

KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



May 2017

Upcoming Events

May

8-11 *Final Exams*

8 *Summer Textbook Sales Begin*

8-10 *Spring Textbook Buyback, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-6:30 p.m.*

11 *Community Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., OCC Theater*

11 *Last Day of Spring Semester*

12 *Graduation, 7 p.m., OCC Gym*

13 *OCC Automotive / Collision Repair Car Show, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.*

15 *Intersession Classes Begin*

16 *Last Day for 100 Percent Refund for Intersession Classes*

16 *Last Day for Intersession Textbook Refunds*

23 *Intersession Midterm*

29 *College Closed, Memorial Day*

June

6 *Summer Semester Classes Begin*

30 *Summer Semester Midterm*

30 *Last Day to Pay Summer Semester Tuition and Fees*

Nursing Program receives full continuing accreditation

The Illinois Eastern Community Colleges/Olney Central College Nursing Program has been awarded full accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Theresa Marcotte, Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, received notification

last month that the ACEN Board of Commissioners has granted continuing, eight-year accreditation to the associate degree nursing program, which is offered at all four Illinois Eastern Community Colleges — Frontier Community in Fairfield, Lincoln Trail in Robinson, Olney Central in Olney and Wabash Valley in Mt. Carmel. The board's decision follows an extensive review of program documentation and a site visit to the colleges last September.



“This is an exceptional honor that faculty and staff have worked hard to attain,” Marcotte said. “Accreditation means we adhere to a high level of nursing education standards and criteria to provide a quality, safe, and professional nursing workforce for our communities. All

faculty and staff work to attain the highest level of professionalism and competencies to be a leader in nursing education in our area. This is a wonderful achievement and I'm grateful to work for an organization that values excellence in education. I also want to thank our non-nursing peers, administration, college foundations, District Office, and Board of Trustees who provide input and support through this process.”

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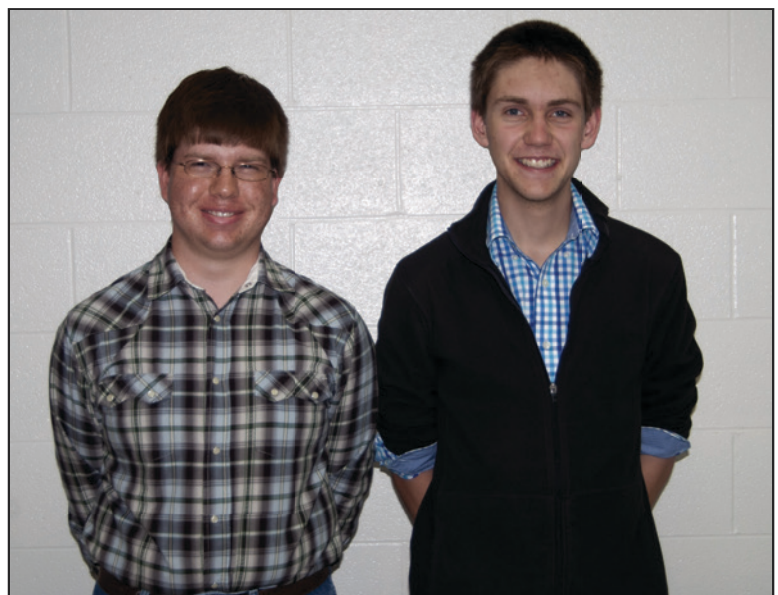
Students advance to national PBL competition

Two Olney Central College students will participate in the competitive events this summer at the 2017 Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

Ben Baker, of Olney, and Matthew Runyon, of Noble, advanced to the national competition after receiving top honors at the PBL State Leadership Conference in Effingham April 7-8. They were accompanied to the event by PBL Advisor Shasta Bennett.

