



The Knightline

Olney Central College Students & Employees Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2011

VOLUME 28

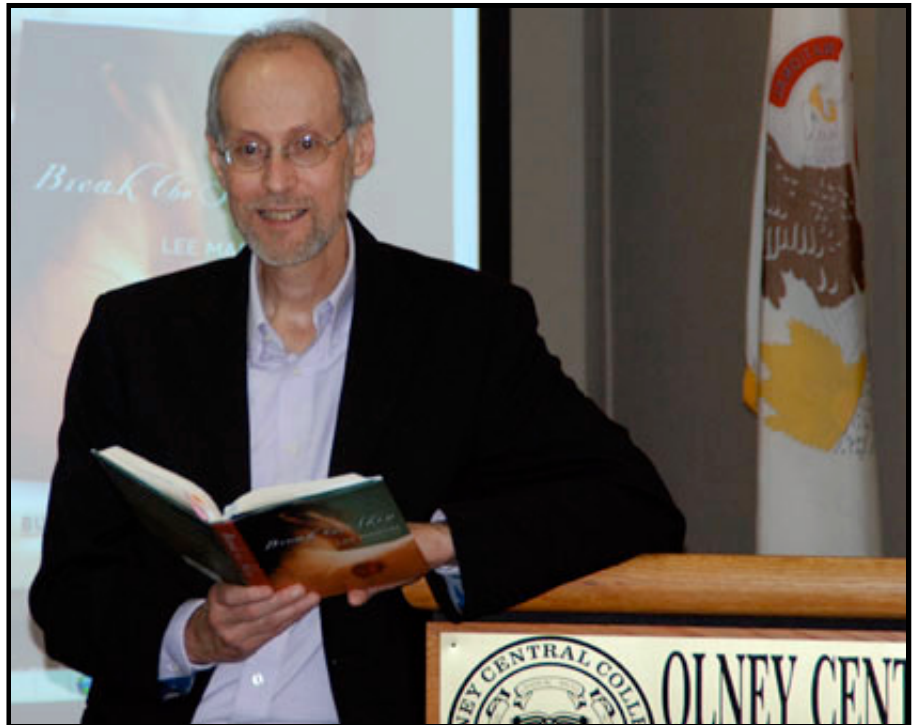
NUMBER 3

Pulitzer Prize finalist speaks at OCC

Pulitzer Prize finalist and Olney Central College graduate Lee Martin visited OCC on Sept. 30.

He spoke with OCC students about writing and shared selections from his novels and memoir. A public forum followed which included readings from his novel, *The Bright Forever*, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and his memoir *From our House*.

Martin, a Lawrence County native, is the author of four novels *The Bright Forever*, *River of Heaven*, *Quakertown* and his latest book, *Break the Skin*.



Above, Pulitzer Prize finalist and OCC graduate Lee Martin reads a selection from his latest novel, *Break the Skin*, during his visit to Olney Central College on Sept. 30. At left, Martin speaks to students in the OCC Banquet Room.



OCC welcomes new Dean of Instruction

Teaching is Jeffery Cutchin's passion and he is looking forward to enhancing the educational opportunities at Olney Central College as its new Dean of Instruction.

"As an instructor, I only get to impact the students in my classroom. I feel in an administrative position I can work with all of the fac-

ulty to facilitate the process in a good way and impact all of the students," he said. "One of my goals as dean is to constantly strive to support the faculty in any way I can to facilitate their success. If they are successful, so are their students."

Cutchin, who joined OCC last month, fills the post previously held

by current OCC President Rodney Ranes. OCC instructor Kristi Urfer served as Interim Dean of Instruction during the 2010 Fall and 2011 Spring semesters.

"One of the things I find interesting here is that every day is different," Cutchin said.

"There are new challenges every day. Each

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Jeffery Cutchin

Exhibit features ceramic student's work

Pottery created by Olney resident Matthew Hahn is currently on display in the Anderson Library Gallery at Olney Central College.

