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Spirit of Thanksgiving alive in Whiteaker neighborhood



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Culinary student Elliot Glazer-Flynn helps to prepare over 1,000 pounds of yams for the Whiteaker dinner.

26th annual community dinner draws large crowd

PENNY SCOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Thanksgiving dinner at the Whiteaker Head Start Center on Nov. 27 started early for some. At 8:00 a.m. early arrivers were given gifts of warm clothing, sleeping bags, gloves, blankets, toiletries and various materials

for creating shelters. Organizers also arranged rides to the event for those without transport.

The Whiteaker Community Dinners are 100 percent volunteer run. The WCD slogan is "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." The idea behind the event is community coming together as one and eliminating divisions

between donors, volunteers and guests.

From 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. guests dined together, some having their photos taken, their faces painted or even getting a massage. Local musicians played blues and other music throughout the day.

WCD organizers said they didn't have a way of doing an official head count, but estimated that more than 2,000 people attended this year's event. With

seating for only 230 people, volunteers worked in teams announcing vacant chairs when guests finished eating and left to walk around the room to enjoy the other offerings.

Event coordinator and landscape architect Justin Lanphear said the all-inclusive event is for people without homes and people with homes who would otherwise spend Thanksgiving

see **WHITEAKER**, page 7

Lane gets energy efficient

Program aims toward sustainability

MARISSA BRUNDIGE
REPORTER

The LCC Energy Management Program has specialized in commercial building efficiency since 1980. Now, roughly 35 years later, the program is located in what are designed to be come the most energy efficient buildings in all of academia, according to the Northwest Water and Energy Education Institute.

"There are some pretty outstanding buildings around," LCC Energy and Water Programs Director Roger Ebbage said, "but this will top them all." A special computer display shows how everything in the building is operating, including how motors and fans are running and whether lights are on or off.

The Lane downtown campus building features a solar-powered domestic water heating system that serves the entire facility, including the adjacent dorms. It contributes about 90 percent of the



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Solar panels help power the building's water heating system in the LCC Downtown campus.

building's hot water from around May until October and about 60 percent in the colder, cloudier months.

Ebbage explained that when discussions are

see **CO2**, page 3

Author talks at Lane about 'Death Train'

People risk everything for a chance to enter the U.S.

TRAVIS HOLMES
REPORTER

Sonia Nazario saw a pool of blood on the sidewalk when she was walking home with her mother and asked where it came from. Her mother told her that it was the blood of reporters who were trying to tell the truth about what was happening in their country. This is when Nazario decided to become reporter.

On Tuesday Dec. 2 Lane president Mary Spilde introduced Pulitzer winning author

and journalist Sonia Nazario to approximately 50 people at Lane Community College.

Nazario told of how she moved from Argentina to the U.S. with her parents. Then, while she was still young, moved back to Argentina after her father died. Nazario said that she lived in Argentina during a time when the military was killing people who were considered a threat.

Later she moved back to the U.S. and attended Williams College in Maine. At age 21 she

see **AUTHOR TALK**, page 6

THE TORCH

Lane Community
College's
student-run
newspaper

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commentary

"The audience was in a constant state of celebration and unity unlike anything the world had ever seen before at a rock concert."

Music is in everything

A tribute to two of the best rock performers ever

PENNY SCOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Musicians impact audiences in very different ways, and when it comes to those who attain fame on the world stage, they reach many millions of people. In fact, I think at some level everyone is affected.

Last week and next week are the anniversaries of the deaths of rock music legends John Lennon and Freddie Mercury. Lennon was murdered at age 40 by Mark David Chapman on Dec. 8, 1980. Mercury died at age 45 from AIDS-related bronchial pneumonia on Nov. 24, 1991.

Lennon's musical career began as the lead singer and guitarist of The Beatles. Mercury was the lead singer of Queen. These two men, along with the bands they led, had an amazing impact on people worldwide, but in remarkably different ways.

Beatlemania was so named because of the effect the Beatles had on audiences which, in the early years, were predominantly female. Tens of thousands of yearning fans, at show after show throughout Europe, Britain and Australia cried and screamed hysterically to such an extent the music was completely drowned out.

Cracking the United States market has been tough for many overseas artists throughout rock's history, and for The Beatles it was no different. Their manager, Brian Epstein, could not convince EMI's U.S. arm, Capitol Records, to take a chance on the Fab Four. Then fate intervened.

In 1963, returning from Europe, U.S. television show host Ed Sullivan encountered a throng of hysterical Beatles fans at London's Heathrow Airport. Soon afterward he and Epstein struck a deal; The Beatles were to appear on his show three times in just one month.

This gave Epstein the leverage he needed to convince Capitol Records to play ball. With a few hits under their belt and with "I Want to Hold Your Hand" at number one, the Beatles came to the U.S. on Feb. 7, 1964. The group appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show on Feb. 9 to an estimated television audience of more than 70 million people.

They went on tour, and Beatlemania swept the country.

Queen, another British band,

had an entirely different effect on people. Responses to their music are better described as appreciation, joy, celebration and love. The way I see it, Beatles audiences experienced a longing for connection. Queen audiences experienced the joy of actually connecting.

