17

# AASOG

# ELECTIONS!

The Business and Health Occupations representative positions are still open to write-in candidates.

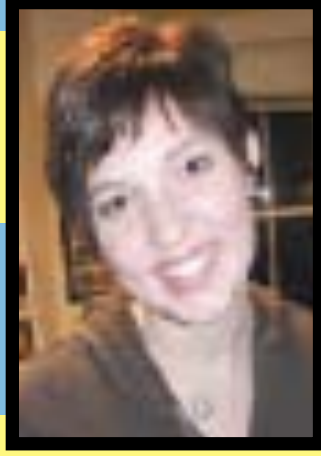
Applications for SPB positions due  
Feb. 20th at noon in the SL&L office



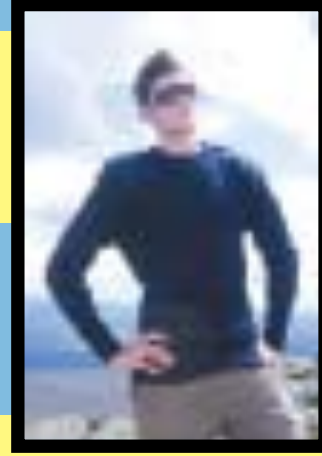
**NIC  
BOWMAN**



**KIM  
MCALONEY**



**ANISSA  
TESLOW  
CHECK**



**KEVIN  
VAN  
BRONKHORST**



**ALEX  
JAMES**

Candidates running for student body president

Candidates running for student body vice president

Candidate running for public relations secretary



**KAYLEE  
LITTLEFIELD**



**KATELYN  
GURR**



**ELIZABETH  
POLLOCK**



**SHARYSSE  
BOER**



**CALEB  
DONER**

Candidates for Arts and Humanities representative

Candidates for Science and Technology representative



**STEPHANIE  
LARSON**

Candidate for Student Services representative

## The lowdown on the election

**Gregory Dewar**  
The Commuter

The Student Life and Leadership office is holding the Associated Student Government elections next week starting at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> through Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup>. Voting will take place online at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/election](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/election). You can also find more information on the candidates at the same location.

According to the website, all the candidates are asked to answer the following questions on their application:

1. Teamwork and good communication skills are essential to the success of this and many other organizations. Explain in your own words what teamwork and good communication means to you.

2. The reasons for serving on student government vary from student to student. Please briefly explain what interests you most about serving on student government.

3. There are many good things about this campus. In your opinion, what is the nicest thing about LBCC and what do you think could be changed?

4. Have you read the ASLBCC Constitution and By-Laws as well as the responsibilities that go along with this position? Would you explain what they mean to the position you are applying for?

5. Give an example of a time when you were faced with a difficult situation. What was the issue, how did you resolve the situation and what was the outcome?

6. What do you think students can do to help preserve classes and services at LBCC?

7. What do you see as a primary project for student government during the year to come?

The elected candidates will serve for the duration of the '09-'10 school year.

**The Commuter**

**Editor-In-Chief:** Gregory Dewar  
**Managing Editor:** MaryAnne Turner  
**Newsroom Desk:** 917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton  
 Community College, including  
 the Sweet Home, Lebanon,  
 and Benton Centers.

## Math awareness week subtracts division

Lydia Elliott  
 The Commuter

Half-way through winter term, Math Awareness Week is just around the corner. This year's theme, "Fractions are Numbers Too," reminds students to appreciate (and remember) the least among us – or among positive numbers. To get things started, submissions are being accepted for the annual T-shirt design contest, which is open to students and staff from any major or department.

"We are aiming for all the public to participate, from any area of the campus," said Andrea Bell, math instructor at LBCC. She also added that a goal of the contest was to "create more interaction between students and faculty, whether they are in the math program or not."

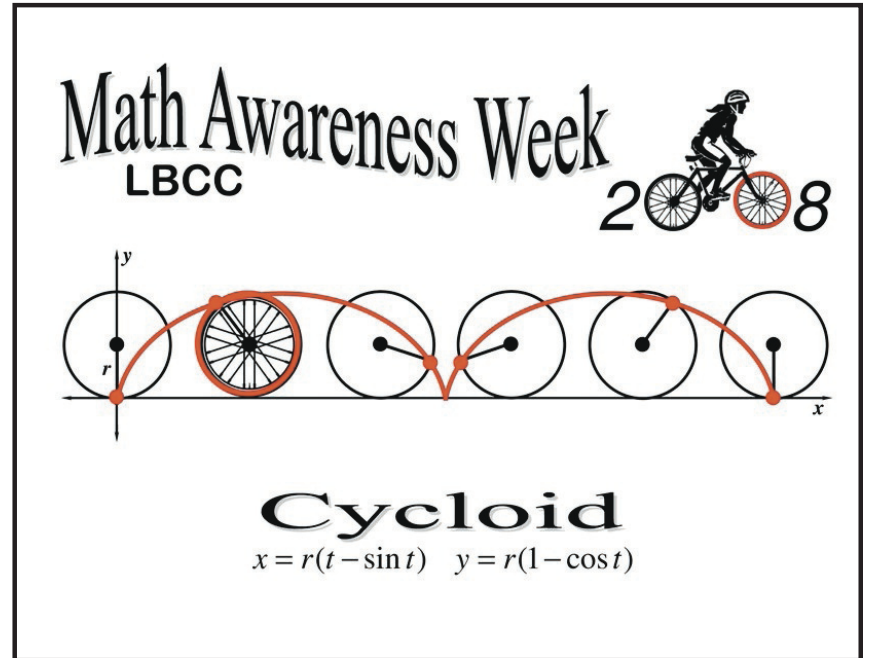
Contest entries must have a design that is appropriate to the theme and include the words "Math Awareness Week," "LBCC" or "LBC<sup>2</sup>," as well as the year. The sizes of the designs are limited to 8.5" X 11" and can only be three colors. For the creative or indecisive, there is no

limit to the amount of submissions a person can make. As an added incentive to participants, the winner receives \$50 and two free T-shirts bearing their logo. According to Bell, about 100 to 150 T-shirts are sold during Math Awareness Week each year.

Each year, Math Awareness Week celebrates a different math-related theme, with activities in the courtyard including puzzles, games, a limerick contest, and a surprise contest on the final day. Faculty members from the math department hand out candy and ice cream to students as well.

According to Bell, these events encourage participants to "break the ice with math," as well as "have a little fun and think of it a different way."

Submission forms are available in the Learning Center and must be completed and signed, along with the design entry. Electronic submissions can be sent to Andrea.Bell@linnbenton.edu. Deadline for submissions is March 11, 2009 at 4 p.m.



Last year's winning design by Vicki Maurer.

## Have conscience, will travel

Lori Tingué  
 For The Commuter

Do you dream of touring the jungles of Thailand, going on a safari in South Africa, or snorkeling in the waters in Costa Rica? Here's a chance for students who dream of travel but don't exactly know how to go about it. The International Student Volunteers (ISV) is offering an exciting, educational program that combines international travel and volunteer work to create an intense cultural experience for students while helping to make a difference in the world.

The ISV is looking for students who would be interested in traveling to exotic locations like Thailand, Costa Rica, South Africa, Ecuador, New Zealand, Eastern Europe & the Dominican Republic. This program allows students to travel with a purpose. Each program is about four weeks long and is broken up into two weeks of volunteer work and two weeks of ISV planned vacations.

