

COMMUTER

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WHATS CRACKIN' MAGRATTEN?

A Q&A with LBCC's Anne Magratten About Her Career and Feelings Towards Painting

STORY BY **MEGAN FREITAS**

Through various buildings within the campus, you can find work done by many people, some of those even being students. Art and creativity are very large and important factors within our society, and colleges are no different. Although we may not be able to physically walk through the halls and see all the art that LBCC has to offer this term, the creative spirit of LBCC is living on in different ways.

Anne Magratten is a visual arts instructor here at LBCC. Some of the classes she teaches are various drawing classes, painting and basic design. She is also involved in several other things on campus such as overseeing the art gallery and being a co adviser for the Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club. She sometimes is an adviser for the Film Club as well. Not only does her passion for art show through her classes, she paints and is involved artistically outside of her job as well.

Our way of learning and teaching has majorly changed this term. How has this impacted the way you teach your classes?

"Before this term, I had never offered an online class. Studio classes are really rooted in hands-on learning and face-to-face feedback. It was a monumental adjustment for me. I have been making lectures, demos, and slideshows but it feels really surreal to just post them online rather than share them in person. I feel really proud of my student artists, they are producing strong work even with many obstacles."

What adjustments did you have to make yourself this term and what struggles have you faced with it?

"I spend way more time with my computer. I have been teaching myself very basic video editing. I'm forced to see and hear myself in recordings which is humbling and funny. I had no idea how I would talk while drawing or painting. It turns out that I sound rather soothing but it is hard to hear yourself breathing and not feel deeply self conscious."

What has inspired you to teach and go into the field of art?

"I have drawn and painted all my



life. It brings me an authentic fulfillment I can't find anywhere else. I love that it challenges me to appreciate new things, allows me to build my own value system, and solve complex problems."

What significant things have you learned from your students through your time teaching?

"I learn things from my students every day. I am inspired by their resilience in the face of adversity, their dedication, and their willingness to take risks while learning. My students make remarkably brave work that addresses their personal experiences, struggles, and identity. Sometimes they take on big social issues like racism, sexism, and I see them advocating for change in their work!"

What have been hobbies and activities that you have been doing to help you get through these rough times?

"I take really long walks. For a while, I kept visiting a tulip field by my house. When I walk, it feels like the anxiety is being pressed out of my body and I am renewed."

What led you to or inspired you to go into teaching at LBCC?

"I started my education at Mendocino Community College. I wanted to go immediately to a four year art school but even with scholarships it would have left me with enormous debt. The quality of courses and instruction were stellar and I was able to work while I studied. I was so glad that I started at



a community college, I vowed I would become an art instructor and try to pass along the gift I had received."

What kinds of art have you always been the most drawn to? Is there any reason for that?

"I have immense love and respect for all types of art but for me there is something very special about painting. When I see a painting, it is like the work is speaking directly to me. I'm also a fiend for handmade artists books."

How does your own work outside class differ from the work you teach and focus on in your classes?

"I am striving to introduce my students to a really wide range of artistic voices and ways of working. My recent work has been about revitalizing still life paintings, making them modern, and painting from a queer / feminist perspective. The work focuses on sexuality and reproduction but I don't expect my students to address these issues. (I've attached a few paintings for you to see). I paint portraits, landscapes, still life, and abstractions. I don't want to limit myself from exploration. I always talk with my students a little about my process but I want to leave them open to decide what concepts are important to their work."

What media or form of art is your favorite to focus on in your teaching?

"Whatever class I am standing in front of, I find myself telling them that (Drawing I, Drawing II, Figure Drawing, Basic Design, and Painting I) is my favorite course to teach. While this is funny, I feel deeply fortunate."

What other things are you

At A Glance:

OCCUPATION: LBCC Visual Arts Instructor

EDUCATION: Mendocino Community College, BA at Mills College, MFA at University of Oregon

CLASSES: Visual Arts, Drawing I, Drawing II, Figure Drawing, Basic Design, Painting

OTHER TASKS: Oversee the art gallery, advisor for Film Club, co-advisor for Gender and Sexuality Alliance

INTERESTS: drawing, painting, long walks

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For more of Anne's work take a look at her [Instagram](#)

involved in through LBCC besides just being an art teacher and what made you want to be a part of it?

"I oversee the art gallery curricular program. This means each year I get to mentor student gallery coordinators as they learn about curation and gallery management. We set up all the art shows in North Santiam Gallery, South Santiam Gallery, and the Calapooia Gallery and have artist talks. It is amazing fun to be at the center of all that artwork."

