

THE COMMUTER

Wednesday
April 15, 2009

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 40 No. 23



Editor's Note

Gregory Dewar
The Commuter

April 19-26 are the Holocaust Days of Remembrance created by the United States Congress.

For this event we've decided to dedicate an issue to remembering the Holocaust.

The point of this isn't to feel bad, though one cannot help but feel sorrow, but simply to remember the atrocities that happen when charismatic leaders arise with hateful ideologies. Sometimes, we realize exactly who they are too late.

Educate yourself about the past and never allow the bad to transpire again.

Pg. 5 has the etymology of the word "Holocaust" and graphs depicting the difference between military-related and Holocaust-related deaths in the most affected European countries.

Pg. 6 contains a pictorial essay showing the horrors of the Holocaust, as well as an exploration of Nazi-Hunters.

Pg. 7 contains an essay depicting the mental health effects of the U.S. soldiers who liberated the Jews and ended the Holocaust, as well as an events calendar stretching 10 days.

Pg. 8 contains a review of the movie "Defiance", wherein Jews fight back against the Third Reich, as well as the personal story of the child of a Holocaust survivor, forced to live a lie in America.

Pg. 9 discusses the history of the Jews, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Holocaust Rememberance Month



The Commuter
Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar
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CAMPUS NEWS

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

Chinese delegates visit LBCC

Ryan Henson
The Commuter

As one of five community colleges chosen in the US, Linn-Benton Community College will host a group of Chinese delegates until April 26.

The delegates, made up of technical college presidents, are here to study programs, governance, faculty development, curriculum development, and connections to business and industry.

The delegates will also visit classes around campus. Marlene Propst, director of college advancement, expects a good reaction from the students. "I expect our students will be very excited to have the opportunity to meet with the presidents," Propst said.

The visit to LBCC is part of a tour of the United States that began at the American

Association of Community Colleges annual convention in Phoenix.

After the convention, a larger delegation was divided into five smaller teams for in-depth studies at community colleges around the US. The other community colleges chosen includes San Diego Miramar College, College of the Sequoia in California, Pierpont Community & Technical college in West Virginia, and McLennan Community College in Texas.

The Chinese government has asked each president to use his or her month of study to bring back ideas that could help make improvements to their technical education colleges.

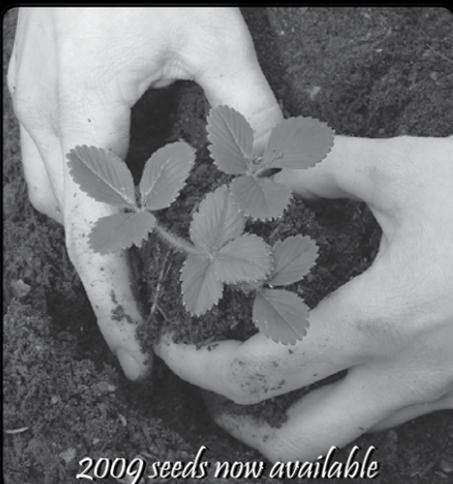
After their visit to LBCC, the delegation will join the other technical college presidents in New York City and Washington D.C. to continue their studies.



President Chen demonstrates traditional Chinese painting techniques. Watching him are (from left to right) Presidents Feng, Yuan, Wu, Zhang, Mr. Zheng, and instructor Analee Fuentes.

Photo by Becca Martino

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Wednesday
Dishes: Roasted Beer Brined Chicken with Pan Gravy*, Tuscan Braised Pork with Creamy Polenta and Gnocchi Bar.
Soups: Cream of Broccoli and Won Ton

Thursday
Dishes: French Dip with Fries, Hazelnut-Arugula Pesto Pasta with Grilled Chicken and Thai Vegetarian Stir-fry*
Soup: Cream Roasted Chicken and Garlic Soup w/ Tomato*

Friday
Chef's Choice

Monday
Dishes: Grilled Pork Chop with Sauce Robert, Irish Lamb Stew, and Sweet & Sour Tempeh w/ Rice
Soups: Chicken Noodle and Cream of Tomato

Tuesday
Dishes: Reuben Sandwich with Coleslaw, Chicken Gumbo with Creole Rice and Grilled Vegetable Pizza with Pesto and Goat Cheese.
Soup: Shrimp Bisque* and Tomato Rice*

*Gluten-free

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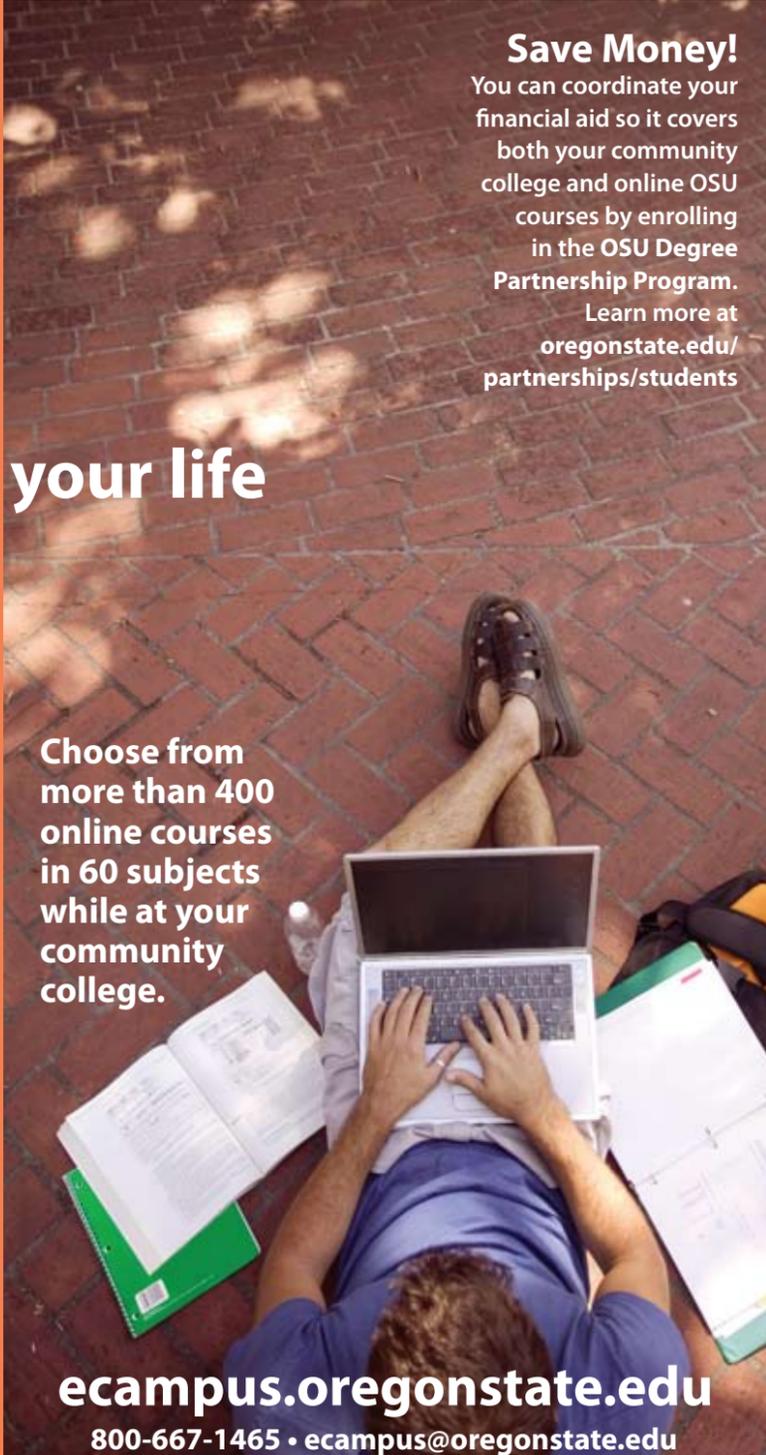
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Classifieds

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.

JOBS

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) x4788

Title Technician/Data Entry (#7226, Albany) If you can type 60 wpm and have exceptional Word & Excel skills, this FT, Temporary job may be for you. Pay is \$10-15/hr DOE.

Marketer/Cold Caller (#7219, Albany/Lebanon) Want a very flexible schedule? Just go door-to-door signing people up for free estimates for painting homes or businesses this summer. \$10 per lead.

Painters/Job Site Manager (#7220, Albany/Lebanon) Looking for people to paint homes and businesses. You will be trained. Full-time,

summer: 7am-6pm Cook/Prep Cook & Prep Cook (#7187, Albany) If you have experience and training as a cook or prep cook, you can apply for these openings. The cook is full-time and the Prep Cook is part-time.

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Campus Shorts...

There are new phone numbers for LBCC faculty at the Benton Center. They are as follows: Lorraine Anderson -5916; Mary Anne Nusrala- 5908; Tom Demarest-5910; Katey Noel-5912; Lynne Wylie-5914.

