THE LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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PHOTOS: ANGELA SCOTT

An in depth look into the conception, design and process of making Linn-Benton's 44th Annual Children's Show, "Josephina Jordan, Junior Underwater Explorer and the Mystery of the Plastic Fish."





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The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to:

Address:

The Commuter Forum 222 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW Albany, OR 97321

Web Address:

LBCommuter.com

541-917-4451, 4452 or 4449

commuter@linnbenton.edu



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Our Staff

Adviser Rob Priewe

Editor-in-Chief Alex Gaub

Layout Designer

Rebecca Fewless

Managing Editor Sarah Melcher

Digital Editor Josh Stickrod

A&E

Steven Pryor Caleb Barber

Photography Angela Scott - Editor Julia Hazelton

Web Master

Marci Sischo

Advertising Vicki Ballestero

Sports Cam Hanson

Contributors

Millicent Durand Lee Frazier Katelyn Boring Davis Ihde

MLK Day Events:

Historic Carousel & Museum

Where: 503 W 1st Ave, Albany, OR 97321

When: Monday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Price: Tickets \$5 at the Carousel Gift Shop

Adults and children attending the event must have a

Info: For information call 541-497-2934

Kids will be out of school on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Join in on a pajama party at the carousel by wearing your pajamas to the event. The event includes a cereal bar with fruit and juice, story time, crafts, and carousel ride

Martin Luther King Jr., Day of Service

Where: Check-in location: MU Horizon Room 49

When: Saturday, Jan. 19 at 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Info: Sign up and see a full list of projects on the SLI website: https://sli.oregonstate.edu/cce/dos

OSU students, faculty, staff, and their partners and children are invited. Projects will take place at various times with most projects starting in the morning. Global Community Kitchen will provide a light breakfast, snacks, and hot lunch will be provided to volunteers. Transportation will be provided to all projects. The

annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service is about coming together to honor Dr. King's life and legacy and help further his dream for peace. The event empowers individuals, strengthens communities, builds bridges, breaks down barriers, addresses social problems, and moves us closer to Dr. King's vision of strong, beloved communities.

• The Untold Story: Brother Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - The Alpha Man

Where: Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center

When: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Info: Participants of this event will learn about Dr. King's joining of the first Greek fraternity for African-American

A Day With MLK

Where: LBCC Diversity Achievement Center (DAC), Forum Room 220

When: Friday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Info: Films, reflections, and dialogue will be shared by the DAC students and staff, honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Snacks will be provided. The films will include the original "I Have a Dream" speech, "King in the Wilderness", "Witness from the Balcony of Room 306", and "Selma".

CAMPUS VOICE

How would you escape from a Pterodactyl?



CORRINA REVES BUSINESS

"MAYBE I'D TRY TO ZIG-ZAG, TRY TO FIND SOME BUSHES, A HIDING PLACE?...



"I'D FLY AWAY"



ERIKA COOK PSYCHOLOGY

"I WOULD BRIBE IT WITH FOOD, THEN JOIN FORCES WITH IT AND BECOME

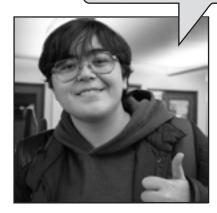
> J.J. BOLDEN ART

"CRY."



JENNIE LINK **DECIDEDLY UNDECIDED**

"IT DEPENDS WHERE I AM. IF I'M IN AN OPEN AREA I NEED TO EVALUATE MY SURROUNDINGS. I MEAN, JURASSIC PARK' AND 'JURASSIC WORLD' KIND OF TAUGHT US HOW TO DO THAT, RIGHT?"



STORY AND PHOTOS: ALEX GAUB

ROADRUNNERS LOOK TO CONTINUE MOMENTUM

LBCC basketball impresses against Mt. Hood and looks on to Clackamas



STORY AND PHOTOS BY CAM HANSON

Roadrunners men's basketball capped off the week with a strong win against the Mt. Hood Saints.

