

# Enrollment down 8.6%

By Paige Kirbach  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD – Enrollment has been dropping at Lincoln Land and the decrease appears to be holding steady.

This year, the head count as of the 10th day of fall enrollment is 6,429 students. That's a decrease of 8.6 percent from last year, according to Lynn Whalen, executive director of public relations and marketing at Lincoln Land.

"We expected this due to a downturn in the high school population, along with an upturn in the economy, which generally, in community colleges, translates into more people working with less time to be in school," Whalen said.

The total amount of credit hours being taken has also decreased, but not as low as enrollment, Whalen said. It is down

7.9 percent.

Lincoln Land just received a \$1.1 million federal TRIO grant to make sure students have access to success programs, she said.

The college already offers a Center for Academic Success, offering free tutoring and study skills assistance for students who might need the extra help.

Lincoln Land is doing everything it can to get students enrolled in school and then succeed, Whalen said. It requires orientation to encourage students to get involved on campus and learn how to be successful.

"I've already been to the writing center for my English class. High school just doesn't prepare you for the writing assignments in college," said Summer Sabo, an LLCC freshman student.

A decline in college readiness is a reason some see a drop in enrollment.

Too many students feel unprepared for college based on their high school educations, so they decide to opt into the military or a minimum wage job.

"Walking into my first college English class, I was so scared! I had no idea how to begin writing a paper," recalled Leeann Stouffe, also an LLCC freshman.

Other community colleges in Illinois have been seeing the same decrease in enrollment such as Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, who had a decrease of 13.7 percent between 2013 and 2014.

Paige Kirbach can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).

## East Asia Film series



Steven Hoskins/Lamp staff photo

**Professors Paul Van Heuklom and Ashley Green talk to guest speaker Joy Yang Jiao before the movie 'Shower.' Jiao, a doctoral student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, spoke about cultural changes in China as part of the East Asia Film and Lecture Series. The film is set in a traditional Chinese bathhouse. The owner's son returns home but wishes to return to his metropolitan, modern lifestyle. 'Shower' was the first in a three-part series of East Asian films, hosted by Van Heuklom and Green. The next films will be 'Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter ... and Spring' on Oct. 8 and 'Tokyo Story' on Nov. 5. Both events will be at 6 p.m. in the Trutter Center.**

## Opportunity and fresh popcorn

Students, vendors meet at Loggerpalooza

By Cathryn Buecker  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — After only four weeks at Lincoln Land, students have learned that no event is complete without a popcorn stand. Last Friday's Loggerpalooza certainly had popcorn, as well as several other interesting vendors.

Taking place in the A.Lincoln Commons, Loggerpalooza brought together local profit and nonprofit vendors who had a chance to showcase opportunities for Lincoln Land students.

Representatives from businesses and organizations included Life Goes On, Vibra Hospital, and PNC, who handed out pamphlets and other goodies. Among the vendors were several Lincoln Land clubs and organizations, including the Center for Academic Success.

Most noticeably, a large cardboard cutout of Abraham Lincoln read, "Selfies with Abe." Anyone could walk up, grab a grass skirt or a lei, and pose with the former president, or at least, his cardboard likeness.

Right in the middle of all the business vendors was the Celts booth, sporting ample amounts of green and plenty of spirit.

"Join the team!" said Molly Driver, one of the several individuals running the booth.

The Celts are a local rugby football club. The teams practice at Kennedy Park on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Eileen Figueroa, another Celts representative, said she liked Loggerpalooza.

"It's a great way to get students to interact," she said.

Amid the smell of popcorn and the chatter of the vendors and students, the sounds of local musician Matt Combs filled the commons.

"I had a good time out here," said Combs.

Combs, the one-man-band at the event, sang and played covers, as well as a few of his own songs. Every song was followed by avid applause from students and vendors alike.

Cathryn Buecker can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).

## Belize Please!

Honeymoon inspires biology professor to create educational trip

By Leanna Churchill  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD – While most Lincoln Land students are stuck in snowy Illinois in January, some students will be exploring Belize with LLCC Professor, Dave Cox.

Entering its 10th year, this trip allows students to hike and explore the rainforests and Mayan ruins, all while conducting biology experiments.

