Partnership helps students with finances

Community colleges team with nonprofit for CashCourse site

ABIGAIL MONEDA  
Staff writer

The California Community Colleges system announced this month that it has partnered with a nonprofit group to provide a free online financial literacy product to students.

The product, available at www.cash-course.org, is provided by the National Endowment for Financial Education, a nonprofit organization that provides financial education and practical information.

CashCourse aims to provide students with money management skills through articles, videos, a financial dictionary, and software to help them understand and build budgets.

“Promoting a culture of financial literacy on our campuses is key to fostering student success,” California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris said in a statement. “This product is easy to use and has several exciting features to help students track their spending, learn about banking or health insurance, and even offers advice on loaning money to friends, making it useful for everyday life.”

Some Ohlone students, however, are less than impressed with the free website.

“I don’t think people will use it,” communications major Eshino Kalonea said. “It’s a basic skill that people should know.”

Graphic design major Pei Tu agreed. “It depends who uses the product – I

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Haunted house is local treasure

35-year legacy passes on to Ohlone College alumni

RYAN PARCHER  
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Thirty-five years ago, a drywall installer named Roberto Rodelas climbed onto his work stilts and let his wife make him up as Frankenstein for Halloween.

In the years since, Rodelas’ Union City house became a major draw for the local community—a family-operated haunted house with no agenda other than to entertain the kids in the neighborhood. Some Ohlone students from Union City remember it fondly.

Rodelas and his wife continued to dress him up year after year, and began collecting an accompanying array of robotic Halloween decorations. The Halloween celebration at their house drew so much attention over the years that, starting about 15 years ago, the Searles Elementary School Halloween Parade began making its way down the street and through Rodelas’ house.

“My wife was friends with the vice principal, then,” Rodelas said.

Monitor sports editor Albert Rebosura, who

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Magda Brown, a Holocaust survivor of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, speaks at the Smith Center at Ohlone College.

Brown recalls escape from Nazi death march

ABIGAIL MONEDA  
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Magda Brown crouched in a German barn, terrified, watching as the soldiers approached. She was among a group of women who had escaped as they were being marched to their deaths in a concentration camp. Now, they awaited their fate.

Brown, 87, told her story of survival and hope last week in two speeches at the Smith Center on Ohlone’s Fremont campus. More than 200 people attended her speech on Thursday afternoon, and the Smith Center was packed to capacity for the second one on Friday night.

Brown was born Magda Perlstein in Miskolc, Hungary. The country was an ally of Germany’s during World War II, but initially refused to deport Jews with Hungarian citizenship to the concentration camps. Then, in March 1944, the Nazis invaded Hungary to implement the “Final Solution” of the Hungarian Jews.

Brown’s home was in the exact area that was developed into a ghetto. Her house became home to 40 people – and 40 different

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Brown urges the audience to remember the 6 million Jewish people who lost their lives.