I am also one of two co-advisors for the Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club. It allows me to be part of and serve the queer community!

Additionally, I am the advisor for the LB Film Club. They make awesome films and while this isn't my specialty I have learned a lot from them. Both clubs are a little sleepy this term. I hope we can reinvigorate them!"

INSIDE THIS EDITION

GRAPHICS: [FREEPIK.COM](#)



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THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

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A RISE IN FALL TUITION

LBCC Will Push Through With an 8% Tuition Increase Next School Year

STORY BY
BOWEN ORCUTT

LBCC students will see an 8% increase in tuition next school year, as the college looks to close a budget gap brought on by declining state funding and lower enrollment caused by the coronavirus.

These changes were discussed and approved in a pair of meetings last Wednesday, May 20. One with the LBCC Budget Committee, the other with our Board of Education.

LBCC President Greg Hamann started the meeting by showing the committee a revised budget framework, to address their budget concerns. The main focus was the amount the college expects to receive in state aid. Since the last meeting, a revenue forecast had been released, which turned out to be a mixed bag.

The assumption had been that aid would drop by about \$3 million. The revenue forecast instead predicted a drop of \$2.7 million. The general consensus among committee members was that this number is still bad for the college, but less so than they had originally been expecting. To reflect this, Hamann proposed lowering the 10% tuition hike discussed in the previous meeting down to 8%.

Meanwhile, the U.S. House of Representatives has passed a multi-trillion-dollar aid package that could provide support for a lot of groups, including community colleges. However, it is currently stalled in the Senate, and President Trump has vowed not to sign it, Hamann told the committee. As such, the college is not counting on this aid when making its budget projections.

So the college is considering a combination of budget cuts and tuition increases to balance its budget over the next biennium.

"We have not yet identified how we are going to reduce the budget by these amounts," Hamann told the committee. "There are a variety of things we could do, [budget committee member] Chanz Keeney has on a number of occasions brought up issues of furloughs, that's certainly a part of the ways in which we might choose to reduce the budget."

Hamann also said it will take about two years for the effects of the reductions to become apparent, which has been taken into account with their prediction models.

"We're certainly interested in making sure that our reductions don't seriously impact your ability to serve our students," Hamann said.

Committee members seemed in agreement on a model for the budget to take, and then administrators can follow up with discussions with the various student, staff and faculty groups on how best to implement them.

According to Tom Oliver, the

committee chairman, spreading their budget plan out over an extended period of time means they won't have to scramble to implement their decisions concerning it as soon as possible.

According to committee member Pat Malone, another quarterly state revenue forecast in August will likely give them cause to re-evaluate their budget plan.

According to Hamann, LBCC is doing its budget differently from other schools, universities, and colleges.

"Most of the educational entities in the state are building budgets that do not assume reduction in state funding," he said. "We've made a decision to try and incorporate, as best we can, our understanding of what state support will look like."

The majority of the meeting was taken up by a conversation spawned from a concern raised with committee member Chanz Keeney. The primary concern Keeney raised was that other colleges have been implementing furloughs to reduce costs, and he wanted to know why LBCC wasn't doing the same. He was critical of LBCC's current system, which involves delaying furloughs for the time being, and felt it will cause the college problems in the long run.

He also was critical of the seeming lack of communication between the committee and the Board of Education. Members of the board he'd spoken to before the meeting apparently knew nothing about the 10% tuition hike discussed previously, and none of them knew about other colleges implementing furloughs.

Once the debate was done, committee member Jim Merryman moved to approve the proposed budget for the 2020-21 school year, to the total amount of \$130,217,366. The motion was seconded by Joan Reukauf, a committee member who was also sworn onto the board later that night. It was approved nearly unanimously, with Keeney being the only nay.

Oliver then moved to adjourn the committee's meeting, reminding everyone that disagreement doesn't translate to disrespect of people's opinions. And he acknowledged that this has been a particularly difficult budget to discuss and finalize. He commended the staff for their work.

Then came the Board of Education meeting.

Angie Geno, the new president of the Student Leadership Council, was introduced at the start of the meeting. She opened by stating how glad she was for her and other members of the SLC to get to attend the meeting via zoom.

