



LLCC Homecoming Club day at LLCC



Dan Herbst from Herbkoe Fun Foods prepares 'Waffle Dogs' in the A. Lincoln Commons for homecoming celebrations.

**By Zach Aiello
Editor-in-Chief**

SPRINGFIELD – This past Tuesday, Jan 30, Lincoln Land and Student Life services gave students the chance to walk around and talk with different clubs that had set up tables in the commons. Many clubs that had set up shop were returning to recruit new students.

Have a passion for something? Lincoln Land probably has a club for it. With so many diverse clubs being offered through LLCC, it's hard not to be involved in something through the school. I was able to get the chance to talk with some of the club leaders and let them give a good idea of what they offer for every student here.

"We are a group of students who come together and accept anybody," said Madison Mings, a member of the Gay-Straight Alliance club.

This prominent LLCC club helps provide any support needed for students who have coming-out or sex-related issues. The club also helps out with bake sale events located at the Phoenix Center. One such event was national Coming Out Day where the group set up tables and offered help and support for anybody in need. "We do anything for the community of the LGBTQ, we are accepting people and anyone can join."

The Gay-Straight Alliance club meets on Thursdays between 12:00-1:30 in the student life office.

Do you follow politics and keep up to date on issues that impact you as a student? You may be interested in joining the Student Government Association then.

"We work as the voice of the students," said Tiffany Fenner, Secretary in the SGA.

One of Lincoln Land's longest serving clubs which serves to help build and organize a student-led community throughout campus. Fenner added, "Anything that is happening with the students, we try to fix it or address any issues that need to be addressed."

To help connect with the student body the SGA conducts town hall meetings where students are allowed to voice their opinions and be heard by their fellow peers. "We use it to get a feel of the students and hear any concerns they may have, which we address to the board of trustees, the president, and the vice president" Fenner explained.

The SGA meets every Wednesday and meetings are open bi-weekly for the general public.



**Photos by Niko Robledo/
Editor of Photography**

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Former LLCC alum shines on the small screen

**By Teresa Brummett
Lamp Staff**

Ever since he was young, Lincoln Land alumni Victor Holstein dreamed of becoming an actor. Some kids may have had dreams of becoming a firefighter, a teacher, or an astronaut but not Holstein. He created a dream that would ultimately come true, but not before he had the chance to educate himself here at LLCC.

Since his first school play, where the 5th-grade Holstein played the titular Santa Clause, he dreamed of becoming the actor he is today. It wasn't until the age of 22 when he finally decided to get serious and pursue acting as his career.

One of Holstein's projects is a YouTube Series called, "Other People's Children", which is a professional production under SAG-AFTRA web-series. Holstein's episode is Episode 3: Mythological Holiday Creatures.

Holstein says, that he doesn't try to play a part like other actors. He plays himself just to react and not deviate from the part too much. Some



Victor Holstein, right, with fellow actor Colin Donnell on 'Chicago Med.'

times, he surprises himself by being pointed in one direction and ending up making choices that allow him to honestly find something outside of himself. He, however, says those are rare.

When Holstein was younger he would spend his time at Lincoln Land's campus, his mother being Phyllis Holstein who taught for 20 years before she retired in 2000.

Holstein reminisced about times when he didn't have school and

would spend time here at Lincoln Land. Because of this, he was given a better idea of what a student here at Lincoln Land does. On occasion, he was able to watch his mother's speeches which gave him the drive and motivation to later attend LLCC and pursue a quality education.

So, at the age of 16, Holstein started summer classes. He believed that what shaped his future was that he was able to have so many different experiences, inside and outside

of his courses. He made great friends while he acted and performed in several musicals and also sang in madrigals and choir concerts. Then broadened his horizons, giving him a whole new perspective through taking classes like World Religions, Sociology and Art History. Academically he'd done better here at Lincoln Land than the other school he had attended.

But, like all actors at one time, they struggled to get that one job that would launch them into stardom. Of course, even struggling actors don't always get paid for the work they do. Holstein commented that when he was 19 he was the host for a "Dangers Of Gambling Addiction" Industrial and in his words, "I was terrible". But, this would be his first acting job where he would be paid and the start of his official acting career.

Holstein mentioned that he would repeatedly watch movies he had on

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Local gymnasts seek reform

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

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Accuracy
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By Meredith Howard
Lamp Staff

Did USA Gymnastics hide preventable sexual abuse of minors for decades? Jennifer McClanahan, Springfield Illinois, age 43, LLCC student, USAG member for over 30 years, owner of Gymnastics Zone in Springfield, head coach, and former gymnast, said, "They pushed everything that was ethically responsible of them, keeping these kids safe, they pushed it aside."

