

Honoring excellence



Art gallery displays best of student artists from year

The James S. Murray Gallery is hosting the 2015-16 student art show. There are 92 works on display, out of 129 entries from 59 students.

Judges determined what work would be on display.

Photos show people at the April 14 awards reception,

at which the top work in several categories received awards (one of awards pictured at top right).

The man with blue eyes is a photo of the painting winner: 'Mystery Man' by Diane Wilson of Auburn.

To see winners and more photos, go to Page 6.

It's all games for club

By Bailie Stowell
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD – Dice rolled and spells cast as Lincoln Land's Games Club got down to business.

Dungeons & Dragons was the order a business – a fantasy, tabletop, role-playing game.

The Games Club is one of many Lincoln Land clubs. But this one helps students with an interest in board, video or any tabletop games find others who share their interest, said Tyler Blankenship, a member of the club.

"It's an organization that gets together to have a good time and also to flex the mental muscle every now and then," said member Jason Gephart.

Gephart added: "Games are challenging, and there is game theory where you don't just play the game but you play other people in the game so you have to know them or try calculating how they're going to do their moves to base how your moves are going to go so you have to think three or four steps ahead."

There are no requirements to join the club – other than an interest in game-playing.

Interested members can come to the general business meeting in the in the Student Life Resource Room from 2 to 3 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month. Currently, a game of fifth edition Dungeons and Dragons is being played from 3 to 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the room at the back of the Logger Lair.

"There is great socializing, and we frequently have some nice refreshments during our games," said Kirk Yenerall, faculty adviser

Games, continued on Page 5

The Lamp wins top staff award

Students net 11 honors in state competition

SPRINGFIELD — Lincoln Land Community College's student newspaper, The Lamp, won the top staff award and 10 other individual journalism awards at statewide competition.

This is the second year in a row that The Lamp staff has won first place in the Mike Foster General Excellence Award. Furthermore, one staff member took second place in the Reporter of the Year award, the top individual reporting prize.

The awards were presented April 8 during the Illinois Community College Journalism Association conference, held at Harold Washington College in Chicago.

"We have a great group of people, each putting out great work," said Tim McKenzie, assistant professor of journalism and humanities and The Lamp adviser. "A newspaper requires a lot of contributors, many working behind the scenes. This award reflects on how everyone is doing a great job."

The judges said The Lamp had "a very 'newsy' paper with solid reporting/married to great photography."

Additionally, eight different staff members earned the other 10 awards.

"This just confirms why the entire staff earned the general excellence award, showing everyone, not just a few people, are doing excellent work," McKenzie said.

Lukas Myers of Taylorville won second place in Reporter of the Year. Judges reviewed a selection of his stories.

Judges commented: "Myers' writing style is graceful and fluid, and

his words flow naturally. His clips show he has the talent to write feature stories and also report about serious hard news topics on his campus. He is clearly ahead of many of his peers."

Reporter of the Year is an open competition, meaning Myers competed against students from community colleges that are many times larger than Lincoln Land.

"Lukas is a great writer and reporter," McKenzie said. "He weaved together stories with ease, and he always went above and beyond with his reporting to speak to a large number of people."

Ryan Mazrim of Springfield took home four prizes: second place for news photo, second place for sports photo, honorable mention for feature photo, and second place for news story.

"Ryan is a very talented photographer

Lamp, continued on Page 2



Lamp staffers hold up the Mike Foster General Excellence Award at Harold Washington College in Chicago on April 8. Pictured, front row, left to right, are Tess Peterson, Editor Madison Mings and Emmi Fisher. Back: Print Editor Isaac Warren, Online Editor Teresa Brummett, Lukas Myers and adviser Tim McKenzie.

This newspaper is dedicated to the students, faculty and staff of Lincoln Land Community College.

