

# KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



November 2017

## Upcoming Events

November

**8 Spring Registration Begins for New Students**

**10 OCC Closed – Veterans Day Observed**

**13 Steven Vanhauwaert – Southeastern Illinois Concert Association, OCC Theatre, 7:30 p.m.**

**14 JFK Assassination Presentation, OCC Theatre, 6:30 p.m.**

**15 OCC Job Fair, OCC Gymnasium, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**22 Last Day to Withdraw from 16-week Fall Semester Classes**

**23-24 OCC Closed – Thanksgiving Break**

December

**7 OCC Music Department Fall Recital, OCC Theatre, 7:30 p.m.**

**8 Last Day of Fall Semester Classes**

**9 OCC Christmas Choral Concert, OCC Theatre, 7 p.m.**

**11-14 Fall Final Exams**

**11 Spring Textbook Sales Begin**

## College Visits

A table will be located outside Student Services.

**9 Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.**

**14 Eastern Illinois University Rep. Cecilia Yoakum, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

## OCC selected Aspen Prize Top 150 U.S. Community College

Olney Central College has once again been named one of the nation's top 150 community colleges by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.

OCC is now eligible to compete for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance in America's community colleges. OCC was selected from nearly 1,000 public two-year colleges nationwide for the honor.

"We are pleased outside agencies are seeing the value we provide to the students in our district," said OCC President Rodney Raney. "Our focus on student retention and degree completion is paying off based on the data reviewed for this possible award."

Awarded every two years since 2011, the Aspen Prize recognizes institutions with outstanding achievement in learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students. OCC has been selected to compete for this prestigious honor each time it has been awarded.

OCC will advance to the next round of competition for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence by submitting an application to be reviewed through a rigorous evaluation for a spot on the top 10 Aspen Prize finalists list. Top 10 finalists will be named in May 2018. The Aspen Institute will then conduct site visits to each of the finalists and collect additional quantitative data. A distinguished prize jury will select a grand prize winner, a finalists with distinction and a rising star in Spring 2019.

Two other Illinois Eastern Community Colleges made the Top 150, Frontier Community College in Fairfield and Lincoln Trail College in Robinson. A full list of the selected colleges and details on the selection process are available at [www.aspenprize.org](http://www.aspenprize.org).



## OCC to host annual Job and Career Fair Nov. 15

OCC will host its annual Job and Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on

Wednesday, Nov. 15 in the OCC Gymnasium.

Those attending will include: Walmart Distribution Center, CEFS

Economic Opportunity, Fram/Champion Laboratories, Community Support Systems, TrustBank, Terre Haute Electric, Staff Quick, Job Works, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Corrections, Aerotek, Seiaoa, ATS-Toyota Boshuku, Rides Mass Transit, HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital, Illinois De-



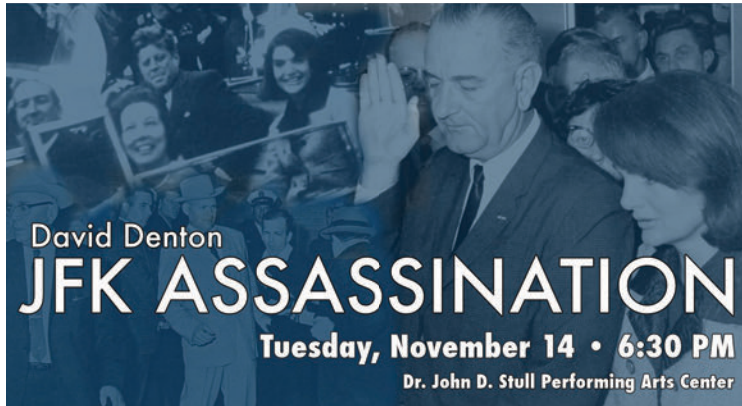
partment of Employment Security, United Methodist Village, Carle Richland Memorial Hospital, United States Air Force, Escalade Sports, Scribe America, Indiana Wesleyan University and McKendree

University. Access to contact information for more than 400 other nationwide businesses will be available at the Purple Briefcase table.

