

INDEPENDENT

excellence

truth

freedom

integrity

transparency

investigation

diversity

the TORCH

unbiased

courage

honesty

integrity

SPECIAL EDITION

INSIDE

LCCTORCH.COM

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EUGENE, ORE.

Students rally for affordable education

State asked to devote \$550 million to community colleges

DAEMION LEE
REPORTER

More than 600 students gathered on the steps of the capitol building in Salem Feb. 12 demanding more affordable tuition and chanting slogans such as “They say cut back, we say fight back!”

At stake is the amount of money for higher education in the 2015-2017 state budget — the rally called for \$550 million for community colleges and \$775 million for universities. Students from public universities and colleges across Oregon came out for the event, organized by the Oregon Student Association.

Approximately 120 students from Lane attended the rally, traveling to Salem in school buses and personal vehicles. Lane’s Titan mascot also made an appearance at the event, along with other mascots and a contingent from the University of Oregon pep band.

Elizabeth Wilson, first-year student at Lane, explained that she worked as a cashier to help put her seven children through school. She says she believes it is her turn now, but tuition is too high. “We should have the right to improve ourselves,” Wilson said.

Along with many other students, Wilson waved a sign with the digits 550 printed in large block letters. “I did get tired of being a cashier,” she said, adding that she is working part time as a cashier while attending school and it might take her until 2018 to earn a degree.

During the event, a variety of speakers, including students, teachers and state representatives addressed the crowd.

“We are cellar dwellers,” State Representative Mark Johnson (Rep.) of Hood River said about Oregon’s commitment to higher education. “Let’s start playing for the national championship when it comes to higher ed.”

Representative Peter Buckley (Dem.) of Ashland next addressed the crowd. He pointed out that Oregon has the lowest corporate tax rate in the country and higher education has suffered from disinvestment for 25 years. Buckley is serving as the co-chair on the Joint Ways and Means Committee, the committee responsible for setting the state budget, so he will play an important role in the budget-making process.

“If you drive it, I’ll work like hell inside that building,” he said.

Former governor Kitzhaber’s initial 2015 budget proposal allocated \$500 million to



Top: Members of ASLCC and other Lane students make their voices heard at the state capital in Salem, on Thursday, Feb. 12. **Bottom:** Students from colleges all across the state came together on the state capital steps in Salem to protest rising tuition in the OSA Rally to Restore Higher Ed.

community colleges. The Oregon legislature is working on a final budget and the

proposed funding for community colleges currently stands at \$535 million. The stu-

dents at the rally sent a clear message that an addition \$15 million makes a difference.

“It’s just going to make it that much more that I have to pay,” Kole Myrick, student at Portland Community College, said about potential tuition increases. “I’m already \$20,000 in debt,” she said. Myrick, who will be graduating in June with a degree in computer information science, said PCC helped put her on a path towards a four-year degree. “I was homeless when I arrived in Portland,” she said. “Now I’m an honors student.”

Brian Stiner, student from Chemeketa Community College, said Chemeketa is one of the more affordable community colleges in Oregon, but added that he is apprehensive about transferring to a university. “Tuition everywhere is going up,” he said. “What’s scary is once you have a two-year degree and you then transfer for a four-year degree.”

Christian Urzua, transfer student at Mount Hood Community College, said potential tuition increases will not affect him personally, but explained that he is concerned for other students. “They really have to make that decision: do they want to buy textbooks or do they want to buy food,” he said. “It affects a lot of our students.”

Lane is currently proposing a \$1.50 per credit tuition increase next year, which would bring the cost per credit to \$99.50 for residents. The state average for community colleges is currently \$89.22 per credit.

“That little bit has a psychological effect,” Gerald Mogensen, first-year student at Lane, said about tuition reaching \$100 per credit. He added that he is worried that there will be no limit on the increases in the future.

Liz Lawson says she is going to graduate from Lane next term with a culinary arts degree, but still decided to come out for the rally to support other students. “It’s going to affect so many other people,” she said.

All schools represented by OSA participated—Southern Oregon University, Oregon State University, Western Oregon University, Portland State University, Eastern Oregon University, UO and LCC—as well as other public colleges including Linn Benton Community College, Mount Hood Community College, Chemeketa Community College, Portland Community College and Central Oregon Community College.

THEN
and
NOW

see page 4

WE
HAVE
PUZZLES
FOR YOU

see page 12

DENIAL OF
DEATH

see page 8

EDITORIAL

Creating a healthy culture

Open communication builds trust

What happens in a work environment when people feel like they can't be themselves and can't tell the truth? What happens when, on the other hand, people feel comfortable freely speaking their minds?

In 1974, German political scientist Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann named the phenomenon of not speaking up, the Spiral of Silence. She states that people, fearing rejection or negative consequences, tend to withhold views and opinions that differ from the majority. She states that the effects of remaining silent can cause the minority can become increasingly disenfranchised.

Added to that, in environments where being honest is discouraged, people are hesitant to give each other valuable feedback. Not only does feedback help people alter otherwise unconscious negative attitudes and behavior, the giving and receiving of feedback increases trust on teams.

Wondering where we stand with others, generally results in making assumptions, which typically tend toward the negative. On the other hand, bringing everything into the open leads to understanding, which builds trust among people.

The Torch editorial board has been exploring these questions and ideas in order to create an open environment of trust. What follows are our insights.

The effects from people remaining silent can't be directly measured. So leaders, business owners and managers typically don't take conscious steps to create environments where people feel safe expressing themselves.

When people sense that complete honesty is not welcome or might even lead to negative consequences, a climate of fear develops. One way or another this impacts morale, productivity and the bottom-line.

Knowing the cost, we've made choice to speak up. For example, one of our meetings began with the web editor expressing his uncertainty about remaining in his position due to the tension in the room during production the night before. He said that he was afraid to ask questions because of the intensity coming from others. We immediately saw that it was necessary to address the source of the tension.

There were a number of contributing factors, one was that the design editor was feeling overwhelmed and was putting others on edge. Another was that a power struggle had developed between him and the editor-in-chief. Even though they had talked this through privately, it wasn't resolved, so they brought the issue into the open.