On July 13, 1985, Queen appeared at the Live Aid Concert at Wembley Stadium in London to an estimated world-

"Mercury's commanding performance is remembered in the rock industry as the 20 minutes that changed rock history."

wide audience of over one billion people. Queen performed alongside Rock's top performers of the time. They weren't headliners. In fact, they were considered past their prime. However, when Mercury appeared on stage the audience went wild.

When Mercury sang the first words of "Bohemian Rhapsody," the 72 thousand strong crowd sang along with him. For twenty minutes, for song after song, the audience was in a continual state of celebration and unity unlike anything ever seen before at a rock concert.

The feeling of unity reached a tipping point when Queen sang "Radio Ga Ga," and the stadium resembled a Nuremberg rally. This unfortunate resemblance attracted widespread criticism of the group, but did nothing to slow their upward spiraling success.

In the U.S. it was different. In 1984 just before the Wembley phenomenon, the release of their "I Want to Break" video brought their already dwindling popularity to a halt. The video was banned by MTV because the members of the band were dressed as women. It was a parody of the British soap opera "Coronation Street," but the humor didn't translate across the Atlantic.

Queen stole the show at Wembley that day in 1985. Mercury's commanding performance is remembered in the rock industry as the 20 minutes that changed rock history. Watching his performance leaves me in awe no matter how many times I watch it.

My interest in this historical event is tied to something I have known for a long time — there are entry points into the collective human psyche and music goes right to them. In an interview last year with Alberto Redondo, the head of Lane's music lab, he said that music is in everything.

This isn't just about music per se; it's about art, films, plays, writing, projects of all kinds and even some conversations. It's about having the capacity

to reach people — sometimes at a deep level. This is important knowledge, and it echoes through my mind often that hitting the right note is perhaps one of life's most important achievements.

Lennon sometimes chose to shock people, evidenced by his highly controversial statement that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ. As he matured, he and his music kept changing and hitting entirely different notes. Just as powerful, only different. Mostly though, Lennon inspired us to really "Imagine" a different world.

Mercury evolved too. Even after a long and successful career with Queen, his operatic duet with Spanish opera diva Montserrat Caballe singing "Barcelona" was a musical triumph. From the first time he heard Caballe sing, he was captivated by her voice. She inspired him to bring the operatic style, evident in some of his previous music, to new heights.

A host of gifted rock musicians are no longer with us. Interestingly, like Lennon and Mercury, many of them died quite young. The song made famous by The Righteous Brothers, "Rock and Roll Heaven," is a fitting tribute to them all and to the legacies they left behind.

*If you believe in forever
Then life is just a one-night stand
If there's a rock n' roll heaven
Well you know they've got a hell of a band...*



Foreign correspondent speaks at Lane

Freelance reporter
talks about
oil and terrorism

DANIEL ROARK
REPORTER

Long time CBS foreign correspondent Reese Erlich spoke about his coverage of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria to approximately 75 people at Lane on Thursday, Nov. 20. Erlich is a freelance journalist and author of the best-selling book "Inside Syria."

He said that mainstream American media has labeled the actions of ISIS as "ethnic cleansing" and told of refugees fleeing from ISIS in Syria and Iraq, leaving behind cars, clothes and valuables.

Erlich witnessed tens of thousands of Yazidis forced to flee Islamic State fighters. He says that ISIS is a vicious, un-Islamic, ultra-right wing group and is a real threat to the people of Syria and Iraq. However, they pose no more of a terrorist threat to the American people than al-Qaida or its offshoots.

Erlich, who visits Lane Community College about every three years, spoke of how power-hungry he believes ISIS to be, noting their reported use of scare tactics. Erlich stated that this is a good time to revive and mobilize the peace movement.

Some in attendance voiced their concerns about the cost of the wars in the Middle East. "The five billion dollars spent fighting ISIS would be better spent supporting Lane Community College and other learning institutions," Michael Carrigan, with Community Alliance of Lane County, said.



Reese Erlich speaks about his book "Inside Syria" where he discusses the rise of ISIS and what the US military involvement should or should not do.

AMANDA IRVIN / THE TORCH

Erlich said that the United States has changed its stated reasons for being in the Middle East, adding that he believes U.S. interest in the Middle East is primarily driven by a desire to secure oil supplies.

He said that these countries would be better off if they didn't have any oil; then the U.S. would have no reason to be there. According to Erlich, the U.S. wants some closed bases reopened for strategic purposes, such as the defense of commodities.

Erlich travelled extensively throughout northern Iraq at the start of the U.S. bombing campaign against Islamic State that started several months ago. He has in-

terviewed Kurdish leaders and U.S. officials and says the reality of the ground war is far different from the propaganda coming out of Washington. A CBS News report stated that sailors watched as Tomahawk cruise missiles were launched from the guided missile cruiser USS Philippine Sea (CG 58) in the Arabian Gulf on Sept. 23.

Erlich turned to the subject of executions and the variety of methods that ISIS has used to kill people, stating that there is evidence of beheadings, immolations and mass execution by firearms. ISIS has also executed 12 of

see SYRIA, page 7

How to pay for college... IN ONE DAY!

a FREE Financial Aid and Scholarship Event

Saturday, January 10th

Lane Community College
Center for Meeting and Learning
Main Campus, Bldg 19, Room 100

8:30am – 9:00am

Registration, Welcome, Event Overview

9:00am – 2:30pm

College Goal Oregon: Meet with financial aid professionals who will help you complete the online FAFSA. Bring your 2013 Tax Returns and 2014 financial records.