"I continue to do this because it is the most influential thing I can do as an educator for my students," Cox said. "More learning happens during a trip than can be achieved in a traditional classroom."

"While there, students conduct a field experiment, which plays a part in nine years of research and water quality testing on the Sibun River", Cox said.

A visit to a Howler monkey sanctuary also will be part of the trip.

Cox said students will learn about the role Howler monkeys play in the tropical rainforest.

This trip is not purely scientific, though, Cox said. There is a chance to study the history and culture of the old Mayan world. Students will visit the Mayan ruins of Xunantunich, St. Hermans Cave and unexplored sites during the jungle hikes.

Besides the educational goals, Cox said the trip aims "to expand

participants' global perspectives and increase their cultural awareness by visiting a developing country."

"Most participants come back with a greater appreciation for what we have in our country," Cox said. "They also come back with a very different perspective on people from a different country."

That change is Cox's favorite part, he said.

Belize, continued on page 2

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

**Editor**  
Tyler Allison

**Assistant Editor**  
Madison Mings

**Writers**  
Teresa Brummett  
Cathryn Buecker  
Leanna Churchill  
Kaylie Horrer  
Paige Kirbach  
Madison Mings  
Lukas Myers  
Tess Peterson  
Isaac Warren

**Photographers**  
Teresa Brummett  
Steven Hoskins

**Coordinator**  
Tim McKenzie

**Contact Us:**  
The Lamp  
Menard Hall, LLCC  
5250 Shepherd Road  
Springfield, IL 62794  
Lamp@llcc.edu  
(217) 786.2311

**Editorial Policy**  
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.

**Copyright Information**  
Copyright 2014 The Lamp. All rights reserved. All content is property of The Lamp and may not be reproduced or transmitted without consent.

## Accuracy

The Lamp strives for accuracy. If you find an error, please let us know. You can reach us at lamp@llcc.edu or 217-786.2311.

# Brazzel dazzles at recital

By Tess Peterson  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD – A small audience watched intently as Russel Brazzel's fingers worked meticulously on the strings of his guitar.

The Lincoln Land guitar instructor performed a diverse set of music, from the 1880s to the 1990s, from various countries and many unique styles.

Brazzel's one-performer guitar concert, "Classical Guitar Music: Classical to Modern," on Sept. 20 was the first of the eight-part recital series in the Trutter Center.

There were 70 chairs, but only about 25 people occupied them. Those empty chairs represented a missed opportunity for a top-notch concert from a top-notch performer.

The performance wove together beautiful and relaxing musical choices. Brazzel appeared calm and confident as he worked through intense pieces that required focus.

"I am an emotional person so playing a long piece, like Giuliani's sonata, requires great focus," Brazzel said.

Brazzel started his performance with English composers then moved to early 1990 Viennese composers. He ended with composers of the modern French and Spanish styles from the 1900s.

"The performance was like a history lesson in classical guitar," said Megan Garrison, an audience member.

His pieces came from composers Fernando Sor, who was friends with Johann van Beethoven, Mauro Giuliani, Heitor Villa-Lobos and Francisco Tarrega.

Another audience member commented, "I loved how the pieces played showed different cultural aspects of classical guitar music."

Brazzel received his bachelor's degree in music from Loyola University of New Orleans and started playing guitar in college when he was 20 years old.

Brazzel commented that he got a late start to the guitar at 20. He said that one of the things he likes about composer Villa-Lobos is that he didn't start playing guitar until he was 50 years old.

Brazzel continued his music education, attending graduate school at Tulane University, where he

earned his master's degree in fine arts.

He has lived in Central Illinois since 1990, teaching at Millikin University, Carl Sandburg College, and Lincoln Land.

As an experienced teacher and performer, Brazzel co-founded the Springfield Guitar Society, which showcases many guitar performances in Springfield.

This is one of eight concerts being held at Trutter Center this year. The next show, The Central Illinois Woodwind Quintet, will be 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18.

