Looking Back at 50 Years of The Harbinger

December 1964. The first issue of The Harbinger was published. In our final issue for this semester, we will be looking back, in broad strokes, fifty years of Jefferson College’s student newspaper. In this issue, present day members of The Harbinger staff will be revisiting previous articles and events in past issues of The Harbinger throughout the decades. In the immortal words of William Faulkner, “The past is not dead. It’s not even past.” And hopefully, in this issue, you will experience the timeless presence and sustainment of the Harbinger. Throughout 50 years of lives, going across the Jeff Co campus. Throughout 50 years of lives, pursuits of education and desti- nies, of trying to make a differ- ence in each other’s existences. Of course, change. Change to the physical structure of our school. Change in the society outside the boundar- ies of Jeff Co. Change in our clothes. But the motivation of the students and the hunt for educa- tion remains un- altered.

This is what one could keep in mind when examining our current students as we sur- vey then and now, leading up to this point. For those who came before us. From all of the mem- bers of the Harbinger team, we sincerely hope you enjoy. Thank you. See you in fifty years!

Grant Will Help Students Pursue High-Demand Fields

by Kory Johnson

Jefferson College has re- ceived $1.257 million as part of a $19.7 million federal grant awarded to the state’s community college consortium through the Missouri Community College Association to educate 1,900 Missourians in (STEM) science, technology, engineering, and math fields and expand the state’s ability to collect student data enrolled in workforce programs. “Statewide the grant will fund training in areas of high demand including transportation, manufactur- ing, information tech- nology, health services/health sciences, and science support,” said Jefferson College President Dr. Raymond Cummiskey. “The Missouri Community College Association consortium chose to focus on STEM jobs because of those jobs’ importance for eco- nomic growth, preparing students to step into good jobs in fast- growing fields and positive long- term employment prospects.”

This marks the second time that Jefferson College has received funding through the statewide consortium grant ap- plication via the U.S. Department of Labor’s Trade Adjustment Assistant Community College and Career Training (TAACCT) Grant Program. The funding will last through September of 2018. “Receiving the grant is cer- tainly a positive for the college especially as Missouri public institutions are facing decreased funding and increased pressure to perform,” said Christopher DeGeare, division chair of Business and Technical Education at Jefferson College. “We are con- tinually expected to have more students complete our courses and degrees and we are expected to have more students placed in jobs, yet our funding continues to be reduced to do that. These grants are our way of leveraging the resources of accomplishing our goals.”

Named MoSTEMWINs, the initiative specifically targets adult learners who are seeking new industry skill sets and career opportunities, especially those who have lost jobs because of foreign trade and other negative economic trends. It will train Mis- sourians for jobs in transporta- tion, manufacturing, information technology, health services/health sciences, and science support industry clusters.

The consortium chose to focus on STEM related industries because of those jobs importance to the state’s strategic plan for economic growth and positive long- term employ- ment pros- pects. Jefferson College will focus its ef- forts in four areas. First they will be offering a one- year Certificate training pro- gram in Elec- tronics Tech- nology, with multiple pathways to move forward to an Associate of Applied Science degree and Bachelor of Science degree. The proposed coursework of- fers many opportunities to gain additional skill sets and

Bird Was the Word

In our November 21 issue, we embedded a word in every article and challenged readers to find it and e-mail it to harbin- ger@jeffco.edu for a chance to win a $25 café gift card. We had 19 entries, all of whom had the correct answer.

Some were early birds and some waited until the chickens came to home to roost, but they all found the secret word. We are glad nobody had to go on a wild goose chase.

We are happy as larks to announce that Tyler Stratton is the winner. So he should spread his feathers and crow about this great accomplishment. He was wise as an owl.

There can be only one win- ner, so we hope nobody counted their chickens before they hatched or put all their eggs in one basket.

The Harbinger

Building Plans Emerge

The newspaper is older than the college. The first issue shows an artist’s rendering of ASL.
War that Never Ends

By Nathan Imlay

In my search of The Harbin-ger archives, I came across several articles about the Vietnam War, and I found it interesting how little has changed. After reading students’ opinions on Vietnam, the recent political debates over the United States’ role in the Middle East feel like a rerun.

During the Vietnam war, the country was polarized between the pro-war and anti-war camps. Demonstrations were common on college campuses as young people protested the draft. Conscription was ended in 1973 in favor of the all-volunteer army, but beyond that, little has changed.