They engaged in very direct dialogue, which was uncomfortable for everyone. However, because we could all hear what was being said, we were able to offer insights

that helped them see the patterns that we're keeping them in conflict. Regardless of how difficult it got, we all stayed with it and kept talking until a shift took place.

We learned from that exchange, and others like it, that if you stick to straight-talk with the intention of making things better, something always shifts. On the other hand, when things are not dealt with and pushed under the rug, people become guarded. The message conveyed to everyone is "it's not safe being honest around here." This is a breeding ground for intractable and persistent problems and resentments.

We cleared the air, and the difference between production the night before and the next production was like night and day. Co-operation and friendliness replaced conflict and strongly held positions. So, at our Torch editorial meetings we've learned to be radically honest. This can get messy because strong emotions can surface. However, because our underlying intent is to solve our problems and have healthy fulfilling relationships, we do the messy work.

In business environments where honest exchanges aren't the norm at the management level, the entire culture is affected. People at every other level of the organization know that something needs to be done, but they are powerless; it always starts at the top. So at The Torch, this year at least, the five of us at the editorial level are creating



If you stick to straight-talk with the intention of making things better, something always shifts.

the healthiest culture that we can.

Our process is organic; when the air needs to be cleared, it just becomes obvious. We are in the trust-building business, relearning what we knew as small children: that it's okay to be flawed. It's okay to be messy, to cry, get angry and even say and do dumb things. Isn't that how healthy families operate? There's no reason why a business can't be a family.

In environments where people don't feel safe expressing their ideas and thoughts, a habit of self-censorship develops. Things left unsaid often turn into resentments and come out in the form of gossip and even warnings to others. Over time, this can turn whole environments into tangled dysfunctional webs of repressed speech and feelings.

In many ways our workplaces are microcosms of global situations where fear is everywhere we look; it's in the media and in people's conversations, largely from what they hear in the media. This can result feelings overwhelm and helplessness. By consciously building healthy, honest working relationships in our microcosms, trust naturally increases.

Since fear and trust are mutually exclusive, by increasing trust, through self-expression in one area of life, we may be reducing fear in another area. It's like flexing a muscle. When strength develops, the muscle is more useful in all situations. In the case of truth-telling, we see the sky didn't fall when we told the truth, so we are more likely to be truthful elsewhere.

theTorch

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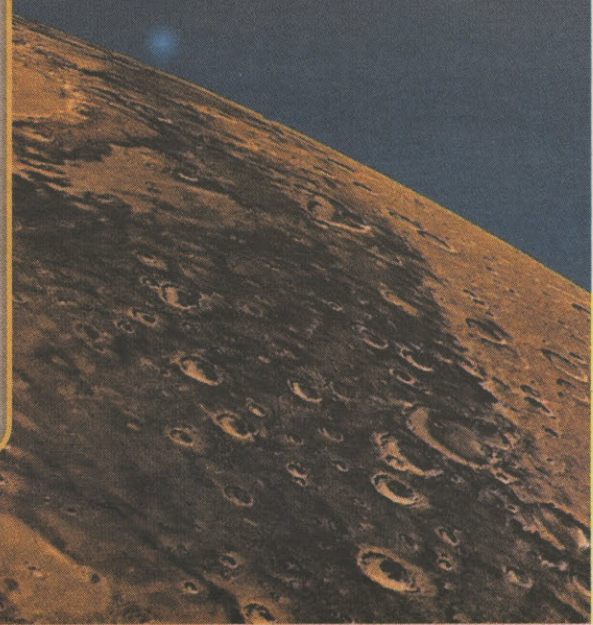
SPECIAL EDITION



Television made global awareness possible for the first time in history in the 1960s, and young people didn't like what they saw. The injustice of segregation and the Vietnam War were the two primary catalysts that ignited passion for equality, peace and freedom in those coming of age in America and much of the world.

Now, some 50 years later, the quest continues, and the Internet and social media have joined television as transmitters of information. We are no longer just passive receivers; communication and images are now two-way and instantaneous.

Increased awareness of world events, made possible by technology, speaks of only one thread in the tapestry of our time. Another thread is recognition of our true nature.



Then and now

Teachers and students reflect on the '60s and the present

"The '60s was a bitter-sweet time."

Part-time writing instructor, Peter Jensen

Peter Jensen referred to the Vietnam era as the bad old days, saying that his cousin was drafted, and people from his class died. "I was a conscientious objector," Jensen said. "Vietnam was an unpopular war, and was foisted on us."

First amendment rights for students and for faculty were under attack and still are according to Jensen. "You come up against a glass wall really easily," he said. "You cross a line you don't know you crossed, and you get hurt." The education system was very conservative back then, he added. "If I voiced my opinions I got a lower grade."

Jensen said that, like the majority of his generation, he was against the war. "Both political parties back then were pro-war," he said. "That made it pretty tough. I remember my favorite teacher, I remember my friends, and I remember the music, but it was a time when my life was under threat. I remember the tear gas. Being an activist was dangerous in the '60s."

Jensen recalled being in a group of approximately a thousand people in New York in 1965 when Robert Kennedy was running for the senate. He said that when someone asked why his brother was killed, Kennedy responded that it was because he was going to change things with Cuba and pull out of Vietnam.

"That was the closest to the horse's mouth I could be," Jensen said. "There are lessons in life where you think 'I'm going to keep that one and pass it on,'" he said about hearing Kennedy's response. "Instead, the war went on for another ten years. Cuba went on for another 50. It's just beginning to change now."

There are a lot of pluses and minuses, Jensen said, regarding the differences between the '60s and now. "When I was a kid in Brooklyn and we had a fight, it was with fists - no one had guns," he said. "As for women's rights, now women's bodies are being shipped home in body bags."

"We are the future. If we can get this generation on board we can make things change, but it's going to be difficult."

Second year political science student, Rikki Ishmael

Ishmael said that succeeding at Lane is extremely important to her. She has been working in food service for about twenty years and says that she can never make more than ten dollars per hour in that line of work.

"I see injustice all around the country, so it's important for me to get an education, not just for myself, but for my daughter's sake," she said.

Ishmael commented that politicians are focused on money and that they disregard what is right for people. Ishmael believes that change will take a lot of education, patience and willingness by people to adjust their lifestyles.