Baker placed third in both Sports Management & Marketing and Contemporary Sports Issues while Runyon finished

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OCC students Matthew Runyon, left, and Ben Baker will participate this summer in the competitive events at the PBL National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

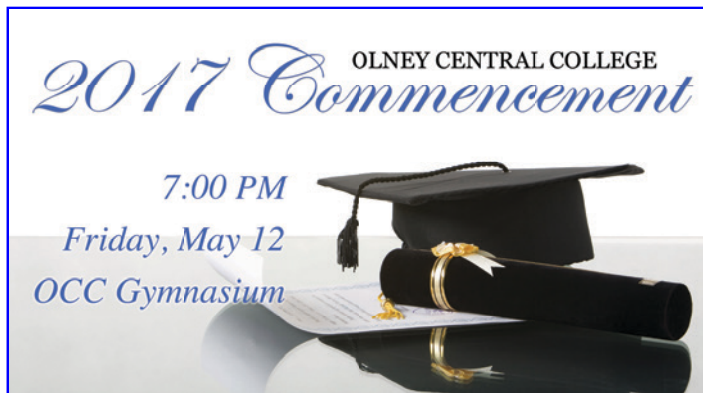
OCC's Commencement May 12

Olney Central College's 53rd annual commencement exercises will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 12 in the OCC Gymnasium. Friends and relatives of the graduates are invited to attend.

OCC President Rodney Raney will give the welcoming remarks and Dean of Instruction Dr. Jeffery Cutchin will present candidates for degrees and certificates.

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Board of Trustees Member Brenda Culver will confer the approximately 365 degrees and certificates being awarded this year. She also will give the "Charge to the Class."

The OCC Community Band, under the direction of Chris Jones, will perform the processional, recessional and national anthem. Special music also will be provided by the OCC Concert Choir conducted by Andrew Pittman, Director of Choral Activities.



ALPHA DELTA NU INDUCTEES

The Illinois Eastern Community Colleges/Olney Central College Associate Degree Nursing Program's Nu Chapter of Alpha Delta Nu held its induction ceremony on April 23 at Olney Central College. OCC students inducted into the national honor society of nursing are, from left, Amy Fulk of Noble, Hope Rosborough of Sumner, Advisor Anne Hustad, Sidney Eckel of Newton and Rhonda Anderson of Bible Grove.

LEAVING OCC

Dr. Jeffery Cutchin is leaving OCC to take a new position as Illinois Eastern Community Colleges' Chief Academic Officer. Faculty and staff gathered to say good-bye and provided Cutchin with goodies for his new office. Cutchin has served as OCC's Dean of Instruction for five years.



OCC Car Show rescheduled for May 13

The Olney Central College Automotive Service and Collision Repair Technology Programs have rescheduled their second annual Car Show.

The event, which is open to new and old cars, trucks and motorcycles, will be held Saturday, May 13 at OCC. Registration is \$10 and will be held from 9 a.m. to noon with the student choice awards presentation to begin at 2 p.m.

Gift bags will be given to the first 25 registered. All participants will receive dash plaques.

Both OCC's Automotive Building and the Collision Repair Technology Center will be open for tours. Instructor Tyler Boyles encourages anyone interested in the programs to attend the event.

Food, drinks and music will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A 50/50 drawing also will be held. Proceeds from the car show will be used for Automotive and Collision Repair equipment purchases.

For more information, contact Boyles at 395-7777, ext. 2521.

Music Department's Community Band Concert May 11

The Olney Central College Music Department will present its 11th annual OCC Community Band Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 11 in the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center.

The band will present a wide variety of selections including show tunes, standard concert repertoire and marches. Admission is free to the public for this performance.

Ashley Bigard new OCC advisor

Ashley Bigard has joined Olney Central College as an advisor.

"I enjoy getting to talk with different people every day," Bigard said of her new position. "Helping students narrow down what they want to do in life is very interesting."

An OCC alumnus, Bigard began taking on-line and evening courses as a junior at Newton Community High School. She entered OCC as a sophomore and completed her associate's degree in psychology in 2011.

"All of the faculty were nice and everyone was approachable," Bigard said of her time at OCC. "It was a good transition from high school to Eastern."

Bigard received her bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with a minor in psychology from Eastern Illinois University in 2013. She finished her studies at EIU the following year earning a master's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in family services.

Before joining OCC last month, Bigard worked for three years at One Hope United in Effingham. She served as a screening assessment and support services crisis intervention worker, focusing on evaluation and follow up counseling with those 21 and younger.

Bigard is looking forward to working with OCC students guiding them along their educational journey and helping them to identify the passions and interests that will lead them to rewarding careers.

"Even in high school, I knew I wanted to work in education," Bigard said. "I love education and have a passion for it. Helping people and working in education seemed like a perfect fit for me."

Bigard resides in Newton with her husband, Kaleb, and children 9-year-old, Alex, and six-month-old, Adeline.

In her spare time, Bigard enjoys baking and taking Alex to his many activities, including tennis, soccer, basketball and taekwondo. Bigard began teaching piano in high school and continues to give lessons to four students.



