

Where does your money go? / page 3 First flickers of The Torch / pages 4-5 'Fantastic Beasts' / page 7

# THANKS FOR GIVING



Over 2000 members of the local community gathered at the Whiteaker Community Head Start Center in Eugene on Nov. 24. They were met by over 600 volunteers from all around the area, including many members from Lane's Culinary Department and Lane's Student Nurses' Association. Food, clothing, and flu shots were provided for those in need. See story on page 8.



(Above) John Roy "The Fool," entertains community members on Thanksgiving morning as they arrive at the Whiteaker event. For Roy, this marked his 5th year performing in front of the Head Start Center in Eugene.





#### NEWS

## theTorch

THE INDEPENDENT
STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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# Smorgasbord of art

#### Schnitzer Museum offers free entry through Dec. 1

#### ELIZABETH COMISKEY REPORTER

Upon entry through the mezzanine of the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, many attendees are taken back by the architecture and attention to detail in the building. Following the art-lined stairway to the second level of the museum a maze of rooms is found. In the corner of the Asian art exhibit sits a towering Maitreya Buddha, fashioned in marble — missing a nose.

The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, located on the University of Oregon campus, has invited the public to visit since 1933.

Prince Lucien Campbell, president of the university from 1902-1925, believed a university should be influenced by the culture which surrounds it. President Campbell spearheaded the campaign to build the museum on campus along with then Dean of Architecture, Ellis F. Lawrence, who was responsible for the building's design.

As a memorial for her late husband, Gertrude Bass Warner donated over 3,700 pieces of Asian art to the University of Oregon in 1933. In order to house the art, Lawrence was commissioned by the university to design the museum. The Jordan

Schnitzer Museum of Art opened its doors later that year. From 2002 to 2005 the university rallied to gain the financial backing to expand the museum. The museum expansion created more room for the gallery to display art. Spectators are given the opportunity to view masterworks on loan from private collectors, specific expeditions, and over 13,000 pieces of American, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian iconic artwork.

One of six art museums in Oregon, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum — named after its largest financial donor — is the only university museum to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

Karen McCowan and her five-year-old granddaughter Josie, recently attended the museum's open house. "Last year we came and Josie enjoyed the museum. She asked to come back today," McCowan said.

The many rooms of mixed media artwork sample from around the world. The museum is visited by members of the public, university classes and students from across America on field trips.

"The most rewarding thing about the museum, and working here is seeing the generations come through, experiencing their energy. Introducing the culture of art to students and the public is exciting." Anne Rose Kitagawa, Chief Curator of Collections said.

The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art is open to the public Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### Class Days: MWF or M, W, F, MW, MF, MTh, MTu, MTuW, MTuTh, WF, MTuWThF, MTuWTh, MWThF, MTuThF, MTuWF, WTh

Class starts	at:		Exa	Examination time:			
7:00 a.m.	or.	7:30 a.m.	F	7:00-8:50 a.m.			
8:00 a.m.	or	8:30 a.m.	М	8:00-9:50 a.m.			
9:00 a.m.	or	9:30.a.m.	W	8:00-9:50 a.m.			
10:00 a.m.	or	10:30 a.m.	M	10:00-11:50 a.m.			
11:00 a.m.	or	11:30 a.m.	W	10:00-11:50 a.m.			
12:00 p.m.	or	12:30 p.m.	, M	12:00- 1:50 p.m.			
1:00 p.m.	or	1:30 p.m.	W	12:00- 1:50 p.m.			
2:00 p.m.	or	2:30 p.m.	M	2:00- 3:50 p.m.			
3:00 p.m.	or	3:30 p.m.	W	2:00- 3:50 p.m.			
4:00 p.m.	or	4:30 p.m.	М	4:00- 5:50 p.m.			
5:00 p.m.	or	5:30 p.m	W	4:00- 5:50 p.m.			

Class Days: TuTh, or Tu, Th, TuWThF

Class starts	at:		Exa	mination time:
7:00 a.m.	or	7:30 a.m.	F	9:00-10:50 a.m.
8:00 a.m.	or	8:30 a.m. *	Tu.	8:00-9:50 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	or	9:30 a.m.	Th	8:00-9:50 a.m.
10:00 a.m.	or	10:30 a.m.	Tu	10:00-11:50 a.m.
11:00 a.m.	or	11:30 a.m.	Th	10:00-11:50 a.m.
12:00 p.m.	or	12:30 p.m.	Tu	12:00-1:50 p.m.
1:00 p.m.	or	1:30 p.m.	Th	12:00-1:50 p.m.
2:00 p.m.	or	2:30 p.m.	Tu	2:00-3:50 p.m.
3:00 p.m.	or	3:30 p.m.	Th	2:00-3:50 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	or	4:30 p.m.	Tu	4:00-5:50 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	or	5:30 p.m	Th	4:00-5:50 p.m.



SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

THE STEEL WHEELS

nedule December 5 - December 10, 201

SC

MONDAY DECEMBER 5

CES CRU

TUESDAY DECEMBER 6

OVER THE RHINE
Acoustic Christmas Show

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9

> WILD CHILD Walker Lukens Helyn Rain & Jeffrey Left

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10

WOW HALL MEMBERSHIP PARTY

Beat Crunchers
Cherry & the Lowboys
The Raventones
Michael Omogrosso

## New committee to hold student fee purse strings

**ELIZABETH COMISKEY** REPORTER

Lane is enacting a new policy to determine where the allotted student fees are used. This change is a result of a lawsuit filed August 2015, which The Torch reported on in January 2016. Organizations which receive funds from student fees now must present a budget proposal to the Student Activity Fee Committee.

"The new student fee system is based on transparency and accountability" Tracy Weimer, Student Life and Leadership administrative specialist, said.

Lane Community College welcomed 9,484 credit students in the fall term of 2015. Collectively full-time students paid Lane Community College approximately \$531,104 in student activity fees.

Every full-time student is charged a \$56 student activity fee. This money is used to fund student activities and services throughout the campus. Student activity fees are used for a variety of groups, organizations and student resources offered on campus.

This year, the Board of Education enacted a new policy to be used in association with student fees at Lane. Board Policy 715 is a call to action for Lane's president. With a deadline of Oct. 30 each year, Lane's president

will be responsible to form a Student Activity Fee Committee. The voting committee will consist of elected members of the student body, as well as appointed members of student groups and organizations. The committee will oversee and vote on fees and allocations throughout the year.

The new system will promote a more diverse group of individuals involved with student activity fees. This will separate decisions made about activity fees from the student government, in favor of a dedicated group of student representatives.

"One of the benefits of the new system is it requires each student organization or program funded to articulate how the funds contribute to improving the student experience which may not be available in traditional classrooms," Christina Walsh, Dean of Student Life & Leadership, said.

Members of the SAFC are about to attend their first training session on the new system implemented at Lane.

"Everyone will be learning and sorting out details. As with all first year systems, challenges do come up," Walsh said. "The new system puts Lane in line with standard practice around the country. This is a model commonly found in higher education."

In order for any organization or group to receive funding through the SAFC, they are

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BLUEGLASS

A E R I E R D A S A G A B A I T

ACRO MUNCH

SATS

BIBI

EBON

MAA

IANA

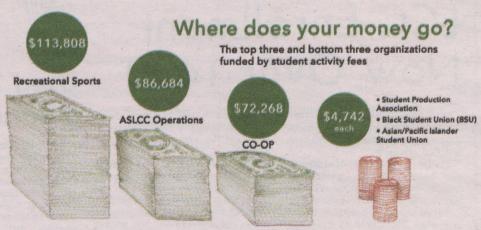
ALAE

MANX

NERO

MONEY CAGY

AMOK HABU



**Illustration by Cat Frink** 

required to present a complete budgeting account from previous years, and a projection for the next budget cycle. Federal policies enforce what fees can and cannot be spent on.

Student activity fees would only decrease in the event of "a group or organization presents their budget, and does not use all the allocated funds. Then it will go to the board (Lane's Board of Education). The board would then rule if the group's portion of the activity fee should be adjusted for the next school year," Weimer said.

Lane students do have concerns over the student activity fee increasing for the next school year. Mike Jones, Oregon Student Association representative said he only foresees fees increasing depending on student groups or organizations requesting additional funds during the school year to accommodate projects, or campaigns to promote member growth.

"Student fees are an integral part of any well-functioning student body in order for a college to allow students a pathway to explore new interests or activities and be able to contribute to the marketplace of ideas," Jones said.

For more information on the student activity fees charged to tuition accounts each term, visit Lane's homepage (lanecc. edu) and search for "student fees" in the upper right field.

#### Crossword

#### **ACROSS** Mortar ingredient Levy

Scratch 12 Fetish 13 Irish chief's residence

14 Presidential nickname Petroleum **Exporting** 

Countries (abbr.) 16 Sioux tribe 17 Celsius (abbr.)

18 Sup 20 Apt 22 Checkmate

(abbr.) 25 Sheep's cry 27 Youngster 28 One of the

Three Stooges 29 Troubles 31 Clothing 34 Double (abbr.)

