

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

Pinkston Named 2  
Outstanding  
Early Childhood  
Professional

PBL News & 2  
Events

Darwin Lectures 3  
on Women's  
Health

Diamond Talk 3  
Set for April 19

DOJ Grant 3  
Project

PTK Induction 4  
Ceremony

Lunch Served 11AM-  
12:30PM Daily.  
Cost: \$3.00 or \$3.50  
with dessert.

**MENU:**

Mon 4/17  
**Meatloaf & Mashed  
Potatoes**  
Tue 4/18  
**Chef Salad**  
Wed 4/19  
**Vegetable Alfredo  
& Salad**  
Thu 4/20  
**BBQ Chicken &  
Potato Salad**  
Fri 4/21  
**Ham & Cheese  
Sandwich**  
Mon 4/24  
**Hamburger & Tots**  
Tue 4/25  
**Baked Chicken Strips  
Macaroni & Cheese**  
Wed 4/26  
**Crispitos, Refried  
Beans & Rice**  
Thu 4/27  
**Chicken Spaghetti  
& Salad**  
Fri 4/28  
**French Dip**

# Ozarka College Connection

VOLUME III, ISSUE 7

APRIL 17 - APRIL 28, 2006

## Graduation Preparation Underway

As the Spring Semester is getting closer to an end, it is time for those who will be participating in the Commencement Ceremony to prepare. Ozarka's Commencement Ceremony will take place at 7:30PM, on Thursday, May 11, 2006 in the John E. Miller Auditorium.

For those who have not filed an Intent to Graduate form who plan on participating in the Commencement please see Vice President for Student Services, Ron Helm immediately, as the deadline to file is Friday, April 21st. Contact Mr. Helm via email, rhelm@ozarka.edu, or telephone, 368-2027.

There will be Graduation practice at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 9 in the auditorium for graduates. Caps and gowns may be picked up during bookstore hours from May 1-10, at the Ozarka College Bookstore.

On the day of graduation, the Ozarka College Graduating Class of 2006 will need to assemble at 6:30 PM in the Lecture Hall of the John E. Miller Complex to prepare for the ceremony. Since the gowns are black, it is appropriate to wear black or dark colored shoes and attire underneath the gown.

A photographer will be available on the day of Graduation in the conference room located in the Miller building from 5:30 - 6:30 PM, as well as immediately following the ceremony. The price per pose is \$5.00 and reprints may be ordered after reviewing the prints.

## PTK Inducts New Members Around Campus



Ozarka College's Beta Alpha Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), a national honor society for students in two-year colleges, inducted nine new members during its Spring Induction Ceremony, held on April 6, 2006. (see Page 4)

*Pictured left to right: Joyce Densford, Crystal Coble, Michael Orf, Georgetown Haack, Samantha Thornsberry, Kelly Perkins, Kristin Phroper, Amanda Stone, Nathon Shultz, Nancy Niswonger, and Mary Foote.*

- ◆ **Collegiate Ministry Meetings** are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m., in the Dining Hall with Brother Bob Stewart.
- ◆ **PTK Tuesday, April 25 at 11AM** in C116 (Miller Compressed video room)
- ◆ **SAEA - Thursday, April 27 11AM** in C116 (Miller Compressed video room)
- ◆ **Online Registration for Current Students - April 17-May 5**
- ◆ **Crater of Diamonds Lecture-** April 19th from Noon - 1:30 PM (see page 3)
- ◆ **PBL Red Cross Blood Drive-** April 20
- ◆ **OPAC Testing -** April 17-21
- ◆ **Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a "W" April 27th**

## Amy Pinkston Named *Outstanding Early Childhood Professional*



Amy Pinkston (left) accepts her honor from Kathy Stegall, Administrator for the Division of Childcare and Early Childhood Education Program.

The first Outstanding Early Childhood Professional awards were presented in 1988 by then Governor Bill Clinton. On Sunday, April 2, 2006 at the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission and the DHHS/Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education acknowledged the 17<sup>th</sup> group of early care and education professionals

that play a vital role in preparing young children for school success and years beyond across the State. Director of Ozarka College Kids Academy, Amy Pinkston was among those five honored statewide.

The Ozarka College Kids Academy serves children ages six weeks to five years and is a Quality Accredited program. In her role as Director for Ozarka Kids, Pinkston has exhibited tremendous organizational skills, knowledge, supervision skills in addition to providing a safe and caring environment for children in care. Amy helped organize

the Ozarka Kids Academy Parent Advisory Board for parents to become involved in the success of the program and to ensure parents that their children are receiving the best child care possible.

Along with her role as Director, Amy is also a Child Development Associate and Child Care Orientation Instructor at Ozarka College. It is her belief that everyone in Arkansas would benefit if those working in the early childhood profession completed training in order to achieve a higher level of quality care for children in care. Her vision is to have only trained, caring professionals working in the field of childcare in order to provide not only educational skills for children entering kindergarten but a safe, nurturing environment.

Not only is Amy a distinguished professional, she is also an outstanding volunteer in the National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc., a non-profit organization of women committed to rendering charitable services in their commu-

nities with emphasis on children. Amy lives in Batesville with her husband Scott, who also works for Ozarka College as Director of Information Systems and her three-year old son, Lance who is a student at the Kids Academy.

