



CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE

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Let it Snow

Students head to final exams Monday after a winter storm slammed the area, closing campuses the week before. RLC Physical Plant staff worked during the shutdown and had campus cleared and ready in time for students returning on Monday. (Nathan Wheeler / RLC Public Information)

Reed to accept Alumnus of the Year honor tonight at Foundation Annual Dinner

REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION
 Class of 1987 graduate Trish Reed will accept the Rend Lake College Alumnus of the Year honor during the RLC Foundation Annual Dinner rescheduled for tonight. Reed is the president and general manager of UpTime Parts, a national subsidiary of Navistar, Inc., in West Chicago.

The Scheller native grew up with four brothers and sisters in a typical Southern Illinois small town. She attended school in Waltonville schools before coming to RLC in the fall of 1985. She earned an Associate of Science Degree in 1987 from RLC before moving on to earn a Bachelor of Science

Degree in Finance and minor in Economics from Southern Illinois University.

She has spent 24 years working for Navistar, Inc., a leading manufacturer of commercial trucks, buses, defense vehicles and engines. For the first 20 years she worked with Navistar Financial Corp., a Navistar affiliate that provides financing to help dealers and customers purchase Navistar products. She then became president of UpTime Parts, an aftermarket parts supplier for light-duty trucks.

In her four years in this role, she has successfully reinvigorated a culture of teamwork and performance that has resulted in improved customer satisfaction, nearly double-digit growth in sales

and a 90 percent increase in profitability.

Before moving on to these successes, Reed was like other small-town athletes and played basketball for the Lady Warriors as a forward, a legacy carried on since her grade school years.

"When I think about my time at Rend Lake, I look back and see what a key influence it was for me," said Reed. "I was initially accepted at Bradley in Peoria, but then Coach Jim Waugh reached out to me and that helped me pay for my first two years in college. Between school and basketball, I learned a very important life lesson: A good team is one that works well together."

Coming from a small

school, Reed said she received a lot of playing time on the court for the Spartans, but that changed when she took the floor for the Lady Warriors.

"There were a lot of adjustments I had to make, but regardless of my role, it was important that we were all one team," said Reed. "I've taken that lesson to every job I've had. I didn't appreciate it as much at the time, and I don't know if I would've learned it at all if not for Coach Waugh and Rend Lake College."

Reed also calls to mind several instructors who had a hand in influencing her future.

"There were other instructors at Rend Lake that put me on a great path. My



Trish Reed

speech teacher was one. I dreaded speaking and I was not looking forward to his class," said Reed. "By the

Reed continues on page 3

RLC Culinary Arts invites high school students to partake of 'A Celebration of Southern Illinois Cuisine'

REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION
 It's your turn to make a special holiday dinner for your friends and family. The kitchen is full-stocked and you want to make something to impress your guests. What favorite recipe do you reach for?

High school students across Southern Illinois are invited to reach for their favorite savory or pastry recipes, and submit them to the Rend Lake College Culinary Arts program this spring for a chance to win several prizes and develop their culinary skills.

The "Celebration of Southern Illinois Cuisine Recipe Competition" is open to all high

school students, not just those in cooking classes. Students may submit recipes starting January 1. Submissions should include the recipe, photos of the finished dish and an explanation as to why the student selected the cuisine.

Chef Robert Wilson, RLC's Lead Culinary Arts Instructor, said the deadline for submissions is March 1, with the competition date to be at the beginning of April. More details regarding the competition date will be released as they become available.

"The focus of the recipes is to promote

Contest continues on page 4

Consider 'The Third Man'

BILLY MCPHERSON
CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFFWRITER

This review/recommendation contains spoilers, so read on at your own risk.

According to many critics, "Casablanca" is the stock answer to the question: What's the greatest film of all time? It is a fine film. But, in my opinion, Carol Reed's "The Third Man" deserves to be considered, at the very least, equal with "Casablanca."

It's an interesting comparison. "Casablanca" takes place in a lush, vibrant city just before the American entrance into World War II. "The Third Man" takes place in the bombed-out remains of a city just after the close of the war. In many ways "The Third Man" is like a dark, desolate continuation of the themes that carried

"Casablanca" — the aftermath of destruction not yet begun, but now fully realized.