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Make most of summer

By Tess Peterson
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — Summer is quite possibly everyone's favorite season. The warm weather, pool days, the lake, and of course, NO SCHOOL!!!! Where you live and how much free time you have dictate your plans for the summertime. You may have a summer job to keep you busy, or maybe, you have lots of free time. Maybe your summer job is working at the mall or at a restaurant, or maybe you have an internship. Summer is a perfect time to earn extra cash without the stress

of finals or homework. Springfield also has many summer camps to go to. Although most of these camps are for younger kids you could be a counselor or volunteer and still enjoy the fun. Some camps include YNOT outdoors camp on Lake Shore Drive, the Girl Scouts Camp on Lake Springfield and the YMCA camps on the west or downtown. Most of these camps are outdoors, which gives you time to enjoy the sunshine. So take the kids you know or apply to work at these awesome camps. Another thing everyone enjoys is the State Fair. Since we live in the capital of Illinois we get

to enjoy lots of fun at rides, food and everyone's favorite: the concerts for two weeks. This year, we have artists from all genres. Some of acts include Jake Owen with Old Dominion, Little Big Town with David Nail and KISS. There are many more bands and singers to come since they haven't announced all the acts yet. So whatever you're doing this summer make sure to have fun, get that extra cash you need and soak up the sun. Remember that you are in charge of your summer, so make it as fun as possible.

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Isaac Warren/The Lamp

Some Lamp staffers walked over to 'the bean' in Millennium Park before departing Chicago.

Reflection on Chicago

Isaac Warren
Print Editor

CHICAGO — The Lamp newspaper staff recently took a road trip to Chicago. There, the Illinois Community College Journalism Association was hosted at Harold Washington College, part of the City Colleges of Chicago. We attended seminars April 7 and 8, along with representatives of other colleges in Illinois, and got to learn new ways to improve the newspaper, as well. We stayed in the DoubleTree and enjoyed fantastic Chicago-style pizza at Giordano's. The time at Chicago was amazing and full of exciting things to do. Based off of our experiences, I have written a bit of a guide that is, what I believe to be, a typical Chicago trip for a tourist. Arriving in Chicago is both exciting and frustrating. While waiting for traffic to resume, you can take all the time you need to enjoy the scenery and landscapes of the Windy City. After the 40-minute traffic wait, you take ramps that seem to never end, and zip into downtown. After escaping the traffic, you need a place to park. Fortunately, there are plenty lanes on the sides of the streets where you can park your vehicle and hope that a bus doesn't crush it. After spending half an hour getting into the parking space, you can go check into your hotel.

The staff are usually nice and are eager to serve you. After even more waiting, your room is ready to go and it is time to enjoy Chicago. Almost everywhere you go, there will almost always be a Red Robins or a Panda Express available to eat at. Chicago is well known for pizza and is absolutely amazing. Prepare to pay a lot, wait a lot, and have leftovers, because they really pack a punch in that delectable, savory pie. If you still have money in your wallet, there are a plethora of stores that are willing to take it from you. From Disney to Under Armor, Chicago has something for everyone and at a price that will make your eyes bulge like a frog. Spending a long day in Chicago is very tiring, especially if your mode of transportation is your feet. Rest those aching ankles back at the hotel, where you can look out your window, and gaze at the streetlights. They are so bright and spectacular at night, they almost make up for blocking out the stars with light pollution. In a nutshell, Chicago has literally hundreds of places to enjoy. At times, it can almost feel like New York. It's amazing that one of the largest cities in the nation is just sitting to Springfield's northeast, waiting for tourists and travelers alike.

Isaac Warren can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Lamp

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and writer," McKenzie said. "He pushes himself and demands a lot of himself. This is a strong reflection

of his devotion to his craft." T'Ericka Stelivan of Springfield won second place for news column. Stelivan, along with Nathanael Herbert of Woodson and Kaylie Horrer of Springfield, won second place for News Story of the Year, for reporting

on issues related to domestic abuse. Teresa Brummett of Salisbury won second place for feature writing, Tyler Allison of Springfield won second place for headline writing. Ryan Wilson of Auburn won second place for sports news writing.

