

# Ozarka College

## THE CONNECTION

### Student Activities

The last few months have proved to be a very rewarding time for Ozarka students as they not only wrapped up another semester, but also did a lot to give back to their communities.

On April 29, nine students attended the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society induction ceremony.



Additionally, PTK hosted a food drive to assist local backpack programs, which will feed school aged children this summer.

On April 30, LPN students in Ash Flat hosted a community health fair that served over 300 people. They also collected non-perishable food items, and were able to make a monetary donation from their bake sale to the Mission of Hope Food Bank.



Students in Mountain View hosted a workshop titled, "Going Green is Easy," where they educated

attendees about composting, wildlife habitat improvements, and recycling.



On May 6, seventy students participated in the Capping and Pinning Ceremony, which was comprised of cohorts from Ash Flat, Mountain View, Melbourne-Day, and Melbourne-Evening/Weekend programs.



Several of the newly pinned students also walked at the Commencement Ceremony, which took place in Melbourne on May 10.

Senator Missy Thomas-Irvin addressed the graduates and approximately 900 guests who attended.

## President's Perspective

This academic year has been very rewarding for our students at Ozarka College. We set a new graduation all time high last year by increasing graduates by 30 percent and although the totals are not in for this year yet, we know the totals will be even higher.

We continue to have the most nursing graduates of any two-year college in our state and also outperform most four year institutions in this area. One of our goals is to offer degrees and certificates to as many people as possible in our service region and to provide them with high quality education that will empower them to advance their careers, or enter new career fields.

We can all be very proud that we continue to do so in an amazing

way and are always looking for new program opportunities that will create high paying jobs.

Summer session has begun and we are catching our collective breath from a very busy and productive year. This will allow us to catch up on special projects and to plan for the future. Our work in higher education at Ozarka College is sometimes fast paced; but always gratifying when we see our graduates and their proud families at commencement. I hope you all enjoy your work at Ozarka as much as I do and for our students; we sincerely hope we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

Best always,

Richard Dawe



## Meet the Staff



Clockwise: Zeda Wilkerson, Wanda McConaughay, Drexene Winey, Ashley Sherrell, Laura Lawrence, Wayna Gunther, Pamela Miller, and Ron Helm

Not pictured: Dylan Mowery & Micki Sanders

The Vice President of Student Services, Ron Helm, has served over 40 years in education; 21 have been at Ozarka College. He has a great team who works together to ensure the success of all students. Some of those departments include Admissions, Financial Aid, and the Registrar. If you haven't already made plans for summer or fall classes, stop by today and meet the staff.

Admissions: 870.368.2013 or [dmmowery@ozarka.edu](mailto:dmmowery@ozarka.edu)

Financial Aid: 870.368.2010 or [llawrence@ozarka.edu](mailto:llawrence@ozarka.edu)

Registrar: 870.368.2028 or [zwilkerson@ozarka.edu](mailto:zwilkerson@ozarka.edu)



Mowery



Sanders

## Student Services Center Update

The Student Service Center construction on the Melbourne campus is progressing nicely. While the inclement weather during the winter months led to some delays, the building is still scheduled to open by the spring 2015 semester.

The contractor is currently finishing the steel installation and is beginning to set the metal studs for the exterior walls. The next steps in the construction process include roof installation, pouring the polished concrete slab, and rough-in for HVAC, electric and plumbing.

On Wednesday, May 21, WD&D Architects facilitated a color selection meeting during which many of the interior and exterior colors were reviewed. Color selection will be finalized very soon. Request for bids on kitchen equipment was advertised and bidding opened on May 28.



*Ozarka faculty and staff members participate in a Beam Signing Celebration*

## HLC Presentations

Dr. Dennis Rittle, Dr. Holly Ayers, Candace Jeffery and Joan Stirling represented Ozarka College at the 2014 Annual Conference of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in Chicago.

Dr. Rittle and Dr. Ayers presented a highly attended session at the conference entitled, "Developmental Education Redesign: Radically Increasing Acceleration, Retention, and Completion Rates." As a member of the Assessment Academy, the group also participated in an HLC sponsored Share Fair, where they reported on Ozarka College progress.



## Foundation Scholarships Awarded

**\$250, one semester**

Scholarship	Recipient
SMEI	Michele Eaton
Wayburn Watson Memorial	Makenzie McCord
Wayburn Watson Memorial	Rainee Mills

**\$1,000**

Scholarship	Recipient
FNBC Bank	Jordin Machalick
John E Miller Honorary	Douglas Burke
Nursing Achievement	Brittany Adcock

