

# The Voyager

a Frontier Community College newsletter



April 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April

- 14 Lineman Rodeo / 10:30AM
- 16 SIU-C Table Visit / 10AM- 1PM  
@ Richard L. Mason Lobby
- 17 IECC Board Meeting @ FCC
- 20 Community Art Show / 4-7PM  
@ Classroom Building West
- 23 SNA Bake Sale @ LRC Lobby
- 27 Professional Development Day  
2-3PM @ WDC

### May

- 4 Last day of classes
- 4 Kindergarten Visit / 8:30AM  
@ FCC Campus
- 4 Awards Night / 6:30PM  
@ Community of Christ Church
- 7- 10 Final Exams
- 10 CNA Orientation / 8AM-4PM  
@ Bob Boyles Hall
- 11 Last day of Spring 2018 semester
- 11 Graduation/ 7PM  
@ Fairfield Community H.S.

## Frontier Earns Highest “On Time” Graduation Rate in Illinois

Among two-year schools in Southeast Illinois, Frontier Community College was reported as having the highest “on time” graduation rate, with a 61 percentage rate.

In the latest data compiled by the United States Department of Education and Illinois State Comptroller, FCC not only had the highest rate in the region, but also in the entire state. According to the report, 61 percent of students graduated on time from FCC in 2016. The data was initially compiled to track the performance and spending of more than 49 Illinois two-year colleges, or community colleges. The “on time” graduation rate was determined by comparing the school’s enrollment numbers against its annual graduates.

Dr. Jay Edgren, President at FCC, was thrilled to hear the news and attributed the statistic to the service of those at the college. “Two significant factors affecting graduation rates in higher education are advising and retention,” he said. “Both of these efforts require building relationships between students and college personnel, such as advisors, faculty, and the retention coordinator.”

The complete list of schools was reported by SE Illinois News and can be found on their website. As a whole, all four Illinois Eastern Community Colleges ranked in the top 10 of 48 schools. Ranking second was Wabash Valley College (Mt. Carmel) at 50 percent. Moreover, the report proves that community colleges in Southern Illinois are seeing significantly better graduation rates than those in Central and Northern Illinois.

“Frontier Community College encourages and supports its students in all of their academic endeavors,” said Dr. Paul Bruinsma, Dean of Instructional Services. “We are very proud of being ranked #1 in the State of Illinois for completion of our programs. This accomplishment indicates we are achieving our overall mission.”

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Assistant Dean of Student Services Jan Wiles noted that FCC is committed to each student's success. "Students receive individual attention during every step of their educational journey – advising, classroom instruction, financial aid, tutoring, and more. All our services are student centered," Wiles stated. "Frontier prepares students for the next step in their lives, and it's a shared commitment between students, faculty, and staff."

"Because we're a smaller institution, we're able to get to know our students and build meaningful relationships," Edgren said. "We strive to provide assistance to our students every step of the way. At Frontier, we believe our efforts are critical in helping our students graduate in a timely manner and transition into the workforce or a four-year institution."

In 2016, Illinois schools enrolled 304,173 students. "Dividing enrollment by two classes, the statewide graduation rate that year was 11 percent," states SE Illinois News.

## Automotive Students Receive Snap-on Multimeter Certification



Students in the Automotive Technology program at Frontier Community College recently earned Snap-on training certification in the use of the Snap-on Multimeter. The program was given approval from the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) in November 2017.

The test is available to second-year students in the Automotive Technology program. All eleven students passed the test with an average score of 90.1%. The certification test is offered to students toward the end of the program, and FCC provides the test for free.

Lead Instructor Rodney Maxey is confident that his students will be more prepared for the automotive industry with the certification. The Snap-on Multimeter certification, which is widely recognized in the industry, provides rigorous training on the advanced capabilities of Snap-on digital multimeters – the very same technology used by professionals in the workplace. Training is focused on subjects from basic and advanced applications to troubleshooting.

"The automotive, transportation, heavy-duty, and diesel fields are going through a period of unprecedented transformation, so it is more important than ever to offer training and certification in the latest technologies," said Maxey. "With the Snap-on Multimeter certification, our Automotive Technology students will be an in-demand asset in the workplace of tomorrow."

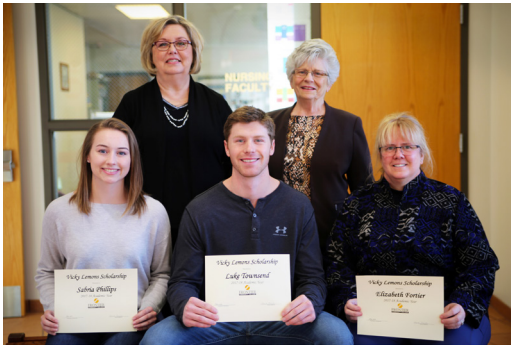
Pictured to the right of the students is the automotive lighting system trainer, which was recently gifted by Fairfield local Grace Sullivan. Used in conjunction with Snap-on Multimeters, the trainer can create a variety of different circuits, and students can troubleshoot using the same system.