Letter: State should not waive late fees

I am writing in response to an Associated Press article by Ivan Moreno, titled "Lawmakers look to suspend late fees." In October 2015, Secretary of State Jesse White announced that his office would no longer mail out license plate renewal reminders. Because many Illinois residents relied on these reminders, many have incurred a \$20 late fine for failure to renew their plate stickers. Democratic Senate President John Cullerton argues that Illinois lawmakers

should suspend the late fees until secretary of state's office can resume sending out the notices. Because all Illinois residents were informed of the decision, in my opinion, the late fee should be utilized. If lawmakers suspend fines and resume mailing out notices, at a cost of \$450,000 a month, then where in the budget would lawmakers make a cut? We could risk funding that could be detrimental to children or the elderly. There are many irresponsible resi-

dents who live in Illinois, so I feel the \$20 late fee might be an incentive to take more responsibility for themselves. We, as Illinois residents, are aware that our home state is broke. So why not take a minute to sign up for email reminders, write in on your calendar, or put it in your smart phone? We expect our elective officials to responsibly balance a budget, therefore, Illinois residents need to cooperate to help them do so.

**Allison Clavin
LLCC student**

You must take care of self

By T'Ericka Stelivan
Staff Writer

Between juggling school, going to work and the day-to-day happenings of life, keeping a healthy mind, body and soul may seem impossible — but it is not. The world needs you and what you have to offer, so your all-around health should always come first. Here are some natural, inexpensive ways to deal with anxiety, depression and trouble sleeping.

Anxiety:

- Chamomile tea in the morning and before bed: Drinking green tea because it has L theanine in it and works very well with reducing heart rate, blood pressure and anxiety.
- Urban outfitters lavender mist, or anything lavender scented, 30 minutes before tests I spritz a little on my face along with doing some breathing exercises, and it helps me a lot.

Sleep remedies:

Valerian tea is really good but a bit addicting — in a good way. I drink it every night and recommend drinking it an hour before you actually want to go to sleep.

Passionflower vitamins

The magic blanket is also a great investment for your health. It is a weighted blanket, that applies pressure which relaxes the nervous system.

According to lifehack.org, "Psychiatric, trauma, geriatric, and pediatric hospital units use weighted blankets to calm a patient's anxiety and promote deep, restful sleep."

When pressure is gently applied to the body, it encourages serotonin production, which lifts your mood. When serotonin naturally converts to melatonin, your body takes the cue to rest.

Depression:

- Eating more fruits and colorful veggies
- Omega 3-s

And for those of you who want to take care of yourself on the go, here are some apps for mental health:

- 3-minute mindfulness
- stop, breathe and think
- the calm

T'Ericka Stelivan can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.



Submitted photo

Chemistry Professor Jennifer Ramm has a second job: radio show host. Since 2001, the full-time Lincoln Land science teacher has taken to the airwaves from 6 to 8 p.m. to host Bluegrass Breakdown on NPR Illinois. It can be heard at 91.9 FM or WUIS.org.

Ramm Radio

Chemistry prof hosts weekly bluegrass show

By Lukas Myers
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — Chemistry teacher by day and radio show host by night, Jennifer Ramm does the impossible. She pursues both of her passions side by side every week.

On one hand, Ramm is a full-time faculty member at LLCC, where she teaches chemistry. On the other hand, she takes the reins every week to host her radio show Bluegrass Breakdown for National Public Radio Illinois at the

‘I try to view it as having a conversation with someone; one on one. Rather than seeing it like I am announcing to however many thousands of people might be listening.’

Jennifer Ramm, chemistry professor and radio host

radio station found on the University of Illinois at Springfield campus.

The show airs 6 to 8 p.m. Sundays at 91.9 FM.

Ramm is a passionate player of music. A classically trained violinist, she also plays fiddle in her own bluegrass band called River Ramblers in which she also sings. She spends much of her time listening to and playing bluegrass music. But it was not always that way.