Also in attendance for the SLC was Nia Alvarado, the council's current VP. Other members introduced include Jacob Cotterel, the chieftain of events, Marissa Miles, the campus outreach coordinator, Johnny Media, the legislative

affairs director, Winston Montgomery the executive assistant, Christian Pool an event planner, and Morgan Sylvia the clubs and engagement director.

According to Hamann, the SLC will have a signing-in ceremony for their new leadership on May 28.

Hamann then asked the SLC members how working together is going without being able to meet in person. Geno responded saying that they've been holding weekly meetings via Zoom.

Then the meeting turned over to Cam Preus, the executive director of the Oregon Community College Association, who talked about the organization and how it relates to the college.

According to Preus, a lot of the OCCA's work since the pandemic started has been to help colleges adapt to these difficult times. Preus said that the organization provides a platform for colleges to engage in discussion, but doesn't try to direct the conversation.

The OCCA has been involved in a lot of discussions about reopening, and how to make sure staff and students stay safe. Also still doing discussions with the Legislature, like engaging in discussions about the impact of the governor's mandated 8% allotment reduction.

Next, Jennifer Boehmer, the college's Director of Advancement, then shared information about the successful LBCC Cares Day, the first-ever event to raise money for the college's student emergency fund. She thanked all the people on the board who donated.

"All of those funds will go to help students that are facing emergencies right now because of Covid-19," she said.

The Roadrunner Student Emergency Fund was started about three weeks before the event, and had raised about \$30,000. LBCC Cares Day raised an additional \$22,000, about half of that from LBCC employees and the rest from community members.

Then Merryman turned the meeting back over to Angie Geno to talk some more about the SLC. Apparently the team has recently completed their first leadership retreat.

She also laid out their goals for the coming school year, such as encouraging students to get more involved with extracurriculars, and working to pass on the legacy of the SLC to the next leadership team.

The SLC has also been working on putting together a meeting to discuss the tuition hike on June 4-5, and a website to celebrate graduating students.

The Board Meeting ended by voting to approve various propositions, including approval for the Budget Committee's proposed 8% tuition increase, which will take effect beginning Summer Term.

GRAPHICS: PEXELS.COM



A DAY AT THE LAKE

Triangle Lake Offers a Sanctuary to Build Warm Memories with Friends and Families



COLUMN BY
ARIANNA STAHLBAUM

Just days before the stay-at-home order was issued, I had hoped to start my spring break with a trip to my favorite spot for some peaceful time in the sun. I had it all planned out. Some friends and I were going to bring a cooler with food and picnic out on the rocks, maybe dip our feet in the pools, and spend some calm, quality time together.

I would be climbing from rock to rock, wading into the water, maybe even floating on an inner tube to get a good shot or two with my camera. There would be books everywhere, maybe a guitar and harmonizing voices, towels, and sunscreen. I would have brought my Bluetooth speaker and a cooler with snacks too.

Now about almost two months later I still have not visited Slide Rock. About a mile down the road from Triangle Lake hides natural pools where one could cliff jump and glide down the slick rock slide, swim in the sunlight, sit behind the falls, explore the surrounding area, and tan out on the rocks.

The rock slide pours into the lower pool, where you can swim, float, or jump off a giant fallen tree. From the lower pool, you can climb back up to the upper pool on a wide ledge.

I spent my 16th birthday with my family and a friend, where my crazy cousins, uncles, aunts, mother, and siblings spent the day last summer for a family reunion, it's where some close girlfriends and I went to get some fun in the sun.

The first time I went down the rock slide, I did not use an innertube. I



PHOTO: ARIANNA STAHLBAUM

The rock slide pours into the lower pool, where you can swim, float, or jump off a giant fallen tree.

had watched people go down for a while before I mustered up the courage to go down myself. I positioned myself in a place where I hoped I wouldn't hit a jagged rock that the water flows into.

I pushed off and flew. The wind pushed my hair back as my body slid down the slick surface, hit the jagged rock, and jetted into the lower pool. I came up from the water grinning. I went down that slide so many times that day, but with an innertube. The jagged rock wasn't too bad, but I figured it could tear up my leg if I continuously went down without an innertube.

The first time I went, a guy went down the slides in cargo shorts and unfortunately split them down the middle... It was amusing but I was embarrassed for him. He spent the rest of

the day hiking around the surrounding area.

On the side of the upper pool is a cliff with four ledges, all at different heights. I never built up the courage to jump off the three higher ledges, as they are more difficult to get to. I've only seen one person jump off the top ledge, which really isn't much of a ledge. I was nervous that I would have to perform CPR that day. Luckily I didn't have to.

