

THE LUMP

APRIL 1, 2019

Service dog inspires pets

By Regina Ivy
Assistant Editor

Pepper the service dog is in a lot of ways, just like you. She naps, eats and goes on walks, as anyone would. But the most unique thing about her might be that she provides a necessary service to a human. People often wonder what Pepper did to get this job, or what she did to deserve it. Well, she doesn't even know herself. Let's start from the beginning of Pepper's story to find out. When Pepper was a petite pup, she was, unfortunately, bullied.

All the bigger dogs wondered what a small dog like her could even be doing with big howlers such as themselves.

But Pepper was never discouraged.

She kept her head up, stayed in shape, and looked forward to the future until she finally met the day where she would be adopted.

Being adopted into a family where your purpose is to provide a service for a human has its challenges.

For example, you can never truly just be like other dogs.

However, even though it's tough to miss out on the fun of rolling around in the dirt and shaking off fleas, knowing that you're the support of someone who really needs it makes up for not

quite fitting in.

Whenever Pepper has time, she enjoys just lounging around, because as anyone can imagine, being serviceable all the time can get pretty tiring. So, it's important to blow off some steam whenever possible.

Her hope is to one day inspire other dogs to be as influential as she is.

One day, maybe all dogs will step up and help a human that is in need.

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College raises speed limit to 70 mph

By Kaitlyn Lange
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- If you fall under the category of students who have absolutely no idea how to drive in the parking lot, then the school has some good news for you.

Following a string of accidents, Lincoln Land has decided to raise the speed limit to 70 mph., take out all stop signs and turn the one way streets into any-way streets (which are wildly different than two-way streets).

Both the Lincoln Land police and the superintendent of the school feel that this is the right decision.

"We thought long and hard about it and realized that the majority of accidents that occur come from student's failure to brake accordingly; in order to solve this problem we have eliminated stop signs and increased the speed limit, so students will never have to brake," said Garrett Dawns, an LLCC police officer.

Officers are warning students to be prepared for the changes coming.

They said to expect the speed limit to be increased to 70 mph. and to be ready for removal of all stop signs on campus grounds. When

asked about how the four-way intersections will now be handled, Officer Dawns justified that if you are truly going 70 mph, then you should be going too fast to be hit in the intersection.

Student Rebekah Quinn agrees with this logic.

"I already go 70 mph through campus and I've never been hit. A lot of people don't understand that the faster you go the quicker you move, so the harder it is for people to hit you. Personally, I think the speed limit should be higher," said Quinn.

Officer Dawns also said that one way streets are to become any-way streets.

That's right!

Instead of changing their one way streets to two lane roads, the school has decided to be the first ever campus to test out any-way streets!

Essentially, students get to decide which way they want to drive down the street.

Students should still yield to other drivers, but since everyone will now be going 70 mph, it will be practically unnecessary since everyone will be going too fast to hit one another.





Tyler Buske/The Lump

LLCC starts vampire hunting club

By Sarah Black
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- Calling all Twilight fans! The Lincoln Land college campus will be starting a vampire hunting club. All members must be Team Edward. No dogs allowed!

Club Founder, Carl Belle says, "I have always loved vampires! The first time I saw one, he nearly bit my head off! It was love at first bite!" Belle founded this club to gather college students with the same love for vampires. Any new members must go through a screening for clean blood to offer the thirsty vampires.

The club members will actively partake in following the vampires of Lincoln Land and take pictures of their day to day activities. Or night to night. The club will cheer on any athletic vampires. To raise money for support, the Vampire Hunting Club will have a bake sale in the commons from 9 P.M. to Midnight on every full moon. Club members must offer blood anytime a vampire even glances in their direction.

One vampire college student had this to say about the new club, "While I enjoy the extra support during my games, but it is hard to concentrate when they are shouting at me to bite them."

Club members will meet every Tuesday and Thursday when the moon is at its highest peak. While professors advise against human students at the campus after sunset, the Vampire Hunting Club has no fear whatsoever.

Even though stalking is a crime, the campus police are as blind as bats! The vampire students try to report the club's activities, but they would have to make their own club to argue the other's activities.

Belle would like to mention that the Vampire Hunting Club does not actually hunt the vampires they stalk. The pictures are turned into calendars and not wanted posters.

Come join Team Edward now with the Vampire Hunting Club!

