Ozarka Involved in Statewide Voter Drive

To encourage greater participation in the November 7 general election and beyond, Ozarka College and the other 21 two-year colleges in Arkansas have been holding a coordinated voter registration drive on campuses throughout the state.

A joint effort of the Secretary of State’s Office and Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges, the voter drive is meant to raise awareness among students, faculty/staff and other citizens, as well as encourage participation in the political process.

“Our two-year college campuses are dispersed all across the state, and as community centers, we feel that a voter drive falls in line with our mission to educate the people of Arkansas,” said Ed Franklin, executive director of the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges.

There are approximately 49,000 students enrolled in two-year colleges in Arkansas. The average age of those students is 26 years-old, while more than 50 percent of the students are female.

The voter drives are open to all eligible citizens, including students, faculty and staff. Register online at ozarka.edu, or go by the Paul Weaver Library. **DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE NOVEMBER 7TH ELECTION IS OCTOBER 6.**

Nursing Student Awarded Scholarship

The Charles Roberts Memorial Scholarship was awarded on Wednesday, September 27 to Kandis Meador (center) of Hardy. Scholarship co-founder, Ms. Tommye Clark (left) presented the scholarship worth $1,025.00 to Meador. Also pictured is Allied Health Division Chair and Instructor, Ruby Johnson.

This scholarship was established by Clark, along with Kay Richardson in honor of their family member, Charles Roberts based on the medical care provided to him by nursing graduates from Ozarka’s LPN program.

Kandis is in her first semester as a nursing student. She was truly grateful for the award and says she looks forward to completing her degree in practical nursing and applying to the RN program. She lives in Hardy with her children.
Nursing Students Participate in Sharp County Walk of Hope

The American Cancer Society held its annual “Walk of Hope” in Sharp County on September 16th. Many Ozarka College nursing students participated in the fundraising event. Nursing instructors, Valerie West, Katie Wilson, and Ruby Johnson; along with the students roasted a hog and sold barbecue plates during the event. They raised more than $1,750.00 for the American Cancer Society.

Ozarka Student Services to Host Fall Festival

The Student Services Department at Ozarka is hosting its first annual Fall Festival in Melbourne from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 12th. Many departments, programs and student organizations will be involved in the event which will feature fun, food and games for children of all ages.

This event is open to everyone in the area and will take place on the grounds in front of the John E. Miller Education Complex or inside the Miller Complex in case of inclement weather.

There will be many activities during the evening including: a bake sale by culinary arts, golf putting by information systems, karaoke contest by advancement and adult education, a dart throw by student council, bean bag toss and face tattoos by TRiO, pie in the face by the Ozarka student ambassadors, cupcake walk by the kids academy, grab bags by PTK, beanie babies and free throw shoot by PBL, pie auction by student services, jail and Bail and dunking booth by nursing, and an obstacle course by the fitness center. There will also be corndogs, drinks and popcorn.

Admission to the fall festival is free. For further information or questions, contact student services at 368-2036.

New Face in Admissions

Ozarka College recently hired Zeda Wilkerson as Director of Admissions. A 2001 graduate of Lyon College, Zeda’s prior admissions experience includes serving as an Assistant Director of Admissions at Arkansas State University, and Transfer and International Student Representative at Lyon College.

Recently, Wilkerson moved to Melbourne with her husband Travis, a mental health counselor, and two sons, Zane and Wyatt. “With all the financial aid programs, online courses, and distance learning courses available to students, a college education is more attainable than ever,” states Wilkerson and adds, “Ozarka College is a great place for people in this area to obtain an education and I look forward to working with the local high school students and other potential students to assist them with their educational choices.”

For more information about Ozarka College programs or the admissions process, contact Wilkerson at 870-368-2028 or via email zwilkerson@ozarka.edu.
DOJ Grant Provides Campus Crime Prevention Training

Fifteen Ozarka employees attended a Coordinated Campus Response Team meeting on September 1 to view PowerPoint presentations by Terri Bennett and Joan Stirling. The presenters were relaying information gleaned from a training institute in New Orleans. Bennett reported on a session entitled “She Fears You” and Stirling described what should be done by the first person who comes upon a crime scene.