Lake Creek Falls emptying into the upper pool. There's a ledge you can follow to hide behind the falls.

Going with my family during our Weber Family Weekend reunion trip was a great time! I love my cousins, and we were all jumping in the water together and racing down the slides. My uncle cannonballed from one of the higher platforms, sending a huge wave over his kids. My mom captured all the laughter with her camera. We plan to go back again for this year's reunion.

Above the upper pool, a waterfall drapes over an easily-climbable mossy ledge. The ledge creates a small cove where you can lay behind the falls or use it to slide through into the pool below. Climbing up the mossy slope takes you to some quieter pools that lead upstream to a 25-foot waterfall. I haven't explored past the more isolated pools, but you can hear the falls from there.

For individuals who prefer a crowd-less scenery, the pools above the cliff jumping pool are not typically busy. It's serene and shady, but be sure to watch your step as it is slippery in that area. You can still hear the business below, but the water's movement and the swaying of the trees catch your attention and sing in your ears.

I've encountered many friendly



PHOTO: ARIANNA STAHLBAUM

In Lake Creek Falls emptying into the upper pool, there's a ledge that follows behind the falls.

TRIANGLE LAKE ROCK SLIDES

WHERE: 19190 OR-36, Blachly, OR 97412

WHAT: Natural rock slide and swimming holes

STATUS: Open

WHERE TO EAT: Lakeview Grocery

BEST TIME TO GO: Summer

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
theoutbound.com

eugeneoutdoors.com

roadtripsforfamilies.com

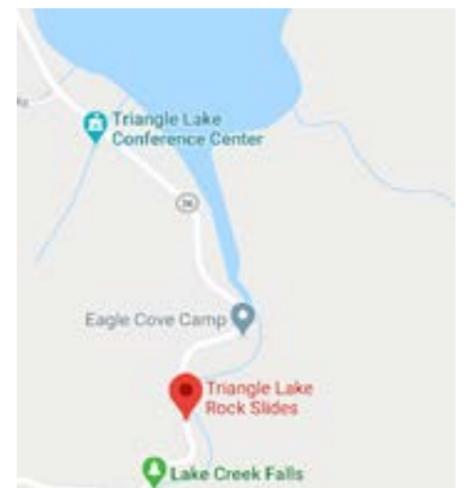
For more of Arianna's work check out her [blog](#)

faces at Slide Rock. Last time I went, my friends and I were dipping our feet in the water at the top of a slide and a family offered their innertube to us. I had no intention of swimming because it was still a little cold, but their kindness was wonderful.

One downside is that the parking situation can be quite a mess. There is a parking lot, but it is small. I have heard of people getting tickets if they park on the side of the road, so if this is your only option I would advise parking somewhere where your car won't be on the road at all.

While there is a bathroom, which is currently closed, at the parking lot, I haven't had good experiences with it. It's rarely ever clean. There is no lodging or restaurants near Slide Rock, but there is a grocery store. Lakeview Grocery is a two-minute drive away.

People typically spend a half to a full day here. To ensure a shady parking spot, I usually try to get there around 11 a.m. or noon, just as the cool morning starts burning off. This also increases your chances of claiming a perfect shady spot by the water to keep your things and relax.



WELDING ONLINE WITH ROSE

Marc Rose Speaks on the Issues of Running a Hands-On Class in Quarantine

STORY BY
BRENDA AUTRY

Marc Rose is a full time welding instructor and the department chair of the welding program at LBCC. This is his fifth year teaching full time and he taught part time for six years prior to that. Marc is also an alumni of the LB welding program. He lives in Lebanon with his wife, 16-year-old daughter and 11-year-old son.

How did you get started teaching?

"I wanted to teach right out of high school, but I wasn't the most academic of students and I couldn't see myself going to school for four more years. So, I kind of lost focus on that dream for a while. But about 11 or 12 years ago Dean Dowless (a welding instructor at LB) contacted me about teaching a part time class. I was like, 'Yeah! Why not?' I taught part time for about six years and then five years ago there was an opening for a full time faculty member. I applied, and here I am."

What did you do before teaching at LB?

"I worked at a local pulp and paper mill in Albany -- Warehouse which became IP. When they closed I went down to Springfield and I started at a mill down there as a pipefitter and became a supervisor."

How did you get into welding?

