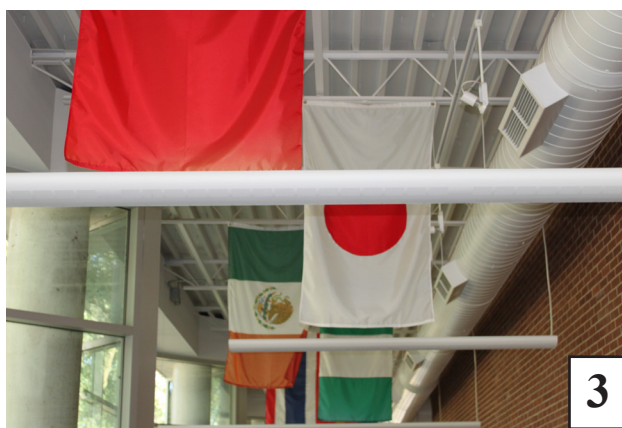


The LAMP

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Where is it?



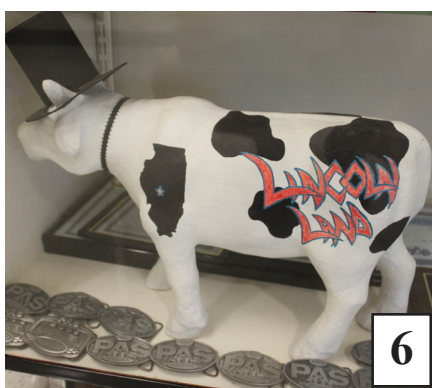
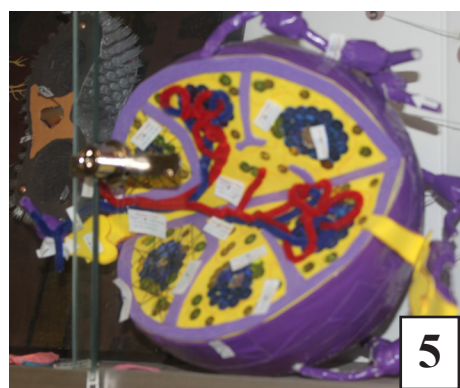
**Photos by
Jared Gorrell**
Assistant Editor

The Lamp welcomes new and returning members of the Lincoln Land Community College community.

For those who are new to campus (and those who have been around for awhile), we thought we'd challenge you to figure out where these photos were taken.

Let us know if you can figure it out by emailing your answers to lamp@llcc.edu.

We'll provide the locations in the next edition.



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

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All letters submitted to The Lamp for publication must contain the writer's name and telephone number. The telephone number will be used only to verify the author of the letter. Letters need to be originals and not copies of letters to others. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of The Lamp.

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Accuracy
The Lamp strives for accuracy. If you find an error, please let us know. You can reach us at lamp@llcc.edu.

Welcome back to LLCC

By Isaac Warren
Editor

Hello, and welcome to Lincoln Land Community College! I am the editor of The Lamp newspaper on campus. I hope you found all of your classes and settled into your schedule. If you are at all interested in writing for the newspaper, let us know! We are always looking for stories

and writers to contribute to the paper. Anyone who is currently a student is able to submit a story to the newspaper. All you have to do is submit your story to lamp@llcc.edu, and we will take a look at it. We may contact you to let you know we needed to edit your story to make sure the layout works. The Lamp is also looking for photographers! If you have an interesting

picture, or want to gain experience in photojournalism, contact us and we will meet with you to discuss some ideas! If you have any questions, feel free to visit our office in Menard Hall, room 2275, or call us at (217) 786-2311. *Isaac Warren can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu*

Americans must lead politicians

By Lukas J. Myers
Lamp staff writer

For many, this year's election season seems to be like something straight out of dystopian literature. On one hand, there is a loudmouthed fearmongering egomaniac with a hovering finger above the 'Nuclear War' switch. On the other hand there is a corrupt self-serving liar that shows about as much transparency as a windowless brick wall. The major party nominees are both people with notoriously low public opinion numbers and notoriously high amounts of lawsuits and controversies on both of their plates. Emerging from a palate of, at one point, 17 nominees for the Republican ticket is the notoriously foul-mouthed Donald Trump whose comments on minorities have been considered racist by some people, including Paul Ryan, a fellow Republican and public endorser of Trump. From the left side of the ring checking in at eight former years in the White House as first lady and four more years as secretary of state in the Obama administrations, is Hillary Clinton. Whose tens of thousands of emails filed from a personally owned server have followed her and whose participation and failures over a long political career have caused her to be considered a blatant liar and hypocrite. Gone are the days of hopeful millennials wishing for Bernie Sanders to be the president of the United States. Gone, too, are the days of a possible contested convention in which John Kasich or Ted Cruz might muscle out a victory. Alas might there be a sliver of hope inside of this Machiavellian hellscape in the form of parties not