Ramm says that, being from closer to Chicago, she did not have much exposure to bluegrass; a traditionally Appalachian and Southern music style. It was not until her parents stumbled, quite by accident, into a bluegrass festival one day; their lives would never be the same. After that day they were avid blue grass listeners.

“They just fell in love with it,” says Ramm who has been hosting the show for close to fifteen years now.

After this discovery Ramm always had one ear on the radio. She even went as far as to make friends with a bluegrass radio station nearby when she went to college to get her MS in Organic Chemistry.

As soon as she graduated she got the job here at LLCC and she immediately met the people who used to run bluegrass breakdown and only seven years after she got her job at LLCC she started hosting the radio show.

Now she had a whole new problem in front of her; a radio show to host, and absolutely zero experience in communications, “The only radio rule I knew about when I got here was basically: don’t curse.”

After getting past the initial host of nerves she found that it was a pretty natural thing for her.

“I try to view it as having a conversation with someone; one on one. Rather than seeing it like I am announcing to however many thousands of people might be listening,” said Ramm about her process.

Ramm is extremely passionate about both sciences and music. She does not ever really see how the sciences, so often viewed as cold and calculating, ever oppose the soft tenderness of music. She loves both equally and for different reasons.

Ramm’s band has recorded four full length albums of mainly covers that can be picked up at any of their shows. They play frequently in the area and have gone as far as Michigan and Kentucky to play in bluegrass festivals, some of which she attended as a child.

“It was really cool to get to see things from the other side,” says

Ramm reminiscing on her time at the Charlotte Bluegrass Festival, a festival that she has frequented in the past. They have played all over the Midwest and can be found near the Springfield area occasionally. They have a show in Virginia, Illinois on June 5 this summer.

When working with students her favorite thing is always that she loves to see the “light bulb moments” when a student finally grasps a concept or understands something for the first time.

Ramm also says that her favorite thing in radio is finding a new artist in when she’s researching or just seeking out new material, it’s like her own individual “light bulb moment”.

Lukas Myers can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Berman moves on from Student Life

She starts her own business

Isaac Warren
Print Editor



Amber Berman

SPRINGFIELD — Amber Berman, often the first person student club members or others visiting the Student Life office see, will be leaving Lincoln Land Community College this month after more than five years here.

Berman plans to focus on her growing business, called Thrifty Guardian.

Berman started Thrifty Guardian in November 2015. The business offers financial coaching and time management help.

Berman will use a lot of the skills she learned working in Student Life at Lincoln Land, she said.

She plans on helping people manage their time better, and map out financial strategies, as well as offering self-guided programs and e-classes.

Berman, who was the program assistant in the Student Life Office, coordinates events and clubs at Lincoln Land.

Berman said that she will miss the atmosphere and the smells.

“It’s the beginning of the year, and it’s almost this fresh, clean, almost eagerness. [T]hat crispness that’s there in the fall, and the transitions to spring; there’s that sense of high energy,” Berman said.

For incoming freshman, Berman has some advice and tips to encourage involvement and, hopefully,

make the first year at LLCC easier.

Students should make the most of their college experience, Berman said, emphasizing college is not all about academics. Socializing with others and getting involved in clubs and organizations is a great way to make friends and establish a network of peers.

Going to the New Student Welcome Lunch is very beneficial as well because incoming freshman can meet the professor of their major, and get to know new people while enjoying some great food.

As for the future of Student Life, Berman stated that she is an “internal optimist,” and thinks that the Student Life Office will continue to be able to provide its services to clubs and organizations, as long as engagement grows.

Isaac Warren can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

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TheLampOnline.com





Madison Mings/The Lamp

Millennium Center Room 1121 has been designated as a place for breastfeeding mothers to nurse or pump between classes. Students and employees who are nursing may use the room.

Room gives space for nursing moms

By **Madison Mings**
Editor

SPRINGFIELD — Are you a mother going to school with a baby? Do you need a place to breastfeed but are panicking because you don't know where to go?

