



Ozarka College Connection

VOLUME IX, ISSUE 10

JULY, 2010

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Ozarka College will observe Summer Hours:
Monday-Thursday
7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays through July 30.
Regular hours Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-4:30p.m. begin August 2nd

From the Kitchen

Sign up for Text alerts each morning for the daily menu in my.Ozarka

Now serving a grilled item each day, along with a Salad Bar, Soup, Chicken Strip, and the daily entrée. The menu is online so check it out!
Lunch Served 11AM-12:30 PM

Groundbreaking in Mountain View August 10

Officials from Ozarka College have announced plans for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Student and Nursing Education Center to be located on Ozarka College Drive in Mountain View. A short ceremony will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 10 at the building site with a reception to follow in the current facility. The public is invited to attend the celebration.

The permanent home of Ozarka College - Mountain View opened in August of 2005 after ten acres of land was purchased by the college in May of 2003. Enrollment has grown each year since the facility opened and the Ozarka College Board of Trustees recognized the need for additional space and unanimously approved a resolution to provide construction funding through institutional bond re-structure at the quarterly meeting last Fall. Bond sales were finalized in early December, an architect was selected, and planning the facility began immediately.

President Dr. Richard Dawe explains the expansion at the Stone County site includes classrooms, offices and parking space. "Central to this project is a Student Center as well as a dedicated lab for the Mountain View nursing program. We have an increasing need overall for space as we continue to experience enrollment growth in Stone County."

Dawe adds, "The architectural firm of Polk, Stanley and Wilcox has worked diligently to incorporate the culture of Stone County into a state-of-the-art educational facility to meet the needs of the community. The building contract was officially awarded to Noacon, Inc. from Fairfield Bay. The parking

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Summer II Enrollment Record

After the record increase experienced during the Summer I term, Ozarka College is now having record enrollment for Summer II which began on July 6.

"Enrollment has risen 41% during this semester, which is generally lower than the first summer session," according to Vice President for Student Services, Ron Helm. "In 2009 we had 176 students in Summer II classes, and we currently have 249 students enrolled. This includes classes at our main campus in Melbourne and the off-campus sites in Ash Flat and Mountain View; as well as online courses." Helm notes that the online headcount is actually the highest during this term.

The increase is significantly credited to the expanded course offerings and the recent restructuring of the Federal Pell Grant program which opened up new financial aid opportunities for those students taking summer classes. Helm explains, "the improved program allows students to accelerate the completion of their degree and certificate programs by taking classes year round."

For more information about educational opportunities at Ozarka College call or email admissions at 870-368-7371, admissions@ozarka.edu or log on the website at www.ozarka.edu.

Around Campus

- **Summer II - Last Day to Withdrawal with an "W"**
August 4
Finals August 5
- **Open Registration for Fall 2010:** August 17-20
- **Orientation:**
Wed. August 18: Mtn. View
Thu. August 19: Ash Flat
Fri. August 20: Melbourne
Each day's activities begin at 1:00 p.m.
- **Fall Classes Begin August 23, 2010**

FOR THE MOST CURRENT EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS CHECK THE ONLINE CAMPUS CALENDAR AT WWW.OZARKA.EDU UNDER NEWS & EVENTS

Smith Joins Ozarka Student Services in Mammoth Spring



“Considering her true passion and enthusiasm for education, along with her connections and familiarity of the residents in the Northern Fulton County and Southern Missouri, we are fortunate that she has offered her help.”
-Ron Helm
VP for Student Services

In December of 2009, the Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors welcomed three new members from the northern Fulton County area. Leta Montgomery, Rose Pierce, and Jo Kay Smith were unanimously appointed to serve on the Foundation Board and have already proven to be great advocates for the college.

Jo Kay Smith is a long time resident of Mammoth Spring and retired from the Mammoth Spring School District after 37 years of service. She also has been an adjunct instructor for Ozarka College for several years. Smith is now giving her time and talent

to promote, recruit and educate those prospective students in that region.

Mammoth Spring Mayor Jean Pace, also on Ozarka's Foundation, offered a space in the Mammoth Spring City Hall for Ozarka College staff to meet residents wanting more information about Ozarka College classes, financial aid, and the admissions procedures. Since June 1st, Monday through Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Ozarka has had staff on hand in Mammoth Spring.