The political climate during the recent war in Iraq had all of the hallmarks of the Vietnam Era: protests, vitriol, and a voting base that appears to be divided down the middle. Even the terms of the debate don’t seem to have changed. The pro-war crowd criticizes the anti-war crowd for not supporting the troops, while critics of the war don’t seem to have the middle. Even the terms of the debate don’t seem to have changed.

This policy only seemed to work as long as U.S. troops remained deployed to support the government that they set up. When these troops were removed, local uprisings deposited the governments that were put in place through force.

After a couple of decades, in which we fought multiple wars that seemed to spring back up the minute we looked away, the phenomenon of small wars was studied for the first time. It was found that in a guerrilla war, such as Vietnam or the operations in Iraq, political and economic factors were more important than military might.

We have faced a similar situation over the last 50 years. The Vietnam war began with a large scale war mentality, large numbers of troops deployed to eradicate the communist threat. This strategy failed largely due to the guerrilla nature of the combat. Without large targets, such as military installations or war material factories to target, the U.S. forces had difficulty dealing with the Viet Cong. Even wars that were ostensibly won, such as Desert Storm, ended up being re-fought within a decade or so.

The “hearts and minds” strategy of the surge in Iraq, was an attempt to build goodwill among the people and create support for the U.S. inspired government. The current ISIS situation seems to indicate a failure of this strategy, but it is also possible it was applied too late. Perhaps if we had not spent about four years refusing to protect the populace, it would have been easier to build goodwill.

Hopefully, we will not forget this lesson again. In a world that seems increasingly unlikely to host a large scale war due to economic ties, it will be even more important to remember how to fight guerrilla wars. Let’s not spend the next 50 years re-learning this lesson over and over.

Robotics through the Years

By Jordan Freeman

October 21, 1985. “Robotics program has eye on future job market.” Back then there was high hopes for the robotics industry. Although not all of the predictions have come true, America certainly has made many advances in the field of robotics.

Many factories today do use factories for most of their production, and as the 85’ article says robots have taken away jobs and have they created them as well? One of the points was robots would take away jobs manufacturing but would increase jobs in “sales, management and office jobs.” Robots have certainly taken over many manufacturing jobs and productivity as increased exponentially.

So with more output from factories and manufacturers, jobs in sales departments and cashiers should be in higher demand right? Well as technology has increased even more; automated checkout stores have stolen jobs away from potential workers. While it saves money it denies a job to someone who could really use it. In that way robotics has decreased the number of jobs.

Robotics is not limited to only manufacturing, assembly and cashiering. With remote controlled robots bomb squads and EOD’s in the military can safely disarm or dispose of explosives. Despite controversy, drones have made a big difference in reconnaissance and search and destroy. Whether that is a good thing or bad thing depends on who you ask.

Energy costs and conservation were concerns in 1973.

The college still had men’s basketball in 1984.
U.S. and Iran - 34 Years Later
by Jesse Inman

He was easier on the eyes than his predecessor. Whereas the former Iranian president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, was a smirking, weaselly, and sly-eyed hardliner, his successor Hassan Rouhani exuded a much more benign and tranquil demeanor. With his face neatly framed by a silvery beard and a serene gaze behind a set of wire-framed glasses, Rouhani had the air of a sagacious Persian grandfather more than a politician.

Rouhani, a former Shi’ite jihadi cleric and economic trade negotiator, was elected as the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran on platforms of restoring the country’s economy (shattered by the sanctions) and regulated. But throughout the crisis, the Iranians demanded that the hostages be exchanged for the Shah. The Iran Hostage Crisis lasted for 444 days, with every hostage being released unharmed into American custody. The impact inside the U.S. was tactile. Here at Jeff Co, the October 28, 1980 issue of the Harbinger ran with a headline story of the student senate at the time endorsing a student demonstration march for the anniversary of the crisis. And as an act of solidarity with the hostages.

The article, written by Kathy Vaughn stated: “On Monday, November 3, the student Senate is planning an Iranian hostage demonstration march to start at the college and end at the courthouse in Hillsboro. November 4 will be the anniversary of the Iranian takeover of the U.S. embassy in Iran. The 51 American hostages are approaching one year in their captivity. All marchers to meet at the American flag on campus at 12:30. The Senate is asking for 51 volunteers to represent each of the hostages in Iran. They will march with their hands tied in bondage.”

