THE CENTURY TIMES

Century College

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What Students Think of Resource Centers

C. Scot Stene | Staff Writer

Century College provides all the resources students need to achieve academic success in convenient centers located all around campus. In the last several issues, THE CENTURY TIMES has taken a closer look at a few of these to give students a better idea of how the centers can help. As we were working on the articles we began to wonder what the students themselves thought of the resource centers.

"They made it much easier to comprehend exactly what the teacher wants to know," says David Lynum, a 21-year-old Communications major from White Bear Lake. "Like what happened today, I came in completely blind about certain things with writing, but she helped me out step by step and made it perfect for me."

The centers have student tutors available to help

clarify material students may be struggling with. "I think by getting a different perspective on different subjects, not just from your instructors but from your peers, is extremely helpful," says Kevin Kirkpatrick, a 29-year-old Biochemistry major from White Bear Lake. "If someone has struggled with it before, they might be better at telling someone how to accomplish getting the correct answers more clearly than someone who has it as a common understanding."

Some students have found the centers to provide an essential service. Liz Federer, a 20-year-old Dental Hygienist major from Chisago City says, "I come here every day before my class to work with the tutors, and they help me out a lot. I don't think you could pass a Spanish class without coming here."

"The first two weeks of the semester I was doing

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Photo By C. Scot Stene

Scholarly Banquet Ignites Passion for Learning

Renee Cortez | Staff Writer

On October 30, Century College Foundation had come for the student testimonials. their annual Scholarship Banquet. It was held from
The speeches were phenomenal in their impact. 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Lincoln Mall on East Campus. Many congratulations to the scholarship recipients were shared at this affair where people dressed in their best attire.

Northwards of 60 different scholarships were given out to over 100 students. After everyone had dinner each student was given a certificate and had his or her picture taken with President Ron Anderson. In addition, if the donor of the scholarship was there pictures were taken of them and the lucky students who received their generous gifts. The Kopp family, who sponsor many Century scholarships, were unable to attend.

Perhaps the most moving part of the evening was when the testimonies were given. Jill Greenhalgh, the Executive Director of the Century College Foundation feels this part of the banquet is the greatest. After she announced all the recipients and they received their certificates she stated that the time had

They made the audience admire what these grateful students had to say. Although many of the recipients voiced their desire to speak, according to Greenhalgh, time only allowed six.

One speaker was a non-traditional student named Judith Lacy. She finds her passion in Horticulture and is completing her 2nd semester. Receiving the Learn to Grow scholarship means very much to her. She talked about how her father getting a scholarship to learn sea navigation as a young man gave her the opportunity to travel with him before he passed.

Another speaker was from the Philippines. His name was Ricardo Pagba Jr. He is in his first year at Century yearning to pursue a Business Administration degree. He received the Matsukichi and Ushii Nakasone scholarship. He stated that words could not describe his thanks.

A man outfitted in African tradition dress attire took to the podium with a smile on his face. His name

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Congratulations to Lindsay Hannah Hatch for finding last issue's Woody on the 5th page

Get Glammed at Century College

Julia Sosniecki | Staff Writer



Katie Minks majoring in Cosmetology washing hair.

Photo By Tina Nichols

Everyone needs their beauty sleep. But with busy schedules who has the time? We want to look our best and keep up on the little things, and yet it adds up financially. Thankfully, we have the Century College cosmetology department to help us out.

Studying the areas of hair, skin, and nails, cosmetology students are able to get hands-on experience while they learn, by offering their services to the public at a reduced and affordable cost.

Anyone looking at going into this program should be aware of the commitment. Going fulltime would consist of school Monday-Friday from 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Being enrolled in this is similar to a fulltime job. Not only is the time commitment and work similar, you actually clock in and out.

Student Jade Kabylnick, who is in her second semester of the program, describes how a minimum of 240 hours of specified classes are required before a student is able to go on the clinic floor. Once having reached those 240 hours, the student can only perform services that they have taken the class for.

For graduation, 1550 hours are required along with certain specified counts of services (such as 300 shampoos). If this is too heavy of a load, one can always go for the Nail Tech Certificate, which requires only 350 hours. Program Director Mary Buker

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the wrong homework for a class because it was all online and I didn't realize," says 25-year-old Business Administration major Jacob Fleischacker from Maplewood. "I came in and he basically spent two full days with me and helped me go talk to the teacher, do everything I needed to do, and get it done correctly. It's literally changed my homework from a C to an A."

The centers are also good at helping to relieve the stress a particular assignment may be causing, as Adriana Lemieux, a 37-year-old Nursing major from Maplewood shared, "I was very stressed about an essay that I had to do. I didn't know how to put it in the right format to give to the teacher because she is very demanding. I was almost crying because I could figure out how to do that on the computer, but I called one of the instructors over and they helped me."

Pang Vang, a 26-year-old Nursing student from East St. Paul shared, "Our last test was very hard, as all tests for nursing are, but I met with a tutor and she brought in her notes, she went over what she thought would be on the test, what I needed to focus on, and it worked. It's very hard to go from a B to an A, but that's what happened."

Almost everyone we talked to commented on how nice the people working in the centers are. "If you have questions they can answer them," says Maggie Springer, a 15-year-old PSEO (Post-Secondary Enrollment Options) student from Forest Lake. "Everyone is super friendly."

Banquet continued from Page 1

was Emmanuel Beavogui. He is in his fifth semester at Century College and is majoring in ITT. Like the others, he expressed his sincere gratitude. He knows what it is like to not know what is going to happen the next day due to financial peril. He stated, "Heroes are those with hearts of kindness." To the donors he addressed, "You are all the real heroes because you are touching lives." To the teachers he said, "You are creating future leaders."