Larry Nassar started working with athletes in 1978 when he acquired a position as a student athletic trainer at North Farmington High School in Detroit. Graduating from the University of Michigan with a kinesiology degree in 1985, Nassar's first allegation of sexual abuse against him came in 1994. He was the physician for the Michigan State University women's gymnastics team from 1997 until September 20, 2016. Nas-

sar also worked as a team doctor for USA Gymnastics from 1986-2014, he is now currently serving a 175-year sentence in prison for sexually abusing minors for decades.

There are 168 survivors of Nassar's abuse who spoke at his trial to share their stories. As of February 4, 2018, over 265 women have come forward with allegations against Nassar. Rachael Denhollander, 32 years old, from Kalamazoo, MI was the first woman to publicly accuse Larry Nassar of sexual abuse. Many big-name Olympic Gymnasts have voiced support for policy change within USAG. Aly Raisman, 2 time Olympian, and gold medalist is one of many survivors of Nassar's abuse, and she testified against him in court. She released a public statement saying: "I love the Olympics and being able to represent my country. But with everything going on right now, I realize that this is more important

than any gold medal. My main focus is fixing this organization and getting to the bottom of what happened."

Not only are the survivors demanding policy reform but USGA member from across the country are too. Carmen Dillman, from Springfield, Illinois, 13, USAG member and competitive gymnast for 3 years, had this to say on USAG changing its policies: "They really owe it to all of the gymnasts to follow up on what they've said." Her statement closely mirrors that of Ryanne Eaton, from Springfield, Illinois, 15, USAG member and competitive gymnast for 9 years, who states that USAG could have done everything better in regards to preventing this abuse. Guenivere Rees, 17, from Springfield, Illinois, competitive gymnast and USAG member for 9 years, said, "They should have listened to the girls and trusted them."

"As soon as somebody reported

something, it should have been taken care of then and investigated. Even if they had to go hire investigators, or report it to authorities, something should've been done. Not swept under the rug, paid people to be quiet" says Christine Stefano, 49, from Mayville, Missouri, a competitive tumbler for 10 years, former club owner for 10 years, and gymnastics coach for 24 years.

Despite the tragic reality of this sexual abuse scandal, gymnasts and USAG members have not lost all hope. When asked her views on change within USAG, Stefano said "As long as they completely revamp, and get rid of everyone involved...I think that everybody is going to be on top of it a lot more. They're going to be scrutinized. Yeah, I think it's possible to have a safe environment."

Meredith Howard can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu

The Past. The Present. The Future

By Niko Robledo
Editor of Photography

Due to the release of Monster Hunter: World, I've decided to make role-playing games the theme for this past, present, and future. I opened the vault and pulled out an oldie, a goodie and something I hope will be both.

Past: Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic
Metacritic Score: 93

This one is a personal favorite of mine. If you love the lore of Star Wars and the mechanics of Dungeons and Dragons, then KOTOR is the game for you. One-thousand years before the Galactic Empire, the Jedi brought peace to the galaxy by extinguishing the evil order of the Sith. At the start of the game, you choose one of the three classes (Scoundrel, Scout, and Soldier), later in the game, you will have to choose one of three advanced Jedi classes (Consular, Guardian, and Sentinel), as well. Your playing style is highly dependent on your class and how you spend your skill points. I would personally choose the Scout class because of the all-around skills they possess. When it comes to my Jedi class, I pick Sentinel because of the class has a higher level of force points to spend on powers in combat. My favorite part of KOTOR is that multiple quests and encounters can end differently based on how you respond to dialogue and if you want to fight or not. The dialogue options are fully voiced and allow for fun and easy world building. That makes the game great for a person who is not into Star Wars, as well. The combat works just like the weapon system in D&D, having advantages and disadvantages for weapons by class, race or even what hand you are holding them in. KOTOR was a first RPG in the series of Star Wars games, and it delivers the full atmosphere of the Star Wars universe by combining setting, mood, and great game-



play, all while bringing the charm, lightsabers and beauty that we expect when playing (or even watching) a Star Wars title.

