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Fresh off the Press

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Linfield’s community garden

Students can cultivate vegetables, herbs and gardening skills at the Linfield Campus Community Garden, just outside Renshaw Hall. The quarter-acre garden “provides a space for students to explore their relationship with their food,” says Duncan Reid ’10, sustainability coordinator. “It’s an educational garden.”

The garden allows students to practice hands-on sustainable agriculture on a small scale, and it is also a living laboratory educating the community about local and organic produce. The garden has a work-study garden manager position each semester, and is also tended by volunteers.

Sarah Stark ’17 and Quinn Rieseman ’17, who managed the plot over the summer, say the garden has tomatoes, turnips, kale, chard, lettuce, squash, lemon cucumber, strawberries and blueberries for harvest, all pesticide free.

They also planted carrots, beets and romanesco broccoli for the fall. Rieseman says when it comes to gardening, “perseverance and patience are very important.”

The garden started in 2009 at half its current size. It expanded in 2014, and a greenhouse was added in 2016.

The garden is open to student volunteers of all experiences and backgrounds, from those with green thumbs to those who are all thumbs.

Neither Stark nor Rieseman had any gardening experience before they started at Linfield. Growing up outside of Phoenix, Ariz., Stark’s knowledge of where food came from started and ended at the grocery store.

“Having a space that was really close to me, and knowing I planted those seeds, and now I can take the food from that, has been a key piece in many of the lifestyle changes I’ve gone through as a student,” she says.

While Rieseman, a creative writing and religious studies double major, didn’t connect the garden to his studies, Stark did so for her degree in environmental policy. She had an interest in sustainable agriculture, and completed an internship where she put in hours in the garden.

Produce from the garden goes to its volunteers, as well as to local food banks or soup kitchens. Students also plan to start a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

– Christian Feuerstein

Fresh off the press

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Joe Wilkins, associate professor of English – Bloomsbury Academic, 2017
A complete introduction to the art and craft of writing about the environment in a wide range of genres.

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Patrick Cottrell, associate professor of political science – Routledge, 2017
Cottrell explores the enduring relevance of the League of Nations for the present and future of global politics.

Extreme Vetting
Reshmi Dutt-Ballerstadt, professor of English – Locofo Chaps, 2017
A chapbook of political poetry in response to the 2016 United States presidential election.

Your Eureka Not Mined
Chris Keaveney, professor of Japanese – Broadstone Books, 2017
Keaveney’s debut poetry collection is a litany of the almost.

Small Fires
José Angel Araguz, assistant professor of creative writing – FutureCycle Press, 2017
The crucible of Mexican-American identity is on display: poems about feeling the need to hide one’s Spanish and family history live alongside those dealing with reclaiming and owning one’s language and life.

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Lex Runciman, professor emeritus of creative writing and literature – Salmon Poetry, 2017
The sixth collection of poems from Runciman.

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Nicholas Buccola, associate professor of political science – University Press of Kansas, 2016
Though Abraham Lincoln was not a political philosopher per se, he grappled with many of the most pressing and timeless questions in politics.

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