35 "Fra Diavolo" composer 37 Nat'l Endowment for

the Arts (abbr.) 38 Stringy 40 Yemen capital 41 Anglo-Saxon god of peace 42 Poetic

contraction 44 Nat'l Security Agency (abbr.) 45 According to (2 words)

46 Son of Shakespeare 49 Mountain on Crete

51 Jap. apricot 52 Carbon (pref.) 54 Bless 58 Liquor 59 Victim of Cain 60 Galilee town 61 Hymn

LIABILITY 2 I DEO DOWN River rapids Archbishop (abbr.)

SEBI

f P A R R TAB Sidewinder Corrode (abbr.)

Never (Ger.) Carplike fish kingdom 11 Trust

Short takeoff and landing 8 Eastern ruler 9 Alexander's 10 Brother of Seth 19 Son of Samuel 21 Outfit 22 Commander (abbr.) 23 Tramp 24 Muse of tragedy 26 Brit. saint 30 Wise 32 General (abbr.) 33 Scand. legend 36 Thunderfish 39 Desire 43 Summary 46 Science fiction award 47 Among 48 Forbidden

50 Spore sacs 53 Electric

reluctance unit

Rhine tributary

56 Feminine (suf.) 57 No (Scot.)

#### Sudoku

						3	1	
	6		8				7	9
7		2				4	8	
			9					
					1			
	8	1	2					3
6 8	4			2		7		
8		3						2
10.500			6	4			3	

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** 

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



Dec. 6, 1965

# First flickers of 1111 1702011

VOL, I No. 2 Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon

Newspaper Name is The Torch

## LCC Enrollment Now Over 1400

By Bart Mahan

The enrollment at Lane Community College is now more than 400 over the original forecast of 1,000 students.

To date, the number of students who have officially withdrawn from the college is nominal. The end of fall term will tell this tale.

Out of the 1,400 students, there are only 350 girls in both the vocational and the college transfer curricula combined. The majority of students, numbering 850 are enrolled in the college transfer program while the remaining 550 students are in the vocational programs.

There are over 100 staff members, including both the instructors and the administrative personnel.

The staff of Lane Community College is already anticipating the winter term enrollment and programs. Mr. I. S. Hakanson, Dean of Students, stated, "Testimate the enrollment for winter term to be about 1,600 students." The additional 200 will be in the college transfer curriculum which is fairly flexible rather than in the vocational curricula where there are limited facilities.

#### Council Approved Dance



The student council is meeting in the KRVM studio to discuss the constitution.

Plans for an all-school dance were accepted by the student council during its meeting on November 23, at the Eugene Campus.

The theme of the dance was "Sherwood By Nighte," and entertainment was provided by

"Robin and the Hoods." It was sponsored by the members of the newspaper staff of LCC, General Chairman was Donna Blaze. It took place on December 3, from 9:00 to midnight at the Eugene YM-YWCA. The price was \$1.50 per couple and \$1 stag.

# New S.B. Offices To Be Elected Jan.12

Elections are coming early in January, according to Dennis Ryan, student body vice president. Students wanting to run for office or propose someone for office should secure a petition in the counseling department on either campus, get fifty signa-

tures, and hand it in by noon, December 10. January 12, 1966, is election day. Only full time students are eligible to vote or to hold office. (Those carrying 9 quarter hours or more are considered full-time students.)

# Used Texts Salable Soon

Students who wish to sell books may bring them to either Bookstore during exam week beginning Dec. 13. Books in demand for winter term classes will be purchased at one-half the new price. Other titles not in local demand at present will be purchased at used-book dealer prices. Some books used only in fall term classes cannot be sold now. If they are used during the next school year, they may be sold during exam week of spring term.

It is hoped that students will not bring books in to sell during the first week of next term when the Bookstore will be very busy supplying students with winter term texts. The buy-back period will be opened again during exam week of winter and spring terms.

Bookstore hours will remain the same as posted until Dec. 20 when the Springfield store will be closed until noon of Jan. 4. During that period books and supplies for classes on both campuses may be purchased in the Eugene store from 8:00 to 5:00 daily. Students are encouraged to purchase winter term books during December, if possible, in order to avoid the congestion of registration day on Jan. 3.

#### Zoology Student Starts Aquarium

Joe Wendling, Zoology class member from Florence, has assembled a salt water aquarium in Room 70 on the Springfield campus.

A live star fish, a sea anemone, a chiton, a sea trout, a crab, and assorted snails are on display.

Visitors are welcome, according to Mr. John Jacobs, division chairman for science, to visit this aquarium.

## Students Enroll For Winter Term

Pre-registration for winter term is now going on in all classes. Regular winter term registration will start in the Eugene Counseling Center Monday, December 13. New students will begin registering December 20, in Eugene.