Speakers Beavogui, Pagba and Mario Duarte, share the experience of coming to America from another homeland. Duarte, who majors in Business Administration and Communication, is a product of the El Salvador war. He has always been the breadwinner in his family since a young age. He appreciatively recounted what receiving a scholarship means to him, "It means I have the opportunity to keep working on my dream. I want to thank you for helping my dreams come through."

Joel Updyke started his speech with a happy demeanor. The Chemical Engineering major attributed his scholarship to his phrase, "Hey, there's still hope!" He is in his fourth year at Century.

The very last speaker was a Horticulture major named Elizabeth Eubank, in her second year at Century. She had a story to tell the audience. Right around the time the scholarships were awarded her father was killed in a car accident. Still dealing with the grief she came back to school. Receiving her scholarship was the first thing to make her smile in weeks. She was emotional as she spoke and ended her speech with a teary eyed but resilient, "Thank you and I love you dad."



Nursing scholarship recipients and their donors.

Photo By Melissa Brown

Glammed continued from Page 1

explains, "a student can complete this in one semester."

The Cosmetology Program is also very well rounded. Buker states, "We give them basic knowledge on everything." During the first semester students will take introduction courses and learn the basics such as hairstyling and perming. From here, students will work their way to more complex services such as facials, waxing, and manicures/pedicures.

Kabylnick emphasizes the fact that you, "make sure you actually want to do it...a lot of people just half do it to just to pass the class. That's not going help you when you graduate because you're not going to know anything." If you are passionate about the work and truly interested, you will enjoy all this program has to offer!

Services are not only available to those at the school, but are open to the general public. "We take the public, we take students, we take friends and family all at a reduced rate," says Buker. The first week of every month they offer haircuts at just \$1.00! Students are notified about the monthly specials offered via the all student weekly email under the section about deals. In addition to \$1.00 haircuts the first week of each month, these are the specials they are offering for the rest of this school year:

December 1- December 15: \$1.00 haircuts

January: 50% off Waxing

February: 50% off All Over Colors March: 50% off Basic Wrap Perms April/May: \$1.00 Haircuts Both Months

The prices are really a great deal. Hair coloring and cuts are the most popular services. Compared to spending around \$100 or more at a professional salon, prices are as low as the mid 20's to one dollar (respectively). Before going to get a service done, however, it is important to remember that they are still students. They have had much training, but as Kabylnick points out, "We are practicing, we are not an actual salon...but there is an instructor checking in on us. If something is messed up the client can come back and get it fixed."

To make an appointment you can call 651.779.5756 or stop by E3375. They are located on the third floor on the East Campus. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Students practicing manicures

Jade Kabylnick majoring in Cosmetology

Photos By Tina Nichols



Entertainment

Century College Issue 3

A Fire that Rages On, and On, and On, and on...and on

Matthew Hoemke | Staff Writer

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire: B

Set almost immediately after the first film closes, Katniss returns home to District 12 a so called victor, but rather than victory, she instead feels trauma from the games. Katniss tries to reacclimatize to her former life and friendships, while also keeping up the faux-love story with Peeta as presented in The Hunger Games. The problem is that Katniss and Peeta sparked defiance in members of the districts and that spark is swiftly growing into a flame.

This film, in almost every respect, is a better film than The Hunger Games save for one major flaw.... The film is way too long and incredibly poorly paced. Though the running times are close to each other, this film felt its respective length whereas the first film didn't. This is a problem that is becoming more and more prevalent in cinema.

It is the screenwriters' job to adapt a book into a screenplay, but here the writers transcribe the book in screenplay format. On the plus side, nearly every moment is represented in the picture and (individually viewed) phenomenal in its execution, but novels and cinema are different mediums. The pacing that works in a novel (especially one that is written in first person) doesn't have the fluidity that the pacing of a feature film requires. This is the same problem I had with The Hobbit: An Unexpected Adventure. Representing every moment from the book made for a series of incredible scenes, but a disastrously uneven picture. The screenwriters, however, are not the only ones at fault; the studios share much of the blame.

Movie studios are allowing more and more overlong films to be released to compensate for the pricyness of tickets. It is hard to justify spending \$10 for a 90-minute feature, but a two and a half hour one sounds like you are getting your monies worth.

Outside of the films pacing, it is a glorious movie. The handheld/shaky-cam approach from the first film is dropped thankfully. The visual effects are better. The score is still emotional and fitting. Jennifer Lawrence gives a masterful performance rich in pathos. She has a gift of making the audience feel what her character is going through as she did in the first film, Silver Linings Playbook, and XMen: First Class. It is unreal how much emotion (be it sadness, rage, or happiness) she projects into the audience.

All the returning performers step up their A-game. Hutcherson, Banks, Hemsworth, Harrelson, and Kravitz all give better the performances from their first outing as these characters. Newcomer Phillip Seymore Hoffman adds a nice layer of menace behind the scenes of the games as President Snow's new game maker.

Director Francis Lawrence ramps up the emotional energy of the film in a really nice way. You feel the revolution starting and how this affects Katniss. Director Lawrence also has a nice visual eye, bettering the capitol and games set pieces that Gary Ross established in the first film. He is a it doesn't have me checking my watch.



Photo Courtesy of mockingjay.net



Photo Courtesy of freefever.com

Photo Courtesy of http://filmraps.blogspot.com

worthy successor to the franchise.

Still, for all the praise it gets the uneven pace really hurts the movie. I felt that the first film bettered the book in a lot of ways, but this time around it represented the book excellently, but fell far short of bettering it. As much as I liked this film, I liked the first a touch more because it didn't have me eyeing my watch. It worries me that they are splitting the last book into two films. Hopefully they will mend the pacing, but I can't see how the slight Mockingjay has enough material to make two features. Time will tell, I just hope



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Asgardian Avenger Returns with Thunderous Applause

Matthew Hoemke | Staff Writer

Thor: The Dark World: B+

The hero with a golden mane swings his mighty hammer once more in this thrilling follow-up to *Thor and The* Avengers. In the film, Thor must travel to nine mythological realms to create peace in the aftermath of his brother Loki's terrible crimes from the two previous films. Along the way, Thor learns that a threat that everyone in Asgard believed had been vanished has returned once more. What is worse, the threat has latched itself to Thor's Earthly love-buddy Jane Foster and could prove fatal. Times are desperate and the citizens of Asgard must now turn to Loki for assistance in these trying times.

