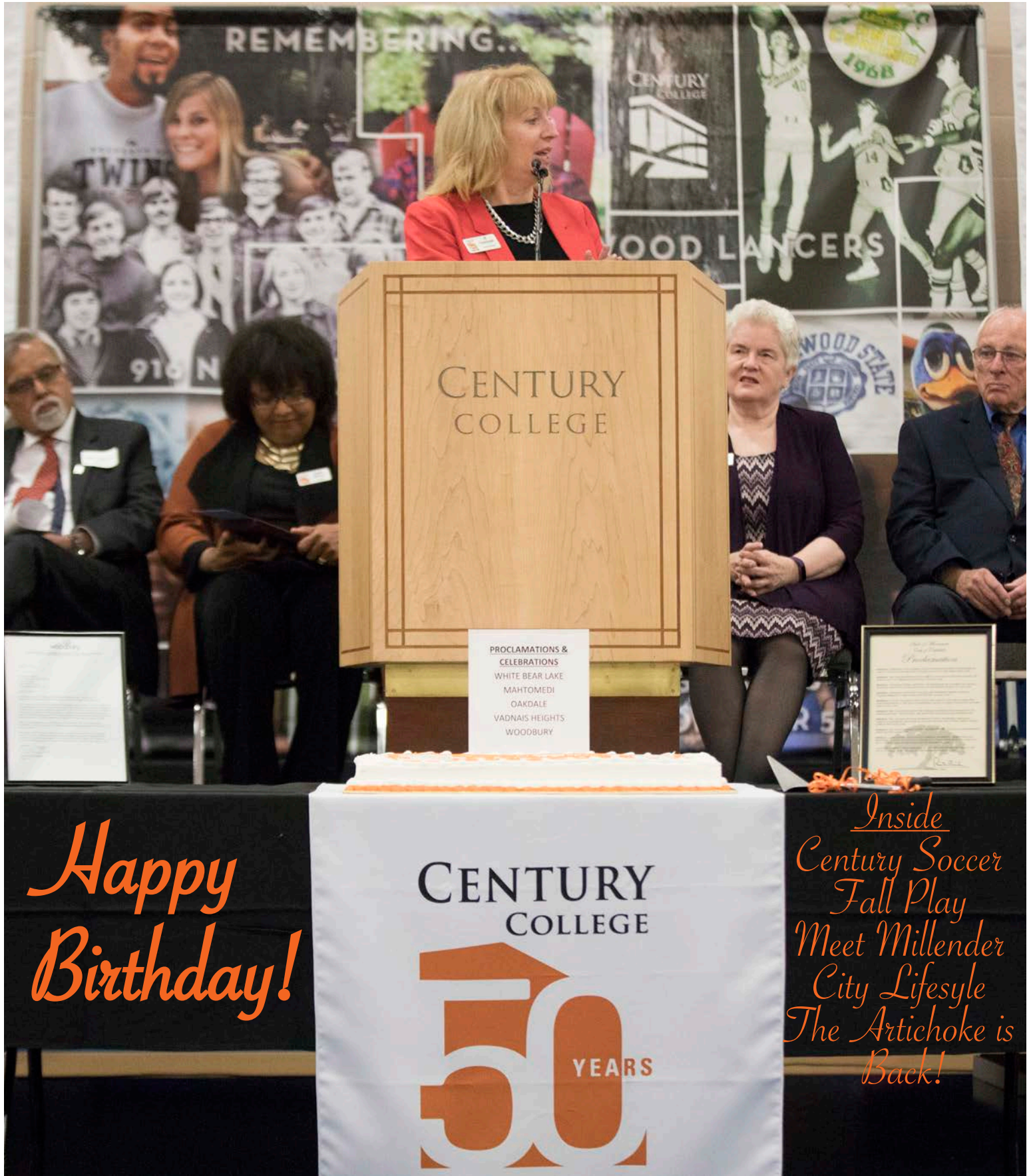


THE CENTURY TIMES

2017 Fall Issue 1



*Happy
Birthday!*

*Inside
Century Soccer
Fall Play
Meet Millender
City Lifestyle
The Artichoke is
Back!*

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Come to the News Room W1340
if you would like to become a part of our staff!



Woody Is Hiding Again!

Help us Find Woody!

Woody is hiding somewhere in the magazine. If you find him, send The Century Times an email to be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

Email should include:

- your name
- page number
- location of Woody



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Christopher Juhn

CENTURY COLLEGE TO HOST AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR LESLEY NNEKA ARIMAH

Greg Walters | Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Oct. 25, celebrated author, Lesley Nneka Arimah, will visit Century College to introduce her brilliant compilation of short stories, “What It Means When a Man Falls from the Sky.” This book has been selected for some English Comp I classes that are in session this semester at Century College. The day will include readings, Q&A sessions with students, book signings, and a chance to have a coffee in the Nest.

A schedule of events are as follows:

- A 1:30 p.m. Reading and Q&A with students, followed by a coffee and book signing in The Nest on Century’s west campus.
- A 7:30 p.m. Reading and Q&A, followed by a book signing and reception in the Lincoln Mall on Century’s east campus.
- Both events are free and open to the public.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet an amazingly gifted author, and to hear a voice so strong and wise. To miss it would truly be a loss.

Several of the stories that appear in this book have already won very prestigious awards: 2015 African Commonwealth Short Story Prize, the 2016 Caine Prize, and a finalist for the National Magazine Award for her first story, which appeared in the New Yorker.

Arimah has brought storytelling to a new height, with her articulate and intensely keen perspective of women’s experiences, perfectly timed wit, and a delicious sense for irony. “Arimah’s stories are intense, mesmeric, and nothing short of stunning,” says Claire Vaye Watkins, author of *Battleborn* and *Gold Fame Citrus*.

The journey that brought Arimah to live in Minneapolis can offer insights to the stories she tells. She emigrated from Nigeria to Louisiana at the age of thirteen, which proved to be a disorienting transition, leaving her feeling at best, an awkward teen in a strange land. These mixed feelings of disconnect and wonder gave testament to the complexities of all her characters, and gives them a unique and powerful authenticity.

In the next issue, student reactions of the book will be included. It will be exciting to see the reactions to this book, and you will not want to miss this chance for a great read.



Image courtesy of Emily Baxter

SURVIVING THE

Sarah Knieff | Staff Writer
Christopher Juhn | Photographer

Have you ever wanted that big city lifestyle, but were too afraid of the unknown? Perhaps you are moving to a big city after graduation and your time here at Century College is to pursue a dream or career.

Well after my many years of traveling to big urban cities, even while living in a small town surrounded by nothing but cornfields and chickens, I have picked up tips to surviving the hectic lifestyle that comes alongside living in a big city. Take these into consideration when planning the next big step in your life.

Tips for surviving a big city:

1. Use public transportation: Traffic is crazy in a big city. Take public transportation as much as possible. This eliminates the stress of zig zagging throughout the taxis, buses, and other cars. Public transportation such as the “L” in Chicago is cheap, easy, and gets you where you have to go fast.
2. Know where you are going: Trying to get around a big city can be overwhelming and stressful. For this I suggest being prepared for the day ahead of you. If you are going somewhere

new, make sure that you know where it is and how to get there on time. Take a few extra moments the night or morning before and figure the plan for the next day. This will alleviate any worrisome thoughts.

3. Don’t be afraid to ask questions: The locals know what they are doing. They have been there longer than you and that makes them experts in all things city life. If you have a question that the internet can’t solve, don’t be afraid to ask.
4. Leave early: Living in a big city will make you perpetually late, if you don’t leave earlier than expected. Using public transportation, taxis, and Ubers are the way to go, but that doesn’t mean there won’t be traffic. In big cities, there is traffic pretty much twenty-four- seven, so leaving early will allow time for this.
5. Make a budget: Know what you want to spend your money on and how much you have. When traveling or even moving to a brand-new city, it can be fun to spend money on things you have never seen before, but making sure you have money for necessities is just as important. Keeping a budget will help you stay on track. Your bank account will thank you.
6. Stay safe: Be aware of your surroundings. Being accustomed to living in the city is great, but don’t let your guard down.

Riverwalk in Chicago



CITY LIFESTYLE

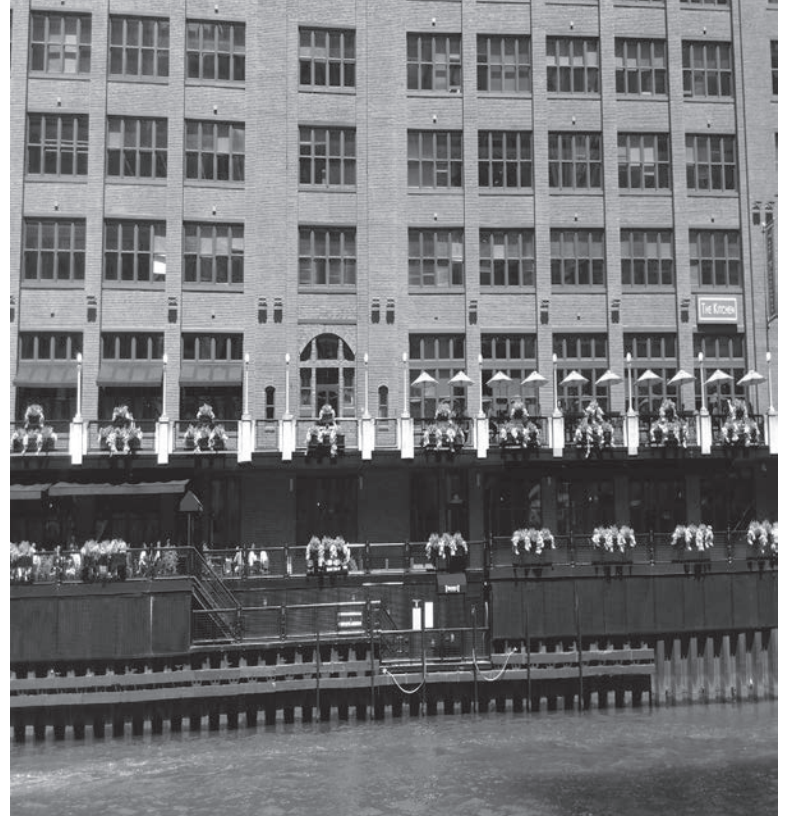
Avoid areas that are away from the public and be extra careful during the night hours to stay safe.