Most automotive shops, including LeMond Chevrolet Chrysler in Fairfield, require service technicians to have their own tools and meters. With the Snap-on Multimeter certification, all Automotive Technology students receive a significant discount on tools purchased through Snap-on during their enrollment in the program.

In addition to the recent Snap-on Multimeter certification, FCC's Automotive Technology program has also been awarded master accreditation from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF).

# Nursing Students Receive Scholarships

Frontier Community College (FCC) recently awarded two scholarships to students in the Nursing program. Scholarships presented included the Vicky Lemons Memorial Scholarship and Clemence Elizabeth Cox Scholarship. Both scholarships are awarded semi-annually to first and second-year Nursing students.



*(From left to right) Front row: students Sabria Phillips, Luke Townsend, and Elizabeth Fortier. Back: Jan Wiles, Assistant Dean of Student Services; and Wanda Douglas, MSN, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing.*

Three students received the Vicky Lemons Memorial Scholarship for the Spring 2018 semester: Elizabeth Fortier of Crossville, Sabria Phillips of Fairfield, and Luke Townsend of Fairfield.

Vicky Lemons was well-known and loved at FCC and in the community. Serving as a member of FCC's nursing faculty from 2006 until her passing in March 2015, Vicky played an important role not only in the education of her students, but also in their everyday lives. A lifetime learner, Vicky was working towards her Master's degree in Nursing at the time of her passing, and she was awarded the degree posthumously in May 2015.

The Vicky Lemons Memorial Scholarship was established by Vicky's family and friends in an effort to give back to the students she loved helping so much. Even in passing, Vicky continues to help students achieve their nursing goals through this scholarship award.

Two Nursing students received the Clemence Elizabeth Cox scholarship for the Spring 2018 semester: Kristen Jones of Clay City and Angela Sutton of Fairfield. The semi-annual scholarship awards \$500 to two second-level nursing students at FCC. Both Jones and Sutton will complete the Associate Degree in Nursing in May.

This memorial scholarship has been established by Jerry Cox of Mill Shoals, the son of John and Clemence Cox. Grateful for the care that both his parents received in the hospital and nursing home, and knowing the care nurses give to the VA patients, Jerry thought it only fitting to award the scholarship to nursing students.



*From left to right: Nursing Advisor Julie Bulard, student Kristen Jones, donor Jerry Cox, student Angela Sutton, and Wanda Douglas.*

## FCC Students and Community Attend Annual Job Fair Event


Frontier Community College held its annual job fair on Wednesday, March 28. The event, located inside Workforce Development Center, was a success and brought in both FCC students and individuals from the community. Over twenty-five entities throughout Southern Illinois participated in the job fair event, seeking candidates to fill positions across multiple industries.



The annual job fair was planned and organized by Allan Alldredge, Coordinator of Career Services for IECC. Frontier was first of the four community colleges to host a job fair, with the three remaining scheduled for April. Alldredge was very pleased with the turnout and success of the event, and he is in the process of scheduling an additional job fair for the Fall 2018 semester. Many employers have already expressed interest in joining the next event.



# The Bobcat Beat

 @FCCBobcatsAthletics

 @FrontierBobcats

## Rain, Rain, Go Away!

April showers ruin athletic hours! Over the past few weeks, poor weather conditions have resulted in changes to the athletics schedule almost daily. With less than one month left before the end of the season, softball and baseball have a busy calendar ahead of them. In order to play all required conference games, both teams have only one or two days off each week.

Softball will complete their season by the end of April, while baseball has two games scheduled for the first week of May (weather permitting).

## SPORTS CALENDAR

### S O F T B A L L

- 13 vs. Southwestern IL / 4PM
- 14 vs. Miami Univ. / 12PM
- 15 @ Shawnee / 12PM
- 16 @ Wabash Valley / 3PM
- 17 vs. Southeastern IL / 4PM
- 18 vs. Wabash Valley / 4:30PM
- 19 vs. Lake Land / 6PM
- 20 vs. Kaskaskia / 4PM
- 22 @ John A. Logan / 12PM
- 24 vs. Shawnee / 4PM
- 25 @ Lincoln Trail / 6PM

### B A S E B A L L

- 12 @ Southwestern IL / 3PM
- 13 vs. Wabash Valley / 3PM
- 14 @ Southwestern IL / 12PM
- 16 @ Greenville College / 3PM
- 17 vs. Vincennes Univ. / 4:30PM
- 19 @ Kaskaskia / 3PM
- 21 vs. Kaskaskia / 12PM
- 24 @ Vincennes Univ. / 12:30PM
- 26 vs. Lake Land / 3PM
- 28 @ Lake Land / 12PM



## Scenes From the Season