## Student Government Set Up For College

LCC's first studentbody election was held November 29. The constitution was approved by a vote of 180 to 24. The Titan, a greek mythological figure, was selected as school mascot and the newspaper was named The Torch. The names presented to the student body were Titan (Greek) and Torch which received 114 votes, the Titan (missile) and countdown getting 31 votes, the Lynx and Lane Lynx totalling 35 votes and the Dolphin and the Snorkel receiving only 14.

According to the World Book Encyclopedia, "Titan" was the name of an ancient race of gods in Greek mythology. The 12 Titans were the children of Uranus (Heaven) and Gaea (Earth). There were six men and six women, and the women were called Titanides.

Uranus the father, feared his giant children therefore chained them down in Tartarus, which was far under the earth, Gaea sorrowed over their lot and begged Vranus to free them.

#### Future Site



This sign is located on 30th avenue East where LCC Campus is soon to be erected.

At last Gaea grew very angry
--she went down into Tartarus
herself, and urged the Titans to
rise and fight against their
father. All of them refused except Cronus (Saturn) who was
the youngest. Gaea gave him a
magic scythe and freed him from
his chains. Cronus set out to find
his father, to conquer him.
Cronus met him and wounded
him with the magic scythe.
Uranus put a curse on him, and
said that one day a son of Cronus
would rise to overthrow him.

Cronus freed all his brothers and sisters who agreed that he should rule them. Cronus took the Titanide Rhea for his wife and gave the others different parts of the world to rule.

#### Camera Arrives

New equipment for closed circuit television arrived Friday, Nov. 19, at the Radio Communications department and students and instructors started operating the new TV camera, transmitter and the two table model TV sets which were included.

Irwin D. Wagner, engineer for Mutual Electronic Supply of Seattle, Wash., spent Friday, Nov. 19th, working with members of the KRVM staff in setting up LCC's new closed circuit television camera and monitors.

The Ampex vidicon camera is completely transistorized, and uses no vacuum tubes in any of its circuits. Manufactured for Ampex by the Marconi Company of Great Britain, the new camera is believed to be the first of its type installed in Oregon, according to engineer Wagner.

The small television transmitter operates on Channel 5. Its output is being fed temporarily to two new RCA table model TV sets which are serving as program monitors until the Conrac monitors originally ordered are received.

Dr. Dale Parnell

#### From Dr. Parnell's Desk- - - -

Ask anyone connected with the school to define Lane Community College and his answer will probably be something like this:

It is a new-college with 1400 full-time students and 2000 Adult Education Evening Extension students attending classes on 24 campus locations scattered throughout Lane County, and a staff of 166 full and part-time employees.

These facts are impressive, But Lane Community College is much more than this, It is Charles and Dennis and Terri leading the Student Council meeting; it is Mr. Hakanson and Mrs. Howard advising Paul or Nancy concerning the inevitable problems they encounter on entering school; it is Mr. Bristow and the other Board members giving time and energy in an effort to establish a truly distinctive community college for this area; it is Pat and Dave and Anita working with Mrs. Dixon on the student newspaper.

It is Mr. Roberts helping Gary and Judy and Pat to get started on new jobs, and Mr. Wright placing Larry and Ginny in jobs under the Work-Study Program. It is the labors of Mr. Simmons in the Learning-Resource Center and Miss Zinser in the student bookstore. It is the lay Advisory

Committees suggesting new ways of meeting the changing needs of our community; the President and Cabinet working to get the college off to a flying start. It is the students in the classrooms taking full advantage of the instruction offered them by competent instructors. It is Mrs. Maney at the PBX and Mrs. Malliris in the Business Office.

In short, Lane Community College is the sum of the efforts of the individuals who contribute in any way to the school, Since our classrooms are spread over a wide area, it is difficult to maintain this feeling of "oneness" — of belonging to one group. But

it is imperative, for this very reason, that we all make an effort to take part in college affairs in every possible way.

Walter Lippman once said we operate our daily lives based largely on "the picture in our heads," It is this image or "picture in the head" which people form about Lane Community College that is important, Staff and students should think of LCC as "our" college, not "his" or "theirs" but "ours." But to be able to speak of "our" college with any degree of conviction requires participation.

A college reflects the composite feelings of students and staff members.

#### A look back on the first ten years of Lane's student newspaper





#### **Problems plague Senate**

by Rick Bella
(Editor's Note: Last week, a letter appeared in th TORCH from a reader who expressed discollate the appeared in th TORCH from a reader who expressed dissatisfaction with the ASLCC Senate. In response to this letter, TORCH reporter Rick Bella talked to several Senate officers and members of the College Administration. He now files this analysis.) Although Senate sources admit that the Senate has been relatively inactive this year, they blame this lack of action on a myriad of problems ranging from disagreements with College Administration to hassles innate in their own structure.

nate in their own structure.