9:00am – 10:30am

"Be a Competitive Applicant": Learn resources and strategies for finding college scholarships.

11:00am – 12:30pm

"Finding Funds for Oregon Students": Learn how to apply for Office of Student Access and Completion scholarships (OSAC).

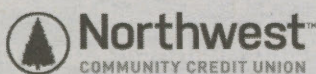
12:45pm – 2:15pm

"Sesión Informativa acerca de Becas y ayuda financiera"
for disability related accommodations, contact jackie at brysonj@lanecc.edu

<http://www.lanecc.edu/ces/upcoming-events>

TO PRE-REGISTER: 1. Go to lanecc.augusoft.net 2. Call 541-463-6100
OR register the day of the event.

presented by:



CO2

from page 1

coming out of the White House regarding clean energy and it's in the news, people hear about it and become interested. "So if Barack [President Obama] is talking about clean energy, people hear that and go 'oh wow, clean energy. Yeah, that's a good field, I'm gonna get in it,' and then our program just blossoms," he said.

China and the U.S. are the world's two biggest polluters, contributing about 45 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions. The two countries came to an agreement earlier this month on cutting greenhouse gas emissions. The U.S. is planning to cut emissions 26 to 28 percent from 2005 levels by 2025. China has announced its intent to reduce the rate of increase so that emissions will peak by 2030, and decline thereafter. Ebbage explained that when the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change convenes in Paris next year, other countries will look at what the United States is willing to do and follow suit.

"They're finishing a coal-fired power plant about every seven to nine days," Ebbage said. "And if you can imagine just exactly what that means, that is ridiculous."

He credited Secretary of State John Kerry for saying it is ironic that China, which now produces more solar electricity and makes more solar panels than any other manufacturing country in the world, doesn't receive the necessary sunlight to use them due to the amount of pollution in the atmosphere. Ebbage explained that he considers nuclear energy to be renewable because it doesn't pro-

duce greenhouse gases.

The new LCC downtown campus building, containing classrooms, offices and dorms, is certified through a building sustainability rating system at the highest possible level, earning the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) designation of platinum. "I wrote and received a grant from the Federal Department of Energy for half a million dollars," Ebbage said. "It went into this [fourth] floor specifically, this floor has all energy efficiency stuff."

The new building was funded by the federal grant, city and state contributions, money from a bond issue and federal tax credits based on the designed levels of sustainability and efficiency.

Ebbage was on the building's design committee from the beginning and promoted its creation enthusiastically. He mentioned that persuading other LCC staff was very easy, aided greatly by solid backing from President Mary Spilde.

"Mary is the one who drove the design of the building," he said. "This is part of her soul. And it is actually becoming part of the soul of the college."

In the current sustainability programs offered at LCC, students learn about water conservation, energy management (in the commercial sector), building operations, renewable energy, solar water heating and solar electric installation and design. Building operations account for approximately 40 percent of the country's total energy consumption, and substantial efficiency gains are possible through intelligent building design.

The program includes the Institute for Sustainable Practices, a sustainability committee that meets on Wednesdays in room 226 of Building 16.



Lady Titans dominate

Strong start for Lane women's basketball

TAYLOR NEIGH / THE TORCH

The LCC women's basketball team took the win in Titans Classic at LCC on Sunday, Nov. 23.

ALEX LIGGINS
REPORTER

The Lady Titans basketball team began its season undefeated, winning all three of its games in the Titan Classic. On Friday, Nov. 21, the Lane women's basketball team hosted Everett Community College for the first game of this annual event, beating the Trojans 87 to 49.

Lady Titans sophomore guard Gabby Heehn led the team in scoring with 15 points, all in the second half. The Titans

shot 41 percent from the field, pouring on 50 second half points. "I thought we played with energy and executed well, considering it being our first game of the year," Titans head coach Greg Sheley said.

The Titans dominated the game defensively, allowing Everett to hit only 26 percent of their shots in the second half. Turnovers were about even, Everett with 28 against 27 for the Titans. However, the Titans made the most of the transitions, outscoring Everett 35 to 14 on points off turnovers. The key was the Titans full

court one-on-one match-up press that forced Everett to play uncomfortably all the way down the court. "I was pleased with our team's overall effort, especially on defense," said Sheley.

Freshman guard Bre DuBois racked up six steals and ten rebounds to lead the team, and freshman center Jordan Kimbrough helped clean up the middle, making four blocks and collecting nine rebounds. Sophomore guard Jacia Joiner also contributed, hitting five of 11 shots for 12 points, with eight assists

and five steals.

Three point shooting played a big factor in Lane's victory over Everett. Although the Titans only shot 23 percent from range in the first half, they regained their composure and knocked down 50 percent of three pointer attempts in the second half, picking apart Everett's two-three zone. Gabby Heehn started the game 0-3, but then caught fire hitting five of seven three-pointers to lead the

see **LADY TITANS**, page 5

The Affordable Care Act gives Oregonians health care coverage options

Private Health Insurance

through the Market Exchange

new and current enrollees

— must signup by —

DEC 15, 2014

<http://healthcare.gov>

Oregon Health Plan Expansion

new enrollees

— must signup by —

FEB 15, 2015

<http://oregon.gov/oha/healthplan>

we've got you covered

Need help signing up? The Lane County Community Health Centers are partners with Oregon Health Plan and Healthcare.gov. They have certified staff available to meet with you, get your questions answered, and help you find what type of coverage is right for you. Call (541) 682-3585 to set up an appointment.



