



CAMPUS CONNECTION

The Official E-Newsletter of Ozarka College

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From the President

October 31, 2013

Registration for the spring semester set to begin at Ozarka College

Registration will open for current Ozarka College students on Monday, Nov. 4 at 8 a.m. for the spring 2014 semester. Any student who has successfully completed a semester at Ozarka College can register online after meeting and planning class schedules with academic advisors. The first day of the spring semester will be Monday, Jan. 13.

Any new or first-time students may register beginning on Monday, Nov. 11 and continuing through Friday, Dec. 13. Late registration is also scheduled for Jan. 7 - 10.

Each location will be open until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12 for an evening registration open house. Anyone interested in taking evening and hybrid courses at Ozarka College is encouraged to attend to meet with an academic advisor, student services and financial aid.

[Read more here](#)

Art classes at Mountain View enhance artist's creativity



Beth Bensuk

For Beth Bensuk of Dennard, art has been a passion for years.

A 2011 graduate of Clinton High School, Bensuk started decorating her own mini hats two years ago after her mother encouraged her.

Inspired by felt hats she used to purchase from retail stores, Bensuk discovered she could decorate her own hats and



Dr. Richard Dawe

Ozarka Community:

Fall weather has clearly arrived; the World Series is history; the federal government has again reopened for business; and I am pleased to report that Ozarka College is serving our students and communities better than ever. Our faculty and the entire academic team have been working very hard this semester to prepare for new and exciting programs of study and I want to publicly recognize those involved for their tremendous effort!

Our Student Services Center contract is complete and we will be in full construction phase very soon. I want to remind everyone that we will have time lapsed and real time video coverage of this important physical plant project via a link on the college website.



Mike Watson, Ozarka College Foundation Board member and Capital Campaign co-chair, Dr. Richard Dawe, Ozarka College president, Marty Sellars, FNBC president, and Martin Carpenter, FNBC CEO and chairman of the board.

FNBC has committed \$50,000 to the new Student Services Center on the Melbourne campus.

"Students at the Center" campaign receives \$50k donation

First National Banking Company has committed \$50,000 to the Ozarka College Student Services Center Capital Campaign.

The contribution will pay to furnish the Student Commons Area, an open area to be used for student and community events, studying, dining and student activities.

"We very much believe in Ozarka College and the opportunity it provides our local community to receive an education they might not otherwise have access to at an affordable cost," said Martin Carpenter, FNBC CEO and chairman of the board. "We have supported the College for a long time and we plan to continue that support into the future."

[Read more here](#)

make a little money in the process. She began her own business through a Facebook page, Mini Top Hat Emporium.

"I've sold quite a few hats over the last two years," she said.

She also attends fairs and craft shows in the area, where she competes and sells her goods. In fact, she placed first at the Van Buren County Fair this year and was able to compete at the Arkansas State Fair.

Growing up with an artistic mother, Bensuk was drawn to the art classes offered at Ozarka College - Mountain View. This semester will be her last at Ozarka College, but she has completed at least one art course per semester since she arrived.

With instructors like Cheri McKee-McSwain and Dusty Mitchell, she said each class has taught her something new.

"The teachers are just really great instructors," Bensuk said. "They really like to get involved with the students and help us through the projects."

She said she has known students who thought they had no art skills who have come out of their classes and been proud of what they've done. She enjoys how the art classes allow her and other students to take a break from

I am also very pleased to report that as of Jan. 2, 2014 our leadership structure will be modified to further strengthen student learning by closely linking student services, institutional research and planning, and academics. This will be reflected most directly by establishing the new position of Provost and Executive Vice President of Learning. Dr. Dennis Rittle will assume this important leadership position for the college and Vice Presidents of Student Services, and Institutional Research and Planning will report to the Provost. This is a progressive leadership structure that will allow us to achieve even greater levels of synergy and support of student learning. I am very proud of the best staff, faculty and administration in the state and we are privileged to serve such wonderful students.

See you on campus!

Dr. Richard Dawe
President

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Danny Moser, Connie Moser, Ashley Dellinger and Mat Dellinger won this year's tournament. They played on the First National Bank of Izard County corporate team.