LBCC's 86-75 win against Mt. Hood was a long defensive battle, but players from all over made a splash and kept up with the Saints all game. On defense, LBCC kept the clamps on Saints players throughout the contest, allowing only a 42.6% FG percentage, 45% from beyond the arch. Players that had an impact were starters Taylor Jensen and Adam Harvey, who combined for 22 points, five rebounds, and four assists. Defense was the name of the game for the night however. Players such as Riley Davis (three blocks) made a huge impact on that side of the court. The bench had stellar play and Peter Wilmes highlighted this with 13 points and seven rebounds.

"With the system we run, everyone has a chance to come in and make an impact," said teammate AJ Chahal.

"Coach always emphasizes the importance of defense and rebounding, with those working, the offense will come naturally."

Coming off of a solid win, the Roadrunners cannot take any breaks. They face a stellar Clackamas Cougars team on the road on Jan. 16, but aren't making the matchup more than what it is; another chance to get the job done. They look to continue their smooth play against a strong and talented Clackamas Cougars team (12-3 Overall, 2-1 Conference) that is coming off of their first conference loss, an 89-60 drubbing given by Umpqua (9-6 Overall, 2-0 Conference).

"Clackamas is a great team. They're strong and athletic. We're gonna approach them just like we all do [with] every opponent though, and that all starts in the film room and at practice," said Chahal.

The Cougars have only suffered three losses all season, and average a staggering 92 points per game, along with 50 rebounds per game and 22 assists per game. It's a huge match on the road, and an opportunity for the Roadrunners to secure double digits in the win column. Holding the momentum is key and the team's "everyone contributes" mindset will be a huge factor in their play.

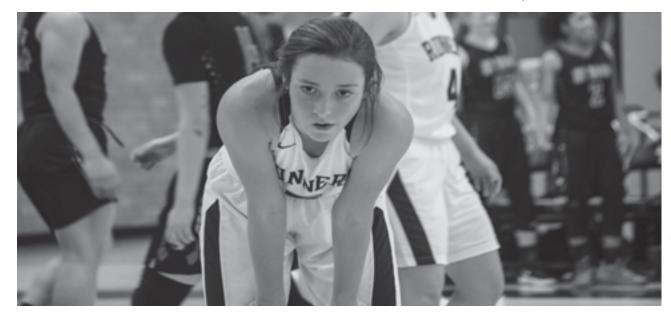
The location plays a huge factor, as Clackamas currently holds an undefeated 4-0 record at home. The Roadrunners on the other hand, have been fantastic both



Nico Wolff (#14) and Adam Harvey (#22) were some of the pieces that helped LBCC's defense.

ways, undefeated at home and 3-1 on the road are great records. However, when the site of the game is located at a neutral area, they're 2-5. The odds seem large, but the focus remains.

"We like to hold momentum and never let up, even when we have the lead. We always talk about having team unity and unselfishness. Our team chemistry is excellent on and off the court and I think it makes us different than any other team in the NWAC," said



Emily Hunson (#5) gave her team chances with eight rebounds complimented by six points.



Kaylee Brown (#10) had one steal on the night, but the Saints offense proved to be too much.

Wyden Will Hold Town Hall at LBCC

Senator's open-to-all meeting will be in the Russell Tripp Theatre

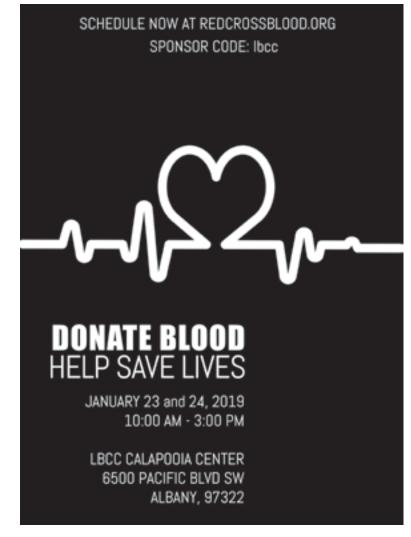
Heading into 12 town halls between Jan. 18-26, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden has held 920 town halls statewide overall since promising Oregonians that he would hold at least one annual town hall in each of the state's 36 counties.