Initially, November 24, 2014 was the deadline for the definitive agreement between the Western world and Iran over the development of the Iranian nuclear program. The idea, from the point-of-view of the West, was to curtail Iran’s program, or to slow it down enough for the country’s ambitions and intentions with nuclear energy to be carefully monitored and regulated.

However, persistent gaps in agreement caused the talks to be prolonged with a different deadline, now set for March 2015. The points of discussion halting progress have over the years been over fully lifting the sanctions against the Iranian economy, with both sides failing to agree on the extent of the lift.

With control of Congress going to the Republican Party in January, and they have threatened fresh sanctions for Iran if an agreement has not been reached. President Rouhani faces similar points of discussion halting progress have been over the years been over fully lifting the sanctions against the Iranian economy, with both sides failing to agree on the extent of the lift.

Top Songs
by Janis Francis
The first issue of this paper began in Dec 1964. So I decided to take a look at how things have changed in the last fifty years. The biggest thing that has changed is the popular music. Here is how much music changed between 1964, 1998, and 2014.

1964
1. I feel Fine: The Beatles
2. Come See About Me: The Supremes
3. Mr Lonely: Bobby Vinton
4. She A Woman: The Beatles
5. She’s Not There: The Zombies
1998
1. I’m Your Angel: R. Kelly
2. Nobody’s Supposed To Be Here: Deborah Cox
3. Lately: Divine
4. From This Moment On: Shania Twain
5. I’m Baby One More Time: Britney Spears
2014
1. Blank Space: Taylor Swift
2. All About The Bass: Meghan Trainor
3. Shake It Off: Taylor Swift
4. Animals: Maroon 5
5. Habit (Stay High): Tove Lo

2014 Year in Review by Angelica Fletcher
2014 has brought many ups and downs. From an outbreak of a deadly virus, to protests and riots, to musical success, 2014 has been a year not to forget. On January 17th, President Barack Obama announced changes to the National Security Agency and its surveillance programs.

From February 7th to the 23rd, the 2014 Winter Olympics took place in Sochi, Russia. Russia themselves took first with 13 gold medals. On February 7th, General Motors recalled 800,000 vehicles due to faulty ignition switches. On June 30, 2014, GM issued 45 recalls in 2014, which involved nearly 28 million cars worldwide and over 24.6 million in the United States. The faulty ignitions ran the risk of shutting off the engine during driving, preventing the airbags from inflating.

After On Monday, February 24th, Seth Meyers took over The Tonight Show, and Jimmy Fallon took over The Tonight Show on February 17th. Guardians of the Galaxy top grossing film making $330,504,354 and 40,502,984 tickets sold. (Hit theaters August 1, 2014)

Late Night With Seth Meyers, Fallon Tonight Show (Monday, February 24, 2014) and (February 17, 2014) 2014 Winter Olympics (7-23 February 2014)
The 20th FIFA World Cup (12 June – 13 July 2014)
Death of Robin Williams (August 11, 2014)
Ebola Virus Outbreak (19 November 2014, this outbreak has 15,351 reported cases resulting in 5,790 deaths)
Loss of Oscar Tavers (October 26, 2014)
Pay’s “Gangnam Style” becomes the first video to reach 2 billion views on YouTube (May 22nd)

Happy by Pharrell Williams remains the biggest selling single of 2014, at #1 on the charts for 10 weeks and 5.6 million digital downloads. (March 2 – May 10 2014)

Ed Sheeran’s album X named highest selling album with more than 634,000 copies sold.
General Motors recalls 780,000 vehicles due to faulty ignition switches. (Feb 14)
Ferguson Protests (August 9, 2014 to now)
If Santa Could Bring You One Gift, What Would It Be?

by Hayley Richardson

“A new car.” – Jake Amsden

“Free tuition to Mizzou.” – Ashley Davis

“Money because I’m a broke college kid.” – Amanda Davis

“A new car.” – Kayla Swaringam

“A baby cheetah or an Elantra.” – Demi Neubrand

“A long board.” – Ivana Starkey

“A new watch.” – Jake Brooks

“A laptop.” – Kristin Politte

“A new car.” – Jessie Fasmut

“Money.” – Janis Franis

“New phone.” – Morgan Partney

“New computer” – Nathan Imlay

“Blues season tickets” – Jordan Freeman

“Cheddar pretzels” – Hayley Richardson

“Hayley Richardson” – John Crabtree

“Word peace, end of world hunger, and equality for all women.” – Jesse Human
History of Santa Claus
by Jesse Inman

Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas. Father Christmas. Kris Kringle. Sinterklaas. These are the names that the iconic, sleigh-riding, gift-giving Christmas patron has gone by throughout human history. Like many fictional pop culture figures of our society, Santa Claus is one sewn together of various characters across time and place, rooted both in human folklore and in actual individuals.

