Students Give Back to the Community

Everyone in North Central Arkansas has been affected in one way or another by the recent ice storms. One of the most powerful affects was the lack of electricity due to fallen limbs and downed power lines and poles. The electric companies have worked tirelessly for weeks to restore power to thousands of customers.

The North Arkansas Electrical Cooperative, based in Salem, with an office in Ash Flat, is the cooperative electric company which serves Baxter, Izard, Sharp, and Fulton Counties. The men and women who work for NAEC, as well as other electric cooperatives from around Arkansas and other states have put in many long hours during this disaster, some working well into the night under unpleasant conditions. These workers have to eat and get rest at some point, but with so many reporting in each night, it has been quite an undertaking to provide meals.

NAEC contacted Ozarka to inquire if the Culinary Department would be available to help out with meals. Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Michael Delong states, “When we were contacted about the culinary students cooking and serving food to these workers, there was no doubt that they would want to step up and volunteer their time. Upon discussing the idea with instructors, Linda Taylor and Mimi Newsome, they wanted to take this on as a service learning project for their department.”

For three consecutive days, the students and instructors prepared and served food to over 200 workers per night. Instructor, Linda Taylor says, “It was quite a responsibility for us to do this in addition to our other activities and classroom work, but it has been a great learning experience for the students.”

This was treated as a learning project and the students actually planned the menu, cooked the food and set up to serve each day’s meal. Every culinary student worked at least one night, loading and carrying the food to the Ash Flat office of NAEC. Taylor and Newsome were there every night to supervise the activities.

Taylor adds, “We are glad to have had the opportunity to give back to the NAEC and other co-op workers. This was rewarding for all of us and we are very proud to have served those giving their time and energy to help restore our area’s electricity.”

The workers were served buffet style, but students and instructors were on hand to keep the line replenished for the hungry men & women.

Around Campus

- Collegiate Ministry Meetings are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m., in the Dining Hall.
- Nursing Applications Accepted Feb 1 - April 2
- American Red Cross Blood Drive Feb 15th OCMV 9A-1P Melbourne on Feb 19th 8A-3P
- Financial Aid Workshops Feb 15th @6PM OCMV 107 Feb 16th @6:30PM for Melbourne HS - OC Lecture Hall
- US Census Enumerator Test Tuesdays 10A- OCAF Lecture Hall.

FOR THE MOST CURRENT EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS CHECK THE ONLINE CAMPUS CALENDAR AT WWW.OZARKA.EDU UNDER NEWS & EVENTS
Student Conference Set for Feb 27

Ozarka College will host a Student Conference for all Ozarka students on Friday, February 27, 2009, beginning at 9AM and continuing until 2PM. The conference will take place in the John E. Miller Educational Complex at the main campus in Melbourne.

This year’s event, which is sponsored by TRiO Student Support Services, Carl Perkins Grant, Career Pathways Initiative, and Ozarka College is open to any Ozarka students at no charge. Lunch will be provided to those who attend the conference.

The conference theme of technology will be carried throughout each workshop. Topics for the workshops include: New Technologies, Financial Planning, Graphing Calculator, Kuder Portfolio Tools, Google Tools, myOzarka, First-time Home Buying, Cell Phone productivity tools, Internet Research Tools, Web tools for Health, Online Job Searches, and Electronic Communication.

Door prizes will be provided and the first 20 students who sign up and attend the conference will receive a free t-shirt. Registration locations are: TRiO SSS, Career Pathways, Student Success Center, Ash Flat Office, Mountain View Office, and Student Services Office. Contact Deltha, Shelia or Ronda for more information at 870-368-7371.

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The event will take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 from 1:00-3:30 PM, in the halls of the John E. Miller Education Complex on the main campus in Melbourne. All students are welcome to attend.

Many institutions will be available including: ASU Jonesboro, ASU Mountain Home, University of Central Arkansas, Williams Baptist College, University of Arkansas Little Rock, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville, Henderson State University, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the Arkansas Student Loan Association.

TRiO Transfer Specialist, John Petersen states, “Students won’t want to miss this! It could be the doorway to a great future.” For further information contact Petersen at 870-368-2039 or email jpetersen@ozarka.edu.

TRiO to Host College Transfer Day

The TRiO SSS Department of Ozarka College is once again hosting a College Transfer Fair. College representatives from four year colleges around the state will be at Ozarka College to offer students all the information needed about their different degree programs, available scholarships and transferring.

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-John Petersen
Senior Preview Day for Say Go College Week

As part of Say Go College Week, Ozarka College will be hosting a Senior Preview Day on Friday, February 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the Melbourne Campus. All area high school seniors are invited to attend the preview day and will have the opportunity to visit with faculty, staff, financial aid, and current students about the opportunities available to them at Ozarka College.

For students interested in attending Ozarka, Admissions and Financial Aid staff will be available to assist with the enrollment process. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the John E. Miller Building Lecture Hall. If you have questions or would like more information about this event, please contact the Admissions Office at 870-368-2028.

February 22nd is College Goal Sunday. College Goal Sunday is a one-day event to help students and their families complete the FAFSA, which is the application for financial aid for education beyond high school. Ozarka College is participating the event and will have Financial Aid officers available at the University of Arkansas Community College in Batesville (UACCB) from 2-4PM in the Main Building computer lab. For information on what to bring and where to go, visit www.arcollegegoalsunday.org a week prior to the event.

Visit the Say Go College Week website (www.saygocollege.com) for information on a fun YouTube video contest for high school students (grades 9-12), college students, or college graduates to participate in and enter for a chance to win an iPod.

Dance Class to Start at Ozarka

Ozarka College’s continuing education department will offer a non-credit ballroom dance class at the Melbourne campus on Monday evenings from March 2 through April 6.

The class will meet on Monday nights at 6 pm for an hour each week. Students will learn 8 to 10 basic ballroom dance steps in this course taught by Bob Schrienk, experienced instructor for the Fred Astaire Studio in Ohio.

Cost for each student is $45.00 and enrollment is limited. To register, contact Karla Rush at 368-7371.
Stone County Resource Council Establishes Third Scholarship

Ozarka College has received a third gift from the Stone County Community Resource Council (SCCRC) in Mountain View. The Council now has endowments to assist three students in the Stone County area.

SCCRC President Jim Qualls presented the third $10,000 gift to Ozarka President Dusty Johnston at the SCCRC office in Mountain View in January. Ozarka Foundation and SCCRC board members were also present.

The Resource Council supports the local food ministry, promotes volunteerism in the community and provides clothing and other necessities to low-income families in the area.

The Stone County Community Resource Council Endowed Scholarships will be awarded to three students annually. Recipients will receive $500 for the academic year provided the student meets federal financial aid eligibility guidelines.

For additional details on this new scholarship opportunity and other financial aid programs available at Ozarka College, call 870-368-7371 or 800-821-4335.