Specifically, Senate sources point out these problems:

A losing battle with the Adminis-ration for control of the budgetary process after the creation of Special

 Infighting among officers resulting in the controversial resignation of First Vice President John Richard.

Confusion among newly-elected senators as to operaing procedures.
 Being bound to what may be an outmoded structure which does not accurately reflect the needs of the

School.

The Special Programs and Activities
Fund (SPAF) was created by the LCC
Board of Education last summer to
deal with the budgeing of campus projects which are co-funded by college
and student monies. These are athletics, health services, the TORCH,
the aSLCC, and the Concrete State-

ment (the literary arts magazine). This came on the heels of a recommendation by the ASLCC Budget Committee to reduce funding of athletics by \$16,000. One source told the TORCH this Senate action angered the College Administration-because "we (had) voted to cut money from

their main source of public relations."
The SPAF Committee is chaired by Jay Jones, director of studen activities, and includes three members of the student body chosen by the ASLCC Senate, and three members of the faculty appointed by President

Eidon Schafer.

The normal budgetary pr
requires that those activities
for SPAF money must subm

KIRA JONES **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** 

Lane Community College's "new" independent student newspaper announced its official name, The Torch, in the second edition of the first volume, on Dec. 6, 1965. Back then, The Torch was printed monthly and was put together using a process called mechanical paste-up. Today, The Torch prints weekly and creates the paper entirely digitally, however, some of the content remains very similar.

The front page of this 1965 edition features headlines such as "LCC Enrollment Now Over 1,400" and "Student Government Set up for College." At this time in Lane's history The Torch reported that enrollment at the school was 400 students over the projected 1,000 for the term, only 350 of which were female.

This edition also showcases Lane's first ever student government election, held on Nov 29. Following that election the student government constitution was voted in as well as the school mascot — The Titan — and the newspaper's name, The Torch. This eventful time in Lane's history also featured the arrival of closed circuit television (CCTV) to the campus and a photo of the future 30th Ave. site of Lane's main campus, which at the time was located in temporary facilities on 200 N. Monroe street.

On Dec. 10, 1974 the front page of The Torch featured a photo of the Associated Students of Lane Community College office with the headline "Problems Plague Senate." Apparently the editor-in-chief at the time received a letter expressing a dissatisfaction with the student government. The Torch responded by looking into the issue and detailing the problems expressed by student senators. This particular edition also featured articles about sexism in textbooks, the federal government airing student records and Lane no longer being considered the "last chance college."

Throughout five decades of printing, some news still remains relevant. Whether it's about gender equality, enrollment or student government The Torch continues its history of publishing "stories that matter."

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## **OPINION**

# A study of the true meaning of Thanksgiving Day

CHRISTOPHER PALANUK PHOTO EDITOR

What do you think about when you think of Thanksgiving? The food-focused holiday probably comes to mind is a turkey dinner, a presidential turkey pardoning and a bunch of turkeys all waiting in line for Black Friday sales. But is that what Thanksgiving is truly about?

In elementary school, many people may have been taught that the first Thanksgiving was about the American Indians providing a feast for the Pilgrims. The two groups sat down, said a prayer and dug in — instantly creating this November holiday.

However, this depiction of the Thanksgiving Day holiday isn't the whole story.

For starters, the actual definition of Thanksgiving Day, as stated in the American People's Encyclopedia, is thus: "Thanksgiving Day, the annual fall festival in the United States set aside for giving thanks to God for the blessings of the past year. It is celebrated with church services and family gatherings as one of the great American feast days. The

date is the fourth Thursday in November."

The encyclopedia continues to explain the first "Thanksgiving proclamation in America" — where the Pilgrim hunters "provided a number of wild turkeys" and the American Indians brought venison. But we have to get into the meat, so to speak, of the article to realize that this as an example rather than a definition.

In other words, an "annual fall festival for giving thanks to God" hardly resembles the modern perception. But it seems that the definition is apt for past Thanksgivings.

Though it wasn't recognized annually and with an exact date until the Civil War, Thanksgiving Day was practiced in times when blessings were being counted most.

After the American Revolution, the holiday was recommended in 1784 by Congress because of the exhaustive war for independence. In 1815, after the War of 1812, President Madison set aside a day for Thanksgiving in November. Sparking a custom of proclamations by governors, his act kept the custom alive for nearly 50 years. Finally, in 1863 at the behest of lifelong campaigner Mrs. Sara J. Hale, Abraham

Lincoln issued a national Thanksgiving proclamation which set the official date as the fourth Thursday in November.