The volunteer work varies from country to country. Students work with organizations to aid in environmental conservation and help educate locals about environmental issues. Many students work closely with animals and aid in protecting endangered species. Some also work directly with local people in underdeveloped areas to educate the community, build schools, and teach children English.

For example, if you were to travel to Thailand, your first two weeks could be spent working at the Elephant Nature Park which specializes in rehabilitat-

ing rescued or injured elephants. Or you could be involved with the Development and Education Program of Daughters and Communities, (DEPDC) which works to educate the community to prevent women and children from human trafficking. During the vacation portion of your trip, you could go hiking in the jungles in Northern Thailand, go white water rafting on the Mae Taeng River, or learn the secrets of Thai cuisine.

This program is also a great way to meet friends from all over the world. Students live with a group of 25-40 other students in either a hostel, hotel or with host families. The standard program of four weeks costs on average about \$3,200 dollars. Half of the money goes towards the volunteer program and other half goes towards the adventure tour. Airfare is not included. This may seem like a lot, but this money pays for all program costs, accommodations, ground transportation, meals, and adventure activities. Anyone who has traveled internationally knows that organizing a trip on your own can be difficult and expensive. With this program, there aren't any unexpected fees and each day of your trip is previously organized by ISV. You can also customize your program by adding additional volunteer programs or adventure tours in as many as three different countries. There are also additional travel excursions available at an increased price.

There are a few stipulations for this program. Students must be 18 and older to apply and must obtain their US passport. Airfare

is not included in the price and all students must have health insurance to participate. Students can earn Academic credit hours by talking to professors who are willing to design an outline for independent study. The credit hours are not free and aren't guaranteed.

The ISV provides many programs with endless possibilities for travel and education. The ISV program not only gives students a chance at international travel, but also gives them an opportunity to educate themselves on major universal issues around the globe. The ISV is a non profit organization who for 25 years has worked with tens of thousands of students around the world to create assistance for conservation and public development in six continents. The ISV contributes over 200,000 hours of volunteer work every year to needy causes around the world.

ISV's Morgan Schaening says, "This is an opportunity of a lifetime! A great way for students to 'travel with a purpose' and learn all about the culture, history and traditions of another country first-hand. ISV is looking for, outgoing students to participate in the highly sought after programs."

Ian Roberts, from Cal State Chico, participated on the New Zealand program and says, "The best time of my life, I didn't think volunteering could be this much fun or rewarding. It's a once in a lifetime experience that shouldn't be missed by anyone."

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED! The ISV will be here Thursday, February 19th Noon to 6 p.m.

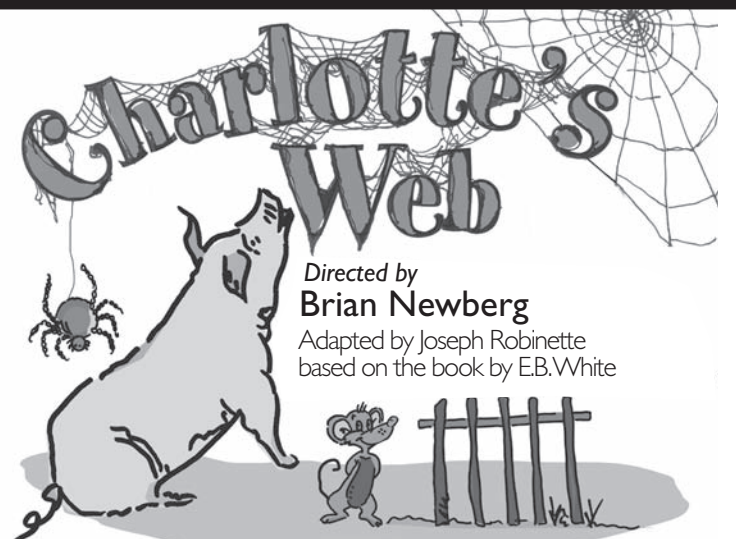
30 minute meetings held on the hour, every hour Located in the CC room 103 (Boardroom)  
 More info can be found @ www.isvonline.com

Or contact:  
 Morgan Schaening  
 American College Campus Representative  
 International Volunteers  
 Mobile: 310 245 0491

Office: 714 779 7392  
 mschaening@gmail.com

Or at LBCC, contact  
 Stefan Seiter PH.D.  
 Linn Benton Community College  
 Horticulture Program Chair  
 LBCC ST.205  
 Phone: 917-4765  
 Stefan.seiter@linnbenton.edu  
 Agricultural Sciences Faculty

### LBCC Department of Performing Arts Presents its 34th Annual Children's Play



**Sundays, February 22 & March 1\*, 2009 • 3 p.m.**

**The Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall  
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW., Albany**

**Admission: \$9 Adults, \$6 Children under 18**

\* ASL Interpreted performance and proceeds of this performance benefit the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships.

[www.linnbenton.edu/go/theater](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/theater)  
 541-917-4531

**Linn-Benton  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. Submit requests four to six weeks before the event. To call any LBCC department by TDD, call through Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service 1-800-735-2900 and provide OTRS the number of the department you wish to reach at LBCC. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events,  
 and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Escape From City 17

**Gregory Dewar**  
 The Commuter

In what the Internet is hailing as the greatest homebrew (I.E. Homemade) movie event of this decade, independent filmmakers, The Purchase Brothers, have released a live-action episode from an upcoming multi-part series set in the world of Half-Life 2.

Half-Life is a PC game, first released in 1998, with a sequel in 2004, and followed by two episodic games (episodes one and two) that continue the storyline.

Half-life is a world in which a portal is opened to another dimension and, literally, all hell comes through. Crabs that latch onto your face and control your body, extra-terrestrial military police, and organic gunships and surface-walkers have enslaved the human race. Our only allies are the Vortigaunt, while the resistance stands apart from the alien military force known as the Combine.

The first part of the movie series holds previews for the remainder to follow, as sound effects from the popular game series debut with uncanny timeliness as bullets fly and Combine die. Costumes

and apparel match the world perfectly, as do the lines and voice acting. In perhaps the best move yet, the main character appears to be a hot blonde woman, too good for a beanie like everyone else.

With independent filmmakers finding a home more and more on YouTube, the stage is set for video game movies made by fans, for fans, to hit it big. No more of this "I'm a rich Hollywood guy and I want to make money off of Final Fantasy" crap.

There is hope for the future, both for humanity in the world of Half-Life and thanks to the Internet.

The Purchase Brothers are David and Ian Purchase, from Toronto, Ontario. They are commercial directors in addition to being independent filmmakers, and are represented by the group "Sons and Daughters," (www.sonsanddaughters.ca) where the video is hosted under the brothers' director page.

More information on the Purchase Brothers can be found at "their official website," www.purchasebrothers.com, and on their "YouTube channel," www.youtube.com/user/PurchaseBrothers.



Photo courtesy of Flickr-shanewarne\_60000

### Classifieds

**They just make cents. Place an ad today with The Commuter at  
 commuterads@linnbenton.edu**

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**Personals:** Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

**Help Wanted:**

**LBCC Career Fair**(LBCC) Mark your calendars for March 5 10am-2pm. Invite your friends and family as this is a free, open to the public event. See www.linnbenton.edu/careerfair for tips and suggestions and to see who is signed up so far to come.