Annual Golf Scramble has another success year

The Ozarka College Foundation Board hosted its annual golf scramble on Saturday, Oct. 5 at Cooper's Hawk Golf Course in Melbourne. This event is held each fall and raises money to benefit Ozarka College students.

This year's tournament had 25 teams participate.

"Once again, our community has shown just how much it cares about the success of Ozarka College and its students," said Suellen Davidson, director of advancement. "We appreciate each and every sponsor and all of the golfers who braved the rain to help make an impact in students' lives."

[Read more here](#)

subjects like math and the rigor of school in general.

"I know a lot of people who are scared of art, but the teachers really help you and try to push you through that [fear]," she said. "Just go for it. I've done things I never thought of doing."

She's completed classes like studio art, art history, visual art and is currently in sculpting.

Earlier in the semester students completed a wire sculpture that took about three weeks to complete. Bensuk created a tea set, inspired by her Alice in Wonderland style.

A true artist, Bensuk dresses up each day for school in costumes typically handmade by her mother, Katherine.

"It's fun being different," she said. "Students just look at me like they're confused when I dress normal."

She describes her style as steampunk Alice in Wonderland. Steampunk is a subgenre of science fiction that typically features steam-powered machinery, especially in a setting inspired by industrialized Western civilization during the 19th century.

Next up in sculpting, students will be using plaster, which is



Kim Whitten, director of operations at Ozarka College - Ash Flat

Whitten named to Vision 2025

Kim Whitten of Ash Flat has been appointed to the Vision 2015 Legislative Commission on the Future of Higher Education as a designee for Rep. James McLean.

Whitten is currently the director of operations at Ozarka College - Ash Flat. She has also served as public relations and marketing specialist at Ozarka College and executive assistant to the chancellor and media relations at the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville.

[Read more here](#)

something she will be working with for the first time.

"I'm nervous, but I like a challenge," she said.

Already a drawer, she enjoyed creating pop art earlier in the semester, as well. She described it as "kind of cartoonish," using primary colors of red, yellow and blue and incorporating in with her drawings.

"The colors we use makes it so it kind of pops to the eye," she said.

Bensuk landed at Ozarka College after a cousin and other family members encouraged her to attend because of its close proximity to home, and it's a decision she hasn't regretted.

"Once I got here, it was really a friendly place," she said. "It's very community oriented."

She plans to transfer to the University of Central Arkansas after she completes her Associate of Arts degree this semester at Ozarka College. She hopes to one day become a librarian.

Current students will be able to register for art courses and other courses at Mountain View and all Ozarka College campuses when registration opens on Monday, Nov. 4. Registration for new students



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Foundation to present Michael Johnson in concert this Saturday

The Ozarka College Foundation will host singer/songwriter Michael Johnson in concert on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View.

A celebrated guitarist, Johnson is well known for his songs "Bluer than Blue," "This Night Won't Last Forever" and "That's That."

His 1986 hit "Give Me Wings" reached number one on the charts and was the Billboard Country Song of the Year.

[Read more here](#)

PTK inducts new members

will begin on Monday, Nov. 11. For more information, please visit www.ozarka.edu or call 800-821-4331.

Upcoming Events

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.

HVAC - Continuing Education

November 18 - December 19
(Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays)
4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Ozarka College - Mammoth Spring
Contact James Spurlock to register:
870-625-0411

Burlap Wreath Class - Continuing Education

Thursday, Nov. 14
6 - 8 p.m.
Ozarka College - Ash Flat
Contact Kim Whitten to register: 870-994-7273

Thanksgiving Makeover with Chef Lou Rice - Continuing Education

November 14
5 - 9 p.m.
Ozarka College - Melbourne
Contact Kathryn Langston to register: 870-368-2083
Seating is limited to 20.



PTK inducted new members on Tuesday, Oct. 29

Ozarka College's Beta Alpha Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), a national honor society for students in two-year colleges, inducted new members during a ceremony Tuesday, Oct. 29, in the lobby of the John E. Miller Education Complex in Melbourne.