The transition to what we now know as Thanksgiving Day started with Franklin D. Roosevelt. Though Lincoln had proclaimed the fourth Thursday of the month as Thanksgiving, the custom with the succeeding presidents was the last Thursday. Roosevelt, according to Archives.org, changed it back to the second to last Thursday in November because he was "concerned that the shortened Christmas shopping season might dampen the economic recovery."

However, this created a rift in the states who didn't want to change the old custom. So Congress enacted a resolution in 1941 to make the fourth Thursday of November the official date of Thanksgiving. The resolution also gave the day its name and made it "a legal public holiday to all intents and purposes."

From then on, it seems that the definition of Thanksgiving Day has become more synonymous with awkward dinner conversations, Black Friday stampedes, and four day weekends. The "thanks" in Thanksgiving Day was lost in the gravy. The blessings that were once cherished now sit in the liner next to the Natural Resources Defence Council's estimated 203 million pounds of wasted turkey we could hardly stomach.

One of our previous presidents recognized this and had some advice for all of us in his Proclamation of Thanksgiving Day almost 44 years to the date: "Today, in an age of too much fashionable despair, the world more than ever needs to hear America's perennial harvest message: "Take heart, give thanks. To see clearly about us is to rejoice; and to rejoice is to worship the Father; and to worship Him is to receive more blessings still."

In conclusion be grateful for what you have, rejoice in it, and praise God for the blessings bestowed. Funny how it took President Nixon to state the definition of Thanksgiving. Granted, he said it after being reelected with 521 electoral votes.

So, after this little history lesson, I'd like to ask: What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving?

## Blame colleges, not students

Community college higher-up pins falling enrollment on rising number of Latino students

> JORDAN RICH COLUMNIST

Patrick Crane, Oregon's Director of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, blamed everything but the colleges for their shrinking enrollment in an interview with the Register Guard earlier this month.

"When there's a recession, more people come [to school.] When the recession ends, more people are working," Crane said to the Register Guard. The idea is that when the economy is doing well, people are more likely to get jobs they enjoy and therefore not seek out higher education.

The economy is certainly doing well, state economists

have reported that there are 5,000 jobs being created per month, but Oregon has a high percentage of part-time workers and many new jobs are low wage. I agree that this is a strong factor, but it certainly isn't the full picture.

Crane then went on to tell the Register Guard that fewer Oregon students are graduating from high school in recent years, which is a perfectly valid reason as to why colleges in general are getting fewer students.

Then, he blamed Latinos, citing how they attend college at a lesser rate than their peers and are becoming a larger percentage of the

high school student body. This is a completely bogus reason. If we look at the 2015-16 Fall Membership Report for K-12 students in Oregon we see that there are indeed 1.22 percent more Latino students than the previous year. But there were also more people of every race except for Native Americans who saw a 4 percent decline in enrollment.



JORDAN RICH COLUMNIST

In other words, it's not as if Latino students replaced the other students, there are just more students than there were before, so they are not to blame whatsoever.

I think what is driving people away from attending college more are things like textbook prices and the student debt crisis. People, rightfully so, don't like the idea of taking out loans to buy a \$200 textbook that has a resale value of around 20 percent of that cost if you are lucky. Then after accumulating an average of \$30,100 in student debt, there is a fear that their field may not be hiring and they will be

working the same job they could've gotten without their degree, just with crushing debt instead.

There is a dark side to college that we don't talk about enough, and if people like Patrick Crane don't even acknowledge that then it will be impossible to remedy those issues.

## SINGULAR

THEY

by Rick Williams



Statements and opinions expressed in these articles are solely those of the author or authors, and may or may not be shared by the staff and management of The Torch.

SWEET and CRUNCHY

#### REVIEW

# Potter prequel pushes patience

'Fantastic Beasts' struggles to balance new franchise and story

After eight very successful films in the "Harry Potter" saga, fans wanted more stories set in this unique world. So when it was announced that not only were we getting three spin-offs (now five) set decades before the events of the original films, but J. K.

Rowling was announced to be writing the scripts, fans got excited to see what would come.

"Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" is set in mid 1920s New York City, where tensions are at an all-time high as the American wizard community dreads that humans — referred to by wizards as "no-maj's" or "muggles" — are close to discovering them. Therefore, wizards have placed a ban on mystical creatures to prevent their exposure. Oblivious to this, Newt Scamander, played by Eddie Redmayne, with a magical briefcase full of beasts, travels to America on a quest to return one of his creatures to its natural home in Arizona.

When his briefcase is accidentally opened and some of his creatures get out, he must find them before they cause too much trouble. On this endeavor, he is joined by Tina and Queenie Goldstein, played by Katherine Waterston and Alison Sudol, and no-maj Jacob Kowalski, played by Dan Fogler.

