

Ozarka College Connection

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Insert: Cast Your Vote for a Historic Tree!

See Insert to Vote on a Historic Tree to Be Planted at OZARKA

Lunch Served 11AM-12:15PM Daily.
Cost: \$3.00 or \$3.50 with dessert.

MENU:

Mon 9/12
Pork Chops
Tue 9/13
Pot Roast & Vegetables
Wed 9/14
Taco Salad
Thu 9/15
Club Sandwich & Chips
Fri 9/16
Catfish
Mon 9/19
Open Roast Beef Sandwich
Tue 9/20
Lasagna & Salad
Wed 9/21
Ham Steak
Thu 9/22
Baked BBQ Chicken
Fri 9/23
Patty Melt

Ozarka College Record Enrollment

Ozarka College has exceeded its record for enrollment during the Fall 2005 semester. With 1052 students currently enrolled, there has been more than an eight percent increase over last Fall. The last record was set in 2002 when 1004 students were enrolled.

According to Interim President of Ozarka College, Gayle Cooper, "We have to credit increased enrollment to the hard work of the many individuals employed at Ozarka College who are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty for our students. The dedication and enthusiasm of the entire Ozarka family is one of our assets in showing our students how much we do care about them and their future."

Cooper goes on to say that the outreach programs which have been realized in Sharp, Fulton and Stone Counties has also been a factor to the increased enrollment. "With our new state-of-the-art facilities in Ash Flat and Mountain View, we are able to increase the class offerings and reach more students in those areas. The added technology through distance learning courses and an increase in web based classes has also become an important part of Ozarka's curriculum because individuals are able to carry on their

day-to-day activities, such as family and jobs, and still obtain an education around their schedules without having to drive great distances. This has become even more important in light of the recent tragic events which have caused gas prices to increase."

Ozarka's interim Vice President of Academics, Gary Phillips along with the entire team of Ozarka employees made a huge push to add evening classes and some Saturday classes to the Fall schedule in order to accommodate additional students. Department Chairs, Judy Cannady, Ruby Johnson, and Kathryn Langston were instrumental with the flexibility of adjunct and fulltime faculty members allowing expanded course offering to become reality, further affecting the increased enrollment.

Another record which has been set during the Fall 2005 semester is the FTE (fulltime enrollment) for Ozarka College. There has been approximately a 14% increase in the fulltime enrollment numbers over the 2004 Fall semester. FTE's play a major role in the funding received by each state institution and those numbers are reported to the Department of Higher Education.

In Arkansas, there has been a significant increase of

enrollment in two-year public institutions above four-year colleges over the past several years. One considerable factor in this trend is the affordability of two-year institutions. It is more feasible for someone who wants to pursue their education to be able to remain in the region of their hometown, especially considering the great number of students who have families and/or children. Another reason for this trend is the atmosphere of a smaller campus. When the student-teacher ratio is substantially lower, students are receiving more personal attention from their instructors, which enhances the learning experience.

Around Campus

- ◆ **Mtn. View Open House**
September 15 @11AM
- ◆ **Brown Bag** Sept. 20 & 22
(Tuesday & Thursday) @11AM
Tue. - ASH FLAT Lecture Hall:
Thu. - MELBOURNE SDR
Thu. - MTN VIEW Rm. 106
Topic: GREECE
- ◆ **Student Council** Sept 13 & Sept 20@11AM Compressed Video Rm (C116) Miller Complex
- ◆ **SAEA** Sept. 22nd @11AM Compressed Video Rm (C116) Miller Complex
- ◆ **PBL Blood Drive** - Sept. 22nd 9:30AM - 4PM Miller Complex
- ◆ **CONSTITUTION DAY!!!!**
SEE PAGE 3 For Information.

Ozarka Assists with Katrina Relief

By now, everyone knows of the tragic occurrence in our neighboring states of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama called "Hurricane Katrina". Thousands of people have been displaced or lost.

Ozarka College has joined in to do its part in assisting with the rescue, cleanup, and victim assistance. Several of Ozarka's student groups have decided to make a donation to the efforts, including Student Council, PTK, and Drama Club.

The weekend after the hurricane, the governor issued a mandate to all state funded colleges and universities for their State vans and drivers to drive to the affected areas for rescue relief. Immediately, Ron Helm, Ronny Rush, Larry Wilkes, David Rush, and Randy Scaggs volunteered their holiday weekend to assist. Even though Ozarka volunteers were on standby throughout the weekend, they were never called into action.

A link to the Red Cross website has been placed on the My.Ozarka.edu homepage by the Information Systems Director, Scott Pinkston, for students or others interested to easily link to the organization.

The LPN Department, including all three classes of LPN students, will be conducting a bake sale at the Melbourne Campus on Thursday and Friday (September 15-16) of this week in the Dining Room and Gazebo beginning at 11 AM. The funds they raise will go toward Hurricane Relief.

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) issued a policy for public universities and colleges throughout the State, which includes Ozarka, that any Arkansas resident enrolled in a New Orleans public or private institution of higher education who had to return to Arkansas may enroll without tuition or mandatory fees. Out-of-State tuition

and fees for non-Arkansas residents is waived for any student from the impacted areas a of Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Ozarka had a new student, Amber Garcia, enroll last week who is a resident of Waveland, Mississippi and was enrolled this Fall at Pearl River Community College. After Katrina hit and her home was destroyed, she and her family are now residing in Mountain View with her parents and she has enrolled at Ozarka College as a fulltime student.

Several of Ozarka's students have also been affected by Katrina. Members of the law enforcement agencies around the area have sent officers to assist in rescue and recovery missions.