TAYLOR NEIGH / THE TORCH

Willy Malos was one of four players that scored double digits in the men's basketball teams win over Willamette University.

Titans defend home court, win 94-83

Men's basketball team gets first home win

ALEX LIGGINS
REPORTER

The Titans began their season with a one-and-one record, starting with a win over Pacific University JV 78 to 69 on Nov. 21, but losing 89 to 76 to Lower Columbia the next day.

Their first home win of the season was on Nov. 23 against the Willamette JV Bearcats, 94 to 83. Freshman guard Durrell Porter led the Titans with a double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds.

"I'm happy with the win no doubt, but I wish we would defend better," Titans head coach Bruce Chavka said. The Bearcats' Matt Logan led all scorers with 27 points, hitting seven of 11 from three-point range.

The score was close for most of the game; the Titans barely led at halftime 46 to 43. "They really shot the three-pointer well," Chavka said, as the Bearcats shot 41 percent from behind the arc on 13 of 32 shots, but the Titans sank only eight of 26 shots for 31 percent.

Offensive rebounding was a big fac-

tor in the win, with the Titans grabbing 20 offensive boards that led to 23 second-chance points. Seven of the ten rebounds Porter collected were offensive rebounds.

The Titans out-rebounded the Bearcats 47 to 25. "Bottom line is we rebounded well enough to win," Chavka said. "Need to improve though."

The Titans' bench contributed substantially, outscoring Willamette's bench 29 to 12. Freshman guard Mitch Franz led team scoring with 19 points, hitting seven of 12 shots and collecting four re-

bounds. The team did an excellent job scoring on free-throws in the second half, making 13 of 16 attempts.

After the first three games, Chavka's main focuses for improvement are shot selection, rebounding and defense. "We're slowly figuring it out," Chavka said.

"I think if we can get our defense to catch up with our offense we'll be a lot better."

The Titans played the Lane Alumni at home on Dec. 2, losing 92 to 87. They next travel to Eureka, Cal. for the Redwood Classic Dec. 6 to 7.

LADY TITANS

from page 4

Titans' attack from range.

The Titans also won the battle of the boards, out-rebounding Everett 53 to 32. "We did an outstanding job rebounding," Sheley said. "We boxed out well and went after the ball aggressively, which resulted in a lot of rebound opportunities."

Freshman guard Sara Kesling led the bench in rebounding, contributing eight. Sophomore forward Carmen Wright, also coming off the bench, added seven points, seven rebounds and five assists. Kimbrough had a near double-double with nine rebounds and 14 points scored in almost 20 minutes of play. However, she was in foul trouble for most the game, and had to limit her time on the court.

In the second game over the weekend, the

Titans blew out Pierce 100 to 54 on Saturday. Playing off the bench, Wright led the team in scoring, hitting 11 of 13 shots for 22 points and grabbing nine rebounds.

The Titans went on to win the Titan Classic by defeating George Fox's JV team in the third game 95 to 47. Kimbrough snatched 11 rebounds and scored 22 points, shooting 10 of 16 from the field. Four other Titans also scored in double figures. Scoring 16 points in the final game, Bre Dubois was the MVP of the tournament. Joining DuBois on the All-Tournament Team was her teammate, Jordan Kimbrough.

Despite winning every game by a solid margin, Sheley's plan for his team is to get better day-by-day. "We need to shoot the ball more consistently, especially from the free throw line," he said. "There are always things we can improve on."

The Lady Titans play their next games in Bellevue, Wash. at the Bellevue Tournament Dec. 5-7.



TAYLOR NEIGH / THE TORCH

Jacia Jointer scored 12 points and had 8 assists in the women's basketball teams win over the Everett Trojans.

AUTHOR TALK

from page 1

became the youngest reporter to work at The Wall Street Journal.

One day when talking to her housekeeper, a mother of one, Nazario asked if she planned to have more children. The housekeeper broke down crying and shared her story of how she had to leave her four children behind in Guatemala when she immigrated to the U.S.

That's how Nazario learned about El

*Sonia Nazario
decided to ride a train herself
and report on it. It became the
subject of her book
"Enrique's Journey."*

tren del la muerte, known in English as "The Death Train," which is actually a network of trains that travel across South America. She learned of the epic journey people undergo to get to the U.S.

Hoping to reach the U.S., they jump onto moving trains with as much food and water as they can carry. Those with someone to meet them in the U.S. also carry that person's phone number.

Nazario decided to ride a train herself and report on it. It became the subject of her book "Enrique's Journey." She explained that riding the train is illegal and extremely dangerous. In some places, usually cities, gangs board the trains to steal from people. Those who resist are thrown off the trains.

Nazario said that recently there has been a surge in kidnappings on the trains.

Conductors are bribed to stop in the middle of nowhere where people can't get away. She said that immigration officers also steal whatever money or valuables people have and then deport them back to their home country.