The exhibit features a variety of vases as well as mugs and sculptures Hahn made while taking ceramic classes at OCC.

"I like the creativity of it," Hahn said of his work. "I like taking a lump of mud and being able to get something beautiful and useful out of it when you're done."

Hahn enrolled in an OCC ceramics class shortly after graduating from high school in 1994, and continued classes for a couple of years. He resumed the classes about three years ago.

"Mainly, I just wanted something to do to fill time and give

me a hobby," he said. "I had the time and resources to be able to get back into it. It is an enjoyable craft and I'd like to develop into a professional full-time potter."

Hahn's favorite pieces on display include a white vase with a glaze that gives it a stone-like appearance and another vase he initially didn't like because the outside glaze turned out much lighter than he expected.

"When I first pulled it out of the kiln, I thought it was ugly. But, after I got over the initial disappointment of it not being what I thought it would be, it actually became one of my favorites," he said.

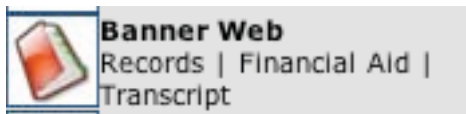
Hahn said many of the vases in the exhibit feature glazes created by OCC art instructor
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Matthew Hahn is pictured with a few of his vases which are on display in the Anderson Library Gallery.

ONLINE PAYMENT

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If you encounter problems with making your online payment, please contact the IECC HelpDesk at 618-395-5299 or toll-free 1-866-529-4322, ext. 4357.

Massage Therapy accepting appointments for clinicals

Olney Central College's Massage Therapy Program is accepting appointments for its fall clinicals.

The clinics, which are open to the public, will be held Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29 and Nov. 4, 5, 18 and 19 with appointments scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost for a relaxing, Swedish-style massage is just \$25 for a one-hour session. The massage treatments are for the sole purpose of stress reduction, relief from mus-

cle tension or spasm and to increase circulation and energy flow.

A massage therapy instructor will be present at the clinics.

To schedule an appointment, call 392-2430.

If you are unable to reach someone, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

OCC's Massage Therapy and Phlebotomy Building is located at 108 E. Main St., in Olney.

Massage Therapy Awareness Week

Olney Central College's Massage Therapy Program is celebrating National Massage Therapy Week Oct. 23-29 with several activities.

Students will host a bake sale from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 24 outside the Student Services Office and a cookout from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 25

at the IGA in Olney.

Members also will be selling hot chocolate and hosting a bake sale beginning at 4:30 p.m. during the Olney Halloween Parade on Oct. 28.

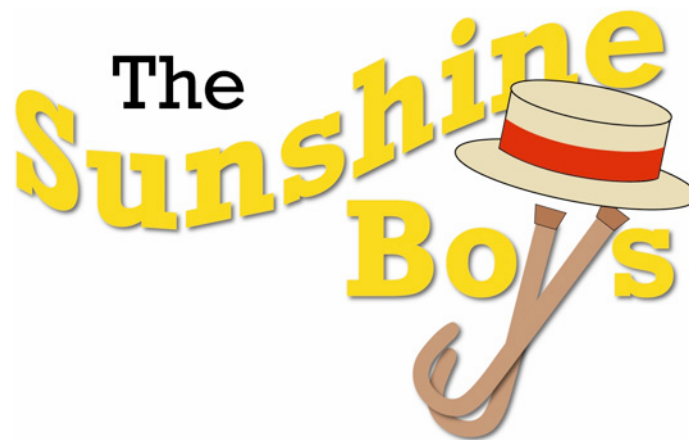
Proceeds will fund the Massage Therapy Club's trip to the Grey Bear Retreat in Tennessee.

Tickets on sale for 'The Sunshine Boys'

Tickets are now on sale for the Olney Central College Theatre's upcoming production of Neil Simon's "The Sunshine Boys."

In this classic comedy, Al and Willie as "Lewis and Clark" were top-billed vaudevillians for over 40 years. Now, they aren't even speaking. When CBS requests them for a "History of Comedy" retrospective, a grudging reunion brings the two back together, along with a flood of memories, miseries and laughs.

Performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 21 and Saturday, Oct. 22. An afternoon show will begin at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct.



23. Dinners will be held before the Friday and Saturday shows at 6 p.m. The menu includes: apricot chicken, wild rice, peas with pearl onions, garden salad with cheese and sesame sticks, dinner roll with butter, peach cobbler and beverage.

Tickets may be pur-

chased from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday in the lobby of the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for reserved seats for children and adults for the production and \$20 for reserved seating and the dinner. A special price of \$9 each for

the production and \$19 for the dinner and reserved seating will be available for groups of 20 or more.

Those who wish to reserve tickets may call 395-7777, ext. 2408, during the hours designated for ticket sales. Tickets may be purchased with a Mastercard or Visa.

Reserved tickets will be held for five working days, until picked up in person or a check is received in the mail.

Patrons may send a check with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to OCC and the tickets will be sent by return mail. Any remaining tickets may be purchased one hour before the performance.

Student representative sought for IECC Board

Each year a student from the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges is selected to serve as a student representative on the IECC Board of Trustees. The elections rotate among the four colleges, which include OCC, Frontier Community, Lincoln Trail and Wabash Valley. This fall is OCC's turn to elect a representative. On Nov. 8, 2011, OCC students will elect a freshman to serve as the Student Trustee on the IECC Board

of Trustees. The elected student will be seated at the April 2012 Board of Trustees meeting.

Students seeking the position must be enrolled as a full-time student at OCC for the Fall 2011 semester and be in good academic standing. They must also enroll as a full-time student at OCC for Spring 2012, Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters and remain in good academic standing.

Interested students may pick up information and petitions from Deborah Hunley or Jill Ginder-Wilson in the Student Services Office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on the following dates:

- Oct. 11-14
- Oct. 17-19

All required documents must be submitted in the Student Services Office by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Find Olney Central College on Facebook

Like Olney Central College on Facebook to keep up on the latest happenings at OCC and for chances to win OCC clothing and other items.

You also can access the latest issue of the Knightline.



facebook.com/olneycentralcollege

Exhibit

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Michael Conn.

"I've enjoyed experimenting and working with them," Hahn said.

"The glazes are beautiful and have given us more variety."

All of Hahn's work is for sale and he will create

commissioned pieces. Those interested in purchasing an item or having a work created can contact Hahn at 392-0681.

Campus Visits

A representative from Eastern Illinois University will be at OCC from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 12.

A University of Illinois at Springfield representative also will be here Oct. 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A representative from Franklin University will be here at 10 a.m. on Oct. 24.

Tables will be located outside the Student Services Office.

LSC now offers eight-week daytime classes

Olney Central College is making it easier for students to enroll in adult basic education and GED classes with its new eight-week schedule.

"This is something we have wanted to do for a long time and now we have the resources to do it," said OCC Learning Skills Center Director Donita Kaare.

While students have always been able to take eight-week evening classes, this fall marks the first time students will be able to register for daytime classes at mid-term.

"The change offers students more choices," Kaare said. "Students don't have to wait until January to enroll in daytime classes. The eight-week sessions will meet the same amount of time as the 16-week classes so students, who choose to attend the entire semester, will receive twice the instruction. We are better preparing students to take the GED, get a job or go on to college. It is a win-win for everyone."

In the past, instructors had just 50 minutes to spend with students each class period. Now, they have an hour and 40 minutes of instruction time.

Instructor Cindy Foerster is excited about the changes.

"I love the eight-week sessions," she said. "We can accomplish so much more and there is more time for experiments and more time for interaction with the students. I really think it is beneficial to the stu-



Olney Central College's Learning Skills Center held its GED graduation on Sept. 23. Diplomas were awarded to 23 students. Those honored included front row, from left, Bessie Tadder, Christy Simmons, Samantha Elder, Kim Carter and Michelle Merriam. Back row, Terra Bryley, Patsy Jones, Yissell Harrison, Cheryl Tolliver, Schara Eller, Stephen Earp and Dalton Tarrant.

dents and us as instructors. I think it keeps the students motivated because they only have to focus on the eight-week session. If they pass the GED, they don't have to worry about the next session."