"I worked on a farm during my summers in high school and I liked working in the shop repairing stuff. After high school, I showed up to orientation my first year at LB and John Alvin, one of the welding instructors, said 'If you want to be a welder, come with me.' So I followed him and that's how I became a welder."

What do welders do?

"What do we not do?" Laughing
"What I always tell students is that don't think of yourself as being under the welding hood all day. You're also going to be fabricating, building and repairing stuff. But there's also other career paths you can get into with welding. Mechanical engineering, sales, equipment maintenance, and repair manufacturing. I mean, there's a ton of stuff. And there's a lot more careers in general welding than just welding itself."

What's it like to be a welder? What does a day as a welder look like?

"A welder working at one of the local facilities, like LMN and H30, works as a group. So you have to have good communications skills and good math skills because you have to interpret blueprints and drawings, figure out your cuts, cut all your parts, prep all your parts, weld all your parts, double check all your parts and get them ready for shipping. There's a lot more to welding than people realize. People think welders just make sparks and weld stuff together, but there's a little bit more to it than that."

We always tell prospective students that you may not know it but your everyday life is touched by welding. If you drove a car today, it was welded together. If you went over a bridge, it was welded. The building you work in has welded components. There's a lot more to it than people give us credit for."

How did your work prior to LB prepare you for being a teacher?

"I worked on both the production and the management side of things."

Managing a crew of people with different personalities, and being a middle manager with other managers above me and my crew below me, helped me to build my communication skills. I learned how to make sure that everybody had the information they needed. That part helped me learn how to run my class like I would run a job. The student's job is to learn the skills and my job is to teach them.

So, I set that expectation. I tell my students if you're not here to learn I can't teach you. I had a boss that would always say 'inspect what you expect,' which I thought was kind of silly at the time. But that's kind of how I teach. I set an expectation, then I always inspect to make sure they're following through with it."

What do you find to be the most satisfying part of your job as a welding instructor?

"There's a couple of things. I tell my students that you're going to struggle. You'll improve then you'll regress. Then you'll improve and then you'll probably regress. Then, one day, it just clicks. And you're like, 'Oh my gosh! This is easy!'"

So when they have that aha moment.

Also, when I hear back from students who have graduated and gone on to successful careers. When I hear back from them, that's also pretty cool."

With this term being online only, how are you teaching your welding students?

"Mostly, we're shooting a lot of videos and having zoom classes. I got my wife and kids to help me put together some tool kits for students. They include some supplies the students need and we made up these electrode holders so students can practice their hand eye coordination. This way the students actually have some things at home so when we shoot a video and say 'hey, work on this,' we give them some demonstrations and then ask them to do it."

Our traditional classes are probably about 10-20% lecture, depending on the exact course, and the rest is a lot of hands on. We've had to try and figure out how to go from that format to where we are now - online. We've worked out a way for them to practice some from home, but teaching these types of skills online hasn't been easy for sure."

On the positive side, we've learned how to use Moodle and some other technology available to us more. I think our students are starting to feel more comfortable with it and I think it's going to help us in the future. I can see us keeping one or two classes with the lecture portions online in future terms. It makes it much more flexible for students who work."

This term was just really hard because we didn't have more time to prepare. It's week seven now and we're still learning because we are learning as we go."

How are students reacting to online learning?

"I have a pretty good group of students that I already had a relationship with before this, because we work in cohorts, and they've been really understanding. Whenever we meet I tell them I know this isn't ideal but we're not singled out -- we're not the only ones dealing with this."

They've been good at giving feedback on the videos I post and that's



helpful, knowing they're actually engaging. The Zoom meetings are beneficial to the students who can make it but some students have had a hard time.

Their living situations have changed, they're trying to support their families and work in any job they can find. I have a few students that have had some housing issues this term and it has really impacted their school. They're really freaked out. I've reached out to them and we talk a couple times a week. I keep telling them "Hey, don't worry about it. We'll get through it. This isn't normal so don't stress about school so much. Worry about your life first then we'll get you back on track."

I think it helps them to talk. And I'm a talker so...

But it's been hard not having everyone together. I know the students really miss it because one of my first assignments in class this term was asking them how are you going to do with online classes, and what are you going to miss the most about being on campus."

Most of them said they're going to miss me the most! Just kidding.

[They] said they're really going to miss being in the shop and seeing their classmates every day. Because isolation sucks. But having some of these Zoom meetings where they can kind of see each other and they have their own instant messaging and text groups to stay in touch with each other has been good."

