



CAMPUS CONNECTION

The Official E-Newsletter of Ozarka College

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September 30, 2013

Ozarka College breaks ground on new Student Services Center



Mr. Jack Yancey, Mr. Ben Cooper, Mr. Tim Gammill, Mr. Dennis Wiles, Dr. Richard Dawe, and Mr. Bob Evins broke ground on the new Student Services Center on Wednesday, Sept. 18 on the Melbourne campus.

Construction of the Student Services Center on the Ozarka College - Melbourne campus will soon be underway after the ceremonial groundbreaking on Wednesday, Sept. 18.

"The new Student Services Center is very exciting because it will result in a one-stop shop for our students' needs while on campus," said Dr. Richard Dawe, Ozarka College president.

"Currently students must go from building to building for their various service needs and this will help them focus much more on learning. It will also provide a beautiful new facility for the College community, local businesses and public service groups that has never before been available in the region."

[Read more here](#)

Practical Nursing graduate praises Ozarka program, offers advice for other students



*By: Kendra Smith
Career Pathways Counselor*

Ash Flat LPN Instructor, Cheryl Ekenes, looked up from her desk at the students taking an exam to see them bobbing their heads and quietly humming a tune... and she smiled, because she knew the tune and the question it answered. Among those smiling, bobbing heads was the originator of the song and the clever mind behind many of the memorization tools used by her classmates, Julia Shattuck.

Mammoth Spring resident, Julia Shattuck, graduated from Ozarka College's LPN program in June 2012 at the top of her class. Top echelon is not a new position for Julia, with her near-perfect Compass scores, highest nursing entrance exam (TEAS) score in the

From the President



Dr. Richard Dawe

Ozarka Community:

Our fall semester is going very well and we are welcoming the first signs of cooler weather at our five locations. I am pleased to report that based on information recently received from the Arkansas Department

of Higher Education (ADHE) Ozarka College had the second highest growth rate among the 22, two-year colleges from 2009-2013. Although our enrollment declined about four percent this semester, the decline was far less than many of our colleague institutions across the state experienced. There are many exciting things to report such as our Mammoth Spring campus experienced a 35 percent growth rate from this time last year; Oregon county student enrollment grew even more dramatically and our offerings continue to grow as fast as any other in the state. These results, along with exciting new program offerings being developed, will lead to continued strong enrollment growth for years to come.

Our ground breaking for the new Student Services Center was very well attended by students, staff, faculty and leaders from across the state. We will soon be in the construction phase and will be opening the doors to this exciting facility some time next fall. The capital campaign was also formally announced at the ceremony, and I am excited to announce that we are already more than 20 percent complete toward our goal of raising at least \$500,000 to properly furnish and equip the new facility!

I am pleased to announce our newly elected Board of Trustee officers: Mr. Bob Evins -Chair; Mr. Jack Yancey - Vice Chair; Ms. Darla York - Secretary. They are all extremely dedicated to Ozarka and our mission serving our wonderful students and communities.

I hope the remainder of your semester this fall is rewarding and productive. Thank you for your commitment to Ozarka College and a sincere thank you to our students for selecting to attend 'Your Hometown College.'

Bob Evins appointed Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Bob Evins of Cherokee Village was appointed Chairman of the Ozarka College Board of Trustees during the Board's regular meeting Thursday, Sept. 19 at Ozarka College - Mountain View. He will serve a two-year term as Board Chair.

[Read more here](#)



Mr. Bob Evins

Ben Cooper reappointed to Board of Trustees

Gov. Mike Beebe recently announced the reappointment of Mr. Ben Cooper of Melbourne to the Ozarka College Board of Trustees. This will be his third appointment to the board and he will serve a seven-year term that will expire July 2020.

[Read more here](#)



Mr. Ben Cooper



Steve Powell, Rusty Campbell, Ross Carter and Jeremy Dietsche played on FNBC's corporate team.

Fulton County golf tournament a success

The Ozarka College Foundation Board

state of Arkansas for 2011, and the only platinum level Career Readiness Certificate yet awarded to an Ozarka student. Julia holds herself to a high standard and states that she was pleased to find a high standard of nursing education at Ozarka College, "Ozarka didn't just help me to become a nurse; it helped me become a great nurse."

When asked to give advice to current nursing students, Julia encouraged struggling students to lean on their fellow students. "When you join the program, you're part of a team and we fight as a team. If you falter, there are people to help you keep going." About the intense pace of the nursing program, Julia provided this analogy, "It's like being strapped to a rocket, and it never stops for 11 months."

