

Stories from the 'Pacific Circuit'



photo by Diana Baker / art director

At a panel on human trafficking, Diana Janz, third from left, answers a question from an audience member about controlling social media use. Attendees listened to panelists FBI agent Chris Luh, Hope Ranch Ministries Janz, trafficking survivor McKenzie, and Engaging Allies Coordinator of Sexual Assault Support Services of Lane County Bianca Marina.

Community leaders call for help in the battle against human trafficking

MCKENZY GAUSNELL AND DIANA BAKER
REPORTER, ART DIRECTOR

Emerging Leaders of United Way Lane County, a young professional philanthropic group, met with approximately two dozen community members at the Actors' Cabaret of Eugene on May 23 to discuss the pressing issue of sex trafficking in the Eugene area.

The speakers varied from trafficking survivors to resource providers for individuals who have been involved in human trafficking. FBI agent Christ Luh gave insight in his keynote address into how law enforcement approaches trafficking. Later, Luh was joined by Diana Janz, board president of Hope Ranch Ministries, Bianca Marina, the Engaging Allies Coordinator of Sexual Assault Support Services of Lane County, and McKenzie, a trafficking survivor only referred to by her first name to protect her privacy.

"The intent was to show the group how often this is happening here in our beloved community and how many different kinds of people are at risk," Amanda Dellinger, Resource Development Coordinator at United Way of Lane County, said. "The chronic homeless population and kids in the foster system [are] being disproportionately affected."

Luh discussed how being in a crisis makes people more vulnerable to sex trafficking, citing factors such as financial

vulnerability, drug addictions and other situations that result in people lacking a supportive community. According to Luh, often people who feel socially isolated turn to social media to find support.

"Social media is the number one breeding grounds of sex trafficking," Luh said.

The panelists discussed issues that have complicated the process of ending sex trafficking. Sex traffickers' tendency to pick vulnerable victims and use manipulative techniques make it hard for victims to get out. Language barriers inhibit communication, especially when most translation needs to be done over the phone. Law enforcement's past focus on arresting victims has led to a distrust of police and federal agents. Luh mentioned the lack of long-term recovery support leading to sex trafficking being an issue in people's lives long-term.

When the topic of problem-solving came up, Janz and McKenzie both said that they wish to see more awareness about trafficking taught in schools. Janz described how pimps look for girls with a lack of confidence and target them due to their vulnerability. Being aware of and limiting social media use by teens was recommended as a protective measure by Janz and McKenzie. Janz recommended disconnecting the wifi at night.

According to the Youth Ending Slavery website, Portland

is often recognized as a city with one of the highest cases of youth sex trafficking. Eugene's location along the I-5 corridor makes it — and cities like it — frequent targets for sex traffickers moving between Canada and Mexico.

"The I-5 corridor, which is used as a circuit to transport victims from Seattle down to San Fran, with stops all along the way," Dellinger said. "It's known as the Pacific Circuit."

There are many people in desperate circumstances who are vulnerable to human traffickers. The homeless population of Eugene, most recently counted at 1,529 people, is a leading factor in human trafficking.

"Immigrants, minorities, runaway youth, kids aging out of foster care, kids from families in poverty or abusive homes," Dellinger said. "But there are also cases where the children's home lives are seemingly stable and safe — they are lured into trafficking from social media or other internet sites, by men promising to make them famous or to love and take care of them."

Even though the I-5 corridor is an easy target for human traffickers to pick up victims, sex trafficking is happening all around the world. The internet and social media have made recruiting for sex trafficking even easier.

"With young people being glued to their phones and social media, it's not just about keeping your kids safe from being kidnapped," Dellinger said. "Traffickers are getting

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NEWS

theTorch

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STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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smarter and figuring out what young girls, and sometimes boys, are looking for and they will promise to deliver it."

"Generally if the girls try to say no or fight back, they will be beaten or raped," Dellinger said. "It's often they will be given large amounts of drugs without their consent in order for them to 'obey.'"

The community can get involved by attending events put on by local organizations or volunteering at crisis centers that provide resources for victims of human trafficking or people who are at a higher risk for being a victim.

"Attend an awareness training, offer mentorship or resume assistance to survivors at Hope Ranch here in Eugene," Dellinger suggested. "Get involved supporting kids in your neighborhood, foster homes, and/or at other nonprofits like Womenspace, Parenting Now, Relief Nursery, CASA and Boys and Girls Club."