LLCC's Millennium Center added a breastfeeding room just last year for such situations.

Any breastfeeding mom can come to Millennium room 1121.

Todd McDonald, vice president of administrative services, said one of the college's shared governance committees (Environmental Health and Safety) brought a recommendation to him that the college explore the possibility of providing a room on campus for nursing mothers.

The college's director of facilities and McDonald began to look at buildings on campus that might have space available and appropriate for such a use, he said.

The room was a former office in the Millennium building that was being used for storage. It fit the need and also had the benefit of being

centrally located on campus for easy employee and student access.

The facilities crew spruced up the room a bit with a fresh coat of paint and removed items that had been stored in the room. The room has been available for students and employee use for a little more than a year.

There is a keypad lock on the door and students needing access to the room can speak with the Student Life Office to receive the code.

Employees who need access to the room can contact the Human Resources Office to receive the code because sometimes it can be locked.

Student Life's Amber Berman said "It's successful."

Having this space is great for moms, Berman said. Not breastfeeding can be problematic, or it can be a problem to try to feed a baby or pump milk in a car between classes.

It's important to know about it because faculty and staff can use it as well.

Madison Mings can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Massage appointment offered

By **Madison Mings**
Editor

SPRINGFIELD — Finals approaching. Papers due. Stress mounting. You could use a massage, right?

Well, you are in luck because the Massage Clinic hosted by the LLCC massage therapy will be available April 7 to June 21 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Those in need of a massage can get

an hour Swedish massage for \$20, or an hour and a half for \$25.

Massage therapy student Arielle Alicia has been in the program since August 3 and said it's a nine-month program, and she will be finishing June 23.

Space is limited, but appointments may be made by calling 524-6749.

Madison Mings can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

140 classes canceled

Enrollment drop led to cuts during spring semester

By **Madison Mings**
Editor

SPRINGFIELD — Declining enrollment forced the cancellation of 140 classes at Lincoln Land this spring.

Spring registration, which opened in October 2015, started with 1,500 class section, but a lack of student enrollment forced the 9 percent reduction in offerings when classes began Jan. 11.

LLCC has a wide variety of classes that students can take for their major or just for fun, and classes that professors enjoy to teach. And Some of those classes have been

recently cancelled.

Although there were many reasons for the classes cancellation, the biggest reason was enrollment, according to Lynn Whalen, executive director of public relations and marketing, and Eileen Tepatti, vice president of academic services.

The big one is lack of enrollment and then their is changes in instructor availability.

Their will always be that class you are excited to start but with no one knowing about it of having a big interest in that course that can cause the class to be cancelled.

The cancellations occurred in response to a drop in enrollments. LLCC has experienced about the same amount of enrollment drop and cancellations in fall 2015 and spring 2016, officials said.

Some classes you take are required because of your major and if they are canceled, the deans

will work with students who need certain classes to graduate, officials said.

The dean will sometimes let a low-enrollment section proceed for that reason, officials said. Another way is the dean will work with the faculty in order to arrange directed studies for students who have to take that class that got canceled in a given semester.

Canceled classes do include professors, but no-full time instructors were affected by the canceled classes.

Cancellations can result in full time faculty schedules being adjusted, officials said.

But some part-time or adjunct instructors did not get assignments or had their assignments reduced because of cancellations.

Madison Mings can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Technology changes learning

Students can submit papers, take classes without ever setting foot on campus

Isaac Warren
Print Editor

SPRINGFIELD — Technology is always around us, whether we realize it or not. From drones to online banking, the Internet and the technology resulting from it has improved the lives of literally millions of people. Among those people are college students.

Online access to tools has helped students and professors to be more efficient with their work and class structure, as well as make it easier to be successful in college.

Joseph Daum, a student at LLCC, said that technology has made college easier, especially Blackboard's ability to submit papers for classes.

If the technology of today did not exist, Daum said he could probably manage with a typewriter, but it would be difficult.