**Development Coordinator** (#7116, Coos Bay) If you worked with grants, contracts and budgets, this might be your job! Full-time on the coast. Four years experience and/or training plus Associate degree.

**Summer Aquatic Inventories**

**Project** (#7107, Corvallis, Eugene & Oregon) Great summer job for a student in a natural resource field such as fish & wildlife, biology or geology. 26 positions in Oregon available!!

**CWE Environmental Tech**(#7113, Albany) If you are an engineering, management or science degree student, this opportunity is for you! They like those who will be going on to OSU and they pay \$10.85/hr. Great way to get experience

**Other Stuff:**

Pregnant? Free pregnancy test. Information on options. Non-pressured. Confidential. Options Pregnancy Resource Center. Corvallis 757-9645. Albany 924-0166.

www.possiblypregnant.org

**CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY TRAINING PROGRAM.** Become a Certified Hypnotherapist. The Howard L. Hamilton School of Hypnotism will take you from basic through advanced in 20 lessons in a time frame that is convenient for you. Upon completion, you are qualified for membership or certification the The National Guild of Hypnotists and The Oregon Hypnotherapy Association. Pay as you go at \$75.00 per lesson. (541) 327-3513

### Poetry Corner

Little Summer Poem Touching  
 the Subject of Faith  
 By Mary Oliver

Every summer  
 I listen and look  
 under the sun's brass and even  
 into the moonlight, but I can't  
 hear

anything, I can't see anything

not the pale roots digging  
 down, nor the green stalks  
 muscling up,  
 nor the leaves  
 deepening their damp pleats,

nor the tassels making,  
 nor the shucks, nor the cobs.  
 And still,  
 every day,

the leafy fields  
 grow taller and thicker -  
 green gowns lofting up in the  
 night,  
 showered with silk.

And so, every summer,  
 I fail as a witness, seeing nothing -  
 I am deaf too  
 to the tick of the leaves,

the tapping of downwardness  
 from the banyan feet -  
 all of it  
 happening  
 beyond any seeable proof, or  
 hearable hum.

And, therefore, let the immeasurable come.

Let the unknowable touch the buckle of my spine.

Let the wind turn in the trees,  
 and the mystery hidden in the dirt

swing through the air.  
 How could I look at anything in  
 this world  
 and tremble, and grip my hands  
 over my heart?  
 What should I fear?

One morning  
 in the leafy green ocean  
 the honeycomb of the corn's  
 beautiful body  
 is sure to be there.

To the students, staff, and faculty of LB as poet laureate, I invite you to join together in a celebration of courage in the face of adversity, commemorating our own brave efforts (past, present, and future) in these times of economic and emotional upheaval. Bring poetry, stories, song, or any other medium of expression that inspires you to celebrate each day, no matter the condition. The event will take place Friday Feb.20 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Stay tuned for the location. Any questions or cyber contributions may be directed to LBpoetry@gmail.com

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## Big Fat Greek Burger

**James Scales**  
The Commuter

So, maybe you are a little tired of weird burgers, or burgers that might kill you if you have a second one. Here's one that I enjoy when the master of the house says, "You've been eating too many burgers, you need to eat more healthily!" Maybe you can tell that I don't have room for veggies on my burgers when there are much more better things. Please note that, odds are, if someone who lives with you or considers you their significant other says "eat healthier" and you make this burger, it may not work out exactly as you planned.

So, for the first burger with veggies, My Big Fat Greek Burger.

My Big Fat Greek Burger  
Makes three burgers.

**Ingredients:**

- 1 (8-ounce) container of plain yogurt.
- 1 cucumber, peeled, seeded, and rough chopped.
- 1 tablespoon of a good quality olive oil.
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest (opt).
- 1/4 ounce lemon juice.

- 2 teaspoons chopped dill.
- 2 cloves of garlic, smashed and peeled.
- 1 pound ground lamb, if you don't have/don't want to try it, beef will work, I guess...
- 4 ounces (approx.) feta cheese, crumbled.
- enough spinach to cover your burgers.
- 1 large tomato, sliced.
- 1 medium onion, sliced into rings.
- 3 slices kasseri cheese, and if you can't find it anywhere, go with medium cheddar, but the kasseri is a really delightful sheep's milk cheese.
- buns!
- salt and pepper.

**Equipment:**

I like this one grilled, so everything that that requires, like... a grill. Skewers if you want to make your time grilling veggies easier.

A food processor is highly recommended to make the tzatziki sauce, but a blender would work too.

**Procedure:**

About an hour before you want to start cooking the burgers, make your tzatziki.

Take the yogurt, cucumber, olive oil, lemon zest and juice, dill, garlic, salt and pepper in a bowl of a food processor or blender



Photo by James Scales

and combine. Adjust the salt and pepper, add more garlic or lemon if you'd like. Set in a bowl and chill for an hour, this mixture will keep for a while if it's covered well and refrigerated.

Heat up the grill - either prep your briquettes or light your propane. I like to rub

a little vegetable oil on the grill grates, just makes everything easier. Get out your ground meat. Salt very lightly, use the normal amount of pepper, and shape it into your patties. Then equally divide your feta between your burger patties, pressing the cheese into the meat on both sides.

Slice your tomato and onion. If you choose to, you can skewer the slices right now, as it might make it a little bit easier for you to turn them. Get everything out on the grill and start cooking! With the feta in the burgers, it may be slightly harder to judge your done-ness, but you should be able to see the color changing right around the edge of the patty. With the tomato and onion grilling, just get a little bit of marking on it; it shouldn't take too long to cook and to get a nice grilled flavor and texture on them.

After flipping the burgers (and when the onions are done), put them on top of the patty. Use grill tongs or something to help you slide it off the skewer if you chose to go that way. Top it with the kasseri and finish the cooking. Spread a little tzatziki on your buns, and finish putting it all together.

Enjoy your burger!

### OSU-Cascades Campus

Centered in Oregon. Centered on Students.

Join us in Bend!

#### Campus Preview Day

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 18

Meet professors, current students and admissions/financial aid staff. Call to reserve your spot.



## Yes, you can complete your degree.

And the place to make it happen is **OSU-Cascades, with small classes, personal attention and your choice of more than 20 accredited degree programs from OSU and UO. In most cases, you can apply college credits you've already earned.**

- Art
- Business
- General science
- General social science
- Human development and family sciences
- International studies
- Liberal studies
- Mathematics
- Natural resources
- Psychology
- Tourism and outdoor leadership

**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

**MAY 1 - Transfer student admission application priority deadline**

**SEPT. 1 - Fall term application final deadline**

## Weekly music event list:

**Old World Deli**

341 SW 2nd St # 4 (541-752-8549)

- Friday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m.: Lost Toroise with Neon Gypsies, FREE

**Block 15 restaurant and brewery**  
300 W Jefferson Ave. (541-758-2077), www.block15.com

- Every Monday: Acoustic Folk Jam, FREE

- Wednesday, Feb 18, 6:30 p.m.: Ralph Bassinger (blues and boogie piano), FREE

- Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.: The Tasty Trio (jazz funk), FREE

**Bombs Away Cafe**

2527 NW Monroe Ave. (541-757-7221), www.bombsawaycafe.com

- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.: Monica Metzler, FREE

- Thursday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Curtis Monette, FREE