Kaare said the LSC also is introducing a new transition class at mid-term.

"The purpose of the class is to give students the tools they need to reach their future goals," Kaare said.

The course will help students to improve their study skills and to

assist them as they enroll in college, apply for financial aid and complete placement testing.

Students planning to enter the workforce right away will take career interest inventories to aid them in choosing a vocation. In addition, students will explore the current job market and prepare resumes.

Olney Central College's ABE/GED classes will begin on Thursday, Oct. 13. To register or for more information, call 395-7777, ext. 2267.

LSC offers free tutoring for students

The Learning Skills Center offers free tutoring in any subject taught at OCC.

Biology I and II, Human Growth and Development, Sociology, Anatomy, Chemistry, Psychology and Introduction to Business study guides are available. Videos are available for Basic Math, Beginning Algebra and Intermediate Algebra.

The LSC also can provide tape recorders, large-screen monitors, readers and note takers, as well as assistive technology.

If you have any special learning needs, come and see the LSC staff, and they will be glad to provide suggestions, help and/or accommodations.

The LSC also is looking for students to serve as tutors. Tutors must have an A or B in the subject

they are tutoring. They need a reference from an OCC instructor if possible. Tutors are required to attend some training and are paid minimum wage.

The LSC is located in the back of the Anderson Library in Conference Room 4 and is open during regular business hours Monday through Friday or call 395-7777, ext. 2268, to schedule an appointment.

Spring 2012 registration

Current students can begin registering for spring semester classes starting Nov. 1. New students may register beginning Nov. 8.

Students interested in knowing their graduation status should complete a Graduation Evaluation Request Form (GERF).

Students complete certification

Olney Central College students Noweta Pittman and Nicole Ewing have received their certification as Medical Office Assistants.

The pair recently took and passed the National Center for Competency Testing's Certified Medical Office Assistant Exam. The test covers medical office procedures, medical insurance and billing, basic clinical responsibilities, medical and legal foundations and medical terminology. NCCT is an independent certification organization that has tested more than 240,000 individuals throughout the United States since 1989.

OCC became an approved testing site for the NCCT exam in 2009 and as such can proctor the tests as well as order review books and practice tests for students.

"When I learned it was available, I thought it would be a good idea to become certified," said Pittman, of Robinson. "I thought it would increase my chances of being hired and show potential employers I am competent."

OCC instructor Amie Mayhall encourages students in the Medical Office Assistant Program to become certified.

"The certification sets them apart

from others in the field and demonstrates that they carry with them the required knowledge for positions in the field of study," she said.

According to the NCCT, many physicians' offices and health care clinics are now looking for certified office professionals. The certification can increase both an individual's employment opportunities and earning potential.

"I took the certification so I could get a better job," said Ewing, of Flora, who graduated with a Medical Office Assistant Degree in May. "I'm very glad I got the certification."

Pittman said she had about three hours to complete the test and it was a positive experience.

"They gave us plenty of time," she said. "It was nice because it was a computerized test. If you wanted to skip a question, you could mark it and then go back to it later without having to read through the entire test. You also got the results as soon as you finished. I would encourage other students to take the exam."

OCC's Medical Office Assistant Degree is designed for students who wish to work as medical office assistants, medical transcriptionists, or medical receptionists as well as

those who will be working as coders and billers.

Medical office assistants typically perform administrative duties for health care providers in office settings, although some may also perform basic clinical tests. Their responsibilities vary by employer, but may include answering telephones, greeting patients, updating and filing medical records, completing insurance forms, handling correspondence, scheduling appointments and handling billing or bookkeeping.

"My time at OCC taught me a lot," Ewing said. "I had really good teachers and I enjoyed it."