However, in some small villages a different story unfolds. When villagers hear a train coming, they run to the tracks with gifts for those onboard. If they can, they give them food. If not, they give tap water, and if they can't give water they line up beside the tracks and give prayers to the travelers.

Nazario ended her talk by informing the audience about social reform and programs that can be implemented to take care of the people whose stories she tells. "For me I feel that a lot of our problems are because people don't really understand these big social issues," Nazario said.

"... The solutions that she presented tonight are what stuck with me the most about the us having to make the foreign policies to help Central America" President Pro tempore for student government Mariana Paradones said.

Nazario spoke of her endeavor engage people through talking about important matters in gripping ways. She hopes to inspire others to want to learn more so they can help solve some of these big problems.

"A lot of people look at this from a purely political perspective and forget to look at the humanity of it," Diego Davis, Lane psychology major graduate, said. He believes that leaving the humanity aspect out shows the priorities of the nation. "What do you value more the humanity of the situation or the politics of the situation...?" he said.

Sonia Nazario decided to ride a train herself and report on it. It became the subject of her book "Enrique's Journey."



TRAVIS HOLMES / THE TORCH

Sonia Nazario gave a lecture on immigration in Building 17 at Lane Community College on Dec. 2.



TRAVIS HOLMES / THE TORCH

The audience gave Nazario a standing ovation at the end of her lecture.

ALSCC

Campus warming center gains support

GTFF strike resolution discussed

NICOLE RUND
REPORTER

Senators approved a resolution supporting the Michael Briggs Warming Center proposed for the Lane Community College campus. Modeled after the Egan Warming Centers in Eugene and Springfield, it would open when the temperatures fall below 30 degrees.

The center would only be open to LCC students who are houseless. The resolution passed 8-0-0 and will now go to the Lane administration for approval. The planned facility is named in memory of Michael Briggs, a houseless Lane student who passed away in early November.

The idea for the center was first proposed by Public Safety to address the growing population of Lane students who are houseless and struggling with temperatures sometimes falling below freezing.

Student government also heard a proposal from Marshall Collins, Lane student and graduate teaching fellow at the University of Oregon. His proposal declared support for the GTFF strike that started Tuesday, Dec. 2 at UO.

"Progress comes from solidarity," Collins said. He reiterated points from his resolution stating the GTFs are striking because they deserve a living wage. GTFs are also requesting paid sick leave, paid

child leave and a five percent pay increase.

Senators took 10 minutes to discuss how this pertains to LCC. "As many students at LCC go on to UO, our futures depend on GTFs too," Treasurer Ashley Jackson said. Because this was the first reading of the resolution, senators were unable to vote on it. However, they registered their verbal support for the strike and scheduled an emergency meeting on Mon. Dec. 8 to address the time-sensitive situation.

Other items voted on at the meeting included:

- Robert McGowen, a film arts student, was ratified as the eighth senator for ASLCC.

- A funds request for \$500 was approved for the Winter Welcome Week celebration's chili and cornbread lunch, with vegan, vegetarian and meat options to be cooked and provided by Culinary Arts students.

- A funds request for \$500 was approved for Council of Clubs for Winter Welcome Week.

- A funds request for \$500 was approved for the Oregon Students of Color conference.

- The Gender and Sexuality Alliance requested funding for two students to attend the Creating Change Conference in Denver, CO.