- Friday, Feb. 20, 9:00 p.m.: Project 431 and Substitute, A Tribute to The Who, \$5

- Saturday, Feb. 21, 9:00 p.m.: Jake Payne and Dixie Creek, \$3

**Calapooia Brewing Co.**

140 Hill St. Albany, OR, www.calapooiabrewing.com

- Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.:

XENAT-RA, \$3

- Sunday, Feb. 22, 4 p.m.: Blues Jam, FREE

**Cloud 9 and the Downward Dog**

126 and 130 SW 1ST St. (541-753-9900), www.dinecloud9.com

& www.drinkthedog.com

- Thursday, Feb. 19, 10:00 p.m.:

The Turntable Enabler, FREE

**Fireworks Restaurant & Bar**

Hwy 99th in South Corvallis (541-754-6958), www.FireWorksVenue.com

- Friday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m.: Al Rivers, Blues Guitar and Vocals, donations accepted

- Saturday, Feb. 21, 9 p.m.: Future Roots (Folk-Rock-Reggae-Jam), donations accepted

- Sunday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.: Rick & Lavinia Ross (Americana Rhythm & Blues), donations accepted

- Every Monday, 9 p.m.: South-town Open Mic Talent Search, CASH PRIZE for Top 3 Acts! Sign-ups at 8:30 p.m. Door donations are used for prizes.

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541-322-3100  
OSUcascades.edu

In partnership with University of Oregon  
and Central Oregon Community College.

**Oregon State** | **Cascades**  
UNIVERSITY | C A M P U S

2600 NW College Way Bend, Oregon 97701-5933

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## Movies this week

**James Scales**  
 The Commuter

### Fired Up

Shawn and Nick are the top players of their high school, be it football or the girls of Ford High School. When they decide to chase girls so far that they join up with the cheerleaders to go to cheer camp, they find out that they might be the help their school's cheer squad needs.

### Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail

After ending up in jail, Madea's hot temper gets her into wacky antics. While in prison, Madea meets a young woman named Candace who she then takes to protecting.

## "On-Campus" Shorts

Feb. 18 - Feb. 24

### Annual climb for Cancer Society

Linda Hobson is preparing her annual trip to Arizona to climb the mountain to raise money for the American Cancer Society, and is gladly accepting donations. Donations can be sent to Hobson at the Benton Center.

### LBCC offers "Getting Paid to Talk" workshop

An introduction to voice-acting class titled "Getting Paid to Talk" will be offered at LBCC on main campus through the LBCC Business and Employer services on Thursday, March 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Fireside room. Cost is \$39, and is a non-credit class. Learn how to use your voice professionally for commercials,

audio books, training videos, educational material, the Internet and others. You will focus on working in a studio recording a demo and landing jobs under the direction of a Voice Coach producer.

### LBCC offers a Veterans Focus group

The Diversity Achievement Center (DAC) is currently forming a Veterans Focus group to identify the best way to serve and support students who are war veterans. They are looking to identify staff that are veterans and can share their insights or volunteer time for the focus group. Contact Toni Klok at klokt@linnbenton.edu or ext. x4299, or contact Nancy Tanberg at tanbergn@linnbenton.edu or ext. x4690.

### LBCC Lunch Box

The Student Life and Leadership office has started an emergency food supply for students and their families in need. You can use this when in need or donate to the cause. You can donate food, purchase food coupons from the food services at LBCC, or hold a canned food drive within your department. If you have any questions please contact Jessica Calhoun at worksg@linnbenton.edu or (541) 917-4469, or Dona Reishus at reishud@linnbenton.edu in the Student Life and Leadership Office.

### Spring term registration

The Spring Term Schedule is now live on the web at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/schedule](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/schedule). Open registration begins Monday, March 9.

### Cutting back office hours

Due to the current budget situation Admissions and Registration is cutting back its evening office hours. Starting Tuesday, Feb. 17 these offices will be closing at 5 p.m. instead of 6 p.m.

with exception of the first week of the term.

### Careers publication (in Spanish)

LBCC has just received the Spanish version of the Careers 2009 publication distributed by the Oregon Employment Department. It contains labor market information, job search tips, resume examples, and school and career planning tools. This publication can be found in the Career Center in Takena Hall.

### Celebration of Unity

A social Celebration of Unity will take place on Thursday, Feb. 26 in the Fireside room from 5-7 p.m. An evening of food, poetry, music, and acknowledgment will celebrate the social struggles that lead us to historical unity.

### Conversational Skill follow-up rescheduled

Bring your lunch and join us for a conversation about the Elements of Well-Being. What are your particular elements of well-being? What do you need to feel great? Do you have strategies for making sure these are in place? Come find out Wednesday, Feb. 18 at noon in the Siletz room.

### Periwinkle Child Development's annual sweetheart drawing

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## THE COMMONS FARE 2/18-2/24

### Wednesday

Dishes: Prime Rib with Popovers\*, Coquilles Saint-Jacques a' la Parisienne (Scallops with mushrooms and cream sauce) and Tofu Stir-fry with Broccoli over Rice\*

Soup: Billy-Bi (Creamy mussel soup) and Beef Vegetable\*

### Thursday

Dishes: Hungarian Chicken (Braised chicken with a creamy paprika sauce), Sushi/Sashimi\* and Spanakpita (spinach and feta cheese filling wrapped in crispy filo dough).

Soup: Chili Mac and Cream of Broccoli

### Friday

Chef's Choice

### Monday

Dishes: BBQ Country Ribs\*, Moroccan Chicken (salted lemon)\* and Omelet Bar\*

Soup: Saffron Chicken\* and Vegetarian Vegetable\*

### Tuesday

Dishes: Spice-rubbed Beef\*, Coulbiac (Layers of rice, salmon, spinach, mushroom, chopped egg baked in puff dough) and Portabella Polenta with Vegetables, Mascarpone Cheese, and Sun-dried Tomato Pesto\*

Soups: Chicken Consomme\* and Roasted Garlic Pesto

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The Commuter  
Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events,  
and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Walking on the wild side