All shows are free and held at 4 p.m. on Sundays. The full schedule is:

- Nov. 15 – Theresa O'Hare & Tom Irwin
- Jan. 31 – Melinda Pitt Kaye
- Feb. 21 – River Ramblers
- March 20 – Brickhouse Brass
- April 3 – Emerald Underground
- May 1 – Paul Van Heuklom – Native American Flutes

Tess Peterson can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.

# Clubs, food draw crowd

## Science challenge among activities catching attention

By Teresa Brummett  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- Free lunch and a chance to join a fun student club brought a crowd to the A.Lincoln Commons on Sept. 23.

The Student Club Information Day allowed clubs to showcase their fun activities, and anyone signing up to join a club was entitled to one of 200 free lunches from Subway.

As for the clubs, science, math and other organizations were fighting for students to sign up for the clubs.

For those clubs, it's not just about fun, but about learning.

The Science Club did several demonstrations using Acetone, which is what many may know as a type of nail polish remover.

The student demonstrator gave a couple students the chance to see which one could fill more foam packing peanuts into a cup with Acetone in the bottom first. Sounds easy but it wasn't. As soon as the peanuts hit the fluid they started to bubble and melt into liquid themselves.

Plans for a field trip to Pfizer Pharmaceutical Co., which is located in Chicago was mentioned.

Another club spokesman spoke about Student United Way.

She talked about the homelessness outside camp out fundraiser. This is where students find some sort of box and use it as their home for the night, sleeping here on the Lincoln Land grounds.

Last year was warmer than usual, she said, but two years ago, it was



Teresa Brummett/Lamp staff photos  
**A student signs up for Student United Way. The club highlighted its activities, such as camping out on Lincoln Land's campus to learn about homelessness. BELOW: A robot built by the Robotics Club was on display.**

cold.

Really cold!

But this event brings awareness to the problem with homelessness in our local area.

Many students signed up for several different and fun clubs, grabbed a Subway lunch and received a lot of good information.

All in all good day for clubs here at Lincoln Land.

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



## Belize continued from page 1

"Going to Belize is a great experience, it gives you a look at how another part of the world works," said David Otto, a student who has been on the trip.

Otto plans to go again in January.

"Surprisingly, there is a lot of down time where

you can go exploring, meeting new people or just hangout by the pool with your friends," Otto said.

Cox came up with the idea for the educational trip when he first visited Belize on his honeymoon. He noticed it would be a perfect environment for students to learn.

Cox returned to the country and built relationships with the owners of the lodge. They started working together to find a way

to make these trips possible and have been doing so for the past 10 years.

"Standing in the top of a Mayan pyramid and looking over the entire countryside cannot be replicated in a classroom," Cox said. "The experiences that the students have during the course of the trip will be remembered for their entire life."

Leanna Churchill can be reached at Lamp@llcc.edu.

# PC vs. Mac

Mac has loyal following, but some don't see benefits

By Lukas Myers  
Staff Writer



Good vs. evil. Light vs. dark. Cards vs. Cubs. These are age-old rivalries, along with the newer one: Mac vs. PC.

We have seen the commercials with Justin Long, who portrays a Mac, and a nerd-type guy, who portrays a PC. They talk about which is better with the catchphrases: "I'm a Mac" and "I'm a PC."

These slogans created a marketing rift between the major players in the programming world: Apple and Windows.

But just how deep does this rift go? After all, Bill Gates, a Windows founder, and the late Steve Jobs, the Apple co-founder, actually had a fairly friendly relationship toward each other and held no resentment, at least publically.

Kilian Bialas, a prospective computer science major at Lincoln Land Community College, is an avid PC user. He sees both sides:

"On one side, you have something that is polished and sleek and good at what it does," Bialas said of the Mac. "But on the other hand, what it does is all it does. A PC can do anything and that includes what the Mac can do."

Bialas was firm on his preference for the PC for most people.

"I think something like 10 percent of people really need a Mac," he said.

Besides that, Bialas said a PC actually is better for a programmer. A PC will do a better job with programming, he said.

Kevin Carman, a music student, disagrees. He is a musician and uses Macs to record his work and is very familiar with its software. Yet, he thinks in reality, Mac and PC are probably not all that different.

"From my understanding, if I'm using it for my everyday stuff, both work just fine," Carman said. "I'm sure if you desperately need something to be the absolute best, then you may have a preference, but honestly, there's not much of a difference."