Despite a rocky opening (the first thirty minutes are really a dud), the film takes off and becomes a fast, fun and all around fantastic fantasy adventure. Think *Lord of the*



Rings meets Star Wars but with Marvel heroes. What really elevates this film are the many entertaining and

could be used for their own feature film and would be every bit as engag-

ige Courtesy

Image Courtesy of ign.com

engrossing characters, all of which ing as they are in this film. The Asgardian heroes feel like the myths of old, and the humans on Earth are writ

> with wit and humanity. Gotta love how fun and sassy Kat Dennings' Darcy is.

As before, the relationship between Thor and Loki excels! Every moment with them is magic. I loved where they went with Loki's character in this film. They really walk the "should I or shouldn't I trust him" line well. The scenes in Loki's prison cell are excellent and help establish what follows throughout the course of the film between the two brothers and their parents.

The film does make a few missteps. The villain of the film is the least compelling villain in any of the Avenger movies to date (even beating out the lameness of Iron Man 3'S The Man-

darin). He is a cardboard character bent on revenge. Talk about a Thor loser. I mean sore. Sore loser.

The score isn't as rousing as Patrick Doyle's epic score from the first film. The score for this film is serviceable, but nothing that will stick with you. It's a little too low key (Loki?) for my tastes.

Even with these few problems, the film is so entertaining and funny that the audience is able to overlook these minor details. I do find it strange that both this film and *Thor* are arguably the most comedic of the Marvel films; yet the comedy plays well and really helps sell the concept of gods battling otherworldly beings. It somehow undercuts the potential campiness of the series.

While it isn't quite as good as its predecessors, the film marks another victory for Marvel. I, for one, can't wait to see where the series goes next. The end credits promise that Thor will return once more, and I will be first in line to see it.



Entertainment

Issue 3 Century College

The Greatest Heights Provide the Steepest Falls

C. Scot Stene | Staff Writer



Bioshock Infinite: Burial at Sea Episode One – C+

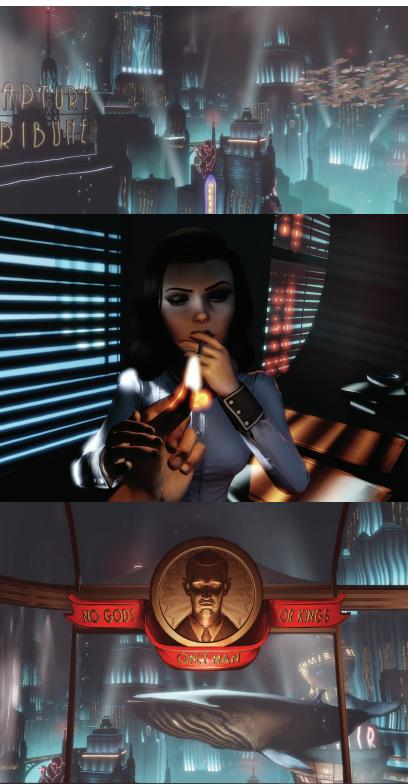
Bioshock Infinite is a great game. Though it has some flaws, it is held together by a compelling narrative and suburb world building. Though completely fantastical, the world is believable due to the extra attention developer Irrational Games gave to the details and the fresh setting of Columbia, the city in the sky.

Burial at Sea: Episode One is the first of a two-part series of narrative DLC (downloadable content) packs that return players to Rapture, the setting of the first two games in the series. Rapture, like Columbia, is a master class in world building. In the original Bioshock, players discovered the city in the ruins of a civil war. In Burial at Sea, players finally get to see the city before the fall, and it is fantastic.

Rapture is a city built at the bottom of the ocean on the principles and values of objectivism as advocated by Ayn Rand, and fictionalized in her novel Atlas Shrugged. The easiest way to explain this is that people in this city are valued solely on their contributions to society and the advancement of civilization. Hearing this expressed in casual conversations overheard between citizens while wandering the city is fascinating, and sort of made up for the random fetch quests that served to drive the narrative.

Exploring the city in the first half of the DLC is the best part of the game. It is limited in scope, however, as players are confined to one section of the vast city. Other buildings can be seen through the glass outer walls, giving the city a uniquely beautiful skyline, yet underscoring exactly how small of an area players are actually allowed to see. There is a lot to see though, and many players will

All images captured by the reviewer using Steam



want to wander around and explore, marveling at all the little details that flesh out the world, and make it a believable and interesting place.

The second half of the DLC shuttles players off to an already desolated part of the city, which just feels like a retread of the first two games with elements from Infinite shoehorned in. For example, Skylines are inexplicably now a part of a city with no actual sky. They made sense as a means of travel in Columbia; here they just feel out of place.

The combat also returns in the second half, and doesn't seem to fit either. The shooting in Bioshock games has always been the weakest part, but this is the first time it just feels bad. That is not to say that the mechanics are bad, as the meat and potatoes of the combat are still functioning, but it is boring and lessened the fun of exploration. The threat of violence heightens the sense of urgency, which doesn't encourage taking the time to soak in the scenery.

The story in Burial at Sea is a bit confusing. Since it is the first of two planned episodes this is to be expected. The narrative does end in a cliffhanger that serves to drive interest for the next chapter, and in that regard it is successful. However, the motivations of the characters and their reason for even being in this world are not clearly explained. If Irrational focuses more on these aspects, as well as allowing players to explore more of Rapture in the second episode, then it might reach the great heights of previous games in the series. As it stands, unless players are really into the worlds of Bioshock, Episode One is only slightly above average.