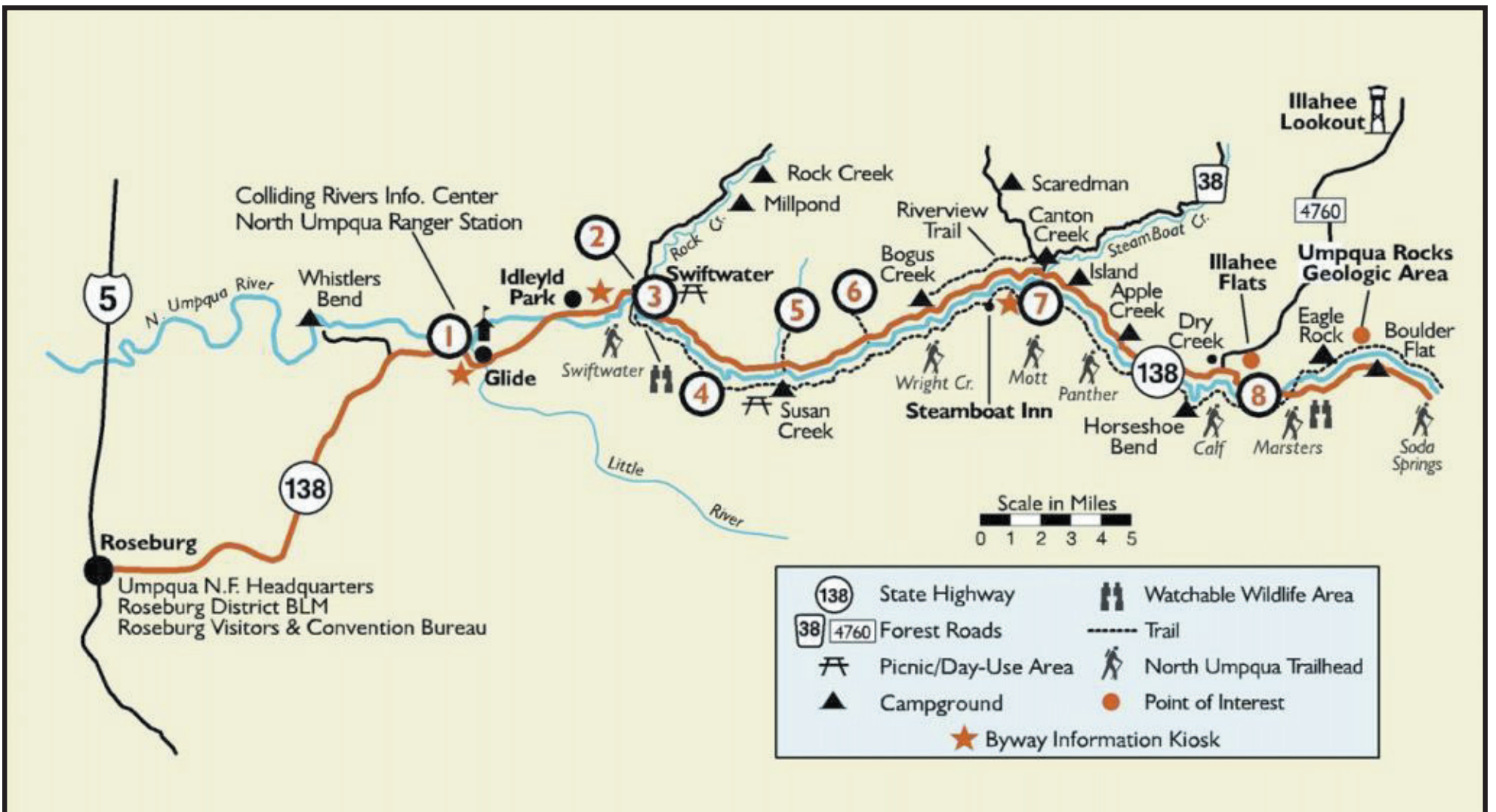
Becca Martino  
The Commuter

Recently I took a walk on the wild side in Glide, Oregon, with my fiancé Kyle and his family, staying at a small bed and breakfast called the Steelhead Run for a weekend. You might be thinking, 'where would I find Glide if I was looking for it?' Glide is a small city about 30 minutes northeast of Roseburg along the North Umpqua River. The population is about 1,700, and is about 10 square miles.

Other than the fact that most people wouldn't know where to locate Glide on a map, they don't know about its hidden treasures. An exceptional phenomenon (that happens nowhere else) called colliding rivers occurs in Glide, where the North Umpqua and Little Rivers meet head on. Around the area, along Byway 138, you can also find many beautiful waterfalls and hiking trails.

Saturday was a brisk and sunny day, so we decided to stop at the first decent looking hiking trail we found, which happened to be Susan Creek. The trail led to a beautiful waterfall (1.6 miles round-trip) and if you wanted to continue on, you would find some Indian mounds. The six of us, Kyle and me, his two sisters (Amy and Heather), his mom Anita and step-dad Steve decided to stop at the waterfalls, and we found plenty to look at.

So if you feel like getting out and exploring Oregon's wild side, I definitely would recommend Glide.



Map courtesy of Roseburg Bureau of Land Management.



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# opinion

**Submissions to The Commuter:**

E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

Drop-in: Forum 222

Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

## Illegal immigrants

**Lydia Elliott**  
 The Commuter

The economic downturn has left citizens left and right pointing the finger of blame. Some blame the government, some the unions, others the rich or the poor. One favorite scapegoat for angry Americans is illegal immigrants.

The majority of Americans are the offspring of immigrants who, at one

that either inflated or deflated the cost of immigrants, depending on the opinion of the writer. The Center for Immigration Studies objectively stated that although it is true immigrants pay billions in taxes each year, they cost much more because they often lack health insurance and have more children in the education system. They estimated the total cost of one illegal immigrant household was about \$2000, or \$10.4 billion for them

**Brandon Goldner**  
 The Commuter

There are some people who don't believe that illegal immigrants should be granted amnesty, and that laws that prevent people from coming to the US outside of the proper channels should be more consistently enforced. Here are some of the arguments these people put forth to further their argument:

– **Illegal immigrants cost the US education system money.** Under the fourth amendment, children born on American soil are automatically given U.S. citizenship, despite the nationality of their parents. In some states, such as California, the children of illegal immigrants are given in-state tuition rates to our public universities. One

or regions, infect others, and end up making many people too sick to be able to work for a period of time (which is harmful to production).

– **Illegal immigrants hurt our work force.** It's true that the main reason people want to come to our country is for economic opportunities not available in their own nation. Due to this, jobs are taken by those that are willing to work for less than minimum wage, if companies (illegally) allow this to happen. This means that Americans, especially younger Americans, have fewer opportunities to earn a living because the jobs available to them are taken by those who would do the same job for less money. This may be a burden on our economy, for fewer number of illegal immigrants graduate from college than do American citizens, and if



*“Who are we to tell people they cannot come to our country to work for a better life?”*

Lydia Elliott

point or another, came to this country searching for a brighter future, religious freedom, and a growing economy where they can work their way into a better class; something that was not possible in their own countries. People came to this country any way they knew how. This is still true today. America is a paradigm of freedom and the ability to be anything you want. In America, you can work hard to change your social class, earn enough for your children to have a good education, and, like Barack Obama, even become president. From this perspective, it is easy to see why millions of people still flock to this country, and why they should continue to do so.

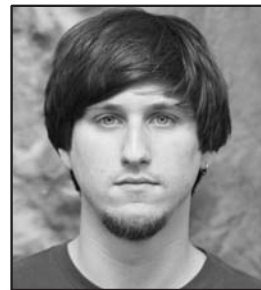
Who are we to tell people they cannot come to our country to work for a better life? If anything, we should empathize with these people, not blame them for doing what is best for their families. As we all know from long lines at the Social Security Office and DMV, government offices are tediously slow. For migrant workers, navigating the storm of paperwork, tests, and ridiculously long waiting periods would be impossible. We need immigration reform for dealing with these workers, not a concrete wall.

I found a lot of reports on the web

all.

Depending on your perspective, \$10.4 billion dollars may or may not be a lot of money. Sure, it could pay for new roads and infrastructure, college grants, and scientific research, or anything else you can think of. I'm a lot more concerned about the \$700 billion bailout Congress approved recently, or the trillions being spent on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Or how about the estimated \$12 billion that is being spent annually on the so-called “war on drugs”?