"People also need to speak up and say 'this isn't right.' People need to be empowered and need to come together to make change happen," she said.

"There's no middle class anymore. People are either extremely rich or extremely poor," she said. "Back in the '60s people were involved in human rights, but now they are struggling to eat and pay the rent."

"It was time to shake things up. That, for me, was what the '60s was about."

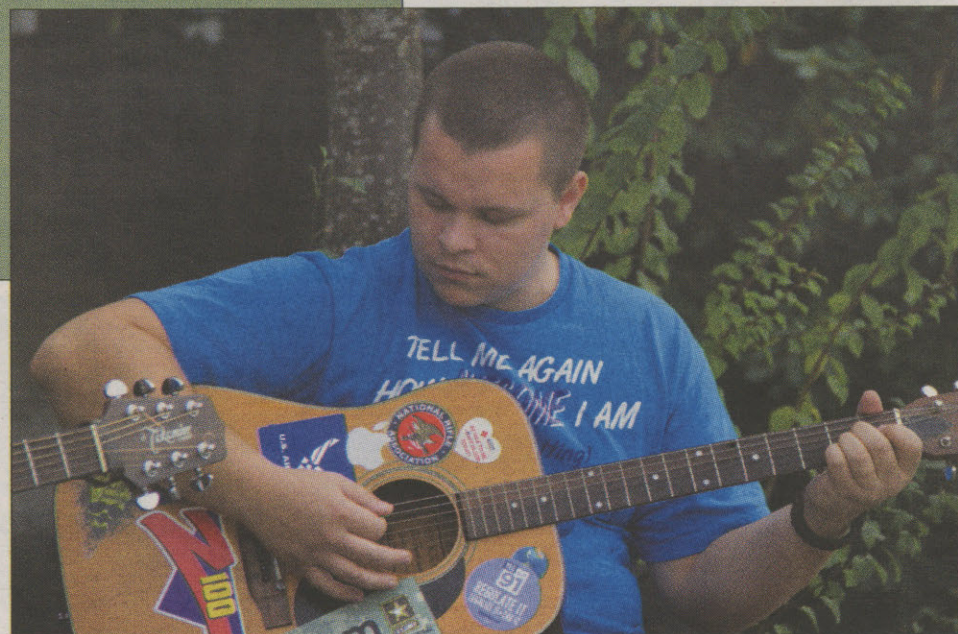
Social science instructor, Clifford Trolin

"In my own way I was very involved in civil rights," Trolin said. "I actually got to hear King speak with Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who was a good friend of his and very much a civil rights activist. Hearing them speak was so utterly inspiring."

It was a very formative time for him, Trolin commented, saying that he was just beginning to make the connection that Passover was about freedom for everyone, not just Jewish freedom.

He recalled a Jewish event in 1964 at his grandparents' apartment in Virginia in the segregated south. "I read King's letter from Birmingham jail. My grandfather is looking at me like 'what are you doing boy?' and my mother is looking at me like 'don't bite the hand that feeds you.'"

At the end of this speech, there's a knock on the door, Trolin commented. "It was



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Solomen Rosen practices guitar between classes near Bristow Square on Thursday, Oct. 23, 2014.

the black paperboy," Trolin explained. "He was standing there listening to King's letter from Birmingham jail read by this white boy inside in the segregated south."

It was a time of newness, exploration and a changing reality. It was about young people shaking things up, Trolin said. "It was about going to what was later called the battle of the Pentagon. It was about being chased by a soldier who dropped his tear gas bomb and thought that was more important than beating me up. I escaped," he said.

Young people knew that what they were doing was necessary, he commented. "We were seeing that life is not as it's seen on 1950s television. It's not the Cleaver's marriage. It's not 'Father Knows Best'," he said, adding that another reality had to be taken into consideration. "There was excitement about new ways of relating and new realities and a more inclusive world."

"As long as Obama thinks he's the head of an empire, we're finished," Trolin said. "But what people are coming to realize is that the earth is divine, and every individual is divine. When people act from their divinity they treat and relate to everyone and everything completely differently.

Until we think like a planet there's no hope."

"People are getting their degrees and not finding jobs. They are working in coffee shops. It's terrifying."

First year film and arts major, Georgia Harter

Harter said that "School is super expensive, and I'm trying to go about getting an education in the most financially sound way." She added that, even though Lane is the most expensive community college in Oregon, the transfer program makes it worthwhile for her.

Harter commented that taking out loans and not having job prospects is very difficult. "I'm hoping that my passion will carry me a lot of the way,"

she said. "You need the determination and motivation to find the career you are meant to have. It's hard, hard work."

The difficult job market makes for stronger students Harter said, adding that the associated stress is insane. "The competitive energy is unhealthy," she said. "We want an education so badly, but they are making it hard for us to get there. We want a better future, but it's so difficult."

She commented that everything is moving too fast and that in the '60s it was more laid back. "People were able to think creatively, but we don't have time. You've got to get out of college, and you've got to get into a career and establish your life," she said.

There's a lot wrong with technology and social media Harter commented, but the advantage she said for her generation is the ability of people to get messages across the world and inspire each other. Unfortunately, she said, there's more negativity in social media. Changing people from being negative to positive is one of the biggest challenges as she sees it.

"Being an activist was dangerous in the '60s."

— Peter Jensen



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Laree Morgenstern uses the grinder to shape her sculpture in the outside work area of Building 10 on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

"The societal myth is that the constitution is a revolutionary document, when it was designed to protect property."

Social science instructor, Stan Taylor

"The whole time we've had a government that's based on the protection of property, and that has led us to environmental disaster," Taylor said. "You can't negotiate climate deals because property is in the way."

Politics and economics need to get in touch with the needs of the environment, Taylor said. "The planet is sending strong messages that these systems are out of alignment with it. I think the millennials, in large part, understand that. They see the failing and they see the possibilities as well, and I think that's very exciting that they see both."

Taylor commented that when his generation came of age, they saw that a lot was wrong with society. They got engaged, protested and demonstrated, thinking they could change things and make the leaders live up to the constitution.

"With millennials today, with what they are facing, they are more likely to believe that the system can't be revived and that we need something very new and different," Taylor said.