7. Go out and join something: Joining yoga in the park, participating in poetry readings, or watching classic movie night at a local theater is a fun way to experience more of what your city has to offer as well as being a perfect chance to meet new people.

8. Be a tourist: Explore your city and do all the stereotypical tourist things. Things such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Statue of Liberty in New York City, or the Navy Pier in Chicago offer great ways to learn more about your city.

9. Take time to yourself: A big city lifestyle comes with being around people throughout most of your day. You are going to need a little TLC or “me” time. Cozy up on the couch, order some take out, and grab the remote. You earned it.

10. Get away for a while: Urban living doesn’t give many chances for a natural view. Getting away from a skyscraper scenery to grass and sunlight is much needed for the soul. Take some time every so often to go to a park and be around nature.



Apartments along the Riverwalk in Chicago

Chicago Views



How to Spot Fake News

Tanita Cronk | Creative Writing Coordinator

The news is everywhere. It clogs up our Facebook feeds, scrolls across the bottom of our television screens, and worms its way into our emails.

But, how can we tell if what we are reading is real or fake? There are even articles that make us shake our heads and wonder, “is this a joke?”

Well, the Century College Library and The Century Times are here to help you out, with these 8 simple tips on what you should check for when reading the news.

1. Read Beyond - Don't just look at the headline! These can be outrageous in an effort to get you to click. This is called “click baiting.” You should read the whole article. Pay attention to the quality of the article. Are there simple mistakes with grammar and spelling? If so, you'll probably need to be wary of this particular story. Check the quotes. If the story is about proteins in the human brain and quotes someone from Stanford University- look at who said it. Is it a neuroscience professor or the janitor? News articles that are controversial are more likely to have more quotes, which you should be able to look up too. Also, make sure the academic or professors in the article have the credentials on the subject that they are speaking about.

2. Consider the Source - Look at the whole website. Check the about us page. Is it straightforward and not overblown or dramatic? Look at the domain and URL. For example, a political news article from a site like www.dennislickspaint.org is probably not a reliable source and is most likely fake. Check the site's contact information. Is there a phone number and address available? If so, then the site's reliability could be legit. Lastly, check the comments. People don't like being fooled and will most likely call the author out.

3. Check the Author - Google search them. Check their credibility, their point of view, Google the domain name, and see what pops up. You should be able to look up the writer's educational background, past writing experiences, and other such items to determine their credibility. Have you seen their name before in other articles as a cited source? Even if they have been called out by others for writing fake news articles before, this will be available to you simply by typing their name into a search engine.

4. Checking the Facts - Looking at supporting sources is one important tip to keep in mind when reading the news. Today, all readers have to read like fact checkers in order to determine the relevancy and reliability of what you are reading. Some things to keep in mind about fact checking are: Can you click the links? What happens when you do? Clicking on links in a news article should bring to information that supports what the author is writing about. Follow the info. Does it actually support the story? Also, before there was fake news, there was Photoshop and the fake pictures. Check those images. The picture should match the story. Do a reverse image search and see where that leads you.

5. Look at the Date - Check the timeliness of the article. Is this a repost of old news? Reposts and outdated news articles are not always relevant to current events. Kim Gaffney, English Instructor, says that checking the date



Librarian Randi Madisen

Credit: Brittany Elyse Weninge

is important because “You want to make sure that the article is written recently, that it's not an article or some other kind of writing that was released years ago; or about a different subject or about a different situation.” She says that having it be recent is very important so that “you're sure that your source is accurate.”

6. Check your Biases - Are your beliefs affecting your judgment? When reading the news, we should make sure to check our emotions as well. “If the claim/ ‘news’ too neatly fits your own world view, you should be cautious,” warns Professor Carl Chung (Philosophy). We are more likely to believe the news is real if we have a negative or positive image of certain subjects. Fake news and clickbait thrive when our emotions and reactions are up. If what you're reading is getting an extreme reaction out of you, it may be best to rethink that article's reliability.

7. Is this a Joke? - Beware The Onion and Clickhole. The Onion is a satirical printed newspaper and Clickhole is its online spinoff where the news is spoofed and as its core belief says “All content deserves to go viral.” These sites are outlandish and meant to be satire. Another site to beware is the blog. Most likely, in a blog, you are getting an opinion and not the whole story.

8. Ask the Experts - Find real sources by visiting The Century College Library. According to resource librarian, Randi Madisen, this is the most important tip you should know. Asking for expert advice on resources and fact checking from a librarian “will save you time. It might take you a long time to find those facts but if you ask us, well, we'll give you shortcuts and make it easier.”

Madisen also says that it is important for college students to be able to tell the difference between real and fake news because “it's part of developing critical thinking skills. When you go to college you're exposed to lots of different ideas. It's important to be able to find the facts behind those ideas so you can think for yourself.”



A Public Service Announcement from the Century College Library

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS



CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



CHECK THE DATE

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

IFLA
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
with thanks to www.factcheck.org

Find **real** sources by visiting the Century Library or by using our website at
<https://www.century.edu/academics/library>

Operation Pig Rot : From Nervous

Serenna Svanoë-Werling | Staff Writer

Karen pulled a small jar out of her purse and handed it to me.

“Don’t break that. It’s full of cyanide,” she said as I took it.

Karen was thirty-something, older than most of the other grad students, with sand-blond hair past her shoulders and a wiry back covered in tattoos. She studied forensic entomology, which meant she spent most her time looking at the maggots, flies, and beetles found on dead bodies. Of course, she hadn’t been able to obtain human bodies for her research, but she’d gotten permission to hack out a little clearing in the weeds behind the cattle barn and put a dead pig out to study.

We stood out in the weed patch, holding insect nets and jars. The pig, or what was left of it, lay on a metal screen. It was withered and black, and it stank of ammonia and decay, but the stench was no longer overpowering. She walked me through the steps of collecting specimens, showing me how to pick maggots and beetle larvae from the pig’s blackened flesh and how to net flies and dispatch them with the cyanide jar.

I was a somewhat unlikely candidate for forensic assistant. Although I’d been a rather bold child, I had become increasingly neurotic as I’d gotten older, until I could barely stomach the thought of touching a doorknob in a public place.

My anxiety also produced dizzy spells and heart palpitations, which got so severe the doctors thought there might actually be something wrong with me (or perhaps they finally ceded to my hypochondria) and hooked me up to a small beeping heart monitor. The charm of the idea wore off

once I realized that I would have to spend an entire month with my chest covered in itchy stick-on electrodes. After two weeks, my skin was covered in swollen red circles, giving the impression that I’d had a violent altercation with a squid.

I must have been a sight—fretful, ruffled, and sleep-deprived, face partially hidden by the brim of a sweat-stained hat—on my first day on the job. I hadn’t even meant to end up with the thing. My self-led campus tour had taken a strange turn at a broken elevator and I’d somehow strayed into the entomology lab.

That’s where I met Karen, and I guess I must have sounded a little too keen when I started talking to her because she made me a job offer in the first five minutes. I knew it wasn’t the right job for me, and I knew I couldn’t turn it down without looking squeamish. I asked her when I could start, figuring that a summer of death and decay would probably be good for me anyway.

My first day on the job was hot and clear. I felt sweat running down between my shoulder blades as I watched Karen work.

“It’s great that you’re willing to do this. I took my boyfriend out here and he passed out,” she told me, crouched over the pig, scooping maggots into a plastic sample jar with her bare fingers.

I put on a pair of rubber gloves and joined her. It doesn’t bother me, I told myself. I felt my skin start to crawl when I realized the ground I was standing on was covered in a wriggling layer of maggots, but it didn’t bother me.

It didn’t bother me until later that afternoon, after we’d returned to the lab. Most of the specimens collected from the pig either went in the freezer or into a vial of alcohol, but Karen always took

out a portion of the maggots for rearing, as they were easier to identify once they’d matured into flies. They lived in small tubs of rancid liver until they pupated, at which point she took out the pupae, placed them in plastic vials, and waited for the flies to emerge.

The fly rearing room was where things went downhill. When she opened the door, a hot gust of air hit us like the foul breath of a carnivore. It must have been ninety degrees in that room. The smell followed, sick and sweet and bloody, viscera left to go rotten.

