

Ozarka College Connection

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Lunch Served 11AM-12:30 PM Daily.
Cost: \$3.00 or \$3.50 with dessert.

MENU:

Mon 1/22
Chef Salad
Tue 1/23
Baked Fish
Wed 1/24
Spaghetti & Salad
Thu 1/25
Baked Chicken
Fri 1/26
Sub Sandwich

Mon 1/29
Chicken Fried Steak
Tue 1/30
Fried Chicken
Wed 1/31
Pork Roast
Thu 2/1
BBQ Plate
Fri 2/2
Burrito Bake

"Uncle Wally" Remembered



Ozarka College lost a valuable member of its faculty on January 5, 2007. Dr. Wally Pittman, known affectionately by his students as "Uncle Wally," taught social science classes at Ozarka for ten years after he and his wife, Mary Lou, moved to Horseshoe Bend from Prescott (South Arkansas) in 1996.

Besides family -especially his grandchildren- and teaching, Pittman's passion was fishing. In fact, he and Mary Lou had recently moved to their new home in Cotter on the White River. A quote on his office door reads: "...believing that on the river you can find solitude without loneliness."

Wally had expressed one word to sum up what he liked most about Ozarka: "Students." He had stated a few years back during an interview, "I enjoy all the students, but I really find non-traditional students interesting. The contribution they bring to class is priceless and they usually do not realize how much life knowledge they have to offer. It is really great to watch them gain self-confidence in class."

Uncle Wally will be missed by many of those students that he enjoyed teaching, as well as his colleagues and friends at Ozarka. There is a discussion on my.ozarka.edu for those students wanting to post memorials.

Mrs. Pittman has requested in lieu of flowers, to please donate to Ozarka College Foundation in Pittman's name. For more information contact the Development office 368-2059.

Culinary's Restaurant Night: Valentine Dinner

The Ozarka College Culinary Arts Department will hold a Restaurant Night in honor of Valentine's Day, on Friday, February 9th. This dinner will be reserved seating only between 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM in the Main, Administration Building in the Dining Room.

The menu selection for this dinner will be ala carte with prices based on the entrée selected. The feature entrée is a Chateaubriand Platter for two. There will be other entrées and menu selections available including a seafood choice.

According to Culinary Instructor, Linda Taylor, "restaurant night has become a time-honored learning method for our culinary students and a favorite for the community!" She adds, "This real world application allows students the opportunity to serve the public in a real, restaurant style setting. The students also prepare the food and presentation for the meal."

Seating is limited, please contact the Culinary Arts Department at 870-368-2062 for reservations.

Around Campus

- ◆ **Collegiate Ministry Meetings** are Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m., in the Dining Hall.
- ◆ **Harriet Tubman: The Underground Railroad** Drama Club play Wed. Jan. 24 10:00 AM Miller Auditorium.
- ◆ **PTK Meeting** Jan. 30, 11:00 AM C116 Compressed Video -Miller Complex.
- ◆ **FBLA High School Competition Day** January 31st

CHECK THE NEW ONLINE CAMPUS CALENDAR FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Ozarka Begins *Student Success Series*



Ozarka College has grown by leaps and bounds over the last few years. In fact, Ozarka has doubled in size over the last ten years with enrollment reaching an all time record this past fall and the addition of two permanent off campus sites in Ash Flat and Mountain View.

With so many students attending and graduating from Ozarka College, there is a myriad of success stories around Ozarka's service area. Ozarka hopes to randomly showcase some of these successes throughout the year.

First National Banking Company (FNBC) has many employees who have attended and/or graduated from Ozarka College. One employee, Karen Schisler, is proud of her achievements both with the bank and with her education. Karen began working for FNBC in 1995 as a part-time teller. About that same time she was a student in Ozarka's Business Technology Program.

She not only graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Technology, she came back to Ozarka College in 1999 to obtain an additional degree in banking and finance to help with her career.

Schisler has been promoted several times during her tenure at FNBC, including eight years as a Loan Assistant at the bank's main branch in Ash Flat. In August, she moved to the newest branch in Mountain Home as the Mortgage Loan Originator.

The Community President for the Mountain Home branch of FNBC, Ron Proctor states that Karen is a positive addition to the Mountain Home banking team and adds, "I have been very impressed with Karen's home lending knowledge and she has already developed an excellent reputation with her customers, realtors, and closing agents. Karen is known for her excellent communication to her clients and I am confident Ozarka is proud to showcase her success as a graduate of their fine institution."

Karen says the best feature of Ozarka is the caring and understanding faculty and staff that work at the institution. "Had it not been for the scheduling flexibility that my instructors granted me with my fulltime job, I would not have been able to finish my degree in a timely manner. They realize that many of their students are working adults who have families." She further adds, "Ozarka College is a true asset to our community both for their considerate employees and the affordability and convenience that is offered."