Advanced Wildland Firefighting Training will be offered through Business and Employer Services at Linn-Benton Community College. The classes, which are taught by a lead instructor from the US Forest Service, are designed to provide experienced wildland firefighters with advanced skills for promotion in leadership positions. Participants must be 18 or older. For more information, contact LBCC Business and Employer Services at 541-917-4923.

It's time for the annual Spring Red Cross Blood Drive. The drive will take place April 28 & 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sign up online at www.givelife.org (sponsor code LBCC), or call 1-800-GiveLife.

Join the Diversity Achievement Center as they explore the many ways to fund college education. An informative clip will be shown about loans, grants and scholarships. The clip will be shown at various times on April 16, 24, and 30. Contact the DAC for more information at 541-917-4461.

For those interested, it's time to register for the LBCC/OSU Degree Partnership Summit scheduled for Friday, May 15 at LBCC. In addition to information regarding registration and financial aid, a panel of students will speak about their experiences in the partnership. To register: go to www.Oregonstate.edu/partnerships and click on register now.

On April 13, the Career Center began operating under different drop-in hours. The new drop in schedule is Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1:30-4:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Due to a high volume of financial aid applications, beginning Monday April 20, the financial aid hours are changing. They are as follows: Monday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday 1 - 5 P.M.; Thursday: Closed; Friday 1:00- 5p.m. This schedule will be effective until June 4.

The spring term blood draw for cholesterol and glucose screening will be held on Wednesday, April 15, from 6:30 - 9:30 a.m. Call 541-917-4344 for an appointment.

The Financial Aid Office, in order to speed up the application process for all students, will be implementing a priority deadline date for each quarter. All required documentation will need to be in to the Financial Aid Office by the posted deadline in order for awards to be processed and reviewed. The deadline for summer term is May 29.

LBCC is offering the American Boating Safety course at the Lebanon and Sweet Home Centers this spring. The Lebanon center class will meet on two Thursdays, May 14 and May 21, from 6:30- 8:50 p.m. and the Sweet Home class will be held on Saturday, May 9 from 8 a.m. - 4: 50 p.m. Cost is \$25 for families. For more information contact the Lebanon Center at 541-259-5801 or the Sweet Home Center at 541-367-6901.

The 2009 Summer Schedule of classes is now available to view

online. Registration for continuing admitted students begins May 18. Open registration begins May 26.

Please join the Diversity Achievement Center for LBCC's 5th annual Pow-wow on Saturday, April 25 at noon. There will be Native American dancers and drummers throughout the day as well as vendors selling traditional Native American crafts and food. This is a family event and all are welcome.

The program on NAFTA, food security, and migration in Mexico has been moved to the fireside room due to "Wall Work" in the board rooms. Please join the Institute for Peace and Justice on April 15 at noon for a discussion with Baldemar Mendoza Jimenez, from Oaxaca, Mexico. Bring your own lunch.

The LBCC Parenting Education Department will hold a workshop entitled "Happy Hands Build Healthy Families" at Lebanon Community Hospital on April 25. The workshop will focus on positive approaches to discipline and alternatives to spanking.

ASG will not be holding their official weekly meetings on Wednesday, April 15 and 22 at 3:30 p.m. ASG will hold their final official meeting April 29 after the interview process to complete next year's team. Give ASG a call at 541 917-4464.

You are invited to the 08-09 Student Leadership Recognition and Award Ceremony on Wednesday,

May 6. Highlights include 7 awards and the swearing in of the 09-10 Associated Student Government. Please RSVP by Friday, April 24 to Valerie Zeigler at Valerie.zeigler@linnbenton.edu

Sharon Konopa, mayor of Albany, will speak on April 22 from noon -1 p.m. in F-113. She will discuss the major challenges facing Albany and possible solutions. Q&A to follow.

Retiring in the next five years? A PERS retirement and financial planning workshop will be held on April 23 from 3 - 7:30 p.m. in CC-221. the course will provide information on financial planning and social security. For more info, contact Deana Culbertson at 541-917-4424.

Alter Wiener, one of the final, holocaust survivors still living in Portland, wil share his personal reflections on April 29 from 3-5 p.m.in F-104

English/ Writing faculty member Callie Palmer will speak about "the images and language that allowed the Holocaust to happen " and will also make the "connections on how WWII and the holocaust cast a light on the race situation in the US." on April 29 at 2 p.m. in the DAC.

May brings a variety of events to the Portland Japanese Garden, including Kodomo no Hi-Childrens day, Mothers Day, a Bonsai exhibition, and two garden workshops. For more info, call 503-328-0050.



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Spring seminars 2009

Max Brown
The Commuter

A number of academic seminars will be held throughout the term to help students succeed in college. These seminars are free and are held at most of the campuses. Each seminar is an hour long, and more help is available if you request it at the end of the seminar.

There are seven seminars in total and each one is held at a different time in the term for when they will be most useful. For example, the seminar titled "Prepare for Finals Without Cramming" takes place toward the end of the term because that is closer to finals.

Instructional assistant Sandy Fichtner says that these are topics that would help every student achieve their goals, and taught by people who are interested in student success. Fichtner says these are held every term, and they try really hard to have them at every campus.

Fichtner feels that "These are ideas that we can walk away with and use right away." She also says these are hands-on workshops.

The seven seminars are, "So Much Math, So little Time," "Get Organized: The Best Ideas," "Help Me Remember This Stuff," "Better Notes + Better Tests = Better Grades," "No Stressin' From Testin'," "Tips to Overcome Procrastination," and "Prepare for Finals Without Cramming." Most of these seminars are self explanatory about what they will be covering, but for more explanation they have fliers around the campus and in the learning center.

They are listed like normal classes and you can sign up for them using a CRN number. To find these CRN numbers, or for more information, either call 541-917-4684, drop in at the Learning Center and ask for help, or check for them online. They are listed on the LBCC website in the schedule of classes, under the study skills section.

Fichtner says if you don't sign up you are still encouraged to show up. "All of us can learn from these," says Fichtner.

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PERSPECTIVES:

Why do you think important events like the Holocaust should be remembered?

Does the Holocaust affect your opinion of Germans?

"Every tragedy that America and our world have gone through should be remembered in some way or another."

Alexander Williams

Business



"Not anymore. I think if I lived in that time it would have definitely affected my opinion of them, but they were just following somebody and you can't help but follow your leader at that point."

"Mostly because history tends to repeat itself and so when we know the things we've done in the past that's happened we can look at why that happened and we can try to avoid that in the future."

Byron Kropf

Computer Science



"No, it was just a few specific German people that were the main cause of it, so it's not the whole fault of the people."

"I think they affected a lot of people in certain ways, depending on where they're from, and that's just a great thing; to be aware of what went on and what people went through."

Kelsey Hallin

General Ed.



"I think it was a bad time back then, but not personally. I have family from that area, I don't think they're really Germans but they kind of were back then, so..."

"To know that they did happen, and they can happen. And hopefully actions will take place so that they won't happen again."

Chris Everett

Undecided



"Nope, it was mainly a select few that headed the course of their actions and the rest followed."

"I think it's important, like any other piece of history is important, to be remembered in the fact that because it was such a horrific event. By knowing what happened it will not repeat itself."

Ashley Easter

English



"Not at all, no. Because if you look at the history of the United States and what we did to African Americans I think that we would have no right feeling any sort of judgment."

"You see, I have family that were actually Jewish, and actually some that were Germans at the time. My great grandfather still has his numbers tattooed on his arm and stuff like that. So when it comes down to it you know there are a lot of people that don't understand, aren't fully aware of it. It's just good to have knowledge of that aspect just like any kind of history. They say ... [if] people can't remember the past they're going to make the same mistakes kind of thing, and as long as we're aware of that, it's one of those things."

Mason Coffman

Business



"No, not at all. At the time maybe, but nowadays, I mean that's just one thing. They were in war, they were doing their thing. War is war. I'm sure even nowadays, our war, there's stuff going on that we don't know about and it's good that we don't know about it. It doesn't leave a reason whether it's right or wrong."

Etymology of the Holocaust

James Scales
 The Commuter

What does the word holocaust actually mean? Certainly the Holocaust is the genocide of the Jewish people. But where did the word come from? What does it actually mean?

Its earliest form is Holokauston, from holos meaning "whole," and kaustos meaning "burned." Holokauston originally was a sacrifice, where the items were completely burned to ashes. This definition held through to the Latin holocaustum.