During Arkansas Children's Week, which was held April 2-8, the needs of young children to have engaging and quality early care and education programs were recognized and the opportunity was taken to thank the educators and many others involved in their care and education.

Early Childhood programs across the state, including child care, Head Start, preschools and elementary schools, held local fairs, open houses, rallies, play-days and other activities to bring awareness to the growing needs of young children. The Ozarka College Kids Academy held a book fair and had many other activities and events for the students and their parents throughout the week.

## PBL News & Events

Ozarka College Phi Beta Lambda members, Nathon Shultz and Amanda Sanders recently attended the Arkansas State Leadership Conference which took place at the Doubletree Conference Center in Little Rock.

Nathon won 3rd place on the Associate level in Accounting Principles. PBL Advisor, Brad Hollaway stated, "Since this was Nathon's first time to compete at the PBL conference, we are very proud of him for winning third!"

PBL is again hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, April 20th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lobby of the Miller Complex. "We appreciate all of the Ozarka College support for this event," Hollaway concludes.



# Women's Health Lecture Well Attended



The Ozarka College AAWTYC (Association of Arkansas Women in Two Year Colleges) hosted local physician Dr. Amy Darwin, MD as she lectured on Women's Health

**Dr. Amy Darwin**

Issues last Tuesday. Darwin has recently joined the Melbourne Medical Clinic. Her lecture was open at no cost to students, faculty and staff.

Darwin's discussions were relevant for the 17-35 year age group, but all ages of women and men were welcome to attend. Some of the topics she discussed included the sexual and general health of women and the health issues facing women in today's society. Two of the Ozarka College Practical Nursing classes attended and received some very useful informa-

tion, not only for their personal health, but for their career in their chosen field.

The AAWTYC is a statewide organization whose goals are to encourage the educational development of all women in Arkansas two-year colleges, develop the leadership skills of women, support women in leadership roles, promote development through workshops and seminars, develop and enhance communications among women in two-year colleges, and be a source of information for professional development activities and services.

*"Crater of Diamonds"*

*Lecture on*

*Wed. April*

*19th, at Noon*

*in the Small*

*Dining Room.*

*Everyone is*

*invited to*

*attend.*

## 'The Crater of Diamonds' Lecture

There will be a lecture on Wednesday, April 19 at Noon featuring Mike Howard of the Arkansas Geological Commission as he speaks on the Crater of Diamonds. This lecture will take place in the Small Dining Room and is open at no cost to anyone who would like to attend. Don Loedding, Adjunct Instructor for

Geology has arranged for the lecture for his geology students. Loedding says this will be a fascinating talk. "Mr. Howard will discuss the use of diamonds in the industry, the control of the marketing, grading of diamonds, and the skillful art of digging in the Crater of Diamonds State Park. He will also have samples

of diamonds found in the crater along with replicas of the big ones that have been discovered."

The lecture will include time for questions and conclude at approximately 1:30PM.

## DOJ Grant Places Flags as Reminders

The month of April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. In conjunction, the Department of Justice Grant program at Ozarka College has placed 1063 white flags on the grounds of Ozarka as a reminder that in one year there were 1,063 reported rapes in the State of Arkansas. The flags were at the main campus in Melbourne for the first two weeks of April and will be in Ash Flat during the week of April 17-21. The flags will then travel to Mountain View for the week of April 24-28.

This project is supported by Grant No. 2005-WA-AX-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



**Ozarka  
College**

P.O. Box 10  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556



**Ozarka College**  
*A Short Drive to Great Distances*



## PTK Induction *(Continued from Front Page)*

Guest speakers for the ceremony were Ozarka President, Dr. Dusty R. Johnston and Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Gary Phillips who congratulated the new members on their successes. Johnston expressed his admiration to the new members for emerging as leaders in their community.

PTK President, Joyce Densford welcomed inductees and guests to the ceremony, Director of Admissions, Randy Scaggs led the invocation and PTK officers assisted in the induction ceremony.

The Beta Alpha Eta Chapter officers for 2005-2006 include President –Joyce Densford, Vice President –Crystal Coble, Records Secretary –Nancy Niswonger, and Treasurer –Mary Foote. Advisors for the PTK Chapter are Ozarka instructors, Samantha Thornsberry and Michael Orf.

Students eligible for membership in PTK must have a grade point average of at least 3.50 on twelve hours toward an associate's degree. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa revolves around the four Hallmarks of Scholarship, Fellowship, Leadership, and Service.

Following the induction, PTK members and guests enjoyed a reception catered by Ozarka's Culinary Arts students in honor of the new members.

The following students were inducted, although they were not all present during the ceremony: Paul Fajer of Holly Grove, Georgetta Haack of Melbourne, Kelly Perkins of Franklin, Amy Linders of Hardy, Kristin Phroper of Mountain View, Pamela Pipkin of Mountain View, Nathon Shultz of Melbourne, Janette Shultz of Melbourne and Amanda Stone of Pleasant Grove.