For example, Saint Nicholas of Myra. A 4th-century Greek Christian bishop of Myria. Lydia, a province of the Byzantine Anatolia (modern day Turkey). Famous for his generous gifts to the poor, and usually depicted in artist renderings as an elderly man with a snowy white beard.

Or, prior to the rise of Christianity, the Germanic people celebrated the Yule. A midwinter celebration where supernatural occurrences believed to increase in frequency. The dominant figure of this festival was the great Norse god, Odin. The father of the sky in Norse mythology. A cypher who is repeatedly reshaped for us as a whole.

What we would like for it to represent for us is a whole. The fun is in the seemingly mundane differences. Here in the U.S. and in Canada, we give our Santa milk and cookies to welcome his annual visits. In Britain, he is treated with sherry, mince pies, and even beer. For Sweden and Norway, it is rice portidge. The Irish prefer plum pudding. A sumptuous range of choices for Santa to gorge himself on as he trots the globe on Christmas Eve.

No matter where we live, we all clearly have our own ways of celebrating and acknowledging Christmas. Much of that speaks to our abilities to continuously re-craft and structure our own mythologies. As well as specific senses of cultural identities and individualities. And Santa is one of the more persistent, recyclable figures of human lore. A cypher who is repeatedly reshaped and re-created by our societies, always as the overseer and safeguard of our winter holiday celebrations. No matter which of these persons you believe will come down your chimney this Christmas, enjoy the holiday knowing that Santa is what we are saying about ourselves during Christmas. And more importantly, what we would like for it to represent for us as a whole.

Best and Worst Christmas Gifts
by Morgan Parney

The best and worst Christmas gifts are all a matter of opinion. What someone may not like may be a great gift for someone else. It is said that one gift is better than no gift at all, but if the gift is terrible, it may be necessary to think twice about that statement. It is important to be appreciative no matter what, although the thought of returning the gift may be more exciting than the gift itself. In other cases, the thought of returning the gift may never occur because it is impecable. Regardless, presents are given to bring others joy, and it goes along with the spirit of Christmas time.

Students were asked about their best and worst Christmas presents they have received, and they did not take long to remember what they have gotten. First, Jake Brooks was asked and he said his worst was, "Probably the big wool sweater with a penguin I got one year from my grandmother."

Next, Kaitlyn Nickelson shared her excitement about her present she will be receiving this year. She said, "I'm getting a Teacup Yorkie for Christmas this year! So that's going to be the best!"

Logan Jaskiewicz stated that the best Christmas gift he has ever gotten was "AN AR-15. It was something I had been wanting for a while and it's something that holds sentimental value now."

Matt Cheney said that the worst Christmas gift he ever got was, "A VHS movie that didn't even work from my grandma."

Manda Davis then exclaimed, "My best Christmas present ever was getting my dog!"

Erin Parney said that her best Christmas present she has ever received "would have to be the big Barbie doll house I got when I was younger. I remember how excited I was because Barbie dolls were my obsession, so, a big mansion for them to live in was great."

Kelsei Wehlemann remembers both her best and worst gifts, describing her best as "a handmade Santa Claus from my great grandma" and stated that her worst was "when I was fifteen and my little brother was 13, our great aunt got me crayons and him a coloring book."

Erin Reese stated, "I can't think of one any one specific thing. I think the best Christmas gift is just the getting to spend time with my family and being off school."

Though it is always said that it is the thought that counts when someone gives a gift, there are some that may have been thought about a little bit more. Sometimes, we even cannot help but to wonder, "what were they thinking when shopping for a gift for me?"