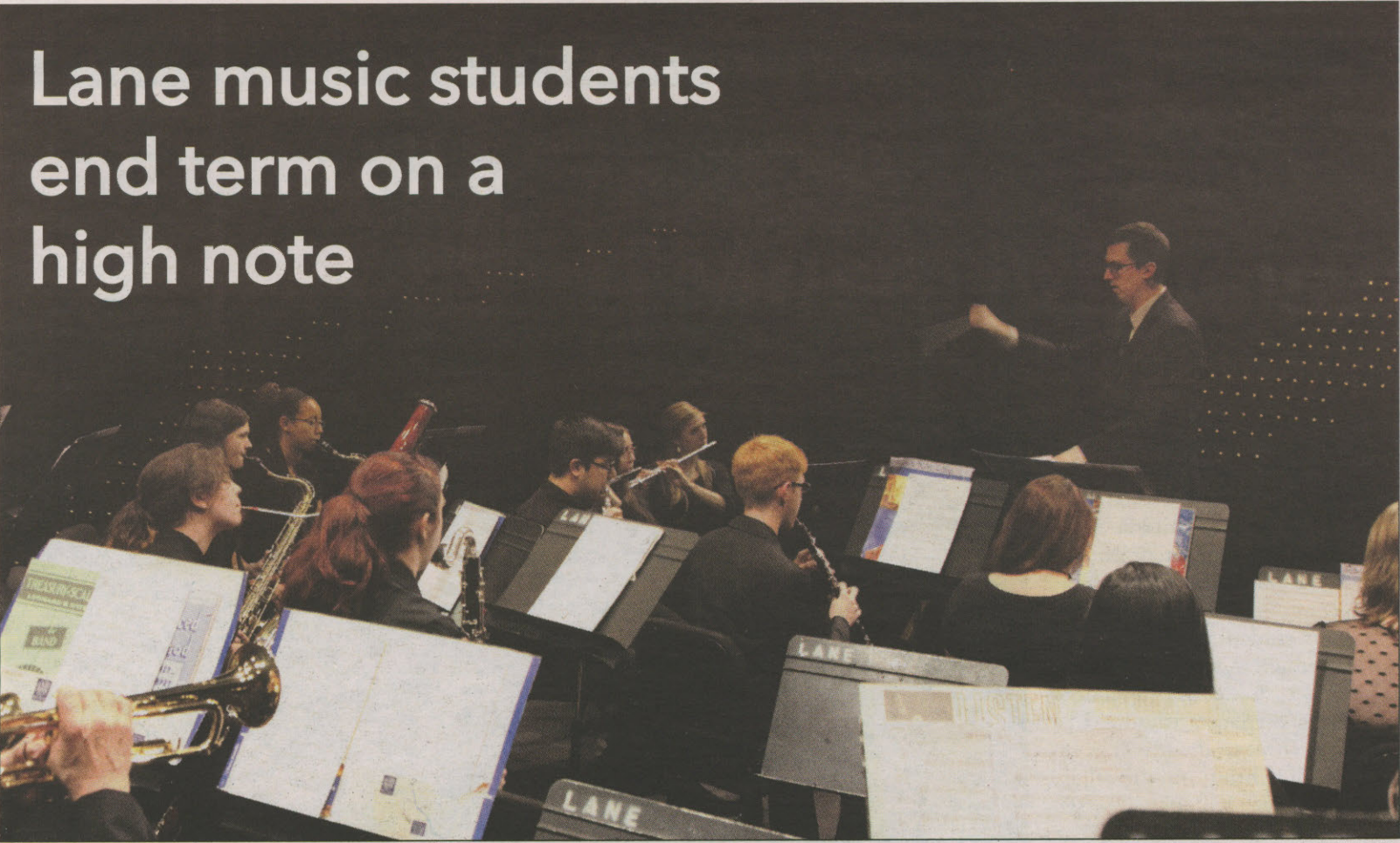
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Paul Krueger directed the Lane Symphonic Band at the End-of-term concerts on Tuesday, Nov. 25. The Music department is putting on three concerts. The second concert was the Lane Chamber and Gospel Choirs; and took place on Thursday Dec. 4.

Lane music students end term on a high note

The final concert will be small jazz combos and will take place in the Blue Door Theater on Thursday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Admission to the concert is by donation with a suggested range of \$3-\$10.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN WATSON

WHITEAKER from page 1

alone. "It's multi-faceted in a really good way," Lanphear said.

Retired Eugene resident Ron Pike said he was attending for the 26th time. "It's just gotten better and more generous every year," Pike said.

Aloma Murray, owner of the Free Photo Project said that her team of volunteers gives away more than 300 free print photos each year at the event. She said that people often have family they haven't seen for years and want to send them a photo.

Murray gives them a free gift card, envelope and stamp. "This is our sixth year here," Murray said. "We get to see kids getting older each year."

Local businesses donated the food which was prepared by a legion of volunteers including individual chefs and cooks, local churches, the Lane Community College Culinary Arts and Hospitality programs and the Martin Luther King Jr. Culinary Arts Youth Service program.

As people left, they passed by tables in the hallway where free food was offered to take home, including cereals, soups, pumpkin pie, carrots, sodas and turkey dinner leftovers.

"This has been just awesome seeing everyone smiling and having a good time," volunteer James Torrez said. Commenting on the rain outside, he added "it might be ugly outside, but it's

beautiful in here."

Maralyn Gill attended the lunch, volunteering as a Spanish translator. She commented on how wonderful it was to see everyone treated equally. For thirty years she has been living in Belize where she owned her own restaurant and hosted free Thanksgiving dinners. "They've adopted all the hallmark holidays in Belize," Gill said.

Volunteers from Guardian Event Security stood at the entrance directing people and answering questions. In fact, all the volunteers worked together to make the day as enjoyable as possible for everyone.

It was in 1974 that the seed for the community dinners was first planted. A single mother, who couldn't raise enough money to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for her four children, went to the Sheriff's Department for help. They enlisted the help of the local radio station and through anonymous donations her family celebration became a reality.

Four years later she and a group of neighbors hosted the first Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner. Approximately 60 people attended. The following year the number doubled and the next year it doubled again. For a few years after that there were no dinners, then in 1988 they started again.

By 1995 the number of attendees was up to 1,200 and in 1996 the WCD, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, was formed. Ever since, the corporation and Whiteaker neighbors have joined together to make the Thanksgiving dinners bigger and better every year.

SYRIA from page 3

its own soldiers, claiming that they were deserters, as reported by the United Kingdom edition of the International Business Times on Nov. 24. The Daily Star Lebanon published an account of the stoning of two men in Syria for homosexuality, an alleged punishment by the faction and the first reported execution for this offense. The same article reported that activists on social media said that the dead men were opponents of ISIS and that the group had used the allegation as a pretext to kill them.

Erlich described the situation with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as

being in turmoil, with the leading producers in disagreement over prices and profits. According to CNN Money, U.S. oil production has increased to its highest level in 30 years. As a result, oil prices have recently held below \$70 per barrel. In 1986, Saudi Arabia abruptly stepped up production and sent prices tumbling, forcing drillers in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana out of business and allowing the Saudis to clinch more market share.

