

# KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



Summer 2017

## Upcoming Events

July

**21** *The Lion King*, OCC Theater, 7 p.m.

**22** *The Lion King*, OCC Theater, 2 p.m.

**28** *Last Day of Summer Semester Classes*

**28** *Last Day to Withdraw from Summer Semester Classes*

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

**31** *Summer Final Exams*

**31** *Fall Semester Textbook Sales Begin*

August

**1** *Summer Final Exams*

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

**10** *Faculty Staff Workshop*

**17** *Fall Semester Classes Begin*

## Register now for fall

Olney Central College is currently registering students for the fall semester. Classes start Aug. 17.

For more information or to register, stop by Student Services or call 395-7777.

## Lost and Found

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

## Students earn top honors at national conference

Olney Central College students Matthew Runyon and Ben Baker received top honors at the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) National Leadership Conference held June 24-27 in Anaheim.

The pair joined more than 1,800 of America's best and brightest college students who traveled to Southern California to establish their own Legacy of Leadership as they competed for the opportunity to win more than \$95,000 in cash awards in 60 business and business-related competitive events. The OCC students were among the top finishers with Runyon bringing home first-place awards in both Agribusiness and Current Events and Baker placing seventh in Sports Management and Marketing.

See Honors, Page 4



OCC students Matthew Runyon, left, and Ben Baker receive their awards at the PBL National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

## Cosmetology makes list of top beauty schools

Olney Central College's School of Cosmetology is celebrating its inclusion on the list of Top 50 Beauty and Cosmetology Schools released by TheBestColleges.org.

"We are very pleased to be ranked as one of the top schools in the country," Director Linda Miller said. "We constantly strive to improve the program so we are providing more and better services to our students."

OCC is one of only three cosmetology schools in Illinois to make the list and at

See Top, Page 5



OCC made the Top 50 Beauty and Cosmetology Schools list released by TheBestColleges.org. Pictured are students enrolled in summer classes. Front row, Nikki Littlejohn, Director Linda Miller and Somer Miller. Back row, Lab Assistant Sarah Holtz, Casey Hinkle, Alisha Vest, Chauncey Butler and Emily Harp.

# Michael Conn Named Dean of Instruction

Michael Conn is excited about the opportunities and challenges facing him as OCC's new Dean of Instruction.

"I taught for 18 years and enjoyed it, but I was at a point where I wanted to do something different in the field of education," Conn said of his decision to seek the post previously held by Dr. Jeffery Cutchin. "I want to use my experience and education to make a positive impact here at OCC."

Conn has served as an art instructor at OCC for nine years. He has been the Student Senate advisor since 2009, chaired the college council from 2011-2013 and served on several hiring committees. Before joining OCC, he taught in Michigan's Iron Mountain and Grand Haven public schools.

A resident of Olney, Conn is in the process of completing his Ph.D. in art education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He earned a master's degree in art and humanities from New York University and a bachelor's degree in education from Grand Valley State University with certification in elementary education and art education.

Conn assumed his new duties on June 26 and says he already has a feel for the new position that will enable him to go from addressing the needs of a single de-



partment to enhancing educational opportunities for students college-wide.

"I'm really enjoying the work," he said. "We have a great administrative team with President Rodney Ranes, Assistant Dean of Student Services Andi Pampe and Administrative Assistants Kathy Slichenmyer and Alyssa Maglone. Decisions here are made not as a single person but as a whole team. There is a lot of good, positive energy and I appreciate that."

With the fall semester quickly approaching, Conn is focusing his immediate efforts on increasing enrollment

among both transfer and technical students. In the coming months, he will be working with OCC marketing, retention and faculty to increase the number of students the college is assisting.

Although OCC isn't feeling the impact as deeply as many Illinois colleges and universities, the state budget crisis has saddled Conn and fellow administrators with the task of operating the college with fewer dollars.

"We have to use the resources we have and be as flexible and as positive as we can," Conn said. "I will work closely with the faculty to facilitate their needs. We want to ensure they have the equipment and resources they need to teach."

In addition, Conn plans to institute mentoring opportunities with faculty. He also wants to remain accessible interacting with the OCC students, faculty and staff, who will frequently see him walking the halls.

"I want to try to make everybody happy, but I know that isn't possible," Conn said. "We have to do everything the right way. If there is a problem, we have to do what is right and ethical. We have to look at what will be in the best interest and be most positive for the students and the institution, even if that solution is the more difficult one."

## Marshall attends training sessions

Logan Marshall will bring additional knowledge to the classroom this fall after completing two training sessions in Indiana.