Although the settings are streamlined in these films, the heroes of "Casablanca" and of "The Third Man" could not be more different. Holly Martins, played here with great earnestness by Joseph Cotton, is the antithesis of Humphrey Bogart's colder and more nuanced Rick Blaine. Martins is a very trusting, naive writer of pulp fiction just arriving in Vienna after receiving a letter from his old college friend, and current black market kingpin, Harry Lime (Orson Welles), whose funeral it turns out is being held the same day of Martin's arrival. Now, Rick Blaine had been in Casablanca running his

'Third Man' continues on page 3

Rend Lake College seeks candidates for open positions

As of Dec. 9, Rend Lake College was seeking to fill the following positions.

Activity Director / Curriculum Specialist (Temporary Full-Time), Part-Time Instructors in Math

& Sciences at the Pinckneyville Campus, and Part-Time Instructors in the Math & Sciences Division. Read more about these positions and apply by going online to www.rlc.edu/jobs.

INSIDE:

Crossword & Sudoku	2
Poinsettia Care	4
Illinois Theatre Association Mock Auditions	4
Athletics	5
Classifieds	6

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

	6		4							
		5			1					
3	8			9					5	
			5			1	9			
		4			2		3	7		
	1			7				2		
8						6				
		6		1	5					
	4							8	3	

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HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Sudoku solution is printed on page 4.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Use the couch
- 4 Fidel Castro, e.g.
- 9 Picks out of a lineup, briefly
- 12 Japanese pond carp
- 13 Last Greek letter
- 14 Ultramoder-nist
- 15 Office-holder
- 17 Pitcher's topper
- 18 Apiece
- 19 Merman and Mertz
- 21 Label founded by Clive Davis
- 24 Gets a gander at
- 25 Fellow
- 26 Pvt.'s superior
- 28 Takes five
- 31 Snapshots
- 33 Finish
- 35 Willy Wonka's creator
- 36 Narrow cuts
- 38 Sleuth, for short
- 40 Born
- 41 — moss
- 43 Fed well, as a Biblical calf
- 45 Twist in pain

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15			16							17		
			18				19		20			
21	22	23					24					
25				26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
			41			42		43		44		
45	46						47					
48				49		50				51	52	53
54					55					56		
57					58					59		

- 47 Mrs. McKinley
- 48 Coloration
- 49 Rainy, perhaps
- 54 Hostel
- 55 Surround
- 56 Sticky stuff
- 57 Encountered
- 58 Uses a swizzle stick
- 59 Rhyming praise
- 6 Spelling contest
- 7 Actress Moorehead
- 8 Talk on and on
- 9 Nonstop
- 10 Transaction
- 11 Bribes
- 16 — and downs
- 20 Pay attention
- 21 Rock band's gear
- 22 Bar
- 23 Just beginning
- 27 Explosive letters
- 29 You
- 30 Coaster
- 32 Undo a delete
- 34 Graffiti writer, e.g.
- 37 Masters, in old India
- 39 West Pointers
- 42 Doctrine
- 44 Scot's chapeau
- 45 Caprice
- 46 Mysterious character
- 50 Vegas-based crime show
- 51 Swelled head
- 52 Agree silently
- 53 Part of the foot

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Crossword solution is printed on page 3.

Rend Lake College Clocktower Chronicle

Administration:

LuAnn Droege, Senior Editor, Centralia Sentinel
Nathan Wheeler, Editor, Rend Lake College

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Holly and mistletoe are symbols of Christmas

“Oh, by gosh, by golly it's time for mistletoe and holly. Tasty pheasants, Christmas presents, countrysides covered in snow.”

As exemplified by this holiday hit by Henry Sanicola, Frank Sinatra and Dok Stanford, holly and mistletoe are an integral part of holiday imagery

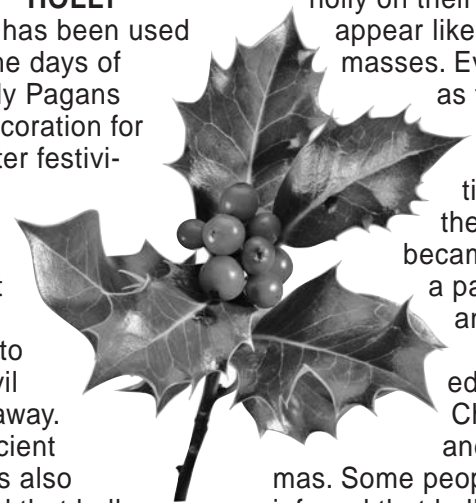
and tradition. Holly is used to adorn a home in green and red finery alongside evergreen boughs and wreaths. In addition, it has become customary to hang a bouquet of mistletoe under which people are encouraged to share a holiday kiss. While these elements of celebrations are now incorporated into many of the secular and religious components of

Christmas, they have very different origins.