It cannot be denied that the thought especially counts when the giver goes above and beyond on a present. Receiving and giving gifts are enjoyable either way, and it is a Christmas tradition that cannot be broken.
No-Bake Chocolate Eclair Cake:
Ingredients
Filling:
2 (3.5 oz.) boxes vanilla instant pudding
3 c. milk
1 (8 oz.) container Cool Whip
Graham crackers
Topping:
1/3 c. cocoa
1 c. sugar
1/4 c. milk
1 stick (1/2 c.) butter (or margarine)
1 tsp. vanilla
Instructions for the filling:
Combine pudding mix and milk; beat. Stir in Cool Whip. Place a layer of graham crackers in the bottom of a 9x13” dish. Spread 1/2 of the pudding mixture over the graham crackers. Repeat with another layer of graham crackers and pudding; then top with a final layer of graham crackers.
For the topping:
Bring cocoa, milk, and sugar to a full rolling boil; boil about 1 minute, stirring very frequently. Remove from heat and cool one minute. Add butter and vanilla; stir until butter is melted. Pour chocolate topping over the top layer of graham crackers. Refrigerate overnight.

No Bake Oreo Cake:
Ingredients
One package of Oreos
One cup of milk
A tub and a half of Cool Whip (12 oz.)
Directions
Dunk every cookie in milk. Just give the cookie a simple dunk. Not too long that it breaks, a second or two will do. Layer the cookies on the bottom of the 9x11 pan. Spread half of the cool whip over the top of the cookies. Layer another layer of cookies on top of the cool whip. Spread the rest of the cool whip on the top. Any leftover cookies, crumble and sprinkle them on top of the cake.

Confetti Cake Chocolate Chip Cookies
Ingredients:
2 eggs
1 tsp baking soda
1 cup dark brown sugar
1/2 cup cake mix
2 cups chocolate chips
1 1/2 cups flour
1 tsp salt
1/2 cup sprinkles
2 tsp vanilla
1 cup butter
Directions:
In a bowl of your stand mixer cream butter and sugar together for about a minutes until light and fluffy. Add in eggs and vanilla and beat until smooth. With mixer on low add in baking soda, salt, flour and cake mix, stirring until mixture just comes together. With mixer still on low add in sprinkles, chocolate chips, and chopped Oreos. Stir until evenly incorporated. Chill dough for at least 2 hours, an overnight is better. When ready to bake preheat oven to 350°. Line baking sheet with parchment paper and form dough into round balls, placing them 2 inches apart on baking sheet. Bake cookies for 8-10 minutes until edges are slightly golden. Allow to cool on baking sheet for 3 minutes and then transfer to wire rack to continue cooling.

Salted Caramel Chocolate Chip mini Cheesecakes
Ingredients:
Oreo Cookie Crust
18 whole Oreos (Double Stuff or regular)
1/4 cup (60g) unsalted butter, melted
Cheesecake Filling
16 oz (448g) full-fat cream cheese, softened to room temperature
3/4 cup (150g) granulated sugar
1/4 cup (60g) yogurt*
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup (180g) mini semi-sweet chocolate chips (or regular size)
Homemade salted caramel sauce
Preheat oven to 350F degrees. Line two 12-count cupcake pans with 18 liners.
For the crust: In a food processor or blender, pulse the whole Oreos into a fine crumb. Stir the cookie crumbs and melted butter together in a medium sized bowl. Press 1 heaping Tablespoon of mixture into the bottom of each liner, see picture above for a visual. You should have enough for 16-18 cups.
Bake in batches for 5 minutes and allow to slightly cool as you prepare the filling.
For the filling: In a large bowl using a handheld or stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the cream cheese on medium speed until completely smooth, scraping down the sides of the bowl as needed. Add the sugar and yogurt and beat on medium speed until combined. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating on low speed after each addition. Scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed. Beat in the vanilla extract and mini chocolate chips.
Spoon batter into the crusts until nearly full. Bake each pan for 20-23 minutes. The centers will still be slightly jiggly, that's OK. The centers may also have risen up quite a bit, but they will deflate as the cheesecakes cool. Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely at room temperature, at least 1 hour. Transfer to the refrigerator and allow to chill for at least two hours.
Right before serving, top each cheesecake with salted caramel and additional chocolate chips, if desired. Cover cheesecakes tightly and store in the refrigerator for up to 5 days. Store cheesecakes (without caramel) in the freezer for up to 2 months.
College Preps for Winter Weather

by Kercy Johnson

Jefferson College is preparing for the winter season and the many inches of snow that come with it. College building and grounds personnel had to deal with the snowfall and icy spots across campus a little bit earlier than expected this year after a pre-winter storm system dropped close to an inch or two of snow Nov. 15-16.

