Ozarka College and the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) present the Arkansas’ Two-Year Colleges Academic All-Stars scholarship program. One student is selected to receive a $500 scholarship and represent Ozarka as the All-Star at the AATYC annual conference.

The Academic All-Stars program is designed to reward excellence in academics and leadership at each two-year college in Arkansas.

To be eligible, students must expect to be enrolled at Ozarka College through Spring 2009, have completed at least 24 credit hours in pursuit of an Associate degree by the end of the current Spring semester, and have a cumulative GPA of not less than 3.25.

Along with the $500 scholarship, students are also offered full transfer scholarships to most four year colleges and universities in the State of Arkansas to continue their education. This is a huge opportunity for anyone planning to transfer and could be worth thousands of dollars saved in tuition!

For more information or to obtain an application packet, contact Vice President of Student Services, Ron Helm at rhelm@ozarka.edu, or 368-2027.

Ozarka Commencement Speaker Announced

The 2008 Ozarka College Commencement will take place on May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the John E. Miller Auditorium.

This year’s commencement speaker will be Deputy Director of Administration and Finance Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Randy Zook. Zook and his wife, Diane live in Melbourne. Randy is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and has been involved in Economic Development at some level his entire life and knows the importance of education to economic development.

Graduation practice will be held in the John E. Miller Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday May 6. Graduates will meet in the Lecture Hall at 6:00 p.m. On the night of commencement. Caps and gowns may be picked up May 1–8 at the Ozarka College Bookstore.

The last day to file Intent to Graduate form to participate in the graduation ceremony is April 11, 2008. If you plan to participate in the graduation ceremony, please contact Ron Helm, Vice President for Student Services by e-mail rhelm@ozarka.edu.

A photographer will be available in the Conference Room of the John E. Miller Education Complex prior to graduation from 5:00–6:30 p.m. as well as after the ceremony.
Instant Piano Workshop in Ash Flat

For the eighth year, Ozarka College Continuing Education Department will sponsor a workshop titled “Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People”. The class will meet from 6:00-9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, in the Lecture Hall of Ozarka College – Ash Flat on College Drive.

During the evening, students will be able to learn all the chords needed to play any song, in any style, in any key. Topics include how chords work in music, musician “shortcuts”, how to “speed read” sheet music, how to handle different keys and time signatures, and simple techniques of “counting” music. Students will have access to a keyboard to practice skills being presented in the class.

Instructor David Haynes holds a master’s degree in music education with 25 years experience in teaching. He has played the piano since the age of six, spending his high school and college years accompanying numerous soloists and choirs and twice as piano soloist performing concertos with college and university orchestras. He now teaches private lessons in the Chattanooga area and conducts workshops in colleges all over the Southeastern United States. Mr. Haynes offers the Instant Piano course so that “anyone who knows where to find middle C on the keyboard has sufficient musical background”.

The cost for this seminar includes $49.00 tuition which is payable to Ozarka College plus a separate materials fee of $25.00 for a book and a 60-minute practice CD to be provided by the instructor. Because space is limited, preregistration is required. Contact Kim Lovelace at 870-368-7371, 994-7273, or toll free 800-821-4335.

Career Seminar

TRiO Student Support Services will host a Career Seminar open to all Ozarka College students on April 23rd from 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. The theme for this event is Recession Proof Careers. John Petersen, Transfer Specialist for TRiO is organizing the event which will include nursing, criminology and social work careers, and others. To sign up to attend this event, contact Petersen or Shelia Titus in the TRiO office at 368-2039 or 2036.

Ozarka to Offer Child Care Training

Ozarka College will offer two courses in child care orientation training (CCOT) in April 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 may choose to attend the Tuesday night classes, which will be held on April 1, 8, & 15 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. or the Thursday night classes, which will be held on April 3, 10, 17, & 24 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 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.
Foundation Hosting Concert Honoring Jean Jennings

The Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors will host a concert on April 5, at 7PM at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View for the Jean Jennings Endowment fund. The concert will feature several local performers including the Leatherwoods, the River Rats, New Creation, and Gary Rounds with Pam Kirby and Danny Dozier. The Bank of Mountain View is the corporate sponsor for this event.

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 Mrs. 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, Country Time Restaurant, and Cornerstone Shoppe.

The Ozarka College Student Success Center and Arkansas Collegiate Drug Education Coalition will host an event to include a pedal kart and course to navigate while wearing fatal vision goggles at each Ozarka location during the month of April. This hands-on demonstration will simulate what it is like to drive drunk.

Anyone interested in participating in this event may attend in the parking lot between the Miller and Hall building on Thursday, April 10th between 11AM-2PM. The course will also be set up in the parking lots of the campuses in Ash Flat on April 17 and Mountain View on April 24.

Participants will receive free sodas and key chains for attending.

For further information, contact Jenny Miller in the Student Success Center at 870-368-2056.

“The benefit that this scholarship will bring to deserving students will continue to honor our mother’s memory.”

-Jennings’ children

Please Pass Me to Someone Sober

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For further information, contact Jenny Miller in the Student Success Center at 870-368-2056.
PTK Hosted Annual Easter Egg Hunt for OKA

The students of Phi Theta Kappa once again held their annual Easter Egg Hunt for approximately 40 young students from the Ozarka Kids Academy. Several members of PTK, led by advisors Tracie Morris and Melissa Martin stuffed and hid more than 500 eggs for the children, as well as monitoring the hunt to ensure the children were kept safely on the grounds of the campus.

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.

There will be a Spring semester induction ceremony for new PTK members on Monday, April 7th at 6PM in the Lecture Hall of the John E. Miller Education Complex. Everyone is invited to attend the event.