Present: Skyrim
Metacritic: 84

I know Skyrim came out in 2011 but since the game was remastered for the current generation of consoles, so I'm going to use this as an excuse to talk about it. Being the most recent single-player entry into Elder Scrolls series, Skyrim improved on the same gameplay style from its predecessor Oblivion. Set in the land of Tamriel, your character is the Dragonborn who gets powers from being able to speak Dragon. The main quest has you finding your destiny as the Dragonborn, but who actually cares? The Dragonborn quests are not half as fun as all of the faction missions. Skyrim's gameplay is personalized to each player so there is room for any style of play. Short Sword and one-handed magic? Got

it. Long-range bow and a dagger for close-range stealth? Done. All magic or the classic sword and shield? Skyrim has it. My favorite faction is the Dark Brotherhood. The missions have a dark theme, and you get to meet a jester-type character named Cicero.

If the Brotherhood isn't your shtick you have an ongoing civil war you can end, a thieves guild, a school for mages or even an association of fighters to join. Skyrim brings a rich world full of fantasy and action that has been painted over 24 years.

Future: Mount & Blade 2: Bannerlord

TaleWorlds Entertainment has this one in the works since 2012. Originally missing it's target release date in 2016 and staying quiet through 2017. The game is an open-world sandbox with a medieval theme. The fluid horse battling and huge scale warfare was an interesting bit in the trailer. Taleworlds says you are able to side with factions and change areas of control due to what armies you support. All the while there are friendly villages you can explore and befriend. Mount & Blade seems like it will promote a very open-ended style of gameplay. This will be refreshing since we haven't really got a game like this since Chivalry: Medieval Warfare (or For Honor *barf*). Here's to hoping it will make a 2018 release.

Club

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If you are a fan of English literature than you might enjoy English Studies club. "We promote the reading of classic contemporary literature, we also encourage the writing original work," said Cora Farris, member of the English Studies club. Not only do students get the chance to explore different aspects of literature but will get the chance to express their writing skills.

The English Studies club is open to the public with meetings at 2:00 in the student life center.

For some, the study of the mind can be a fascinating subject and that is what the Psychology club is all about.

"We explore psychology outside of the classroom and we hold events to further understand it" explained Brad Lovekamp, part of the



Niko Robledo/The Lamp

A student signs a club sign-up sheet. About 20 clubs were in the A.Lincoln Commons on Jan. 30 to recruit members.

Psychology club. "Last semester we held a TED Talks on the negative side of social media. Next semester we have a TED talks lined up about

Schizophrenia better understand it" he added.

Psychology club meets every Wednesday at 4:00 in Menard Hall Room 2250

"We help girls to find their identity with their hair, and to form like a sisterhood," said President and Co-founder Joy Waddy of the brand new A Different Curl club.

This new club brings a fresh take on students and the care and attention for hair. "I help to teach girls about their natural hair, different regimens and products that they can use to make their hair more easier to care for." The club is focused on helping girls find their identity with their hair, something that some girls have been looking forward to for a long time. "We're all about promoting beauty in girls," added Joy Waddy

A Different Curl hasn't established a meeting time yet but any questions or concerns can be directed at jwadd2096@llcc.edu

Black History Month



Photos by Niko Robledo/Editor of Photography

Lincoln Land Selena Moore, sings "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Johnson, accompanied by the Kenny Humble Trio.



Photo by Niko Robledo

Kenny Humble performs in the A. Lincoln Commons

Trio performs

By Niko Robledo
Editor of Photography

LLCC alumni Kenny Humble held a show at in the A. Lincoln Commons on Feb. 1, to celebrate African-American history month. Humble played a variety of songs from artists such as Charlie Parker, Drake, and John Coltrane. Throughout Kenny's show, he alternates between a keyboard and a saxophone. Using the recorded piano and a drum player to accompany his saxophone. The first song played was "Lift Every Voice and Sing" by James Johnson, members of the Black Student Union passed out the lyrics to the audience.

"Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring, Ring with the harmonies of Liberty; Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies, Let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us, Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on till victory is won."

Along with the music, the BSU brought pizza and a board with Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech were students can write the dreams and goals they have for themselves. LLCC student Jhiel Mcgee, 22, wrote down some of the goals he has set for this life on the board.

"I have a dream to become a property manager and defy all odds, statistics, and labels that economically define me."

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Author discusses childhood trauma

By Niko Robledo
Editor of Photography

SPRINGFIELD — Author Casandra Austin empowers Lincoln Land students by explaining how a person's adversities can also be their allies. Austin was invited by the Black Student Union for a Soup & Stories event, to discuss her book, in which she discusses traumatic events from her past. Casandra was only 19-years-old when she found out about her pregnancy, she was forced to give up her track scholarship at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, which subsequently caused her to drop out of school altogether.

After a failed suicide attempt, Austin decided that she was done living a life that caused her to feeling captured by her adversities. Austin said

the first thing she did when she checked out of the hospital was confronted her father about his alcoholism. She believes that this conversation is the reason he is sober today.