A massive incubator hummed along the back wall of the room. She opened one of its doors and took out a tray of plastic tubs, each holding a layer of sawdust and a bit of tinfoil with putrefying beef liver inside. I glimpsed fly larvae wriggling in the reddish sludge and gagged a little. I stepped back to collect myself.

After that, I remained more matter of fact about things, or so I thought. She showed me how to dump out the sawdust, sift it for pupae, and throw the maggots back into the container.

Each tub felt like a new discovery. There seemed to be no end to the horrors that could grow on rancid liver. White mold, black mold, sweet-rotten fumes, or traditional stench of death. In some of the tubs, the liver took on an orange tint and started to liquefy, and we’d find it in a pool of its own juices, reeking of sulfur, a strange silvery film stretched over the surface of the liquid. In one of the tubs, I discovered to my disgust, a mold that gave the liver the appearance of being covered in bristly hairs.

To this day, I’m not sure whether it was the smell, the heat, the liver, or the sight of the maggots wriggling in and out of its

Wreck to Forensic Wonder

bloody folds. The timing seemed strange, but people tell me it happens like that. I had just gotten over my revulsion towards the situation; I was even beginning to hum to myself as I sorted the pupae.

The first wave of dizziness hit without warning. Black spots danced across my vision. I stepped back from the table and blinked.

“Is something wrong?” Karen asked.

I had just enough time to set the tub of maggots down before I lost consciousness.

I came to on the lab floor with Karen’s concerned face peering down at me. I mumbled something about not having had enough to eat. Karen, believing me without pause, sprinted off to get my lunch. Desperate to escape the stench, I crawled across the lab floor, trying not to think about what might have been spilled on it. I made it into the hallway, where I lay flat against the cool floor. The heart monitor beeped plaintively, and I prayed this wasn’t my heart giving out.

When Karen returned a few minutes later, eating was the last thing I wanted to do, but I forced myself to choke down half a sandwich to maintain appearances. I waited for the shakiness to leave my legs and returned to the rearing room to finish my task. Karen was never any the wiser about my mental state, and seemed to assume I had rigorous dietary needs.

And Karen—good Lord, Karen. She always seemed to be dressed in shorts and a tank top, a reasonable choice for the sweltering weather outside, but much less so in the laboratory. I learned to follow her movements around the lab by listening to the sound of her flip flops. The threat of spills or broken glassware didn’t seem to faze her much. Usually, she smelled

faintly of death and rancid liver, which stopped bothering me after I began to smell the same way.

I thought her fearless, or as close to fearless as a human could be. She rode a motorcycle unless it was raining, and when it was raining, she parked her car in the contract lot and hoped it didn’t get towed. She found little use for gloves, even when working with the rotting carcass. Instead, she scraped the maggots that got trapped under her fingernails out with a little stick.

“Just living dirt,” she said.

I tried to mold myself in the image of her. Working for her did what seven years of therapy had failed to do: it started to calm my rattled mind. I never was able to collect from the carcass without gloves, but I eventually stopped putting them on to open doors. I made friends with the professors and grad students who haunted the department, and I learned the names of every beetle and fly I captured. I worked in the rearing room for hours at a time, only stopping when Karen popped in to remind me to eat lunch.

As tough as she was, Karen did have a few soft spots, the most notable being a deep love of spiders. Her desk was covered in tubs and tanks housing tarantulas. She seemed to come back with a new one every time she left to run an errand.

“I just can’t help it. I buy tarantulas like other people buy clothes,” she told me.

If spiders were clothes, she would have been quite a fashionista. Once, while I was cataloging dead flies, she burst into the lab, shouting that she had something for me to see. When I looked up from my work, she was holding a plastic vial inches from my face. At first, I assumed it was

something to do with the parasitoid wasps she’d been talking about earlier. It took me a second to see the fat, black spider near the lid of the container. A red hourglass glowed on its underside.

“A black widow,” I said incredulously. “How’d you manage to get your hands on that?”

“Beauty, ain’t she?” she replied. “One of the girls at the reptile shop brought her back for me. I think I’ll call her Franchesca.”

She giggled.

Later, as the summer was coming to an end, I asked her what she would be doing over the winter.

“Are you still going to need my help?” I asked.

I wasn’t sure whether I wanted her to answer yes or no. She paused and frowned, and her shoulders slumped a little. The circles under her eyes suddenly looked dark.

“I don’t know. I don’t even know where I’m going with this thing anymore,” she said. “I’m lost in it.”

She sighed, and a quiet filled the hallway. Then she shrugged and the moment was gone.

“Do you want to meet the new tarantulas? I got a bird eater yesterday. Gonna be the size of a dinner plate when she grows up.”

I smiled and followed her back into the laboratory.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND NORTH KOREA:

Aaron Tweden | Staff Writer

Right now, North Korea is one of the hottest flash points in the news. North Korea is half a world away from the United States, but with all the threats and namecalling between the U.S. President and Kim Jong Un, North Korea doesn't seem so far away anymore.

Although it has been largely isolated since the 1950s, North Korea has recently brought the attention of the global community to their door with their nuclear program, which they have operated in violation of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty for over a decade.

Nuclear proliferation is a simple concept, but it's also a political minefield. The nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT), is a global treaty created to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technologies. They promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and further the goal of nuclear disarmament. The goal of the treaty is to prevent anyone who does not already have nuclear bombs from obtaining them and to facilitate the destruction of the current nuclear bombs stock pile.

The United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China. These are the five original signers of the treaty. There are nine countries with nuclear warheads: India, Israel, Pakistan, North Korea, United States, United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China.

The two sources of political tension in the treaty stem from the four countries not currently signed with the treaty and the five countries grandfathered into the Treaty. The five countries that were grandfathered into the system have nuclear weapons and have made no substantive move to get rid of them but they sit on top of their pedestal saying you can't have those because they are too dangerous.

At the same time, the world community is supposed to trust them with it because they are the "big" boys and can handle it. It's easy to see why it might seem a bit hypocritical to prevent other nations from getting something your nation has by saying it's too deadly and dangerous. The four nations that

"The Museum of Strategic Rocket Forces" image by Clay Gilliland via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0

are not abiding by the NPT cause world tensions to rise because of their blatant breaking with the rest of the world on nuclear policy.

North Korea is currently the worst offender of the four nations.

North Korea was originally a signer of the NPT but pulled out in April 10, 2003. Since then, they have become a proven proliferator. Professor Moran, a history teacher at Century College that has a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, says North Korea's primary reason to obtain nuclear weapons are defense related.

They have painted this national narrative that the U.S. is a big bully trying to crush their way of life.

North Korea sees nuclear weapons as the only way to keep the big bad U.S. away. In an online article called "North Korea" in the "Opposing Viewpoints in Context" provided by Gale, a Cengage Company, the article says North Korea has collaborated with Iran to help its ballistic missile program and "shared its technological advances with Syria." Professor Moran says North Korea's has a proven penchant to sell its missile and nuclear technology to other countries. It is a clear and persistent threat to the NPT and the global community cannot rest on its hands when it comes to North Korea.

Not only does North Korea damage the NPT by attempting to sell nuclear technology, it also may cause other surrounding countries to develop nuclear weapons out of fear and national defense. The two closest non-nuclear countries are Japan and South Korea, both close allies of the US.



"Map of Korea" image by Republic of Korea via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

There are several reasons countries try and become nuclear powers but defense and prestige are the two most common. South Korea has made no attempt to build a nuclear warhead. Estimates place them within six months if they choose that path. Even faster if the U.S. helps.

They are protected under the U.S.A.'s nuclear umbrella but their current president has even gone as far as to prevent American nuclear bombs from residing on their land. South Korea is unlikely to try and build a nuclear bomb. Professor Moran says that's an attempt to keep tension levels from escalating too high. If both sides have guns pointed at each other that's no way to negotiate.

Japan is the other nearby country and is the only country in the world to have nuclear weapons used against them. Moran says Japan fears the sting of nuclear weapons like no other country can.

They are unlikely to build one out of national pride as they have caused so much harm. Japan has an article in their constitution that outlawed war to settle interactions disputes, except in national defense. They have no standing army but they do have something that resembles the nation guard. Moran says this has put Japan in a very interesting position.

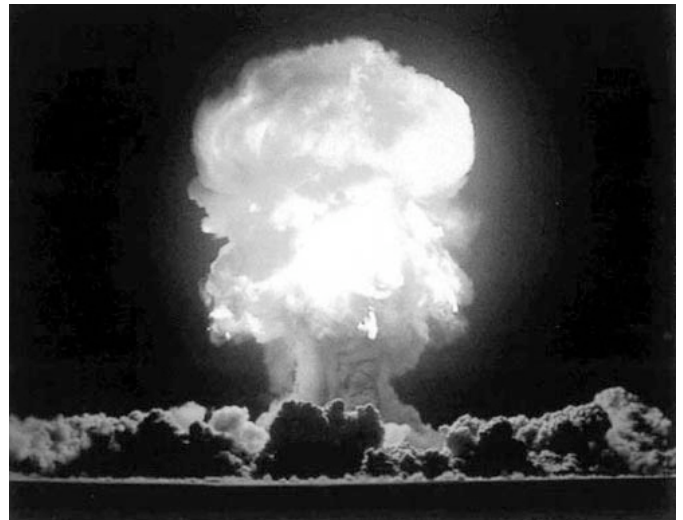
The army of a nation is very expensive and Japan has been under U.S. protection since the end of WWII so they have spent very little on national defense giving their economy a unique power. Japan has also shown no signs of nuclear weapons development but has put in an order to buy some cruise missiles. While some might be "thinking" about military options against North Korea, the very idea of it is fool hearty.