The Industrial Maintenance Technology instructor spent four days learning Mitsubishi Programmable Logic Controllers programming at Allied Automation in Indianapolis. He also attended three-day training at Amatrol in Jeffersonville, learning the tabletop mechatronics system.

Students use both the Amatrol Tabletop Mechatronics trainer and Mitsubishi PLC and Human Machine Interface devices during the last semester of the IMT program.



## OCC offering furniture restoration class this fall

Have a family heirloom or a damaged piece of furniture you want to return to its former glory? Learn how this fall with OCC's furniture restoration class.

The course, HEC 1198 Furniture Restoration, will focus on complete refinishing, restoration and repair, while addressing furniture stripping, staining and color matching. Students also will have access to professional refinishing equipment including stripping, rinse and spray tanks.

Loran Budde, who has been refinishing furniture for more than 40 years, will be teaching the course with his grandson, Trenton Budde, who has 15 years' experience in the field and specializes in finish work and color matching.

The class is ideal for beginners who have a specific item they want to repair.

"They will be able to bring projects in and we will be there to guide them through the process," Loran Budde said. "We will teach them the different steps and what needs to be done."

The class will meet from 6 to 8:50 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning Aug. 22. For more information or to register, contact OCC Student Services at 395-7777.

## Keep vehicles locked

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

# OCC grad Jaclyn Shan receives Illinois CPA Society scholarship

Olney Central College alumna Jaclyn Shan is the recipient of a \$4,000 scholarship awarded by the Illinois CPA Society.

Shan, of Olney, received the Women's Executive Committee Advancing Women in Accounting Scholarship, which recognizes outstanding female accounting students who demonstrate leadership potential.

"I'm really excited, but not just about the monetary award," she said. "Being selected for an honor like this makes you feel like you are on the right track in your career."

Shan is among 33 college and university accounting students in the state to benefit from the society's Accounting Scholarship Program, funded by the CPA Endowment Fund of Illinois.

"The accounting profession is thriving and we're proud to support these dedicated students as they learn skills that will lead to promising careers," said Todd Shapiro, President and CEO of the Illinois CPA Society. "With this impressive group, the future of accounting is in good hands and we're thankful for the many generous donors who are providing the financial resources to help these students seek bright futures."

Shan always knew she wanted a career in business, but was undecided on a major. With no chosen field of study, Shan decided to take advantage of a scholarship she received from OCC and begin her associate's degree there.

"I thought it would provide a good foundation for my education and it was definitely a great decision," she said. "With the smaller class sizes, you receive more attention from your instructors. All of the teachers were very positive and I learned a lot. They were always there if I needed anything."

It was through her classes at OCC that Shan realized she wanted to become a certified public accountant.

"I had Kristi Urfer's accounting class and I really liked it," she said. "I kind of fell in love with accounting after that first class."

Shan completed her studies at OCC in December 2016. During the spring semester, she took online classes through both Eastern Illinois and Southern Illinois universities, before participating in OCC's commencement exercises in May.

Shan is currently serving an internship with Kemper CPA Group in Olney and will be attending EIU this fall. She plans to earn her bachelor's degree in accounting in May 2018 and, the following year, complete her master's degree in business administration with an accountancy concentration.

"I would definitely recommend OCC to others," she said. "While at OCC, I was president of two clubs, Phi Beta Lambda and Phi Theta Kappa. I don't think I would have had that opportunity at a larger school. I want to thank my teachers, family and friends who have helped me get to this point in my career."

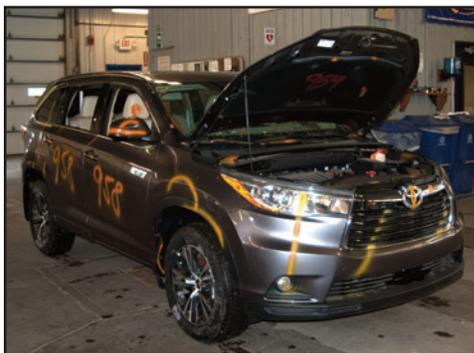


## Artistic Welding class begins Aug. 17 at WRC

Olney Central College is offering an artistic welding course at the West Richland Center in Noble. WEL 1206 Special Projects in Welding (Welding Sculpture) will meet from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning Aug. 17.

Tuition for the class is reduced for residents of the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District who are taking four semester hours or less in the IECC District. For more information or to register, call 395-7777.