"It's important that we wrap our arms around survivors and support them in getting stabilized in our community, they should not be looked down [on] or ostracized," Dellinger said. "It's not helpful, only makes the problem worse and the victims

get blamed for their abuse."

"There is hope," McKenzie said, "If there's anything you're going through, people do care. I met a bunch of people who put their lives on the line for me."

Sex trafficking has been a pressing issue in Eugene, as it lies along the Pacific Circuit. Being aware and supportive of the victims is important for the community to move forward and explore solutions. As many community organizations work on providing support for anyone harmed or affected by human trafficking, advocates emphasize that it's important to explore preventive measures.

"It's also critically important to teach young boys about how having power and control over girls is harmful and dangerous and doesn't make them 'better men,'" Dellinger said.

The Sexual Assault Support Services of Lane County provides resources like crisis lines, counseling, support groups and education to any sexual assault or abuse survivor. More information about available resources can be found on the SASS website.

Primary season wraps up

Candidates prepare for November's
general election

MAREK BELKA
REPORTER

As the 2018 midterm elections approach, politicians in Oregon and Lane County faced their first major test: the May 15 primaries. Governor Kate Brown is running for her first full term in office, and all five of Oregon's United States House of Representatives seats are up for grabs. In Lane County, three Board of County Commissioners seats saw highly contested

elections. In Eugene proper, two dueling measures to install a City Auditor — one proposed by the citizens of the city, the other approved by the city council — finally had their day at the ballots. The city also voted for two contested city council positions, a seat on the Eugene Water and Electric Board, and two measures to help pay for parks and recreation services.

Only 28 percent of registered voters in Lane County returned ballots in the primary election, the lowest voter turnout since the 2012 primaries.

Here is an overview of results of the city, county, state and federal-level primaries relevant to Lane County. Complete details and analysis can be found at lcctorch.com

Governor: Kate Brown (D) vs. Knute Buehler (R)

U.S. House of Representatives (District 4): Peter DeFazio (D) vs. Art Robinson (R)

State Senate (6th District): Lee Beyer (D) vs. Robert Schwartz (R)

State Representative (7th District): Cedric Hayden (R) vs. Christy Inskip (D)

State Representative (9th District): Caddy McKeown (D) vs. Teri Grier (R)

State Representative (11th District): Marty Wilde (D) vs. Mark F. Herbert (R)

State Representative (14th District): Julie Fahey (D) vs. Rich Cunningham (R)

West Lane County Commissioner: Jay Bozievich (winner)

Springfield County Commissioner: Joe Berney (winner)

East Lane County Commissioner: Heather Buch vs. Gary Williams (run-off)

Eugene City Councilor (Ward 3): Alan Zelenka (winner)

Eugene City Councilor (Ward 5): Mike Clark (winner)

Springfield City Councilor (Ward 1): Sean M. VanGordon (winner)

Springfield City Councilor (Ward 2): Steve Moe (winner)

Eugene Water and Electric Board (At-large member): Mindy Schlossberg (winner)

Measure 20-283: City of Eugene Elected Auditor
No: 53 percent • Yes: 47 percent

Measure 20-287: City of Eugene Council-Appointed Auditor
No: 75 percent • Yes: 25 percent

Measure 20-288: City of Eugene Parks Levy
Yes: 65 percent • No: 35 percent

NEWS

Meet the executives

Students cast their votes for new heads of student government

MAREK BELKA
REPORTER

Between May 15 and 17, students at Lane Community College cast their ballots for a new Associated Students of Lane Community College Student Government. After three days of voting, the executive team of Keely Blyleven and Dan Good were elected President and Vice President, respectively, defeating the duo of current ASLCCSG Treasurer Amadeo Rehbein and Vice President Becca Hill by a 33-point margin.

Blyleven, who studies sustainability at Lane, has served as Sustainability Coordinator in the current ASLCCSG administration for the past year. She has organized several events focused on offsetting some of the stress students face during midterms and finals weeks by providing free self-care and meal kits. To Blyleven, these events played a crucial role in her and Good's election.

"We've been working super hard this year, and that work has been noticed by students," Blyleven said. "They were

making a decision about what they want to see happen."

Good, a former ASLCCSG Senator who currently serves as Campus Community Director, said he brings a non-traditional student perspective to the executive team. A philosophy and communications major, Good returned to college two years ago after a 16-year hiatus. Like Blyleven, Good aims to improve access to mental health resources for students.