The beginning of the snow accumulation on campus was rather insignificant compared to past winter weather events. However, Marty Brand, assistant director of Buildings and Grounds at Jefferson College said they treated the situation like any other on the morning of Nov. 17.

"Ground workers all went out that morning and took a John Deere with a brush and cleared out the parking lots and sidewalks," said Brand. "We also took a couple of trucks with calcium spreaders and treated the roads and lots throughout campus. We had some people on foot doing areas of shoveling and putting ice melt down so we can take care of all the slick spots."

According to Brand, normally if the forecast calls for a more significant amount of snow or ice there is actually an abundance of snow on the ground, ground crews will start their day at 5 a.m. to begin plowing the roads and parking lots as well as clearing off sidewalks.

"We all have our assigned duties," said Brand. "We have a dump truck with a blade; we have a flat bed with a blade; we have a tailgate spreader on the dump truck and several small spreaders on the back of our pickup trucks. I have all the assignments listed and signed out so everybody knows what parking lot to plow."

If the school happens to open campus later during the day due to inclement weather, the building and grounds crew members come in early to try and take care of everything before the late opening time.

"There hasn’t really been a time where we haven’t been ready," said Brand. "The biggest thing that prevents us from being ready on campus is if the roads on the outside of campus coming in are not completed and it can’t allow people to come in. As far as our campus, we really try to work hard at coming in at 5 a.m. and having everything ready for even a late opening day."

In the event of snow or ice accumulation on campus and even after ground crews plow the parking lots and clear the sidewalks, Brand still reminds people to be mindful of their environment. If there is still snow on the ground be sure to leave earlier and give a few more minutes to reach any destination on campus.

"We try our best to have everything clear and have ice melted down. However, if you see a spot that has a gleam to it, try to go around it," said Brand. "If it has a gleam or skim look to it, it’s probably slick because it’s something that refroze over."

Building and ground crews will also operate during the evening on campus. At this time point their services are focused on the main entrances when temperatures start dropping and anything that was melted from the daylight sun will begin to refreeze in the form of “black ice” at night.

Brand said they conduct all the preparation they can to make it a “non-slip” environment.

Jefferson College President Dr. Raymond Cumminskey said they have precautionary steps in place in case of a winter weather event.

We always have a plan in place when we hear inclement weather is coming," said Cumminskey. "We are not like a school district; we don't have young children who can't make decisions on their own. We don’t bust people for not coming in."

Cumminskey said they look at preparing for winter weather in three standpoints. First they make sure the heating system is working properly so all the buildings can be warmed appropriately. Second, they look at how access to the college is fairing. They cover roads, parking lots and sidewalks to make sure that vehicle traffic can get in and out since most people who attend the college at any campus site are commuters.

Last but certainly not least, they look at pedestrian traffic on campus and if people can safely and securely get from building to building.

"It's kind of a checklist that we go through all the time," said Cumminskey. "On school days when we have heavy snowfall we are generally beginning in the middle of the night to look at the roads and conditions. Unfortunately, the weather doesn’t always cooperate. We've had a couple of instances where the weather moved in after we had out deliberations. Because we have people arrive on campus as early as 6 a.m. we try to make the call as early as we can."

With only two weeks left in the fall semester, it seems unlikely classes will be called off due to any winter weather. However, returning students, faculty and staff for the spring semester may have to endure such situations.

When a decision is made to cancel classes, information will be communicated via the Jefferson College automated telephone system, the college website, select radio/television stations, MyJeffco (internal web portal), and the Viking Text Message Service (registration required within MyJeffco).

Separate announcements will be made for both day and evening class cancellations. The decision to cancel evening classes will be announced as early as possible in most cases no later than 4 p.m. as weather conditions change.

Check local TV and radio stations and the college website for announcements about campus closings.

Grant Will Help Students Pursue High-Demand Fields

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Continued From Page 1

credentials, while allowing par-ticipants the flexibility to jump into industry related work and or continue on their educational pathway.

"By funding our faculty and development through this grant, this electronic certificate will be offered with no cost tuition to our students," said DeGeare. "So students interested in this will be able to attend for the cost of supplies and fees but no tuition."

Second, there will be de-velopment of a Student Success Plan, incorporating MAP (My Academic Plan), with an early warning system, attendance track-ing, recommendations through program advising/navigators, and access to campus and community resources to assist in retention and completion initiatives. Intentional advising will be used to ensure that participants are provided support/avenues-to-support to aid in removing barriers to success.