OCC students attend PTK annual convention

Olney Central College students joined Phi Theta Kappa members from across the country in Nashville, Tenn., for the honor society's annual Convention April 6-8.

Attending the event were Torri Frye of Sumner, Heather Vaupel of Dundas, Shelby Jones of Ingraham, Jaclyn Shan of

Olney, and Kristen Brian of Olney. They were accompanied by Advisor Amie Mayhall.

While attending PTK Catalyst 2017, the students participated in a number of workshops ranging from leadership and scholarship applications to fundraising and etiquette.

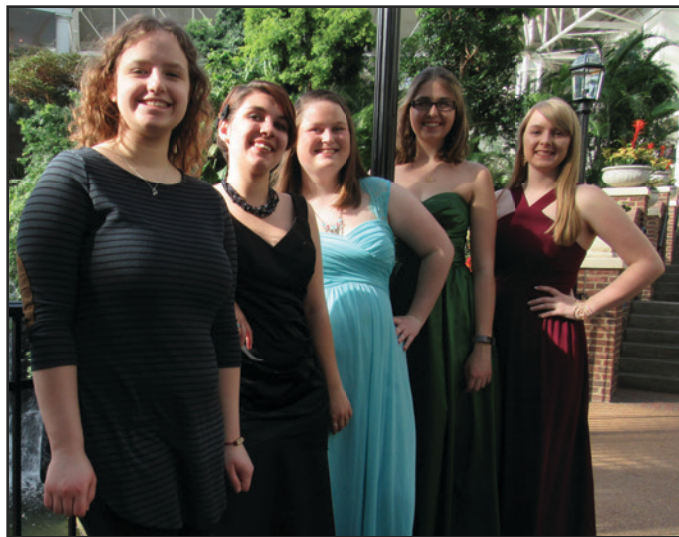
"The conference was spectacular," said Vaupel. "The speakers were phenomenal and the atmosphere of the conference itself was exhilarating. Having that many members of Phi Theta Kappa all under one roof was a huge encouragement for me. Phi Theta Kappa has pulled me out of my 'shell' so to speak. It also has taught me that no goal is impossible to achieve and that anyone can be a leader."

The event also featured nationally-known speakers including prominent photographer Platon, Dr. Jennifer Arnold, the Medical Director of Texas Children's Hospital who is featured along with her family on TLC's docudrama "The Little Couple," and Jamie Hyneman, special effects expert and host of Discovery Channel's MythBusters. Keynote addresses also were given by PTK International President Andrew Porter and PTK President and CEO Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner.

"I am so grateful for the many opportunities that PTK has given me, from leadership development and community involvement to academic scholarships and support," said Shan. "PTK Catalyst was a memorable way to wrap up my time at OCC. World-renowned photographer Platon was one of the most poignant keynote speakers I have ever heard, and he genuinely gave new meaning to the phrase, 'A picture is worth a thousand words.'"

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of community college students. The society is made up of more than 3.2 million members in nearly 1,300 chapters in nine nations.

"Being a part of Phi Theta Kappa has been invaluable to my overall educational experience," Frye said. "As I attended Catalyst, it reminded me that I am a part of something bigger, and I have a duty to be the best student and leader I can be. Our PTK chapter at OCC has truly helped me to come out of my shell, and has given me confidence and a place in my school. As I graduate and move on, I hope to take the lessons that PTK has taught me and apply them not only to myself, but use them to help encourage and teach others. Go Alpha Theta Eta."



OCC students named to All-Illinois Academic Team

Two Olney Central students have been named to the All-Illinois Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa, the international two-year college honor society.

Torri Frye, of Sumner, and Jaclyn Shan, of Olney, were selected from among community college students across the state on the basis of academic achievement, leadership and service work. Both students were recognized for their accomplishment, receiving a medallion and certificate at the annual Phi Theta Kappa Banquet on April 4 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield.

The All-Illinois Academic Team is sponsored annually by Phi Theta Kappa, USA Today and the American Association of Community Colleges. It honors outstanding community college students who show intellectual rigor in their course of study, demonstrate academic, leadership and civic growth and extend their community college education to better themselves, their schools and their communities.

To qualify, nominees must be PTK members, have a minimum 3.5 GPA, be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours and actively engage in the school and community.