Any action will likely cost hundreds of thousands of lives and the city of Seoul, South Korea. That means the military option is a last resort which means diplomacy is the only desired route.

North Korea still poses a threat to nuclear proliferation whether it be by selling technology or by scaring surrounding nations in to building them. North Korea is a nuclear state that is a fact no amount of bluster and reassurance can fix. They also will possess the ability to target anyone in the world with nuclear warheads in the near future. There is no military option that exists today that will not level Seoul and the surrounding country side. North Korea has the bomb and only has two more obstacles to overcome to mount the bomb and create an intercontinental ballistic missile that can strike anywhere in the world.



"Nuclear Missile Silo" image by Steve Juvetson via flickr, used under CC BY 2.0



"Nuclear Blast 1945" image by Thomas Williams via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0



"North Korea - Pyongyang" image by stephan via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0

Century Men's Soccer Team:

Tony Harringer | Staff Writer
Christopher Juhn | Photographer

Coming off of a rough 2016-17 season, and their worst since 2013, Century College Men's Soccer Team looked to start fresh and have a much better 2017-18 campaign. Winning just four of their 17 games last year, Century set much higher expectations for this coming season. They hope to get back to their 2015-16 season where they won 13 games in that season.

In their three exhibition games, the Wood Ducks looked much better by going 2-1 in three games with wins over FC Minneapolis and Anoka-Ramsey. A close 1-0 road loss to St. Thomas was their only blemish.



Toby Bridges fires a shot against Anoka-Ramsey.

Heading into the regular season, Century had a great sense of confidence. Unlike last year where they lost their first three games, this year they entered with a more confident feeling. Century's first game of the season on Sept. 9 was against a familiar opponent, FC Minneapolis. Playing just 21 days prior, the two teams met again.

The Wood Ducks came out flying, controlling, and dominating play for the first half. By halftime it was 4-0 Century! Forward Toby Bridges recorded a hat trick in just the first half, scoring three of Century's four goals. Midfielder Dylan White scored Century's third goal in the first half.

Bridges scored the first goal for the Wood Ducks in the second half to tally his fourth goal of the game! Klinton Spencer brought their total up to six as he scored what would be a 6-1 rout for Century. FC Minneapolis scored a goal late, but the Wood Ducks proved to be too much.

Speaking with Bridges, he explained how the ball wasn't really bouncing his way but to score four goals "was great." When asked about how this performance would help them in their next game, he said "it'll give us a better chance." The last time Century played St. Thomas, they were shut out. Bridges described this game as a "top 5 performance" in his whole soccer career.

The Wood Ducks' next game was on 12th, playing nationally ranked St. Thomas. A lot of excitement for Century as they were playing with a lot of confidence and had a big-name team coming to town. This was their chance to show people that they were for real.

In the first 20 minutes of the game, teams traded chances and opportunities, but both goalies held their ground. Then, on the 25th minute, Dylan White for the Wood Ducks put the ball on net. While trying to clear it, a St. Thomas player inadvertently put it into their own net. Century had scored to take the lead! The score stayed the same into halftime as Century sat a half away from a big upset win.



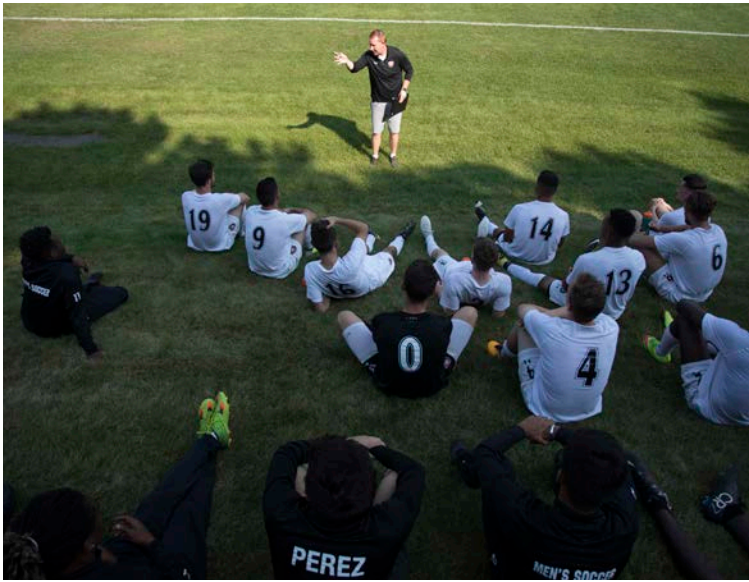
Keelan Power tries to get past a St. Thomas defender.

St. Thomas came flying out in the second half. Five minutes, in they tied the game at one with a long throw in and put it past Calum Brodie. The game stayed tied for a long time, and St. Thomas got a rush going.

Brodie was caught out of position, and had no choice but to pull down the Tommies player. He saved a possible goal, but received a red card and was kicked out of the game. So, the Wood Ducks looked to their back up goalkeeper.

The game went to overtime, and Century got an iffy call by the

First Half of 2017 Season Recap



Coach Hodgson talks about adjustments at halftime.

referees, which gave St. Thomas a free kick. The kick came and Century's goalkeeper got his glove on it, but couldn't corral it all the way. It trickled into the net for the winner.

Century was disappointed and looked physically drained. They played an excellent game and just couldn't believe the result. No time to hang their heads though, it was on to Gustavus on the 14th.

Despite coming off a tough loss, the Wood Ducks seemed like they had put the last game against St. Thomas out of their minds. The game started and looked determined to win. Passes were crisp and on the money.

Communication between teammates were very clear. In spite of their great play early on,

Century could not break through on the score sheet. The score was 0-0 on the half.

In the second half, the Wood Ducks continued their great play and finally on the 49th minute, they broke through and who else but Bridges was the scorer. Bridges recorded his fifth goal in three games on a free kick that went just under the crossbar.

Just four minutes later, the birthday boy Spencer scored on a header that glanced off the underside of the crossbar and in to give Century a comfortable 2-0 lead. They finally had been rewarded for their continuous pressure and great play.

Goalkeeper Brodie played the second half, after sitting out the first half and kept the zero up for Gustavus as Century won by a final score of 2-0. With the win, the Wood Ducks improved to 2-1-0 on the season.

Speaking with coach Hodgson post game, he seemed somewhat happy with the performance. He was happy "in pieces." He liked that they had a lot of shots on goal, but would've liked to see more than just two goals. "Just having two goals with that many shots I'd like more, but we played well in parts." Over the first three games, Hodgson described his team as "we're getting better. We're learning from our mistakes."

On the chilly, cool evening of Sept. 18, Century played its first road game of the season against Augsburg College at Edor Nelson Field. Weather did play a factor in the first half, as rain lightly pelted the players on the field.

Teams traded rushes and chances, but no one could break through. A major shakeup in the first half, was midfielder Dylan White. By the 35th minute, he had received his second yellow card, which put out of the game for the rest of the match. The game remained scoreless at the half.

The Wood Ducks came out in the second half with a push by applying pressure and taking control of possession. Bridges was knocked down on a rush and awarded a free kick in the 65th minute. Bridges set up and went to the far bottom corner for the first goal of the game. A huge wail of elation came out of the Wood Ducks as Bridge's sixth goal on the season hit the back of the net.

Four minutes later, Bridges was awarded another free kick. This time the kick caused a rebound and defenseman Hector Trigueros was in perfect position to tap it in for a 2-0 lead! Century now had a commanding lead and were able to run the clock out without allowing a goal as Century beat Augsburg 2-0 to improve to 3-1-0.

For their next game, the Wood Ducks traveled to Iowa to play Riverland College. Just like last game, Century dominated play in the first half, yet at the half had nothing to show for it and it was tied at zero.

Five minutes into the second half however Century broke through as they have so often this year. Forward Joseph McGrory broke through to give them the lead. The game stayed 1-0 for almost the rest of the match, but a goal by Century's Brandon Watts in the 86th minute sealed the game. Century held on to win once again, 2-0 to improve to 4-1-0 on the season and stretch their winning streak to 3 games.

A great start to the season as well as consistently good play for Century shows promise that this team can have a very successful campaign. Plus, with four of their last seven games at home, things are looking very much in good shape for Coach Hodgson and his confident Wood Ducks team. Only time will tell how they do, but so far everything on paper shows that Century is a dangerous team that has a lot of potential for something special this year.

Total Eclipse of the Sun

Sarah Knieff | Staff Writer
Christopher Juhn | Photographer



Aug. 21, 2017 was an exciting time for Century College and for the rest of the country. It marked another school year full of opportunities for the students here, but the day was also absent of a few minutes of sunlight.

The event that took place was called a solar eclipse, which is when the moon passes between the sun and the Earth blocking any sunlight that would normally appear. This all makes for an “out of this world” sky. Everything is dark and silent.



