



April 2024

The VOYAGER

The Frontier Community College Newsletter

2024 Service Awards



(Back Row L-R) Robert Tennyson, Lori Noe, Tara Farleigh, Jay Edgren, and Laurie Taylor

(Front Row L-R) Ellen Shreve, Megan Black, Jennifer Thomason, Sharmila Kakac, and Wendy Coles

(Not Pictured) Calvin Melvin, Mike Woods, Linda Monge, and Rodney Ranes

On Thursday, March 28th, 14 employees were honored for their time employed at FCC/IECC.

Four were recognized for hitting the five- year mark including Workforce Education Instructor Wendy Coles, Dean of B&I Sharmila Kakac, Mining & Petroleum Tech Instructor Calvin Melvin, and Custodian Jennifer Thomason.

Six employees for the 10-year mark, including Director of Instructional Services Megan Black, FCC President/Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Jay Edgren, Director of Learning Commons Lori Noe, Office Assistant Ellen Shreve, Library Assistant Robert Tennyson, and Workforce Education Instructor Mike Woods.

Upcoming Events

April

- 8 Solar Eclipse. Classes Remote
- 19 Last Day to Withdraw from Courses
- 20 Lineman Rodeo

May

- 3 Last Day of Classes
- 6 First Day of Final Exams
- 10 Last Day of Semester/ Graduation

Bobcat Den Hours

Monday-Friday
7:30AM-4:30PM

2024 Service Awards cont.

Four were recognized for 15+ years of service including Mathematics Associate Professor Linda Monge, Director of Adult Education Rodney Raney, Associate Dean of B&I Laurie Taylor, and Administrative Assistant to the President Tara Farleigh, who has been a part of the FCC family for 25 years.

FCC and IECC were thrilled to be able to honor this year's recipients of service awards to recognize these staff and faculty members for reaching a benchmark after their respective years of service at IECC.

Summer Kids Classes at FCC

17 kids classes have been planned for this summer at FCC:

- Renewable Energy
- Junior Paleontology
- Beach Towel Tie Dye
- Cooking 101
- Origami
- Canvas Paint
- Kids Rock Paint
- Young Authors
- Sign Language
- Tie Dye T-Shirt
- Art Attack
- Intro to Robotics
- Camp CSI: Shark Attack
- Origami 2.0
- Art Around the World
- Science Exploration
- Scientist in Training

The first class will take place at the end of May and classes will continue throughout all of June and the first half of July. Last year there were a total of 109 students enrolled in at least one of the possible fifteen kid's classes/camps, some of whom are taking multiple classes resulting in nearly 300 enrollments. Kids classes continue to receive positive feedback and strong interest year to year. Our kids campus help keep the kids engaged and entertained while providing many of them with their first look at the FCC campus.



FAFSA Night

On Tuesday, February 20th, FCC hosted FAFSA Night in the Workforce Development Center. The event provided the opportunity for student and parents to come and learn more about the FAFSA process and have any questions and concerns answered.

During February, the U.S. Department of Education announced that a late change was being made to the formula used to calculate financial aid eligibility, which made more students eligible to receive aid. While the change is worthwhile, the downside was the delay of delivery of FAFSA information to colleges and universities, postponing financial aid award letters.

Filling out the FAFSA form is required of students and with a delay and sudden change to the form, an informational night to assist the students during the difficult time felt necessary said Coordinator of Financial Aid Justn Young. “FAFSA completion can be a difficult obstacle for high school students and their families. IECC FAFSA Nights are organized to help make this process as streamlined as possible. FAFSA completion is not a one-size-fits-all, each student and their family dynamic is unique. FAFSA Nights help financial aid professionals share information and resources about the types of aid that are available,” said Young.



FAFSA Night basket give-away winner
Greenlea Vaughan

Student Spotlight

Charley Roberston is one of our student ambassadors this semester. Charley is from Mt. Erie, IL, and attended Cisne High School before attending FCC. Charley is pursuing an associate degree in general studies and plans to transfer to a university to study criminal justice before starting a career in law enforcement. Charley talked about how great being an ambassador and all it encompasses has been. “My experience as a student ambassador has been truly remarkable and has provided many opportunities, a chance to be myself, and develop amazing relationships with everyone,” she said.



Student Ambassador
Charley Roberston

Scholastic Bowl Showdown



Jasper team, first-place winners



New Hope team, second-place

The Wayne County Scholastic Bowl took place on Friday, March 15th, as the championship round took place in West Hall at FCC.

Teams participated from Cisne, Geff, Wayne City, Jasper, Center Street School, and New Hope School.

After a very competitive day, Jasper was able to edge out a win against New Hope to earn first place.

College Admission Representative Carrie Halbert said having the scholastic bowl here on campus is a good way for the kids in the area to get exposure to FCC, some for the first time.

“The Wayne County Scholastic Bowl is an opportunity for middle school students to visit a college campus possibly for the first time. It’s important to create a college-minded attitude in middle school especially in students who excel in their grade level. These scholastic bowl students are just that, and we are excited to have them at FCC for the day. We at FCC encourage any age to visit campus and see what FCC can offer them,” Halbert said.



Title III Update

Throughout the 2024 school year, FCC Instructor Jodi Peach has been working diligently with Distance Learning Specialist Amanda Kotch to create engaging educational content to be added to Canvas for her courses in the Certified Medical Assistant program. During the month of March, Jodi completed the hybrid conversion of Medical Front Office and Introduction to ICD-10-CM. Using the Quality Matters (QM) rubric, both courses were found to meet the QM standards for high quality online courses.

Kotch noted how positive of an experience it has been working with Peach. “Jodi has been amazing to work with. She’s managed to finish two classes so far, with a third one to be completed very soon. At our current pace, we will be on track to have the rest of the CMA classes completed by the end of summer,” said Kotch. Frontier is proud of its dedicated faculty who consistently strive to improve and innovate their courses to become the best instructors they can be.

QM standards focus on building accessible online course material that students can easily navigate, aligns with measurable Learning Objectives, and gives clear direction and support in order to maximize the students’ chances for success.

Business & Industry Update

Business and Industry (B&I): The B&I department was awarded a Non-credit Workforce Initiative Grant beginning on April 4, 2024 and ending on March 31, 2025. The grant was awarded in the amount of \$100,000 from the Illinois Community College Board.

B&I met with the City of Albion, Hella, BraunAbility, and Fairfield Memorial Hospital regarding the possibility of new training opportunities.

Associate Dean of B&I Laurie Taylor was selected to be a part of the 2024 Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers Emerging Leaders Program.

The B&I Quarterly Report was published during the first week of April.

Small Business Development Center (SBDC): The SBDC celebrated SBDC Day with an open house and a workshop on government contracts.

Emergency Preparedness (EP): Two Emergency Medical Response classes began in March for the Fairfield Police Department and the Fairfield Rural Fire Department.