Officials from Ozarka College have announced plans for a groundbreaking for their permanent facility at #1 College Drive in Ash Flat. The ceremony will take place at 2PM on Tuesday, April 6th at the building site and the public is invited to attend the celebration.

The 30 acre tract of land located just off Hwy 62/412, near the Ash Flat ball park, was donated to the college by First National Banking Company and Mr. Bob Watson in March of 2002.

According to Ozarka President, Doug Rush, the building contract was awarded to Noacon, Inc. of Fairfield Bay and they began initial construction last week. Rush adds, “We are confident Noacon will make good progress to complete the project on time.”

Ozarka’s Culinary Arts Department will provide hors d’oeuvres after the ceremony. Ozarka College, based in Melbourne, began offering courses in Sharp County at the Remington Plaza in Ash Flat during the Fall of 2001. College courses are also currently being offered in Mountain View and in several area high schools.

Crews began initial groundwork last week on the building site.
PTK Spring Induction Ceremony

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 its Spring Induction Ceremony, held on March 16, 2004. Ozarka President, Doug Rush, and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Linda Morgan each spoke at the ceremony and congratulated the inductees on their academic success. Morgan also announced that two of Ozarka’s PTK members, TaKara Long and Lynda “Paige” Holloway, had recently been nominated for the All-USA Academic Scholarship from the college. PTK officers assisted in the induction ceremony. The Beta Alpha Eta Chapter officers for 2003-2004 include acting President – Robin Chambers, Records Secretary – Amy Ander- ton, and Treasurer – Remona Neitch. Advisors for the PTK Chapter are Ozarka instructors, Samantha Thornsberry, Michael Orf, and Rick Tankersley.

Students eligible for membership in PTK must have a grade point average of at least 3.50 on twelve hours toward an associate’s degree. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa revolves around the four Hallmarks of Scholarship, Fellowship, Leadership, and Service.

Following the induction, PTK members and guests enjoyed a reception catered by Ozarka’s Culinary Arts students in honor of the new members. The following students were inducted during the ceremony: Susan Andrews, Colleen Dawson, Joyce Densford, Connie Esparza, Courtney Gregory, Jacob Goff, Robert Hines, Carole Liggett, Ronda McLelland, Becky Morrison, John Swan, Roy Tankersley, and Wanda Tutt. Also inducted, but not present, was Melba Arrington.

Spring Gala Tickets Still Available

6:30 p.m. The event will include dinner prepared by the Culinary Arts Department, as well as special entertainment by Eddie Creighton and Friends. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be directed toward the Foundation’s ongoing efforts to provide scholarships and other opportunities for Ozarka students. Tickets for the dinner are $50.00 per person.

The Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors recently announced the date of its annual Spring Gala will be Saturday, April 3, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. The event will include dinner prepared by the Culinary Arts Department, as well as special entertainment by Eddie Creighton and Friends. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be directed toward the Foundation’s ongoing efforts to provide scholarships and other opportunities for Ozarka students. Tickets for the dinner are $50.00 per person.

The Ozarka College Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable foundation to assist with the development and enhancement of programs and facilities at the College by encouraging gifts of money and property and by managing these gifts so as to maintain or increase their value, with all endeavors focusing on expanded educational opportunities for and service to Ozarka’s students and community.

For more information about the Gala, to purchase tickets or to make a donation, please contact Ozarka’s Development Office, at 870-368-7371, or in Sharp County, 870-994-7273.

PBL Blood Drive

The American Red Cross was on the Ozarka College campus for a Blood Drive on March 18th. This event was hosted by Ozarka’s Phi Beta Lambda.

Many Ozarka students and employees donated blood during the drive which took place in the Miller Lobby.

Crystal Hatcher, Red Cross Donor Recruiting Representative out of Jonesboro, reported approximately 40 people donated blood during the day. For the past four years, Ozarka student and PBL member, Remona Neitch has been the PBL Blood Drive Coordinator. Neitch will be graduating in May. For her service over the past four years, Hatcher presented her with a plaque on behalf of the American Red Cross.

