

OZARKA COLLEGE

September 2022
Campus Connection
Fall Edition

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WELCOME BACK EVENT

Campus Wide Celebration of Students Returning

On August 30, staff and faculty welcomed back all of our returning and new students to campus. It was a beautiful day perfect for any event. The air was filled with the wonderful smell of hotdogs and hamburgers on the grill as most campuses played rounds of Bago getting to know each other. "My favorite part of the welcome back event was the bean bag toss!" said Kaitlyn Cody, Ozarka culinary student. We would like to thank all the staff and faculty involved in making each one of these campus events a success! To our students, we are so excited about the upcoming year and delighted that you are a part of our amazing learning community.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Richard Dawe

We have had a great start to our fall semester and it's wonderful to again welcome back our students and faculty! There are several foundation events lined up this semester and we appreciate all of our sponsors and support from the communities we serve. I want to congratulate our academic team and especially Katie Wilson for their recent approval for our RN program that will begin next year.

We recently conducted an all employee, day long training for first response and emergency situations. Everyone I had a chance to speak with seemed to feel it was valuable training. The College also held a donor appreciation event at the Mountain View technical/welding center, which was well attended by donors and other supporters who so generously helped us equip the new facility. It is incredible how proud folks are of Ozarka and the work of the team throughout our service region. Hope you all have a terrific fall semester and continue to share your student success stories!



THE CLEVERLYS

Earnie Blackley Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser

A raucous crowd of nearly 700 filled the John E. Miller Auditorium at Ozarka College in Melbourne on September 10. The community welcomed the talented Paul Harris and his band of “family” artists as they performed renditions of recent pop hits to the tune of their classic bluegrass sound. The Cleverlys did not disappoint, putting on quite a show, playing many fan favorites mixed in with their ever-present knee-slapping comedy.

Event proceeds benefited the Earnie Blackley Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Ozarka College Foundation, which by showtime tallied more than the \$10,000 needed to fully endow the scholarship.

The Cleverlys are a one-of-a-kind comedy/music blend from the Ozark Mountains. They are all accomplished musicians putting their unique bluegrass spin on cover songs from any genre. Special thanks for event coordination goes to Foundation board member, Shane Linn of Townsend Spice & Supply and key financial support from Bill Miller with Grassroots Equipment.





Yancey was an outstanding student at Ozarka and is now an outstanding counselor to our students here at Melbourne. Ozarka is proud to recognize her as our 2022 Alumni of the Year!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Janet Yancey

Janet Yancey, of Melbourne School District, has been named Alumni of the Year at Ozarka College. Janet is Melbourne Schools' high school counselor and district test coordinator.

"I graduated from Ozarka College with an Associate's degree in 2000," said Yancey. "I love this school! The folks at Ozarka are the most caring people you will ever meet. I started classes at Ozarka at 33 years of age. It had been several years since high school, and I had forgotten so much; however, the folks at Ozarka encouraged me, helped me, and were there to assist every step of the way. My only regret is that I couldn't continue my education there."

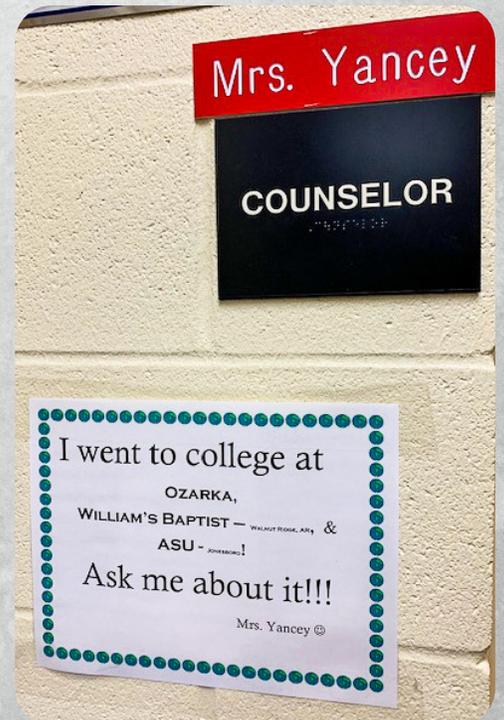
Janet earned an Associate of Arts degree in General Education in 2000 before obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature/Letters from Williams Baptist University. Janet has since gone on to earn a Master's degree in School Counseling from Arkansas State University.

