Ozarka Relay for Life Team Hosting Upcoming Events

The Ozarka College Izard County Relay for Life team has several activities planned this month with proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society.

On Tuesday, March 31st, from 10:30 AM-2:00PM, the Ozarka team will host a bake sale in the dining room of the main building.

A silent auction will be held April 8-9 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM in the dining room of the main building.

On April 30th, from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, there will be a hot dog lunch for $5.

The Ozarka Relay Team is also selling Tupperware through April 13th. Contact Wanda McConnaughhay in Admissions 368-2024, Nancy Dust in the President’s Office 368-2006, Jenny Miller in the Success Center 368-2056, or Charlotte Knox in Career Pathways at 368-2041 for a brochure.

Ozarka College employees will be able to wear jeans on Thursdays during the month of April for a $20 donation prior to the first Thursday, or $5 per day.

For further information, contact co-chairs, Jenny Miller or Wanda McConnaughhay at their numbers listed above, or via email. jmiller@ozarka.edu and wmconnaughhay@ozarka.edu.

Around Campus

♦ Collegiate Ministry Meetings are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m., in the Dining Hall.
♦ American Red Cross Blood Drive Mar 30th 9A-2P Room AF109
♦ Real Estate CE Mar 31 from 8A-4:30P in the Lecture Hall.
♦ Lyon College Rep Apr 1st from 10A-2P in the Student Center /Main Bldg.
♦ Mtn. View Chamber of Commerce meeting - April 7 at 5PM in Room MV107.
♦ Spring Carnival - April 16th (see page 3 for details).

FOR THE MOST CURRENT EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS CHECK THE ONLINE CAMPUS CALENDAR AT WWW.OZARKA.EDU UNDER NEWS & EVENTS
Judy Smith is a testament to Ozarka College’s mission of providing life changing experiences through education. Because of her hard work and determination through many hard knocks of life, Judy now has the career of being an elementary teacher at Evening Shade’s Math and Science School, something she has dreamed of for many years.

A native of Evening Shade, Judy began substituting at the school over 20 years ago. She became a teacher’s aide in 1996 and worked in that capacity through 2007. Her college education began in 2001 and the journey was finally complete last May when she graduated from Arkansas Tech University with a Bachelor of Science in P4 Education. She had a job waiting for her with Evening Shade Math & Science School.

Because Judy was 40 when she enrolled at Ozarka, she explains her struggle with getting started, "I finally got the nerve up to enroll at Ozarka College. I told myself that the years were going to pass whether I enrolled or not. In the end, I could either tell myself, "I wish I had put out the effort,' or 'I'm glad I did put out the effort.' After all is said and done, I can proudly say, 'I'm glad I did it!'"

Ozarka College’s partnership with ATU to articulate the Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) into their curriculum to obtain a Bachelor degree in Pre-K through fourth grade Education allowed Judy to take her courses online.

“I am grateful for the online program offered at Arkansas Tech as I would not have been able to make the drive to a larger university to complete my bachelor’s degree.”

Michelle Cooper, AAT coordinator and instructor at Ozarka was impressed with Judy’s determination to complete her goals. “Judy overcame so many obstacles while going to school and kept a positive attitude the entire time, never complaining or making excuses.” The obstacles Judy had to overcome included breast cancer with chemotherapy and radiation, divorce, raising her daughter, all while working fulltime.

Cooper adds, “If Judy can make it with the challenges she faced, I think anyone who is determined can too!”

Smith’s advice to others: “Don’t give up on your dream! The hardest part is getting started, but the faculty and staff at Ozarka will help students with anything and they will go out of their way to keep students motivated.”

Along with her love of teaching, Judy’s family plays a integral part in her life. Her daughter Lori is a Kindergarten teacher at Evening Shade. Her parents Juney and Bobbie Smith; and brother, Randy and his family have been a support system for Judy.

Ozarka College can provide the foundation coursework to pursue a degree in education, through the Associate of Arts in Teaching or the Associate of Arts programs. Contact Admissions for further information at 870-368-7371.