Taylor said he sees some fundamental differences in orientation between the two generations, but the ways in which the two are alike is in wanting things to change. "In that sense I think they look back to the '60s and there's a lot of resonance," he said.

"People in power and people with privilege believe they can control the way other people view the world and control the money people spend."

First year sustainability program student, Rachel Hunter

"I have very high hopes of one day starting my own sustainable community. I'm very interested in permaculture and sustainable politics," Hunter said.

Hunter believes that a lot of people in society today take things on face value and that is why education is so important. "Education is so expensive, people don't go to school like they used to. My mom paid something like \$900 a year to go to school. She learned to interact with people better. She got more involved in her community. She learned about herself and other people and how to respond to things that are happening in the world."

Hunter expressed concern that members of her generation think they don't need to get involved and that advertising and media are deliberately designed to make people feel fearful and not empowered. "It's just an outright lie," she said. "There are lots of things to be afraid of, but that doesn't mean there's nothing we can do about it."

She said that while playing electronic games, players are encouraged by the game voice to play with headphones because it's better. "The message is 'forget the outside world. Focus right here,'" she said. "It's deliberate disempowerment. People are taught that it's better to be safe and be at home, be secluded, and that takes power away from people."

"We have voices and we have bodies to go out and share information," she said, adding that she has adopted the motto "Educate to liberate." She subscribes to the belief that the more we know, the more we can do, and the more empowered we are. "It only takes 15 percent to sway the populace. We've got more than 15 percent, but those people don't know they have the power."

"The '60s were astounding times of great bravery and courage."

Economics instructor, William Burrows

"The '60s was a crazy time, but being so young I didn't realize how crazy it was," Burrows said. "I remember when JFK was killed. We were in a restaurant when we heard, and the reality of what we heard just descended upon us," he said, adding that when the family got back in the car there was complete silence for an hour.

"We have made astounding progress because of what those people in those times did," he said. "I am an incurable optimist and I think the future looks wonderful. Of course there will be hardship and struggle and tragedy. Welcome to the human experience."

Burrows said that he reminds his students to keep their eyes open and accept the consequences of their choices. "The Joseph Campbell follow your bliss movement did a lot of harm," he said. Burrows advises his students to put first things first, such as paying bills and providing for their families. "To do that, you need to follow other people's bliss and find out what they need and fill those needs. In your spare time, that is where you follow your bliss."

"When people get organized and get engaged, things happen."

Second year biology major, Anthony Molinari

Molinari believes that people are disengaging and not getting involved in politics. "Politics is construed as something horrible that happens when government gets involved in things, but politics are everywhere," he said. "It's just what happens when people are working to make something occur. When people see that, we can get the stigma off it. It's part of our daily life."

Compiled by Torch editorial board.



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Watershed Science major Eric Obra takes some time between classes to practice his juggling on Thursday, Feb. 5.

"I see injustice all around the country, so it's important for me to get an education, not just for myself, but for my daughter's sake."

— Rikki Ishmael



AUGUST FRANK / THE TORCH

Freshman Kalonja Medinger, illustration major, works on a design project in Building 10 on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

QUEST FOR PEACE



QUOTES

"For in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's futures. And we are all mortal."

President John F. Kennedy

"No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it."

Albert Einstein

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny."

Martin Luther King Jr.

"Humanity is acquiring all the right technology for all the wrong reasons."

Buckminster Fuller

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

Mahatma Gandhi

CONTINUES

Dec. 8, 1980: John Lennon assassination

Jan. 20, 1981: Iran hostage crisis ends

Jan. 28, 1986: Challenger disaster

Apr. 15 - Jun. 4, 1989: Tiananmen Square massacre

Nov. 9, 1989: Berlin Wall falls

Mar. 3, 1991: Rodney King beating

Apr. 29 - May. 4, 1992: Rodney King riots

Feb. 26, 1993: World Trade Center bombing

Feb. 28 - Apr. 19, 1993: Waco siege

Apr. 7, 1994: Rwanda genocide begins

Apr. 19, 1995: Oklahoma City bombing

Aug. 31, 1997: Princess Diana killed

Jan. 7, 1999: President Clinton
impeachment trial begins

Apr. 20, 1999: Columbine
High School shooting

Sep. 11, 2001: World Trade Center
attack, Twin Towers destroyed

Apr. 16, 2007: Virginia Tech shooting

Jan. 25, 2011: Tahrir Square protest begins

Dec. 14, 2012: Sandy Hook
School shooting

Jan. 7, 2015: Charlie Hebdo shooting

SONGS

The Times They Are A-Changin'
Bob Dylan
**Come writers and critics
Who prophesize with your pen**

From a Distance
Bette Midler
**It's the voice of hope,
it's the voice of peace,
it's the voice of every man.**

We Are the World
USA for Africa
**It's true we'll make a better day
Just you and me**

You're the Voice
John Farnham
**We're not gonna sit in silence
We're not gonna live with fear**

Heal the World
Michael Jackson
**Heal the world
Make it a better place**



We are all going to die

Denial of this fact could kill us all

PENNY SCOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the contest between the reality of death and our denial of it, reality wins every single time.

I have long believed that denial of our own mortality is central to all problems pertaining to death and dying. However, it was not until reading "The Denial of Death" by cultural anthropologist Ernest Becker did the picture complete itself.

Becker's research, spanning psychoanalytic, mythic and religious disciplines, culminates in a simple thesis that goes right to the heart of the matter: fear of death is the impetus behind "... society everywhere, [being] a living myth of the significance of human life."

Humans are obsessed with meaning, Becker realized. Meaning, however, is not discovered; it is assigned, he explained. So just because we can, and with no empirical evidence, we have proclaimed ourselves masters of the universe. The underlying purpose is to keep at bay the gut-wrenching knowledge that, not only is death our inescapable fate, it can strike us down any time.

If Becker is right, the implications of living this lie are enormous. For starters, and quite frankly, we need go no farther than this: our self-proclaimed significance comes with a built-in opposite — insignificance.

Humans create arbitrary divisions of importance between animals, plants, the environment and between other each other. In the hierarchy of humans, everyone knows where they are on the totem pole. Being at or near the bottom means things aren't likely to go very well, so people spend their lives

scrambling to climb higher or, as Becker describes it, vying to matter.