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Seasons

Discover the Origin of a Holiday

Dena Urbano | Staff Writer

Dashing through the snow, decorated trees, jingle bells, Santa Claus, reindeer, stockings, gift exchanges, the birth of Christ.... many of these things come to mind when one thinks of Christmas. But what is it REALLY about? How did people decide that December 25 was going to be the day to celebrate one of the most widely recognized holidays of the year?

The history of Christmas is a long one, but it wasn't always an occasion thought of as "Christmas." According to information found on The History Channel's website, centuries before the arrival of a man known to many as Jesus Christ, early Europeans would celebrate light and birth. It would usually take place around the winter solstice on December 21. Many felt lighthearted at this time and wanted to celebrate the worst of winter being behind them. It was a way to celebrate looking ahead to longer daylight hours and a year beginning anew.

There are other early forms of Christmas as well. For example, in Rome, people celebrated "Saturnalia," a holiday which honors Saturn, the god of agriculture. They also observed a holiday called "Juvenalia," a feast which honors the children of Rome. Juvenalia would be celebrated around the time of the winter solstice. (HistoryChan-

nel.com)

Another example of an early winter celebration is of pagan origin in Germany, which honored the pagan god Oden. Another tidbit of information from The History Channel's website explains that Germans were terrified of Oden and believed he made nightly flights through the sky to observe his people. He would decide who would thrive and who would not. Sounds quite similar to what people believe about Santa Claus! A person could hazard a guess that some of the lore around old St. Nick could be derived from the Germans' winter celebrations. (HistoryChannel.com)

It was not until the fourth century that church officials decided to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Easter had been the main holiday until the birth of Jesus was instituted as a holiday. Interestingly enough, the Bible does not give the actual date of Jesus' birth and it is commonly believed that the choice of December 25 as the date was because the church officials hoped to assume and absorb the earlier pagan traditions. This helped to ensure that Christmas would be well received and popular. (HistorvChannel.com)

In the American colonies, Christmas was not a holiday in the earliest years of settlement and was even outlawed in Boston from



Image Courtesy of myaddmoment.wordpress.com

1659 to 1681. In the Jamestown settlement, however, Christmas was heartily celebrated by all. A fun additional fact about the Jamestown settlement is that the first eggnog was made and consumed there. Christmas was not declared a federal holiday in America until June 26, 1870. (HistoryChannel.com)

When asked about what Christmas meant to him, Century student Drew Petersen, 29, had a few answers. "Christmas to me means high quality time spent with my family eating delicious food while relaxing from the

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Image Courtesy of german-way.com

Tis the Season for Celebrations

Lanie Carter | Staff Writer

Many cultures and religions have holidays during this time of year and people celebrate them differently. For example, there is Thanksgiving and Hanukkah/Chanukah, which is on November 28(see Kyla Oesterreich article.) In December, there is Yule, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. Thanksgiving-November 28:

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated in several countries and different days, but primarily in the United States and Canada. The meaning behind the day is the same to give thanks for that year's harvest. In the beginning it was celebrated in each state on a different day. President Abraham Lincoln tried to make it on a certain day to unify the northern and southern states, but because of the Civil War it wasn't recognized until the 1870s. President Franklin D Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress in 1941 changing the national Thanksgiving Day from the last Thursday of November to the fourth Thursday to give the country an economic boost.

A day of celebrating a harvest is also celebrated in Germany, Grenada,



Image Courtesy of sodahead.com

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Greetings

Happy Non-denominational Winter Extravaganza!

Kiana Williams | Staff Writer

The most wonderful time of the year has arrived once more! The time when snowflakes dance down to earth, coating the world in its pearlescent blanket; the time when families flock together, basking in the warm glow of each other's company; the time when your annoying neighbor Chelsea stops making dumb fall-related jokes ("Time to pumpkin spice up my life!") because she went home to visit her parents.

Yes, it seems that Mother Nature has decided to forgo autumn completely and skip right to the cold, and you know what that means: THE NON-DENOMINATIONAL WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA SEASON IS FINALLY HERE!

While every family has their own ideas and traditions regarding this sacred time, there are two steps we can all take to make your N-We a little bit more special.

1.Get your holiday trees and Non-Religious Candle Holders Early The Non-Denominational Winter Extravaganza's greatest threat is other holidays. Those horrible people lie in wait for winter to roll around. Then they jump on the opportunity to grab the products we need to celebrate N-We for themselves, giving them foul names like "Christmas Trees" and "Menorahs", with a blatant disregard to the feelings of others.

Beat those pagans to the front of the line and choose the very best products for your vague winter celebration!

2. Eliminate all language relating to race and specific holidays from your language.

The great William Shakespeare (or Billy the Shakes as I'm told he liked to be called) once asked, "What is in a name?" I'll tell you what: Pain. What's with everyone's irrational need to have specific names for everything? In my personal experience, I've found that it is far better to float vaguely through life, never quite sure what things mean. For instance, when you begin seeing someone romantically, you must never define the relationship. Your partner may resist this at first, but soon they'll find that never knowing where you stand with a significant other only adds to the mystery!

The same is true of holidays. The best part about the Non-Denominational Winter Extravaganza, and the one that is the most hotly contested, is that it DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING! Each person who chooses to partake in the celebration gets to decide what they want it to represent for themselves. Sort of like a choose-your-own-adventure. Later in his quote,



Image Courtesy of freechristmaswallpapers.net

William Shakespeare says, "A rose by any other name would smell just as sweet." I'm tempted to agree.

Well, there you have it! Follow these tips and I guarantee that your Non-Denominational Winter Extravaganza will be both magical and controversy free!