What some people may not know is that the word in its Latin form, holocaustum, was actually

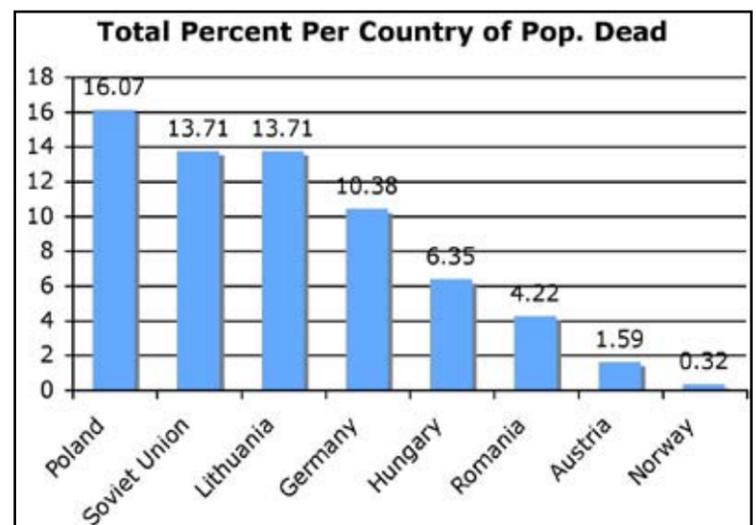
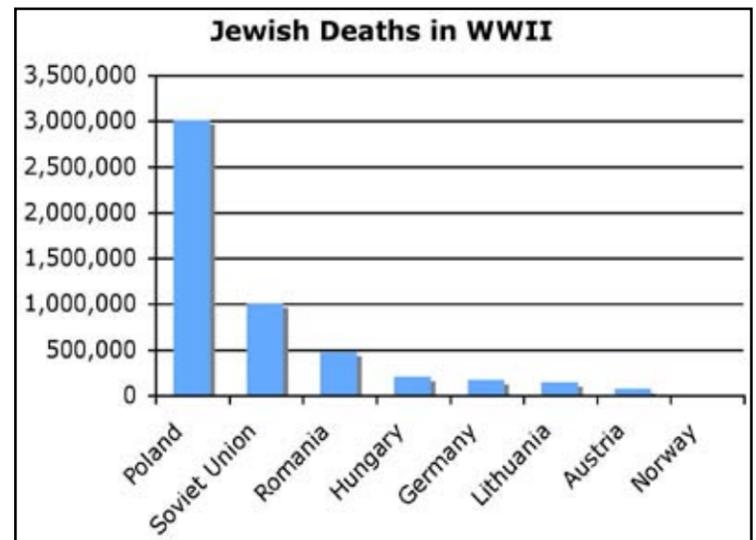
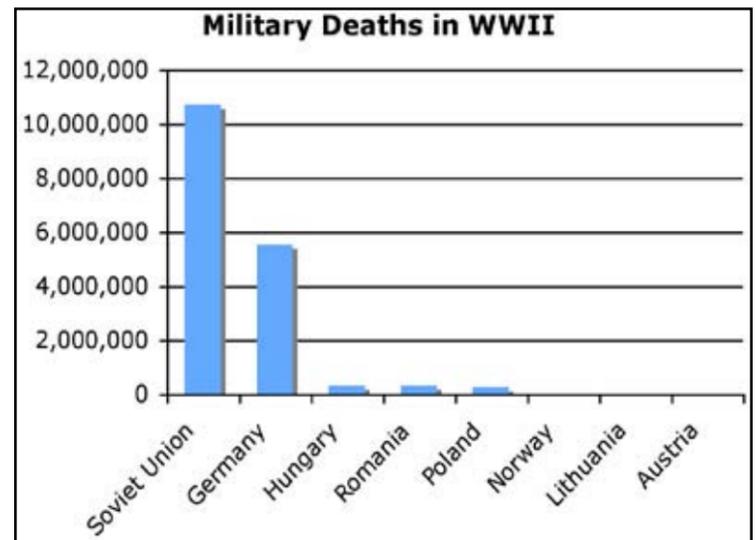
used before World War II.

It was in the 1190's when the term was used in specific reference to the massacre of Jewish people by the chronicler Roger of Howden.

The word Holokauste is the French form, which was brought up during the war, and in the 1960s the term Holocaust was appropriated by scholars to refer to the genocide of the Jewish people.

The Jewish community had disregarded the word holocaust instead, referring to the event by the biblical word Shoa, meaning "calamity."

Obviously the word carries a lot of weight for a lot of people, and its history is a very interesting one.



Compiled by Blair McMackin. Photos by Becca Martino. The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent the views of The Commuter staff.

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Clockwise from top left:
 Jewish civilians during the
 destruction of Warsaw; a
 victim of the Nazis still rests
 in the position he died; bones
 of anti-Nazi German women
 in crematoriums at a German
 concentration camp; starving
 inmate of camp Gusen, Austria.

Photographs from the National Archives



Nazi hunters: heroes on a humanitarian level

Rebecca Martino
 The Commuter

Sixty-four years have passed since the end of World War II, and it is still widely talked about today. When I interviewed Dr. Paul Kopperman at OSU, he mentioned that especially because of the popularity of Hollywood movies, the interest in WWII has "gained momentum since the '80s."

Alongside Hollywood's view, we have dates to recognize veterans, memorials to remember communities lost, and memoirs to learn about personal strife, like those of Anne Frank and Ellie Wiesel. Museums, speakers and survivors around the world are dedicated to remind us of the tragedy that was the Holocaust. Even the villains like Josef Mengele are remembered for their atrocities, in hopes that we can learn to be better people, to remember that all have equal rights.

Overlooked by some, unknown to others, and supported by survivors and victims, there are some unsung heroes of this awful tragedy. Simon Wiesenthal, Serge and

Beate Klarsfeld, and Efraim Zuroff are just a few of a special group dubbed as Nazi-hunters, who should be particularly remembered when speaking about the Holocaust.

These four people, among others, have made a living seeking out and bringing to justice Nazi war criminals like Mengele who were, or are, hiding out around the world. Mengele was known as 'The Angel of Death,' working as a doctor at different death camps, doing notorious experiments on twins. Individuals like the Klarsfelds as well as some governments, including the United States and Germany, are still very active today in seeking out justice against perpetrators of war crimes, "trying to come to terms with what happened," says Kopperman.

A Nazi war criminal is one who is suspected of committing war crimes, crimes against peace, or crimes against humanity. When I spoke with Michele Wilson, anthropology instructor at LBCC she said, "these are people who removed basic human rights." After the war, many suspected war criminals like Mengele fled to other countries, seeking exile and protection. According to Kopperman, they had help

from Nazi sympathizers to escape to places like Argentina and Paraguay, who had particularly good relationships with Germany and refused to cooperate in the apprehension of suspected criminals. Unfortunately, Mengele was never brought to justice, and is believed to have died on a beach in Brazil in 1979.

Kopperman noted that hunters like Wiesenthal, who passed away in 2005, and the Klarsfelds who are still active, legally pursue those suspected of war crimes during World War II. "They kept meticulous files and work off of leads and experience," he goes on to say, "they have exonerated some who did not act out of malice." It is important to note that not all who participated in the war as Nazi's are sought, only those who cruelly stripped away basic human rights. Once found, these criminals are often sent back (not always) to the location of their crime, typically Germany or Austria.

"We can define [Nazi Hunters] as heroes on a humanitarian level," says Wilson. "We feel better when we get rid of evil."

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Horrific discoveries:

The after-effects of U.S. soldiers liberating Nazi concentration and death camps

Gregory Dewar
 The Commuter

When we think of the Holocaust, it's easy to think of the horrors. Visions of doctors abusing women's unborn children, and emaciated men in concentration camps, too weak to even lift their heads flood the mind in such a way that we don't even want to think about it.

Rarely, then, do we think about the effects of the liberators, the fighting men who discovered these camps and saw first-hand these horrors.

Imagine for a moment that you are an American soldier drafted into World War II. You fought to the beachheads at Normandy on D-Day, you survived the hedgerow country of France, freed Paris and fought your way to Germany. You've seen the horrors of war first-hand, you've seen civilian casualties. You're in a special kind of mental state, a hell that comes from three years of constant combat. You're so far from your family, you were just a kid when this all started, and you know the stress and duress that combat places on warfighters.

After all this, feeling the hope that the war may soon be won, you chance upon the wholesale slaughter of 10 million people. As the Wehrmacht and Waffen SS retreated through Germany they forced the Jews on death marches or killed them in the camps and left others to rot. You find the piles of corpses, you find the corpses that littered the trails of these death marches. You

find huts with the inhabitants burnt alive.

During the war, newspapers printed stories of the camps, but the civilian populace wrote them off as absolutely ludicrous, indeed, Nazi Germany was an effective and brutal aggressor state, but no one could be that evil, correct?

There are reports of French resistance fighters describing in detail, to American officers that freed Paris, reports at which the officers balked and dismissed ruefully. These were people who had fought and killed their way to Paris and even they denied the existence of such camps. After all, no one could be that evil.

I have spent a great deal of time reading the letters of soldiers sent home describing the conditions of the camps, being moved to tears, and begging the American people to send such simple items as overcoats and shoes.

If seeing is believing, then Dwight D. Eisenhower, General Patton and Omar Bradley had to see for themselves. They personally toured the camp at Ohrdruf to verify these reports. They found 3200 naked and emaciated bodies "flung into shallow graves." Eisenhower insisted on seeing the entire camp. Patton became physically ill behind one of the Barracks. Eisenhower felt that it was necessary for his troops to see for themselves, he wanted them to tell the story to the world of the inhumanity. This day, April 12, 1945, ended with the news of the death of President Roosevelt.