Those who *really* matter have monuments erected in their honor, streets are named after them, their portraits are hung in public places and they are written about in history books. Of the billions of people who have ever lived, most of us can probably only name a few hundred. The other several billion were totally forgotten once the last person who knew them personally died.

The people at the bottom of the hierarchy of importance are candidates for being overlooked, controlled or destroyed. Hence, millions live in isolation and poverty, starve, live under brutal dictatorships and die in genocides and wars. These have been the tragic fates of countless people throughout recorded history at least somewhere on our planet.

These facts alone are enough to warrant investigating Becker's claim. He put forth a call to action. He wrote, "...we must admit that we are dealing with the universal problem; and we must be prepared to probe into it as honestly as possible."

The belief in human significance is like a cancer. Cancerous cells are those which have lost their identity to the whole. For them, all sense of cooperation and harmony is lost — they take over the body, and eventually it is doomed.

In the same way, the myth of human sig-

nificance essentially says that we are separate from, and more important than, nature. So in our arrogance, life-supporting natural habitats have been consistently and deliberately destroyed. Thankfully, large numbers of people are waking up.

The question is: is it too late? If the cancer has gone too far, the human species may be doomed. Nature, in poetic irony, however, would go on just fine without us.

The belief that humans are significant is not verifiable. However, proof that our elite status is a complete fabrication is right in front of us.

To see through the lie we need only observe the facts. The labyrinth of mind is the only place where meaning can be found. At the level of distinction, where one thing is observed to be different from another, meaning is non-existent. Red and green appear equally side by side; one is

not better than the other. Distinctions indicate only differences, not a hierarchy of importance.

To go even further, at the quantum level distinctions disappear altogether; everything is seen to be the same. Going further still, there is just empty infinite space, pregnant

with infinite possibilities. This is *who* we are.

By dismantling reality in this way, we can see that everything is made up. We've been

telling ourselves a story, one that isn't likely to have a happy ending. All that nuclear destructive power, created to show *exactly* who is boss, is a catastrophe just waiting to happen.

Infinite possibilities, not yet born, reveal that an entirely different future is possible. The first step? Suspension of all beliefs, not some, but all. To discover who and what we truly are requires sustained direct observation. Thoughts do not have the capacity to observe; rather, they are the observed. By stopping and actually looking, this is strikingly apparent.

We are pure consciousness made superior only by thought. We are, therefore, only one mistaken thought away from ultimate truth.

Not that long ago, our ancestors believed the world to be flat, and let's not forget that business of the sun revolving around the earth. We recovered just fine from those lies, and we can recover from the human significance lie too.

Our so called superior intellect is the great deceiver, the keeper of the lie. Our majesty is a fairytale; we are not the royal family of the cosmos. We are made of the same matter as everything else.

Dust to dust; that is our fate.

In this page-turning chapter of the human story, the question is, are we all going to die at once? We've done a fine job of making this a very real possibility.

Can that possibility be mitigated, or even eliminated? I think so. Each person who sees the truth of who we are, sees that to harm another is to harm one's self. If we reach a critical mass of people seeing clearly, the whole matrix of human life could shift.

*Our majesty is a
fairytale;
we are not
the royal family of
the cosmos.*

SOMETHING BIG IS GOING ON

Freedom's voice is gaining worldwide support



PENNY SCOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Three days, commencing on Jan. 7, 2015 at the office of satirical cartoonists Charlie Hebdo in Paris, left 20 people shot dead and 19 others wounded. The main targets were five cartoonists, along with four other staff at the now famous publication. Of the other 11 people killed, eight were simply in the wrong place at the wrong time, and three were perpetrators. The killers succeeded in exacting retribution upon the Charlie Hebdo staff for depicting the Prophet Mohammed in their cartoons. However, the murders, quite possibly, were a triggering event for something much greater.

Central to the situation are the forces of intimidation, bullying and repression exerting themselves on freedom of expression.

The number of people who responded publicly to the Charlie Hebdo killings was significant. People are killed all over the world every day, and only when it hits home in some way, do people react strongly. That the deaths of this small, relatively unknown group of journalists caused a such reaction in people indicates that something bigger is going on.

This is about freedom — a strong impulse inside every human heart.

It could be that we are entering a time where the voice of freedom will be heard, not just from a few leaders and activists, but from the masses; people the world over might be approaching a tipping point regarding bullying and intimidation. Millions took to the streets in Paris and other parts of France. Millions! Berlin, Moscow, London, Brussels, Istanbul, Madrid, Montreal, Beirut, Jerusalem and other cities around the world saw marches and tributes in support of freedom of expression.

The Charlie Hebdo edition immediately following the killings saw more than five million copies sold, compared to its normal 60,000 weekly distribution.

Countless journalists and media publications the world

over have rallied in support of freedom of the press. Some cartoonists are following the Charlie Hebdo lead with similar satirical depictions, making the censorship-by-murder in France a complete and utter failure.

I'm encouraged by the huge response to the Charlie Hebdo killings. It's not that I personally endorse their particular satirical expressions, it's that I support their right to them. Censorship of any kind is the enemy of free speech. So I, like everyone else, will not like some people's expressions. I've wrestled with this internally and discussed it with many people and can come to no other conclusion that this is the price we must pay.

The drama in France happened in the midst of a crisis for journalism. Digital media, most of which is free, could make newspapers obsolete. If journalism itself were to become obsolete, we would all be in trouble. The Charlie Hebdo killings are bound to influence the direction and future of the profession in a positive way.

This isn't just about journalism, though. Freedom itself is at stake, because if speech is repressed, a person is not completely free. While unprecedented cheering and support for journalistic free expression is wonderful, freedom is not, and never has been, a spectator sport.

The outspoken know only too well how unpopular authentic expression can be. Those who choose to remain silent know it too.

Unfortunately, those who speak their minds are often punished. The punishment comes in many forms, such as malicious gossip, behind the scenes sabotage of careers and finances, threats and even murder. This keeps most people in the stands watching in presumed safety, instead of on the field effecting change.

The status quo wins again.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny," wrote Martin Luther King Jr. in his letter from Birmingham jail in 1963.

