

Thanks for Sharing the Holiday Spirit

LPC extends sincere thanks to all those whose generosity helped make a difference in the lives of others during the holiday season. Following are some of the many ways individuals and organizations contributed.

#GivingHawksDay. LPC

Foundation's inaugural #Giving HawksDay exceeded its fundraising goal—raising \$26,149 to support our students and programs. Thanks for support from the Tri-Valley community and leadership from the foundation's Board of Directors.

CalWORKs Annual Gift Cards. The CalWORKs program brought lots of holiday cheer to our low-income students and their families at its Winter Celebration.

Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) Honor Society Coat Drive. AGS collected lots of warm coats for Shepherd's Gate in Livermore.

Veterans First Program. Thanks to the Pleasanton Military Families and American Legion Auxiliary, which donated gifts and gift cards to many student veterans and their families.

In This Issue

- **New Year, Programs, Classes**
- **Thanks for Sharing**
- **Fire Service Faculty Accolades**
- **Emergency Medical Services News**
- **Talk Hawks Soar to First Place**
- **Merry Music for the Holidays**
- **Olive Oil Profits Pour In**
- **Entrepreneur to Visit Campus**
- **LPC Campo di Bocce Benefit Week**
- **Calendar**

Happy New Year!

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." — Edith Lovejoy Pierce

2017 Ushers in New Programs and Classes

LPC wishes you a very Happy New Year! We kick off 2017 with more opportunities for students—offerings which drive economic development, build a strong workforce for our region, educate the whole student, and promote sustainability in our community. Following is a sampling of new programs and classes; please visit the website and class schedule for details.

Computer Information Technologist Program. LPC developed this new program developed in partnership with industry partners and local national labs, including Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. With an emphasis on work experience and internships, the program prepares students to become entry level IT professionals.

Occupational Safety and Health Program. CLPCCD's OSHA Training Center has partnered with LPC and its Occupational Safety and Health advisory committee to create an online certificate and degree program for working students in the safety field. The program trains professionals to protect people, property, and the environment and creates career pathways leading to employment and/or transfer to four-year degree programs.

Tenio DeCuerdas Eskrima. This introductory course of the Filipino martial art system focuses on the history of the system, basic movement and striking, increasing hand speed, defenses, and how to receive techniques safely.

Sustainable Landscape. Our Horticulture program developed this course in response to community demand. The course emphasizes constructing drought tolerant landscapes that are low maintenance, attractive, and successful.

Horticulture student Michael Severein tends sustainable landscaping which students installed last year near the Veterans Resource Center. The Horticulture Program is planning three more sustainable campus projects this spring.



Fire Service Coordinator Honored with Award

LPC's Fire Service Technology program and faculty enjoy a reputation for excellence throughout the state and beyond. President Russell commends two faculty members for their recent service to others in the line of duty. Program Coordinator and San Francisco Fire Department Lieutenant Ron Johansen saved a young man's life and Instructor and Oakland Fire Department Lieutenant George Freelen was a first responder at the tragic "Ghost Ship" fire in Oakland last month.

Meritorious Conduct Award

Lt. Johansen was among the San Francisco firefighters monitoring demolition of the old Bay Bridge last year when one of them glimpsed a splash in the water. Even though they thought it was probably just a sea lion, firefighters immediately investigated.

What they found was a young man who had just jumped from the new bridge and was drowning. Under difficult conditions, Lt. Johansen administered emergency aid to the struggling young man and saved his life. The young man later thanked his rescuers, said he was getting the help he needed, and felt very lucky to be alive.

For his lifesaving role in this rescue, Lt. Johansen was recently presented with a SFFD Meritorious Conduct

Award, posing a new challenge for the much-decorated Lt. Johansen—finding space for it on his already crowded office walls.

This is Lt. Johansen's fifth Meritorious Conduct Award and he has been named Firefighter of the Year five times as well. Among the many awards, recognitions, and mementos covering his walls, one of his most treasured is a 1977 letter commending him for his very first rescue.

The letter is from Chabot College's revered founding President and Superintendent Reed L. Buffington, Ed.D. As he was swimming laps in the pool at Chabot, where he was a student, the young Johansen saw a body at the bottom of the pool. Thanks to his expertise and quick action, he saved the life of the young woman—who coincidentally has the same last name, but is not related.

Since that fateful day in the pool, Lt. Johansen has saved many lives and fought every major fire in the area—from Yosemite to the Oakland Tunnel Fire. He and LPC's other Fire Service faculty share their hard won, invaluable experience with their students who go on to serve our community, our state, our nation, and even foreign countries.

Student Success

Ron Johansen's favorite topic of conversation is his students' success. He estimates that 50 to 70 percent of all new hires at the local fire departments within the last 10 years have been LPC graduates. Our alums also serve in many states, including Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, and New York, in NYFD. Additionally, two alums now serve in Spain and one is in Sweden.

"We're very proud that we have such a high success rate for our students," Lt. Johansen said. But, he's most proud of the values students cultivate at LPC. "So many of our students believe that to be a firefighter is to be able to give themselves to others—their blood, their sweat, their hard work, and their tears. Our students volunteer for so many different events, for so many service agencies and groups. These students develop a value system of giving, to sacrifice themselves for others, and that's what matters most in life."