While preferring Apple, he is critical of those who take fandom to excess. Known as "fan boys," Carman does not support those who camp out and refuse to see the merits of the PC.

"PC is, by far, more user-friendly, despite what everyone seems to think," said Gregory Hill, an IT maintenance worker at Illinois State University, who is completely avid in his stance that no one needs a Mac.

"(The PC) allows greater customization and is better at using the hardware," Hill said. "Anything that you can do on a Mac you can do on a PC and probably better."

All in all, it is probably a spectrum of sorts. From die-hard PC lovers to the ever prevalent Apple fan boys, loyalty can be found in all shapes, sizes, and degrees.

Rivalry or not, one thing is for sure, neither company will be going bankrupt anytime soon.

Lukas Myers can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).



## Steam Machine: Gamers look out

Billed as 'PC in living room,' system will be available in November

By Isaac Warren  
Staff Writer

For Jonathan Davis, gaming consoles are a better choice, compared to playing games on one's computer.

"Consoles are more accessible and much easier to use," said Davis, a Lincoln Land student.

Walatee Weah, another LLCC student, felt the same way. He said the graphics on consoles were better than PC graphics.

But student Jared Gorrell is on the other end of the spectrum in the PC vs. game console

debate, feeling PCs are more accessible and easier to use.

Clearly, there are pros and cons to consoles and PCs. Fortunately, the company Valve has come up with a solution that can combine the best of both worlds.

This November, Valve's founder Gabe Newell hopes to revamp the gaming industry by introducing a new gaming console called the Steam Machine, marketed as bringing PC gaming into the living room.

The Steam Machine is a PC, but it is set up like a gaming console. It connects to the TV to allow gaming with the traditional console experience, but with the benefits of PC to stream games and improve graphics.

Valve has allowed 14 companies to create versions of a Steam Machine, including Alienware, Asus, Origin, and Zotac.

All of the companies' machines will run Valve's official operating system called Stea-

mOS. This operating system is different from other operating systems, such as Windows and OSX, because it was created specifically for playing games.

The Seattle, Washington-based company has released multiple games since being founded in 1996. Many have changed the gaming industry, including the "Half-Life" series, "Team Fortress 2" and the "Counter-Strike" series.

Valve is well known for making a piece of software called Steam, a software distribution platform. Essentially, this software is used as an online store for PC games. Valve has also made a game engine called Source, which is used to run most of their games.

More recently, however, the company has changed from making only games and software, to creating new hardware as well.

Steam Machines can be bought in a bundle, which includes the Steam Machine and the Steam Controller.

The Steam Controller is a revolutionary controller that was designed specifically for the Steam Machine. It combines the comfort of a controller with the familiarity of a keyboard and mouse, aiming to provide an accurate and comfortable gaming experience. Steam Machines and Steam Controllers can be taken apart to be fixed, modified or even upgraded.

Starting Nov. 10, consumers will be able buy the Steam Machines through online retailers and, eventually, in some stores, such as GameStop and Best Buy. An employee at the Springfield Best Buy said they will carry a large assortment of machines.

The prices are expected to range from \$450 to \$6,000, depending on how powerful the Steam Machine is. Consumers can preorder Steam Machines with delivery by Nov. 15.

Isaac Warren can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).

# Speak up and save lives

Suicide experts say  
help is available

By Kaylie Horrer  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD – More than 30,000 people in the United States die each year from suicide, and more than 800,000 people attempt suicide.

Suicide is such a big issue – and not just in the United States, but all over the world.

September is Suicide Awareness Month, which gives us a chance to pay attention to the struggle many might be facing alone. People can show support for those facing depression and suicidal thoughts by wearing a yellow or purple and turquoise ribbon or by getting a tattoo of a semicolon.

But one should also be willing to speak up and help those at risk.

Help is available by calling the suicide hotline at 1-800-273-8255. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week in English or Spanish.

A suicide prevention website is also available: [www.suicideprevention-lifeline.org](http://www.suicideprevention-lifeline.org).

“All calls to the hotline are anonymous up to a point,” said Bill McDonalds, suicide hotline receptionist.