Thanksgivukkah: Two Holidays Unite

Kyla Oesterreich | Staff Writer

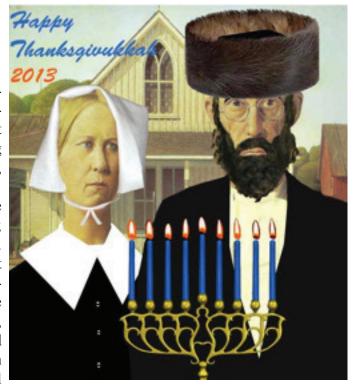
Holidays make us feel warm and fuzzy. We celebrate many different holidays and every family has its own traditions. This year the first day of the Jewish holiday, Hanukkah and Thanksgiving fall on the same day, November 28. Together, these two holidays will unite to form, Thanksgivukkah!

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the 4th Thursday in November. Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days and nights starting on the 25th night of Kislev, which happens any time from late November to early December according to the Gregorian calendar. These two calendars have intersected on the same day only once before in 1861, but this was two years before Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday, which means that this year is the first

official Thanksgivukkah.

Thanksgivukkah is quite an anomaly as Jonathan Mizrahi, a mathematician from the University of Maryland, explains on his blog that the next time that Hanukkah and Thanksgiving will fall on the same day is November 28th, 79811.

While some have coined clever phrases like "Gobble Tov!" and "Life, Liberty, Latkes"; others have found a way to make some money. TIME reporter Katy Stienmetz explains that Dana Gitell has known of this holiday overlap for five years so trademarked the name "Thanksgivukkah", made a Twitter, Facebook, and even claimed the URL. She has teamed with ModernTribe.com, which sells Jewish gifts among other things, to produce and sell



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Christmas Money Saving Advice

Johann Hollar | Staff Writer

With the Christmas Holiday coming up, people need to beat the rush to get the latest items desired (the PS4 will be a hot one) but after the holidays there is one problem that will besiege all holiday shoppers: post-holiday debt. It's always been a pain for most people to purchase the things they want during the holidays, especially in these tough economic times while having to make ends' meet. Some people don't have these problems on account of being very frugal and not needing to take this advice. However, those who have yet to do their holiday spending may need whatever advice they can get on how to save and spend at the same time. That's what this article is about.

What is written here will not help anyone get out of debt from holiday spending, but advise on how to save money, so that you the reader will not fall into a pit of debt after the holidays.

- Do not sign on with credit cards or even use them. This is the number one reason why people are in debt after the holidays.
- Writing a list always helps to avoid wasteful spending. That way when shopping, it won't cause distractions from buying what's not on the list.
- Compare prices to online shopping to that of shopping in person at a store. It lessens the need to buy things on impulse.
- Take advantage of anything that says layaway. Paying forward for something now and then paying the rest later can help save money.
- Never get fooled into that whole "buy two, get one half off", it's wasteful spending and it's distracting.
- There is no shame in being unable to buy what's on the list. Just purchase what you can when you can.

Hopefully these tips were helpful to you, the reader, and remember to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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roar of busy life. The excitement of Christmas morning. Seeing my daughters full of wonderment and joy as they sprint for the tree."

Century College General Education major, Brittany Borgen, 19, shared, "For me, Christmas means spending time with the ones you love the most. It's not about what you get under the tree. It's about what you can give."

Kaitlin Hall, 20, Health and Human Services major at Century commented, "It means family. Christmas is nothing without your family."

No matter what Christmas means to a person there is always more to learn. Here are some other fun facts and trivia about Christmas and the many things we associate with the popular holiday:

Christmas Trees:

- ~According to TheHistoryofChristmas.com, Christmas trees have been sold commercially in America since about 1850.
- ~100,000 people are employed in the Christmas tree industry.
- ~77 million Christmas trees are planted each year.
- ~98 percent of all Christmas trees are grown on farms.
- ~Tinsel for trees was once banned by the government because it contained lead. It is now made of plastic.
- ~Thomas Edison's assistants came up with the idea of electric lights for Christmas trees. (TheHistoryofChristmas.com)
- ~ According to Joey Green of Huffington Post, Ukranians decorate Christmas trees with an artificial spider and web which has to do with a legend that tinsel originated when a spider wove a web around a Christmas tree at night and the rising sun turned it into silver. It is considered good luck to find a real spider on Christmas morning.

Santa Claus

- ~ Chicago Tribune holds an annual "Scared of Santa" contest for the best photo of a child shrieking on Santa's lap.
- ~According to an article in Parenting Magazine about weird Christ-mas traditions, there are families in the USA and around the world who leave beer for Santa instead of milk.
- ~In the Czech Republic, they believe that Santa drops down from heaven on a gold cord. (Joey Green, Huffington Post)

Other random Christmas trivia

- ~The first candy canes originated roughly 350 years ago and were white and straight rather than the red and white cane shaped candy we know at present. (About.com)
- ~Carols were first sung thousands of years ago in European countries; however, they were not considered to be for or about Christmas. They were originally sung in pagan celebrations surrounding the Winter Solstice. (whyChristmas.com)
- ~The Norse, Celtic Druids, and North American Indians once held mistletoes sacred, it is said to symbolize peace and joy. (historyof-Christmas.com)
- ~Each year, more than 3 billion Christmas cards are sent out in the USA alone. (fact.randomhistory.com)
- ~A traditional Christmas dinner in merry old England used to be a pig's head served with a mustard sauce. Thankfully, that tradition never made its way to America!
- ~The Christmas Pickle ornament and the urban legends that sur-

round it: one legend is about an American Civil War soldier who was captured and held prisoner around the holiday season. The soldier was starving and the man guarding him took pity and gave him a pickle as a "last meal." The soldier survived and attributed it to eating the pickle. After returning home to his family, the soldier started a tradition of hiding a pickle somewhere in the Christmas tree. Most people have no idea why this tradition really exists, but some people hang a Christmas pickle ornament on their tree every year. While it is originally thought to originate in Germany, it actually does not and there is very little evidence to show how this oddity came about. (whyChristmas.com)

The history of Christmas is a long, varied, and sometimes-humorous one. No matter how one celebrates the holidays; everyone seems to have his or her own version of how it should be done. The reigning theme of the season and its history appears to be the importance of keeping family and friends close. British travel writer and explorer, Freya Stark was spot on when she once said, "Christmas... is not an external event at all, but a piece of one's home that one carries in one's heart."



n Image Courtesy ofcolorfulanimationexpressions.blogspot.com

Image Courtesy of spiderwisdom.com

News & Features

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Celebrations Continued from Page 6

Japan, and others. Today it is celebrated with a large meal including Turkey, potatoes, corn shared by friends and family.