The event is for the public as well as students. Both are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to network and to learn more about area businesses.

# David Denton to discuss new revelations in JFK assassination during presentation

Olney Central College Instructor David Denton will discuss his most recent article on President John F. Kennedy's assassination and explore new revelations associated with the case during a presentation at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at OCC's Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center.



Denton's in-depth work, "Nexus Redux," features information gathered from recently declassified documents and follows up his article, "Nexus: The JFK Assassination's Place in History and a New Witness," which he released late last year. Both articles can be accessed at <http://changehistjfk.blogspot.com>.

Denton said the documents released by the National Archives expose two major revelations — the mayor of Dallas had direct connections to the CIA and Lee Harvey Oswald was sent on an anti-Castro mission to Mexico City.

During the presentation, Denton will explore both discoveries as well as potential forces behind Kennedy's assassination on Nov. 22, 1963.

"There will be some new things I will be bringing out," Denton added.

WTWO in Terre Haute, Ind., recently interviewed Denton for a news segment focusing on the October release of more than 3,000 documents related to the JFK assassination.

Denton has studied the Kennedy assassination for more than two decades and has taught the course, Political Assassinations of the 1960s, since 2001. Over the years, he has interviewed several people associated with the case and has researched hundreds of documents related to both Kennedy and Oswald.

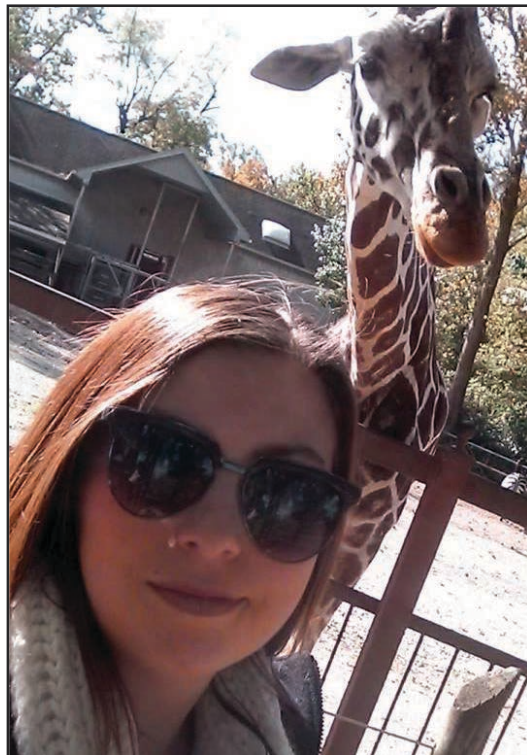
## OCC Zoology class, Science Club visit zoo

Students in OCC's Zoology class (LSC 1104) and members of the Science Club took a field trip Oct. 24 to the Mesker Park Zoo in Evansville, Ind.

In addition to enjoying the diversity of animal phyla, students experienced a behind-the-scenes tour of the veterinary building and an interview with the zoo veterinary technician. Students learned about interesting cases and saw the equipment the vet team utilizes. Several students also had the opportunity to hand-feed the giraffes.

Those attending included Megan Goodwin, Kasheena Callahan, Dakota Bunting, Jenna Rice, Shelby Gragert, Nicole McKim and Danielle Littlejohn.

For more information on OCC's Zoology course or the Science Club, contact Sarah Bergbower, Life Science Instructor and Science Club adviser, at extension 2228 or [bergbowers@iecc.edu](mailto:bergbowers@iecc.edu).



## Spring registration now underway

OCC is currently registering students for spring semester classes.

Spring schedules may be downloaded from the IECC website at [www.iecc.edu/occ](http://www.iecc.edu/occ).

To schedule a registration appointment, call 395-7777 or request an appointment online at [www.iecc.edu/occ/appointment](http://www.iecc.edu/occ/appointment).

Spring classes start Jan. 8.

## Holiday Meal tickets go on sale Nov. 8

OCC Food Service will host its annual Holiday Meal on Friday, Dec. 1.