branded with an all too familiar elephant or donkey. Jill Stein of the Green Party seems the perfect option for us, or was that Gary Johnson of the Libertarians? In a land where everything that a major party representative says is almost immediately labeled as libelous, slanderous, or else otherwise arguably fallacious these other parties must appear to be godsend. Except there are a couple of problems with this notion that the Green Party or the Libertarian Party will answer all of the needs of the American People. What exactly is the appeal to the Libertarian Party? The Libertarians are a reactionary faction that rose up in response to certain legislation and to the platform of the still popular Republican Party. They tout social awareness as well as feasible economic awareness. In other words, they claim to be social liberals and economic conservatives. On the surface, this seems very viable and even congruent with their policy platform. However, a large part of the Libertarian platform and ideology is the rid of many or most government aid services, including things like Social Security and food assistance programs. Getting rid of those programs would actually cause large amounts of social discord and could be argued to be socially immoral in general. The Green Part, or "Greens" as they are commonly called, are considered to be even further left than the current Democratic Party and much more environmentally driven. To some, concerns about the environment are more important than anything in this age of Global Warming. With a priority on Green Energy and Social Liberalism that parallels successes in European countries the

Green Party is a pretty appealing concept. However, Jill Stein is far from perfect herself. She has been quoted in the past as saying several things that science largely accepts as false such as the concept that GMO are unsafe to eat or that vaccines have caused autism. Despite the problems with third-party candidates, they may still appear more capable, or at least favorable, to Trump or Clinton. Which has made social media awash with the phrased meme, "If everyone who said they wished they had a third option on the ballot, voted for me; I'd win". This very phrase has been uttered by Gary Johnson's campaign many times and has been said in some fashions by Jill Stein. This brings us to another problem in the political mish-mash of the American Political Machine, the above claim is actually probably untrue. Despite the fact that, yes, there are huge unfavorability ratings amongst both Clinton and Trump, both the Democrats and Republicans have huge constituencies full of fiercely loyal voters. Which in turn means Clinton and Trump both have fiercely loyal constituencies. Even if those constituencies are voting for their party, not for their presidential candidate. This makes it not only likely that we will see a Trump or Clinton Administration, but that any vote to the contrary would ultimately be just a vote in protest. The farthest that any candidate has gotten outside of a major party in the last 50 years was Ralph Nader, who was a particularly famous and well liked politician who has since been known only for disrupting the election enough to cause a Democratic loss to George W. Bush.

That is not to say there is no point in launching that third party vote or issuing that write in, although to add insult to injury write in's count for monopoly money in the state of Illinois. Just that all of this rhetoric of a triumphant third party, the year of the outsider, and the evils of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are probably significantly blown out of proportion. No one running for political office is a true political outsider by definition they are advocating inside political discourse on a political platform on a political stage in front of all of the real political outsiders. So for all the talk of Bernie or Bust and Third Party votes and Walls and Emails, Americans find themselves in an almost paradoxical situation. One in which it is very easy to feel hopeless. Understand, though, that these principles that seem hopeless and pointless and like they make no difference are not. Parties build their platforms based on the public opinion. That much has been clear enough with the outcome of the Bernie Sanders Campaign and their proclaimed revolution, the Democratic party adapt a much more liberal platform once it saw the support that it had. So if someone sees this political paradox and helplessly feels as though everything needs to be different. Flip tables in the temple, march on Selma, or at the very least blog about it. Change only comes from those who reach out to others. American's must lead the politicians by example and not let themselves be led by those who lead them. "Be the change you want to see in the world." *Lukas Myers can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.*

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‘10 Cloverfield’ creates paranoia

By Isaac Warren
Editor

10 Cloverfield Lane, a movie directed by J.J. Abrams, follows the story of a woman named Michelle who wakes up in a bunker after being hit by a truck. A man, named Howard, informs her that there is nuclear fallout from an attack, and they cannot leave the bunker for a few years. The duo, along with handyman Emmet, do their best to pass the time while they wait for the air to clear. Tensions rise when Michelle and Emmet discover that Howard may not be as kind-hearted as he claims to be. Is there even any real danger, or is Michelle really a prisoner?

I would rate this movie a solid 9/10. John

Goodman’s performance as Howard was fantastic, and did an excellent job creating an atmosphere of paranoia and fear. Mary Elizabeth Winstead, who played Michelle, was also an amazing protagonist, whose character was like that of MacGyver. The movie is very tense at times, and even during more quiet scenes, the tension between the characters is enormous. Viewers can expect to feel what the characters are feeling, whether it be fear, panic, or disbelief.

The spoilers are beginning here, so if you want to watch the movie, I recommend you stop here. The movie sets itself up to be another typical character vs world or character vs character movie. For the majority of the movie, it is entirely believable that there was a nuclear bomb, and the fallout has killed

nearly everyone who survived the blast.

