



The VOYAGER

February 2021

The Frontier Community College Newsletter

ADULT LITERACY LIBRARY EVENT

An Adult Literacy information table was set up in the Fairfield Public Library on Saturday, January 30th from 10 am -12 pm. This booth was staffed by members of FCC's Adult Education Department, who had information on the program, what it offers, and how volunteers can help. This event was a success with information given to both those looking for literacy assistance and those wanting to volunteer for the program.



Adult illiteracy is a large issue in the IECC district, with over 2,100 individuals who could benefit from English literacy training. Nationally, finding volunteers for these programs is one of the biggest



obstacles in correcting this problem. Due to this, 68% of literacy programs have long waiting lists, which causes just 10% of those in need to receive literacy tutoring.

The Adult Education Department is still

looking for volunteer tutors for this program as well as its English as A Second Language program. The only requirements to volunteer are you must be 18 years old and must be fluent in English. If you would like to volunteer for either program but cannot stop in the library, call Sharis Wilson at (618) 847-9154.

Upcoming Events

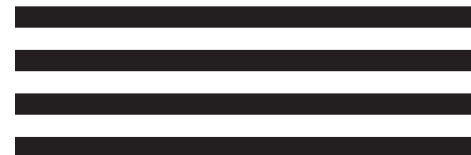
March

- 5 Midterm
- 8 No Class, Casimir Pulaski Holiday
- 9-14 No Class, Spring Break

April

- 2 College Closed Spring Holiday
- 23 Last Day to Withdraw From 16-week Classes

Frontier Community College is following Governor Pritzker's Restore Illinois reopening plan. Campus and community events have been modified to incorporate social distancing and other recommended practices to help insure community and employee safety.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION IS BACK!

Frontier Community College announced a new section of the community education class, “Sanitation and Safety.” This marks the return to in-person community education courses being taught at Frontier Community College. It will be taught by Carrie Dagg, and is “a study of the causes and prevention of foodborne illness in all phases of the flow of food through the foodservice operation with an emphasis on the HACCP system.” The course meets



the Illinois Department of Public Health requirements for certification of sixteen (16) hours of classroom instruction in specific food safety areas.

The course will meet on both February 8th and 9th from 6 pm to 10 pm. There will be a second session of the course held on March 1st and 2nd. They will be held in Mason Hall, Room 24, on FCC’s campus. If you have any questions or would like to enroll, please call (618) 842-3711.

DEPARTMENT FEATURE: AUTOMOTIVE

FCC’s marketing slogan “Start here, go anywhere” is perfectly embodied by its Automotive Technology Department. Not only have the department and staff undergone tremendous and meaningful growth since the program’s founding in 2003, but its students have also shown that FCC is the perfect launch site for a career no matter where your end goal may be.



Assistant Professor and program founder, Rodney Maxey, has been with the FCC Automotive department since its inception. In 2003 Maxey was hired by FCC after a career of teaching Automotive Technology. In 1996, Maxey started by training professionals at Moog Automotive in St. Louis, Missouri. After Moog, he transitioned to a more traditional teaching position at SIU, giving him experience in training not only professionals, but also bright-eyed newcomers to the exciting field of automotive technology. He stayed at this position until 2003, when the opportunity to start a new automotive program opened at Frontier Community College.

This program was started from scratch by Maxey and his team at FCC. Maxey says, “When I came to the college, the automotive area was just a section of the warehouse.” Since then, the program and its building have grown to include multiple high-tech classrooms, a full Automotive Lab, and has received the highest ASE accreditation, Master ASE.

DEPARTMENT FEATURE: AUTOMOTIVE CONT.

Not only is the program itself certified with Master ASE accreditation, but its two instructors are certified with the ranking as well.

Though thrilled to have received this high level of regard, Maxey and the rest of the department are not content to stay still. The department has recently purchased a diesel simulator, which will allow the program to add a new mandatory diesel performance class to its already impressive degree requirements. Along with the diesel simulator, the program recently acquired two new vehicles that Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana donated.

Derek Wissel, is responsible for starting the process that led to this generous donation. Wissel is himself a graduate of the FCC automotive program, after which he continued his education at SIU. From there, he began his journey with Toyota. Starting at a Toyota Dealership, Wissel quickly rose through the ranks earning him a job at Toyota's manufacturing plant in Indiana. From there, he has grown to the role of line engineer. With this considerable rise and impressive resume, Wissel still finds time to give back to the program that started his journey. Not only did Wissel assist with the vehicle donations, he also serves on the Automotive Technology Program's advisory committee.

This committee is dedicated to helping the department plan its next big improvements, ensuring that the program will remain the cutting edge program that Maxey had envisioned at the program's founding. A dedication to continued growth and bright futures is at the heart of all FCC programs, and the Automotive Department, its students, and faculty are perfect examples of this objective.



ATHLETICS ARE SWINGING BACK INTO ACTION

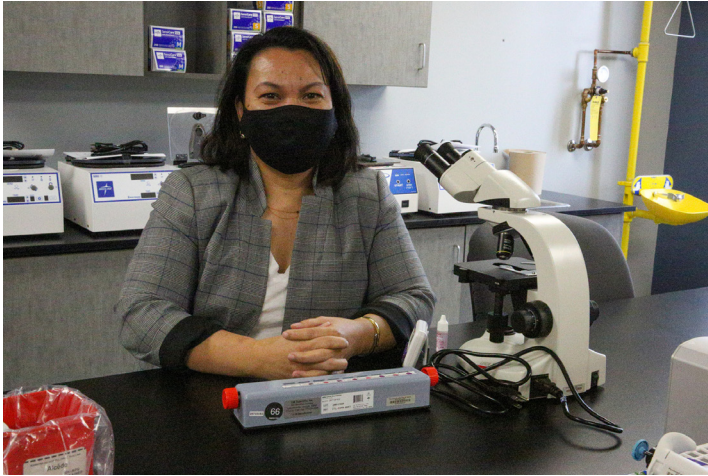
Sports are swinging back into action at Frontier Community College. As more and more athletes are signing



to continue their sport at a higher level, following their time at FCC, athletes and the campus as a whole are buzzing with this move back towards normalcy. While volleyball matches are still closed to the public, softball and baseball games will be open to all with a limited capacity and mandatory social distancing.

If you plan on visiting campus for an event, remember to bring your mask. We also recommended bringing your own chair, as bleacher seating is significantly reduced, with social distancing practices.

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM GETS NEW INSTRUCTOR



Marbie Downen was hired as the new lead instructor of FCC's MLT program. Marbie has 6 years of teaching/higher education experience, having served in both faculty and administrative positions at Iligan Medical Center Colleges in the College of Medical Technology. This impressive history is only furthered by her 18 years of experience working in various capacities as a Medical Laboratory Technologist in hospitals and clinics in Illinois and Indiana, including general laboratory supervision.

Marbie's field experience showed her the need for Medical Laboratory Technicians, and she hopes to grow this program to help fill these vital positions!

Her excitement to educate locals is visible in everything she does, and her current students are already enjoying the hands-on lessons that Marbie has created.

KENT STALEY NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Congratulations to Kent Staley, who has been named Frontier's Employee of the quarter! Kent's dedication to making campus a beautiful and functional space is never-ending. He showed his commitment on the day of the award presentation. We had to fib to Kent and tell him a "water line was out" to get him to leave his work so that we could tell him he had won.