The second annual Fall Family Fun Festival was held at Ozarka College on Monday, October 27th from 4-7PM. Officials from the college moved the festival inside the John E. Miller Building due to the cold and windy weather. The event was well-attended and deemed a huge success.

Many departments, programs and student organizations were involved in the event, which was free and open to the public, because a grant received through the Department of Justice to educate those attending about dangers of alcohol and as an alternative to alcohol related events.

Student Success Specialist, Jennifer Miller and Career Pathways Counselor, Tracy Cone organized the event and were expecting possibly 100-140 people to attend. According to Miller, “We were shocked that we handed out over 140 trick or treat bags to children in the first hour! The turnout and community support way exceeded our expectations and we are already looking at ways to make it even better next year!”

Some of the activities and games included a cupcake walk, pick-up ducks, pumpkin painting, pumpkin toss, pencil pull, obstacle course, fun fortune telling, “do you know where you live,” a jumping castle, fishing for goodies, face painting, limbo, fingerprinting, candy jar guessing, checkers, free photos, a haunted hospital, and an alcohol awareness activity.

Early attendees were also served free hot dogs and drinks, but those ran out halfway through the evening. Allied Health Nursing Chair, Ruby Johnson and her band provided live music during the event.

There were about 25 participants in the Halloween Costume Contest. The winners were 1st place, Hannah McCoy; 2nd place, Molly Cherry; and 3rd place Kallie Thornton. The pumpkin carving contest had around 15 entries. Those winners were: 1st place, Breana Zeutlau with the Ozarka College logo. Karrissa Zeutlau and Zach Zeutlau also placed with their carved pumpkins of a bat and Mario.

Other winners throughout the evening Wynter Kyral won the candy jar contest and Jonah Elrod won the limbo contest.

“This project is funded in part by Grant Award #2006-AH-FX-0054, from the OJJDP, Office of Justice through the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, OIGS.”
Derick Baldridge

"I learned a lot of techniques and we had a lot of fun in the program even when things were stressful!"
-Derick Baldridge

The Ozarka College Culinary Arts program has led several graduates to success in the restaurant industry. Derick Baldridge is no exception. His hard work and dedication to his craft have paid off, as he is now a respected chef in the industry.

After completing the Culinary Arts program in May of 2006, Baldridge was recruited to Aspen, Colorado to intern at the Caribou Club, an upscale private dinner club. Baldridge also worked at the Warm Fork Bar & Grill in West Plains.

For information on the Ozarka College Culinary Arts program, contact the Admissions Department at 870-368-7371.

Paintball Tourney Scheduled to Benefit Scholarships

Practical Nursing students at Ozarka College-Ash Flat are hosting a paintball tournament on November 15 beginning at 10AM at the Ash Flat City Park between the ball fields and the American Veteran's Memorial on Nix Ridge Road. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Ozarka College Foundation and earmarked for scholarship endowments.

The best advice he can give others interested in pursuing a career in the culinary field is to work in a restaurant and get as much experience as possible in the kitchen. As for the culinary program itself, Derick expresses how important it is to keep up with homework in all the other required courses. "It is easy to get behind with the rigorous schedule as a culinary student, but those other classes are important, especially if you plan to be in business for yourself." He goes on to say, "The experiences I had were great. I learned a lot of techniques and we had a lot of fun in the program even when things were stressful!"

The Kopper Kettle specializes in pleasing everyone. They have a wide variety of offerings on the menu including pasta, ribs, steak, sandwiches and fresh smoked meats that are smoked on site. They also offer fresh, homemade desserts. The restaurant is open for breakfast at 6AM Tuesday through Saturday and serves lunch and dinner, closing at 8PM through the week and 9PM on Friday and Saturday. They also offer lunch on Sundays until 2PM. The Kopper Kettle is located at 3564 Hwy 62/412 in Hardy across from the Best Western Hotel.

Derick says most people are surprised at how young he is and was the youngest student in his class at Ozarka when he began right after graduating from Mammoth Spring High School. He credits his Family and Consumer Science teacher, Patricia Doty, on advising him and helping him find his niche in cooking. His other interests include shooting pool and listening to live music. His brother, Justin plays locally in a band called Backflash, and Derick enjoys hearing them play as often as possible.