While "Fantastic Beasts" has enough of the fun ingredients that made the original "Harry Potter" films special, it ends getting bogged down by too many subplots.

We have Newt and company trying to find his creatures, the American wizard government trying to prevent humans from learning of

their existence, a government officer working outside the law, an anti-

wizard human family trying to warn New Yorkers of evil magic, a series of mysterious disasters and

an evil wizard on the loose. And that's the most simplified summary of events. Rowling should've picked three to use for this film and saved the rest for the inevitable sequels.

Rowling needs more practice with screenwriting. Writing a movie is not the same as writing a book as you only have two-and-a-half hours to tell the story.

Her writing didn't allow much room for director David Yates and the cast to breathe and for the characters to develop. Perhaps this issue could be solved if she

co-writes the next script with an experienced screenwriter.

What was most surprising was the shockingly poor quality of the CG effects in some scenes, where in past films they did an okay job. The prime example of this is a bar scene where the main cast has to get information from a goblin gangster. Not only is it disappointing that the goblin



HUNTER RULAND MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

is fully CG, since the earlier films have used practical prosthetic effects, but the way that his skin is rendered is almost insulting to the viewer. The effect is so bad that the team behind "Sharknado" would cringe at the sight of it.

Despite an overflowing script, the main four leads did the best job they could with the characters they were given, particularly Redmayne, who has a blast playing Newt. His performance was the most interesting and fresh in the film. He embraces some of the more ridiculous aspects of his character with pride, especially in one scene where he has to

charm one of his creatures in order to catch it.

The creatures in the film are a lot of fun too. The designs were inventive and each creature had its own personality to make them more distinguishable, to make them more than just a computer-generated creation. The most fun was the hedgehog looking critter, Niffler, that would constantly escape to steal jewelry or shiny coins. Niffler will most certainly become a fan-favorite and be a high-selling merchandising character.

While the film has issues, it's still worth checking out if you wanted to see more of the "Harry Potter" universe and opens the doors for a potentially exciting franchise. Let's just hope that Rowling can produce a more focused screenplay next time around.



### **OPINION**

# Concerns raised about guest speaker

Lane didn't do its homework before inviting Vandana Shiva

SCOTTY PEREY
GUEST COMMENTARY

promised. As sensational, profitable clickbait spreads like online wildfire, a new skill set is emerging needed to separate fact from fiction. In this effort, I rely on our educational institutions to help me understand the problems we face today with solid evidence and sound reasoning. As a teacher and an activist, I am troubled that Dr. Vandana Shiva was promoted this week at our local community college by the campus "Peace Center." My own university training is in music and political science, not biology and chemistry. So when I first heard Dr. Shiva's claims some years ago, I was compelled to fact-check her questionable statements with those who are far more expertly trained in the matter at hand.

My initial misgivings have been increasingly validated. Dr. Shiva advertises herself as a scientist, but this is not the case. Her degree is in philosophy, which even then might lead one to believe that her positions would be founded on the highest caliber of critical thinking, but that is not what I have observed. To the contrary, Dr. Shiva consistently makes assertions that fail even the most superficial tests of intellectual and ethical rigor.

The promise of our Brave New "Information Age" is being seriously compromised. As sensational, profitable clickbait spreads like online wildfire, a new skill set is emerging needed to separate fact from fiction. In this effort, I rely on our educational institutions to help me understand the problems we face today with solid evidence

Dr. Shiva proclaimed that "fertilizer should never have been allowed in agriculture... it's a weapon of mass destruction." Such an outrageous blanket statement would fly in the face of the daily experience of practically every farmer from the Fertile Crescent onward. The more scientific application of fertilizer was one of the inputs that allowed the "Green Revolution" to provide greater food security for more than a billion people.

Even less tenable is her view of the introduction of "terminator technology" into seeds, devised in the 1990s (but never developed or released) as a kind of fail-safe to prevent horizontal gene transfer into openpollinated crops. Ironically, this trait - which was developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture -- would have addressed one of the primary (hypothetical) concerns of the anti-biotechnology activists. Yet Dr. Shiva protested it, writing "the possibility that the Terminator may spread to surrounding food crops or to the natural environment MUST be taken seriously." The notion that sterile seeds would run the risk of spreading their sterility is, quite frankly, preposterous to any attentive student of the most basic

biology course.

Also troubling to me, as an advocate of environmental and social justice, are the many ways in which Dr. Shiva's unscientific platform actually runs counter to her own exhortation for better lives, better soil, less oil, and fewer pesticides:

•Dr. Shiva would end use of a genetically engineered eggplant (which contains a gene(s) from the bacterium Bacillus thuringiensis that produces a protein toxic to certain agricultural insect pests) that is helping farmers in Bangladesh rise from poverty.