PTK has set out boxes in many locations at Ozarka to donate items to hurricane relief efforts and invites everyone to contribute an item.

New Scholarship Opportunity

The Arkansas Association for Developmental Education (ArkADE) has announced a student scholarship in the amount of \$500 for this semester. To qualify students must have completed 12 hours with at least three hours in developmental education coursework, with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To apply students must complete an application form, provide a letter of recommendation from a counselor or instructor at the college, write a one to two page essay outlining educational and career goals, challenges faced as a college student, including financial need not met, and the impact of developmental education courses and learning support of progress toward goals. Further the applicant must provide a current, official transcript with cumulative GPA and a statement from the Registrar's Office validating Fall 2005 enrollment and credit. Deadline to apply is September 30th. Pick up an application form in the Admissions Department at Ozarka or request one via email, admissions@ozarka.edu.



Paul Weaver Library News

Ozarka Celebrates Constitution Week & Citizenship Day

Two hundred and eighteen years ago this week, delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia signed one of the most enduring documents in history: the Constitution of the United States. Our Constitution is the foundation of our liberty and has guaranteed the rights of our people through a history of change and progress.

Ozarka College is celebrating Constitution Week/Citizenship Day during the week of September 12-17. The Paul Weaver Library will feature displays on the Constitution and various other patriotic themes during this week and throughout the semester.

Citizenship Day, observed on September 17 since its official declaration in 1952 by President Harry Truman, was set aside as a day in which groups and individuals alike celebrate the freedoms, privileges and responsibilities afforded them by their United States citizenship. It is a day in which all citizens, native-born and naturalized foreign-born citizens, are to reaffirm their commitment to freedom, to ensuring that our history

endures, and to instilling in America's next generation the values that make our country great. The choice of September 17 for this observance commemorates the events of September 17, 1787 when the United States Constitution was signed by delegates from 12 states at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This day celebrates our Supreme Law of the Land as the oldest working Constitution in the world.

During Constitution Week, our nation reflects on the significance of our constitution and gives thanks for the blessings of liberty that this document helps to secure. We honor the men and women who have supported and defended it throughout our history, at times with their lives.

As a way of exercising the freedom to vote, students, faculty and staff are invited to cast ballots for one of six historic trees to be planted on each of Ozarka's three campuses. The trees will be planted on Arbor Day next spring, with voters at each location having picked the tree for that campus. Ballots

will be placed in the Paul Weaver Library on the Melbourne campus, and in the business office at the Mt. View and Ash Flat campuses. This project is in conjunction with the urban tree grant which is supported in part by the Arkansas Forestry Commission's Urban Forestry Program and the U. S. Forest Service. See insert in this edition of the Connection.

On Friday, September 16, Tate Lawrence will present an informational talk on "Retiring Flags when Replacing with New Ones." This will take place at 11:00 a.m. in the Miller Education Complex auditorium.

Students are asked to compete in a patriotic essay contest sponsored by Ozarka's English and history departments along with the Paul Weaver Library during Citizenship Week. Information on the essay can be obtained from the English and history faculty members.

The public is invited to join Ozarka for these events, as we celebrate our Constitution and the freedoms that we enjoy as American citizens.

Weaver Library Fall 2005 Hours:

7:30AM-7:30PM
Mon – Thur.

7:30AM-3:30PM
Friday

"Stop by and cast your vote for the historic tree and look around at the displays."

-Mary Ellen Hawkins, Librarian

American Red Cross
Be A Hero
Donate Blood
Save A Life

One of Ozarka's active student organization, Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), hosts a Red Cross Blood Drive each semester. This semester the American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be on the Melbourne Campus in the John E. Miller Complex on Thursday, September 22, between 9:30AM and 4:00PM. Donors will receive refreshments and patriotic car magnets while supplies last. Please come by at your convenience and help the American Red Cross, who reminds potential donors that "every blood donation can save up to three lives." A donor card or photo i.d. is required to donate.

**Ozarka
College**

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



Ozarka College

A Short Drive to Great Distances



Ozarka Trio Offers Student Support

Through a federally funded grant program, Ozarka College offers services for many of its students. TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) provides academic, financial and personal support to eligible students at Ozarka College to assist them with their educational endeavors.

The services offered by Ozarka's SSS program include: academic advising; financial or supportive counseling referrals; information on chosen educational major and career choices; aptitude and interest inventories; transfer scholarship information; tours of four-year colleges and universities; help with admissions, financial aid and faculty advisors at other institutions; individual and group peer tutoring; technology training; informational workshops; and cultural events and trips.

Eligibility for SSS is established through the U.S. Department of Education. Students applying for the program must meet one of the following qualifications: meet low income guidelines, be a first generation college student, or be an individual with a documented disability. Program participants must also be pursuing an eventual four-year degree and be a U.S. citizen or meet residency requirements.

Ozarka College has four staff members in the SSS Department. Deltha Shell was recently promoted to Director from her position as the Academic Advising Coordinator, Tracy Cone is Tutoring Coordinator and Shelia Titus is the Program Secretary. Ozarka will be hiring a new Academic Advising Coordinator in upcoming weeks.

The SSS department has several activities planned for this semester

including new student workshops, student career assessments, goals and skill assessments, several transfer trips in October, and a cultural trip to Murray's Dinner Theater in September.

Currently, SSS is processing new applicants. Any Ozarka College student who meets the eligibility requirements is encouraged to apply. For more information call TRiO SSS at 870-368-2036.

Ozarka College's TRiO Student Support Services program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Federal TRiO Programs. The 2005-2006 funded award is \$265,045. All activities and services offered to the students in SSS are made possible through these grant funds. Announcement made in accordance with Public Law 105-78 Sec. 508.