"Throwing open the doors of government and listening to the Oregonians I'm proud to represent is a must," said Wyden, who recently won a second straight MVP award from the Town Hall Project for holding the most town

halls of any senator in 2018. "These open-toall town hall meetings allow any person to ask a question or share an idea. These conversations are part of what I call the 'Oregon Way' leading to solutions that work."

The Linn County town hall will be held at 3 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center on Saturday, Jan. 19.

THE COMMUTER



CONSTRUCTING THE SEA

A behind the scenes look at the process of building the set for the Annual Children's Show



STORY AND PHOTOS BY ANGELA SCOTT

Performing Arts takes a lot of work, and the process might be messy, but it is far from disorganized. Ideas for plays generate within the writer's rooms and in the case of Linn-Benton's 44th annual children's show, "Josephina Jordan, Junior Underwater Explorer and the Mystery of the Plastic Fish", Director Dan Stone wrote the piece in collaboration with the Oregon Coast Aquarium. Currently, the childrens play is well underway

into the process of hard work that facilitates creating, maneuvering, and pulling both the environment and performance together.

The annual children's show will begin private viewings the next two weeks with children from schools throughout the Willamette Valley visiting Russell Tripp Theatre. The final two weeks are filled with working out the kinks of a process that can seem chaotic for both backstage workers and performers finalizing the details.

"Josephina Jordan, Junior Underwater Explorer and the Mystery of the Plastic Fish" takes place underwater, which means envisioning and then creating a scene that captivates the audience and puts them into the environment. The set includes a giant submarine shaped like a fish that is maneuvered around the stage, puppets and puppeteers. In the spirit of the ecological message behind the play, the materials that are used for the puppets are assembled from repurposed materials.

Tina Marie Ivy, an instructor and working director, has worked on puppets for about 15 years.

She assembled the puppets for "Josephina Jordan, Junior Underwater Explorer and the Mystery of the Plastic Fish" using old childrens clothes, steamed bamboo from a friend's yard, and material from old curtains out of the Russell Tripp Theatre that would have otherwise been thrown away. Each of the puppets

A sea turtle is one of the many marine puppets featured on the set including an eel that is about 8 feet long, two crabs, and bioluminescent fish.



Sophie Brown, who plays as Archie Otter, sits in the viewing dome for the first time.









Many of the performers multi-task as puppeteers and stage hands portray more than one character. They are photographed during their warm-ups early in the morning for a four and a half hour rehearsal.



Students learn to safely swivel and maneuver "Big Tuna" around the stag viewing dome.



A rendered drawing by Director Dan Stone shows the conception of "Big Tuna", the giant submarine in its underwater environment.



Richard Elvin used CAD to figure out the initial welding of the framework.



Currently, the body has been filled out and the fins have been attached and is soon to be painted yellow.

are customized to fit the puppeteer before she can add any skin, fur, or final layers that bring each puppet to life.

The set mirrors the theme of the play, which discusses pollution in the ocean and also is an adaptation to economical boundaries that many theatres and artists face when it comes to constructing materials with a smaller budget. And the students and faculty who fill the Russell Tripp with their presence aren't left out of this dilemma.

In 2018, the production "I Got Guns" was chosen to perform at the Kennedy Center/American College Theater Festival held at the University of Oregon in February of this year. Students will get a chance to engage with theater companies, universities, and peers from all over the nation. Despite the funding they have received from the school, they still need to raise about \$4,000 to participate in the performance.