Hanukkah-November 28:

Hanukkah/Chanukah is a celebration of two miracles in the Jewish community. The first is to celebrate winning a war with Greek armies. The second is when the small army of Jews liberated the Holy Temple from Greek invaders they found a Menorah (candelabra) with only enough oil to light for one day, but it lasted for eight days and nights. Therefore, Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days by lighting a candle on the Menorah each day. Traditional foods are fried for example, Latkes, which is like a potato pancake.

Yule: Winter Solstice December 21/22;

Yule, or A festival of light, is a holiday celebrated on the winter solstice. As a Pagan celebration older than Christianity it incorporates many traditions from Christmas. It is where Christmas gets the Yule Log, decorating a tree from and the Mistletoe. It is a celebration of rebirth of a new year and welcoming back the sun. Christmas-December 25:

Christmas is a Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. People exchange gifts on the tradition associated with St. Nicholas and the gifts that were given to baby Jesus on the day of his birth. Christmas is celebrated in many countries. Juanita Iradi, 50, who is a Para-education student at Century, and from Santiago, Chile, explains that they celebrate very similar to how Americans do. "Christmas is most important event," she continues,

"The difference than here you give the gift in the night, 12 o'clock, not another day here it's another day." They decorate Christmas trees with tinsel, put a display of the manger under the tree, and go to church on Christmas Eve. They also sing Christmas carols in English and in Spanish.

Kwanzaa-December 26-January 1:

Kwanzaa is a weeklong celebration in the United States celebrating African heritage and community. The celebration was created by Dr. Mualena Karenga 1966 to bring African-Americans together as a community. Traditions include exchanging handmade gifts, honoring ancestors and elders, and wearing tradition clothing.

No matter what you celebrate this year, enjoy the time with family and friends.



Image Courtesy of sofficialkwanzaawebsite.org



Image Courtesy of timeanddate.com

Thanksgivukkah Continued from Page 7

merchandise such as Woodstock-themed t-shirts and greeting cards. She with food that makes you eat until you simply cannot eat anymore. Try tells Stienmetz that she chose to pair with a charity called MAZON: A out this awesome sweet potato latke recipe for something festive and easy: Jewish response for hunger so 10% of profits go to fighting hunger.

Asher Weintraub, a nine-year old boy from New York, New York went to the crowd-sourcing website, Kickstarter, with his idea for a "Menurkey", a turkey-shaped menorah. A menorah is a nine-branched candelabrum used during Hanukkah. \$48,345 was raised (almost twice as much as they originally asked for!) and the Menurkey was sent into production!

Many families center their Thanksgiving on Thanksgiving dinner: turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pie. The same is true for Hanukkah; Jewish-American families celebrate with latkes (a tasty potato pancake), gelt (Hanukah money which are chocolate coins), and many foods that are fried in oil to symbolize the oil that lasted for eight days. Many professional chefs and home cooks are working to create dishes that combine food from both holidays. The Rye Deli & Bar in Uptown, Minneapolis will soon debut their harvest-flavored noodle kugel according to their Twitter page. The owner, David Weinstein, has worked up a big hybrid menu for the special day and the deli will offer takeout in advance. Other dishes such as sweet potato latkes, apple-cranberry sauce, a turkey brined, and Manischewitz wine (a kosher brand best known for its wine and matzo) will grace the tables of many families this holiday season.

Spend this once in a lifetime holiday surrounded by those that you love

Sweet Potato Latkes with Cranberry-Apple Sauce

2 lg. sweet potatoes, grated (not yams, latkes require starch!) 1 medium onion, white or yellow, grated along with sweet potato 2 egg whites, beaten with a fork

1/3 cup cornstarch

Salt, pepper

Vegetable oil for frying

Minced chives for topping

Grate the sweet potatoes and onion together to prevent the potato from discoloring. Stir in the egg whites and cornstarch, salt and pepper. Use a teaspoon to form the pancakes as small mounds and set them on a couple of paper towels so they are 'on deck" for frying.

Heat about ¼" oil in a large skillet until a tester latke bit sizzles when dropped into the pan. Pan-fry them in batches until golden brown on both sides. Drain on more paper towels before serving with cranberry-apple sauce. Sprinkle with chives.

Recipe source: Laura Weinman, one of the Chef Instructors at New School of Cooking in Culver City

The Century Times Fall 2013

Veterans Week at Century Shows Honorable People in Need

Daniel Arend Jr | Staff Writer

I guess I was a little naïve as a child. Back then, I knew that the Army protected the United States and its freedom, but I never really understood the amount of pain that soldiers have to go through performing such an incredibly dangerous and heroic job for the American people.

Sometimes I feel that Memorial Day and Veterans Day get confused by people. Memorial Day is to remember the men and women who have given their lives in the line of service, while Veterans Day is for celebrating those veterans who've served in any of the US Armed Forces. Somehow I fear that we could really honor our Veteran's in a way that could really make a difference in their lives.

Let me just clarify, this is my first semester at Century, so I've never seen the close-knit community from this perspective before.

The newspaper staff had discussed doing an article on Veteran's Week, and I figured I'd be the last one who should write it - I haven't been exposed to what a life in the service might be like. Just as things usually go with me, I was picked. Sure, I'll write an article. Piece of cake...