The menu includes turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, dressing, noodles, corn, roll and a choice of dessert. Serving will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tickets will be available in advance and may be purchased in OCC Food Service beginning Wednesday, Nov. 8.

## OCC Food Service Treasure Hunt

Join in the fun with the OCC Food Service Treasure Hunt.

Three OCC employees have been given gift certificates you can redeem for prizes. See if you can be the first to find them by following the clues provided by Food Service.

Prizes include a \$25 gift card, a holiday basket and a holiday stocking.

Stop by Food Service beginning Dec. 4 for a list of rules and the important clues. The contest runs Dec. 4-14.

## Lost and Found

If you have lost an item, please check with the switchboard desk in Student Services.



## Sports Schedules

### Men's Basketball

**Nov. 10** — OCC vs. Danville at Wabash Valley Classic, 5 p.m.

**Nov. 11** — OCC vs. West Kentucky at Wabash Valley Classic, 1 p.m.

**Nov. 15** — OCC at Kaskaskia, 7:30 p.m.

**Nov. 21** — OCC vs. Wabash Valley, 7:30 p.m. at home

**Nov. 29** — OCC vs. Shawnee, 7:30 p.m. at home

**Dec. 2** — OCC vs. Lincoln Trail, 3 p.m. at home

### Women's Basketball

**Nov. 10** — OCC vs. Lindenwood-Belleville JV, 5:30 p.m. at home

**Nov. 15** — OCC at Kaskaskia, 5:30 p.m.

**Nov. 21** — OCC vs. Wabash Valley, 5:30 p.m. at home

**Nov. 25** — OCC at Danville, 2 p.m.

**Nov. 29** — OCC vs. Shawnee, 5:30 p.m. at home

**Dec. 2** — OCC vs. Lincoln Trail, 1 p.m. at home

## Free tutoring available at LSC

The OCC Learning Skills Center offers free tutoring for all subjects. Professional tutors are available for math and English courses.

The Math Lab is available from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday.

English tutoring and tutoring in other subjects is available, typically in the afternoon but also by appointment.

Tutoring is also available to those students taking online courses and is assigned on a case by case basis.

For more information, visit the LSC in the back of the Anderson Library.

## Life Science Department benefits from Foundation funds

Olney Central College's Life Science Department had some much-needed maintenance performed on its microscopes and purchased new safety and sterilization equipment with

funding provided by the OCC Foundation.

"The monies enabled the program to fill in holes and missing personal protection and to update some existing equipment," said Instructor Sarah Bergbower. "Working in the lab is essential to the classes and the new equipment and updates will enhance that experience for our students."

Items purchased include new lab coats and goggles, which students use while performing dissections or working with cultures in the lab. The department also acquired a Bacti-Cinerator Loop Sterilizer that uses infrared heat to remove contaminants from culturing devices.

"The Bacti-Cinerator completely sterilizes our devices and drastically reduces unwanted contamination," Bergbower said. "We had a lot of issues with contamination before the new equipment was in place."

As a final project in her Microbiology class, Bergbower assigns students two bacteria, unknown to them. Using biochemical testing methods and culture media, the students are required to identify the specimen down to the



species.

"It's the same thing they will be doing with test results in the real world," she added. "It's important to eliminate possible contamination for these tests. If you don't have a pure culture, you won't

get the results expected."

Maintenance to the department's microscopes also is enhancing students' lab experiences.

As she was assisting students with the microscopes, Bergbower noticed several weren't working properly.

With the Foundation's assistance, Bergbower was able to have a firm, which provides maintenance for Carle Richland Memorial Hospital and Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, perform preventative maintenance and make the repairs necessary to get the equipment back in the hands of OCC students.

"Many just needed a deep cleaning or small repairs to get them back in working order," she said. "Only six needed heavy repairs. After receiving the TLC they needed, the microscopes are like brand new."

Bergbower added, "I want to thank the OCC Foundation. Grants like this supply the resources and safety measures for students to succeed and acquire the hands-on learning experiences that will enhance their careers."