HOLLY
Holly has been used since the days of the early Pagans as a decoration for midwinter festivities, when it was brought into homes to keep evil spirits away. The ancient Romans also believed that holly prickles drove away evil spirits, and it held a place of honor at December festivals dedicated to the god Saturn. To avoid persecution during the Roman pagan Saturnalia festival, early Christians would

participate in the tradition of hanging evil-repelling holly on their homes to appear like the masses. Eventually as the number of Christians grew, the tradition became less of a pagan one and more associated with Christians and Christmas. Some people have inferred that holly and its prickly edges is symbolic of the crown of thorns Jesus wore at his crucifixion, with the red berries representing blood.

Mistletoe continues on page 5



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'Third Man'
continued from page 1

nightclub long enough to know the scene well enough to hide in plain sight, and know when it was in his best interest to let a thing be and mind his own business. Where Rick Blaine was a cynical self-interested businessman who "stuck his neck out for nobody," Holly Martins is, from the outset, sticking his neck out time and time again, trying to find out what happened to his friend.

The Vienna of "The Third Man" is an inescapable character all its' own here. Few other cities in cinematic history fit their story as well as Vienna does here. It is through this bleak, war-torn filter that we see the action of the fictional story so epically backdropped by the real-life devastation caused by the severe bombing the city underwent during the Second World War. At this point in history, Vienna was cut off into four separate sections controlled respectively by the French, British, Russian, and American authorities in each part, which basically quadruples the amount of red tape to deal with while hunting for criminals like Harry Lime. It is a city where the post-war Black Market thrived in unparalleled fashion as we are told by the opening narration. It's not just in the dust and rubble of the buildings that you see the fallout of war though, but in the faces of the people and characters in this movie. Major Calloway, played by Trevor Howard, is a notable example. When he learns that Harry Lime, the noted Black Market swindler, has possibly been murdered, his reaction isn't anger or indignation over being robbed of his moment in court, but simple relief that there's one less crook he will have to deal with.

Ernst Deutsch — who

has a face that would give even Bella Lugosi the creeps — plays Baron Kurtz, a friend of the "late" Harry Lime. He tells Martins that before Lime died he gave him a special message to give to him. This contradicts what Martins had been told previously about his