Specific to online teaching, what are some of the things you've identified as your biggest challenges and your biggest success?

"The biggest challenge, since we used Moodle so sparingly before, is making sure that we all utilize it now the best we can to keep as engaged as possible with our students. But we have pretty good support. The Moodle team and Paul Tanahill have been really helpful. And some of the Kaltura software we got for this term has been really helpful."

We kind of stumbled into some of our successes using Kaltura. There's an option to embed questions into a video you've made, so the video stops and asks questions throughout it. The students really like that because it makes them feel more like they do during class -- like I'm there talking to them, asking them questions. It's still not real, but I think it's as real as we can get."

One big difference in teaching online is that in a classroom I can read people's body language and facial

expressions to see if they're getting it. I can't do that online. I tell them to call me or text me, let me know how they're doing but you have to get them to be honest with you and tell you if they don't get it."

How has it been working from home with your family?

"Working from home has been a challenge. My kids are doing online school too so the internet can be kind of a booger. My daughter had AP tests yesterday so she was like, 'Nobody use the computer!' because she didn't want anything to get jacked up."

My wife works in the dental field so she just went back to work. She was home for a while though because all the dental offices have been shut. But it hasn't been bad having everyone home. It was like everybody, you know, had to meet everybody again. It's kind of weird."

Outside of work, what are you passionate about?

"I like doing home improvement stuff. We've lived in our house for about 20 years and I think I've remodeled each room at least once. Some rooms twice. And we just did a big addition last year. I also like going camping and fishing out on the boat. I have a welding shop at home -- surprise, surprise -- as well, so I like to work on hot rods and trucks."

If you had no limits on your budget or your program, what would you add to the welding program?

"Honestly, I don't even think I'd want money. I would just want time. Time to get everything done. We've been under construction for the last three or four years and just when we're about done, we get shut down for covid. We were so close to getting back to normal and now it's like we have to reset. We still have stuff to finish up in the shops, and the IA's are out there working on it, but we don't have students in the shop to help. It's really nice when the students help out with the building and organizing because they learn from it."

But now we have to reinvent the way we teach. I don't think money would help with any of that. I just want some time so we can just get back to normal and not have to work around stuff like we have been the last few years. We just want to go and teach in our shops."

With everything that's going on, what do you think the future of your program looks like?

Welding kind of stays the same. I mean, there are technological advances in equipment, but the basics of building stay the same. And throughout the whole pandemic, one thing we've seen with our industry partners is that they've stayed working this whole time. Their jobs are deemed essential. I feel like we might see an influx of students next year that we wouldn't normally see. A lot of people have lost their jobs and maybe they know someone who is a welder and saw that they stayed working the whole time. That may make them come look into it for themselves."

What should someone do if they're interested in the welding program?

"Don't be afraid to ask questions. Get a hold of me, Cameren Moran, or anyone else in the program and ask for more information. We can also steer them towards another CTE program for information. Just don't be afraid to ask."



REVIEWS BY
STEVEN PRYOR
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

“Animal Crossing New Horizons” is the latest main installment in the “Animal Crossing” series, and the first to be released on the Nintendo Switch. Though anticipation for the first main entry since “New Leaf” on the Nintendo 3DS was always high, the game has proven to be not only the best installment in the series to date; but the ideal experience in these uncertain times.

The game shakes up the long-standing formula by having you and your fellow animal friends take up refuge on a tropical island. Under the guidance of Tom Nook and his nephews Timmy and Tommy; you end up not only building your home, but an entire town to your liking. With a much greater emphasis on crafting and creating this time around, the game has easily been the freshest entry to date. The relaxed atmosphere allows players to go at their own pace, giving a sense of stability and serenity in a time where there isn't much of a supply of either.

Originally slated to come out during the 2019 holiday season, the game was delayed to this past March to fine-tune

the title before it shipped. In hindsight, this decision worked out wonderfully. Not only do the graphics and gameplay show how far the series has come since it first came to the US in 2002, it's become the perfect way to escape to paradise in these troubling times.

On top of being able to craft items from resources found in-game, the flexibility of custom content on your island is endless. Everything from a simple shovel to an entire virtual graduation ceremony and more is possible to create in the game's toolbox. With more updates planned to roll out over time, the game looks to add another worthy title to the growing catalog of the Nintendo Switch. Though there have been many games in the series since the release of the first entry on Gamecube in 2002 (itself a reworking of the Japanese N64 title “Animal Forest”), this title is worthy of being the first main installment in the eight years since “New Leaf” launched in 2012.