Today, more than 50 years later, young people are inheriting a world with its fill of injustice. We owe them

compensation for this unsavory bequest; they could use some role models - people who are willing to speak truthfully and authentically, instead of remaining silent because fear informs their choices.

Distrust of older generations and of authority figures is as prevalent today as it was in the 1960s. King stood out because he spoke up very publicly about injustice, and it cost him his life. Back then he was seen by many as an extremist. Today he is a hero. To both characterizations, I'm betting he'd say 'so what?'

It was never about him; it was about his commitment to equality and his deep love for humanity. King, and others like him, hit the right note. What they say resonates with the same ideals and qualities that are inside all of us. That's why, in the midst of a cacophony of chattering voices, we turn and pay attention to what they are saying.

Not everyone needs to operate on the world stage. The right time, place or circumstance to speak out is in each of our particular spheres of influence. Uncompromising truth in any sphere affects all spheres. So does remaining silent when the truth needs to be told.

Returning to journalism — if members of the press are restrained from presenting information and viewpoints openly and freely, they are rendered ineffective in their responsibility to serve the public. Fortunately, thanks to the Internet, freedom of expression is no danger of extinction.

However, the throng of Internet voices isn't governed by the code of ethics to which truly professional journalists hold themselves and each other accountable. This is vitally important — only accurate information leads to clarity and well-informed choices.

Most journalists operate in relatively safe harbors. The information we present and the opinions we express, through various media, aren't likely to incite others to violence and murder. This doesn't mean there aren't other risks; we are sometimes subject to attack and ridicule, or worse.

Those of us operating in relative safety have both the privilege and responsibility of being clear and unyielding voices for truth. In a world where so many people have no voice at all, or will be punished severely if they voice dissent or differing opinions, we, quite possibly, are their only hope.

Imagining

a different future

AUGUST FRANK
PHOTO EDITOR

Early one morning, 44 years ago, John Lennon composed the lyrics, chord structure and melody to "Imagine." Since then the song has earned incredible recognition.

Accolades include: a Grammy Hall of Fame award, named by Broadcast Music Inc. as one of the 100 most performed songs of the 20th century and induction into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 500 songs that shaped rock and roll. A cover of the song was also recorded for use by the BBC at the closing of the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, which shows that the song is still being selected over others.

What makes "Imagine" so iconic? Why is it so widely known and well received nearly 50 years later? Is it the melody, the lyrics, the message it sends? All three contribute to making the song good, but there are plenty of songs that have nice melodies, good lyrics and thoughtful messages behind them and they haven't received the same recognition.

Music is something everyone can relate to. It transcends race, class, cultural divides and even prejudices. Music lives throughout time. Just like Norman Rockwell's magazine cover illustrations that helped shape the American identity, Lennon's universal ideals are relatable to anyone. The ideals and lessons presented by Lennon in "Imagine" take this a step further.

Lennon invites us to imagine a better world through the ideals of a world that is free of what separates and divides us, where people share with one another, where there is no greed, where we all live for today and as one. "Imagine" was "just what John believed: that we are all one country, one world, one people," Lennon's wife, Yoko Ono said.

These ideals have been expressed throughout history, in one way or another, by activists and artists such as Bob Marley, Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi. However, there is something about the calm melody and manner in which Lennon frames and presents the ideals that make "Imagine" stand out all the more.

As The Torch looks back 50 years, I'd like to take a moment to imagine the potential the next 50 years may hold:

As the year 2065 dawns, a new understanding has developed in us. Fear and distrust have dissolved and are replaced by deep friendships. People once divided are

now united. Together we can solve even the most pressing problems. War is a thing of the past. While conflicts that could have once led to war may still occur, we know how to reach understanding and union peacefully.

Through understanding their causes, greed and taking advantage of others can no longer claim us. We are free of such self-centered motives. At long last racial, social and cultural divides are now closed. Americans proudly declare "the great experiment" a success. Looking back, it's hard to imagine a time when

we were divided by greed, discrimination and inequality. At last we live as one.

This is a promising vision for the future. It is a future that almost anyone would agree with and at the same time one that many would see as impossible, but it isn't; what we can imagine, we can create. Just imagining isn't enough though. In the present, while fear and hate are still rampant, and amid so much strife and struggle, we need to "be the change we want to see in the world," as

Gandhi advised.

Being the change we want to see might not be easy, but it is our responsibility if we want the kind of future Lennon invited us to imagine. It starts at the smallest level. It starts with thinking twice before judging someone. It starts by making an effort to reach out to those who are different than us. It takes living for today.

The ideals presented in "Imagine" can be part of our everyday activities and interactions. We just need to open ourselves to them. They are eternally present, silently waiting to be put to good use through willing humans. By opening our minds to the ideals that "Imagine" gives us, ideals of peace, co-operation and love, we will ensure our future will be bright. In our current climate, this is a very difficult thing to do.

The news on any given day is enough to shake anyone's faith in humanity or ability to imagine a better future. We need not be discouraged though; that is the challenge we face. It will change as we change. By not losing sight of that future, we can get there.

There is no way of knowing how long it might take. It could take 50 more years. It could take more. Things could shift tomorrow. We just never know. However long it takes, our job never changes. Living the ideals we cherish and continuing to imagine a better world will bring the future we imagine toward us as we move toward it.

"Imagine was just what John believed, that we are all one country, one world, one people."
— Yoko Ono

theTorch

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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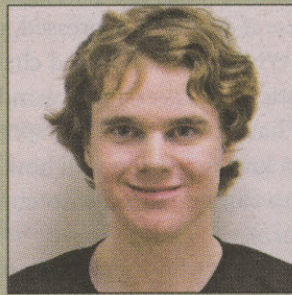


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Women embrace technology

Panelists share success stories to inspire students

JERI REED
REPORTER

Posters on the wall read "Think Women Can't?...Think Again."

The 5th annual Women in Tech & Trades Luncheon was held Friday, Feb. 13 at Lane Community College in conjunction with the Hands-On Career Exploration Day offered by High School Connections. A seven person panel of women professionals in technical fields shared their experiences and answered questions from the audience.

Each panel member said they have faced challenges while making their way to their dream jobs. Some struggled with the required math. Others had difficulty with the way people looked at them because they were in a male dominated industry. Each shared that they knew very little about their careers until they got into them. They said they kept learning and didn't give up.