According to Vice President for Student Services, Ron Helm, who has been one of

those in Mammoth Spring this summer, “At least one or two days during the week, Jo Kay mans the desk at City Hall and has become quite an asset for the cause. Considering her true passion and enthusiasm for education, along with her connections and familiarity of the residents in the Northern Fulton County and Southern Missouri, we are fortunate that she has offered her help.”

Having previously served on the Fulton County and White River Regional Library Board; Jo Kay is also active in the 21st Century Club, State Democratic Committee and the George D. Hay Foundation.

Ozarka College Awards Faculty of the Year to David Mitchell



Ozarka College has announced Science Instructor, David Mitchell as its 2010 Faculty of the Year.

David will represent Ozarka in October at the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) annual fall conference in Hot Springs.

Mitchell began his career at Ozarka College as a non-traditional student. He graduated with his Associate of Arts degree and continued his education at the University of Central Arkansas receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science and Master's in Biology.

Through his determination and love of the sciences, David joined the science faculty ranks at Ozarka College in Fall 2008. His enthusiasm for the sciences and his students is evident as he is commonly heard

saying, "I'd rather be right here, right now teaching Biology, than be anywhere else in the entire world."

A true advocate for Ozarka and the benefits it provides to individuals and families, David adds, “We say that ‘Ozarka College provides life changing experiences’, and I can personally say that attending Ozarka did change my life! I would have never gone to college, much less pursued a graduate degree, if not for Ozarka having a site in Mountain View.” He goes on to say, “It feels great to be a part of something worthwhile and I hope I can give back a little of what Ozarka has given me and my family.”

David lives in Fox with his wife, Sheila, who is the elementary principal at Rural Special Elementary School. They have one daughter, Echo, who David says is the greatest blessing in their lives. He is a Stone County native, graduating from

Mountain View High School. He enjoys playing music and being outdoors, especially fishing and camping with his family. One fact about Mitchell that might surprise people is that he has traveled across the United States more than once on a motorcycle.

Summarizing his experience with Ozarka College, David says, “Working here gives me the opportunity to teach a subject that I really care about, be outdoors from time to time, and still live in Stone County.”



Welcome New Members of the Ozarka College Family

Stephen Gould Added to Fitness Center Staff



Stephen Gould

Stephen Gould began his new position as Paul Miller Fitness Center Coordinator at Ozarka College the first of July. Stephen has a Physical Education degree from Williams Baptist College and is currently working on a master's degree through Arkansas State University. He has been

coaching and teaching on the high school level for 15 years. Most recently he coached basketball and taught science at the Cedar Ridge school district in his hometown of Newark.

Stephen has initial plans in place to expand the Fitness Center offerings. Some of those include a community health fair, an eight week walking program, and extreme fitness and cardio courses.

Stephen and his wife, Angie and her daughter, Easton Massey, live in Melbourne. They are expecting a baby boy in September. For information on enrollment to the Fitness Center, contact Gould or other Fitness Center staff at 870-368-7371.

Kendra Smith Joins Career Pathways



Kendra Smith

Izard County native, Kendra Smith joined the staff of the Ozarka College Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) on July 19. Smith was hired as a Counselor for the program and will be based in the Melbourne office and serve Mountain View students as well.

Smith has a Journalism degree with a minor in Psychology and Marketing from Arkansas State University. She has worked at

Areawide Media and Pace-setting Times as well as Network of Community Options. Most recently Kendra was a substitute teacher for the Izard County Consolidated School district.

She and husband, Larry, have three children: Charlene, Lucas and Katrina, and live in Franklin. She expressed her enthusiasm about this new opportunity to help people in the community. "Career Pathways has proven to be a beneficial program to remove barriers for those students who want to work hard to

get an education and into the workforce." She adds, "My mother, Joyce Billingsley, instilled in me long ago the belief that I can achieve anything I set my mind to accomplish. I hope to bring the optimistic spirit of that sentiment into every interaction with the students of Ozarka."

For information on enrollment requirements for Career Pathways, contact Ozarka College at 870-368-7371.

Watch for upcoming issues of the Ozarka College Connection to include new fulltime faculty and other staff members who have joined the Ozarka family!

Ash Flat and Mountain View LPN Graduates Honored

Ozarka College's Practical Nursing students in the 11-month programs in Ash Flat and Mountain View were honored at Recognition Ceremonies in June. Mountain View students held their Capping and Pinning in the White Oak Auditorium at the Ozark Folk Center on Monday evening, June 28, 2010. Ash Flat students held their ceremony in the Lecture Hall at Ozarka's site in Ash Flat on Tuesday evening, June 29, 2010.