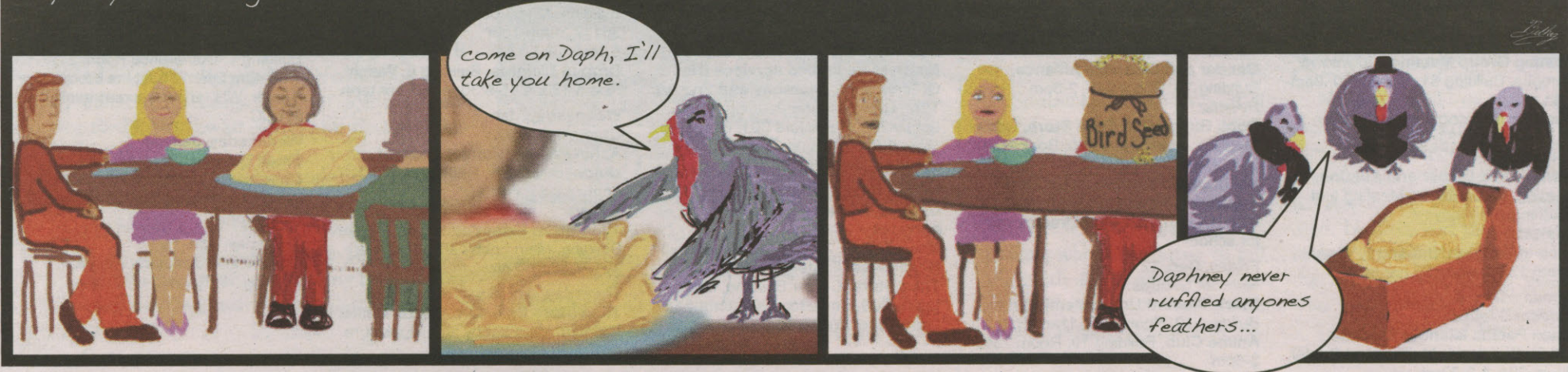
But this time it's different, according to Phil Flynn, an analyst at the Price Futures Group in Chicago. The domestic oil boom is attributed to technological advances such as fracking. He also stated that \$100 per barrel oil might be a thing of the past for now, even though it was in triple digit territory as recently as July.

Have a good break!
The next Torch will be on the stands on Jan. 16, 2015.

The turkey saga continues ...

Turkey boycott ends in tragedy

Last time in The Torch: Lane turkeys were boycotting Thanksgiving. Daphney was hiding in the bushes when...



Scriptwriters and directors prepare to cast actors

Auditions for Playwright's Showcase attracts experienced and novice actors

MARISSA BRÜNDIGE
REPORTER

Auditions were held on Monday, Dec. 1 and Tuesday, Dec. 2 for Lane's winter term Playwright's Showcase. Five short plays, written by current and former Lane Community College students, will be featured in the showcase to be held Feb. 12-15 in the Blue Door Theatre. The plays include:

"Therapist for a Day" — playwright: Aaron Smart, director: Philip Hawkins; "Coked Up Brothers" — playwright: David Trussell, director: Aaron Smart; "Invincible Sword Locking Technique" — playwright: Tim O'Donnell, director: Taylor Freeman; "Goodnight Amanda" — playwright: Penny Scott — director: Eric Osborn; fifth play — yet to be determined.

There are a total of 15 parts for the five plays. Actors will be cast from 22 people who auditioned. The directors, in collaboration with the playwrights, have the task of casting the actors based both on acting ability and them being the right types for the parts.

"It was great to see the talent our school and community had to offer," Philip Hawkins director of Therapist for a Day said.

"I'm looking forward to working with them."

Most people who auditioned were asked to read from several of the scripts and were usually asked to read a second or third time. They were asked to give different emphasis in their acting according to criteria such as the characters' circumstance and relationship to other characters.

Four students will comprise the production staff for the performances under the direction of stage manager, Rhodac Erickson. Three students will be in charge of lighting and the other, sound. There will be three set changes required on the night of the showcase; three of the plays are set in living rooms, one in an office and one in a railway car.

"Each play will have a different lighting designer and a different set designer," Erickson said, "It's my job to make sure that they work with each other, because we're not going to move the sets in and out, it's going to be one set. And because we can't move lights in the middle of a show."

Erickson learned production and stage management skills at Lane. He has been applying what he learned at the Wildish



TRAVIS HOLMES / THE TORCH

Jenelle Hasman (left) and Kyrah Woodruff (right) audition for the Playwright's Showcase.

Theatre in Springfield, where he has been working for the last three years.

The plays are expected to be fully cast within two weeks of the auditions. Rehearsals will start at the beginning of winter term.

"I thought that auditions went really well," playwright and director Aaron Smart said. "A lot

of talented people came out to auditions. I'm really looking forward to the rest of the process."

An Acting Showcase will be held at the Blue Door Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7:00 p.m. Each of the plays will be read either by students from current Lane acting classes or, in some cases, by those already cast in the roles.

All students and community members are welcome to attend the free event. Audience members will be invited to give feedback on scripts. Even though the scripts are complete, possible rewrites may continue until January 21, 2015.

Editor's note: Torch Editor-in-Chief Penny Scott is the author of one of the plays.