"One in two college students experience mental instability," Good claimed. "We all have to have the ability to succeed, first and foremost, so we'll be fighting for mental health resources."

This year's election was unique because it featured two executive teams running against each other. According to Good, recent executive campaigns had faced no opposition in student elections. The lead-up to the election saw a spirited campaign between the candidates, who plastered campus with posters, tabled inside and outside the Center Building and encouraged as many students as possible to make their voices heard.

"It was a bit of a challenge running against members of student government," Blyleven said. "But we understood the game: we listened to student voices and worked on getting engagement."

Between the competitive nature of the campaign and the focus on outreach by the candidates, student participation in the election jumped. One hundred eighty-four votes were cast for executive teams, senate seats, and positions on the student activity fee committee: two percent of the eligible student population.

"I've been here almost two years now, and this is the first time I've actually heard about student elections," McKenzie Mooney, a Lane transfer student who did not vote in the election, said. "At my last school, there was a huge publicity push for weeks before the election, and I'm surprised they don't do more about it here."

Good expressed optimism about further increasing student engagement in future elections through their work over the coming school year.

"The work that we do as an administration will speak for itself," Good said. "I want to do the greatest good for the most amount of people."

According to the ASLCCSG Constitution, the student government's purpose is to "to establish and foster recognition of the rights and responsibilities of students to fellow students, the college, the community, this country, and humanity" and "to ensure that the student body is officially represented in all college-related activities and organizations."

The Blyleven/Good administration will take office on June 1 and serve throughout the 2018-19 school year.

Civic Park project advances

Adjacent neighbors express concerns about property infringement

SABRINA PICCOLO
REPORTER

The nonprofit organization Eugene Civic Alliance (ECA) plans to build a new sports venue in place of the 10.2-acre Civic Stadium site near South Eugene High School. According to ECA's website, Civic Stadium was built near East 20th Avenue and Willamette Street in 1938, but was destroyed by a fire in 2015.

The ECA plans to build a field house with space for court sports and a multi-sport field with 2,500 seats in the main seating area. The field house will be the headquarters for Kidsports, an organization that provides team sport opportunities for children in Lane County. This will be Kidsports' first official headquarters facility in its 65 year history.

Nancy Webber, a campaign leader for the ECA, said that Civic Stadium became vacant in 2008 when the Emeralds began playing at PK Park. After years of debate over what to do with the Civic Stadium, especially after it was destroyed by fire, the ECA bought the stadium from the Eugene 4J School District in 2015.

"We went to the city and said we wanted to buy it," Webber said, "We had to save the stadium. We raised \$4.1 million and the city put in \$400,000."

The Civic Park project has gained significant support since it bought the Civic Stadium. By January of this year, the ECA had raised over half of the \$35 million needed to complete the entire project, the ECA website states. Webber added that this was largely due to the support of over 400 contributors.

According to Webber, the ECA currently has over \$21 million raised for the Civic Park project. Once the organization raises \$26 million, it will be able to carry out the first phase of the construction project, which will include the building the field house, parking lots, the turf field and bleacher seats, the ECA website explains.

Despite the support the ECA has been receiving for the Civic Park plan, two neighbors — Michael Miller and Jim Richardi — who own property north of the grounds, are concerned that the project would block vehicles from reaching their properties.

Miller's attorney, Michael Reeder, wrote in a letter to a hearings official in May that, although the ECA claims that closing access to the property was for the safety of children who will be passing through the area when the park opens, "nowhere in the record did any design professional ... even suggest that the purpose of closing access was for safety reasons." Reeder also wrote that the Site Plan "is an Impediment to Emergency Response."

The neighbors also argue that the Civic Stadium area is not public land anymore and, therefore, the ECA cannot build a new park there.

Richardi's attorney, Michael Farthing, wrote in a letter last month that the park area ceased being public property once the Civic Stadium was destroyed by a fire.

According to Webber, she is unaware of complaints about the project despite those from Miller and Richardi. She said that the ECA is considering conducting an impact study at different times of the day to ensure that game days will not cause significant traffic issues during rush hours. The ECA plans to carry out its first phase of construction this later this summer or early this fall.

Tribal housing plans dammed

Senators and tribal leaders seek federal funding for displaced villagers

FIONA W. CORRIGAN
REPORTER

When the United States government erected a series of dams on the Columbia River in the early 1900s, multiple tribal villages were destroyed. During construction, federal officials promised to supply adequate, permanent housing to the affected communities. Eighty years later, the Trump Administration stands between the tribes and their compensation, according to Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley's website.