PTK President Tina Boris of Salem welcomed students and their guests to the ceremony and presented information on the history of Phi Theta Kappa, which was founded in 1918 by Missouri two-year college presidents and serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students.

Faculty advisor Katie Wilson introduced guest speaker Dr. Dennis Rittle, vice president of academic affairs at Ozarka College, who spoke on leadership and responsibility. Other program participants included Tracie Morris, faculty advisor, and Shawnette Kimble, PTK secretary/treasurer.

Following the induction, Vice President for Student Services Ron Helm offered the invocation and PTK members and guests enjoyed a reception served by Wilson and PTK alumni Karen Overturf and Wanda McConnaughay in honor of the new members.

New members of Phi Theta Kappa include Shira Bales, Hunter Branscum, Morgan Bray, Sara Brown, Leah Brown, Julia Clark, Brendan Clements, Kayla Cooper, Donny Cox, Tara

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Cunningham, Chelsea Day, Emily Dixon, Cecil Dowdle, Tara Duncan, Emily Faucheux, Zachary Ferguson, Kaitlin Foulks, Robert Groves, Anthony Guiltner, Dorothy Hall, Judy Hallmark, Tyler Hatfield, Michael Hellesvig, Daniel Hunt, Shawnda Hutchins, Nicole Hyrowski, Sharon Joslin, Cheryl Lee, Dustie Lowe and Caitlyn McCord.

Also, Kristin Montgomery, Nicole Morris, Deborah Mullins, Wilma Parker, Andrea Pate, Lisa Powell, Kaylie Ralph, Chasity Reamon, Christi Reed, Candice Richards, Daniel Rittle, Stephanie Robertson, Stanley Staggs, Melissa Stidham, Roberta Sutton, May Taylor-Brown, Hannah Teague, Kara Tibbits, Chelsea Vines, Ashley Walker, Kristen Ward, Angela Wiles, Gregory Willis, Connie Wilson, Billie Wolford, Joyce Wollschlager, Elizabeth Woolard, Christina Worsham, Clayton Younce and Quinn Ziliak.

Students eligible for membership in PTK must have a grade point average of at least 3.50 on 12 hours toward an associate degree. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa revolves around the four hallmarks of scholarship, fellowship, leadership and service.

[Read more here](#)

Ozarka College honored at annual conference



Bill Stovall, Executive Director of Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges, and Emily Dixon, Ozarka College Academic All-Star. Emily was honored during the All-Star Brunch on Tuesday, Oct. 15.



Bill Stovall, Executive Director of AATYC, and Kim Thomas, Ozarka College Outstanding Alumnus and Highland High School Counselor. Kim was honored during the All-Star Brunch on Tuesday, Oct. 15.



Bill Stovall, Executive Director of AATYC, and Gin Brown, Ozarka College Outstanding Staff. Gin was honored during the annual awards banquet on Monday, Oct. 14.



Bill Stovall, Executive Director of AATYC, and Russell Bassham, Ozarka College Outstanding Faculty. Russell was honored during the annual awards banquet on Monday, Oct. 14.

Mammoth Spring to offer HVAC course

The Ozarka College Continuing Education

department will offer introduction to HVAC at the Mammoth Spring campus starting in November.

The course will be offered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday each week from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. beginning the week of Nov. 18 and going through the week of Dec. 19.

[Read more here](#)

Ash Flat to offer burlap wreath course

The continuing education department at Ozarka College will present a burlap wreath class on Thursday, Nov. 14 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Ash Flat campus, located at 64 College Dr. The cost is \$25.50 and those over age 60 will be offered a discounted rate of \$20.50.

Lori Carpenter of The Grapevine Home will instruct the course.

This fun workshop will provide materials and instruction to create your own burlap wreath to transition through the holidays. Participants will learn the basics of making a wreath and tying large, decorative bows. All students must bring scissors and other decorations or materials they wish to add to the wreath to make it their own one-of-a-kind creation.

At the end of the workshop, participants will take home a completed wreath and knowledge to create additional burlap wreaths.

Seating is very limited. Anyone interested in taking the course should contact Kim Whitten, director of operations at Ozarka College - Ash Flat, at 870-994-7273 or by email at kwhitten@ozarka.edu.

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