I came to school Monday morning, and as I walked downstairs there were already several 'CodeTalkers' boards up outside West Nest. I found this strange since I was in the first group walking into Century that morning and wondered how long they'd already been up. These display boards spoke about Native American people who developed "codes" based on their native language. These codes were used to transmit secret tactical messages during both World Wars. Using this method significantly decreased encoding and decoding times on both ends, and gave us an invaluable tool to give our front lines that extra edge. A very honorable thing indeed.

Tuesday I sat in on Dr. Ernest Boswell's presentation on PTSD. I thought PTSD was just stress, or maybe headaches; instead, Boswell drew an excellent picture of the things mental trauma during battle can do to a person, and how some effects can stick with you a long time. Things like experiencing a horrific nightmare of intense gun fire, seeing soldiers being severely wounded, or even the instinctual nature and fast pace of it all. Those things are enough to make any man a little uneasy to say the least. No wonder so many soldiers have a difficult time reintegrating back into society after having fought in foreign lands during war.

I had to know more, so here are some interesting facts I've found: mental illness affects 1 out of 3 returning home and 1 in 10 do not receive healthcare (about 1.3 million). These are staggering numbers and there are many who need care but the VA is full. The VA "no longer had the capacity to adequately serve all current enrollees." That, coming from a 2010 Congressional Budget Office report, also mentioned they stopped admitting many higher-income vets in 2003, although resumed again 6 years later in 2009. After hearing the presentation, I realized how PTSD can affect your mind to the point of having trouble maintaining a schedule like work or school, and there's little that these men and



Image Courtesy of centurycollege.edu

women can do about their healthcare without the help of tax payers. We wouldn't have the freedom we do without them.

These things really got me concerned and I hope you're all asking yourselves, "Isn't there more we can do for America's Veterans?" Healthcare cost American's \$50 billion last year and are expected to top \$600 billion over the next 10 years, and that only includes current beneficiaries, but how can we put a price on providing healthcare for these truly honored Americans?

Spruce Up Your Holiday Meals with This Wild Hotdish

Jennifer Billstrom | Staff Writer

Wild Rice Hotdish

What you'll need:

- 2 cups wild rice (cleaned and cooked)**
- 1 cup celery; diced
- ½ cup green peppers; diced
- 1 cup mushrooms
- 1 can chicken rice soup
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can water chestnuts; sliced



Image Courtesy of food.com

**Clean rice by bringing water to boil with rice in pan. Repeat 3 times or more. Instructions: Mix all ingredients in oven safe dish and bake in oven on 350° for one hour. Set aside and cover.

Issue 3 Century College

Living Dead Found to be Enrolled at Century

Jonathan Pressley | Staff Writer

The Century Times has reported on numerous occasions about the immense and diverse population at Century College. Instructors range from the traditionally educated, to active authors, to an unconfirmed janitor from Harvard. Our student population is perhaps even more diverse: International students were featured in a recent article, as was a potential Olympian boxer. Century's students represent every demographic, numerous races, and have now been officially recognized as containing an entity long mystified by literature and Hollywood – the living dead.

The same students who recently found a new way to study science (featured in our last issue), used their new method to research what was previously thought to be creatures of legend. Due to the sensitivity of this finding, the students currently wish to remain anonymous. When asked why, a project leader explained, "The living dead have been victimized by Hollywood; people regard the living dead with fear."

Another member added, "The truth is quite the opposite; they are harmless. It is kind of sad actually, they keep going about their routine, perpetually attending class without mental awareness of being there." The first leader finished, "We want to stay anonymous so that people can't give in to their fears and use us and our research to victimize the unfortunate dead."

In an exclusive interview with *The Century Times*, one of the living dead agreed to talk behind the college's theater curtain in order to remain anonymous. While the dead individual remained mostly quiet, as one might expect, the most predominant sound was a repeated and hushed "shh."

When asked what it is the dead wanted most, the answer was simple. "Sleep," the dead individual replied in a quiet voice. When one of the science students dropped an armful of large textbooks, a loud "shh" was the response with piercing eyes that could be felt through the curtain.

While the cause of the living becoming living dead is not exactly known, the students hypothesize that it may having something to do with newborn children. With that knowledge, there are only two precautions they recom-



Image Courtesy of forgeonahead.wordpress.com

mend taking when you feel you may be in the presence of the living dead.

"Don't make loud noises, and avoid turning lights on if they [the living dead] just turned them off," a project leader cautioned, "While they will not react violently, they will shoot darting glares from their eyes that can potentially make grown men cry."

"It is almost as if they perpetually think they just put a child down for a nap," one of science students remarked.

The science group concluded by saying, "While we will not disclose how to determine if a living individual is dead, if a person is 'shhhing', swaying and bouncing as if holding a child (even though they are not) while in line for coffee and subsequently order a double depth charge with no cream or sugar, we recommend leaving them alone, being extra quiet, and keeping lights dimmed if at all possible."

Black Panties: Devoid of Panties

Joshua Mahan | Staff Writer

R. Kelly is at it again. The famous R&B singer, well known for his thoughtful work on songs like "Feeling On Yo Booty", "Down Low (Nobody has to Know)", and his contributions on *The Space Jam* soundtrack, announced in a recent interview with Fruit of the Loom Magazine that his forthcoming album, *Black Panties*, will be devoid of any sexual content whatsoever.

"Black Panties will not—and I repeat—will not have any Sexasaurus inspired lyrics or demeaning sexual innuendos," said Kelly to reporters last Wednesday. "Put simply, Black Panties is grandma's panties: there's nothing sexual about it."

Kelly's statement comes off as quite a shock to fans eagerly anticipating the album's release in December.