Many American soldiers did

not know what they were fighting. His message to Washington read: "We are constantly finding German camps in which they have placed political prisoners where unspeakable conditions exist. From my own personal observation, I can state unequivocally that all written statements up to now do not paint the full horrors."

Imagine what this does to the psyche of the average fighting man, however, to fight so long and so hard and not

even know who you're freeing. To see this kind of slaughter after all you've seen and done must have been immeasurably hard. Then to properly dispose of the dead and try to nurse the survivors back to health. It must've felt good to be able to help save and free these people at the same time that the horror would've taken its toll, both in brutality toward the remaining Nazis and in their personal lives. A soldier wrote: "The thought of suicide

was entertained by nearly everyone, if only for a brief time. It was born of the hopelessness of the situation, the constant danger of death looming over us daily and hourly, and the closeness of the deaths suffered by many of the others. I spoke of the many opportunities of giving life a meaning. I told my comrades that human life, under any circumstances, never ceases to have a meaning."



American soldiers of the U.S. 7th Army forced boys believed to be Hitler youth to examine boxcars containing bodies of prisoners starved to death by the SS. (April 30, 1945)

Photograph from the National Archives, courtesy of USHMM Photo Archives.

Holocaust Remembrance Events:

April 20, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
 LBCC DAC Forum 220
 Monday Movies - (First half) The Long Way Home

April 20, 7:30 p.m.
 OSU Kelley Engineering 1001
 Sophie Scholl: The Final Days (Film)

April 27, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
 LBCC DAC Forum 220
 Monday Movies - (Second half) The Long Way Home

April 28, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
 LBCC Forum 104
 Alter Wiener Holocaust Survivor (Speech)

April 28, 7:30 p.m.
 OSU Austin Auditorium, LeSells Stewart Center
 Pearl Oliner: Very Religious and Irreligious Rescuers of Jews in Nazi Europe:
 What Was the Difference and What Difference Does It Make? (Speech)

April 29, 2:00 p.m.
 LBCC DAC Forum 220
 Callie Palmer - Images and language that allowed the Holocaust to happen.
 (Speech)

April 29, 7:00 p.m.
 Crescent Valley High School Theater
 The Diary of Anne Frank. (Play)

April 30, 7:30 p.m.
 OSU Austin Auditorium, LeSells Stewart Center
 Thomas Blatt: Survivor Testimony. (Speech)

May 1, 7:30 p.m.
 OSU Construction and Engineering Auditorium, LaSells Stewart Center
 Taner Akçam: The Armenian Genocide and the Reasons for Turkish Denial.
 (Speech)

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SPECIAL FEATURE

2009 Holocaust Days of Remembrance:
 April 19-26. They were created by the
 United States Congress to commemorate
 the victims of the Holocaust.

Defiance: resisting the Third Reich

Max Brown
 The Commuter

Holocaust movies have their own sub genre in Hollywood. "Defiance" does things a little different than the majority of them. It shows a group of Jews who fought back.

"Defiance" is a movie about the Bielski brothers and their refuge for Jews in the forests of Belarus during World War II. It is based on actual events, which ended up saving over 1,200 Jews during the war.

After Nazi forces killed the majority of their family, the Bielski brothers fled to the nearby woods and attempted to live. Soon they found more Jews hiding in the forest and start to build a community, while trying to stay hidden from the Nazis.

As the film progresses you see the difference of thought from the two main brothers. On one side you have Tuvia (Daniel Craig), who wants less bloodshed and to help as many people as he can. On the other you have Zus (Liev Schreiber) attempting to exact his revenge, and feels that they should not worry about anything else.

The conflict played out between these brothers is intense and attention-grabbing. At times you cannot help but feel like Tuvia is the "good" guy. Craig and Schreiber do very well in these positions. It is nice to see Craig playing the position of the "caring guy" after his recent Bond movies, although they are very good movies.

This film is not perfect, but it will keep your interest. One important aspect of this film was the building of the community. Many of the members of the community have

"forest marriages," which help to build the characters. They have a rabbi and many intellectuals that solidify that community feeling.

There is a good serving of action in this movie without ramming it down your throat. The action does a great job of keeping you wide awake but does not overshadowing the story or characters. Most of the time, however, the gripping scenes are the ones with the members of the community at odds with each other.

"Defiance" is worth seeing. It plays well on your emotions and it tells the story of a group that fought against all odds during World War II. It may not be as good as other movies about the Holocaust such as "The Pianist" or "Schindler's List," but it's still a good movie.

After the war, Tuvia and Zus moved to Palestine and fought in the war that established the Israeli state. After that they immigrated to the United States. Aseal joined the Soviet army, but died in battle in 1945. Only one brother remains alive. That is Aron, and he is living in the US.

Theatrical release:
January 19, 2009
DVD and Blu-Ray:
June 2, 2009
Runtime: 137 minutes
MPAA rating: R
Genre: Drama



Defiance movie poster

Flickr - Nick Slide

Product of the ashes of the Holocaust

Lily Love
 The Commuter

Out of the fire of the holocaust to the land of the free, this is where my mother brought me. I am the product of the ashes of the Holocaust. My mother left me to grow rootless in a land where I had the freedom to search for my purpose in a place of unlimited possibilities.

My mother, sister and I arrived in New York City on a ship. It was 1957; I was 6 months old. I crossed the ocean in a little basket. We were sponsored to come to the United States by The Protestant Minister in Hood River, Ore. (this is how the letter was addressed). The mail carrier selected the minister that would receive my mother's letter and request for assistance. Of all the ministers in Hood River, this one was a peace activist and an active participant in the civil rights movement.

My mother was a fearless survivor, intelligent, young and beautiful. She met a commercial fisherman in Portland, mar-

ried and moved to her dream house on 35 forested acres, five acres of pasture, our own personal spring, a creek that ran beside our property and into the river where we spent every summer.

I am grateful for the choices my mother made; her dream house became my escape from the insanity she left me in: with my motherless 2-year-old brother and abusive resentful stepfather when I was five years old.

I grew up with multiple housekeepers, and we (my brother and I) just came with the house. What I learned from them is priceless. I learned about different classes, diversity, religions, and other cultures. I tasted a plethora of different kinds of foods. I learned that my stepfather was an asshole and the people that

lived with us affirmed this because not one stayed for more than nine months. They all left and I decided I did not have to live there either.

I started running away from home when I was five. The first time, I took the school bus to the end of the line and went home with a girl from school. I told my

repeatedly; no one believed in getting involved. I always ended right back where I came from. The older I got the better I became at running, I even flew to Anchorage, Alaska with a fake I.D.

I learned a lot about how to survive, and that being young was a commodity. There are good and bad people in every race and class. Your religion, political status, education, or financial position do not define your character. I believe my

mother survived much the same way as I did on the streets, hiding and in fear for her life.

I was fortunate to have survived and to have had people in my life that really cared about me, who taught me about Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and to always question authority. No one person has the whole truth; it is through educating ourselves, overcoming our prejudices, and honoring life that we can find it. The United States allows me the freedom to live my life with integrity.

I am a daughter of a Holocaust survivor, a granddaughter of an anti-semitic grandfather, a mother of three bi-racial children, two who are Muslim, one who is Christian, I have another child with a father who was Italian and his father had his own seat on the New York stock exchange. I have five grandchildren one lovingly being raised by his two same-sex fathers. This would have never happened without the freedom to follow their own hearts. I love them all. I love you. You are all my family.



"No one person has the whole truth; it is through educating ourselves, overcoming our prejudices, and honoring life that we can find it."

Lily Love

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The Jews: before and after the Holocaust

MaryAnne Turner
The Commuter

The Jews have always struggled with peace and a secure homeland. The Holocaust was just a small landmark in their more than five thousand year history, though with a death toll of six million Jews, the Holocaust remains the highest price of their peoples' history.

Originally Judea, home of the Jews, it was first conquered by the Romans in ancient times, and was then renamed Palestine. Palestine was then conquered by the Arabs, who ruled and inhabited Palestine for over a thousand years.

In the early 1900s the Zionist movement worked to return the Jews to their homeland, although they ignored the Arab population that inhabited Palestine. In 1917, the Balfour Declaration granted Palestine to Great Britain as a League of Nations mandate. The purpose was to build a national homeland for the Jews. The consequences meant that the Arab people resented the Jews coming in to take their land. The Balfour Declaration was a British promise to the Jews that Palestine would be their Jewish homeland.

The Arabs, led by Grand Mufti Hajj Amin El Hussein, then demonstrated repeated rioting and eventually revolted, leading into a long history of alienation, malice, and hatred between the Jews and Arabs in Palestine. So Britain halted immigration of

the Jews to Palestine.

On January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany, with a national Jewish population of 566,000. One month later, on February 28, the day after the Reichstag building was burned by Nazis to create a crisis atmosphere, emergency powers were granted to Hitler as a result.