"I just want to thank my parents and my family, my teachers, and my entire OCC family; without them, I wouldn't be the student or the person that I am today," Frye said. "It's an honor to represent my school and my family in this way. I am so blessed."



OCC students Torri Frye, left, and Jaclyn Shan were named to the PTK All-Illinois Academic Team.

After graduating in May, Frye will transfer to Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tenn., to complete her bachelor's degree. She plans to pursue a doctorate degree in English literature and eventually serve as an English professor.

In addition to her academic team selection, Frye has been named a 2017 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Gold Scholar. She is the only student in Illinois to receive the \$1,500 scholarship, which is administered by PTK.

Shan, who also will graduate in May, currently serves as presidents of both the PTK and Phi Beta Lambda chapters at OCC.

Shan will transfer to Eastern Illinois University to

complete a bachelor's degree in accounting. She also plans to obtain a master's of business administration degree, with an accountancy concentration and to pursue a career as a certified accountant.

"Opportunities like the PTK All-Illinois Academic Team have made me grateful that I chose to begin my educational career at Olney Central College," Shan said. "It is an honor and a privilege to represent OCC at the state level."

Frye and Shan were nominated for the All-Illinois Academic Team by Olney Central College PTK Alpha Theta Eta Advisors Laurel Cutright and Amie Mayhall. Both students completed a vigorous application process.

DELIVERING EASTER BASKETS

Phi Theta Kappa and OCC Cares delivered Easter baskets to the residents of Fox River. The residents' eyes lit up when receiving the Easter gifts. They all were so thankful. One resident was ecstatic because she was happy that people cared enough about her to make a gift.



Concealed carry class being offered July 6-8

Individuals interested in obtaining an Illinois Concealed Carry permit are encouraged to enroll in an upcoming course at OCC.

The Concealed Carry class provides 16 hours of required firearms training, including classroom and range instruction.

The class will meet from 6 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, July 6 and Friday, July 7 at OCC. On Saturday, July 8, the class will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Olney Gun Range.

To register, call 395-7777. For questions regarding the program, contact Concealed Carry Coordinator Bryan Hart at 879-9420.

OCC alumnus releases third CD with *Dynamo*

The Nashville, Tenn.-based group, *Dynamo*, featuring Olney Central College alumnus Ross McReynolds, as drummer/percussionist, released its third CD, “Celina,” on May 5.

McReynolds has found significant performing and recording success after graduating from OCC. *Dynamo* has performed at Olney Central College twice, most recently at the 2016 OCC Jazz Festival, as well as touring nationally over the past four years.

“‘Celina’ is the most well recorded, produced and mixed record we’ve done so far,” McReynolds said. “We recorded this album in Syracuse, N.Y., and were welcomed with open arms by all of the wonderful people, especially all who were involved in the project.”

McReynolds has also toured internationally, performing for the Prince and Princess of Monaco for the Prince’s 10-year inauguration celebration. He also spent a summer as the house drummer for The Grand Hotel Orchestra on Mackinac Island, Mich., in 2014. A highlight of his summer of 2016 was a



OCC alumnus Ross McReynolds, a drummer/percussionist, with the band, *Dynamo*, recently released his third CD with the group.

performance with the band *The Muddy Magnolias* at Lollapalooza, in Chicago.

McReynolds feels that the time he spent in the OCC Music Department laid a foundation for the success he is now experiencing.

“If it were not for the teachers that I met at OCC, I would not be where I am now,” said McReynolds, who is from Newton. “Suzanne Fassett and Mark Doerries were my first musical mentors and really showed me the right steps to become a career musician.”

The *Dynamo* experience is very close to McReynolds’ heart, however. “What is special about *Dynamo* is the sense of community that it creates. By the end (of the recording session week), we had become friends with so many new people who we continue to stay connected with. I think only a healthy group of friends can go to a new city and create that sort of familial social circle,” he added.

Previews of the album with its first single “Thankful” are available on the *Dynamo* Facebook page and on YouTube. Their new CD, “Celina,” is available on dynamo-music.com.

RETIRING FROM OCC

Olney Central College President Rodney Ranes, right, recognizes Bob Tice during a retirement reception in his honor. Tice served as a custodian at OCC for eight years.



Complete summer math classes in six weeks

Olney Central College is offering two summer hybrid math courses students can complete in just six weeks.