"We go to the doctor for our physical health, like subbing our toes. Our emotional and mental health is the same."

Austin calls motivation she felt to change multiple aspects of her life the start of her "Healing Journey." This was the starting point for her work as an empowerment speaker and author. Since then she has spread the message of self-improvement starting from within.

After her presentation, Austin opened the room to questions, from students and faculty.

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Cassandra Austin responds to questions.

<p>Monday, Feb. 12 – Movie Review and Discussion of "Marshall," screenings at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., Robert H. Stephens Room, Menard Hall. The movie features the story of Thurgood Marshall, the American civil rights leader who helped change the landscape of American society.</p>	<p>Wednesday, Feb. 14 – "Evolution of Music" Flashback Wednesday and Voter Registration Day co-sponsored by the African-American History Month Committee and the LLCC Black Student Union, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., A. Lincoln Commons.</p>	<p>Tuesday, Feb. 20 – "A Tribute to Our Heroes," an open mic event sponsored by the LLCC Black Student Union, 5-7:30 p.m., A. Lincoln Commons.</p>	<p>Saturday, Feb. 24 – Black History Month Ebony Dance, 9 p.m.-midnight, Trutter Center. The event is co-sponsored by the African-American History Month Committee and the Open Door Mentorship program.</p>	<p>Wednesday, Feb. 28 – African-American Food and Vendor Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., A. Lincoln Commons. The event features free samples of African-American food, displays exhibiting the wares of African-American entrepreneurs and "Saxophone and African-American Poetry Improvisations" performed by LLCC retired business law professor and jazz musician Virgil</p>
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Holstein Continued from Page

VHS to get a better understanding of acting with Vertigo, American Beauty, and Magnolia were just a few of them. These movies which were just 3 out of the 8 that had made a huge impact on the way he viewed the world but also his beliefs. At this point in his life, he felt that films were more than entertainment and was inspired to change his course slightly from a music major to pursue an acting career in Chicago.

Being considered a professional actor comes with the feelings of being insecure and all the technicalities of the process. From the rejections. Where you're told "no" and although it's not personal, it still feels like it

is. But once you stop getting caught up in all of that, that is when you become truly comfortable with acting.

Holstein has come far as an actor as he has worked with some of the biggest names in Hollywood. Such as John Goodman (the Artist), Miranda Cosgrove (iCarly), Deidre Hall (Days of Our Lives), David Boreanaz and Emily Deschanel (Bones), and Demitri Martin (Important Things). Most recently he worked on the TV show Chicago Med, where he spent his time working with fellow actor Brian Tee who Holstein says is a "super nice guy" and "great" to work with.

Another big actor he's had the opportunity to work with is James Caan, while on the TV show Las Vegas. But, while on the set he felt particularly close to two other fel-

low actors, James Lesure and Josh Duhamel. When there was downtime, they would get together and play some basketball or just hang out in Josh's trailer. Holstein has also worked on a few short films with Lesure and fellow actor Eugene Byrd. (8 Mile, Bones)

Along with acting he also has done work as a Set Production Assistant. This made him responsible for other various aspects of production. Being in the spotlight isn't always in the cards. But in 2008 Holstein was chosen to be the stand-in for actor Jeff Daniels. He became close to Daniels, where Daniels even offered for him to ask him any questions he wanted. So, during the two months that Holstein worked with Daniels, he received a crash course in acting from one of the best.

During Holstein's career, he's also been in the producer's chair. Yet he would still choose acting over producing mainly because in acting you mainly only do one thing. Producing is complex and important, like directing or writing you have so much more influence in shaping the whole piece. But, he did say that if it were his own work, then he would produce those.

When I asked Holstein about advice that he could give students here at Lincoln Land who is interested or just tossing around the idea of acting he said, "The only advice I can give is that there is no particular method that is necessarily the "right" way to make it as an actor. It takes an incredible amount of patience, talent, hard work and luck and sometimes all of those are still not enough. So, you had better really love to do it.

Because being able to just do it, on any level, might be all you get."

Since Holstein does a lot of traveling from California to his home in Chicago for acting jobs, he spends all the free time he can at home with his wife Nell, who is a native of Chicago, and his daughter, Sylvia who is almost three, and he describes as "Beyond Adorable".

The big picture is that acting is a huge commitment. If you really want it, you have to put in the hard work just as Holstein endured throughout his career. But, putting effort towards your acting goal will essentially make all that hard work pay off in the end. That's when you flip on the TV and you're right there, where you want to be.