However, as "Josephina Jordan, Junior Underwater Explorer" approaches its opening, the students and faculty prove their ability to artistically and physically adapt to the production.

Richard Elvin is in the process of creating a giant submarine that moves around on stage. He received one rendered drawing from Dan Stone and used the drawing to create a steel framework in CAD. He puts together the rest with wood, foam, customized hatch doors, ladders; eventually there will be a hanging lantern, and computer. When it's done, the submarine will be fully hatched -- housing much of the storyline.

As the opening day draws near, the Russell Tripp Theater will be filled with performers learning lines, how to maneuver a submarine and puppets --bringing a dream to reality. There will be performances open to the public Feb. 9 and 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 general admission, \$6 for children under 18. Buy online or in advance at linnbenton.edu/tickets

For more information, contact the box office at 541-917-4531



A shark with seven gills is under construction in the workshop and after several customizations, Tina Marie Ivy is able to add an outer layer to the frame.



Tina Marie Ivy replaces a handle on the skeleton of a shark puppet. The handle was constructed from a shower rod to custom fit the puppeteer's hand and body.





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- Student Leadership Council Wants You!
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- Become a leader
- Represent your fellow students
- Earn tuition

Applications available in the Student Life & Leadership office, Forum-120 (Student Union).

Application deadline is 4 p.m., Friday February 11th!

CAN 'YO-KAI WATCH 3' BE SAVED?

Level-5's Western-targeted game is finally being localized for English-speaking audiences, but is it already too late?



YO-KAI WATCH 3

PUBLISHER: Nintendo DEVELOPER: Level-5 PLATFORM: 3DS

RELEASE DATE: December 7, 2018 (Europe), February 8, 2019 (US) (Originally Released in Japan in July 2016)



REVIEW BY

STEVEN PRYOR

@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

After a rather unique localization and distribution history, the following words from our previous review of "Yo-Kai Watch 2: Bony Spirits and Fleshy Souls" bear further examination: "Unless [Yo-Kai Watch 2] Psychic Specters manages to sell enough copies to make an impact on the Western world, any chance of seeing Yo-Kai Watch 3 being localized likely won't happen."

Now, after the English release of the spinoff title "Yo-Kai Watch Blasters" this past September; "Yo-Kai Watch 3" is finally being localized for English-speaking audiences. It released in Europe on December 7, 2018 and will release in the United States on February 8, 2019. The game was initially released in Japan in July 2016, with the three versions of the game released being named for the foods "Sushi," "Tempura" and "Sukiyaki."

The game sees many shakeups to the formula in previous installments. The story sees the player moving to the fictional town of St. Peanutsburg when their family transfers to a new job. The setting is a pastiche of the United States seen through a Japanese-

tinted lens, much like the Unova region in "Pokémon Black and White" as well as Eagleland in the cult classic RPG "Earthbound." The game also sees its combat system redesigned to a more active style that largely downplays the automated battles in previous games. The visual style incorporates elements from everything from space travel to American comic books, albeit with an overt Japanese flavor. All of this is meant to try to appeal to players in the West.

However, this also presents a host of roadblocks; as the game's UK trailer reveals a handful of potentially extensive changes for the game's oftdelayed localization. First, the setting has been changed from outright being the United States to the fictional setting of BBQ. This is likely a side effect of the previous games' setting of Japan being changed to the state of Idaho. Second, an early mission revolving around a language barrier between new neighbors looks to have been rewritten; though to what extent is not currently known. Third, the characters of "Agents Blunder and Folly" were initially outright Mulder and Scully from the hit TV show "The X-Files;" but were changed to avoid legal issues with Fox. This also follows how numerous references to "Ghostbusters" in the spinoff "Yo-Kai Watch Blasters" were modified to avoid legal complaints from Sony (the game was even known as "Yo-Kai Watch Busters" in its native Japan).