For 70 percent of people who commit suicide, they gave hints beforehand. People with suicidal thoughts think/say things like:

- “Life isn’t worth living.”
- “My family/friends would be better off without me.”
- “Next time I’ll take more pills to do the job right.”
- “I won’t be in your way much longer.”
- “I won’t be a burden much longer.”
- “I’d be better off dead.”
- “I feel like there is no way out.”

To learn more go to <http://psych-central.com>.

Women attempt suicide more than men, but men are four times likely to succeed.

If someone is considering suicide, “just listen and encourage them to reach out to the hotline.”

Jordyn Lahey sees suicide as a big issue.

“If a friend or family member is having these kind of problems, (edit A) I would give them the suicide number,” Lahey said.

Johnathan Davis agreed that suicide is a problem and encouraged people to speak up.

“I would tell their and/or my parents,” Davis said.

“I know there’s a lot of help available for suicide,” said Jordyn and Jonathan. (edit A)

McDonalds said that resources are available for those considering suicide, but he worried that “not everyone takes it seriously.”

A lot of people are afraid to say something or think that no one will care if they express suicidal thoughts.

It’s time to step up and start helping.

Kaylie Horrer can be reached at [lamp@lcc.edu](mailto:lamp@lcc.edu).



Teresa Brummett/Lamp staff photo

Nancy Sweet and a culinary arts student demonstrate how to make quinoa salad with craisins and pecans as part of a healthy eating demonstration in the A.Lincoln Commons.

# Eating healthy

## Students watch demonstration, taste creation

By Madison Mings  
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- Chairs were set up in the A.Lincoln Commons in front of a table full of ingredients. Students and faculty gathered around to see what was happening.

Lincoln Land’s culinary arts students hosted a healthy eating demonstration by Nancy Sweet, and two student assistants, LeeAnn Stouffe and Brianna Yost.

Not a lot of students sat down. Most watched for a bit, then left.

Sweet’s first round of the health demonstration was with Stouffe, making a quinoa salad with craisins and pecans.

Sweet gives a walk-through of it being quick and easy to make, while Stouffe was in charge of chopping and cutting the mint and parsley. Sweet also was adding vinegar with the uncooked quinoa, while telling students you can eat the salad with grilled chicken for either lunch or dinner.

Students asked Sweet questions about the meal. She answered them as Stouffe prepared samples for the spectators.

When the first round was over, students tasted the sample.

“It taste pretty good. It’s kind of sweet,” Joseph

Ollis said.

Joseph Colonius added: “It taste good, has an acidic flavor because of the vinegar. It works with it being cold, but I would also like to try it hot. It has a bold flavor, but it’s not to overpowering with it.”

The salad is easy to make in the time of 5 to 10 minutes, with the fresh foods to make it healthy.

Sweet has been doing these health demonstrations for the past three years, with this being her third healthy eating demo.

A previous dish made last year was Israeli couscous salad, and the year before was tabbouleh salad, which was very popular.

The quinoa salad with craisins and pecans was something new that I had tasted but once I ate more of it, it tasted really good, so I would recommend trying it out yourself.

### Quinoa salad with craisins and pecans

Serves: 4

#### Ingredients

1 cup uncooked quinoa  
2 cups water

About 1/4 cup olive oil  
3 tablespoons cider or red vinegar  
1 tablespoon dijon mustard  
1/2 tablespoon honey  
4 green onions sliced  
1/2 cup Craisins  
1/2 cup pecans, chopped  
1/4 cup chopped fresh mint  
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

#### Preparation:

Bring 2 cups of water to boil in saucepot on stove. Add quinoa; cover reduce heat, and simmer about 15 minutes or until liquid is absorbed and quinoa is tender. Remove from heat, set aside, and let cool slightly.

Whisk together cider vinegar, mustard, and honey. Slowly add in olive oil until combined. Set aside

In a large mixing bowl combine quinoa, green onions, Craisins, and pecans. Mix in vinaigrette. Add in mint and parsley. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Can be served cold or at room temp.

Madison Mings can be reached at [lamp@lcc.edu](mailto:lamp@lcc.edu).

Visit us online at

# www.TheLampOnline.com