## IECC ALERTS

**The IECC Alerts System notifies students and employees of campus emergencies and closures by email and text message**

**SIGN UP FOR IECC ALERTS THROUGH ENTRATA**

**Already signed up? Check to make sure your contact information is current**



# TRIO Student Support Services celebrates 25th anniversary

As of this year, TRIO Student Support Services has been serving students at Illinois Eastern Community Colleges for 25 years. At a rate of 200 students served each year, the program has served more than 5,000 students.

“Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education.” ([www2.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/index.html))

The TRIO SSS program at the four colleges, Frontier Community College, Lincoln Trail College, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College, have served their communities by providing their students with academic advisement, career counseling, financial aid counseling, free tutoring and transfer counseling while giving those students opportunities to give back through volunteer activities.

All services are free of charge to all participants. Visits to four-year universities and cultural trips are some of the most popular benefits offered to the students. The opportunity for students to travel outside their own geographic regions has opened the eyes of the stu-



**Students in the TRIO Student Support Services Program visit the University of Evansville.**

dents that there are many opportunities available outside their hometowns and the goals they have set for themselves are achievable.

According to the 2015 Grant application, the number and percentage of eligible students enrolled or accepted at Illinois Eastern Community Colleges is high, resulting in 2,347 (77 percent) students meeting the eligibility requirements for TRIO Student Support Services.

Applicants must be a first-generation college student (neither parent received

a four-year degree), income eligible or have a documented disability which affects learning and have academic need for the program.

The TRIO SSS staff is very proud of all their students have accomplished over the past 25 years. Many have gone on to get professional degrees, become established public speakers, leaders of industry and entrepreneurs.

The students attribute much of their success to the tools and guidance the TRIO SSS program brought to their lives.



## **SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

The OCC Theatre presented “Subject to Change” Oct. 20-21. At left, Erwin Leeds (Derek Mason) assists his mother (Rachel Pampe). Above, Madeline Basset (Bea Gardner).



# Olney Walmart Awards TRIO Upward Bound \$2,000

The Walmart Foundation recently selected the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges TRIO Upward Bound program to receive a grant through its Local Community Contribution Program. Upward Bound, located at Olney Central College, received a \$2,000 grant from the Olney Walmart. The grant money will be used to provide essential items necessary for college-bound seniors to be successful in post-secondary education.

TRIO Upward Bound is 100 percent federally funded college preparatory program through the Department of Education, designed to provide academic support, counseling and cultural enrichment to high school students who desire academic success in both secondary and post-secondary education.

The program assists low-income, first-generation (neither parent having earned a bachelor's degree) and/or high school students demonstrating academic need.

Application for admission to the IECC TRIO Upward Bound program is open to students in a specific target area which includes Crawford, Edwards, Jasper, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne and White counties. The Upward



Bound program currently serves 209 students at 11 local high schools. Upward Bound serves students in Carmi-White County, Edwards County, Fairfield Community, Grayville, Lawrenceville, Newton Community, Oblong, Red Hill, Richland County, Robinson and Wabash County high schools.

"Illinois Eastern Community Colleges' TRIO Upward Bound program is passionate about helping our students be better prepared for college. The grant from Walmart will provide resources to our students as they transition into college," said Ad-

ministrative Assistant Jennifer Jennings. "We are grateful for the Walmart Foundation's belief in what we do at Upward Bound and appreciate them being so generous in awarding us this grant."

For more information, contact the TRIO Upward Bound office located at Olney Central College, 305 N. West St., Olney, Ill., or by calling 395-7777, ext. 2282. You can also find more information by visiting the TRIO Upward Bound webpage at [www.iecc.edu/upwardbound](http://www.iecc.edu/upwardbound).



## FALL CONCERT

The OCC Music Department presented its Fall Concert on Oct. 27 featuring the Concert Band, Concert Choir and the Jazz Ensemble, with special guest the Richland County High School Choir. Upcoming Music Department events include the Fall Recital at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7 and the Christmas Choral Concert at 7 p.m. Dec. 9.