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College opens courses to pets

By Meredith Howard
Editor-in-Chief

SPRINGFIELD--Lincoln Land Community College will begin offering degree programs to pets in Spring 2019. Your dogs, cats, horses and pigs will now finally be able to receive the education they've been waiting for!

LLCC will offer majors in cooking, education, engineering and math for your animals.

Any pigs who choose to major in cooking will be prohibited from using pork as an ingredient, for moral reasons.

This new opportunity comes with many restrictions, as it is without precedent for Lincoln Land or any college.

Owner participation is encouraged but not required, as long as pets are able to remember which classroom they need to be in and don't chew their own homework.

Late work will not be accepted for

any pets since they don't have any other life responsibilities.

Caution is also recommended when registering your felines for classes, since we all know that curiosity killed the cat.

Lincoln Land is not responsible for cats who pass away in the name of learning.

There has been a bit of controversy surrounding this feline policy, and LLCC student Maria Jones is concerned.

"I think that Lincoln Land needs to clarify this policy", Jones said.

"Is it safe for me to register my cat to take classes here? Are they talking about losing one life, or all nine?"

Charlotte Warren, the president of Lincoln Land released an official statement in a response to the concerns of Jones and many other students and cats.

"All we are saying is to be careful. If by midterms, your cat is looking a bit thin, you should withdraw them

from all courses immediately," Warren said.

Allen, Jones' cat, declined to comment.

In addition to this disputable issue, Lincoln Land has a few more rules to follow when educating your pets.

Any dog caught eating the food in cooking class will be suspended, and will only be admitted back into the classroom if they are able to keep a treat on their nose for 2 minutes before eating it.

Horses are not allowed on the elevators (unless they have an ADA disability).

They must also be able to walk quietly so as not to disturb students that are in classes.

Lincoln Land strives to offer the best education around for your pets, and hopes to be nationally ranked in degree completion for animals by the year 2025.

"I think we can do it," pet educational coordinator Linda Brown said.

"We're first out of the gate on allowing pets to learn, and I really believe we can be the best in the country."

Lincoln Land encourages early registration for these classes, as they predict a high level of interest.

If your pets can't find courses that work with their schedules, independent-study options may be made available.

College administration must be informed if your pet speaks an animal language instead of English so translation accommodations can be developed.

There will be a separate pet commencement held in May so that human students with allergies won't be inconvenienced.

Pets must be well-trained enough so as not to bother any service animals that students may require.

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Journalism prof follows dreams, becomes renowned dancer

By Olivia Hoots
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- Tim McKenzie, the journalism professor at Lincoln Land Community College, will finish his teaching career here at Lincoln Land after this semester. He has decided to pursue his lifelong dream of becoming a professional ballerina.

"I have always dreamed of pointing my toes and twirling around on a stage to graceful music," said McKenzie.

McKenzie will be moving to New York later this year to study dance for one year at an academy. He then plans to try out for professional work in various shows.

"Life is all about risks. I have had my fair share of stable and reliable jobs, but I just feel the best thing for my life right now is to run straight towards everything I truly want," McKenzie said.

"Well, the Jonas Brothers got back together, George Strait is making music again, Gladys Knight is making more and more appearances--why can't I chase an old dream? The truth is, dreams never die. They are always hiding in the back of your heart and you have to have the courage to open up and pursue them," McKenzie said.

McKenzie went on to add that the support from everyone has been amazing.

"My current boss said he hopes I succeed and my kids, Max and Truman, really believe I will make it big," McKenzie said.

"I want every student here at Lincoln Land to know that you do not have to settle. Keep chasing the dreams that you were told are impossible. Nothing like this is ever truly impossible, if you work hard, you can quit your job just like me to go after that crazy dream you always

wondered about."

What does Professor McKenzie love about dancing?

"I love ballet because it is peaceful; it keeps me cool, calm, and composed. My favorite move is an arabesque. It makes me feel so talented and accomplished. Ready, 5-6-7-8, and dododo, dadada," McKenzie proceeded to demonstrate an arabesque.

If you get a chance to travel to New York in the next few years, be sure to catch a show with former professor Tim McKenzie as the star!

"I am looking forward to making it big! I hope all my former students will come to watch me shine on stage and share my talent with the world. Nothing is impossible if you just believe," McKenzie said.

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LLCC promotes gaming

By Rosanna Cravens
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- A highly criticized proposal to add video gaming machines on LLCC campus was passed Monday evening by the school board of directors. The new machines are projected to bring in \$1 million in profit within 5 years.