When Michelle escapes and peers outside for the first time in days, there are dead pigs, and, later, a woman whose face is deformed from “barely touching it.” Around the last half hour, when Michelle and Emmet suspect Howard of being a psychotic killer, the notion that there was a bomb becomes less of a concern. Michelle makes a full hazard suit, complete with a gas mask made from water bottles. I have no idea if that would actually work in a fallout situation, but it is a movie, after all.

I noticed a few interesting details about the movie, especially its eerie similarities to a video game franchise known as Half-Life. In 10 Cloverfield Lane, the ships look very similar to combine dropships in the Half-

Life 2 universe. Some have gone so far as to wonder if Michelle is related to Chell, from the Portal series, due to similarities in her name and appearance. J.J. Abrams stated in an interview following the release of 10 Cloverfield Lane that production was still on for a Half-Life and Portal movie, even going so far as to state there were writers attached to the movies.

It is important to note that director Dan Trachtenberg, who worked on 10 Cloverfield Lane, also directed a short film called No Escape, which includes a silent female protagonist, who wields a gun that can open and close wormholes. A portal gun, if you will.

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

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Scars never go away

By Avery Cook
Lamp staff

When someone mentions “Dec. 25” or “Oct. 31,” we do not think of dates on a calendar, but rather the holidays and what they represent. The same can be said for Sept. 11, a date that has been so radically altered by the events that day in 2001.

But for many, these events are history that has been told to them, not experienced first hand. There are many citizens who were not born before 9/11 or were simply too young to remember what happened.

The earliest memory, I personally have of 9/11 was when I was taught about it in the third grade.

On September 11th 2001, America was attacked. For many this will be a day they will never forget, a terrifying memory that will bring back feelings of dread, but for others, this will be a day they have only heard about, and never truly experienced. I have spent my life learning about what happened on this day, why it happened, and how people feel about it, but I have no personal experiences with it.

I do not believe that the memory of 9/11 will ever die away in history, but I do believe that in time the powerful emotions that people of the United States feel about this tragedy will lessen. America was wounded on 9/11, but wounds eventually become scars, and scars never go away, but they do eventually fade.

Memories of 9/11?

As we mark the 15th anniversary of 9/11, many students at Lincoln Land remember the day very well, but for others, they were toddlers or in preschool. For them, it is a history lesson or a day of confu-

sion when Clifford the Big Red Dog wasn't on PBS after school.

The Lamp asked its staff to tell use what they remember (or don't remember) about that important day in American history.

Adult memories

By Theaibold Kennon III
Lamp staff

Sept. 11, 2001, was a Tuesday, which meant, for me, it was a new CD release day at Circuit City. At 9 a.m., I was unpacking Maria Carey's soundtrack for her flop movie “Glitter.” That's when another employee from the video section came running over announcing a plane had hit the World Trade Center.

The next minute, I was confused as to how this could have happened. When the second plane hit, I was thinking how could have filmed the impact, thinking it was a replay. I knew that Middle Eastern terrorists had hijacked planes before and used car bombs to attack buildings, this was a dangerous elocution to that ideology.

I remember how music and movies pivoted after that point. Being an adult at the time of 9/11, I felt the importance of that time. Who America was changed as were, like many other countries, brought to the world stage as a target of worldwide terrorism.

Left in dark about events

By Jesse Baker
Lamp staff

What do I remember about 9-11? Well in one word: Confusion.

I was only 4 years old during these tragic events that killed thousands of Americans, and I was confused.

Why had I been able to leave Pre-K early that day? Why was my mom hogging the television when I got home? When I was able to watch the TV, why were my favorite shows on PBS not on? Clifford the Big Red Dog is way more important than what is going on in downtown Manhattan and Washington, D.C., right?

These were my thoughts as a kid:

an uniformed, naive, ignorant kid.

This isn't to say that I or any other kids with these thoughts were necessarily wrong to think these questions, but that a whole generation and myself simply could not understand the scope of what had happened that day.

As stated before, thousands of Americans lost their lives due to the hijacking of planes and the crashing of those planes into three selected targets (the Twin Towers and the Pentagon). However, as a kid who was not directly affected by the events, I was left confused and with questions that were not even formally answered until I was in the sixth grade.

Feeling disorder and panic

By Brock Donaldson
Lamp staff

I was merely 5 or 6 years old at this time and do not recall much from this tragic event. I was at school, and I remember being picked up by my mom

and grandmother earlier than usual. We drove to my grandparents and though that ends what I remember, I can recall feeling a sense of disorder and panic. That is all I can recall from that day as I was too young to understand much else.

‘Last to remember’

By Sean Montalbano
Editor

The earliest memory I have about 9/11 is when we talked about it in my sixth-grade history class, and our teacher told us about how we were the last class to remember the event.

Every year after that around September,

my teachers would repeat that same idea about how we would be the last students to remember that day, but unlike many of my peers, I do not remember it.

I imagine I knew about it before sixth grade but that is as far back as I can remember. I understand the date's significance, but I can't say I really “lived through it.”

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The Lamp is searching for talented individuals to leave their mark on the college. Here are some of the opportunities that might be perfect for you:

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