Third, creating of a Health Sciences Tutoring and Resource Lab offering targeted assistance within Health Occupations pro-grams, specifically prerequisite Anatomy and Physiology course-work, usage of the Anatomage table and online applications, open education resources, and use of gamified content to improve student engagement with subject matter.

"If we can provide additional tutorial services and resources for these students to help them be successful we can ultimately retain them here, help them see through to completion," said DeGeare. It’s a major initiative that will bring on a faculty profes-sional tutor to staff a lab dedicated to not only Anatomy and Physiology but the key hold ups in the health profession preventing the students from succeeding from.

"From a health profession side, those foundational sciences are critical in moving on in a career path," said Kenneth Wilson, division chair of Health Occupa-tion at Jefferson College. "If the students don’t get through those foundational science courses they can’t go to be a nurse, they can’t go to be a physical therapist as-sistant. But they can’t go to ‘med school.’ If we can see those stu-dents that might be struggling in those foundational sciences early we can impart tutoring services, studying groups and things like that for the student earlier to help them get through that process."

Last but certainly not least, there will be the development of a MoSTEMWINs online portal for information and communication as an extension of the Jefferson College website.

"The Jefferson College pro-grams are designed to promote student success in growing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineer-ing and Math) areas," said Cum-miskey. "The one-year certificate in Electronic Technology can lead immediately to employment or roll into a related associate's de-gree; the student success plan and advising will help create a clear pathway and intrusive advising to help student stay on course with their degree plan."

"The creation of a Health Science lab will support students as they meet the academic chal-lenges often found in STEM fields; and the MoSTEMWINs online portal will make it easier for students to access their course materials and other support infor-mation," he said. "In short, this grant will make a real difference for students interested in STEM fields of study."

This marks the third time that Missouri has received the grant (MoHealthWINs in 2011 and MoManufacturingWINs in 2012) where some 6,200 Missourians have received training through those programs to date. Almost half of all participants were un-employed when they enrolled and over 40 percent of participants are from minority populations.
The Harbinger is prepared by student journalists of Jefferson College, 1000 Viking Drive, Hillsboro, MO 63050 — and is published during the academic year. The Harbinger is a class project of classes Journalism I-IV at Jefferson College, and has been the student newspaper of the college since 1964. The editorial opinions featured in The Harbinger should not be construed to represent the opinions of Jefferson College, its Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, or all students. All commentary pieces are property of their respective owners. Harbinger Staff for the Spring Semester include Angelica Fletcher, Janis Francis, Jordan Freeman, John Crabtree, Nathan Imlay, Jesse Inman, Korey Johnson, Morgan Partney, and Hayley Richardson. The Harbinger staff is advised by Susan Todd.

The New “N Word”

By Nathan Imlay

In the recent debate over the shooting of Michael Brown, a disturbing pattern has appeared that is difficult to ignore. The word thug has begun to take on new meaning in the debate as it has been repeatedly used to justify the killings of several young men by police officers. If the suspects in question threatened police officers, the officers have a right to defend themselves, but we should wait for grand juries to decide whether the suspects’ behavior warranted lethal force.

The issue with the way the word thug has been used, stems from its use as an umbrella term for many different crimes and behaviors. We should judge crimes based upon what actually happened, not nebulous terms that appear to describe basically any deviant behavior.

The most alarming aspect of the current use of the word thug is in the attempt to dehumanize the slain and avoid the unpleasant feeling of sadness that a human life is dead. Those who wish to can define thug behavior, then call those who commit those behaviors thugs, giving to themselves the rights of judge and jury. What exactly is thug behavior? It appears to range from using a racial slur to defame an entire group of people. When the word thug is defined in such a way as to be inescapable for certain people, it basically becomes a hate word used to dehumanize people. This not only adds nothing constructive to the debate, it also adds to the anger level of both sides. One side is angry because they feel they are being unfairly maligned, while the other side of the debate is angry because these supposed inhuman monsters are upset that one of their number was rightly put down to protect society.

While the difficulty in differentiating between committed lawbreakers and young people who simply made a mistake is extremely difficult, we must make the effort, even when it only rewards us with a feeling of sadness that a human being is dead. This makes it basically impossible for a person in an underprivileged neighborhood to avoid associating with those who have committed a crime at some point in their lives. Even should they choose not to spend time with those who are most likely to break the law, they still must interact with them on a regular basis. Thus, if the term thug can be applied to those who associate with thugs, no one in certain areas can escape this appellation.