Following dam construction in the 1930s, many predominantly white communities received the housing compensations they were promised. One compensation project was the city of North Bonneville, constructed for a white community after the Bonneville Dam was erected.

"They were relocated, with infrastructure, but we got just a promise," Wilbur Slockish Junior, chief of the Klickitat Band of Yakama Nation, said in the Oregonian's video coverage of the tribal housing issue.

In December 2016, after 80 years, the U.S. Senate approved a bill that funded the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin the construction of tribal housing.

"Leaving our tribes displaced without safe, reliable housing is simply wrong," Sen. Merkley said when announcing the passing of the bill. "Ever since the construction of the Columbia River [dams] unjustly displaced these tribes starting over 75 years ago, the federal government has owed it to them to provide the housing and infrastructure that was promised."

The following October, Mick Mulvaney, Director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, declined to grant federal funding to build housing for the four tribes. With proper funding, the construction would have gotten underway as early as 2020.

Members of the Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes currently live in makeshift encampments that were built by the U.S. government after dam construction. The tribes agree that their "very existence depends on the respectful enjoyment of the Columbia River Basin's vast land and water resources," according to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

After thousands of years fishing on the Columbia River, the tribes reside in the degraded expanses of poor construction originally intended to be temporary living areas, waiting for the federal government to fulfill their promise.

The four tribes experience poor conditions: a lack of access to restrooms and electricity, tangled power lines strung between houses, and fire hydrants sit defective with no connection to a water source.

"In all my travels around the country, I've never seen tribal housing this bad," Paul Lumley, executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, said in the Oregonian documentary. "It's really a national embarrassment to the country."

The tribes, U.S. Army Corps, and Jeff Merkley are working to amend the situation, yet the lack of funding, \$1.6 million to finish planning, is another obstacle in the 80-year fight for tribal housing compensation.

EDITORIAL

Prevailing through hardships

JEFFERY K. OSBORNS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF 2017-2018

American writer Margaret J. Wheatley states it perfectly with the line: "Without reflection, we go blindly on our way, creating more unintended consequences, and failing to achieve anything useful." As my time as Editor-in-Chief of The Torch comes to an end, I'd like to reflect on the year and highlight a few of the challenges and successes of Volume 53.

In my past, I worked retail management for over ten years and I learned different ways to manage a variety of staffs. My initial plans, concerning the publication, involved utilizing the personnel management skills I gained in retail.

Perhaps the biggest success The Torch experienced as an independent student newspaper this year was recruiting and building a courageous staff. They far surpassed my expectations. Forty LCC students applied and interviewed to contribute with us and 38 were hired, including four Cooperative Education students. Thirty-one different contributors were published this year. This year's staff worked very well together, continuously sharing resources and suggestions. I appreciate everyone who joined: everyone who said yes to this opportunity to do something above and beyond their scholastic requirements, to learn and to grow. As a staff, we showed unity, respect and reliability within our team.

The year had some challenges – missed deadlines and missed edits – but that was expected, as The Torch is a learning environment and mistakes are bound to happen. What I did not anticipate was dealing with a budget crisis. I expected adequate administrative support. Instead, I received miscalculations and miscommunication from both outgoing LCC Division of the Arts Dean Richard Lubben and administrator Mary Kreindel.

After I was informed that I had inherited a debt in excess of \$12,000 from last year, my news and editorial adviser and I formed a strategy to dramatically cut back on our spending. We decreased our print expenses by 50 percent and made cuts on labor, saving us over \$16,000. Thanks to our business manager Jordan Jones, we surpassed our advertisement goal of \$9,500 which is money for next year's staff to access. My adviser and I were ensured on April 4 by Kreindel that these cuts helped, resulting in an available budget of \$4,194.00. Five weeks later on May 10, we were informed that once our scheduled payroll was deducted, The Torch would only have \$187.27 for the remainder of the academic year – through June 30. Then on May 17, we were notified that our budget was -\$6,550.00.

With a depleted budget, The Torch had to cease production of our print newspaper on May 15, which was disappointing, to say the least. However, our staff continued contributing content to The Torch's website – lcctorch.com – without pay. We sought support from Associated Students of Lane Community College Student Government, asking for the funds that would allow us to print one last edition before the end of the school year. We were denied our funding request of \$620 with a 2-3-0 vote. ASLCCSG senators, Ana Paredones and Nick Keough, expressed that it would be unethical and not in the best interests of the student body to accept our request.