Beyond all this, however; is the risk involved in this decision based on what's already happened. Despite a strong performance in Japan overall, the series hasn't really met with the same success overseas. What was once being groomed as "the next Pokémon" has not grown as series creator Akihiro Hino expected or hoped. "Yo-Kai Watch 2: Psychic Specters" has only sold 120,000 copies in the US as of this writing; well below the sales of almost 3 million it had in Japan. "Yo-Kai Watch Blasters" also launched in the US and Europe the same day as the PS4 title "Marvel's Spider-Man." The wall-crawler then went on to tangle the yokai in his critically-acclaimed; best-selling web. The anime is still airing on Disney XD, but the English dub being recast was met with mixed reception; and ratings remain mediocre. Despite Hasbro promising more merchandise as recently as 2018, the company seems to have quietly moved on to other projects (such as their recent purchase of the long-running "Power Rangers"

Though Level-5 is currently developing a fourth "Yo-Kai Watch" game for the Nintendo Switch; it's clear that "Yo-Kai Watch 3" will have much to prove if it can truly appeal to Western gamers. Given the challenges the series has faced outside Japan so far, however; Hino and Level-5 have an uphill battle on their hands.



RETRO GAME REVIEW:

Metal Gear Legacy Collection

PUBLISHER: Konami
DEVELOPER: Konami
PLATFORM: Playstation 3
ESRB RATING: M

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★



STORY BY
STEVEN PRYOR
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

Since its debut in 1987, the "Metal Gear" series has been held in high regard as one of the best sagas in gaming. For its 25th anniversary in 2012, a collection containing the entire series up to that point was released on the Playstation 3. Even though much has changed about the video game industry since then, the series has stood the test of time as a breakthrough in interactive storytelling and stealth-based gameplay.

In addition to the first four "Metal Gear Solid" games, the collection contains three games that were not previously released on the Playstation 3 as well as two that had never been released in the United States in their original forms before. The original 1987 "Metal Gear" had only received a downgraded port on the Nintendo Entertainment System before this collection. Now, the original game and its 1990 sequel, "Metal Gear 2: Solid Snake" have been released in their original forms as part of this collection. The games had

previously only been available on the MSX computer, which never saw a release in the United States. Though both games have admittedly aged, the core mechanics of the series are firmly in place; favoring stealth and strategy over simply going into each area guns blazing. The plot of "Metal Gear 2: Solid Snake" was also the basis for the groundbreaking 1998 "Metal Gear Solid." The previously overlooked title "Metal Gear Solid: Peace Walker" also gained a much larger audience than it originally had for its initial release on the Playstation Portable.

Upon its release on the original Playstation, "Metal Gear Solid" helped redefine the term "interactive fiction" and show the cinematic and storytelling potential of video games in a high-quality fashion. Prior to this, many attempts included nonsensical plots; terrible live actors and the appearance of having been made as cheaply as possible. When the first "Metal Gear Solid" was released in 1998, it set standards for not only the series; but countless other video games that followed. The writing, acting and production values were deliberately made to be on par with major Hollywood movies; and its influence can

still be felt today.

While the 2001 entry "Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons of Liberty" has often been divisive among some fans, the game's reputation has gotten much stronger over time. Not only has the gameplay held up surprisingly well, the story and its themes have arguably gotten more relevant in the years since the game's initial release. "Metal Gear Solid 3: Snake Eater" tells the story of Snake's first major mission set amongst the backdrop of Cold War-era Russia in the 1960s; and is among the best entries in the series and one of the best games on the Playstation 2 overall. "Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots" remains an engaging experience more than a decade after its initial release, telling of an aging Solid Snake being sent for one last mission.

Overall, the "Metal Gear" series has stood the test of time as a landmark of action-stealth video games for more than 30 years. There has never been a better time for fans to revisit the series or for newcomers to check it out for the first time.