Students completing their studies in practical nursing in Mountain View were: Kristy Adams of Onia, Tabitha Brooks of Timbo, Samantha Callahan of Timbo, Wesley Campbell of Timbo, Candace Clark of Mountain View, Jayme Flaucher of Mountain View, Chloe Grasse of Calico Rock, Andrew Hayes of Mountain View, Rheanna Henderson of Mountain View, Bonnie Henson of Calico Rock, Susie Lawrence of Mountain View, Amber Lee of Onia, Rhonda Moore of Pleasant Gove, Autumn Romine of Timbo, and Shawn Strutton of Timbo.

Students completing their studies in practical nursing were: Donna Arnold of Evening Shade, Alyse Asher of Hardy, Lindy Brindley of Cherokee Village, Tenile Ellison of Salem, Ashley Hall of Ash Flat, Latisha Hawkins of Hardy, Stephen Jacobsen of Cherokee Village, Kathy Levitt of Cave City, Sonja Miller of Cave City, Malory Mitchell of Cherokee Village, Brittany Morris of Hardy, Elizabeth Negron of Cherokee Village, Ashley Pickle of Cherokee Village, Lisa Sisson of Evening Shade, Erika Wakeham of Cherokee Village, Whitney Wakeham of Cherokee Village, Aaron Wayman of Cherokee Village, Thomas Windsor of Ash Flat, and Lisa Winter of Hardy.



The program at Mountain View included Pastor David Campbell offering an Invocation, Ozarka College President, Dr. Richard Dawe welcoming guests, and students, Kristy Adams and Amber Lee then presenting a slide presentation for the class.

Awards and honors were presented by students and Mountain View nursing instructor, Crystal Gillihan, MHA, BSN, RN. This semester's Florence Nightingale Award went to Autumn Romine. This award is given to a student each year who exemplifies the true meaning of nursing with hard work and a true dedication to the profession.

Students awarded Cindy Branscum of Stone County Health Department, as nurse of the year, and Dr. Nick Piediscalzi as physician of the year. Dr. Piediscalzi offered words of encouragement to the new nurses, recognizing the importance of nurses in health care. He also commended Ozarka College for their work in the community.

Student awards were given as follows: Tabitha Brooks, Autumn Romine, and Candace Clark tied for first place; and Andrew Hayes and Rheanna Henderson tied for second place in clinical awards. Tabitha Brooks was first place, and Shawn Strutton and Kristy Adams tied for second place in theory awards.

After families were honored by the students; nursing faculty presented graduates with caps, pins and lamps. Director of Allied Health, Ruby Johnson, MSN/Ed., RN, then offered closing remarks and Pastor Bryan Wilkie closed with the Benediction.

Gillihan expressed her thoughts regarding the group of graduates, "I am very proud of the accomplishments this group has made. Not only have they represented Ozarka College to the fullest, but they have also learned a tremendous amount concerning their own abilities and leadership. It has been my honor to instruct these students and I look forward to working with them as peers in the future."

For further information regarding nursing programs offered at Ozarka College, please contact the admissions department at 870-368-7371 or via email, admissions@ozarka.edu.

The Ash Flat program began with Sonja Miller offering the Invocation, the welcome by President Dawe, and student, Ashley Hall speaking on behalf of the class of students. Then, Alyse Asher, Sonja Miller, and Lisa Sisson gave a slide presentation assisted by Ash Flat Campus Coordinator, James Spurlock.

Awards and honors were presented by students and Ash Flat nursing instructor, Rebecca Yauilla, RN. This semester's Florence Nightingale Award went to Sonja Miller. Students awarded Felicia Pickett, LPN, as nurse of the year; and Eaglecrest Nursing and Rehab Center as facility of the year.

Student awards were given as follows: Lindy Brindley was first place, and Tenile Ellison was second place in clinical awards. Whitney Wakeham was first place, and Lindy Brindley was second place in theory awards.

After families were honored by the students, nursing faculty presented graduates with caps, pins and lamps. Director of Allied Health, Ruby Johnson, MSN/Ed., RN, then offered closing remarks and student, Thomas Windsor closed with the Benediction.

Yauilla stated how proud she is of this class of students. "This has been an impressive group, who has worked very well together to accomplish their goals. I look forward to seeing them succeed professionally in medical field."