Nonetheless we persisted, and secured funding through other channels. I'm thankful for the support received from the office of LCC president, Margaret Hamilton, who provided us the opportunity to print this final edition.

I will forever appreciate my time with The Torch. As a photojournalist, production director, distribution manager and Editor-in-Chief contributing to three volumes, I've had the full experience of what The Torch has to offer. From covering presidential candidate Donald Trump's campaign visit to Eugene in May 2016, to covering the on-campus anti-abortion display, The Torch provided me front row access to hot-button issues in the national spotlight. I know joining this publication has been the best thing I've done with my time at LCC.

Now, there's a new chapter for The Torch. LCC's Media Commission elected Marek Belka as the publication's next Editor-in-Chief. Marek joined The Torch in the winter of 2018. In the short time that I've known Marek, he's proven himself to be bright, respectful and reliable. I have no doubts about Marek's ability to lead this publication in the correct direction. Marek plans to integrate many new voices in our community who have not been heard in the past. A staff tends to acquire their leader's character traits and that bodes very well for the publication moving forward.

Leading the newspaper as Editor-in-Chief has been a great opportunity and privilege for me. I want to thank my staff and our news and editorial adviser, Charles Deitz, for their support and ability to adjust to unforeseen circumstances. Together, we navigated through the school year, learning in the field and delivering news stories that matter to our readers. The editorial board, content editing team and production team were amazing and delivered consistently every week. To say that I'm proud of the achievements of our staff would be an understatement. I was inspired to see, as a team, that we complemented each others' strengths and offset each others' weaknesses. I wish you all the success in life. I've learned so much from you all.



EDITORIAL

Letters from the editors

MEET THE NEW BOSS...

A brief yet triumphant introduction

MAREK BELKA
REPORTER, EDITOR IN CHIEF 2018-2019

When I was asked to write this editorial introducing myself to The Torch's readership, I spent roughly four days writing and deleting drafts, none of which I felt represented myself or my vision for this newspaper. Some were vitriolic rants about the state of journalism in our modern era, others found me waxing poetic about the beauty of writing, and still others found me writing at length about my absurd life journey thus far. Then, at 4 a.m. on the 501st day of the Trump administration, I had an epiphany.

It doesn't matter who I am. You could replace me as Editor-in-Chief of The Torch with any number of aspiring white male journalists in their mid-twenties, and you'd likely read similar editorials about being "on the frontline in the battle against tyranny" or "exposing the truth at any cost" or other clichés of modern journalism. Sure, they may be true, but who wants to read yet another editorial about defending journalism from those who wish to destroy it? As students, you have more than enough to worry about, so I'll spare you, our loyal readers, from tired clichés about the dangers a free and independent press is facing in our unprecedented times. Instead, I can tell you about what you can expect from your student newspaper during my tenure.

I vow, as editor, to direct The Torch to bring accountability and transparency to the administrative dealings of this college. Throughout my time here, I have witnessed just how little communication exists between Lane's administration and the student body, especially when it comes to decisions that directly affect students like budget cuts and tuition increases. There's no reason that the students at our college should be left in the dark about choices made on their behalf regarding their educational and financial futures. I also vow to use our platform to give voices to those members of our community who may not always be heard. In addition to the voices of international students, students of color, and those among the LGBTQ community, I want to shine a light on the students that may not grab headlines: single mothers and fathers, students with disabilities, online and commuter students and those that attend classes at Lane's satellite campuses in Cottage Grove and Florence. Each of these groups will bring experiences, insights and stories far beyond my own point of view to The Torch and make our staff representative of the student population here at Lane.

Though this may be an old-fashioned concept in our multimedia-obsessed culture, I believe that the heart of all great journalism begins with a compelling story. Even if I fail at everything else I set out to do as EIC, The Torch will be a publication the students at LCC can turn to for fascinating and informative stories for and about them. In addition to ensuring that our community knows their faculty and administration is up to, I want to discover and highlight the culture at our community college and all it provides – or doesn't provide – for students and faculty. We come from all over the world, from South Korea to South Carolina, from China to Cottage Grove, and each of us brings vibrant and colorful life stories along when we step on campus. I want those stories in The Torch so we show that life at LCC isn't just attending classes and the occasional controversy over free-speech rules in Bristow Square. Ultimately, we all came here for a reason, and whether or not we like it, we're going to be here together for at least a little while.