Billy McPherson

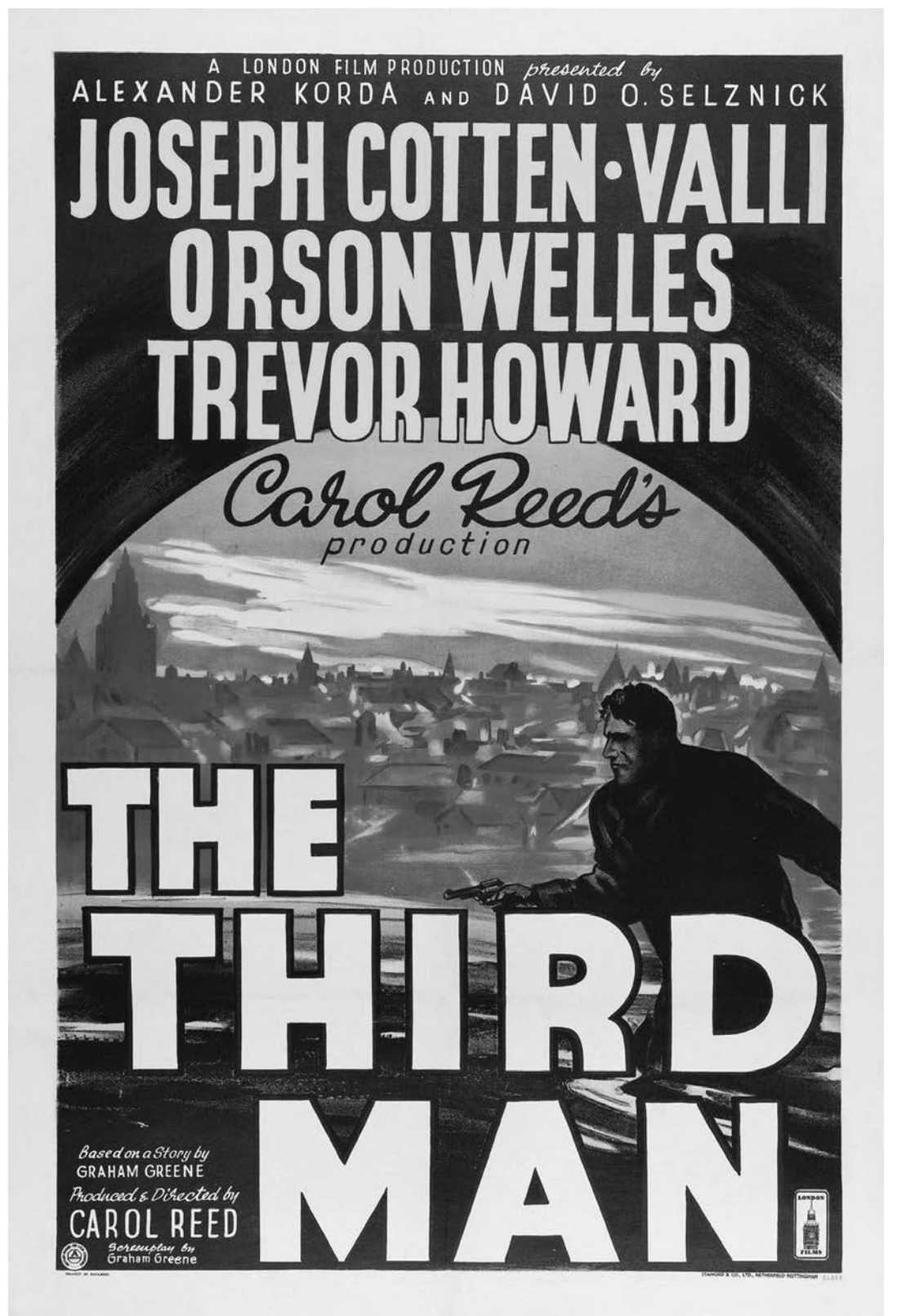
friend's death. Before, he had heard that Lime had been killed instantly after he was struck by an oncoming automobile, and that his body was carried away by three men, whereas Kurtz mentions only two men in his reckoning. This leads Martins to start an investigation of his own in search of the missing third man. After finding no help at all from Major Calloway who, as stated before, cares not how Harry Lime died, but only that he did indeed die, then proceeds to question everyone he can think of from Lime's known acquaintances. He does find an ally, although an ineffective one in Sgt. Paine, played by Bernard Lee, as a kind-hearted but oafish individual — the sort that buys the kind of anti-intellectual fluff that Martins writes in his popular pulp westerns (of the Zane Grey variety) that currently supply his living.

His investigation also leads him to question Lime's girlfriend — the femme fatal of this movie, Anna Schmidt — the beautiful but weary eyed

Alida Valli in some terrific, vulnerable — but not too vulnerable — acting work. Martins, of course, falls in love with Anna, while Anna remains in love with Lime. Both are hopeless loves though as Lime is/was too concerned with self preservation to pay Anna any real mind and Anna has her defenses too keenly sharpened to ever allow an amateur like Holly Martins to penetrate them.

This film makes many brave choices: From its grand, historical setting of post-war Vienna as opposed to a studio set, to its constant and haunting zither score that serves as an all purpose musical accompaniment to the macabre story. Then you have the many tilted camera angles that lend a dreamlike trance kind of feeling to the whole affair, and the great use of larger-than-life shadows. Finally, the ending leaves you with a real punch in the gut that strays from typical expectations of Hollywood movie endings from the time. Carol Reed here is in top form to say the least. He stuck to his guns while filming this movie having to fight his producers on almost every decision. There are movies that you call films, and films that you call movies. "The Third Man" is one of those rare artistic delights that satisfies both of those particular aspects in spades. It is indeed a film with a capital F, but one that is enjoyable and enthralling enough to engage you the way that a less artistic movie thriller might also do, but when it's over you are left with so much more to chew on and contemplate.