Less than one month later, the Nazis opened the Dachau concentration camp near Munich, which was soon followed by Buchenwald camp near Weimar in central Germany, the Sachsenhausen camp near Berlin in northern Germany, and then the Ravensbruck camp for women.

On March 24, less than three months after Hitler was appointed chancellor, the German Parliament passed an enabling act that gave Hitler dictatorial powers.

By the end of 1935 the Nazis had completely taken away all the rights of the Jews, including their freedom of choice. They passed laws that forced abortions on Jewish women, took job rights from all Jews, and by 1938, Jewish children were not allowed in non-Jewish German schools.

Finally, after more than ten years of turmoil for the Jews, a death toll of nearly six million Jews, and a Nazi takeover of 22 European and Russian countries, dictator Adolf Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945.

Following this 12 year ho-

locast the pressure grew on Britain to allow the Jewish immigration to Palestine. In response to the pressure, in 1947 the UN partitioned the land into Arab and Jewish states. But the Arabs did not agree to the partition, and another war broke out. The Israeli war of 1948 ended with a victory for the Jews, who expanded their state and in turn created an estimated 520,000 to 800,000 Arab refugees on the Gaza strip.

Wars continued to break out in 1956, 1967, 1973, and again in 1982. Between wars many terror raids and Israeli reprisals broke out. Each side believes the story differently in favor of their own side. Of course each side views the whole conflict as being the other side's fault.

In 1993, as Israel continued to expand settlements throughout the peace process, Israel offered to turn over 97% of the land in the West Bank and all of Gaza, including Arab sections of Jerusalem. The Palestinians turned down the offer.

The war continues today, and Zionists, those who believe the Jews should be returned their homeland to provoke the second coming, believe it to be the everlasting Holy War that is discussed in the Bible. They also believe that when the Jews own the "Holy Land" in peace, it will be the mark of the second coming, that will free all those who believe, and put an end to the world as we know it.



Map of Gaza Strip

Stand, December 2008

THE COMMUTER'S STAFF

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

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The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. Letters should be limited to 300 words or less. The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter writers do not represent the views of The Commuter Staff or the College. Deliver letters to The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Anime-nia hits



Gary Brittsan
The Commuter

Sakura-Con is the Northwest's largest anime convention. Held in the enormous six-story Seattle Convention Center, Sakura-Con was host to more than 20,000 people over Easter weekend.

Over the course of the three day convention, there was plenty to do and see. There were anime viewings and video gaming running 24 hours a day. Cosplay photo shoots occurred regularly, with a competition on Saturday. You could see panels of guest speakers and martial arts demonstrations. Each day there were concerts from Japanese bands, and each night had a rave with popular DJs and a performance by Smile.dk.

A wide assortment of people have been gathering each year to celebrate the unique culture that has built up around anime and all things Japanese since Sakura-Con (originally called Baka-Con) started in 1998, and every year it continues to grow. I can't wait to see what happens next year.

SPECIAL FEATURE

The Commuter experiences anime at Sakura-Con in Seattle

the Northwest



Clockwise from top-left: A collection of Akatsuki members, along with Kyuubi, from *Naruto*; the Keroro Platoon from *Sergeant Frog*; an assortment of characters from *Final Fantasy VII*; Kratos from the *God of War* series; Auron, Shelinda, Shiva, Yuna, Tidus, Lulu, and Riku from *Final Fantasy X*; Mudkip from the *Pokémon* series; Jiraiya and Kakashi, two characters from *Naruto*; Asuka with Pen-Pen from *Neon Genesis Evangelion*

Photos by Gary Brittsan



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CAMPUS NEWS

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



On April 10, LBCC hosted Skills USA, a student-led event and competition, which the military judged and watched over. The students, who came from both middle and high schools around the area, put on the event and were judged on the quality of their performance.

photos by Eve Bruntlett



Over 700 high school students practice for a band competition that took place all day Thursday, April 9

Photo by Max Brown

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

The Weekly Burger: falafel of fun on a bun

James Scales
 The Commuter

So, maybe you've decided you eat too much meat. I haven't, but I have been told as much. A lot of my vegetarian friends keep telling me to be healthier and more eco-friendly by doing something vegetarian. Well, while I don't particularly like the idea of becoming a vegetarian, it never hurts to think about health. Especially if you can get away with being healthy and deep frying your vegetarian-friendly food. Get your deep fryers ready for this week's Falafel Burger.

Falafel Burger
 Makes 3-4 burgers

Ingredients:
Falafel

- 9-10 ounces chickpeas, soaked overnight with water, or one of the small cans that are in that ballpark for weight
- 1 medium onion, chopped into small pieces or run through a food processor
- 2 or more cloves of garlic, crushed and then chopped
- 1-2 teaspoons of ground cumin
- 1-2 teaspoons of ground coriander
- 4 tablespoons parsley, plucked
- 1/2-1 teaspoon chili powder
- 2 tablespoons of plain all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- Deep frying oil or fat



A delicious falafel on a bun!

flickr-norwichnuts

Tahini

- 1/2 cup tahini (ground sesame seeds)
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, kosher is best. Buy some and taste it side by side with your table salt and you'll know why
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil, approximately
- 2 ounces lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon of an herb you like, default to parsley if you can't think of one, or leave it out entirely

Equipment:

A fryer is very useful, but unnecessary, as is a wok if you don't have a fryer. How-

ever, if you have neither, just get a deeper pan, even if you need to get a small pot to fry in, basically any vessel that is about an inch taller than your finished falafel patties will be good enough. A food processor is highly recommended; even a blender if you don't have the processor, but it is POSSIBLE to do this without electronic interference. You just won't be as happy.

Background:

Tahini is, as mentioned before, a paste made out of sesame seeds. Hulled and lightly toasted, it is used in Middle Eastern cuisine. Once you learn its flavor you will

undoubtedly add it to your foods on occasion. Learn to love the stuff.

Falafel is traditionally a street food. Fried balls of ground chickpeas and spices stuffed into a pita like bread with hummus and vegetables makes it truly a whole meal on the go. I enjoy throwing it on a bun and with some fries, as hopefully you will too after making this.

Procedure:

Start by making your Tahini sauce. It is so easy, and hopefully you'll find in it a new favorite condiment. Simply add your Tahini and garlic into the bowl of a food proces-

sor, pulse, and then add the salt. Once the mixture is smooth, transfer it to a bowl and add the rest of the ingredients from above. If it is too thick add warm water in very small amounts until it is exactly how you like. You may want to add more salt or garlic.

Preheat your oil to about 350 degrees F.

Take your chickpeas that have been soaked overnight, add the onions and move it all into your food processor. Pulse it until the beans are losing their shape and then add your spices, garlic, and herbs. Let it combine in the machine and while waiting, add the baking powder with the flour. Once the falafel mixture is close, start adding the powder. It should start to clump and not be sticky at all. If it isn't, add a little more flour, about a half tablespoon at a time

until it is the correct consistency. That consistency being able to shape a patty and not fall apart just sitting there. Shape your patties!

Let that delicious bean mixture fry for about 5 minutes. If needed, flip it about 3 minutes in. If it falls apart when it goes into the oil, add some more flour. Once it is out, pat the patty down to rid it of excess oil, put a nice dollop of Tahini sauce on your bun, then your falafel patty, then some lettuce and tomato and enjoy! Other things you can add are a lot of various pickled things, turnips, mango, and even sauerkraut. Enjoy eating vegetarian for a night!

Movies for Friday:



17 Again

After throwing his possible basketball stardom to marry his girlfriend and raise their child, Mike O'Donnell has a failed marriage, two kids who think he is a total loser, a dead-end job, and a past that he thinks he could have done a lot better with. When he is transformed back into his 17-year-old self he finds another chance to make a new life, and to find out if he is better or worse off. Rated PG-13

Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema



Crank: High Voltage

Jason Statham is back as Chev Chelios, and this time it's a Chinese mobster who has stolen his heart which he believes is all but indestructible. Leaving Chev with an electronic heart that regularly requires recharging, in the way that only he can pull off. Rated R.