If you're graduating in a couple of weeks, this may be the last article in the very last print issue of The Torch you ever read. If that's the case, thank you for supporting our humble little publication as little or as much as you did. I hope those that came before me served you well, and informed and entertained you in the best way possible. If you're only just starting out at Lane, I hope you'll continue to put your faith in The Torch – even after a budget fiasco put a gap in our production schedule – and keep reading and supporting us throughout your time here, and maybe even beyond. I hope I and the team here at the paper will serve you well. After all, the only reason we continue to exist and publish is for you, fellow students. Without you, we are nothing.

FEATURES

Ramadan builds strength and community



photos by Anna C.K. Smith / photojournalist

From right: Abdullah Alshabanah, Abdulrahman Alamro, Ammar Mansouri, Deepika Viswanath and Abdulrahman Buraqah serve themselves food at the LCC community Iftar meal. Iftar is the meal eaten after sunset during Ramadan.

Muslim students host educational event on Ramadan at LCC

SABRINA PICCOLO
REPORTER

On Thursday, May 31, the Muslim Student Association of Lane Community College hosted an event at LCC's downtown campus to discuss the practices and purpose of the Muslim celebration of Ramadan.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the lunar calendar, which is made up of 354 days. During this month, Muslims fast from food, water, sexual relations and smoking from sunrise to sunset each day for 30 days. Ramadan celebrates the day when the Quran, the Islamic holy book, was revealed to the prophet Muhammad.

The LCC event included anecdotes and personal stories from Muslim members of the Eugene community who also sung verses from the Quran. Lyrics were projected onto a screen in both Arabic and English.

Ibrahim Hamide, the event's guest speaker, as well as the owner of Cafe Soriah on 13th Avenue, explained that Ramadan brings people "closer to God so that they can become better human beings." Hamide, who grew up in Bethlehem, Israel and moved to the U.S. in 1969, said that Ramadan strengthens Muslims' self-control. This self-control, he said, is what allowed him to quit smoking cold-turkey after 30 years. Ramadan is also a month of selflessness and a sense of connectivity with others, Hamide said.

"When we fast, when our stomachs growl, we think about those whose stomachs also growl," Hamide said, "and perhaps this will command us to help others."

After answering questions from the audience, Hamide passed the microphone to Muslim members of the LCC student body, each of whom shared their experiences with Ramadan in their home countries.

Kaula Hafsia, from Tunisia, described the common practice of preparing sweets during the last 15 days of Ramadan. Leila Jebara shared that it is common in Kuwait to donate clothes and food to the elderly and orphans during this month. She also described the diversity of food from countries, including Lebanon and India, provided by mosques after each fast. To Malaysian student Noor Ibrahim, Ramadan is not only about the night markets or the food after the fast, but more importantly about relationships.

"Ramadan is about being with people," Ibrahim said, "People are always busy, but Ramadan brings you together."



Leila Jebara speaks about her love for Ramadan and celebrating it in her home country of Kuwait. Jebara is one of the few student organizers of the event and spoke fondly about mosques opening their doors to the public for nightly Iftar meals during Ramadan.

FEATURES

Letter to the Editor

My name is Ryan Freire. I just finished reading the minutes from the last student government meeting and was shocked that they were unwilling to support the student newspaper.

Given the amount of money and support that goes to non-LCC student-run lobbying groups from the student activity fee, I felt I had to chime in on their commentary about it being unethical to use student government funds to support the Torch.

For perspective, at least seven executives, senators, and staff members in that meeting are strongly involved with Oregon Student Association. OSA received roughly \$50,000 from the student activity fee this year, and student government approved \$18,477 extra for them over the course of the year, to send themselves and others to OSA-run conferences, and to buy refreshments for them at their phone banking and voter drives.

The very logic they used about double dipping the student activity fee falls apart in the face of that. OSA and ASLCC did no fundraising to send people to these events or fund these pizza parties, the entirety of the money came from the student activity fee. On top of which LCC pays roughly twice the amount per student that OSU does

in order for membership with this organization, and OSU doesn't even believe it's a good deal and are poised to drop their membership.

OSPIRG is another issue, they received a touch below \$60,000 from our student activity fee over the last year. Where have they been? What's the last win that organization chalked up for Lane students and why are we funding these two groups to the tune of nearly \$100,000 a year while the food pantry and clothes stash run on a shoestring budget and donations?