Daum said the computers in the library are his favorite technological tool to use for "printing items for class."

Jonathan Davis, who works in the Student Life Office, said that he could probably do his job if he did not have a computer, but the technology really helps the office be more efficient.

Email has made communication easier with other staff members, as well as clubs and organizations, Davis said.

Blackboard is available for every LLCC student, and is a very important tool to use for classes.

Gary Bach, who is the instructional technology specialist at Lincoln Land, said that many classes use Blackboard for announcements, turning in work and posting grades.

Bach works at the Blackboard Support desk on the lower level of the library, where students can get face to face help with Blackboard. Students are also able to schedule appointments. There is also an online site at www.llcc.edu/bbsupport, where students can get around the clock support whenever and wherever they need it.

If a student wants to see if they would be a good online student, Bach said, they can take a test at www.llcc.edu/online.

Blackboard for online classes allows for, "flexibility and accessibility," while also being able to maintain a personal life, Bach said. Very rarely do online students actually drive to the LLCC campus, since the resources are all on Blackboard at their disposal.

There is no doubt that technology is changing, as are the lives of people around the globe. Blackboard especially helps students efficiently turn in and receive work. There are plenty of resources at Lincoln Land for all students who need to work on projects or receive help from professors or students.

Isaac Warren can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Got a story idea?

Let us know at

786-2311 or lamp@llcc.edu

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Games

Continued from Page 1

and mathematics professor. “Over the years we have had a nice variety of different games run by students – from card games like Magic and Munchkin and Apples to Apples, to computer gaming parties, to murder mystery party games.”

Yenerall really enjoys role-playing games personally, especially D&D.

D&D was originally designed by Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson and first published in 1974 by Tactical Studies Rules Inc. The game has been published by Wizards of the Coast since 1997.

“I love to learn new games, though, whenever I can, and I go to the Gen Con gaming convention in Indianapolis every summer to discover new ones,” Yenerall said. “Last fall, one of our visitors to the club brought in the card game ‘Love Letter,’ and that was a great game to learn – quick and very challenging.”

Member Cassandra Lazar said the people make the Games Club great.

The players are “so much fun, and I feel like I’ve met a lot of good people,” Lazar said. “And that was one of the things I was kind of worried about coming to LLCC and having a hard time making friends that share the same interest as me.”

Don’t be afraid to join, Lazar said. “It is a lot to take in, especially when you’re forming your first character,” Lazar said. “There is a lot of minor details, but when you get down to it, it’s just a really great game that you can get some



Members of the Lincoln Land Games Club play Dungeons and Dragons in the Logger Lair on a Wednesday afternoon. The club meets every Wednesday to play various board, video and role-playing games.

Bailie Stowell/The Lamp

friends together and play together and have fun.”

This is Lazar’s second semester in Games Club, playing D&D with the character she created: Caramel L’Oréal.”

Another LLCC student and Games Club member Nathan Janusweski said the first game he played in Games Club was ‘Forbidden Island.’

“It was a team game where everyone goes around and tries to get treasure from an island where chunks of the treasure is sinking in the sea where basically four people work together against the clock and it gets harder and harder as the

game goes on,” Janusweski said.

But his favorite is D&D.

One very cool thing about Dungeons and dragons is that the game gives you the opportunity to create the world and your own characters, Blankenship said.

“You build your own character, and the way you build your character is based upon how you want to play the game and your knowledge of the way the game mechanics work and the way you like to play and then you have to incorporate your back story into making sense with what your character is capable of doing,” Blankenship said.

Right now, Blankenship’s char-

acter is an elf warlock who casts spells.

The club currently has about 10 members and is always happy to have more players to join.

Yenerall encouraged anyone with an interest to contact him about the club and that person’s game-playing interests.

Yenerall can be reached at 786-4925.

“I’d be very happy to learn about their particular game playing interests and do what I can to help get them involved,” Yenerall said.