"Gambling happens," said Vice President Sheryll Stine. "If students are going to spend their money in gaming machines, it may as well go to good use."

The machines, which will be installed in January 2020, will be placed in communal areas around campus, including in the A. Lincoln Commons.

The profit will be split for various college functions with 10 percent being allocated for new gym equipment. 10 percent will go towards renovations.

"We sure could use the funds, and I don't see much harm," said volleyball coach Gerald Bernhard.

Of the remaining 80 percent, 15 percent will go towards new scholarships to help lower income students, and another 15 percent will be used to stay on top of electronic purchases.

Although some say they understand the strain of today's economy, they still do not support the use of video gaming on campus.

"My mom is outraged. We have had gambling problems in our family, and we advocate against parlors," said Amy Winghetti, a music major.

Andy Richtoffen, a financial advisor with LLCC, says he disapproves of the school's decision.

"It is negligent to expose young minds seeking an education to such a huge vice. Some of these kids have not learned proper financial planning, and they are at a huge risk to becoming dependent on the thrill of winning," Richtoffen said.

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Babies, parents get fit

By Annie Staley
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- If you enjoy workouts but have no time due to your children needing you, have no fear; baby boxing is here.

Baby boxing is just one of the many new forms of working out in gyms.

It was started by Tina Flow last year and has continued to grow.

Tina's Gym at 14 S. Baker St. is the first gym that really accommodates new and busy mothers.

Her reason for starting baby boxing came from her own need to work out but being a new mom to 2-year-old Jax, found it hard to do.

"I was with Jax all the time," said Tina, "So I had little to no time by myself. There was no one to help watch Jax, so how could I go to a workout class or yoga?"

Being a new mom is hard and getting your body back is hard after giving birth.

New moms really need that extra help, especially since their schedules are always jam packed.

In Tina's class, you can box while your babies are harnessed to you.

You can bring your own gloves or borrow some from the gym.

Now don't worry about the little one's safety.

The workouts with your baby are warm-up exercises.

After the warm up you will get more intense and the babies will be put in playroom where the mothers can watch them and are with staff trained in child care.

Sarah G., a mommy of five, said she loves belonging to Tina's gym.

"I can work out and spend time with my daughter. It makes being a mom trying to lose baby weight stress free and fun."

The classes range by your baby's age. There are classes for babies 6 months to 2 years, 3-4-year olds and 5 and up.

Some classes have the babies harnessed to you and sometimes the babies are lying next to you.

Sophia is a 5-year-old who joins her mom in classes.

"I enjoy it," she says.

"Mom is always busy so when she comes here, we can spend time together and I have even made some new friends."

Other classes Tina offers are cycling, yoga, meditation, Zumba, and personal training.

Tina also hopes to offer a dance class soon for children 6 and up while the parents work out.

To contact Tina, email her at TinasGym@gmail.com or through her website, www.TinasGym.com.

New babies are welcome to enjoy 3 free trial classes before having to sign a contract.

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Kobe Bryant hired

By Tess Peterson
Lump staff

Kobe Bryant will take over as the new head coach for the Loggers men's basketball team.

This is a first--Lincoln Land has never had a former NBA player or celebrity of any kind coach one of their teams. When Bryant retired, he knew that he always wanted to coach, but the question was where.

Bryant said he saw the potential of LLCC team on a YouTube video and knew this was his great opportunity. He said that this fresh team of young budding future NBA players was perfect for his first coaching job.

Bryant also believed that Springfield made a nice and quiet new home for his growing family.

"I was excited to move my kids to the Land of Lincoln," Bryant said. "They are huge Abe fans."

Bryant plans to keep the current coach-

ing staff as assistant coaches. He thinks they will aid in the transition for him and the players.

When players on the men's basketball team were told of the news, they were beyond pumped!

"Is this real?!", player Oliver Kinsey asked. "I can't believe that Kobe Bryant is our coach. This is so cool!"

Another player, Alex Dunker, said, "As soon as I heard that Kobe Bryant was going to be our new coach, I called my mom right away. I couldn't wait to tell her the exciting news."

Vern Lindquist, vice president of academic services, commented "This is the boost LLCC needs to take us to a new level in recruiting student athletics and all students."

When asked how LLCC can afford such a coach, Lindquist replied, "We will be raising tuition prices to \$10,000 per credit hour."