Happenings This Week

Dec 5 – Jan 15

Galleries

From Here to There, COCC Exhibition, Building 11, Sister Art Gallery 103, 8-5pm
The Tale of Two Palettes / Palates Exhibition, Building 19, David Joyce Gallery 200A, 8-5pm
Structure/Sequence Exhibition, Building 11, Main Art Gallery 119, 8-5pm

Friday, Dec. 5

Arts:
Music Showcase, Building 5, Main Stage 107, 12-1pm
Student Groups:
The Broken Christian Group, Building 19, Room 232, 5-7pm
Black Student Union, Building 19, Room 239, 11am-1pm
Anime Club, Building 19, Room 232, 3-5pm

Saturday, Dec. 6

Arts:
Acting Showcase, Building 6, Blue Door Theater Room 103, 7-9pm
Student Groups:
Gaming Group Meeting, Downtown Campus, Building 61, Room 420, 9am-5pm
Buckner Drawing Group, Building 10, Room 124/125, 10am-1pm
Events:
Wonderland Dinner and Auction, Building 19, Center for Meeting and Learning, 12-11pm
Sports:
Drop in Weights, Building 5, Weight Room 130, 3-5pm, \$5 per term

Monday, Dec. 8

Student Groups:
Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, Building 1, Multicultural Center, Room 201, 1-2:30pm

Events:

Book Buyback at Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-5:30pm

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Ninkasi Iron Chef, Building 19, Center for Meeting and Learning Room 109, Wiper Kitchen Classroom, 3-9pm
Book Buyback at Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-5:30pm

Wednesday, Dec. 10

Student Groups:
Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, Building 1, Room 224, 1:30-3pm

Events:

Book Buyback at Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-5:30pm

Thursday, Dec. 11

Arts:
Kwaanza Talent Show, Building 17 1/2, Large Theater Room 309, 6-8pm

Student Groups:

Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Building 19, Room 245, 2-3pm

Events:

Book Buyback at Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-5:30pm
Scholarship Workshop for Lane Students, Building 19, Room 243, 3-5pm. Learn how to get free money for school!

Friday, Dec. 12

Student Groups:
Black Student Union Meeting, Building 19, Room 239, 11am-1pm
Anime Club, Building 19, Room 239, 3-5pm

Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Building 19, Room 239, 5-7pm

Sports:

Men's Basketball - Dale Bates Tournament, Building 5, Gymnasium 202 and 203, 10am-8pm

Events:

Book Buyback at Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-5:30pm

Saturday, Dec. 13

Student Groups:
Gaming Group Meeting, Downtown Campus, Building 61, Room 420, 9am-5pm

Buckner Drawing Group, Building 10, Room 124/125, 10am-1pm

Sports:

Men's Basketball - Dale Bates Tournament, Building 5, Gymnasium 202 and 203, 10am-8pm

Sunday, Dec. 14

Men's Basketball - Dale Bates Tournament, Building 5, Gymnasium 202 and 203, 10am-8pm

Monday, Dec. 15 - Friday, Dec. 19

No classes, limited services (No Office/Admin Thursday and Friday)
Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 8am-5pm (8am-12pm Friday)

Saturday, Dec. 20 - Sunday, Dec. 28

Happy Holidays!
College closed, no classes or services

Monday, Dec. 29 - Wednesday, Dec. 31

No classes, limited services
Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 8am-5pm (8am-12pm Wednesday)

Thursday, Jan. 1

Happy New Year's Day! College closed, no classes or services

Friday, Jan. 2

No classes, limited services
Titan Store, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 8am-4pm

Monday, Jan. 5

Winter Term Begins

Student Groups:

Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, Building 1, Multicultural Center, Room 201, 1-2:30pm

Events:

Titan Store Extended Hours, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-7pm

Tuesday, Jan. 6

Student Groups:

Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Building 1, Room 212, 4-5pm

Events:

Titan Store Extended Hours, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-7pm

Sports:

Drop in Weights, Building 5, Weight Room 130, 4:15-6:30pm, \$5 per term

Wednesday, Jan. 7

Student Groups:

Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, Building 1, Room 224, 1:30-3pm

Events:

Titan Store Extended Hours, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-7pm

Thursday, Jan. 8

Titan Store Extended Hours, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-7pm

Friday, Jan. 9

Student Groups:

The Broken Christian Group, Building 19, Room 232, 5-7pm
Black Student Union, Building 19, Room 239, 11am-1pm

Anime Club, Building 19, Room 232, 3-5pm

Events:

Titan Store Extended Hours, Center Building, Main Lobby 200, Bookstore 301, 7:30am-4pm

Saturday, Jan. 10

How to Pay for College... In One Day! Building 19, Center for Meeting and Learning, 8:30am-3pm

Sunday, Jan. 11

Lane Chamber Orchestra, Building 6, Main Stage 107, 3-5pm

Monday, Jan. 12

Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, Building 1, Multicultural Center, Room 201, 1-2:30pm

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Women in Transition Orientation, Building 1, Conference Room 212, 1:30-4pm. Learn about the Women's Center, WIT, and resources available at LCC

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Small Business Symposium, Downtown Campus, Building 61, Center for Meeting and Learning 112, 8am-12pm

Thursday, Jan. 15

Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Building 19, Room 245, 2-3pm