We are honored to recognize Janet as Ozarka's Alumni of the Year." said Dr. Josh Wilson, Ozarka Vice President of Advancement. "Janet represents the best of Ozarka and is a tremendous advocate for Ozarka education with her students. Her success at Melbourne schools is a testament to what hard work can accomplish and we are proud to have been part of her journey."

“

I love this school! The folks at Ozarka are the most caring people you will ever meet

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MOVIN & SHAKIN

Employee Transitions and New Hires



Collin Hinton - Certified Flight Instructor

Collin joined us as a part-time CFII earlier this summer before becoming a full-time faculty member this fall. He will be spending most of his time at the Melbourne airport instructing our aviation students, but you may see him on the main campus from time to time. Collin is an Arkansas native and a graduate of Spartan College in Oklahoma, where he completed his initial aviation training.

Jesse Kinder - Welding Faculty MV

Kinder joined Ozarka as a full time welding instructor at the Mountain View Welding Center in August. He spent time at Emerson Inc. in Ash Flat after working a few years as a traveling welder. Jesse is an Arkansas native and a graduate of Missouri Welding Institute in Nevada, Missouri. We are excited to see how Jesse will grow our Mountain View Welding Center and industry partnerships in the area.



Gabe Lawrence - Part Time Maintenance

A recent graduate of Melbourne High School, Gabe is already a helpful hand. Gabe is taking classes at Ozarka when he is not working in the Maintenance Department. We are excited to have you Gabe, as a student and employee. Welcome!

Valerie Long - President's Assistant

A graduate of Melbourne High School, Valerie has quickly become a friendly face to see in the Administration building. Previously a substance abuse counselor for Wilber D. Mills, she is happy to be closer to home furthering her career. Valerie comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in administrative work, having served as a counselor previously. Long holds a bachelors in Addiction Studies from the University of Central Arkansas.



Tojo Massey - Maintenance Technician

If you haven't had the chance to meet our newest member of the maintenance department you will still be able to catch him from time to time as he travels to each campus. A native of Mount Pleasant, Tojo is already staying busy. Welcome Tojo!

MOVIN & SHAKIN

Employee Transitions and New Hires



Brittany May - Clinical Instructor

Brittany started in the fall and will be an adjunct clinical instructor for the Licensed Practical Nursing program. Brittany will cover mostly the Melbourne area. A native of Ash Flat, she is also a graduate of Ozarka's Nursing Program. If you get the chance, say hello to our newest instructor!

Chris Mosley - Recruiter

Chris joined us as the full-time college recruiter back in May of this year. He has been an invaluable asset from the start. Chris spends the majority of his time completing any and all activities that involve recruitment; Conducting campus tours, attending high school recruiting visits, attending college fairs, participating in community events, the list goes on. Chris is an Arkansas native and a graduate of Ozarka College, where he completed an Associate of Arts in General Education and an Associate of Science in Business.



Kameron Murphy - TRIO Tutor Coordinator

If you have a student in need you have probably already heard of Kameron Murphy. Kameron holds a Bachelor in History from Arkansas Tech University and will be stationed in the TRIO suite, offering tutoring to our students. Don't hesitate to reach out as this is free for all of our students. Welcome aboard Kameron!

Chrisha Savell - Admin Specialist II for Student Services

The Student Services department is happy to welcome Chrisha back to campus. Not only is Chrisha an Ozarka alumni, but she also served as a part time employee (2017-2018) in the Admissions office. Chrisha's outgoing personality and skillset will serve the admissions department well.



Carol Sellars - Part time SNAP Case Manager

The Adult Education Department welcomes Carol, an experienced special project manager with success in higher education. She comes to us with a wealth of knowledge assisting students. Carol obtained her Bachelor of Arts from Lyon College and her Master's Degree in College Student Personnel from Arkansas Tech University. Welcome!

MOVIN & SHAKIN

Employee Transitions and New Hires



Abbi Smith - Career Coach

Abbi will be spending the majority of her time stationed at the Melbourne High School assisting students with their career paths. A native of Melbourne, Abbi holds a bachelors degree in Marketing from ASU and received her associates degree from Ozarka. Welcome back Abbi!

Colton Selph - Skilled Trades Faculty

Colton is a familiar face to most serving previously in Maintenance. Known for his hard work and dedication, he is already doing a fantastic job assisting our students in their new career paths. Colton is also an Ozarka alumni so we are glad to have him on board. Welcome!



SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

Foundation Update

The Foundation will hold its annual Scholarship Reception on September 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Melbourne Student Services Center. At the beginning of the fall semester, all new scholarship recipients are invited to attend a light reception where we not only honor them for their achievement, but celebrate with them. The reception is an event that recognizes both academic achievement and donor generosity, bringing together student scholarship recipients and benefactors. The event provides an opportunity for students to thank donors for supporting them through endowed scholarships while donors learn how their gift directly impacts student success by meeting this years' awardees. It is a heart-warming event that not only allows students the chance to show appreciation to the donors but instills in them an understanding of the importance of giving back to the College for the benefit of future Ozarka students.



*Photo Caption:
Mesa Barger, Guest Speaker
Ozarka Alumna 2020
AS Education



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Active Shooter Training

Recently, Ozarka College employees all took part in active shooter training hosted by the Craighead County Police Department. Active shooter incidents are often unpredictable and evolve quickly. In the midst of chaos, anyone can play an integral role in mitigating the impacts of an active shooter incident.

“Safety of our campuses, students, and employees is our highest priority, and Ozarka is committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment,” said Dr. Richard Dawe, Ozarka College president. “While we hope and pray we are never faced with terrible events like those we see every day around the nation, we must be prepared to react to save lives should such an unfortunate situation ever occur.”

This scenario-based workshop featured facilitated discussions to inform participants on the best practices associated with preparing for and responding to an active shooter incident. Through a dynamic exchange of information, this workshop provided participants an understanding of how to plan and how to aid in the event of an active shooter.





THE OZARKA AVENGERS

Kids College success over the summer

Ozarka College held Kids College this summer for students who will be entering grades two through seven this fall. Classes were June 13-16 at Ozarka's Melbourne campus.

Ozarka Kids College's theme this year was "Ozarka-Avengers," and included a fun-filled learning adventure, superhero style. The students enjoyed daily STEM projects, learning about Arkansas reptiles, art projects, and cooking classes. Students took home several projects such as, a catapult, a cookbook, pond in a jar, painted snakes, a planter, college ID badge, and a t-shirt.

Kids College is designed to expand students' knowledge and enhance learning through classroom lessons and hands-on activities. The program allowed students to familiarize themselves with the Ozarka College campus in Melbourne, promoted Ozarka's accessibility, and reinforced the importance of a college education in today's world.

"Ozarka Kids College used to be a big part of the community and has not been held for several years. I knew when I was hired at Ozarka College that I wanted to bring back Kids College," said Maggie Campbell, Associate of Science in Education Director/Faculty. "We look forward to this being an annual event in the summer for many years to come."

This event could not have been possible without the following: Tabby Cooper, Karen McDonald, Ginger Miller, Abbey Orf, and Kelsie Steed for teaching the students. Also instrumental in the success of this event was the Ozarka Technology Department, Dan Lindsey for creating ID badges, Katie Norris for capturing each moment, Chris Mosley for taking the kids on a campus tour, and the maintenance team. Thank you to the Arkansas Extension Office for providing yoga sessions; Arkansas Game and Fish for bringing an aquarium and alligator; Pirates Graphics for the t-shirts; and Melbourne Subway for making lunch every day.



FOUNDATION CORNER...

Upcoming Events

The Ozarka College Foundation is looking forward to an exciting fall semester. The best way to get it off to an amazing start is to extend an invitation to you to participate in our upcoming activities. The Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 22, 2022 at 1 p.m. at Cooper's Hawk in Melbourne and our Fall Concert is scheduled for October 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ozarka College Mountain View Amphitheater. Events are scheduled in several locations, so please consider pitching in when you can fit it into your schedule; your volunteerism is appreciated!

For more information about scholarships or additional opportunities to support Ozarka College students, contact the Advancement Department at advancement@ozarka.edu or 870-368-2059.



The Fall Concert

Tickets - \$20
Available at Centennial Bank and Ozarka College - Mountain View



Mary Parker



Crystal McCool



Brad Apple



Gary Rounds



Pam Setzer

Special Guests:



Lillyanne McCool



Turner Atwell

October 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
OZARKA COLLEGE - MOUNTAIN VIEW AMPHITHEATER

MEET OUR FOUNDATION

New Foundation Board Members



Kohl Caraway - Izard County

Kohl is the agency manager for Mike Watson – State Farm in Melbourne. He has two children, Kinley and Karsyn. He is an Ozarka College alumnus and also attended Arkansas State University. “I’m thankful for this opportunity”, stated Kohl. “Ozarka is such an asset to our community. It’s important that we support the students that choose to attend our local community college and I look forward to my role on the Foundation Board.”