Pittman liked the fact she could take most of her classes online.

"I enrolled in the program because I assumed there would always be jobs in the medical field," she said. "I also thought that I could work at home doing coding and transcription. That is something I'd still like to do, but I've talked to several people who said I needed to get experience working in an office before I try working from home."

You can learn more about OCC's Medical Office Assistant Degree and the Certified Medical Office Assistant Exam, by contacting Mayhall at 395-7777, ext. 2229.

Music Department Fall Concert Nov. 4-5

The Olney Central College Music Department will present its Fall Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 4 and Saturday, Nov. 5 in the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center.

The OCC Concert Band will celebrate the opening of a new concert season with "Fanfare for a Celebration," by Charles Michels, featuring the brass section of the ensemble. Following this, the band will take a musical exploration into the world of make-believe with the

Timothy Broege piece "Dreams and Fancies." In true band tradition, the Concert Band portion of the program will conclude with the concert march "United Nations" by Karl L. King.

The OCC Concert Choir is pleased to perform "Frostiana," a cycle of songs fusing the poetry of Robert Frost with the music of American composer Randall Thompson. Frost's "The Road Not Taken," "Choose Something Like a Star" and "A Girl's Garden" paint pictures of

harvest landscapes just as autumn peaks into the icy edge of winter, a perfect fit for our November concert. The choir also will perform excerpts from Eleanor Daley's Requiem, "Do Not Stand At My Grave and Weep," a hauntingly beautiful setting of Mary Elizabeth Fry's poem, composed while living in Chicago in 1932. The musicians of the choir are excited to present a concert of profound texts masterfully set to the music of celebrated composers.

The concert will conclude

with a performance by the OCC Jazz Ensemble, whose program will include the music of Charlie Parker and Herbie Hancock, among others – and feature many musicians from the ensemble who are learning the art of jazz improvisation for the first time. The performance promises to be innovative, exciting and full of energy.

Tickets are \$5, and available in advance by contacting the OCC Music Department at 395-7777, ext. 2251; or will also be available at the door.

JLD Program can assist students with employment

The Job Location and Development Program of Olney Central College is designed to foster a cooperative partnership among students, employers and private citizens through part-time and temporary employment of OCC students.

The JLD Office operates year-round to bring

employers together with students seeking part-time jobs.

Students are typically employed during the academic year on a part-time basis, and often full-time during semester and summer breaks. Duration and rate of pay are determined by each employer.

All currently enrolled

students at OCC are eligible for the program. To apply, each student must come to the JLD Office, located in Student Services, and fill out a data sheet. The student should also furnish an updated resume to complete his or her file.

The JLD coordinator will process the applications

and then give students information about available jobs.

Employers who are interested in listing employment opportunities may do so by mail, by phone, or in person.

For more information, contact Andi Pampe, Jobs Advisor, at 395-7777, ext 2017.

Dean

Continued from Page 1

day pushes me out of my comfort zone and causes me to learn. Being dean allows me to be in a position where I am learning, which is what is so nice about the job.”

Before coming to OCC, Cutchin was the Assistant Dean of Student Services at Frontier Community College, where he oversaw financial aid, registration and records and advisement.

He previously served as FCC's Coordinator of Instructional Services and was responsible for creating the college schedule as well as managing faculty. Cutchin was a full-time information systems and geology instructor at FCC for more than seven years.

“I came from a community college with no sports, no cafeteria and very few community organizations, all of the things that are here that I have not experienced before,” he said. “It's almost like someone who is blind getting his vision. I'm getting to experience all of these new and different things. It is what makes being here so special.”

Cutchin began his teaching career as an adjunct instructor in computer technology at Southeastern Illinois College's Carmi Campus in 1985. He also has taught at Oakland City University and the University of Southern Indiana.

He was manager of information systems and technology at Olive, LLC in Evansville from 1994 until 1999 when became assistant vice president of systems engineering for J. H. Rudolph & Co. Inc., a post he held until 2001.