Allowing immigrants to stay in America would allow them to continue to pursue their dream: the American dream. Providing education for their children, just as we do our own, will produce capable teachers, doctors, administrators, and lawyers. By giving to others we give back to our own country. We can continue to weave colors into the fabric of America, learn from their cultures, and continue down the path of greatness America has been set upon. Let's not build a wall, but tear them down instead. Let's tear down the walls of bigotry, racism, and fear that drive us to keep others out and open our arms instead to what they have to offer.



*“I may not agree with these arguments, but it's important to consider all sides of an issue and to be familiar with arguments from all sides before solidifying your opinion.”*

Brandon Goldner

example of how this works, using a logical extension of the facts, is that a child born in Virginia, whose parents were descendents of the original settlers, must pay more to attend a college in California than the child of an illegal alien. This may cost our public universities money in tuition lost from these first-generation Americans, who may otherwise pay out-of-state tuition.

– **Illegal immigrants are a drain on our health care system.** All naturalized peoples, before being granted U.S. citizenship, are required to undergo testing to ensure that they aren't carrying any infectious diseases. Unfortunately, the same can't be said of people who enter the country illegally. There are untold numbers of illegal immigrants who bring with them diseases which may manifest themselves among their own communities

citizens cannot pay for their education, they are unable to help our country stay technologically relevant.

These are just a few of the arguments that proponents of tougher immigration laws point to when making their case. There are varying degrees of validity to all of these claims; for example, would it not be a good thing for any US citizen to receive an affordable education, regardless of where their parents were born? And isn't it true that plenty of diseases come from international travel? I may not agree with these arguments, but it's important to consider all sides of an issue and to be familiar with arguments from all sides before solidifying your opinion. Spouting off hearsay and allowing yourself to listen only to viewpoints similar to ones you already hold does nothing to further either healthy debate or your own intellectual maturity.

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# opinion

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# Capitalist health care fails!

**Brandon Goldner**  
 The Commuter

There are times when the differing of opinions does nothing but raise tension. But there are also times when it's helpful in expanding all sides' understanding of what they do or do not agree with.

Such a moment occurred in The Commuter's office not long ago, where a philosophical debate took place between those who believed in a less restricted capitalist system, and those who believed more market guidance was needed.

One side argued it was unfair to penalize wealth. The other, that guidelines were necessary in protecting the common citizen. And one topic that provided many moments of contention was health care, and whether or not our American health care system 'works,' which in this case will mean providing the largest amount of people with the most amount of protection, both from illness and from cost.

**-- The health care debate: Deciding who gets what --**

One argument that was oft-repeated was the rhetorical question, "Who are you to tell me what to do with my money?"

To which it should be said that any democratic state needs institu-

thus opening up freedom from fear of being killed and from clogged roads.

Another reply is that, every so often, we in America get to vote on a number of things, including who represents our causes in local, state and federal legislature. For those of us living in states which have public



*"The United States is the only rich democracy in the world whose individuals pay more for health insurance than the percentage covered by the public."*

Brandon Goldner

ballot initiative systems - Oregon being one - citizens have the opportunity to both create and decide whether to implement legislation themselves. In these ways, each generation chooses what it is they find valuable, and exercises their choices through voting to change laws or lawmakers. This is important, for one generation which believed in separating whites and blacks soon gave way to one which valued equality, and in this same way we get to choose what we support.

Granted, citizens don't have absolute control over this process, but there is quite a bit of room for us to change the institutions which gov-

the New York Times showed that providing health insurance for all was more important than keeping its cost down by more than a 2-1 margin, and an even greater number of people believed America should have universal health care.

So while one may say they don't want others telling them what to do

with their money, it's the collective conscious of the American citizen which ultimately takes priority over the collected arguments of the individual.

**-- My money, my choice? --**

Another claim cited in the health care debate was that one shouldn't be penalized for being wealthy. This is to imply that initiating a universal health care system would be too costly.

In 1960, the United States spent 5.3% of its GDP, or gross domestic product, on health care. According to the 2000 census, that number was 13%; in 2007 it rose by 17%, and it's projected to reach 20% by 2017, according to the National Coalition on Health Care (nchc.org). This is compared to 2007 figures which put health care as a percentage of GDP at 8.3% for the United Kingdom, 8% for Japan, 11% for Switzerland, and 10% for Germany, and these nations all have some sort of universal health care coverage; in fact, a Japanese family of four need only pay \$280 U.S. a month in premiums, with employers paying more than half of that. In the UK you don't have to pay any premiums at all.

Another argument follows: Even though health care is a smaller percentage of those nation's GDP, it ends up costing their citizens more than in the U.S. But according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD.org), we in the States end up paying more than 37% of our health care

costs to private insurers, the highest percentage in the developed world. Second-place Netherlands pays 17% to private insurers, and Germany, Switzerland and Japan pay 9%, 8.8%, and 0.6% respectively. Since the public's share of total health care costs in the U.S. is already 44% (OECD.org), it's not much of a stretch to bring that figure closer to the 80% figure found in such countries as Luxembourg, the U.K. and Sweden, all of which enjoy excellent health care systems.

By sharing the burden of health care between all citizens, and by organizing it nationally rather than through private for-profit companies, we are ensuring that the money spent goes towards health and not profit.

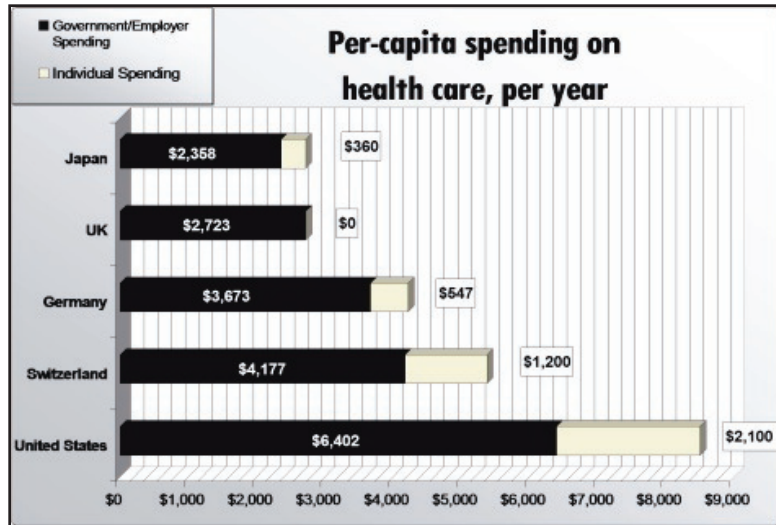
**-- U.S. is best... except when it's not --**

The argument heard most often in the national health care system

they have put off medical procedures due to cost, and a simple truism emerges: Health care only works when you can afford it, and it does no good to the 28% of America who can't.

The United States is the only rich democracy in the world whose individuals pay more for health insurance than the percentage covered by the public. It's more restrictive and more expensive, forcing some people with preexisting conditions to go without coverage (a practice illegal in nations such as Germany). Our health providers make comfortable profits in a time when less people have access to basic health screenings which detect conditions which would get worse over time and end up costing our system much more money.