The presenter in New Orleans of the session “She Fears You” was a young, white male named Keith Edwards who has promoted sexual assault prevention on campuses nationwide (www.menendingrape.org). He speaks to the fact that a rape culture exists in today’s society, a culture that encourages rape to happen. Edwards commented that many men admit to actions consistent with the legal definition of rape and do not believe that their actions are illegal. He said that, “It is sad that we are raising men that rape and don’t even know it.”

Edwards listed some common behaviors of women that demonstrate that women fear men: women may not wear a skirt one day because of fear of being hassled as they walk to class or work; women may clutch their keys as they walk to their cars at night; women may cross the street to avoid a man coming in the other direction; and women may fake cell phone calls when someone is behind them on the sidewalk.

Edwards goes on to explain how men can begin to confront the rape culture by objecting to pictures and conversations alluding to women as sex objects and confronting party scenes where women are depicted as targets. He went on to describe what men have to gain from ending rape, “They are no longer perceived as potential rapists but as individuals capable of entering caring and emotion-based relationships.”

Stirling’s topic was intended for first officers at a crime scene but was also adapted for what any person should do if they happen upon a crime scene until an officer arrives.

First of all, life is most important and one should always suspect the worse when coming upon a strange scene. Is the perpetrator still there? Would the perpetrator hurt your or those with you? Be wary and put no one else in harms way.

Second, note the time and approach the victim to see if the victim is alive and needs assistance, keeping in mind that it may be a crime scene and the crime scene should be protected. Give what assistance you can until the professionals get there. If you are alone, call for help first and then give CPR. If it is a child, give CPR for a short time and then call, then resume CPR. (Take CPR lessons to learn all the important facts and methods.)

Third, if possible, keep the crowd back as they may trample the crime scene and destroy evidence. If you are part of the crowd, keep away from the scene. If you are a witness and not needed for help, remain at a distance until law enforcement can get your information. Witnesses should not discuss their observations with other witnesses so as to prevent contamination of each other’s recollection.

Fourth, if someone is available to take notes until law enforcement arrives, they should note times, write down who enters the crime scene and where anyone goes in the crime scene. Writing down anything overheard may be helpful also.

This project was 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.
Continuing Ed to Offer Folk Dancing Course

The Continuing Education Department at Ozarka College in Melbourne is offering a unique fitness and learning experience through an International Folk Dancing Course.

The class will take place on the stage of the John E. Miller Auditorium on the Melbourne campus at Ozarka.

According to the instructor for the class, Tricia Nelson, “The United States is a cultural melting pot from many other countries around the world and students who enroll in this class will have fun learning dances from some of those other countries.” She adds that folk dancing is a great form of exercise and no dance experience or partner is needed for the course.

Cost for the class is $45. Participants will need to wear comfortable, non-marking shoes. Call Kim Lovelace at 870-368-7371 to pre-register for the class.

Calico Rock Hosting Kayak Race and 5K Run

The first annual Calico Rock Kayak Race will be Saturday, October 14th, on the White River as part of the Fall Festival. Two events will be held: one for two-person teams and one for individuals. The races begin at 2:00 p.m. Kayaks will leave Lindsey’s Boat Dock and race downstream to the Calico Rock Bridge.

Sponsored by the Calico Rock Chamber of Commerce, entry fee is $30.00 per boat. First prize for each race is $250. To receive a race application or for more information, call 870-297-4129 or stop by the Chamber office on Main Street, Calico Rock.

Deadline for entry applications is October 7th.

Spectators can watch the end of the race from the Calico Rock Access or the White River Bridge. This Kayak Race is part of the Calico Creek October Festival in Rand Park from noon to 7:00 p.m. on October 14th. Check in for the A 5K Run will begin at 8:15AM with the race setting off at 9AM from Rand Park (Highways 5 & 56). Water and snacks will be provided along with a t-shirt and goodie bag. Walking participants are also welcome. Entry fee is $20. Contact Tamra Bevill at 297-8753 or rrgn@centurytel.net for more info on the 5K Run.