Photo courtesy of Lionsgate Films



State of Play

U.S. Congressman Stephen Collins, the future of his political party, the chair of the defense spending committee. Everyone is watching him as he is soon to be a presidential nominee. Then when he is seemingly on top of it all, his research assistant and mistress is brutally murdered and buried. All the secrets start to fall into the hands of Cal McCaffrey, a D.C. reporter, who is left to untangle this mystery. Rated PG-13

Photo courtesy of Universal

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events,
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Upcoming Music Events

<p>MaryAnne Turner The Commuter</p> <hr/> <p>FireWorks Restaurant and Bar 1115 SE Third st. 541-754-6958</p> <p>Al Rivers, 8 p.m. Friday, April 17</p>	<p>Mark Lemhouse, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 18, all ages.</p> <p>Bomb's Away Café 2527 NW Monroe Ave. 541-757-7221</p> <p>Monica Metzler, 7:30 p.m., free Wednesday, April 15</p>	<p>Peacock Bar and Grill 125 SW 2nd street 541-754-8522</p> <p>Wednesday nights Johnny Dark and the Wonder- tones</p> <p>Motorbreath w/ Myndissent, 9 p.m. Friday, April 18</p>
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Photo courtesy of Flickr-ouyangwulong

<p>FireWorks Seventh Anniversary w/ Sar Shalom and guests Saturday, April 18, 3 - 11 p.m.</p> <p>Cloud Mountain Ramblers, 7 p.m. Sunday, April 19</p> <p>Block 15 Restaurant and Brewery 300 W Jefferson Ave. 541-758-2077</p> <p>Wild Hog in the Woods, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, all ages</p>	<p>Curtis Monette, 7:30 p.m., free Thursday, April 16</p> <p>Eleven Eyes, 10 p.m., \$6 Friday, April 17</p> <p>They Won't Stay Dead, 9 p.m., \$5 Saturday, April 18</p> <p>Cloud 9 & the Downward Dog 126 & 130 SW 1st St. 541-753-9900</p> <p>Lost Tortoise with Neon Gypsies, 9:30 p.m., \$3 Saturday, April 18</p>	<p>Platinum 126 SW 4th street 541-738-6996</p> <p>Wild West Wednesdays No cover, \$1 beer, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Ladies Night w/ DJ Hes Thursdays, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Rockstar Saturdays 9 p.m., \$1 beers, 80s & 90s music</p>
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Nine Leaves, "Peace in Death" CD review

James Scales
 The Commuter

Peace in Death is the second release from Nine Leaves, this particular album takes you to a better time where your albums had tracks that all worked well together. There is soft emotional rap, up to an industrial club feel. The spectrum is so intense that it is easy to listen to the entire CD and not get bored. A mix of storytelling music and provocative messages, yes, there is a message in their songs, but all you have to do is listen.

Upon looking at the cover, you may think, "Ew, hippies." Or "Is this more art from metal album cover artist Ed Repka?" But the images are merely showing their album title "Peace in Death" A girl, kneeling, smiling, playing with a butterfly on a grassy patch of land, while the world behind

her falls apart. The music does have a slightly apocalyptic feel at times, but it is something you might enjoy.

Lyricaly, they aren't hiding anything. The lyrics are what they are, there are some messages to be taken, and it is what I can call wholesome hip hop, but the sound is so rich that you can be taken away just by that. The music is so deep with orchestra and synthesizers meeting in a harmonic pleasure-inducing ride for your ears. Is the album 100 percent? No, but it is about par with other albums out there for success to failure on songs.

Like hip-hop, rap or not, the band is certainly worth the look into, with songs on YouTube and MySpace at, <http://www.youtube.com/user/NineLeavesMusic> and <http://www.myspace.com/nineleavesmusic> respectively.



The apocalyptic cover art for Peace in death.

Photo courtesy of Nine Leaves

Interview: Eric G. Czernowski of Cabaret

Mark Paul McIntyre
 For The Commuter

I interviewed Eric G. Czernowski for The Commuter. He is a retired U.S. Army Combat Medic veteran, and was kind enough to answer a few questions for us in between performances of "Cabaret".

Mark: What character are you playing and what compels you to portray him?

Eric: I play the role of Eddie Carbone, a Brooklyn dockworker in the 1950s. I, myself, grew up partly

in the lower east side of Brooklyn during the early 1950s. The imagery of (Arthur) Miller's play triggers many emotions and memories of my childhood. Eddie has many of the same characteristics and frailties of my own Ukrainian father.

Mark: How long have you been acting?

Eric: For 12 years. I learned through Community College experiences here with George Tauris and at Umpqua Community with Dean Remick.

Mark: Where do you see the experiences of acting here at LBCC taking you down the road?

Eric: Some professional theatre, perhaps locally at the Willamette Stage Co. and better roles at CCT

and ACT additionally.

Mark: What brought you to the LBCC campus to audition for this play?

Eric: A fellow actor's recommendation to work with LBCC drama director, Brian Newberg, the content of the play, and it's richness of characters.

Mark: What are your thoughts on the possibility of the theatre program at LBCC being suspended?

Eric: It would be a significant loss not only for the local arts community, but the entire valley as well. Mr. Newberg is, obviously, a superb teacher of theatre art. We are fortunate to have him here at our local Community College.

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Folk counseling: LBCC's Mark Weiss sings

Ryan Henson
 The Commuter

There are two moments in Mark Weiss's life that make him the person he is today.

In 1964, 14 year-old Mark Weiss stood in the crowd at the Ash Grove, a legendary folk music club in his hometown of Los Angeles, and was mesmerized watching a charismatic folk musician named Blind Doc Watson finger pick piano, fiddle, and banjo songs on his guitar — something that no one had done before. It was an experience that would stay with Weiss.

"I just thought, oh God, I've got to do something like that one day," Weiss said.

Today, Weiss, a counselor at LBCC, is standing in front of a small crowd at the Benton Center's Acoustic Showcase with his folk band MC2 and is playing "Alabama Jubilee," a song that was played by the man

who gave him his musical aspirations 45 years ago. Weiss's fingers run effortlessly up and down the neck of his guitar—the result of a whole life of practice. He has been with MC2 for nearly 25 years, playing local benefits around Corvallis—including a

fundraiser to help raise the money to build the Majestic Theatre.

MC2 band members Cliff and Cheri Pereira, both faculty members at OSU, say they are unbelievably lucky to have Weiss as a friend and fellow band mate.

"He is the real musician of the group," Cliff Pereira said.

In addition to the MC2 project, Weiss also plays guitar with a group of bluegrass musicians in the area. The name of the band changes before every show and is decided by the member of the band who did the booking. Also, in 1981, Weiss recorded an album of children's songs entitled "The Moving, Counting, Rhyming, Up, Down, Left, Right, Look What I Got Album." Weiss is planning to re-release it in the future.

The other defining moment in Weiss's life occurred years ago. According to Weiss, he was a college dropout and was

doing nothing. One night, he attended a therapy group of a psychiatrist he had met. Those at the session agreed that Weiss should go to college to become a therapist of some sort. Weiss took their advice.

Years later, Weiss finds his work here at LBCC in the career center, helping undecided students choose their major or by helping grief-stricken students cope with the trauma in their lives. Folk music is said to be the music of the people and Weiss mirrors this in his professional life and helps those people.

"I grew up in a family where there was a strong value around helping other people in the world and that was one of the greatest callings you could have was to be a service to others. As a counselor, I get to do that...it feels good," said Weiss.

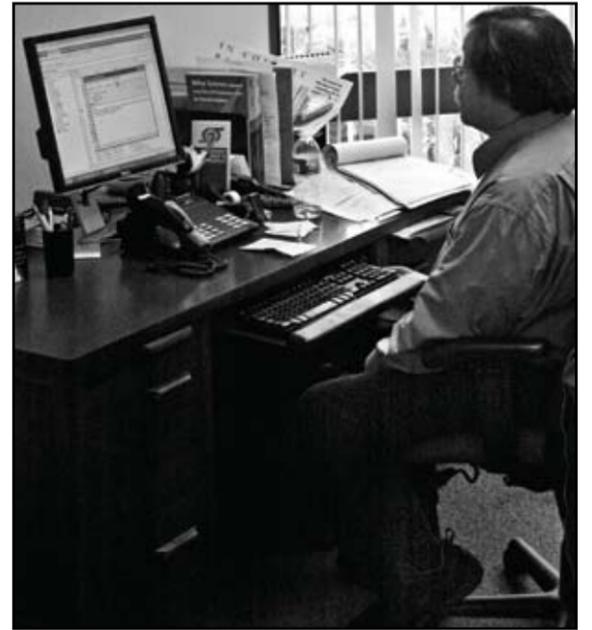
Students in Weiss's office see a mish-mash of the two main passions in his life. A poster dis-

playing a Woody Guthrie quote shares the walls with his various licenses and diplomas. A



Mark Weiss at play

Photo by Ryan Henson



Mark Weiss at work

Photo by Lydia Elliott

guitar sits in the background. A pin with a treble clef and music notes shines on his vest.

"Music is the same as any art form and it is interesting about the parallels between art and counseling ... it really is something that allows for great personal expression ... and there is something in that personal transformative state that you go in when you're playing well and really concentrating that is very therapeutic," Weiss said.

POETRY CORNER

Almost A Friend

by Rick Casillas

You in bloom, in soft red turn.
 Green I think, greener than I would have thought.
 I like the clock behind me, you look in its direction often.
 And I think, in moments past, that maybe it was me you wanted and not the time.

And I hear you, once or twice a day.
 In clatter and song, your voice rises in my seeking.
 Worthy, proud, flutters of motion adrift in flight.
 There are others, and they have longer necks, and louder voices that do not rise.
 Crude manicured hands that shape mirrors to waste in.