According to NASA, this total eclipse of the sun was the first time the continental United States had a viewing point in over 38 years, making it a grand spectacle for all Americans to see. If one was lucky enough to be in the path of totality starting in Lincoln Beach, Oregon, stretching all the way to Charleston, South Carolina, it would have made for some epic views.

Gearing up, people were able to grab special eclipse glasses that allow one to look directly at the covered sun without damaging their eyes. These glasses were handed out at

museums, planetariums, stores, and even libraries across the country for free, showing just how revved up everyone was for this celestial event.

People gathered in all 14 states along the path of totality, throwing parties with food, games, and music. Anyone outside of this West to East path was able to see a partial solar eclipse. Here on campus at Century there was an eclipse viewing party with many students coming together to take in the sights.

The next eclipse that Century will be able to see here in the US won't be for another 7 years. According to NASA, the solar eclipse will be on April 8th, 2024 and, “[t]his time, it will come up from Mexico through Texas, proceeding through Carbondale IL . . . and on to New York, Maine, finally leaving land in Newfoundland.”

Between now and 2024 there are many eclipses that are able to be seen around the world, just not here. Those who can't wait will need a passport and a plane ticket to catch a glimpse at another eclipse.

Eclipses are a rare occasion giving humankind a breathtaking view of outer space that inspires “ohh” and “ahhs” from the youngest of babes to the oldest elder. If one missed 2017's eclipse, gear up for the next one. It is a sight that even Buzz Lightyear would approve of.

Century students are pretty lucky because they don't have to wait until 2024 or grab a passport to shoot for the moon. By being a college student and achieving those life-long goals, they have already landed within the stars.



FRIGHT NIGHT

Oct. 30th 6:00-9:00PM

Hurry and book your Fright Night
Escape Room tickets now!

There are three different slot
times available: 6pm, 7pm, & 8pm

Only 16 people allowed per time slot so book your tickets fast!

Get your tickets through pac.centurycollege@gmail.com



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Get to Know Century College's New President:

Vladimir Cruz | Editor-in-Chief
Christopher Juhn | Photographer



As of July 1, 2017, Angelia Millender has officially started her term here as Century College's new president, and is excited as well as committed in leading Century College to helping students better succeed.

Patrick Opatz, who was formerly interim president for the past 2 years was more than ecstatic to pass on the presidency to a very capable candidate. There have been president searches in the past, but none of them quite fit what Century College had in mind for the future.

Century's own Academic Affairs Dean Jesse Mason, states, "Millender's experience exemplifies the qualities he was looking for during the search process including outstanding leadership skills, a history of championing equity and diversity, and a strong ability to advocate for the College's students and employees."

Mason adds, "In addition to her understanding of the core needs of the College's students and employees, she brings a wealth of experience and accomplishments that will enhance our College, community, and state."

Before going on her journey to the path of education, Millender had some early aspirations. She explains that,

"Early on during high school I had two thoughts in my mind. It was to either be a teacher or to be a nurse." Millender would go on to get a full ride scholarship in education.

"When you get a scholarship opportunity it either defines or refines your focus," she adds.

Millender earned a bachelor from Chicago State University, as well as earning a master's degree from National Louis University, getting an undergraduate in teacher education, and a graduate degree in management and human resources.

She describes, "I ended up teaching for Chicago public schools, and that is where I define my passion for open access institutions to help students get access to education who would normally not be able to get access to education and it defined who I am today."

Millender has worked for Olive-Harvey College in Illinois, Broward College in Florida, Berkeley College in New York, and Robert Morris University in Ohio.

Millender is all about meeting all students with and making her work environment as comfortable and fun as possible. During Welcome Week, here at Century, Millender could be seen enjoying some with Vice President Joyce Coleman while engaging with current and new students.

Millender believes that, "presidents and all leaders should be present, they should be accessible, and they should be willing allow people to get to know them. I plan to spend a lot of time with the students and showing up for their events and allowing them to come talk to me; so, they know I'm committed in helping them to succeed. That's the only reason I'm here. I'm not here to sit in a chair and sit in an office to where the title is just president. It's about doing the work, and being accessible."

Millender knows that there is a time to celebrate and

Angelia Millender

have fun, but there is also a time to get down to business and help students here at Century have a solid focus and goals. She emphasizes that, “every day I come and I’m excited about the opportunity to provide leadership and talk to my team about what I can do to help students to succeed and understand them better. Put processes and procedures in place to make our transitions through higher education much more seamlessly.”

In a previous interview with Christine Osorio, Superintendent of MN school district 622, Christine describes that, “President Millender brings a strong passion for strengthening this connection and ensuring students get an early start with college and technical career pathways – She understands how our institutions must work together to ensure seamless and successful transitions.”

Not everything during college for students is easy if they don’t have the right support needed to move forward with their aspirations. Millender knows that, and comments, “Everyday life may throw you a curve ball, but the most important thing is to have a vision and a plan just in case the road goes to the left you know you have to get it to go back to the right. We’ve all been there.”

That is where Millender believes that faculty at any institution should be easily accessible to students.

“I don’t want our students to ever give up. Dreams are achievable for those who seek it, and opportunities can be realized for those who work hard at it. I believe that is in the soul and the mind of each student that says, ‘I want to go to school’. They also must realize that there is a lot of work, perseverance, and especially a lot of ‘I need to ask for help.’”



Help can be hard to ask for, but Millender wants to remove that uneasy feeling of asking for help and states that institution, “have to fill a comfort, and you have to fill a connection because if it doesn’t feel right students aren’t going to stay.”

One thing Millender really wants Century College students to know is that she is, very passionate in her work. She is here to be an advocate for students. She does whatever it takes to keep students moving forward and helping them get through college an easy process. “I’ll probably wear myself out trying to make sure everything works for them. We can’t ever lose sight of that. It’s not about us, it’s about the work we do. If I had to be tired, this is a good thing to be tired for. I wouldn’t be here if I didn’t believe that to be true,” she adds.

Century Hits Its 50th Year

Ker Moua | Lead Copy Editor



Century memorabilia and exhibition items lay on tables. Credit: Christopher Juhn

On Monday, Sept. 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., students, staff, officials, and guests gathered to celebrate the 50th birthday of Century College. Events were planned for outside, but mother nature decided not to cooperate. Luckily, all activities were moved to Century College West Campus Gymnasium. Tables dotted the room with black table cloths and vases filled with flowers. The slideshows of Century College were projected onto the walls.

The north end had side tables with exhibition items of Century through the years like albums and gadgets. Free apples, cupcakes and root beer floats were handed out. Guests could also buy hot food at one of the two food stands, one of which sold 50 cent mini hot dogs.

On the south end, mini games with prizes had guests playing. A photo booth with fun props were also there. All the while, Century's own Music for a Cause provided live



Guests play games with a chance to win prizes.

Credit: Christopher Juhn

music for the first hour of the event.

Noon came and the formal ceremony began. Victoria Reinhardt was the MC of the hour as she thanked the many sponsors, visiting officials, and guests. She introduced President Angelia Millender who thanked the previous presidents of Century who helped make Century what it is today. She also had a special thanks to former President Pat Opatz who was the visionary behind the 50th Anniversary event.

After her inspiring speech, Millender introduced Minnesota State Chancellor, Dr. Devinder Malhotra. While giving his speech, Malhotra remarked about his retirement. "When celebrating institutional milestones younger than you, then should retire," he joked. Malhotra talked about the many accomplishments of Century College like the 324 thousand nurses introduced into Minnesota since 1974. Or that Century was the first to have a fabrication lab making it a leader in digital technology. Now Minnesota have over 75 fabrication labs. He said many great things about Century College and its impact on the community and Minnesota.



Student Senate President Tim Knutson gives a speech amongst his peers.

Credit: Christopher Juhn

Next, Reinhardt introduced the current Student Senate President, Tim Knutson. Knutson tells of Century and how the college and staff members helped him. He hopes that once he graduates, he can "pay it forward to the student body and the next generation of students."

Finally, Reinhardt introduces the mayors of White Bear

Lake and Mahtomedi. Jo Emerson, Mayor of White Bear Lake, and Jud Marshall, Mayor of Mahtomedi spoke about Century College during their speeches. Marshall commented that his speech was framed as they were afraid he'd lose the sheet of paper, but he does note they should have given him a magnifying glass as well. Then the mayors each during their speech on the proclamation ceremony, declared Sept. 18, 2017 as "Century College Day" in White Bear Lake and Mahtomedi.



Two plaques declare "Century College Day" in the cities of White Bear Lake and Mahtomedi.
Credit: Christopher Juhn

Reinhardt then makes a special acknowledgement to the executive director, Jill Greenhalgh from the Century College Foundation for her help with planning the event. Reinhardt also regrets that the weather excluded a planned event that they had hope to do outside. Outside, five special maple seedlings were recently planted to signify the five decades of Century College. They were to represent the pillars of Century College. The ceremony was to be

held beside the five trees. Reinhardt instead requests that everyone look at the trees as they pass by them.

The number five seems special as Reinhardt acknowledges the five-people sitting on the stage behind her, Millender, Malhotra, Knutson, Emerson, and Marshall. Just like the five maple trees, the five special guests represent the decades of Century College on its 50th birthday.