"You know what the fellow said — in Italy, for thirty years under the Borgias, they had warfare, terror, murder and bloodshed, but they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci and the Renaissance. In



Switzerland, they had brotherly love, they had five hundred years of democracy and peace — and what did that produce? The cuckoo clock." — Orson Welles as Harry Lime in "The Third Man"

The above quotation from one of Orson Welles' most famous monologues perfectly describes Harry Lime's warped outlook on the world. Lime is like Rick Blaine from "Casablanca," if Rick Blaine had been born without a soul. It is one of Orson Welles' —

and the films' — most remarkable and disturbing achievements that Lime comes across so likable in the process of this story. During the climactic chase scene through the sewers of Vienna we share in his terror every step of the way as he slowly realizes that he has become a trapped gutter rat. It is one of the most thrilling chase sequences in all of film history. Before that, his

entrance into the movie is equally epic. The perfect lighting, the camera angle, the sound of the footsteps: Everything sets the mood for the big reveal. When that second story window light hits Orson Welles' face and the two old friends exchange surprised smiles, it's as if Lime is rewarding Martins for his dogged pursuit of his own ghost.

Reed
continued from page 1

time our class was over I thought, 'I really love speaking'. Now I make presentations in front of 500 people and I feel comfortable. My math instructors were great too. They were some major influences on my career in finance."

After graduating from SIU, Reed said her goal was to move to central Illinois and pursue a career at a bank or financial company. She said the idea came from seeing her sister working at a bank in Sesser; however, but something bigger was on the horizon.

"I started interviewing in the Springfield area, one of which was Navistar. I really had no idea who Navistar was at the time," she said. "I interviewed for a trainee position, and they wanted me to go to Chicago for the interview. I was reluctant, but I did, and Navistar Financial offered me the job the same day I interviewed. My gut thought, 'this is the place to be' and it's been a great 24-year career."

While working at Navistar Financial, Reed did everything from collections and credit underwriting to sales, and worked her way up through 11 different positions. Four years ago, she made the jump to the parts division and hasn't looked back since.

"Basically, I run a small division that Navistar owns called UpTime

Parts," said Reed. "I oversee all operations: sales, customer service, procurement of parts. We work with aftermarket and specialty vehicles, like UPS, who is our largest customer. Four years is the longest I've been in one position, but that's the great thing about Navistar. They keep us challenged and they continue to throw opportunities at us."

If there's one thing Reed took away from Rend Lake College, she said it's the value of teamwork, which she now utilizes at Navistar in a number of leadership and mentoring programs. She has been a mentor to many Navistar employees, and has helped coach and develop numerous colleagues to advance their careers.

"I would say, for me and

my background in sports, I've been very involved in team aspects my whole life. Being a part of that and knowing how well teams work together in achieving results is important to my position," she said. "I've taken on management and leadership positions and it's the same every time: how well is the team working together? Some of the things I learned was you've got to have a common goal, strong morale and great spirit. You've got to celebrate the wins and successes, and people are more open to feedback in the spirit of being better tomorrow. You need a variety of people of different backgrounds and experiences who all value working together with a common vision and goals."

Additionally, both inside

and outside of the workplace, Reed spends her time focusing on health and fitness. At home, she finds ways to be active outside, and at work, she has served as a sponsor for Vital Lives, a Navistar wellness initiative. She is also involved in the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

"I work a lot of hours, but health and fitness are very important to me. I'm usually at the gym or doing things outside like yard work or roller blading," said Reed. "I'm also passionately involved in the MS Society, and I do a lot of fund raising. I'm a part of a team that walks every year in honor of someone very special to me who was diagnosed with MS in 2003. We're

Dinner
continues on page 4

Solution to crossword puzzle on page 2.

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	I	T		C	U	B	A	N		I	D	S		
K	O	I		O	M	E	G	A		N	E	O		
I	N	C		U	M	B	E	N	T		C	A	P	
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A	R	I	S	T	A		S	E	E	S				
M	A	N		S	G	T		R	E	S	T	S		
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I	N	N				B	E	S	E	T		G	O	O
M	E	T				S	T	I	R	S		O	D	E