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Houston Astros quit mid-game

By Noah Branson
Lump staff

BOSTON -- After a long weekend that saw many runs scored, the Boston Red Sox beat the Houston Astros in a very strange way--the Astros quit.

"It was cold, they were pitching really well, and honestly most of us just didn't want to play anymore. So we just swung at every pitch no matter what," said Jose Altuve of the Astros when asked on what caused the tossing off the game.

The Red Sox have consistently had the best team in baseball the entire 2018 season, however, postseason struggles have haunted them for the past few years.

Veteran pitcher Chris Sale sported a whopping 8.64 ERA going into the playoffs and he was looking to turn things around going into this October.

"I was tired of sucking so I just started pitching well, I threw as hard as I could and dared them to hit it. They obviously couldn't keep up with the big boys," said Sale when asked about his team's win against the Astros.

The game came with its fair share of strange mo-

ments on top of the fact that the Astros decided to throw the game. At one point, Gerrit Cole, pitcher for the Astros, looked back to his manager in the dugout where he said "I don't want to be here."

Another inning found Alex Bregman just letting what would have been an easy ground ball just go through the infield for a base hit.

The astonishment obviously hit the Red Sox when they realized the Astros had decided to throw in the towel. At one point in the 5th inning, Chris Sale decided to launch a pitch to the backstop just to see if George Springer, an outfielder for the Astros, would swing at it anyways.. And sure enough he swung like it was a curveball hung over the plate, he then proceeded to look back to the dugout and flip off his manager A.J. Hinch.

As if that weren't strange enough the Astros decided to put one of their batboys into pitch instead of risking the injury of a paid player.

The 4th inning saw the Astros give up 11 home runs and 20 runs in what looked like more of a home run derby.

J.D. Martinez led the way for the Red Sox going

9-9 on the night where he hit for two cycles and 3 home runs.

"It was my goal to crush that kids dreams of being a professional baseball player. We are f&%\$ing gladiators out here and the Astros obviously could not handle the big boys. I hope that kid is too scared to ever pick up another baseball" said JD Martinez when asked about hitting a line drive back to the young pitcher in way over his head.

As if the on field antics were not already crazy enough, it found its way to the seats as well. When the Red Sox had realized they were being handed a win they decided to send Mookie Betts, the Red Sox's veteran outfielder, into the concessions to grab the team some Bud Lights which they proceeded to all shotgun as a team.

On a night that was meant for great postseason baseball between two great teams, Red Sox fans will be going home confidently knowing they have this series in the bag.

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LLCC is sold to corporation

By Paul Watson
Lump Staff

Lincoln Land Community College has been sold.

Education R Us Inc from Detroit bought the campus, land and student list last Friday from the Illinois University System for an undisclosed amount of money.

John Workman, director of Community Colleges, said

"With little tax revenue coming in and massive deficit spending, the state had to sell something."

Horace Smedlap III, CEO of Education R Us Inc, said

"This community college will stay in business. It will be rebranded and new, innovative and profitable programs will be added."

Smedlap said LLCC will be rebranded Lincoln Be Thinkin' College.

"The new name has a nice ring to it," Smedlap said.

"First lady Melania Trump helped with picking the name."

According to a form letter email

soon to be sent to current students, new student IDs will be distributed as soon as students sign non-disclosure agreements and return them to the registrar's office.

The non-disclosure agreement stated that any legal disputes between students and the corporation would be handled by arbitration.

The email also notifies students of the new collegiate uniform requirement.

It states students will be required to wear uniforms designed and sold by Ivanka Trump, the eponymous clothing and shoe company of Ivanka Trump, the first daughter and special assistant to the president of the United States.

Uniforms can be ordered from the LLCC bookstore and their purchase is now covered by most college grants and loans because of a new ruling by the U.S. Department of Education.

In addition, the email stated new students will be able to get a discount on tuition if they are National Rifle Association members in good stand-

ing.

"Funding has always been a problem for education, ever since the 1980s," Smedlap said.

"We plan to partner with other businesses to bring a more real-world dynamic and to leverage a virtually untapped labor pool," Smedlap said.

Smedlap notes LLCC's commission on school uniforms will help its profitability, especially with labor costs in Ethiopia and Indonesia being only a fifth of the labor costs in China.

According to Smedlap, another business partnership is being finalized with The Geo Group Inc from Boca Raton, Florida which has a contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"By mowing down the prairie grass-land recovery area behind Sangamon Hall," Smedlap said,

"we can lease the area to Immigration and Customs Enforcement as a tent city site. As their needs increase, we can also lease them some of the 45-acre land lab."