•Dr. Shiva would deny "Golden Rice," which has been modified to produce the precursor of Vitamin A as a proven way to deliver therapeutic amounts of Vitamin A to the half million children who go blind every year from Vitamin A Deficiency (VAD), half of whom will die within twelve months.

•Dr. Shiva would deny African farmers the drought-resistant strains of maize and other crops that will be necessary for their prosperity and survival as global warming continues.

•Dr. Shiva would deny American farmers the ability to save huge amounts of fossil fuel expenditures, soil erosion, and water pollution by way of the "no till" practices made possible by glyphosate-tolerant crops designed to withstand an herbicide that is less toxic than both salt and caffeine. I would hope this to be enough to give activist organizations pause. Yet, consider some other implications of Dr. Shiva's positions:

•Dr. Shiva has long attempted to turn the tragedy of farmer suicides in India into political fodder by blaming them on the introduction of genetically engineered cotton. The uptick in suicides she is referring to has consistently and convincingly been shown to be a result of economic factors, and it began well before its introduction.

•Dr. Shiva has said: "Saying farmers should be free to grow GMOs which can contaminate organic farms is like saying rapists should have the freedom to rape." To my knowledge, she has never retracted or apologized for this patently offensive soundbite.

•Dr. Shiva promoted the "Monsanto Collaborators" website, featured by Mike "The Health Ranger" Adams for his detestable "Natural News" website. It compared modern agriculture to the genocide against Jews and was replete with Nazi and Holocaust imagery throughout. It was accompanied by an actual hit list of those he considered to meet the criteria deeming them as worthy of assassination, including public scientists and neutral journalists. The site was posted on Shiva's "Seed Freedom" page on July 25th, 2014.



The Whiteaker Community Head Start Center in Eugene hosted this years Whiteaker community Thanksgiving dinner serving over 2,000 locals on Nov. 24. All members in the community were welcome to attend.

## Community gathers around Whiteaker's table

IAN TRAUTMAN REPORTER

In Eugene, Thanksgiving is not just a holiday for families to spend time together. For many people here it is a day to spend time with the community.

This year, almost 2,500 people congregated at the Whiteaker Community Head Start Center in Eugene for the annual Whitaker Community Thanksgiving Dinner. The free Thanksgiving dinner is a tradition that started in 1978.

A down-on-her-luck, single mother of four received help from several community members to make a Thanksgiving feast possible for her children in 1974. Four years later when she was doing well, she and a group of neighbors in the Whiteaker community decided to give back.

The dinner is made a reality each year thanks to volunteers and donations. Beyond food, donations included sleeping bags, blankets, hygiene products, gloves, rain gear and other winter essentials.

More than 600 volunteers helped with the event this year, about 30 of whom were students from the Culinary Department at Lane Community College.

Clive Wanstall, chef and instructor at Lane, oversaw the culinary department's involvement with the event.

Wanstall said all his volunteers are culinary students at Lane, the department itself was not directly involved with the event. Wanstall placed all the food orders and arranged the logistics of meal preparation.

"We started prepping the weekend before Thanksgiving. We spent roughly about 16 hours of prep between the days of Saturday and Sunday," Christopher Dunphy, culinary student, said.

Volunteers had their work cut out for them, separating turkey meat, peeling potatoes and prepping vegetables for stir-fry. A total of 1,500 pounds of turkey and 2,000 pounds of potatoes and other vegetables were prepared for the dinner. Other than the desserts, the culinary students prepared all the food for the event.

On Thanksgiving Day, culinary students arrived early in the morning to finish cooking and ran food to the tables during dinnertime, providing a wonderful dinner service for the community.

"They'd be so thankful for you just being there cooking some of that food that they all got to eat. It makes me happy," Dunphy said about the attendees.



The spirit of giving was in the air this Thanksgiving as over 600 volunteers attended the community gathering. Lane counselor Gee Thomas was in charge of running the clothing room where community members could chose clothes that they could leave with.

## **TITANS ON CAMPUS** What are your plans for Winter Break?



"Definitely studying up on my programming and painting skills. Relaxing and trying to decompress."



#### Alan Thompson

"I don't really have many plans yet. Probably going to do a little bit of remodeling work around my house and work on some personal art. Relax."



"To see my family in Arizona, my mom in Portland, and work on personal projects. Take what I learned through these classes and apply it to pictures and videos that I take."



Jefferson Goolsby

"I'm actually traveling to Taiwan for almost the whole winter break and traveling to Japan."