Brandy Deloach - Izard County

Brandy is the Executive Broker of RE/MAX Edge Realty in Melbourne. She is married to Jared Corter and they have one son, Nate. Brandy is an Izard County native and passionately supports her community. “I am very excited to be part of the Ozarka Foundation Board”, stated Brandy. “Ozarka is a vital part of this community and I am committed to helping Ozarka students.”



Rianna Kendrick - Stone County

Rianna is the Executive Director at the Mountain View Area Chamber of Commerce. She is Married to Michael Kendrick and share three beautiful children together. An Ozarka alumna who loves her community and is always looking for ways to serve. Rianna was a huge help at the past Ladies Luncheon serving as the emcee for the fashion show. We are excited to have Rianna join the board!



FROM OUR KITCHEN TO YOURS

PECAN SANDIES

From the Kitchen of

INGREDIENTS *Vickey Gillihan*

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup sifted powder sugar
- 1 block Crisco
- 1 cup oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- Mix above ingredients together
- 2 cups sigted flour - (I don't sift mine)
- 2 cups unsifted flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup chopped pecans (For those who don't eat nuts, you can substitute mini chocolate chips for pecans. I do 1/2 of batter with 1 cup pecans & 1/2 of batter with 1 cup chips)

MAKE

- MIX TOGETHER WITH ABOVE INGREDIENTS.
- ROLL INTO BALL (ABOUT SIZE OF WALNUT) AND DROP ON PAN.
- MASH FLAT WITH A GLASS DIPPED IN SUGAR
- BAKE AT 375° FOR 12-15 MINUTES.



COCONUT SHRIMP CURRY

From the Kitchen of
Kendra Smith

INGREDIENTS

SHRIMP MARINADE

- Shrimp – Extra large, raw, deshelled and deveined.
- Seasoning – Salt and pepper.
- Spices – Cayenne pepper is all we need for this marinade.
- Lemon juice – We need a nice acidic base to penetrate the meat.

SAUCE

- Coconut oil – We're going to use this oil to ensure that coconut flavor carries through every note of this dish.
- Onion – We want an onion that cooks down well like white or yellow.
- Aromatics – Fresh ginger and garlic.
- Spices – Ground coriander, curry powder, and turmeric.
- Tomatoes – One large can of diced tomatoes.
- Coconut milk – Rich, delicious, and the creamy component of our curry.
- Cilantro – Fresh chopped up nice and fine for garnish. If you're not a fan of cilantro feel free to use parsley instead.

MAKE

- MARINATE THE SHRIMP: IN A SMALL BOWL TOSS THE SHRIMP WITH THE MARINADE INGREDIENTS. COVER WITH PLASTIC WRAP AND REFRIGERATE FOR 10 MINUTES.
- FORM THE FLAVOR BASE: WHILE THE SHRIMP IS MARINATING, HEAT THE OIL IN A MEDIUM SIZE SKILLET. TO IT ADD THE ONION, AND COOK FOR 2 OR 3 MINUTES UNTIL THE ONION SOFTENS AND BECOMES TRANSLUCENT. STIR IN THE GARLIC, GINGER, PEPPER, SALT, CORIANDER, TURMERIC AND CURRY POWDER. ALLOW TO COOK FOR ANOTHER MINUTE.
- COOK THE SHRIMP: ADD THE DICED TOMATOES WITH JUICES AND ALL, THE COCONUT MILK, STIR AND BRING TO A BOIL. COOK FOR ABOUT 5 MINUTES STIRRING OCCASIONALLY. ADD THE SHRIMP WITH THE ACCUMULATED JUICES FROM THE MARINADE AND COOK FOR ANOTHER 2 MINUTES OR UNTIL THE SHRIMP IS PINK AND COOKED THROUGH.
- FINISH THE CURRY: SERVE OVER HOT RICE AND GARNISH WITH CILANTRO OR PARSLEY.