When asked what advice she would give to a current student at Ozarka, she says, "To be persistent in obtaining an education. Don't let anyone or anything stop you from getting that degree, because in the long run you will appreciate it!"

Karen's husband, Andy is an Emergency Medical Technician with Spring River Paramedic Ambulance and they have a six year old daughter, Caitlyn. They recently relocated to Gassville from Cherokee Village. Karen enjoys spending time with her family as well as her hobby of scrapbooking.

"Ozarka College is a true asset to our community both for their considerate employees and the affordability and convenience that is offered."

-Karen Schisler

Ozarka to Offer Child Care Training

Ozarka College will offer a course in child care orientation training (CCOT) in November 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.

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Big Read at Ozarka Presents The Big Events



Ozarka College will present The Big Events as part of its month-long celebration of The Grapes of Wrath on Tuesday, February 6 at 10:00 a.m., at Ozarka-Mountain View, and 1:00 p.m., in Melbourne; on Thursday, February 8 at 10:00 a.m., at Salem High School, and 1:00 p.m. at Ozarka -Ash Flat .

Ozarka College is one of 72 communities nationwide participating in the Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA sponsors the Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest.

The Big Event will feature Nancy Steinbeck, former spouse of John Steinbeck IV, the youngest son of John Steinbeck, who died in 1991. Ms. Steinbeck will conduct readings from their dual memoir, The Other Side of Eden: Life with John Steinbeck.

Ozarka's Director of Planning and Special Projects, Joan Stirling, who is organizing the Big Read said, "The characters created by John Steinbeck in The Grapes of Wrath are so real and true to life that one is awed by the genius of the author. Steinbeck gives so much dignity to the common man, who has been reduced to a shameful existence by life's twists and turns that one is awed by the goodness of the author."

Stirling continues, "As an awe-struck reader, one cannot help but wonder what life was like for this Nobel prize winning genius, who honored the common man. Was his existence smooth and easy? Was it filled with as many twists and turns as experienced by his characters? The Other Side of Eden: Life with John Steinbeck shows us verbal snapshots of the darker and more troubled dynamics in the life of this literary icon, as seen through the eyes of a son, from childhood through adulthood. Nancy Steinbeck writes of the tragic ripple effect that manifested throughout her marriage to John IV by combining her memories with his.

"Both books, which cover together a time span from the 1930's through the year 2000, have highly relevant lessons for us today. Please join us at the Big Event as we kick-off The Big Read! All gain wisdom the hard way through life itself, but, if we are smart, we can gain wisdom through reading and circumvent life's hardships for ourselves. The reading of these two books will do this for us.

"We are so privileged to have Nancy Steinbeck share with us her insight into the life of the author, his son, and life in general by reading from their memoir. This opportunity does not come our way very often."

For more information on this event, please contact Stirling at jstirling@ozarka.edu or 870-368-2007. Other events taking place during the month of February include the Big Discussion in Melbourne on February 23, and the Big Eat and Fashion Show in Melbourne on February 28. View a full calendar of events for the Big Read at ozarka.edu.

CCOT (continued from Page 2)

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.

Classes meet February 6, 8, 13, and 15 from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 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.

Ozarka College

P.O. Box 10
218 College Drive
Melbourne, AR 72556



Ozarka College

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Ozarka Announced Expansion of LPN Program

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing approved the request by Ozarka College to implement Licensed Practical Nursing programs at the off-campus sites in Ash Flat and in Mountain View at their quarterly meeting on January 11. The proposal was produced and submitted by Ozarka College Director of Nursing, Ruby Johnson, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Mike DeLong, and President, Dr. Dusty R. Johnston.

The program will utilize classroom space at the present Ozarka College locations in Ash Flat and Mountain View, as well as numerous clinical sites provided by supportive health care entities in the region. White River Medical Center was represented at the meeting by Joe Walls and Karen Craft to

show support for the implementation of the program.

"Ozarka College was pleased at the number of letters of support for the program submitted with the proposal by area health care entities," stated Johnston. "The diligent efforts of Ruby Johnson and other college personnel, along with the community support were crucial to the approval by the board of nursing."

He adds, "The expansion of the LPN program to the off-campus sites in Ash Flat and Mountain View gives Ozarka College another avenue to serve the students, the communities, and the allied health employers in our service area of north central Arkansas. Students selected into the programs will be

able to attend classes with more convenience and less travel, communities will benefit from more educational opportunities, and allied health employers will have more home grown licensed practical nurses to hire into the workforce. Ozarka College is happy to be moving forward with this important expansion."

The Ozarka College LPN program faculty and staff will be working hard to implement the new nursing programs beginning in the Fall semester of 2007. The new programs will include all appropriate course work, but will be condensed to an eleven month program starting in August and ending in July. Application information will be available soon.