Bailie Stowell can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Earth Day events set

By Madison Mings
Editor

SPRINGFIELD — Earth Day is coming up April 22, and the LLCC Green Center is hosting fun events the week of Earth Day outside the A.Lincoln Commons.

■ Monday to Wednesday, April 18 to 20: Cardboard recycling and clothing drive/swap. Bring in old cardboard and clothing to swap for some ‘new’ threads.

■ 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 20: Vendor fair, with UIS department of environmental studies, Jubilee Farm, Fair Trade Store, Chipotle Mexican Grill and Red Gate Farm.

Poet/rapper/violinist Tebe Zangano will perform.

Nissan will offer a test drive of the electric Nissan Leaf.

The college’s Environmental Club will sell tomato plants, and LLCC SAVE will have an awareness campaign on sexual assault and violence prevention.

■ Noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, April 20: Vern LaGesse, executive director of Friends of the Sangamon Valley, will speak in the R.H. Stephens Room.

■ 9 to 11 a.m., Thursday, April 21: Planting of native prairie plants. Meet in front of the A.Lincoln Commons.

At the vendor fair, students can enter drawing for prizes, gifts cards and environmentally friendly products.

Environmental CLUB

This club is open to any student interested in scientific and environmental issues.

The primary missions of the the club include:

- Educating ourselves on environmental, biological, geographical and geological issues
- Educating our fellow students and the community through displays and presentations
- Environmental conservation and preservation through volunteer work
- Student field trips
- Promoting a green campus at LLCC
- Fellowship with each other



MEETING EVERY 1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Art Professors Leslie Stalter and Thom Whalen announce the Alexis Wernsing Pinnacle Award, along with Alexis Wernsing's father. The new award honors the 2011 LLCC alumna who died last year.

New award honors alumna

SPRINGFIELD — Lincoln Land's art program added a new award this year to its annual art gallery show: the Alexis Wernsing Pinnacle Award.

That award was given during the reception and awards announcement as part of the Student Art Show in the James S. Murray Gallery. The show features 92 works of art selected by judges from 129 entries from 59 different students. Submitted work includes work from the video game design class.

The Pinnacle Award honors Wernsing, who graduated from LLCC in 2011.

As a student of the arts, Wernsing gained the admiration of the faculty. Wernsing who had limited mobility

from birth because of cerebral palsy would not let her limitations define her as a person. Faculty said she was game for anything and pushed constantly to be the best academically.

Wernsing achieved beyond what was expected of her and went on to further success at the University of Illinois Champaign Urbana.

Wernsing passed away in October 2015 and was honored posthumously with a Bachelor's degree from the U of I, one of the goals she battled cheerfully to achieve.

The Pinnacle Award goes to the student, chosen by all four LLCC full-time art faculty, who strives for the best in all their academic endeavors, without complaint, and no matter what the context.

Award winners:

Alexis Wernsing Pinnacle Award: Aimee Daniels, Springfield.

Printmaking: Jesse Flock, "Graphic Graffiti", Serigraphy, Silkscreen Graphics, Chatham. (Art pictured: bottom, left)

Drawing: Holly Baxter, "Holly", Charcoal, Drawing I, Springfield. (Art pictured: top, left)

Painting: Diane Wilson, "Mystery Man", Oil on Canvas, Painting II, Auburn.

Ceramics: Mary Watts, "Two Worlds", Painted Stoneware, Ceramics II, Springfield. (Art pictured: top, right)

3-D Design: Andy Boyce, "Thunder Bird", Mixed Media, 3-D Design, Springfield.

Design Graphics: Daniel Stainfield, "10 lb. Hammer", Digital Media, Introduction to Graphic Design, Springfield. (Art pictured: bottom, right)

Photography: Katelyn Brinkoetter, "Red Hare", Giclée Print, Digital Photography, Springfield.

Best in Show: Devin Larson, "Zero Point One", Serigraphy, Silkscreen Graphics, Springfield.

Art History: Mason Lyons, Springfield.