These groups have been milking the students of LCC for funding which leaves this campus to subsidize their work on larger universities. They do this by pushing their interns to run for office and then using that position to vote themselves more money. Right now LCC is the only community college to have an on-site Campus Organizer, a position usually reserved for larger colleges. Their organization also directly put the Oregon Community College Student Association out of business. If you read the current ASLCC bylaws you can see the effect of that organization's presence on campus, requiring staff members to take committee positions for OSA rather than ASLCC that also require travel.

I hope that the Torch is able to regroup next year, and am certain that they'll be able to have a more productive relationship with the incoming student government than the last one.

Ryan Freire, LCC STUDENT



photo by Sterling S. Gonzalez / photojournalist

KLCC Program director Terry Gildea reviews the evening program with keynote speakers Tom Goldman and Jane Greenhalgh. Tom Goldman is a NPR Sports correspondent known for "Basketball: A Ticket Off the Reservation" that details the life of basketball players on reservations and Jane Greenhalgh is the Senior Producer for the NPR Science Desk known for "#15Girls," a story written to convey how certain cultures treat 15-year-old girls.

'Supported by listeners like you'

*Faced with funding uncertainty,
KLCC asks the community for help*

MAREK BELKA
REPORTER

On May 31, the KLCC Public Radio Foundation held their second-annual fundraising dinner at the Downtown Athletic Club in Eugene. The dinner brought together journalists, community leaders and longtime financial backers to celebrate over 50 years of Eugene public radio.

The event also featured an interview with Tom Goldman and Jane Greenhalgh – two Portland-based journalists who have worked with National Public Radio for well over twenty years – facilitated by KLCC program director Terry Gildea. Goldman and Greenhalgh, who are married, each shared behind-the-scenes insight into their favorite stories, including Goldman's profile of late fitness guru Jack Lalanne and Greenhalgh's reporting on a Kentucky woman who discovered she was being price-gouged by her hospital and insurance company.

KLCC also took time to recognize some of their own reporters and staff members – including News Director Rachel McDonald, reporter Tiffany Eckert and intern Alec Cowan – for excellence in reporting by gifting the staff new digital voice recorders.

Radio stations like KLCC are considered "non-commercial entities" by the Federal Communications Commission and operate as non-profit organizations. NPR-affiliate

stations don't broadcast advertisements and are largely funded by individual donations and subscription services. However, a small portion of NPR's annual budget – 11 percent, in KLCC's case – comes from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation that grants federal funding to public radio and television stations. In February, President Donald Trump's budget proposal threatened to eliminate federal funding for the CPB, prompting radio stations like KLCC to explore alternate avenues for fundraising. By launching a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, the station gained access to grants and public funding it could not otherwise obtain due to strict FCC regulations.

As a result, the station has been able to boost funding in the past two years. According to foundation president Morgan Munro, last year's event raised over \$125,000, almost 50 percent of the total contribution KLCC received from the CPB. Though official fundraising numbers from the event have not been made public as of this writing, the flurry of multi-thousand dollar contributions made during the donation drive suggest that the station raised as least as much this year.

Despite the public threats to federal funding, Greenhalgh stressed the importance of individual contributions to public radio stations to keep them afloat.

"Without your support, Tom and I couldn't do what we do," Greenhalgh said, adding that "KLCC continues that great tradition of reporting [NPR] is known for."

Goldman took a harder stance, criticizing the president's crusade against media organizations like NPR and other outlets and warning the audience about the impact President Trump's threats against news organizations could have on communities across the country.

"Journalism is under attack like never before," Goldman said. "Our local stations are the future. They give NPR a real boost, and we can do our part to support local journalism."

SPORTS

'Overwhelmed with joy'

*New basketball coach plans to help Titans rebound*NOAH NOTEBOOM
REPORTER

In an office that seems no bigger than the school elevators, with sticky notes detailing his many responsibilities – from planning a future Crossover tournament to deciding where to recruit next – littering the walls, sits Joe White.

White, a Pleasant Hill native, was named head coach of the Lane Titans men's basketball team on March 15.

"I found myself overwhelmed with joy and excitement," White said on his initial reaction.

But he knows nothing is going to come easy.

"This is a profession at the college level where there is more pressure on winning," White said.

White knows that pressure firsthand. He played basketball at Southern Oregon University under the winningest coach in SOU history, Brian McDermott.

Plans changed after his sophomore year, when he was offered a contract to play professionally in Ecuador.