Lastly, Reinhardt thanks the many sponsors for the event and the volunteers and staffers who helped the event run smoothly. Then Millender was given the honors to cut the 50-year celebration cake for Century's happy birthday.

After the ceremony ended, things winded down. There was still free cupcakes, floats, and apples. The food stands were still in operation. The many games and the photo booth were still running. But the crowd had slowly dissipated. Tables were being cleared and cleaned. The music from earlier was missing. The event ended at 1 p.m. and Century College is half a century older.

Still, Century has many things planned. Monday was simply the birthday party. There's the "Talent of the 1/2 Century" on Nov. 8, showcasing the talents of Century students. There's also the "Transforming Lives for 50 Years Soiree" on Apr. 19 of next year with details to come. Century College isn't done celebrating just because it turned 50 years old. Look forward to many events that will dot its future.

Five new maple trees greet cars as they drive into the west campus parking lot.
Credit: Ker Moua



THE ARTICHOKE

Face-Palm: The Cringe-Worthy Embarrassing Stories of Century Students and Staff

Sara Romanoski | Staff Writer

Serenna Werling | Illustrator

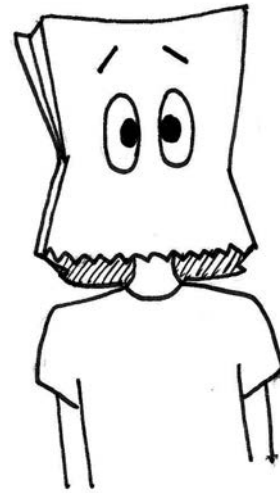
Schadenfreude - noun: satisfaction or pleasure felt at someone else's misfortune

While we all have them, only some of us are brave enough to share our most embarrassing moments with others. I talked with students and staff around Century to uncover some of the most mortifying stories that are sure to make you laugh, and also very thankful they didn't happen to you!

"Once while on a cross country road trip with my friends, I needed to use the bathroom. The only problem was that we were in the middle of nowhere and just passed a sign that said the next rest stop was 30 miles away. I tried to wait, but I had terrible stomach pains from the greasy McDonald's we had eaten that morning. We made it about 20 miles before I couldn't wait any longer. My friend had to pull over on the freeway so I could go on the side of the road, with tons and tons of cars whizzing by. People were slowing down to look and laugh and the worst part was that we didn't have any toilet paper. It was awful."

"It's recently come to my attention that at least three long-term acquaintances of mine think I'm a guy. I'm not a guy."

"I was at my work, which is a local movie theater, just having fun with some of my best friends. It wasn't very busy, which meant we could talk and goof around when the bosses weren't around. We were all having popcorn flinging contests until finally a customer walked through the doors. Excited to actually have something to do, we all rushed to the front stand to help. The customer ordered a large popcorn first, so I walked to start making that by the popper. I filled the bucket up layer by layer with butter and freshly made popcorn until it was the best bucket I had ever done. As I rounded the corner to where my friends and the customer was waiting, I hit a patch of leaked butter



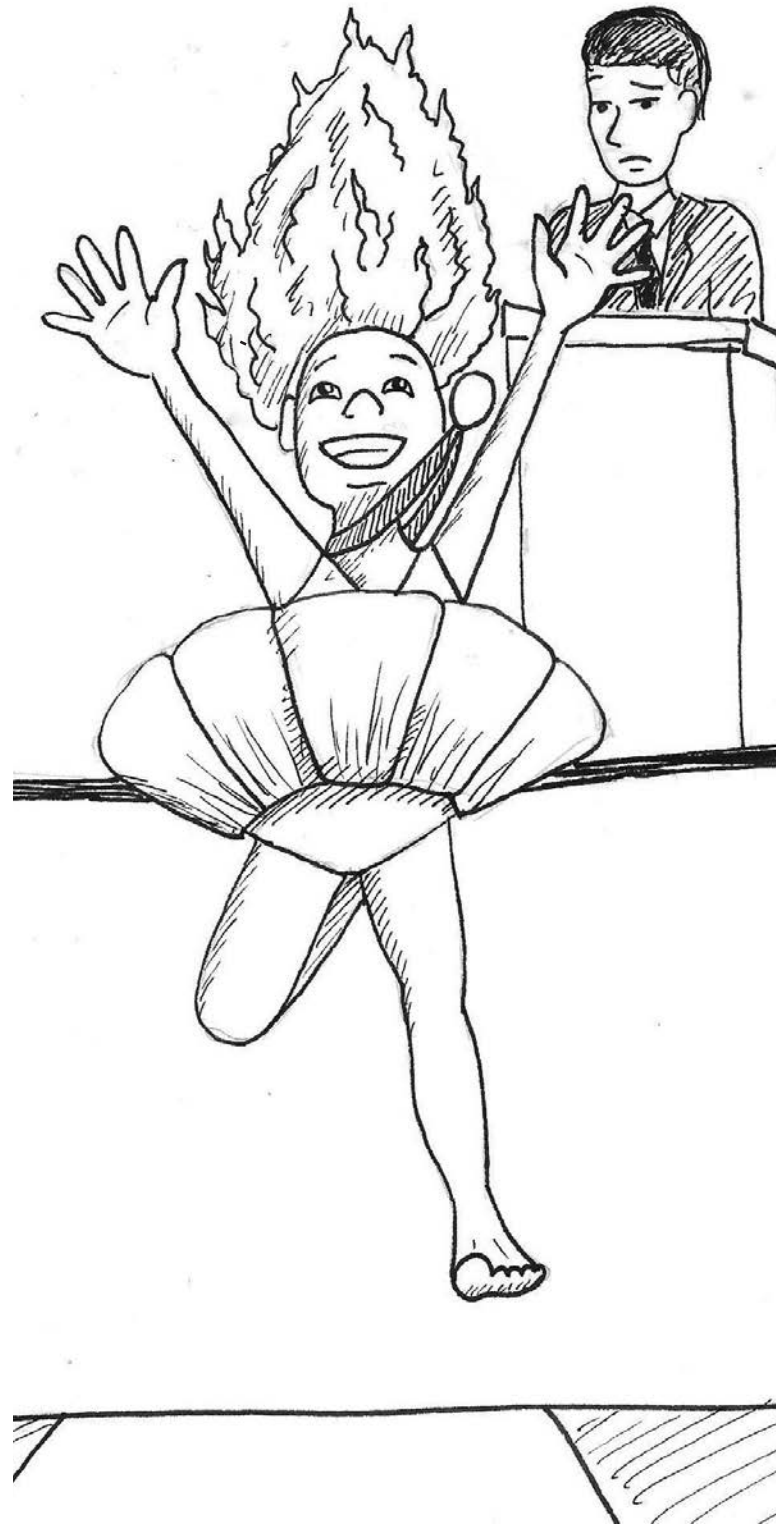
on the floor and started to slip. I tried to gain balance as I danced along the puddle of butter, but lost the battle at the end. I fell and landed right on my butt as the entire large popcorn flew into the air and landed all around me. Everyone started laughing and in between gasps asking if I was okay. Let's just say I never lived it down and I will forever be known as the 'raining popcorn girl.'”

“I was wearing a white shirt and I spilled coffee all down the front of it. I had to save it because it was a nice shirt, but I was at school, so I was forced to improvise. I walked into a bathroom, took the shirt off, and washed it in one of the sinks while passersby glared at me. Afterward, I blow-dried it under the hand drier so I could wear it to my next class.”

“When I was younger, I once had to go on stage to receive an award. My grandma insisted that I wear nice shoes and a cute blue dress. Within five minutes of getting there, I took the shoes off and lost them. Then once I'd received the award (still barefoot), I didn't realize there were stairs on the other side of the stage for me to go down. Instead, I took a running leap off center stage. The resulting midair Marilyn Monroe moment caused my grandma to ban me from ever wearing skirts again.”

“A few years ago, I was at my friend's house but I started to feel sick, so she said I could stay at her place for the night. I had a temperature and was feeling super groggy. The next morning, her roommate's boyfriend told me that I had come into their room last night and started digging through their dresser drawers. I apparently took everything out of one, threw up in it and went back to bed. I couldn't believe I was sleepwalking so I went to check and sure enough there was vomit in her dresser drawers. I felt horrible!”

“One time I met my favorite singer at a meet and greet before her concert. I was so excited to talk to her and get our picture taken and I was trying to plan out what to say to her before I got to the front of the line. I thought I had it all figured out but when it was my turn, I went up to her and got so nervous that I started talking in a British accent for some reason but I have no idea why! I kept telling her how 'lovely' she was and the whole thing was just super awkward.”



HEROES WITH WEAKNESSES: LOVE YOURSELF

THUY (KRISTY) DONG | STAFF WRITER

There are many inspirations in life, but where can we find them?

I am inspired by the little memory I had with my grandfather.

“Hey honey,” said my grandfather, “just put your hands up! I will give you the money to buy that painting as long as they pick you!” My grandfather and I were at an auction of a painting drawn by a dolphin in the theme park that we went to. It was a cute, messy drawing that I liked very much. I did not put my hands up after all. There were too many people there, and I was just too shy.

I know that it is understandable for a little girl like me at that time to be shy, but this incident has always made me think back with regret about how I was not daring to do something as simple as raising my hands in front of a crowd. From that time on, whenever I did something wrong, I criticize myself. However, the memory inspires me to stand up for what I want to do.