When the word thug is used in this manner, it is little different from using a racial slur to defame an entire group of people. When the word thug is defined in such a way as to be inescapable for certain people, it basically becomes a hate word used to dehumanize people. This not only adds nothing constructive to the debate, it also adds to the anger level of both sides. One side is angry because they feel they are being unfairly maligned, while the other side of the debate is angry because these supposed inhuman monsters are upset that one of their number was rightly put down to protect society.

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November has finally come to a close, Thanksgiving is over and Black Friday shopping done. What would be the start of the Holiday season has now turned into another period of overex- tended Christmas theme. What happened to the days were Christmas time started when Thanksgiving was good and done and people fighting each other killer savings on everything? In today’s world the Holiday season starts smack dab in the middle of November, except for the one day people pretend to care about the pilgrims. The popular St. Louis radio station 103.5 KLOU starts playing Christmas songs before your turkey is in the deep fryer. What’s up with that? I like listening to KLOU but the day they start playing Christmas music, my annual hiatus from the station. Not because I don’t enjoy Christmas music, but by the time Christmas rolls around the songs are so overplayed I’m ready to rip out my car’s radio.

Not to say KLOU is the only station constantly berating its listeners’ ears with excessive Christmas tunes. 102.5 has their airway full of holiday spirit. Christmas isn’t going anywhere, yet every year the music is played like it’s the last year Christmas will be here.

It really is baffling that some people can tolerate Christmas music for two months. For others, myself included, have to exclude a station from the line up until its an appropriate time. It’s one thing for radios to play Christmas music too early, but when stores decide it’s a good time to ruin the magic of Christ- mas music for all of its shoppers. My assistant manager at my job was so pumped about the Holiday season he put up Christmas decor- rations up already, and this was back in mid-November mind you. A popular expression used these days “we have to go back.” In this case I agree. We need to back to the time before the Holi- day season didn’t start until after we gathered with our families and gave thanks for the plentiful amounts of food at the table.

So hearing Christmas music way too early can get really old. But what about seeing it every- where too? It’s one thing to put up Christmas decorations when it should be Thanksgiving decora- tions going up. However setting out displays of everything Christ- mas at stores for customers to buy is ridiculous. Of course the main goal for corporations these days seems to be profits, profits and more profits. Rather than selling items to help prepare for winter such as rock salt, snow shovels and ice scrapers; displays of in- flatable Santa’s and other decor fill the front isles.

There is a time and place for everything they say. As for Christ- mas? It belongs in December.

If you’d like to comment on any article or suggest article ideas, email us at harbinger@jeffco.edu. We may publish your comments in the next issue and reserve the right to edit for grammar and length.

Too Much Christmas

by Jordan Freeman

Issues of 1994 Still Resonate

Another article in ‘94 discussed teachers’ policies on students who skip classes, which we covered earlier this semester. Another article the same year was about Jefferson Col- lege students and voting, a topic this year’s writers have also discussed.

Students in 1994 were deal- ing with parking problems on campus and preparing for finals, just as they are today.

Other relevant articles in 1994 dealt with issues of racial con- troversy over comments made by radio DJ’s Stein and DC. One article in 1994 addressed cause for concern that no longer exists: a reinstatement of overused, that we seem to think is the one day people pretend to care about the pilgrims. The popular St. Louis radio station 103.5 KLOU starts playing Christmas songs before your turkey is in the deep fryer. What’s up with that? I like listening to KLOU but the day they start playing Christmas music, my annual hiatus from the station. Not because I don’t enjoy Christmas music, but by the time Christmas rolls around the songs are so overplayed I’m ready to rip out my car’s radio.

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So hearing Christmas music way too early can get really old. But what about seeing it everywhere too? It’s one thing to put up Christmas decorations when it should be Thanksgiving decora- tions going up. However setting out displays of everything Christ- mas at stores for customers to buy is ridiculous. Of course the main goal for corporations these days seems to be profits, profits and more profits. Rather than selling items to help prepare for winter such as rock salt, snow shovels and ice scrapers; displays of in- flatable Santa’s and other decor fill the front isles.

There is a time and place for everything they say. As for Christmas? It belongs in December.