Teresa Brummett can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

Five Valentine's Day gift ideas



By Niko Robledo/Editor of Photography

1.) Tinder card - by TinyForgetMeNot on Etsy.com

Get a gift for your significant other that your parents probably won't understand or approve of! This realistic yet humorous card is for all those couples who met out on Tinder. Up late swiping left or right to find the love of your life.

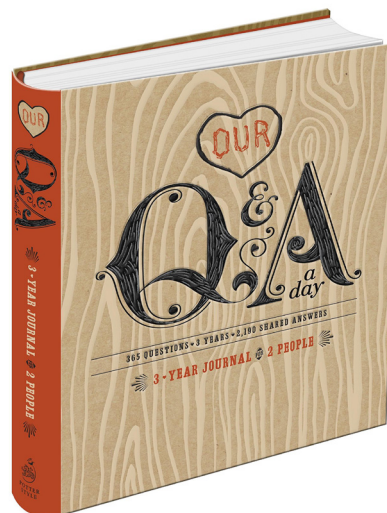


2.) Make Your Own Chocolate Truffles Kit from uncommongoods.com

If you and your significant other are the more crafty type, this chocolate truffle making kit is a great Valentine's Day activity to make together. Making something with your partner that is not only delicious but promotes teamwork and sharing.

3.) Custom Mugs - by Thegiftablegoodies on Etsy.com

This one is pretty straightforward. She likes his beard and he likes her butt mugs. They provide a cute way to show affection during any coffee situation. This Etsy artist also makes custom mugs for anything that you would want to get. Making it a perfect gift for customization.



4.) Three year journal - Amazon.com

If you plan on being in a relationship for a while then this 3 year relationship journal is just the thing to learn about your partner. Chronicle your story with questions over a course of three years, answering prompts about each other from the book. If your significant other enjoys writing, journaling or mementos, this is the perfect gift for them.



5.) Instax Mini - Amazon.com

Capture and print photos of your partner in an instant with this Instax instant camera. Like the journal, if you want to save memories or just want to see your partner's face. This will instantly print off a developed picture to keep forever. Perfect for long distance relationships or just saving the memories.

Five students share their Valentine plans

By Tess Peterson
Lamp Staff

There are six more weeks of winter, according to some stupid groundhog in Pennsylvania. Plus, there's over a month to Spring Break! No need to worry, we can count on Valentine's Day to cheer us up.

Here are some "hot" and fun V-Day ideas from LLCC students:

1.) Friend's Celebrate

Florida native Meredith Howard is going to dinner with her best friend for a-Valentine's Day treat, since they have

to work on the day of.

2.) New Relationship

Freshman Zach Curry is going to dinner with his girlfriend of two months this will their first Valentine's Day together, but they have known each other since childhood.

3.) Group Date

Kallie Cox is going to LLCCs love poetry event by Professor Deborah Brothers and Incredibly Delicious (best place for chocolate flour-less cake) afterwards.

4.) Long-term "Hot" Date

Karissa Trevino and Nathaniel

Mayfield who have been dating for 6 months are going to Olive Garden. After dinner, they plan to see "Fifty Shades Freed," the movie based on the bestselling books by E.L. James.

5.) School Night Alternative

Nic Hagel, forward for the Loggers Basketball, says that he will be playing in game against Parkland College that night. Afterwards he might go out with some friends or lay back and chill because of school the next day, he suggests, "If you don't have plans, come with some friends and cheer on our team!"

Scholarship applications available

The Lincoln Land Community College Foundation 2018-2019 scholarship application deadline is March 1. Students considering or planning to attend LLCC in fall 2018 are encouraged to apply.

LLCC Foundation scholarships are available for first-time and continuing students who will be enrolled full or part time at LLCC. Many of the scholarships are designed for students in any program of study, with the average award

being approximately \$1,000 per academic year.

Only one application form is needed to apply for all scholarships. Students submitting a complete application are considered for all available scholarships for which they are eligible.

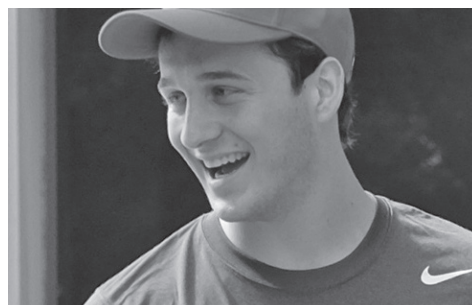
The scholarship guidelines and online application are available at www.llccfoundation.org/scholarships. For additional information, contact Lori Smith, scholarship program coordinator, at 217-786-4502.

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