Julia suggested future nursing students first work as a CNA to discover if the health care field is a good fit for them. Also, "View your nursing pre-requisite classes as an opportunity to see if you like the subject matter; they're not just hoops to jump through. If you don't like learning about human anatomy, nursing may not be for you." Julia said that a good support system at home is essential for success, so it's important to secure help before starting the nursing program.

Lastly, Julia credits her nursing instructor, Cheryl Ekenes, for the level of preparation she received to now work full-time as an LPN at Fulton County Hospital in Salem, "Her door was always open, and she never made anyone feel stupid for asking a question, no matter what it was. She was tolerant of the crazy that pressure sometimes brings out in

See you on campus!

Dr. Richard Dawe
President

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hosted its annual Fulton County Golf tournament on Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Cherokee Village South Course. The event, originally set for June 1, was rescheduled due to inclement weather.

The tournament had 18 teams and all proceeds benefitted the JoKay Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund.

[Read more here](#)

Fall enrollment remains strong

Almost 1,500 students will be served at Ozarka College's four campuses this fall, according to official numbers released by the College.

Ozarka, which has campuses in Melbourne, Ash Flat, Mountain View and Mammoth Spring, enrolled 1,494 students this fall. That number is down slightly from last fall by only 62 students or four percent.

[Read more here](#)



Mark House and Amy Walters with Roller-Crouch Funeral Home in Melbourne present a contribution for a student learning experience to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art to Dr. Richard Dawe, president, Dr. Dennis Rittle, vice president of academic affairs, and Chris Lorch, English and Fine Arts division chair.

College receives donation for cultural outing

The Jenkins, Byler and Roller Family Foundation, Inc. of Little Rock recently donated \$3,000 to the Ozarka College Foundation to allow students an opportunity to visit the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Ark.

good people. In a word, she's amazing."

Upcoming Events

Ozarka College Foundation Golf Tournament

Saturday, Oct. 5
8 a.m. shotgun start
Cooper's Hawk Golf Course,
69 Spur Rd., Melbourne, AR

Gourmet Dinners

October 10 and 24
November 7 and 21
Contact Chef Lou Rice for
reservations: 870-368-2062

Basic Computer Course - Continuing Education

October 18 - November 22
(Fridays only)
1 - 2:30 p.m.
Ozarka College - Mammoth Spring
Contact James Spurlock to
register: 870-625-0411

Ozarka College Foundation presents Michael Johnson in concert

Saturday, Nov. 2
Ozark Folk Center
1032 Park Ave.
Mountain View, AR
General admission - \$15
Show starts at 7 p.m.
Call 870-368-2060 for tickets.

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Admissions

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"Understanding and appreciating cultural diversity are crucial skills for the worker in today's workforce," said Dr. Dennis Rittle, vice president of academic affairs. "The generous gift from the Jenkins, Byler and Roller Family Foundation will address this needed skill by enabling Ozarka College students to broaden their cultural diversification through a funded learning experience to Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, Arkansas."

Ozarka College art instructor Sue Coon plans to take a group of students to the museum this academic year.

According to cyrstalbridges.org, the Crystal Bridges' permanent collection spans five centuries of American masterworks ranging from the Colonial era to the current day.

Cardinal Supply makes donation to Mammoth Spring HVAC program

Cardinal Supply of Ark. Inc. recently donated an air conditioning unit to Ozarka College - Mammoth Spring's continuing education HVAC program. T

he donated unit will allow students a hands-on approach in the campus's non-credit classes that are offered during both the fall and spring semesters.

"This new equipment greatly increases our ability to demonstrate how to repair and operate modern residential HVAC units," said James Spurlock, director of operations at Mammoth Spring. "We are very thankful to the people of Cardinal Supply for their generous donation."

[Read more here](#)

Mammoth Spring to offer basic computer course

The Ozarka College continuing education department will offer a six-week Introduction to Computers course at the Mammoth Spring campus.

The course will begin on Friday, Oct.

18, and will be held each Friday through Nov. 22. The cost to attend is \$25 and the cost for seniors over 60 will be discounted to \$20.

Topics covered will include basic computer concepts, Microsoft Windows, Internet search and navigation, email basics, sending attachments, uploading photos, Facebook and eBay basics.

For more information or to register for the course, please contact James Spurlock, director of Ozarka College - Mammoth Spring, at 870-625-0411 or by email at jmspurlock@ozarka.edu.

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