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Lessons in acting

High school student Kristin Doty, LEFT, of Herrin is joined on stage by Rend Lake College students Eric Price, CENTER, of Benton, and Brandon Isom, RIGHT, of Christopher during the Illinois Theatre Association (ITA) Mock Auditions Monday afternoon in the RLC Theatre. Aimee-Lynn Newlan of the ITA, OFF STAGE, LEFT, instructs the students on how to better perform as actors and during auditions. "Most of what I'm going to say are opinions. If I say something that influences you, supports you, or encourages you, then go with it. If you don't agree, that's fine too. It's only my opinion and I'm here to help you focus on what you can control," said Newlan. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Dinner

continued from page 3

called D's Dream Team. Next year we're planning on having a golf outing as a fundraiser for her." As the team captain of D's Dream Team, she has helped raise more than \$29,000 for the National MS Society. She has also raised more than \$7,500 for Chicago-area AIDS charities with two 500-mile bike rides. In the workplace, she

has served as an advisor to the Navista Financial Diversity Council and as a certified Valuing Differences facilitator. She is also an active Junior Achievement volunteer in DuPage County. Reed's extended family and many close friends still reside in Southern Illinois, and she is a frequent visitor. She recently became involved at RLC with an endowment through the RLC Foundation.

Solution to Sudoku on page 2.

1	6	9	4	5	8	3	7	2
4	7	5	2	3	1	9	6	8
3	8	2	6	9	7	4	5	1
7	2	3	5	8	4	1	9	6
9	5	4	1	6	2	8	3	7
6	1	8	9	7	3	5	2	4
8	9	7	3	4	6	2	1	5
2	3	6	8	1	5	7	4	9
5	4	1	7	2	9	6	8	3

Contest

continued from page 1

Southern Illinois Cuisine. Think of what your favorite foods are; the ones that you look forward to when your family gets together at special gatherings and holidays," said Wilson. Three entrants within each of the two categories — savory and pastry — will be chosen to

participate in the April culinary challenge by preparing their recipes at RLC. The winner of the savory category will receive a professional knife kit and the winner of the baking category will receive a professional baking kit, both from Mercer Knives, event sponsor. All contestants will receive an embroidered Professional Chefs Jacket.

Entrants should email submissions to Wilson at wilsonr@rlc.edu. All submissions will be posted on the program's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/rlculinary. Local chefs will judge the submissions and the top contestants at the challenge. For more information, contact Robert Wilson at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1332.

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The basics of caring for a poinsettia

Although poinsettias are most often associated with the holiday season, they are actually tropical plants. In spite of their origins, poinsettias can thrive during the holiday season and even last long after the holidays have come and gone. Poinsettias are native to Mexico and Central America. Aztecs called the plant cuetlaxochitl. The flowering plant was first introduced to the

United States by Joel Poinsett, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico, and was subsequently renamed the poinsettia. The flowers of the poinsettia are actually the yellow blooms at the middle of the bright red or white bracts that form on the plant. Perhaps due to the bright red of the bracts, the plant quickly became a popular Christmas plant. It's important to note that poinsettias grow in a warm climate and therefore must

be kept in tropical conditions to ensure the plant's health. Furthermore, poinsettias bloom in response to shortening daylight hours. That means they will need ample darkness each night in order to simulate the dark nights of short, winter days. To achieve this, you may need to put the plant into a dark closet for 12 to 14 hours each night. During the day, the plant should be in a sunny window where it will have access to bright light. The more light the better. Keep the soil evenly moist. Misting the plant will help it to retain some humidity. Also, fill the overflow saucer on your flower pot with gravel to allow water seeping through the pot to evaporate. Hot temperatures indoors combined with high humidity will help the plant to thrive. Even one day without adequate moisture can cause the leaves to drop. Furthermore, decreasing temperatures can cause leaves to fall off. The goal is to keep the indoor temperature consistent.

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ATHLETICS

W S E C T I O N



UP FOR THREE — Sophomore Cortez Macklin (Louisville, Ky.) shoots a three Wednesday night against the Southwestern Illinois College Blue Storm in Waugh Gymnasium. Macklin and fellow sophomore Jeril Taylor (Louisville, Ky.) scored 16 points each during the victorious game. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Macklin, Taylor lead RLC Warriors to victory over SWIC

Two returning Rend Lake College Warriors led their team to a win against Southwestern Illinois College at home on Dec. 4. The 71-52 win placed the Warriors at 7-3 for the season. In the first half, the Warriors started strong, gaining a 10-point lead on the Blue Storm in the first few

minutes. Sophomore Cortez Macklin (Louisville, Ky.) put up 16 points of the 36 scored by the Warriors in the first half. Mirroring him in the second, fellow sophomore Jeril Taylor (Louisville, Ky.) also scored 16 points of the 36 additional points, bringing the Warriors into a double-digit lead. Taylor would go on

to score the game-high of 19 points. The Warriors will host Danville Area Community College at 7 p.m. Dec. 12. It's the Warriors last game of 2013. Its season will resume Jan. 8 with a home game against Kaskaskia. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Warriors Basketball: RLC takes road win over Lincoln

REANNE PALMER
RLC SPORTS INFORMATION
The Rend Lake College Warriors and the Lincoln College Lynx played a close game Dec. 9. But it was the Warriors who came out on top with an 85-82 win in Lincoln.