I know that I would be so regretful if I repeat the same mistake, which led to me missing the chance to own one of the few remaining tangible memories between my grandfather and I. In case you might wonder, he passed away nine years ago. His death was a push for me to be more confident, but in exchange, I felt unmotivated and weak because of the death. Since then, I started to look for inspirations, something that can motivate me to move on.

I am inspired by my mother.

It was also a few years ago, when schooling and friendships did not go well, I realized that I was craving even more for motivation. In the darkest part of my life, my mother’s brother and his wife illegally stole a large amount of money from our family. Both families owned a hotel business, but it was sold without my parents’ knowledge regarding some financial information.

It was heart-breaking, and it left some consequences. It did not only affect my sister’s and my education, but it also affected the relationships between my family and me. I started to live selfishly, blaming my family for not being able to fix the problem.

I have hurt my mother especially. I do not understand why I had this selfish feeling toward her, but after all, I have come to understand that heroes have weaknesses, too. She is indeed the strongest woman I have ever known. After I realized that I was acting selfishly, I wondered if everyone still loves me the same. I became very harsh on myself, and all I did was thinking about how to make people around me feel happy.

I am inspired by my friends.

Back when I was in my secondary school, I was very shy. I only cared about studying all day long to obtain high education achievements. I was hurt when some people called me a “nerd” and a “boring” person; others called me “weak” for crying so often. I questioned my ability to make connections with people around me.

It was not until I attended Century College that I met a lot of new friends who surprisingly inspired and motivated me. I was afraid to be hurt again, but then I still decided to open myself to them and live with my true self. I am glad that I have decided to trust myself for once, because that has helped me to make true friends, who appreciate all of my flaws and silliness. I started to realize that, perhaps, I was not confident, nor did I love myself enough. It might be the reason why some of my friends did not take me seriously.

I am inspired by K-pop music.

If I asked myself this question a few years ago, “Do you think K-pop will ever affect your life that much?” I would definitely say “no.” But indeed, yes! What do I mean by “that much” then? A few months ago, I was lost and did not know what career path I wanted to go to. I changed my majors several times, from fashion design and graphic design to new media. I was lost and felt like I was forcing myself to do something that I did not like.

It was not until I discovered a South Korean boy group named BTS, who inspired me with their album, “The Most Beautiful Moment in Life: Young Forever.” I feel like when I am down-hearted and lost, BTS’s songs lead my way and encourage me to follow my hunch, despite knowing that it is not easy to follow my dream.

Eventually, thanks to BTS and their music that I decided to follow my dream and major in music business and marketing. Recently, it was also because of a BTS's album, named "Love Yourself: Her," which made me realize how harsh I have been to myself. I should have embraced myself more, even when I made mistakes.

We all get inspired by every little thing in life.

By now, some of you might think that not everyone gets affected by these kinds of events in their lives anyway, and that is true. All I want to say is, as we keep moving on, more inspirations will come unexpectedly at any moment. For instance, let me ask you something. Have you ever found yourself smiling all day long and keep thinking back to a small event that happened during the day? Such as the endless licking from your cute little puppy after a tiring day, or some of your dad's jokes that can make no one laugh as always? These little things can become our motivations without us noticing, especially when we are in a stressful part of life.

I had a conversation with two of my friends from the Century College K-pop Club, Ashley Agwatu, 19-year-old (math major) and Nalee Her, 19-year-old (major undecided), about what their inspirations in life are. Agwatu says, "a lot of people inspire me. Specifically, hard workers. I think there are lots of times where I just get overwhelmed with everything that is going on in my life, and I just want to give up, crawl in a hole, and escape into a book or my phone or something. But then, I see people who, in spite of all the difficulties they are facing, still strive towards their goals in life." Meanwhile, Her believes, "my friends and all of the opportunities regarding my hobby that I receive inspire me." Regardless of each person's situation, they all are inspired by things surrounding them.

In exchange of all the hardships that I have dealt with, I have learned how to appreciate myself and people around me more. I found myself being motivated from motivating other people.

Not everyone is motivated in the same way. However, there is something we all have in common, which is the ability to overcome difficulties, with all the little inspirations in our lives. Remember being proud when looking back at how much you have been through, and realizing how strong you actually are? We all are the superheroes of ourselves. Heroes have weaknesses, too. It is okay because eventually, we all survived, didn't we?

One last thing. Accept your mistakes and love yourself! Because you have to love yourself first before you are able to love anything else.

This article is dedicated to my family, my friends, myself, and anyone who might have not realized how important it is to love themselves.



Illustration Credit: Serenna Werling

Century Fall Play 2017: Jekyll And Hyde

Jay Johnson | Staff Writer | Photographer
Serenna Svanoë-Werling | Staff Writer
Christopher Juhn | Photographer

This year's fall play here at Century College has a title many will recognize. "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," a stage adaptation by Jeffrey Hatcher of "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," will be showing at the Century Theatre this fall starting Oct. 27 and continuing through the 5th of November.

In this issue of the Century Times, I'll give you a run-down of the must-know facts about the play. You may think you know the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, but this adaptation features a new twist on the story.

In this version, there are four Hydes instead of just one, and they are neither all good nor all evil. "While all the Hydes are part of the one alternate personality of Dr. Jekyll, each of the four Hydes demonstrate a different aspect of his distorted personality," says Paul Aberasturi, the play's director. The different facets of Hyde include the evil Mr. Hyde, the romantic Mr. Hyde, the manipulative Mr. Hyde, and the feminine Mr. Hyde (who is actually played by a woman).

While you're watching, pay careful attention to the use of the extra actors in the play. They are carefully placed throughout the performance, seemingly observing the action as if it were a story, something the director did purposefully to bring out a sense of eeriness.

The play is free for all current students, faculty, and staff. Non-students can buy their tickets on www.showtix4u.com. Make sure to come on down to the Century Theatre so you don't miss this performance!

I hope these tips help you understand the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde as audience members. You can look forward to seeing a full review of the play in the next issue of The Century Times that will include some interviews with cast and crew, and perhaps even an interview with the playwright, who lives in the Twin Cities Area. See you in the theatre!



Actors of the play gather to discuss thoughts about their characters and scenes at the end of rehearsal.



Rehearsal practice for Act 2 of the play



Halloween Dodgeball Tournament!

OCTOBER 27TH

**12pm in the Gym on West
Campus**

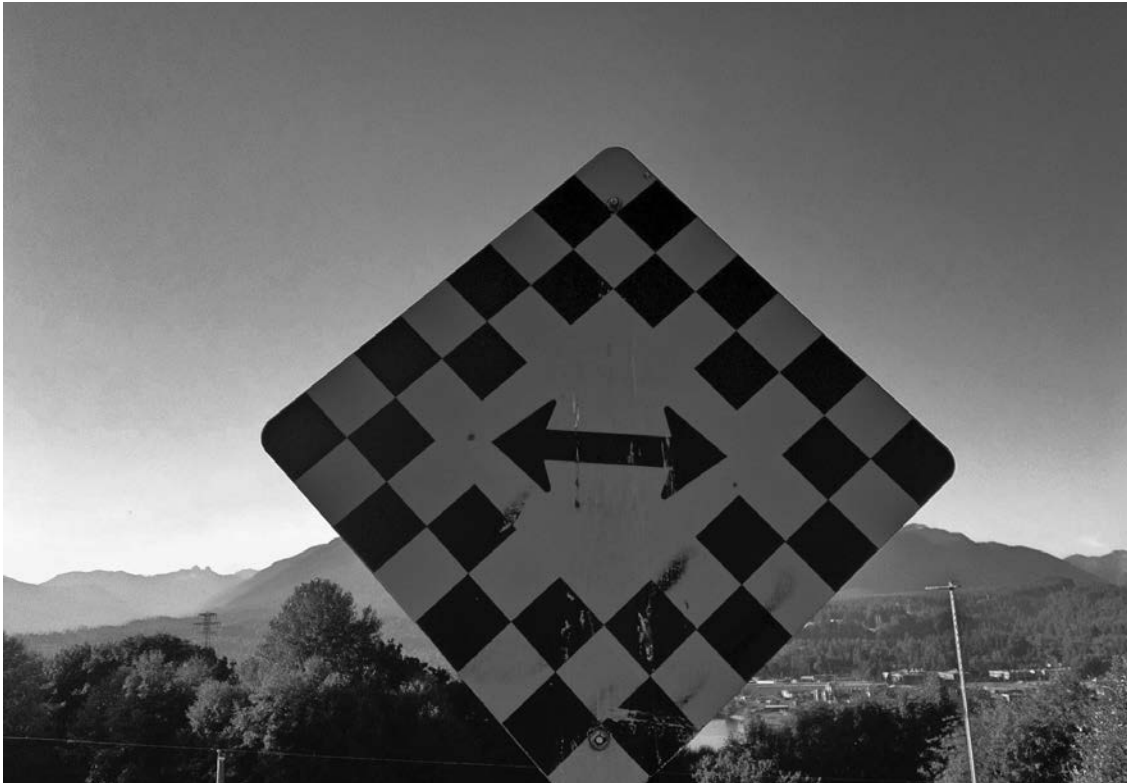
Prizes for Top Finisher!!