MTH 1102 College Algebra will meet from 8 to 9:50 a.m. and MTH 1105 Trigonometry will meet from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Both classes will be held Monday through Thursday, June 6-July 18 with

Instructor Lisa Benson. The classes may be taken “back to back.”

Successfully completing the courses during the summer will enable students to enroll in higher-level math classes at OCC this fall.

To register or for more information, contact Student Services at 395-7777.

Nursing *Continued from Page 1*

OCC President Rodney Ranes praised Marcotte and Carla Burgener, administrative assistant to the Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, for their work in preparing the accreditation argument as well as Department Heads Wanda Douglas, Angie Williams, Anne Hustad and Kathy Hudson.

“The faculty of nursing have established a rigorous, high-quality program both in the classroom and in clinical agencies, so that students can gain employment from agencies who actively seek out our graduates based on their preparation coming out of the program,” Ranes said. “All the nursing faculty and staff worked diligently to meet the standards of accreditation and should be applauded. ACEN accreditation is difficult to meet, but is a standard for a good quality program. Nursing has met the criteria and this should be celebrated.”

The ADN program’s next evaluation visit is scheduled for Fall 2024.

OCC offering summer course in sign language

Olney Central College will offer an evening sign language course this summer.

HEA 1201 Conversational Sign Language I provides an introduction to the world of signing and covers American Sign Language and other sign language concepts.

Instructor Nancy Abbott uses personal experience in teaching sign language having been raised in a deaf community by a hearing-impaired father and a deaf mother in Akron, Ohio. Abbott was born with a normal hearing range, but at age 15 months suffered a great deal of hearing loss when a virus settled in her ears.

Teaching others to communicate and become more comfortable with the hearing impaired is something Abbott is passionate about. She has taught sign language to parents, small groups, college students and U.S. government and Library of Congress employees.

The class will meet from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning June 8. To register or for more information, contact OCC Student Services at 395-7777.

This course may fulfill foreign language requirements at some universities.

Registration underway for summer/fall classes

Olney Central College is currently registering students for summer and fall semester classes.

Eight-week summer semester classes start June 6. Fall semester classes begin Aug. 17.

To schedule a registration appointment, call 395-7777 or visit www.iecc.edu/occ/appointment.



RETIRING FROM OCC

OCC Dean of Instruction Dr. Jeffery Cutchin, right, congratulates Carl Sager during a retirement reception held in his honor. Sager serves as OCC's lead custodian and has been employed at the college for 30 years. His last day is May 31.

PBL *Continued from Page 1*

second in Microeconomics and third in Macroeconomics. The pair competed against students from 11 other colleges and universities in Illinois on the 100-question written tests.

"I really enjoyed being with the other college students, networking and talking to other PBL members from across the state," Baker said of the conference. "There were also a lot of good workshops we got to attend."

Phi Beta Lambda is the collegiate affiliate of Future Business Leaders of America. The organization trains future business leaders to become contributing members of society.

"I was very involved in FBLA in high school and I have been to the national conference before," Runyon said. "I'm excited to get a second opportunity to go back. It's a chance to network and meet students from all around the country. It's a great experience, personally and professionally."

Both Baker and Runyon are looking forward to the four-day national conference, which will draw thousands of students from across the country to test their knowledge and skills through competitive events, share successes and learn new ideas about shaping their careers through workshops and exhibits. PBL Advisors Bennett and Amie Mayhall also

will attend.

"I am really very excited about the national conference," Baker said. "I was involved in the high school level of the organization and I have been to the FBLA national conference. I think it is cool I will be able to go in college with PBL."

Runyon, who graduates May 12, will transfer to the University of Illinois to major in crop science with a concentration in plant biotechnology. Baker, a first-year student at OCC, plans to study aerospace engineering. While neither Baker nor Runyon plan to pursue careers in business, both are glad they chose to continue participating in FBLA/PBL.

"After being in FBLA in high school, I knew PBL was a good organization," Baker said. "Even though I'm not studying business, I've learned a lot of things. You never know how it will benefit you in the future."

Runyon also liked the community service activities PBL offered including volunteering at The Master's Hands in Olney.

"I really enjoyed FBLA in high school and I'm so happy I was able to continue with the collegiate version here," he said.

OCC's PBL chapter is selling etched OCC rambler travel mugs to assist Baker and Runyon with travel expenses. Mugs are available in 30-ounce and 20-ounce sizes, which are \$30 and \$25 respectively. They may be purchased in Bennett's office, Room 211A.