Outscoring the Lynx in the first half 40-32, the Warriors were led by Cortez Macklin (Louisville, Ky.), Brandon Johnson (East St. Louis) and Jeril Taylor

(Louisville, Ky.) in points. Macklin finished with the game-high of 20-points to Johnson and

defense, bringing down 12 rebounds. He added three assists, three steals and a block during the game.



The win moved the Warriors to 8-3 on the season. They will face Danville Area at 7 p.m. Dec. 12 (today), in Waugh Gymnasium. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Lady Warriors take double-digit loss to Blue Storm

REANNE PALMER
RLC SPORTS INFORMATION
The Rend Lake College Lady Warriors never made a comeback against Southwestern Illinois College Blue Storm, starting the Dec. 4 game down by four in Waugh Gymnasium. The 48-70 loss moves the team to 5-4 for the season.

Freshmen Marquita Hilliard-Williams (Madison, Wis.) and Alexa Capps (Woodlawn) led the Lady Warriors in the first half with 5 points each; however, it would be sophomore Jasmine Guthrie (Belleville) who would finish the night with the game-high of 13 points.

LaTeesha Deloach (Florisant, Mo.) and Breana Baker (Peoria) outscored the Lady Warriors with 15 points and 13 points respectively. The team will host Kaskaskia at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 8. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.



PREPARING FOR THE SHOT — Sophomore Jasmine Guthrie (Belleville) looks over the court before taking a 3-point shot Wednesday night against the Southwestern Illinois College Blue Storm at home. Guthrie scored the game-high of 13 points for the Lady Warriors. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

This week for the Warriors ...

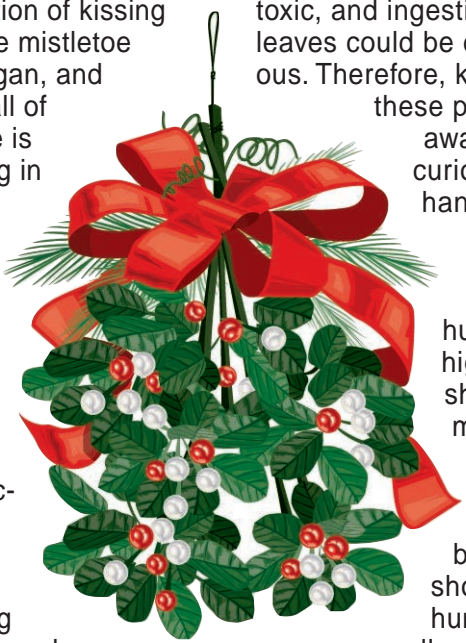
The men's basketball team will host Danville Area Community College at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Mistletoe

Mistletoe was once held sacred by the Norse, Celtic Druids and North American Indians. It is actually a parasitic plant that grows on a wide range of host trees. Heavy infestation can dwarf the growth and kill these trees. In cultures across pre-Christian Europe, mistletoe was seen as a representation of divine male essence (and thus romance, fertility and vitality). The plant also was thought to be a symbol of peace, and anyone standing below it should receive tokens of affection. When enemies met beneath mistletoe, they had to lay down their weapons and observe a truce until the

next day. This is how the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe likely began, and why a ball of mistletoe is now hung in homes during Christmas, a season of peace and affection. Homeowners who hang mistletoe and holly around their homes during the holiday season should be mindful of pets and youngsters around the plants. Mistletoe and holly are considered to be

moderately to severely toxic, and ingesting the leaves could be dangerous. Therefore, keep these plants away from curious hands. Mistletoe is commonly hung up high, which should make it less problematic, but holly should be hung high as well. Now largely associated with Christmas celebrations, holly and mistletoe were once part of pagan rituals and ancient superstitions.



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