Non-Traditional Student Fulfills Dream of Teaching

“Don't give up on your dream! The hardest part is getting started, but the faculty and staff at Ozarka will help students with anything and they will go out of their way to keep students motivated.”

-Judy Smith
Ozarka College to Offer Child Care Training April & May

Ozarka College will offer courses in child care orientation training (CCOT) during April or May at the main campus in Melbourne. This training is being offered in partnership with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education of the Arkansas Department of Human Services and the University of Arkansas.

This program is recommended for childcare personnel with little or no training in a child care setting. Graduates from the CCOT course are also eligible to apply for Child Development scholarships applicable for further training offered by Ozarka College.

Topics to be covered in this CCOT course include child growth and development, children’s health, developmentally appropriate practice, handling emergencies, child safety, communication, observation, assessment/accountability and human diversity.

Participants can attend Monday night classes, which will be held on April 13, 20, 27, and May 4 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Another class will be held on May 7, 11, and 12 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Amy Pinkston, Director of Ozarka Kids Academy, will be the instructor for the CCOT course.

Even though this training is provided free of charge, enrollment is limited. To register, call 870-368-7868.

Ozarka College to Hold Spring Carnival April 16

Ozarka College is hosting a Spring Carnival in Melbourne from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 16th in front of the John E. Miller Education Complex. The Spring Carnival will be FREE to Ozarka College students, their families and the community.

Many departments, programs and student organizations will be involved in the event. There will be contests, fun, food and games for children of all ages. Some of the activities will include a bounce house, the National Guard Rock Climbing Wall, face painting, ring toss, and pick up ducks, clowns, balloons and other carnival type activities. Everything at the event will be FREE of charge and open to the public.

For further information or questions about this event, contact Jennifer Miller at 368-7371 or jmiller@ozarka.edu.

GED Testing Schedule for April

The GED Test will be given at Ozarka College in Melbourne, Arkansas on April 8 & 15 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 516 of the Wyth Duke Adult Education Building.

The test will also be given at the following locations in April:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Testing Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth Spring, AR</td>
<td>Simmons First National Bank</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>April 6 &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Flat, AR</td>
<td>Annex Courtroom</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>April 7 &amp; 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain View, AR</td>
<td>Ozarka College</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>April 7 &amp; 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem, AR</td>
<td>Courthouse</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>April 9 &amp; 27</td>
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</tbody>
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You must present an Arkansas photo ID, a Social Security Card, and proof of passing Practice Test scores dated within the last year. There is no cost to take the GED Test. However, if you plan on taking the test at any of these locations, you MUST register by calling Ozarka College at 368-7371 or 1-800-821-4335 before the day of the test. Because of increased demographic information needed, it will be necessary to allow two days for the testing.
The Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors will host a concert on April 3, at 7PM at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View with proceeds to benefit the Jean Jennings Endowment fund. The concert will feature several local performers including the Leatherwoods, Clancey and the Ragtags, Pamela G. and Jackie B., Cobb Brothers, and Gary Rounds with Pam Kirby and Danny Dozier.

Corporate sponsor for this event is The Bank of Mountain View. David Campbell will serve as Master of Ceremony. Leon Jennings has donated two handmade white oak baskets to be auctioned with proceeds to benefit the scholarship.

Jennings was a musician for over 46 years and performed with the original Rackensack Society and most recently with the Leatherwoods. She passed away in 2005 after a four year battle with cancer.

Foundation Board Member, Susan Kemp, who was also a longtime friend of Jennings, states, "Jean was a beloved lady in Mountain View who had an unselfish spirit and positive attitude. She was active in the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce, Committee of 100, Stone County Medical Center Board, and PEO."

The children of Jean Jennings are pleased that their mother is being remembered in this way and add, "The benefit that this scholarship will bring to deserving students will continue to honor our mother's memory."

Once fully funded, this scholarship will provide a $500 scholarship annually to a Stone County student attending Ozarka College.

Admission to the concert is $10 with all proceeds benefiting the Jean Jennings Endowment Scholarship. Tickets are available at the Bank of Mountain View, Ozarka College, Ozark Folk Center, and Country Time Restaurant. For more information contact Ozarka College - Mountain View at 870-269-5600.