For further information regarding nursing programs offered at Ozarka College, please contact the admissions department at 870-368-7371 or via email, admissions@ozarka.edu.



Successful Music Fundraising Event in Mountain View

The Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors hosted a Music Program at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View on Sunday, June 27, 2010, with proceeds benefitting the Mountain View Building Expansion Campaign.

The event began with a welcome from Gin Brown, Mountain View Campus Coordinator; and Peggy Tupper, Centennial Bank of Mountain View, which served as corporate sponsor. Ozarka College President, Dr. Richard Dawe, gave an overview of naming opportunities for the Student and Nursing Education Center, as well as the second phase of the project, an outdoor amphitheatre which will be available to the community. He offered his appreciation to the community for their support thus far and acknowledged the pledges received to date.

Joe Jewell, a former Ozarka College student emceed the event and introduced the musical line-up which included: The Larry Nelson Family, Ozark Rhythm Cloggers, Sylamore Crossing, the Cobb Brothers, and the trio of Danny Dozier, John Parks and Pam Setser.

Austin Smith, a current Associate of Arts student; and Bonnie Henson, a recent Mountain View LPN graduate, provided student testimonials throughout the program. KFFB 106.1 radio station conducted a giveaway for the concert attendees for \$106.00 at the end of the program.

Director of Development, Suellen Davidson expressed her appreciation to the fundraising organizing committee, led by Gin Brown, and Stone County members of the Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors for their efforts in putting together an outstanding event. "There were over 200 people in attendance for the music festival. All performers gave their time and talent to support this project and we are truly grateful for their generosity."

So far the following sponsorships have been pledged in Phase I of this campaign:

Student Center and Cyber Café	Ozark Heritage Bank
Nursing Education Center	Dr. and Mrs. Richard Dawe
Student Success Center	Stone County Community Resource Council
Conference Room	Don and Lorraine Jordan
General Classroom	Stanley and Gin Brown
Campus Beautification	Stone County Foundation Board members.

Opportunities are still available for naming the Lecture Hall, Technology Classroom, and another General Classroom. The Mountain View building project is scheduled to begin early Fall with a groundbreaking celebration planned for August 10, 2010. Ozarka is seeking a combination of grant funding and community support for the amphitheatre at this time.

For more information about the opportunity to support Ozarka College through this building campaign in Stone County, contact Gin Brown at 870-269-5200 or via email gbrown@ozarka.edu; or the Development Office at 870-368-7371.



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lot construction was awarded to Tri-Co, Inc. out of Horseshoe Bend. Initial construction will begin early Fall, with grand opening tentatively set for Fall 2011."

Phase one of the new 10,500 square foot facility will include classrooms, nursing classroom/lab, lecture hall, student center, and a conference room. Naming opportunities are available for this project. Phase two of the expansion is an outdoor amphitheater which will be available to the community. Ozarka is seeking a combination of grant funding and community support for the amphitheatre at this time.

For more information about the opportunity to support Ozarka College through this building campaign in Stone County, or for more information about the Groundbreaking event, contact Gin Brown at 870-269-5200 or the Development Office at 870-368-7371.

Ozarka College

P.O. Box 10
218 College Drive
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**Our Mission is to
Provide Life-Changing
Experiences Through
Education.**



Walker Participates in Governor's Scholastic Day 2010



Recent Ozarka College graduate, Steven Walker, of Brockwell was selected as a Student Ambassador to assist in Governor Mike Beebe's Scholastic Honors Day held at the Governor's Mansion on May 1. This event takes place each year to recognize outstanding high school scholars from around the State of Arkansas.

Student Ambassadors from Arkansas colleges and universities are selected to attend as volunteers to help host the event and to give the honored high school students an opportunity to ask questions and meet new people from colleges they might be attending.

Walker, who graduated with an Associate of Arts degree on May 13, has been an excellent student during his two years at Ozarka and is looking forward to continuing his education at Arkansas State University where he will pursue a degree in computer technology and middle school math and science. He hopes to work with a local school district as a network administrator or technology coordinator after completing his education.

He joined about 30 other student ambassadors from across the State and met many new people, including staff from the Governor's office and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. He says, "I am honored and appreciative to have been chosen to represent Ozarka College. It was exciting to be able to go to the Governor's Mansion, meet Governor Beebe and many others. It was a great experience!"