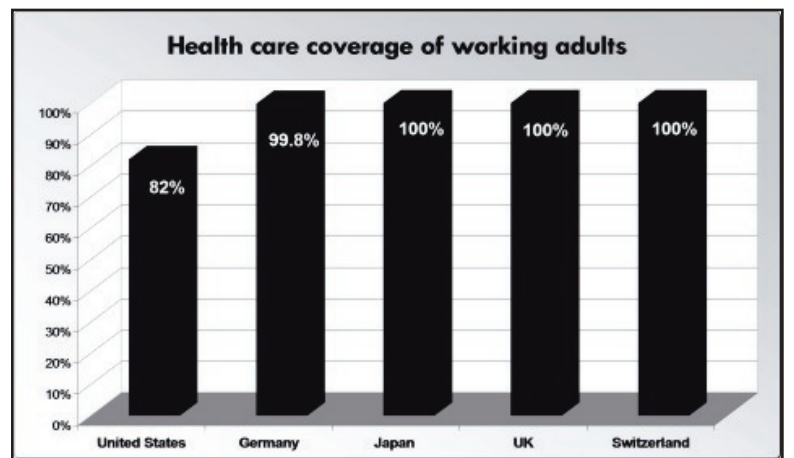
Familiarizing one's self with the systems of other countries doesn't make you weaker or less American, and an idea implemented by someone else first doesn't make it any



Graph compiled by Brandon Goldner

tions in order to function. One example would be a traffic light: It restricts freedom, but also allows cars to pass in an orderly fashion without running into one another,

ern our daily lives. More and more, universal health care is becoming something which our generation agrees upon as being important. A poll taken in 2007 by CBS and



Graph compiled by Brandon Goldner

debate is that the U.S. is healthier and enjoys higher quality care than other countries with nationalized systems.

The facts say otherwise. Despite higher spending than any of the following countries, the U.S. has higher infant mortality rates and lower life expectancies than the U.K., Germany, Japan and Switzerland, all of whom have some form of socialized health care. Even in innovation the U.S. lags behind, with two-thirds the number of MRI machines and two-thirds the number of CT scanners per million people than Japan. Combine this with that fact that 28% of Americans polled by Gallup said

less of a good idea. All it means is that you're willing to seek out what works in a system and what doesn't, and be smart enough to figure out what needs to be done to fix what's wrong. And by looking at America's health care system, it's clear that as long as for-profit companies are running the show - whose policies over which we have no control - we will never have an adaptive, flexible and fair health care system that works for citizens, or one whose rules will change based on the needs of patients rather than the needs of those making the most money.

## PERSPECTIVES:

Who are you going to vote for in the Associated Student Government election?



**Kristina Howard**  
Accounting

"I have no clue. I don't even know who is running."



**Bonnie Taylor**  
General Studies

"I don't know who they are."



**Ron Wolford**  
Networking

"I don't really know."



**Joel Lonbeck**  
Physics

"I have no idea."



**Linda Tiegen**  
Medical

"What is that? I don't know."

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# STAFF BLOGS

How we REALLY feel.

## Memories

**Gregory Dewar**  
 The Commuter

I finally got the gumption to start cleaning this weekend. It's been, literally, a year since I cleaned my house. And while I normally don't do much housework or domestic stuff during school terms because by the time I get home from school AND work AND The Commuter, I'm so dead tired, I just want to watch an hour of TV and then pass out.

I started to count the beer bottles. And they painted out a history for me. This bottle of Mike's I'd given to this girl, or that Coors my friend Rob brought over. Black Butte Porter I drank to forget my ex-fiancee. Each one I could place with a date, time, and person and it felt exact, like recreating the last year of my life.

And then I realized, it's been almost a year since I broke off my engagement with my fiancee who used to live here with me. And it was almost like I'd forgotten. But the more I cleaned the more things of her things I found; a dust-covered leather strap used to tie up her dreadlocks, worn with age, still reeking of sweat from all the concerts we attended; a picture of her, she framed herself and placed above my bedstand, fallen off and actually into the air vent on my subwoofer. It reminded me of my life the past year, that no matter what I do, I'm still diverging around the memories of her.

The worst was a stuffed Ziggy vampire doll that reads "I love you!" in a cartoonish font. She gave that to me the first month we were together, all those long years ago.

And I realized why I don't clean. It's not because I'm a messy person, and it's not because I hate hard work. It's because I know every inch of my room is crawling with memories. And I'm so afraid of what I might find. What things in my past I've tried so hard to forget or move past that will come cropping back up. Things that I didn't have the strength to deal with when

they were new. Just...things. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized the golden sheen of time had passed over, all of those memories were happy. And these were just things. Things I could keep if I wanted and put on display, or things I could toss because they meant nothing to me anymore. Just...things.

I desperately needed to clean my room, for my head. And while I'm still mid-process, the fact of the matter is, it feels like it's mine again. It isn't a layer of pain buried with new trappings and things to cover it up. It's just like in your head...you can't just block it out and make it go away.

It was nice to pack up all the memories of my old life in an old hard-drive box and put it on the shelf. The military, my rank insignias, pictures of my brothers in arms, their phone numbers and last known addresses, my lucky bullet, a scrap of paper with no words on it that came off a letter a friend wrote me in Basic. A lock of Sarah's hair, her Guild Wars account information, the hemp necklace she made me at the Country Fair in 2006. The wedding ring I would've given her. The first edition VHS cassette of Star Trek: Voyager's pilot episode. Well, maybe that will stay next to my Tholian Web snowglobe.

Two different lives that were different from the first one, lumped together and buried, because they no longer bear relevance on this one. Love and War. In the sands of time, all things are relegated to equality and sameness.

I don't think I'll ever feel love again, but I'm glad to know I'll never feel war again.

Eventually...you're going to have to deal with that pain. I try so hard to be emotionless and unreadable, and it works, because no one is close to me. But maybe I should let go and get back to who I was...before the Military, before Sarah...back to a pristine time when I was proud to care.

You can't run forever...because you're always going to carry that weight, Space Cowboy.

## Iraq veteran against the war

**Ryan Henson**  
 For The Commuter

Benji Lewis laughs when he talks about the trouble he caught from a Marine staff sergeant for a tattoo he got before his second tour, a large peace sign on his forearm. He laughs when he says that part of the reason he joined the military, at 17, was because it was so cold in Minnesota.

Lewis does not laugh when he talks about what war has put him through, his assignments in Fallujah and Haditha, and the sleep deprivation, malnutrition, and high stress he endured. He does not laugh when he talks about the rocket propelled grenades, the mortar fire, and the fact that he had to kill.

Last October, after being discharged for over a year, Lewis was on inactive reserve, and had moved on from the military. Lewis was attending LBCC, taking a political science class, driven to understand the world events that had such an impact on his life.

One night that October, Benji was woken up by a phone call at five a.m. It was his dad. He told him a certified letter had come. Lewis was being recalled.

The next couple weeks were nerve-racking for Lewis. He lived on a diet of mostly coffee, wine, and cigarettes - results of a previous conclusion that there is nothing good that can arise from war, and he did not want to be part of it any longer.

He decided he would not go back.

The day before he reported to Missouri and proved that he was fit for active duty, Lewis publicly announced at a Winter Soldier hearing in Portland that he was resisting activation due to his convictions.

He is the second inactive reservist, in all branches of the military, to publicly

resist activation.

"We are living in a country where things are changing. The war department is now called The Pentagon, but certain things do not change. Pride doesn't change. Greed doesn't change. Corporate pillaging doesn't change, and the voice of the people doesn't change," Lewis said in his testimony.