With the game having sold a record 13 million copies to date, “Animal Crossing New Horizons” is the definitive “Animal Crossing” experience. It's another “must-own” game for the Switch and the ideal tropical escape in a time where people need it the most.



'ANIMAL CROSSING NEW HORIZONS'

PUBLISHER: Nintendo

DEVELOPER: Nintendo EPD

PLATFORM: Nintendo Switch

ESRB RATING: E

MY RATING: ★★★★★ PHOTO COURTESY: IMDB.COM

NINTENDO DOOM

More than twenty years after its original release on the Nintendo 64 in 1997, “Doom 64” has been rereleased on digital platforms along with other previous games in the series to tie into the release of this year's “Doom Eternal.” Though parts of the title are starting to show their age, the game is still a strong take on the long-running series that translates well to the Nintendo Switch.

Since the release of the original game on PC in 1993, the “Doom” series has been a key cornerstone of the first-person-shooter genre.

Close to every console has had its own unique version of the game, and the N64 version was a standout port in its day. Its release on modern platforms such as the Switch (as well as the PS4 and Xbox One) comes with several enhancements to the graphics and gameplay.

Many of the textures have been smoothed out, and the game runs at a consistent 60 frames per second. Rather than the C buttons of the original N64 controller, the game's controls now use a modern twin-stick control scheme; where the left analog stick moves your character

and the right stick aims your weapon.

This is a major improvement to help bring the game to modern players and feels like a natural way to help make it easier to revisit for existing ones. Cutting through waves of enemies feels quite satisfying, and the gameplay translates surprisingly well to the modern climate for shooters.

That's not to say that this version isn't completely without issues. Some of the controls do take some getting used to, and some puzzles and level designs are confusing to complete. The necessity to make a Bethesda login for a 23-year-old game is also as irritating as it is absurd for DRM. Still, the game has held up remarkably well as part of a larger franchise that's had 27 years of success.

Though not on the same level as fellow N64 shooters such as Rare's “Goldeneye” and “Perfect Dark,” the game is an overall strong take on the “Doom” series. Whether or not you're a longtime fan or a relative newcomer to the series, “Doom 64” is worth checking out to “rip and tear until it's done.”



'DOOM 64'

PUBLISHER: Bethesda Softworks

DEVELOPER: ID Software

PLATFORM: Nintendo Switch eShop (Also available on Playstation Network Store and Xbox Live Arcade, Original Release on Nintendo 64)

ESRB RATING: M

MY RATING: ★★★★★☆ PHOTO COURTESY: IMDB.COM

COOKED WITH CANNABIS

REVIEW BY
MADLINE PELKEY

“There is a revolution taking the cooking world by storm, and it’s all because of this star ingredient: Pot!” - Kelis

Not long ago I was looking for something to dull the pain of quarantine and found myself on Netflix looking for something to watch. That’s when I found it – “Cooked With Cannabis” – a cooking competition whose title immediately had me calling up a friend and sitting down for a Netflix Party as we watched in pure amazement as gourmet chefs combined their elegant dishes with the sticky-icky.

The premise of a cooking competition centered around weed may seem strange, but take it from someone who doesn’t have a whole lot of knowledge on marijuana, this show is really fun to watch.

First airing just a few weeks ago on April 6, the series only has six episodes in its first season, but it’s off to a strong start.

The show is hosted by popular musician/chef Kelis, along with Portland’s very own cannabis culinaire, Leather Storrs. Together the two of them show the world that the once-feared drug now has many uses outside of just a joint.

A basic synopsis of each episode: three chefs compete for \$10,000 by cooking up a three-course meal with some amount of weed laced into the mix under a certain time limit. A panel of four judges, along with the show’s hosts, judge each meal one at a time before selecting a winner at the end of the episode.

It has the basic gist of a regular cook-off. So what makes this

show different from a regular cooking competition?

There’s the weed, obviously, but there’s also a lot less stress and pressure in these competitions. Unlike series such as Chopped and Iron Chef, all of the cooks and judges are laid-back and provide an aspect of wholesome, feel-good humor that kept me laughing throughout each episode.

Another wonderful thing this series brings to the table are the contestants. All of them are unique and fun and it’s not hard to find yourself rooting for all of them within the first five minutes of the episode.