But your bird has willow thick petals for eyes,
 And the curve of its neck, trembles and thrums in sweet soulful ache.
 Your melody is lullaby and seed, drifting, absent of effort towards me in falter blue plume.
 And its cheek, soft as you, pink as you, but less shy.
 I tell it...I say that you're lovely, and I like your tattoos.

But for all the kindness I would rather not know you,
 this glad mildness will suffice,
 Because I know you want the time, and have not seen me instead.

I Awoke Tomorrow Morning

by Megan Pierce

I awoke tomorrow morning
 and looked upon the calm winter morn.

The dawn stretched
 across the fickle sky

As if a symphony played its tune
 using its bright yellow hues.

My heart saw the months
 dressed in warm summer clothes,

And my eyes felt the lightning of love
 forgetting the cold.

My fingers heard the song
 burst from my heart

While my ears knew the silence of winter
 again.

Of A Rose

by Megan Pierce

I am as a flower
 The bud of a rose so tender.
 My soul is the stem
 And my mind is the petals.

My soul is the heart of me,
 For without it I am nothing.
 It is strong and keeps me stable.
 Because of my soul I can grow.
 I thrive for its food
 And all can see
 From the fruit I bear
 The health of the soul within.

I am as a flower
 The bud of a rose so tender.
 My soul is the stem
 And my mind is the petals.

Through my mind,
 Love may see my beauty
 For as I grow, I unfold
 To show off my new brilliance.
 The fragrance is strong
 To any passerby,
 The beauty crying for all to see.

But then it dies
 And withers 'til the end.

I am as a flower
 The bud of a rose so tender.
 My soul is the stem
 And my mind is the petals.

When the flower has died
 And the petals are gone,
 Some still remains
 From the beauty that once was.
 The memory of the stem is still growing,
 Strengthening other little buds
 To prove their worth
 And show their love.

I am as a flower
 The bud of a rose so tender.
 My soul is the stem
 And my mind is the petals.

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The Commuter
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Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner
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 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

Deny Holocaust ignorance

Rick Casillas
 The Commuter

To live in denial is to embrace ignorance; such is the path of those conspiracy theorists that renounce the Holocaust as a hoax, fabricated to further advance the interests of the Jewish people. Alas, this is no new thing to the



"I believe strongly that you should question the well you draw your information from."

Rick Casillas

American people as our society is riddled with those that refuse to deal with reality, instead retreating to the bliss of their caves to look at pictures of the World Trade Center and pick apart axioms of daily life.

Do not misunderstand me: I believe strongly that you should question the well you draw your information from. It is a basic principle of journalism to check your sources at every turn. But despite the myriad of evidence gathered by our own military, allies, and the well-documented extermination of the Jewish people by the Nazi regime, still some exercise their right to transform free speech to free stupidity.

German law forbids Holocaust denial with a maximum five-year penalty set in place for those that incite racial hatred. According to an article by the BBC, "Germany hopes to make Holocaust denial a crime across the EU as part of a package of laws it wants to introduce during its presidency of the bloc." Berlin has even considered outlawing Nazi symbols like the swastika from being displayed. A dangerous line to dance on considering the suppression of information contributed so heavily to the atrocities of the Holocaust in the first place.

Websites for organizations like the "Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust," who tout themselves as 'historical revisionists,' host essays and conspiracy theorists that debate every detail of the 'holocaust hoax' from gas chambers to the 'Jewish controlled Media,' further proving that intelligence does not equate wisdom.

That every single shred of evidence, from firsthand accounts to U.S. soldiers stumbling across concentration camps themselves and documenting what they found, operating a hoax at the level of something like the holocaust is unfathomable.

No government, no matter how secretive or well run, could possibly keep such a thing intact. That would require the absolute silence of millions, an impossible feat as we have learned countless times in our own country - from Watergate to Monica Lewinsky, people ALWAYS talk.

Denying the memory of those six million victims is akin to killing them a second time, thinly disguised prejudice that denies the rest of us a valuable lesson in the worst of humanity and its capacity for hatred. So arm yourselves with knowledge during Holocaust Remembrance Month and fight against ignorance.



Cartoon Courtesy (MCT)

America needs to rely on herself

Brandon Goldner
 The Commuter

Since the end of the second World War (or earlier, if you consider the period between the latter half of the 19th century and 1945, before the U.S. became a superpower), America has been critically dependent upon international trade.

Once it was decided that the only solution to domestic overproduction was to find reliable trading partners to whom we could sell our goods, the dominating belief has been that the less trade barriers between countries, the better.

We pushed democratically-elected nations in South America - such as Chile - to adopt capitalist economies which destroyed their social programs and left their middle class destitute.

But little matter, for the pure and unregulated capitalist economics championed by the likes of Milton Friedman (and echoed by those mostly from conservative circles) had become not only our economic policy, but indeed our foreign policy, and its legitimacy was maintained through the wealth and affluence we had accumulated.

Now we have reached a new age in our nation's history where we must decide whether it's worth risking the fate of humanity in order to continue down this same path.

The answer to the question of how to maintain economic prosperity - that our well-fed and educated workforce could produce enough to keep us extraordinarily wealthy - seems to have reached its logical end. For what happens when the workforce of another nation overtakes the capability of our own? Where will we find ourselves if we don't have the raw materials and technology to be able to purchase the building blocks necessary to maintain our imperial dominance?

Unfortunately for the United States, this is the very state in which we now find ourselves, and there is nothing to blame but our own greed.

What we now need most is to re-evaluate what it means to be happy. Is it having limitless wealth? Or is it having the capability to live a rich and fulfilling life, and be able to sustain that quality of life for our children?

If gorging ourselves in an orgy of mass consumption is what we seek, it will not be attainable. We simply don't (and won't) have the power we used to hold, as the post-war period of the '50s and '60s were merely a mirage formed by the dust settling in soon-to-be world powers in Europe and the Pacific Rim. The fall of the world's only other



"If gorging ourselves in an orgy of mass consumption is what we seek, it will not be attainable."

Brandon Goldner

superpower, the Soviet Union, provided not an opportunity for peace, but the unrelenting push towards making the entire world clients of the United States.

This will fail for several reasons. As autonomous countries don't necessarily enjoy being told how to behave, we will continue to meet resistance if our insistence upon twisting the arms of nations unwilling to trade with us continues. We see the beginnings of this with nations such as Venezuela; to say nothing about their culture, it's important to view them as striving to be independent, and our casting of their role on the world stage as an enemy is both misguided and unfair.

There are also a limited number of natural resources to go around. If it turns out that we are beginning to reach the end of our oil reserves, it could very well turn out that the nations whose borders happen to be drawn around them will become defensive. An ensuing war over these strategic points may prove to be too many and far between for our military to capably engage for an extended period of time.

Finally, we have seen with this most recent economic hiccup that Americans have been living in a fantasy world, wallowing for months or years with the promise of enormous amounts of credit without any

hope of being able to repay the debt. This is not solely a shot at homeowners or individuals with outstanding balances on their credit cards; rather it's a statement of both them and our nation as a whole, whose debt to a certain Asian country is probably beyond the point of ever being able to rectify it in our lifetime.

The only available option, which will become clearer as time goes on, is to withdraw ourselves - ever so slowly - from both the international stage and marketplace.

By placing an emphasis on production here at home, we may begin to see that having a well-educated workforce and a strong middle class will be helpful in building the infrastructure of the 21st century. This may include the replacing of highways with rail lines, the construction of water reclamation centers, and solar, wind and thermal power generating facilities.

We will also begin to pull our military presence away from permanently-occupied bases in countries such as Syria and Saudi Arabia, as we will see a lessening of the strategic need to remain in these regions to keep a watchful eye over their oil reserves.

In the process, we can re-establish ourselves as a nation of morals, whose hard-working population is not concerned with maintaining worldwide dominance, but rather to set an example for functioning nations to look toward when considering how they wish their own country to function. If we wish for America to inspire feelings of good-will and tamp down those of resentment, a focus on domestic production will do both.

The global marketplace will not be closing anytime soon. And for the foreseeable future, America will continue its reliance on foreign trade and resources. But for the good of our country, our children, and, indeed, the world, the U.S. should begin the process of becoming more self-reliant. It's an ideal which has remained as relevant and logical as ever, despite its having been out of favor of our decision-makers for these last few generations.

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Stimulating the economy while improving our school

Blair McMackin
The Commuter

We all know there's been a lot of construction going around on campus. A lot of us are quick to judge the long detours and constant beeping, but few are actually aware of the improvements taking place.

Administrative assistant, Ali Gray, for one, is stoked. "They're building our new building; a lot of people that work here are excited about it," said Gray in reference to the science department. That explains the construction that's been going on throughout this school year.

The new construction that started early last week is part of a governor-awarded stimulus package granted to the school. According to Gary Ruppert, dean of Arts and Communication, the money isn't just to improve the school but to keep the economy going as well. "It is putting people to work," said Ruppert.

The construction will continue throughout and after the school year starting at the College Center and working its way clockwise around campus.