Leah Bolger, national vice president of Veterans for Peace, said there were a number of ways that Lewis could have avoided his recall - one being to simply ignore it and go on living his life without penalty. She admires the courage it took to announce his resistance publicly and the degree to which he has become involved.

"He is now working very hard to make sure that other inactive reservists understand their rights and options, and has quickly become an integral part of the peace movement both locally and nationally," Bolger said.

Since his announcement, Lewis has joined a number of organizations, including Iraqi Veterans Against the War, Veterans for Peace, and Courage to Resist.

With these organizations, Lewis participates in outreach for Iraqi veterans with post traumatic stress disorder, is setting up a truth in recruitment program, which hopes to limit recruiters on college campuses and is working on a sanctuary city project in Portland, which would turn the city into a safe haven for soldiers who are conscientious objectors.

In an article Lewis wrote for the Courage to Resist web-page, he calls out to other inactive reservists who may find themselves called to a war they feel to be morally wrong.

"We can say no," Lewis writes.

## What day is it?

**Gregory Dewar**  
 The Commuter

I didn't even know what day it was.

Though it seemed a normal day like any other.

I logged on for my usual OS25/Malygos 25 raid in WoW and was greeted to an empty guild roster and a GMOTD (Guild Message of the Day) explaining that we should all go out and enjoy the night.

I thought that was odd, since we never call our raids off, but I continued to dink around and scan the AH (Auction House), I asked a few friends why no one was around and they couldn't figure it out either. I grew bored and left the world (of snorecraft) and couldn't figure out what to do. I'd already reorganized my music and photo collections, as well as

performed my usual weekend system maintenance. So I broke out Gun, which I've had for a good two years and haven't played. I finished about 30% of the game in one sitting, which was quite enjoyable.

Messages about CS:S (Counterstrike: Source) and Gun showed up on my X-fire (an in-game instant messenger) and I followed suit while idling in Dodge City. Somewhere in the conversation I was asked what I was doing for Valentines Day.

I mentioned off-handedly that I'd figure it out when it rolled around, to which I was reminded that \*today\* was Valentines Day.

\*Gasp\*

My first thought was "What manner of burger is this? And these slivers of potato extract..." but then I calmed myself as I came

to the realization: I just can't keep up with these Hallmark holidays. And Valentines Day is, perhaps, my least favorite.

There's only ever been one Valentines Day where I actually had a significant other to get all flustered about. Other than that it's just a day where I sit and feel lonely for about 10 minutes before I forget.

My mind wanders, as it always does, as all the normal people coalesce. How many hearts would be broken tonight? How many babies would be conceived? How many people are there sitting at home, alone, playing 3rd-person-shooters are there, like me?

Why am I so abnormal? Why don't I even try to fit in? Why does no one like me?

And as always, in the end, I remember that I don't care.

\*Because emotions are hard\*

### Submit to The Commuter!

commuter@linnbenton.edu

917-4451

Forum 222

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not express the views of The Commuter, its staff, Linn-Benton Community College, Dexter Morgan, or Santa Claus.

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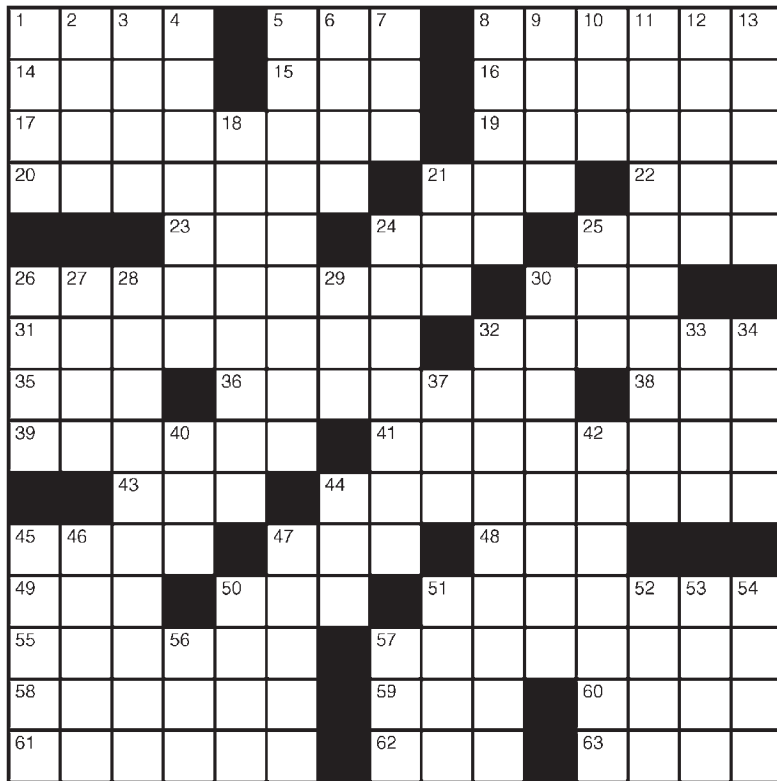
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# SURREAL LIVING

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gymnast Korbut
  - 5 Pitcher Maglie
  - 8 Mary Tyler and Roger
  - 14 Nearly hopeless
  - 15 Money player
  - 16 Insincere
  - 17 Soared past
  - 19 Frilled strip
  - 20 Finery
  - 21 Certainly!
  - 22 Crater edge
  - 23 Hanoi holiday
  - 24 Paraffin
  - 25 Colleen
  - 26 As it were
  - 30 Disney dwarf
  - 31 Become too hot
  - 32 Baby's foot
  - 35 Jacob's fifth son
  - 36 Repair job
  - 38 Mamie's mate
  - 39 Los \_\_, NM
  - 41 Island of Ireland
  - 43 Writer Hentoff
  - 44 Plans again from scratch
  - 45 \_\_ de foie gras
  - 47 Fizzler
  - 48 Bribe
  - 49 Kubrick's computer
  - 50 Wrath
  - 51 Superlatively tangy
  - 55 You better!
  - 57 Tyrant
  - 58 Snooping
  - 59 Wapiti
  - 60 Immaculate
  - 61 Beginnings
  - 62 Help!
  - 63 Web location



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2/18/09

- DOWN**
- 1 Redolence
  - 2 Draw breath
  - 3 "Dharma & \_\_"
  - 4 Turf ventilating device
  - 5 Green soup base
  - 6 Precinct
  - 7 Heavyhearted
  - 8 Purple dye source
  - 9 Millstone

- 10 Canceled
- 11 Acting as a lens
- 12 Writer Peters
- 13 Parts of pipes
- 18 Red-light district
- 21 Flap gums
- 24 Observed
- 25 Old card game
- 26 Word with water or pop
- 27 Racetrack layout
- 28 Lacking lessees
- 29 Take in food
- 30 Infers from info
- 32 One-size-fits-all footwear
- 33 Coating
- 34 Some votes
- 37 Put out of the way
- 40 W.C.'s co-star, often
- 42 Foundation stones

### Solutions



- 44 Regret
- 45 Graph starter?
- 46 Slugger Henry
- 47 Cabernet sediments
- 50 Fails to be
- 51 Storage cylinder
- 52 Sewing case
- 53 Alphabetize
- 54 Sycamore or palm
- 56 Perjure
- 57 \_\_ Moines



"Honey, we're homeless ..."