Devotees familiar with R. Kelly's *Trapped in the Closet* music video series no doubt remember the omnipresent and sometimes confusing sexual themes running through the work. In following the film's protagonist, Sylvester, the listener is immediately drawn into a story full of complicated lies, rampant adultery, and promiscuous (albeit fascinating) midgets. Thus, one might wonder why Kelly would choose such a new direction.

"I think R. Kelly is simply doing this as a publicity stunt," said Rap Rapport music critic Reed Berapin. "Singers often say something provocative before an album release in hopes that people will now listen to their music. The greater concern in this situation is why did R. Kelly choose black? Why not red? Now that's a good color?"

But is it really a publicity stunt? Or is there something more to the situation?

"R. Kelly has long been a fan of children," said his publicist Regina Daniels. "He genuinely wants



R. Kelly's new album *Black Panties* has fans talking about where the singer is headed artistically

Image Courte

to expose himself to the under-fifteen crowd-many of whom were restricted from buying his CDs because of parental advisory limitation laws. This album is an attempt to be child friendly and send a genuine message of love and understanding to America's youth whom Kelly so desperately wants to connect with. *Black Panties* marks a change of heart within the artist, who has three children of his own."

Yet not every R. Kelly fan is thrilled about an album geared towards children. "This is the worst thing that ever happened to R. Kelly," protested the National Endowment for the Arts president Peter Johnson in a recent interview Image Courtesy of globalgrind.com

with *The Century Times*. "I love R. Kelly, and I appreciate what he's trying to do for the kids around the world, but R. Kelly without any sexual content is like milk toast—it just doesn't seem appetizing."

Where do you stand on this issue? Is black too formal a color for underwear? Is R. Kelly genuine about wanting to reach out to and around children? Is this simply a publicity stunt done to improve his career? Contribute to the discussion by visiting TCT Website or Facebook page—TCT's QR code can be found at the front page of this paper next.

Fall 2013

Passion of the Turkey

Jennifer Billstrom | Staff Writer

Thanksgiving: A day to give thanks for all of life's blessings, a day to spend time with ones we hold dear, and whether a sports fanatic or out of tradition, a day to watch a bunch of sweaty, middle-aged men play catch with a ball made out of pigskin; but for The Century Times' Editor-In-Chief Matt Hoemke, it's a day about one thing and one thing only: turkey.

Quite possibly one of the most edible of birds, Hoemke has had an extreme fondness for turkey since he was a baby. His family told this reporter that they believe his obsession originated while he was still in the womb. His mother always craved turkey while she was pregnant with him, so turkey was pretty much all she would eat. It never occurred to anyone that her cravings could pass down to her unborn child; that is, until six months after he was born when they tried to move him from the bottle to solid foods.

Weaning Hoemke to solid foods proved challenging, as mashed turkey was the only thing that appeared to sate his appetite. His mother reminisced, "We started feeding my little Matthew solid foods when he was six months old, and he absolutely REFUSED to eat anything but mashed turkey. A few weeks later we tried to trick him into eating mashed peas by putting them into one of the many empty turkey jars lying around, but he just knew better."

When suggested that Hoemke may have just not liked peas, his mom shook her head and added, "No, he just wanted his turkey. In fact, that was the day my Matty spoke his first words. It was so adorable; he slammed his little fist on his highchair and demanded, 'Noooo! Want turkey!"

what would become Hoemke's lifelong obsession for the bird.

As Hoemke grew like a pumpkin in a patch, so did his obsession for turkey. In his junior year of high school he ran for class president with the campaign slogan, "It's 'fowl' that our school doesn't serve more turkey. 'Stuff' the ballots for me, Matt Hoemke!" When interviewed, former high his school principal Penelope Pilgrim said, "A few weeks before Matt announced he was running for president, he planned a protest demanding the cafeteria always have a turkey dinner option. Only, no one showed up to the event but him. To this day I'm convinced the only reason he ran for president was to try and push his crazy turkey addiction onto the rest of the students of our beloved school."

Unfortunately for Hoemke, his opponent Candy Yams, whose campaign promise included extended school breaks, won by a landslide. Hoemke's dreams of delicious turkey dinners being distributed daily were destroyed, "I was baffled! I mean, who needs longer breaks when there's an offer of tasty turkey dinners on the table?"

Though the reasons for Yams' triumphant victory may seem obvious, Hoemke, while shaking his head incredulously, offered his opinion, "I would have happily gone to school 365 days a year if turkey dinners were guaranteed every day. I still don't get it. How did no one else agree with me on this?"

His stomach felt the brunt of the loss, as Hoemke was then forced to continue eating the mediocre meals already on the menu. He may have lost the election, but his love for turkey remained intact.

Hoemke, who is now a 27-year-old college student, still dedicates his days to the delectable turkey. When asked how his fellow staff members felt about his devotion to eating turkey, The Century Times' Art Director Dena Urbano had this to say, "Every day is like a scavenger hunt in our office. It's not that we [the staff] are actively looking for his turkey leftovers or anything, but they just pop up all over the place. We open the cabinet to grab a pen and what do we find? A half-eaten turkey leg. We go to a computer and what do we find? A turkey bone on top of the keyboard. We open the fridge and what do we These incidents were just the first glimpse of find? Matt's emergency stash: two turkey sand-

wiches that he keeps on hand as a sort of security blanket in case the cafeteria isn't serving turkey that day. He's taking over our office with turkey! He's like an addict hoarding his turkey stash all over the place."

So with Thanksgiving shortly approaching like the Millennium Falcon reaching the end of the Kessel Run, we're thinking about the time we're going to spend with family, but for Hoemke, he's thinking about the time he's going to spend with his turkey. Over the sound of his rumbling belly Hoemke concluded, "While everyone else is sitting around the table giving thanks for all the wonderful things in life, I'm just sitting there asking myself, 'Where's the turkey?"

Where's the turkey indeed.



STUDENT NEWPAPER

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