Fire Service Technology Program Coordinator Ron Johansen is surrounded by some of his students. All 44 of his first-year students have landed students positions as explorers at local fire departments, including the Livermore-Pleasanton and Alameda County fire departments. In terms of vehicles, the program has its own fire department: command vehicles, type three ambulance, light rescue unit, 85-foot tower ladder truck, and a type three fire engine—one of the few in the state—in high demand for its use in wildland fires.

EMS News: Recruitment, Prep Class, Award

LPC Paramedic Program Recruitment. The Paramedic Training Program is accepting applications for fall semester from April 15 to June 30. For details, please visit the website.

Recertification Class. This semester, LPC's Emergency Medical Technician Program is offering an EMT Recertification Class, EMS 91, which is highly recommended for applicants to the fall 2017 Paramedic Training Program.

Alumni Award. Last month, Emergency Medical Technician alumna Jennifer Henson received the EMS Professional of the Year Award for Alameda County. Daughter of Math Instructor Teresa Dern Henson, Ms. Henson also graduated with an associate degree in

Biology, Allied Health emphasis. LPC congratulates Ms. Henson on her prestigious award!



Mary Lauffer

Paramedic Training is part of LPC's highly-regarded Emergency Medical Services Programs.

Talk Hawks Capture First Place, Again

The indomitable Talk Hawks did it again! They kept their winning streak alive by capturing first place in a recent speech competition—winning by a wide margin: 170.5 points versus 69 points by the second-place team,

CSU Chico. LPC's Talk Hawks competed with teams from 14 two- and four-year colleges. Their next tournament will be at Chabot College on February 3.



Christopher Hartwell

During student recitals last month, Daniel Le and Celia Reddoch perform "What You Mean to Me" from the Broadway musical *Finding Neverland*.

Music Makes Month Merry

LPC's Music Program treated the campus and community to lots of musical merry making for the holidays. In December, students presented recitals, roving carolers spread the holiday spirit on campus, and all of the ensembles collaborated in a Holiday Concert. The concert featured the Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Band, "Vocal East" Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combos, and Chamber Choir performing many holiday favorites, new student compositions, a rousing audience sing-along, and the final joyous "Hallelujah" chorus. Congratulations to the music students and faculty on this spectacular concert!

H.O.T.T. Olive Oil Heats Up Profits

LPC's Horticulture Program enjoyed an excellent olive harvest this year. The Tuscan style extra virgin olive oil, produced by the club Horticulturalists of Today and Tomorrow (H.O.T.T.), sold out last month and raised \$700, which will support next year's olive production, club activities, and materials to renovate several landscapes at LPC. The beautiful bottle labeling and packaging is courtesy of LPC's Viticulture and Winery Technology Program.



Courtesy of David Everett

CALENDAR

Please visit our website for more details about the latest news and events.

January 16-22	LPC Benefit Week at Campo di Bocce. Please see article below.
January 16	Holiday. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 17	Spring 2017 semester begins
February 7	Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series, Eddy Gramajo, 6-7 PM, Room 2420, free
February 17-20	Holiday. Presidents' Day Weekend
February 21	Flex Day. Offices are closed; all classes starting before 4 PM. are cancelled.

Keep Up with LPC Basketball!
Please Visit the Athletics Website
for Schedules and Results.
Go, Hawks!



“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Entrepreneur to Speak Feb. 7



Courtesy of Eddy Gramajo

Eddy Gramajo

Entrepreneur and CPA Eddy Gramajo will share his inspiring story from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. February 7 in Room 2420 of the Multi-Disciplinary

Building. His talk kicks off the 5th Annual Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series, sponsored by the Business Studies Program. The series is free and open to the public.

One of Mr. Gramajo's goals in college was to prepare to support his family. Upon graduation, he went on to work for Deloitte and then became co-founder of Lite, a financial literacy app. He currently works as a revenue accountant at Pandora. He is passionate about personal finance education, especially for low-income communities, and has taught underprivileged youth about personal finance.

Have a Ball Boosting College Coffers!

LPC Benefit Week at Campo di Bocce is Jan. 16-22

Bring your friends and family to Campo di Bocce during the week of January 16 through 22 when 15 percent of sales will be donated to the LPC Foundation. Located at 175 E. Vineyard Ave. in Livermore, the popular Campo di Bocce combines a restaurant and bocce courts, adding up to fun for the whole family. Choose from popular dishes like

chicken marsala, pasta, steak, pizza, salads, and more. When you're ready to play, bocce instructors are always on hand to provide lessons and tips. Enjoy delicious food and have a ball playing bocce—all to support LPC students and programs. For more information, please call the LPC Foundation Office at (925) 424-1014.



Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Issues are posted online at laspositascollege.edu/president. Mary M. Lauffer, Editor

3000 Campus Hill Drive | Livermore CA 94551-7623 | PH 925.424.1000 | www.laspositascollege.edu
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Students First