Besides the leasing revenue,

Smedlap said students from the culinary, early childhood education and criminal justice programs will be offered extra credit opportunities for volunteering to work with detainees in the tent city.

He added that there will be a new immigration and customs enforcement degree.

There will be other name changes. Lincoln Commons will be renamed Conservative Commons, Smedlap said.

It will be designated as a safe free-speech zone.

Teachers' contracts will be null and void next semester, Smedlap said, when the new owners take over. "All contracts are in the process of being renegotiated," Smedlap said, "without the pesky interference of the teachers' union."

Smedlap also announced, the new private college's motto: "Homework will make you free."

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Happy April Fools' Day!



Tyler Buske/The Lamp

Ghosts terrorize LLCC students

By Sage Gass
Lump staff

Double, double toil and trouble -- there's something lurking on campus. LLCC staff and students have reported seeing ghostlike figures roaming the halls for the past months.

The first reported sighting was as far back as May 2018. Leona McMurray, a foreign exchange student, looks back at that moment.

"I was walking down the first floor of Menard Hall when I felt something brush against my face. I looked around and saw nothing. I was freaked out, but it wasn't until later that I actually saw what had touched me," said McMurray.

And saw something she did. Mc-

Murray remembers feeling cold and then the sensation of hands on her shoulders. When she turned around, she saw a dark and looming figure behind her. McMurray turned to flee the scene but the figure ran through her before disappearing into thin air.

But she isn't the only one who has seen something.

Damon Lunders, a receptionist at student services, had a similar experience. Lunders says that while he was in his office, a filing cabinet slammed open and closed repeatedly and aggressively while he attempted to obtain files from it.

At first, he chalked it up to something wrong with the drawer's track, but then something terrifying happened.

"I had went to close the door to

my office when suddenly something crashed into the wall next to me and the door was slammed in my face!" Lunders said. "Next thing I know, I'm calling maintenance to come unjam the door, so I could get the hell out of there."

A number of others have since reported sightings on campus. Students have described being touched -- or even violently shoved -- in hallways. Teachers, especially, have had a number of disturbances during night classes -- from flickering lights, papers flying off desks, to even a chair suspending in mid-air for up to five minutes. Cafeteria workers have also claimed water freezing while coming out of the sinks faucet and sprinklers going off while nothing had been cooking.

The school itself is only 52 years old with no recorded history of any deaths on the campus. The college president was asked to remark on these occurrences but declined stating that it being so close to exam season, the students and faculty are under immense stress that could be manifesting itself into these hallucinations.

It is recommended that students travel around campus with a buddy for the time being until this is resolved. If anyone sees this apparition or have had an odd experience, please email the school at thisisafakearticle@llcc.edu.

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Gold found!

By Ryan Scott
Lump staff

SPRINGFIELD -- Gold was found at LLCC last night.

Hunter Beard was using a water fountain on the second floor of Sanganon Hall when the water stopped. Maintenance workers discovered the pipes were clogged with gold.

"I was so mad!" Beard exclaimed. "All I wanted was a drink of water, and I couldn't even get it."

"Nobody knows where the gold came from and an investigation is underway to see how the gold got in the water pipes", said Lynn Whalen.

Some rumors are that gold was hidden in the area that was flooded to make Lake Springfield during the Great Depression. The lake filled with water between 1931 and 1935.


Nobody knows exactly where the gold came from or how it was not discovered before it clogged the water fountain.

The buried treasure theory holds that if it was buried before Lake Springfield was built, then it must have just been slowly moving until pipes picked it up. Then the gold started moving through the pipe systems till ending up on the other end of a Lincoln Land water fountain, said Garrett Schienschang, local treasure expert.

The pipes are being checked to make sure that there is no more gold in them, and if there is, they will have to temporarily stop water coming through some of them until they can clear out the gold.

This is a crazy, unexpected, once in a lifetime event and everyone wants to know more.

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Work for THE LAMP

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:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Editor ■ Assistant Editor ■ Online Editor ■ Writer ■ Sports Writer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Copy Editor ■ Opinion Writer ■ Ad Sales ■ Designer ■ Photographer
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Applications and interviews will be scheduled in the next few weeks for the 2019-2020 newspaper. Email lump@llcc.edu or contact Tim McKenzie at timothy.mckenzie@llcc.edu or (217) 786-4656.