One last thing that’s so noteworthy about the series is the almost perfect balance of culinary and weed expertise. The regular onlooker may skim past this title screen and think, “Oh a show about stoners cooking,” but I assure you, that’s not the case.

Joel Keller, an author for “Decider” wrote, “People don’t realize that the woman who brought us the phrase ‘My milkshake brings all the boys to the yard’ also studied as a saucier at Paris’s famed cooking school Le Cordon Bleu from 2006-10.”

Keller’s words demonstrate that despite how lighthearted and silly this show is, the cooking is still a pivotal part of the show.

As wonderfully mellow and humorous as “Cooked With Cannabis” is, I’d be lying if I said it wasn’t without setbacks.

One flaw that is noticeable after the third episode is the repetitiveness. Even with the change of judges, contestants, and food theme, the show’s subject matter is so specific that it’s hard to keep things fresh and interesting and as a result previous content is doomed to



'COOKED WITH CANNABIS'

STARRING: Kelis, Leather Storrs

PLATFORM: Nintendo Switch

DISTRIBUTOR: Netflix

RATED: MA for some strong language and the use of recreational marijuana.

MY RATING: ★★★★★ **PHOTO COURTESY:** NETFLIX

repeat itself, making the viewer’s interest gradually plateau.

After the first few episodes of seeing the chefs use different amounts of THC and CBC and having them give the same explanation of what they do, the appeal of a weed-inspired cooking show starts to die down and become pretty formulaic and lacking in zest.

This show’s second weakness is the judges. The judges are a cast of colorful, humorous, and familiar faces that are very enjoyable to see, but despite all the joy they bring throughout the show, they really falter when it comes to their roles.

None of them seem to have any culinary knowledge of their own and

when a well-prepared, well-plated dish comes before them to be judged their comments are usually reduced to a simple “good” or “bad” or occasionally they don’t even know what they’re looking at.

This flaw can hit pretty hard on the show’s immersion and investment, especially in the episode’s final moments when a winner is decided.

To sum it up, “Cooked With Cannabis” is a fun, lighthearted show that caters to a lot of modern day humor and interests, and while it may not be on par with the likes of “Master Chef,” it can still make your mouth water with its beautiful recipes while blowing your mind with its fascinating chemistry lessons.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Antiballistic Missile (abbr.)
 - 4 Son of Ruth
 - 8 Heddles of a loom
 - 12 Shaft
 - 13 Dismiss
 - 14 US dam
 - 15 Tier
 - 17 Winglike
 - 18 Chateaubriand heroine
 - 19 Delirium tremens (abbr.)
 - 21 Variation (pref.)
 - 24 Blaubok
 - 28 Time period
 - 31 Ecclesiastic box
 - 33 Abridged (abbr.)
 - 34 Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
 - 35 Dismal
 - 36 Beam
 - 37 Before

- 38 Burden
- 39 Middle (pref.)
- 40 Eradicate
- 42 P.I. tree
- 44 Gelderland city
- 46 Viper
- 50 E. Indian fiber plant
- 53 Can
- 56 Open
- 57 Initial (abbr.)
- 58 Bronze (Lat.)
- 59 Languish
- 60 Rattan
- 61 Bacon, lettuce, and tomato (abbr.)

- DOWN**
- 1 Harp (Ital.)
 - 2 Entice
 - 3 Talking bird
 - 4 Refuse
 - 5 Life (pref.)
 - 6 Slip
 - 7 Title of property

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

J	A	C	A	D	E	C	I	B	A	N
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D	E	M	E	A	N	O	R	L	A	R
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L	A	N	A	U	S	E	A	R	U	I
A	L	T	I	T	E	R	J	I	B	E

- 8 Shore
- 9 Mulberry of India
- 10 Exclamation
- 11 Sea (Fr.)
- 16 Axillary
- 20 Tree
- 22 New sugarcane shoot
- 23 Mountain nymph
- 25 Berne’s river
- 26 Down with (Fr., 2 words)
- 27 Freezing (pref.)
- 28 Bookbinding style
- 29 Pale brown
- 30 Maple genus
- 32 Arabian judge
- 35 Ran
- 39 Created
- 41 Kind
- 43 Sip
- 45 Heroic
- 47 Dull yellowish brown
- 48 Daredevil Knievel
- 49 Peace of mind
- 50 Weaken
- 51 Silkworm disease
- 52 Bobsey twins
- 54 Genetic letters
- 55 A (Ger.)

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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so each row, column, and 3x3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit.

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