“I was very surprised to receive the plaque! It has an honor to be a part of the blood drives for the past four years,” stated Neitch.
“Summer I Online”

Online registration will begin April 5th for Summer I classes that begin on June 1, 2004. Students wishing to register online should check with their advisor for release and contact the Finance Office to pay tuition and fees prior to the end of online registration (May 28th) to reserve a seat in each course. Otherwise, the registration will be dropped.

Summer I classes will be available in Melbourne, Mountain View, Ash Flat, as well as online and telecourses.

Some of the courses offered during Summer I are Computerized Accounting (Internet), Cultural Anthropology (AETN Telecourse), Microbiology & Lab (Melbourne), Business Communications (Melbourne), English Composition I (Ash Flat, Melbourne & Mountain View), World Literature II (Internet), World Civilization I (Ash Flat, Melbourne & Mountain View), College Algebra (Ash Flat, Melbourne & Mountain View), and Oral Communications (Internet).

To see a complete list of the courses available during Summer I term, log on to www.ozarka.edu. For more information please call 870-368-7371.

Culinary Arts Students Conducting Fundraisers

The Ozarka College Drama Club will present the Arkansas Arts Center Tell-A-Tale Troupe’s production of “How to do Homework Without Throwing Up” on Wednesday, April 21, 2004 in the Miller Auditorium on the Melbourne campus of Ozarka College. There are two showings scheduled for the production, one at 9:00 AM and one at 10:30 AM. Tickets for the show are $2.00, with free admission to teachers and bus drivers. Area schools are invited and encouraged to attend this play. The performance will last approximately an hour and a talk-back session with the actors will follow immediately after the play for anyone interested in staying.

This production is based on Trevor Romain’s popular contemporary children’s book and has been adapted for touring by Alan Keith Smith. This story is a humorous advice manual where Danny, the main character, is led through a world of good and bad examples of homework habits by is dog, ‘Virgil.’

Home school groups, private and public schools are invited to attend this event. Tickets may be purchased at the door, but reservations should be made in advance by contacting Cannady at 870-368-2073 or email jcanady@ozarka.edu. When making reservations, please specify which performance the group will be attending, the 9:00AM or the 10:3 AM showing.

- Judy Cannady

Summer I Online

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Culinary Arts Students Conducting Fundraisers

Ozarka College Culinary Arts students are in the process of conducting their Second Annual Cake Drawing. They are selling chances for 24 cakes that will be given away on April 13th. Delivery of the cakes will take place on April 15th.

Chances for the cakes can be purchased by any Culinary students or in Room C120 of the Miller Building. $1.00 buys three chances, or a $5.00 donation gets twenty chances.

Cake varieties will include: chocolate, carrot, chocolate macaroon, silver white cake with coconut icing, and Linda’s infamous cheesecakes!

Culinary students will be holding another drawing on April 13th. Culinary student, Beverly Strauser’s brother has built a cedar chest and donated it to the students for them to giveaway.

Chances for this one-of-a-kind cedar chest can be purchased one chance for a dollar or six chances for five dollars from any culinary student or in Room C120.

The money raised from this fundraiser will help the culinary students finance their trip to the State VICA competition in April.

“This will be our last production of the Spring semester. I hope everyone can attend this hilarious play.”

-Judy Cannady
IST to Host Car Wash

The Information Science Technology students will host a fundraising carwash on Friday, April 2nd between 8AM and 3PM. IST instructor, Steve Benoit invites everyone to “get their car clean and shiny after a winter’s worth of accumulation!”

The carwash will take place behind the Miller Educational Complex. Anyone on the Melbourne campus interested in having their car cleaned, can contact Benoit via email to let him know and a student will pick-up the vehicle at the desired time, wash and return it safely. “Alternatively, drive over and enjoy watching the students work,” adds Benoit.

Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will be used for educational opportunities for the IST students.

For more information, call Steve Benoit at 870-368-2039 or email sbenoit@ozarka.edu.

Ozarka College representatives were on hand March 26th & 27th at the FNBC Annual Home, Garden & Sports Show in Ash Flat. Jim Fenton, James Spurlock (both pictured), Kim Whitten, and Steve Benoit visited with the many people who attended the show about Ozarka College, the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony, and the construction which began last week. Around 3500 people attended the show this year.