Cutchin earned a bachelor's degree in geology from Southern Illinois University and holds a master's degree in teaching with a specialization in information technology from Webster University. He will complete a Ph.D. in Education with a specialization in Community College and Higher Education Leadership from Walden University this fall.

Cutchin is anxious to receive input from both the instructors and students.

“I'm not someone who just changes things. I see myself as someone listening to people, and if by listening to people, I learn they want to change something, than I see myself facilitating that change,” he said. “I'm best described as team-oriented. No one on the team is better or higher than anyone else. One person may have to take responsibility for the team, but everyone is important. Everyone has a say and what they say is important and just as valid as what anyone else has to say.”

Cutchin is already working to expand class offerings for the spring semester and wants to gain insight from the community.

“I want to increase the number of classes on Wednesday nights,” he said. “I'm looking at new and different things that haven't been offered for a while. I want to work closely with the advisors and Chris Webber. They are the ones who are closest to the students and know what they want.”

Cutchin hopes to provide a wide variety of classes that appeal to a broad population.

“Transfer classes are important, but I also think we need classes that will get Mom and Dad off of the couch and out here. I'm looking for a way to tune in to them and what they would like. We want to offer classes for transfer students, those who want to improve their current job skills, those who have lost their jobs and need to learn new skills and those who want to be challenged mentally. My goal is to improve the quality of life in our community. I think education can do that.”

Cutchin resides on a farm in Wabash County with his wife, Dr. Claudine Cutchin, who is a professor and Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Oakland City University. They have a 16-year-old daughter, who is a junior at Mt. Carmel High School.

Cutchin's hobbies include fishing, boating and jet skiing. He is looking forward to engaging in them on a more frequent basis after he completes his Ph.D.



Health Fair Winner

West Richland Middle School Student Alex Hubbell won a Chicago Bears' autographed team photo during a drawing held at the recent Health Fair at OCC. Nearly 1,000 students from the East Richland, West Richland and St. Joseph schools participated in the event. Presenting the photo to Hubbell are Sherry Geier, left, and Mary Corry.

OCC Corporate Pink Day Oct. 26

Olney Central College will host a Corporate Pink Day on Oct. 26.

Everyone is encouraged to wear pink for the event, designed to raise breast health awareness. This is an approved dress down day for OCC employees.

Liesl Wingert, of Richland Memorial Hospital, will have a table with brochures and other informational items located outside the Student Services

Office from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day. She also will have information on RMH's digital mammography services.

Those stopping by are encouraged to register for door prizes to be given away at the end of the day. Donations also will be accepted for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

"This is geared toward women of every age, from 20 to 120," Wingert said.



Foundation Wine Tasting Oct. 28

The OCC Foundation Third Annual Wine Tasting Affair will be from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 at The Gypsy in Olney.

Local wineries Fox Creek Vineyards and Lasata Wines will be

featured. Light hors d'oeuvres also will be served.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Kathy Slichenmyer at 395-7777, ext. 2003.

Sports Schedule

Baseball

- **Oct. 11** – OCC at Vincennes, 2 p.m.
- **Oct. 15** – OCC vs. AAU, 1 p.m. at home
- **Oct. 22** – OCC at University of Indianapolis, 1 p.m.

Student Loan application deadline

The Student Loan deadline application for Fall 2011 is Nov. 1, 2011. If you have questions, please contact Financial Aid Coordinator Vicki Stuckey at 395-7777, ext. 2008.

Lost and found items

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

Keep vehicles locked

Students utilizing the OCC parking lots are advised to keep their vehicles locked when unattended.

Happy Birthday To:

October

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 3 | Wain Davis |
| 4 | Tammy Effler |
| 4 | Julie Crawford (FCC) |
| 5 | Charlotte Bruce |
| 12 | Tiffany Cowger |
| 16 | Libby McVicker |
| 17 | Chris Webber |
| 22 | Amanda Johnson |

Knightline Information

Please submit information for the November Knightline to Deanna Ratts by 5 p.m. on Oct. 26.

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