Panelist Julia O'Reilly is the owner of O'Reilly Design Studio and works on projects from business cards to web design to motion graphics.

Jamie Bridgham is a biology researcher at the university of Oregon. She said that her research and pay is funded through grants.

Ellie Cooper is with Edge Construction, and has been with the company since 1979. Her roles involve sales and purchasing.

Jeanne Staton has been an owner of Staton Companies for 40 plus years and has been the sole owner since 1997. She talked about starting her company. "You don't

know what you don't know when you start," she said. She lays claim to literally wrecking half of Eugene during the urban renewal when she started in 1971. Demolition is her company's main business.

Karen Jones is the owner of Double Eagle Design and Construction. She quit teaching at age 33 and decided to follow a career in construction instead. "Don't be intimidated by what you have never experienced," she said.

Jones described a Habitat for Humanity project 15 years ago. She was part of an all-woman crew that built a 1,000 square foot house for a single mother and her three children. Jones said women of all ages and backgrounds volunteered and most had little or no construction experience. She said the women succeeded because they were given the opportunity and nobody was telling them they couldn't do it.

Mary Beth Jones is a journeyman plumber with Peterson Plumbing. She reminded the women not to be afraid of the unknown and to be willing to learn. She says she gets to be a hero every day she goes to work. She calls and texts her daughter, who sees her as a rescuer, about asbestos being found at her school and about pipes that leak. She said that being in a job that pays the bills and provides security and lets her be a hero is a great job.

Naomi Boe is a Lane student with dual enrollment at the University of Oregon. She is passionate about her career choice as a construction engineer manager. Boe fought her way through from Math 10 and up until



AMANDA IRVIN / THE TORCH

Biology researcher Jaime Bridgham and plumber journeyman Mary Beth Jones (left to right) share their experiences of what they have gone through as women in non-traditional technical career fields.

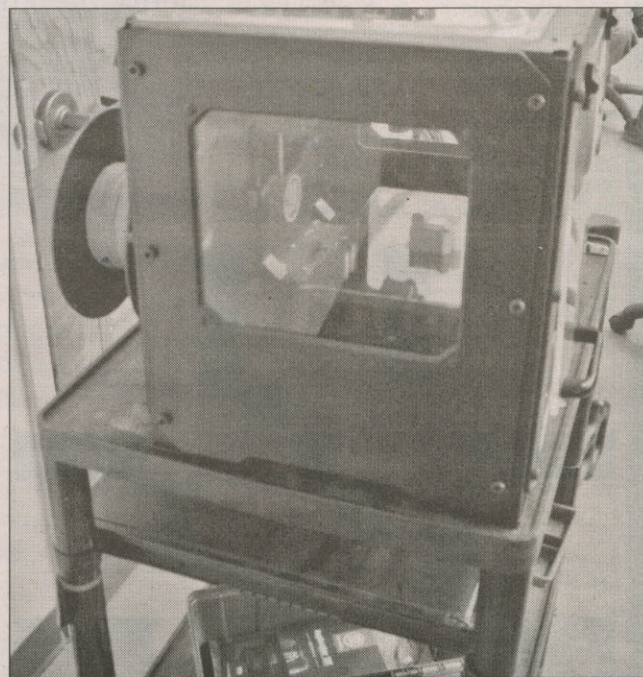
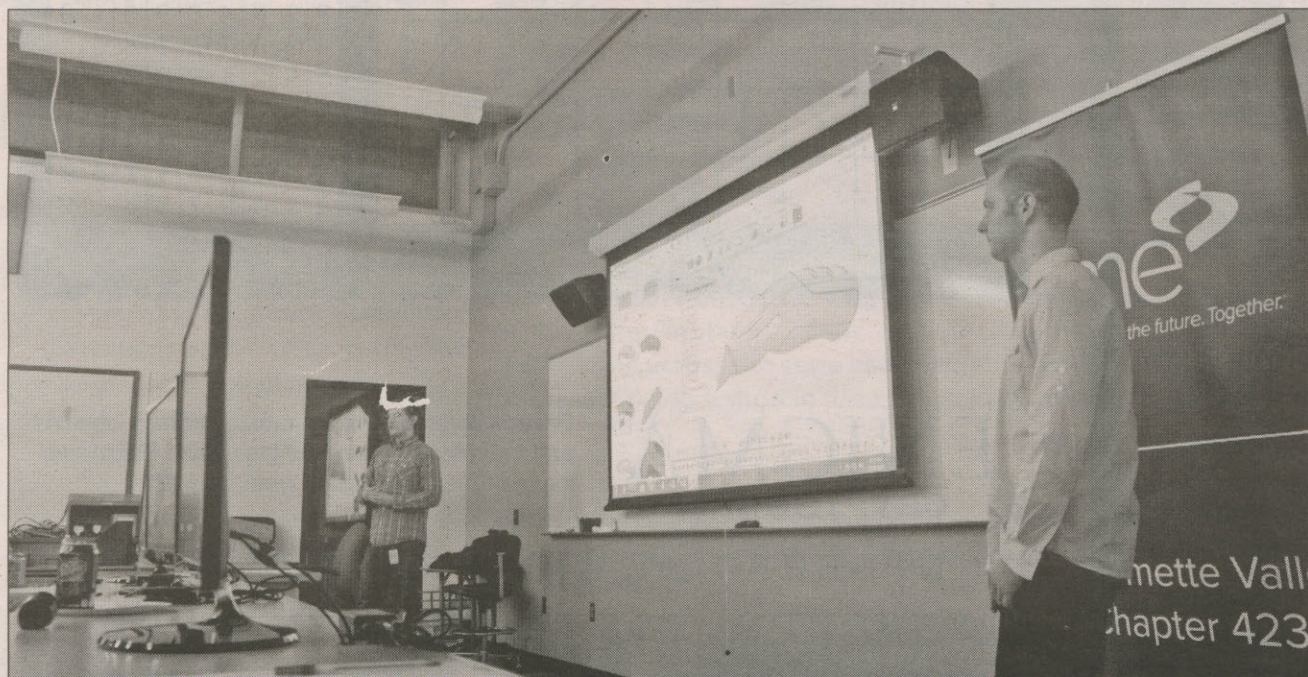
she completed two different calculus classes that she needs for her degree. "Don't stop just because it's hard," she advised the audience members. She was a teenage mother, got her GED at age 22 and started college in 2011. Her daughter is her role model she said. Her daughter is now working on her second degree.