BUFFALO CHICKEN SOUP

From the Kitchen of

INGREDIENTS *Cindy Williams*

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 1/2 cup chopped bell pepper (I use frozen)
- 2 pounds chicken breast
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 (32 ounce) carton chicken broth
- 1/2 cup low carb ranch dressing, room temperature
- 1/3 cup buffalo sauce
- 4 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 2 cups shredded cheddar

MAKE

- PLACE THE GARLIC, BELL PEPPER, CHICKEN BREAST, SPICES AND CHICKEN BROTH IN THE SLOW COOKER.
- COOK ON LOW FOR 8 HOURS OR ON HIGH FOR 4 HOURS.
- REMOVE THE CHICKEN AND SHRED.
- ADD THE CREAM CHEESE, BUFFALO SAUCE, RANCH DRESSING AND SHREDDED CHEDDAR. WHISK VIGOROUSLY UNTIL SMOOTH. ADD THE CHICKEN BACK TO THE SOUP.



If you would like to submit a recipe for the next newsletter please contact Katie Norris at katie.norris@ozarka.edu

LIFE HACKS...

Fan Requested

HACK #1

Need your email to sign up for something but you never want to hear from them? Add "+spam" to the end of your email. This will send all emails from them to your spam folder and still treat it like a real email address.

HACK #2

If you accidentally close a tab, press ctrl+shift+t and your tabs will be reopened.

HACK #3

Bounce your batteries to see if they are good or bad. Drop them on a table about 6 inches. If they give one small bounce and fall over they are good. If they bounce around any more than that they are bad.

STAFF COUNCIL CARES

Upcoming Events

The Staff Council Committee is a peer-elected committee entrusted to increase the sense of identity, recognition, and worth of each non-academic staff member in his/her relationship to the College. They are entrusted with the following responsibilities:

1. Promote a positive working environment.
2. Organize and promote professional development opportunities.
3. Organize and promote social activities.
4. Provide recognition of staff achievements.
5. Provide a formal avenue of communication with the Administrative Council and representation at Board of Trustees meetings.

The next Staff Council Meeting will take place on September 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions, you can reach out to one of the Staff Council reps, Dylan Herekamp, Ronal Moser, or Kelly Graham.



*Photo Caption:
Dylan Herekamp



*Photo Caption:
Rondal Moser



*Photo Caption:
Kelly Graham

STUDENT INCENTIVES

Career Pathways Initiative

Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) would like to announce incentive payments to students enrolled in CPI will take place at mid-terms. Education Pays is designed to reward students for enrolling in CPI and achieving steady progress toward credential achievement. A cash payment will be provided upon initial enrollment in CPI and in the Education Pays program. Progression incentives will take place at the middle of the semester and the end of each semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer). A completion incentive will be provided upon withdrawal from the CPI program with a credential.

To be eligible for incentives, the student must enroll in a minimum of six (6) for-credit hours, meet income guidelines and maintain satisfactory performance. The deadline for a student to enroll and still be eligible for incentive payments is September 30, 2022. Students could receive up to \$700 in one semester with an additional \$500 for completing the program! If you have a student you believe may qualify, please contact Amanda Engelhardt or Lindsey Johnson at 870.368.2041 or email careerpathways@ozarka.edu.



INCENTIVE LEVELS

NEW ENROLLMENT
\$100

PROGRESSION
\$300
(\$600 max per semester)

PROGRAM COMPLETION
\$500

NON-CREDIT PROGRAM
(no other incentives apply)
\$500



FOND FAREWELL...

Wanda McConnaughay

Beginning work at Ozarka in 2007, McConnaughay began serving as an Administrative Specialist for Student Services where she has worked tirelessly these many years to help Ozarka students and her colleagues. Wanda announced her upcoming retirement from Ozarka earlier this year and in July, Ozarka gathered to celebrate her 15 years of dedicated service to the College and her recent recognition as Employee of the Quarter for the months of April - June 2022.

“Wanda is most deserving of this prestigious recognition; she has always focused on students’ success and I am proud to call her a colleague,” said Dr. Richard Dawe, Ozarka College president. “We wish her the very best in her retirement; she will be dearly missed.”

“Not only did she do a fantastic job making students feel at ease throughout the admissions process, but she is also one of the most generous people you will encounter, frequently supporting philanthropic activities on campus,” said Zeda Wilkerson, vice president of student services. “She genuinely cares for students, co-workers, and the mission of Ozarka College. Wanda is going to be truly missed. We wish her the very best in her retirement.”

The College hosted a farewell fellowship for Wanda on July 28 in the Student Services Center on the Melbourne campus.

From all of your Ozarka Family, we wish you well, Wanda!



“
*From all of your Ozarka
Family, we wish you well,
Wanda!*”





Providing Life Changing Experiences through Education



New Student Orientation





SUCCESS