"That was a dream come true," White said.

In 2010, White found himself and one other American in Guayaquil, Ecuador. He signed a professional contract to play for Club La Salle in the second half of their season. White and Club La Salle made the playoffs, but were knocked out in the championship game.

"The game was very similar but also very different," White said, comparing the style of play in South America and the United States.

White left the country after the season ended and returned to finish his time at SOU.

White was the head assistant coach under longtime Lane head coach Bruce Chavka, but when Chavka stepped down in early March, it was time for a new leader. Athletic Director and women's basketball head coach Greg Sheley offered the position to White.

He accepted the job without hesitation and set out on the recruiting trail. Since then, he has signed nine players to next year's roster, including Lucas Wilson, the 5A State Player of the Year in 2016-2017 who led Churchill to a second place finish in the OSAA state tournament. Often times the players can be seen doing 1-on-1 workouts with White in Titan Gym.

"Passion," Wilson said when asked what he brings to the team. "This year I'm hungry."

White already has big plans for his first year as a head coach. He wants to associate Lane basketball with winning again after the program experienced a rather disappointing year of winning just 12 games and finishing last in the Southern Region. The task of turning the program around lies in his hands.

"Our culture is a faith-based culture, meaning we are going to have strong relationships with each other, and a strong belief in ourselves," White said on what kind of attitude his players and coaching staff will have.

Although the Titans are still in the offseason, there is still much work to be done, according to White. Scheduling games and practices, organizing workouts and forming a game plan are just a few of the duties the new head coach will be busying himself with between now and the Titans' first game next winter.



photo by Noah Noteboom / reporter

Former 5A State Player of the Year, Lucas Wilson goes vertical in a workout with new head coach, Joe White. Wilson led Churchill to a second place finish in the 5A State Tournament in 2017.

Titans deliver 1-2 punch

*Lane, Spokane split top honors yet again*JEFFERY K. OSBORNS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lane Community College's men's track and field program took home their sixth consecutive Northwest Athletic Conference championship, and the women came in second place at the championship meet in Gresham, OR between May 21-22. The Titan men team scored 185.50 points to outperform Spokane Community College, while the women finished with 165.50 points, 70 points behind SCC.

Sophomore Titan sprinter Jacoby McNamara and freshman Jacob Williams competed in the men's 200m finals. Williams finished fourth, with a time of 22.16 seconds, while McNamara recorded a blistering time of 21.47 seconds, earning the title of 200m champion. McNamara and Williams also won gold and silver metals in the 400m finals, respectively. The men's team won four medals in the middle to long distance events – including gold in the 1500m and 5000m runs – to go along with their five medals in the sprints. First place in the 4x100m and 4x400m relays also went to the Titans with respective times of 41.83 seconds and 3:19.96.

The Titans swept the men's pole vault, with sophomore Corey Sledge taking home the

gold with after clearing 5.00m.

Shayla Noil led the Lane women by nearly taking down two meet records. Noil won gold in the 100m finals, with a time of 12.08 seconds – only 0.12 seconds off of the meet record – and gold in the 200m finals, with a time of 24.69 seconds – 0.08 off of the meet record set 20 years ago by Community Colleges of Spokane sprinter Morgan Cribbs. Sophomore Titan Carly Kleefeld joined Noil at the podium, winning silver in the 200m with a time of 25.27 seconds.

Kleefeld would also go on to win gold in the 400m Finals with a time of 57.29 seconds, as sophomore Lane sprinter Gabriella Mace finished third at 59.07 seconds.

Freshman long distance runner Olivia Baerny earned a silver medal in the women's 3000m steeplechase with a time of 11:52.68. This is a long race with 28 barriers and seven water jumps throughout.

Titans earned silver in the women's 4x100m relay as SCC edged them by 0.04 seconds to win first. Titans would exact revenge in the Women's 4x400m relay. This time, Titans would ease past SCC by 2.21 seconds to win first place.

Sophomore jumper Toni Hall finished second in the high jump with a leap of 1.66m; fellow sophomore Sarah Curran finished fourth.

Sophomore Morgan Fossen won gold in the pole vault with a vault of 3.50m.

Heptathlete Olivia Lane finished in sixth place. The heptathlon combines seven events: 100m hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200m, long jump, javelin throw and 800m.

With the 2018 season in the books, the Titan men look to continue their championship streak, while the women seek to hurdle over Spokane's 15-year reign of dominance at the championships.