Audience member Miranda Borgo, who

does work study at Lane, said she found the panel helpful, supportive, and interesting. Borgo felt that the panel emphasized a need to maintain an attitude of curiosity and to not be afraid of learning new things.

Lisa Bohannon, Career and Technical Education advisor, hosted the luncheon, which was open to all women interested in pursuing careers in technology.

Workshop introduces new design tools



ELLA JONES / THE TORCH

Wednesday Feb. 18 the creators of Fusion 360 Autodesk demonstrated their software at Lane. The software is a new design tool for engineering projects, some of which are made using 3D printers. Fusion 360 is free to students while they are in school and is being sold to businesses for around \$15,000.

The event was sponsored by Lane's Advanced Technology Division and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers Eugene Chapter. Michael Aubry and Michael Prom from SME spent three hours familiarizing students with the software and providing them with hands-on experience with the new advancement in technology.

"We're in the midst of another industrial revolution," Aubry said.

Fencing club wants new gear

Senators debate money issues

NICOLE RUND
REPORTER

Once again, money was on the student government's agenda at the senate meeting, Wed. Feb. 18. The Fencing Club representative requested \$3,790 for new equipment and a foil for registering hits during bouts.

Senators spent 45 minutes clarifying by-laws and asking questions about the request. The most pressing question - would the money ultimately come from ASLCC or Council of Clubs? Senator Felicia Dickinson wanted assurances that the money would not be coming from the ASLCC budget now or in the future.

Dickinson wanted to know what would happen if other campus clubs needed money, but there was none left to fund their requests. ASLCC President Malissa Ratthasing said if that happened, the clubs would have to wait until the start of a new term when COC would be funded again by the student activity fee.

Chief of Staff Robert Schumacher stated that the fencing club request was 56 percent of COC's budget. Schumacher expressed that it was unfair to other clubs for one club to take 56 percent of the budget.

After two failed votes on the funds re-

quest, with three senators abstaining, the matter was tabled until next week, pending the club's exploration of other funding options. The amount that senators will vote on next week was reduced to \$1,895.

A funds request for \$1,000 to buy break-fast for senators and students attending the Northwest Student Leadership Conference in Portland. The request was amended to include \$180 for parking.

Schumacher reminded senators that over 60 percent of LCC students live in poverty and that a warming center is coming to campus for a reason. Senators discussed the idea of buying groceries instead of going out to eat. After further discussion, the funds request was approved 5-0-0.

Senators also voted 5-0-0 to endorse Bike Lane's request for \$150,000 from the transportation fund. Bike Lane needed endorsement from ASLCC before the request can proceed to the next step in the approval process.

Ratthasing later reported that the student rally in Salem was a success. LCC brought 124 students to Salem, the most from any college in the state.



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Lane Community College
ACHIEVING DREAMS

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Reimbursed
5 Free
8 US dam
12 Project
13 Guido's note (2 words)
14 Outer portion of Earth
15 Sleep (pref.)
16 Albania (abbr.)
17 Design
18 Arabian domain
20 Shore
21 Tumor (suf.)
22 Three (pref.)
23 Irish foot soldier
26 Block
27 Celsius (abbr.)
30 Shoe size
31 Fr. meat dish
33 Have (Scot.)
34 Plus
35 Indo-Chin. people
36 Voltaire play
38 Computer chip
39 Ounces (abbr.)

40 Wampum
43 Due
47 Gamin
48 Article (Fr.)
49 White-flecked
50 Eg. skink
51 Mother of Hezekia
52 N. Caucasian language
53 Freedman in Kentish law
54 Low (Fr.)
55 Bare

DOWN

1 Long
2 "Cantique de Noel" composer
3 Yesterday (Ital.)
4 Silk substitute
5 "Giant" ranch
6 He (Lat.)
7 Flounder
8 Willow
9 Love of Radames

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ELIA TAT WAKA
CONC RAH AGAG
HOCH ALE LAMA
OPHISM TILLER
RAP ADO
MIRACLE OPTIC
ACE ELM ACS
GAMMA DADAIST
ABA LAB
ASSESS ELATER
BEAN ABB TOCO
BALA NAE INCL
ARAD ALE SEEL

10 This one (Lat.)
11 King of Israel
19 Amer. Sign Language (abbr.)
20 Swim (2 words)
22 Hat
23 "The Jungle Book" python
24 Belonging to (suf.)
25 Energy unit
26 Palestine Liberation Organ. (abbr.)
27 Greek letter
28 Fruiting spike
29 Civil War commander
32 Air-to-air missile (abbr.)
37 Wild ginger
38 Polishing material
39 Watering hole
40 Hall (Ger.)
41 Mother of Brunhilde
42 Walk through
43 Para-aminobenzoic acid
44 Foreshadow
45 Hole
46 Noun-forming (suf.)
48 Science class

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30			31	32				33		
34			35			36	37			
			38			39				
40	41	42			43			44	45	46
47				48			49			
50				51			52			
53				54			55			

Sudoku

			2			9		8
9				6	7			
8							3	
				7			4	
3			6	4			9	
	2					1		6
								1
2		7	3				8	
				8	9		7	

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9
note: there is only one valid solution to each puzzle

Answer to Sudoku

6	4	1	8	5	3	9	2	7
9	8	5	2	1	7	4	6	3
3	2	7	4	6	9	5	1	8
4	3	9	7	2	6	8	5	1
5	6	2	1	9	8	3	7	4
1	7	8	5	3	4	2	9	6
7	9	6	3	4	2	1	8	5
2	5	3	6	8	1	7	4	9
8	1	4	9	7	5	6	3	2

ENIGMA™

CRYPTOGRAM

“GNPREHEC HV GHBN RDAHEC
TYVSRNPM: EDS SD PUJPEZN HV SD
URDY XPZB.”

— ZQHENVN YRDJNRX

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: “He is a fool who cannot be angry; but he is a wise man who will not.” — English proverb

Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: “H” = “I”

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