**Sign up in the Connection, with Chris
in W1213, or at
chris.yahnke@century.edu**

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The Importance of Each Decision

Mayliris Flores | Contributing Writer



Credit: "Choices" image by Kyle Pearce via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0

In every moment of our life, we are making decisions. In the morning, we start it by making a decision of whether waking up or to continue sleeping. Denis Waitley, a motivational speaker explains, "You are responsible for the eventual outcome of your life. You have been given the greatest power in the world - the power to choose." Waitley mentions that God gives us the power to choose and everyone is responsible of the results that those decisions make in their future. Some decisions are more important than others. However, what would happen if we could compare our current life with some important decision we made in the past?

Two years ago, I made an important decision in my life which was leave the comfort of my country Venezuela for to find a better future in the United States. This decision brought many changes in my life. Now I can look back to compare what would

have happened with my education level, family and friends, and quality of life if the decision would have been to continue in my country.

Two years ago, I was finishing my system engineering career. Probably, I would have finished it and would continue to exercise it in my work. I would be an accomplished professional and with a desired job. However, having the desired job would be worthless because of the current situation of Venezuela – which is going through an economic crisis; where people can only work to be able to get some food. Education, houses, cars, and other valuable things remain unattainable because of the high cost of living.

In contrast, today I am studying a new career – Enterprise Computing Technology – at Century College in the United States. This is a country with

many opportunities to study, and there are many colleges, universities, and many places to learn languages. I am also learning another language that is English. It is an universal language which will open many doors for me to find a new job after I can continue to grow professionally. Later, with a good job and a profession, I can buy a nice house and car. This way, I will give a better quality of life to my family.

Another factor that changed in my life was family and friends. In Venezuela I grew very close to my family, and I was always aware of my parents, nephews, and brothers. After I got married, I visited them every weekend, or they visited me. We went out with our friends to visit other states. We also went to the beach once a year; the trip was only three hours driving. We were always present on their special dates like birthdays, weddings, baby showers, and Christmases.

Compared to our family life in the United States thousands of miles away, it is very difficult to feel close. Although there are many apps that help a lot, such as Skype, Whatsapp, telephone, Facetime, and Facebook. These applications are not enough because physical contact is also necessary. Moreover, other inconveniences are that I do not have the same free time to talk and the time difference. In winter, there is two hours of difference compared to Venezuela. Likewise, here we have some friends which we visit like every two months because they have their friends and own occupations.

On the other hand, over the few last years, the quality of life in Venezuela has deteriorated in aspects like safety, health, and public services. For instance, when we lived in Venezuela, criminals tried to steal our car on several occasions. It was impossible to try to walk after six in the afternoon without being mugged. Another factor that kept me very worried was the acquisition of medicines in pharmacies because when I went to the pharmacies, there were not all the necessary medicines. Additionally, public services such as electricity and water were being rationed. For example, I did not have water each

Saturday or electricity each Tuesday in the afternoon.

In the United States, one of the things I admire the most is the quality of life where people pay their taxes, but the State responds by giving the people security, health, and quality public services. It is great when I go out to walk and feel calm. It is great to be able to talk on my phone anywhere, and it is also great that I can leave my car parked, so that I return to get it intact in the same place. I have tranquility knowing that if I get sick for any reason, I will be able to go to the pharmacy and find everything I need. I think we get sick less. Finally, the public services work perfectly. Also, the speed of response when something breaks down is admirable. I do not remember ever being without electricity or water during these two years.

In conclusion, after this decision, my life has given great turns in terms of studies, family relationship, and lifestyle. First, my educational level is growing, and I am reaching new goals like learning a new language to put all this into practice in my future work. Second, my life took a big turn in how I communicate and relate to my family and friends. I hope to have the tools and patience necessary to keep our relationship alive. Finally, I am very grateful to God for guiding me in this decision because the great changes that it gives to my lifestyle are wonderful. I think if I would have chosen to live in Venezuela, I would be frustrated because I did not have the courage to make this decision, and now maybe it would be too late to try. I would not have the resources, or my husband's life or my life would have been overtaken by insecurity.

Confusion

Leah Borgstrom | Contributing Writer

He sits with his right index finger wrapped loosely around the trigger of a loaded gun as he lightly traces the barrel with his other hand, letting the soothing sensation flow over him. He doesn't feel much anymore; his emotions have grown numb. He inhabits a home that's not really much of a home anymore, on a street he doesn't remember, in a city he can't recall, with people he can't recognize.

All he knows right now is the feeling of overwhelming comfort coming from between his fingertips. He begins to hear something strange coming from above him and suddenly notices the room he's in has become very confusing. He finds it hard to make out certain objects around him. He sits, puzzled.

"What's going on?" he mumbles.

He can't seem to remember anything, including his name. He doesn't know where he is or how he got here. He decides to get up and explore his surroundings and maybe answer some questions. He goes up some stairs to a floor consisting of three bedrooms and an office.

In the first room, he finds a faintly stained baseball bat. He walks down the hall towards the second and hears two muffled voices coming from behind a closed door. They sound...frightened. He decides he better not open that one.

In the third, there is a bottle of prescription pills and a note that says, "Don't forget your medication today!" Followed by a heart. He wonders whom they belong to. Leaning through the office door, he sees three large dogs pushing and pulling toy cars across the floor like children. They stare at him.

Having found nothing useful, he goes back downstairs. Past the living room, he finds a kitchen, two bathrooms, and another flight of stairs leading down. A faint voice leads him down the stairs to a basement containing a laundry room, a water heater, and bars on the windows. What are those for?

Forgetting what he is looking for, he goes back to the chair, picks up the gun, and sits with his right index finger wrapped loosely around the trigger. He lightly traces the barrel with his other hand, letting the calming sensation flow over him.

He doesn't feel much of anything. This should frustrate him but he remains unaffected. He looks around at the room he's in. He assumes it's a home but it doesn't really feel like one.

Someone is sitting across from him. She's a young woman, maybe mid-twenties. She's got light, caramel brown hair that cascades over her shoulders and down her back where it comes to an end. It's shiny and pretty even.

He can't understand her contorted face so his gaze drops to her pale and delicate hands. A brief image runs through his head, those hands... he must know her. He finds this slightly poetic. He feels his lack of sufficient memory should be a form of mercy to him, although right now he seems to... ache, only slightly, as if a part of him wants to remember. She's wearing a soft white dress with little yellow flowers on it. The word daisy comes to mind. They're her favorite.

She appears to be yelling at him and crying, but he can't hear her. She is only white noise and slurred syllables, as if there were some sort of barrier in between them. He thinks he can just barely make out a name: Mark. Who is Mark?

He notices the woman is holding something out to him. Does she want him to take it? He decides to ignore her. Maybe she'll just go away. He asks the microwave if this is a good idea and it blinks in agreement. She looks disappointed at his refusal, so she sets down the tiny blue thing next to a glass of what appears to be water.

He stands up from his chair and suddenly a pile of dolls with hands too big for their bodies appear at his feet. Were they there before? Had time passed? What the hell is going on. He needs answers.

He steps around the dolls to the middle of the room. Once there, he asks the couch who he is. It tells him that he is a king, and the windows inform him that the world is ending. A voice, seemingly coming from the ceiling fan, urges him not to worry.

"You'll be safe as long as you protect yourself," it says.

He walks to the corner of the room and sits on the floor with his right index finger wrapped loosely around the trigger of a loaded gun and smiles.

"Safe," he whispers softly.

"It's my husband, Mark," she says to the 911 operator. "It's like he's had some sort of nervous breakdown. He won't even look at me. He's just staring at the ground. Please hurry! He's scaring the children, wandering all around the house, and talking to himself. He hasn't taken his Clozaril in three days."

On the other end, a woman with a calm voice replies, "Okay ma'am don't worry. I'm sending someone to your location now. Does he have access to any weapons?"

"No, of course not," the worried wife answers. "But he is holding our son's toy pistol."

"Okay ma'am, an officer will be there shortly."

Credit: "Toy Guns" image by Scott Cutler via flickr, used under CC BY-SA 2.0



Her

Rolando Mero | Contributing Writer

The eyes are the connection to the soul.

I looked at her for the first time

Captivated by her beauty.

Every step she takes is with elegance

When her eyes first looked at me

I froze in awe;

To the beauty and shimmer of her stare.

Her eyes pierced my heart,

To imagine of what could be;

To know her.

I would imagine it to be like an angel

Spreading its wings

Flying high into the heavens,

Looking upon the world.

With such splendor.

I would hold her next to me

Never let go.

I would fascinate her with my mind

Showing her the strength;

Of my heart,

And the love I have for her,

Never to falter

And lack love

Like the first day we met,

It would be just like that.

The Dramatic Change of Autumn

Todd Schouweiler | Contributing Writer

Credit: "sylvan dance" image by david via flickr, used under CC BY 2.0



The coming of autumn arrives
with swift ease,

As you notice the leaves fall
down from the trees,

The birds and the beasts gather
much food,

Cause winter brings less,

It leaves a foul mood.

The time of autumn is when
nature slows down,

The leaves first change color and
dance all around.



Credit: "2009/365/298 I will survive" image by Alan Levine via flickr, used under CC BY 2.0



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