According to Fred Haynes, dean of engineering and industrial technology, the governor gave us about \$2 million that will be used for putting in new lights, ceiling tiles, installing energy-saving walls, replacing transformers, paving the walkways, and much more. Haynes said, "in some cases there will be a minor inconvenience for students."

Some student classrooms and instructor offices will be temporarily moved, and we'll have to continue to put up with loud noise and construction crews. But Haynes insists that if we watch out to stay safe and keep an open mind about the construction, it will pay off.

Say no to "Dr. Google"

MaryAnne Turner
The Commuter

Last week Lydia Elliott wrote a painfully heartfelt piece about the doctors at Benton County Health Department in Corvallis. Ironically, that same Wednesday the paper was released I, too, had an aggravating experience with "Dr. Google."

Six days prior to my frustration I had an appointment for heart palpitations. Two years ago I was pre-diagnosed with a paroxysmal atrial tachycardia (PAT), and didn't follow up with the final tests due to lack of money. PAT is simply a rapid heartbeat due to the malfunction of electrical currents from the brain to the heart.

So my appointment was to follow up where I left off two years ago. Unfortunately the sweet woman who was my previous doctor was no longer there. It just so happens that the very same doctor that Mrs. Elliot complained about also saw me. I was having heart palpitations in his office, but because my blood pressure was normal, he said it was just stress. Then he gave me two

dangerous prescriptions. One, you have to have a periodic blood test for; the other is potentially habit forming. He gave me an addictive prescription after I told him I have an addictive personality, and then he told me not to take them on a regular basis.

Trying very hard not get addicted to my new drugs, I saw the counselor that he (Dr. Google) referred me to. She couldn't understand me very well, and couldn't even use her medical dictionary. I wanted her to explain what this diagnosis of Bipolar meant. Since "Dr. Google" decided I was Bipolar, and my heart palpitations were anxiety. This was just five minutes after he diagnosed it stress.

She couldn't find anything but Bipolar 1 in her medical dictionary, which she read only the bold print of, then she told me to "Google it".

Ok, excuse me, but shouldn't these people know what they're diagnosing their patients with? This is now two licensed professionals that cannot do their job without Google. I guess all I can say is; that's what I get for going to a free clinic.

Editors to the Letter:

Does not represent the views of the Commuter

I am writing in response to the article written by Nicolas Carlson on April 1, 2009. I am hoping that it was a joke. Even so, I can't believe that it was published. The obvious grammar problems negate his whole point, unless he is pointing out that dumb people grow up to be dumb adults. Who taught him to write like this? How is this acceptable? Mr. Carlson needs to embrace the facility of higher learning that is all around him. Might an English class be prudent?

He is trying to say that we are all doomed to fail unless we embrace new ideas and thoughts, that no one who is 'old' can do that. I would like to rebut that by pointing out that Leonardo Da Vinci was constantly coming up with new ideas and information until he died. Albert Einstein was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921 when he was 42. He continued to work, becoming one of the great minds of all time, earning him Man of the Century. The 14th Dali Lama is a man of great thought and vision. He is 73 years old yet his ideas are fresh and thoughtful. Many people around the WORLD seek his wisdom and advice. The great John Lennon wrote many great songs. John would be 68 years old today if he had not been MURDERED by Mark David

Chapman, a young man at the time. Most people feel John was one of the forward thinkers of his day, and would continue to be one of the great creative minds. Look up the words to the song 'Imagine'. The words in that song were relevant when they were written, as they are today, and will be a hundred, a thousand, maybe even a million years from now.

Mr. Carlson states that we are all wrong. How does he know this? Has he met EVERYONE? That is approximately 6.5 BILLION folks. As for the changes that we need to make, Mr. Carlson doesn't really make any real suggestions. "Be the person you hoped to be" is a very vague statement, with no concrete guidelines. Change for the better by giving to charitable organizations with either your time or money. Help a child (or an adult) learn to read, recycle, carpool, grow your own organic veggies, help an elderly neighbor. This is just a small portion of the things that me and my family do to make this a better planet. I have one last suggestion for our young Mr. Carlson. Please steer clear of drugs and alcohol, as you have precious few brain cells to spare.

-Nanette Dorsey

Spring 2009 Academic Success Seminars

FREE

Sign up on SIS or drop in!

So Much Math, So Little Time

Studying math can feel different than studying other courses. A math faculty member will share tips to help you master math requirements confidently! Let's turn around your thinking about math classes so you feel more confident taking them. Topics include: campus math resources that can help you succeed, getting ready before your math class starts, expectations in a college math class, how to think like a math instructor, math study tips for your learning style, how to read a math textbook, and how to prepare for math tests.

April 22, Sweet Home Center, SHC 102, 4 – 4:50 p.m.

Get Organized: The Best Ideas

Bring your three-ring binder, note paper and course schedule. Leave with planning tools to keep your school, work and social life in balance.

April 20, Lebanon Center, LC 205, 4 – 5:20 p.m.

April 21, Benton Center, BC 104, 5 – 5:50 p.m.

Better Notes + Better Tests = Better Grades

Apply the powerful note taking and study method covered in this workshop and watch your grades improve! Students who use the note taking study and self-test methods presented in this workshop report that they understand and remember more of what they read and get better grades.

April 22, Albany Campus, WH 225, 12 – 12:50 p.m.

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit SIS under Study Skills or call 917-4684.

No Stressin' From Testin'

Would you like to know what it takes to walk into a testing situation feeling confident? Test-taking can and should give you the opportunity to glow. This seminar will share strategies that you can use to overcome test anxiety and show off what you know. Come find out how to make test-taking a positive experience.

April 27, Lebanon Center, LC 205, 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

April 28, Benton Center, BC 104, 5 – 5:50 p.m.

April 29, Albany Campus, WH 225, 12 – 12:50 p.m.

April 29, Sweet Home Center, SHC 102, 4 – 4:50 p.m.

Tips to Overcome Procrastination

Procrastination can keep you from your goals. Come learn the underlying causes and tips to successfully overcome it.

May 5, Benton Center, BC 104, 5 – 5:50 p.m.

May 6, Albany Campus, WH 225, 12 – 12:50 p.m.

May 6, Sweet Home Center, SHC 102, 4 – 4:50 p.m.

May 11, Lebanon Center, LC 205, 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

Prepare for Finals Without Cramming

Juggling due dates for papers, projects, and finals? There's a way to do this without losing your sleep or sanity—even if you've been procrastinating! (Bring all of your assignments and due dates to get the most out of this workshop.)

May 4, Lebanon Center, LC 205, 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

May 12, Benton Center, BC 104, 5 – 5:50 p.m.

May 13, Albany Campus, WH 225, 12 – 12:50 p.m.

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Commuter
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 Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner
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 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

SURREAL LIVING

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

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Appears
 - 6 Gulp of whiskey
 - 10 "___ three ships come sailing in..."
 - 14 ___ ball; enjoy oneself
 - 15 Edible pocket
 - 16 Space flight agcy.
 - 17 Links items
 - 18 Old map abbr.
 - 19 Roll up tightly
 - 20 Enjoyment
 - 22 Fished with net
 - 24 Coin
 - 25 Weather forecast
 - 26 Declare
 - 29 Veranda
 - 30 Item for sitters only
 - 31 Cylindrical towers
 - 33 Horned animals
 - 37 Parched
 - 39 Inventories
 - 41 Canal of song
 - 42 Nueve & neuf
 - 44 Runs into
 - 46 Christmas ___
 - 47 Indy 500 entry
 - 49 Entertained
 - 51 Acts properly
 - 54 Men's org.
 - 55 Commenced
 - 56 Trick
 - 60 ___ Island
 - 61 Car rental outfit
 - 63 Dear
 - 64 Unwanted spots
 - 65 Vex
 - 66 German city
 - 67 River herring
 - 68 Recites
 - 69 Old
- DOWN**
- 1 Watercraft
 - 2 Countess' hubby
 - 3 Bacchanals' cry
 - 4 Threaten
 - 5 Smart-alecky kids
 - 6 Brief burst of energy
 - 7 Sage
 - 8 Contraction
 - 9 Actress Greer
 - 10 Endless
 - 11 Resort offering
 - 12 ___ as a beet
 - 13 Part of Emerson's name
 - 21 Up to
 - 23 Historical divisions
 - 25 Sample
 - 26 King or Ladd
 - 27 Traditional garment
 - 28 Short auto ride
 - 29 One who seems doomed to failure
 - 32 Cocktail garnishes
 - 34 Greek deity
 - 35 Show generosity
 - 36 Kernel
 - 38 Crazy
 - 40 Take off
 - 43 Put aside for later
 - 45 Breaks
 - 48 Lebanon plants
 - 50 Extreme degree
 - 51 Cords for cattlemen
 - 52 Period of time
 - 53 Reddish dye
 - 54 Blends
 - 56 Slippery
 - 57 Handle
 - 58 Virginia ___
 - 59 Tim Daly's sister
 - 62 By way of

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4/15/09

Solutions

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