GAME REVIEW:

Star Wars Battlefront II (2017)

PUBLISHER: EA/Lucasfilm Ltd. **DEVELOPER:** DICE/Criterion/Motive PLATFORM: Playstation 4/Xbox One

(Also available on PC) **ESRB RATING: T**

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★☆



STORY BY STEVEN PRYOR **@STEVENPRR2PRYOR**

(Note: This review is based on the most recent updates available as of this writing. Some content was not initially present upon the game's initial release on November 17, 2017.)

"Star Wars Battlefront II" is the sequel to the 2015 version of "Star Wars Battlefront," both of which are also remakes of games of the same name from the mid-2000s. While not on the same level as the 2005 version of the game, it's a sequel that's a decent followup even if it's not the best game based on the "Star Wars" saga.

The game addresses one of the major shortcomings of the previous game, with a story campaign following a rogue group known as "Inferno Squad." Though not quite as compelling as the story of the 2005 version of the game (which chronicled the fall of the old Republic and the rise of the Empire), it is an

overall interesting look at the saga between the events of "Return of the Jedi" and "The Force Awakens."

The controls remain every bit as accessible as they were in the previous game, still easy enough to pick up and play; but tough to truly master. The graphics are full of great details from the series, and though the Xbox One version once again has a slight edge in visuals; the PlayStation 4 version still has plenty to offer. The characters and worlds from recent updates have seen the return of content from the Clone Wars as well as tying into "The Last Jedi" and the spinoff film "Solo." Multiplayer modes can allow fans to recreate their favorite battles from the saga as well as more creative setups. Turning playable versions of General Grievous and Kylo Ren loose on Yavin 4 is just one of many potential scenarios possible.

That said, the game isn't without its flaws. The game had much of its initial launch period consumed by a divisive system of loot boxes and microtransactions. This not only drew ire from reviewers and players alike, it also contributed to an ongoing debate about ethics of microtransactions in video games and has cast a shadow over EA even as the company ultimately decided to walk back the more polarizing elements of this system.

Still, debates about the business ethics aside; the game is an overall decent experience even if it doesn't reach the heights of the 2005 game of the same name. Much like the previous game in 2015, DICE have once again delivered a flawed but overall fun shooter that's full of lots of great details. Exploring a distant planet as Luke Skywalker while cutting through Stormtroopers recalls many a young child playing with "Star Wars" merchandise in their backyard.

Despite a rather unwieldy and polarizing use of microtransactions, the 2017 version "Star Wars Battlefront II" is a solid follow-up to the 2015 "Star Wars Battlefront" and a relatively fun shooter overall. With more content updates planned for the near future, the game has definitely improved since its launch in 2017. For those who were unsure about the game, there has never been a better time to give it a try.

LBCC Hosts Fortnite Tournament Funraiser

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P O P U M E

ETA OLIVE ASB

CIPOLINMARADO

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DAOEVER

A T I C P A B A

AMIR

BOER

TRAY

STORY BY: DAVIS IHDE

Do you want to test your Fortnite skills against the top players in the Albany area and have a chance to win a cash prize? For only \$20, you can register for the sixteen-person Fortnite tournament taking place

38 Fetish

41 Incense

ingredient

Dept. of

50 Corner

51 Wampum

40 Fundamental

43 Rubbish: Brit.

47 Work (Sp.) 48 United States

Agriculture (abbr.)

49 Ten decibels

46 Anecdotes

on Saturday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Albany Campus Activities Center.

The winner will get \$200, second place will win \$50, and third place will win \$20. Admission is free for spectators and food and beverages will be available for purchase.