**\$500, split between two semesters**

Scholarship	Recipient
Charles Cheatham Memorial	Whittany Dockins
Coy Ferguson Memorial	Eli Blankenship
Dan (Wally) Pittman	Susan Adkins
Dan (Wally) Pittman	Madison Deloach
Dietsche/Martin	Amber Merriam
Granny Bea Crofford Memorial	Makayla Gross
Harold Crawford Second Chance	Arwen Sharak
Harry Powell and Velma Fudge Dixon Memorial	Lindsey Wetzel
James Fenton Memorial	Darla Spencer
Jean Jennings Memorial	Bailey Barnes
Jean Jennings Memorial	Blonnie Brown
Joe and Maxine Wyatt	Derek Broyles
JoKay Smith Memorial	Brianna Reed
Kenneth and Janice Sutton	Stephany Corter
Kenneth and Janice Sutton	Margo DelReal
Kenneth and Janice Sutton	Sara Gilbert
Lesa Bull Memorial	Makollie Koelling
Lesa Bull Memorial	Roberta Sutton
Margaret Kemp Memorial	Deborah Jordan
Netta Gilbert Memorial	Bailey Miller
Orvis and Lilbern Farris-Nix	Julia Steeves
Ozarka Family	Kasey Hendrix
Ozarka Family	Nykki Via
Paul and Treva Miller	Lindsey McHalfey
Robert Kalischer Memorial	Tim Davidson
Robert Kalischer Memorial	Hope McComas
Sharp County Literacy/JaNoel Bess	James Tackett
Stone County Community Resource Council	Hileigh Richeson
Stone County Community Resource Council	Jennifer Rollins
Stone County Community Resource Council	Alex Soulard
Stone County Community Resource Council	Kathryn Trantham
Stone County Community Resource Council	Stephanie Vines
Stone County Community Resource Council	Tori Wade
Stone County Community Resource Council	Katrina Whitfield
Stone County Community Resource Council	Gregory Willis
Tom Dawe, Jr. Memorial	Jesse Ortiz
Tri-County Hospice	Jessica Cubillas
Tri-County Hospice	Jenerose Powell

### Course/Program Spotlight

**Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality**

Chef Lou Rice

[cheflou@ozarka.edu](mailto:cheflou@ozarka.edu)

**Information Technology**

Brad Lawrey

[brad.lawrey@ozarka.edu](mailto:brad.lawrey@ozarka.edu)

**Automotive Service Technology**

Chris Layne

[chris.layne@ozarka.edu](mailto:chris.layne@ozarka.edu)

**Basic Health Skills for CNAs**

Tamra Bevill

[tbevill@ozarka.edu](mailto:tbevill@ozarka.edu)

### College Humor

Without school, it's really hard to know what day of the week it is.



## Memories in the Making



The Mountain View Student Government Association float took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Folk Festival Parade.



The Ozarka Aviation kids planes made their inaugural flight with 4 pilots at the Pioneer Days Parade in Melbourne and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the commercial division.



Students discuss the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis while participating in a Strategic Planning workshop.



Kena Tyler is congratulated by Division Chair, Kathryn Langston, during Ms. Tyler's retirement party.



Students, staff, and community members attended an Employability Conference led by keynote speaker, Dr. Jan McCormick, CEO of JobLingo.

## Upcoming Events

### June (Closed all Fridays)

- 6: Relay For Life
- 6-8: Beginning Bowl Turning & Intro. to Knife Making
- 7: Fulton County Golf Tournament
- 9-13: Easy Hollow Form & the Ogee Bowl
- 11: Blood Drive, Miller Education Complex
- 12: Last day to withdraw & receive "W" for Summer I Classes
- 16-20: Summer Craft Camp for Kids
- 16-19: Summer Reading Program (Paul Weaver Library)
- 19: Summer I Final Exams
- 20-22: Writing for Publications
- 23-24: Beginning Spinning on a Wheel
- 25: Health Care Career Day, Ash Flat
- 25: Inkle Weaving
- 26-27: Beginning Weaving: The Weekend Scarf
- 28-7/6: Hurdy-Gundy Construction

### July (Closed all Fridays)

- 1: Summer 2 Classes Begin
- 4: Closed for Independence Day
- 11-13: Hollow Vessels, Embellished with Carving & Texture

**\* Continuing Education Courses \***  
for more info, please contact  
Arkansas Craft School  
870.269.8397

## Community Support

On May 1, the community showed their support for the Izard County Relay For Life, by purchasing cheeseburger meals from the staff at Ozarka College during their event, "Grillin' for a Cure." Several staff members and students volunteered their time to prepare the meals and to make deliveries to area businesses. They also purchased supplies, made monetary donations, and of course, purchased and consumed their own cheeseburger meals. All together, a check for \$1,055 was presented to Jackie Wallis, American Cancer Society Relay For Life Specialist.

## CareerLink

Ozarka has unveiled a new career planning website catered to both job seekers and employers.

<http://www.ozarka.edu/CareerLink>

The site offers job-readiness tools such as résumé-building, interview preparation, and access to Arkansas JobLink career search database, a free online career development resource sponsored by Arkansas Department of Workforce Services.

Employers may access job placement resources that can connect them with qualified job applicants and will assist them with setting up their free employer account through Arkansas JobLink.

For more information, please contact Candace Jeffery, by calling 870.368.2003 or email: [cjeffery@ozarka.edu](mailto:cjeffery@ozarka.edu)

**Contact the Editor  
to share your news:**

Manda Jackson  
Ozarka College  
Director of PR and Marketing  
870.368.2045  
[manda.jackson@ozarka.edu](mailto:manda.jackson@ozarka.edu)