For information on the Ozarka College Culinary Arts program contact the Admissions Department at 870-368-7371.
AATYC Outstandings Honored at Conference

As a member of the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges (AATYC), which is comprised of two year colleges across the State, Ozarka College participated in the annual conference, which is held every October. This year’s conference on October 11-14 was held for the first time in Rogers at the newly built John Q. Hammons Conference Center.

At the conclusion of the AATYC conference each year, there is an awards brunch to honor of the Academic All-Stars and Outstanding Alumni selected by each of the 22 community colleges throughout the State. This year’s awards brunch was sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

Ozarka College student, Jason Thomas of Melbourne, was selected as the 2008-2009 Academic All-Star. Jason is pursuing a degree in education. When he decided to begin college again at the age of 25, Jason felt as if teaching would be the only career he could live with. After taking an introductory course, he realized that “now I know teaching is the only career I cannot live with without!” He credits his choice in career to his family as well as his involvement with the youth baseball and softball summer league in his community.

Ozarka’s Outstanding Alumnus for 2008-2009 was Sean Reynolds of Mountain Home. Sean, a 2005 graduate of the Culinary Arts program, owns the successful restaurant, Sean’s, which he opened less than a year after graduation from Ozarka. He was unable to attend the awards brunch, but expressed his gratitude for being selected as outstanding alumnus.

As part of the conference, there is an Awards Dinner to honor outstanding faculty and staff members from each of the 22 community colleges represented in the association. This year’s Awards Dinner was sponsored by Wal-Mart.

Bettie Estes of Ash Flat was selected by her peers as Outstanding Faculty member for 2008-2009. Bettie is in her 10th year of teaching at Ozarka College, but she is a seasoned educator. She has taught pre-school through college age students and was an elementary principal at one time. She has a special devotion those students taking developmental courses. “Seeing students start with fundamental courses and go on to complete a college degree,” Bettie states, “is why I have a passion for teaching.”

Nancy Dust of Brockwell was selected as the 2008-2009 Outstanding Staff for Ozarka College. As if Administrative Assistant for the Foundation, Grant Projects and Ozarka College President, Dusty R. Johnston is not enough to keep busy, Nancy Dust is also working on completing her bachelor’s degree from University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Nancy is described as a ‘top notch’ employee who goes above and beyond to ensure Ozarka runs smoothly and efficiently. Her excellent organizational skills and positive attitude make Nancy so reliable and consistent.

Not only was Nancy named as the Outstanding Staff, she was also elected by her peers attending the conference to the AATYC Board of Directors to represent the classified staff. Dr. Johnston was elected to represent the Presidents and Chancellors on the AATYC Board. Dusty & Johnston will each serve three year terms. Public Relations Specialist, Kim Whitten served as Chair for Classified Staff this year, which completed her three year term of service to the AATYC Board of Directors.
Ozarka College officials announced this week that returning Ozarka College students may begin registration for 2009 Spring Semester November 10th. Those students are required to meet with their advisor to plan a class schedule prior to registration.

For any new students who plan to enroll at Ozarka College during the upcoming Spring semester, there will be an early registration at each Ozarka College location where they will have the opportunity to meet with an advisor and plan a course schedule for Spring. New students planning to take Math and English courses must have placement scores, by taking the Compass placement test or have ACT scores on file.

Registration and Compass testing will be held as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 17th</td>
<td>Ash Flat</td>
<td>Compass test at 9AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 18th</td>
<td>Mtn View</td>
<td>Compass test at 9AM &amp; 1PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 19th</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Compass test at 9AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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It is **advised to arrive at least 15 minutes before** the scheduled test time. Acceptable identification must be presented at the time of testing or admission to the test will be denied. Acceptable forms of identification may include current official photo ID such as a driver’s license. Compass testing can also be scheduled at other times by calling the testing coordinator at 870-368-7371.

Students planning to attend registration should submit an Application for Admission either online at ozarka.edu or by contacting the admissions office for a copy. Spring classes begin on January 12, 2009 and a complete schedule can be obtained at www.ozarka.edu, or at any Ozarka location in Ash Flat, Melbourne or Mountain View.

Ozarka College officials encourage any potential or current student to check the website for additions or changes to the course schedule. For further information, contact Ozarka College at (870) 368-7371 or toll free 1-800-821-4335.