This event is a fundraiser for the Linn Benton women's basketball program. If you want to see the rules of the tournament, or if you want to register, visit: www.eventbrite.com/e/linn-benton-cc-fortnitetournament-registration-52978308547

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DISAGREE

5 Former Korean president Genetic letters 12 Dunlin bird 13 Male noble 14 Edible root 15 Sayings (suf.) 16 Vex 18 Having (suf.) 20 Shout 21 Formula 23 Fish with bait on the surface 24 Buddhist monk

25 Held a session

30 Mortar mixer

31 Shoshonean

32 River into the

in nirvana

26 Offense

29 Trouble

North Sea

33 Cistern

34 Oriental

36 Month abbr.

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ACROSS

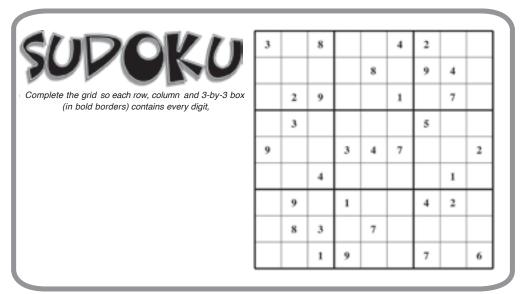
Cocoon insect

DOWN Greek letter Caribbean lizard Card game Abbey (Sp.) Queen (Fr.) Stag Slip Educe 9 Old Eng. gold piece 10 National (abbr.)

CIAISIAI SEAEAGLE CAT A I N E ANE 11 Soul or spirit (Fr.) 17 Flap 19 Choose 22 Great Lake 23 Flat fish 25 Pouch 26 Bag

27 Italic (abbr.) 28 Haw. goose 30 Mortar beater 33 Seamark 35 Rile (2 words) 36 Coniferous tree 37 Muslim divorce 38 Without (Ger.) 39 Semitic deity 40 Pressure (pref.) 41 Public vehicle 42 Or best offer (abbr.) 44 Food and Drug Admin. (abbr.) 45 Cigarette: Brit.





CAMPUS NEWS JANUARY 16, 2019 LBCOMMUTER.COM 😵

HUMANS OF LB:

Faces of the Learning Center

Carlena Weeks (Help Desk)

"We have a rather large collection and exotic collection of animals. including; let me see how many we have now... one, two, three... I think six cobras, and about a dozen rattlesnakes. Uumm, they have all been surgically altered to have their venom glands



removed, because we do a lot of educational displays with kids. So, we want to make sure that everyone is safe. We do also have some animals that are good examples for pets, such as corn snakes."



Chessie Alberti (Writing Center)

"From working in the Writing Center as a writing assistant I realized that this is what I wanted to do as a career. I was really interested in Writing Center director positions or writing programs administrations. So, it was sort of the type of job that I planned to apply for after I graduated. But, there aren't that many writing centers in the local area, within commuting distance [from Corvallis]. I got really lucky that Victoria retired [former Writing Center coordinator]."



Kristen Jennings (College Skill Zone)

"I love watching people come into their own power, and assert their own power as they find new ways of expressing themselves. As they gain ideas and mastery over new concepts. That 'Ah Ha' moment that every teacher is looking for; when it happens you're just like-Yes! How do we help you get there?"





Gary Brittsan (Math Domain)

"I really like helping people, I really enjoy that moment when someone gets it, like that click; Oh, that's what's going on! I really love seeing that. I like the challenge of having someone who doesn't get this way of doing it, so I have to come up with a

new way of explaining things. Then if that doesn't really make sense I have to come up with a new way to explain it, and so I have to have a really strong foundation to be able to explain the same topic from a variety of angles."

LOOKING FOR WORK?

- That fits your school schedule
- Earn a competitive wage
- Earn credits toward your degree for work experience

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Current job listings: http://bit.ly/CWE_jobs_blog Application: http://bit.ly/LBCC-ATI_CWE-Application

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Min. 2.0 GPA
- . One completed term of applicable college courses
- · Pass drug screen & background check
- · Legally able to work in United States
- Registration in CWE program at LBCC · Prefer a one-year or longer commitment

QUESTIONS???

Lena Carr at cwe@linnbenton.edu with questions www.linnbenton.edu/cwe