# Toyota donates Highlander to Automotive Program

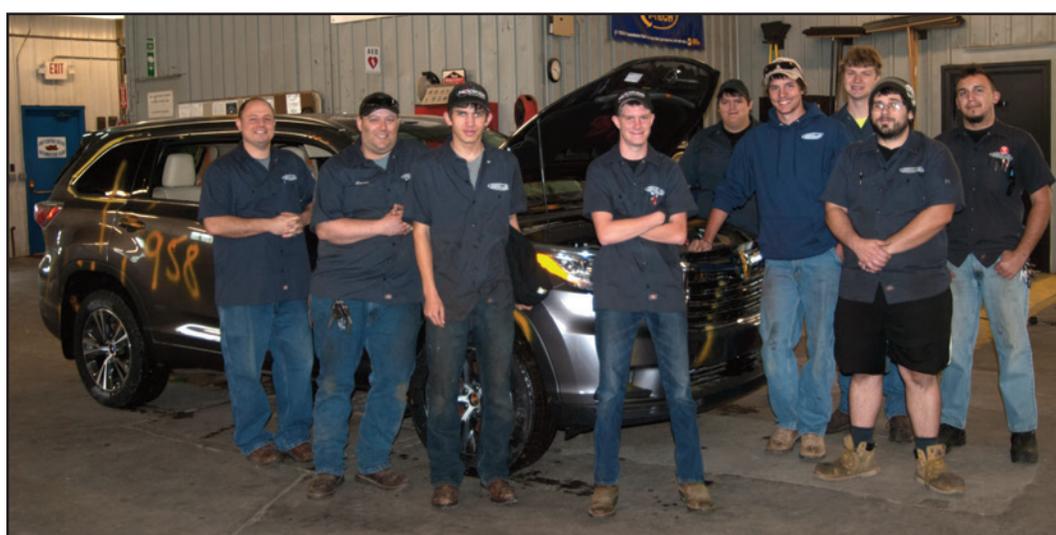


Olney Central College's Automotive Service Technology Program is the recipient of a second 2016 Toyota Highlander donated by Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Princeton, Ind.

The vehicle will be used in the lab, allowing students to gain hands-on experience working with the latest advancements in motor-vehicle technologies.

In addition to the two vehicles, Toyota has donated six engines and 10 transmissions for student use in the program.

"We are thankful to Toyota and grateful for the donations," Boyles said. "They allow our students to see the newest technology and enable us to provide more and better training for our students."



**OCC Automotive Service Technology Instructor Tyler Boyles (far left) and his students are pictured with the 2016 Highlander the program received from Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Princeton, Ind.**

## Honors *Continued from Page 1*

"It was really exciting," Runyon said. "You never know how many students you will be competing against. I met several whose career paths are similar to mine. To receive not one, but both first-place awards with so many students interested in the same area, it was pretty incredible."

Runyon, of Noble, and Baker, of Olney, were called to the stage and their accomplishments recognized during the PBL Awards of Excellence Program.

"It was pretty awesome. I didn't expect to make the top 10 or even place in the national competition," Baker said. "It was cool to be on the stage. I think it showed that what we are doing has paid off in a big way. We didn't just take a trip to California. I think placing as well as we did really validates the impact of PBL at OCC."

The awards are part of a comprehensive national competitive events program sponsored by Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda that recognizes and rewards excellence in a broad range of business and career-related areas. For many students, the competitive events are the capstone activity of

their academic careers. In addition to competitions, students immersed themselves in interactive workshops, visited an information-packed exhibit hall, and heard from motivational keynote speakers on a broad range of business topics.

To qualify to compete at Nationals, students must place first or second at the State Competition level. In addition to their winning categories, Runyon competed in Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, while Baker tackled Agribusiness, Current Events and Contemporary Sports Issues.

"It is a joy to see students compete in fields that they are passionate about and earn recognition for their hard work," said Amie Mayhall who along with fellow OCC instructor and PBL Advisor Shasta Bennett accompanied the students to the conference.

In addition to the recognition that Runyon and Baker received for their competitive events, they were awarded \$400 National Leadership Conference scholarships to help defray the cost of attending.

"What an amazing opportunity it is for students to be able to attend and compete in this yearly national convention," Bennett said. "I enjoy watching students

network and make lasting friendships at the convention as well as taking them to see a few of the area sights they may not otherwise have many chances to visit."

Runyon, who graduated in May, will transfer to the University of Illinois this fall to major in crop science, with a concentration in plant biotechnology. Baker, who plans to study aerospace engineering, will return to OCC.

"I want to thank our advisors for all of the hard work they put in and the college community," Runyon added. "We appreciate their support in encouraging us to be the best we can be."

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc., the premier student business organization, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) education association with a quarter million members and advisers in more than 6,500 active middle school, high school and college chapters worldwide. Its mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.

The association is headquartered in Reston, Va., just outside of Washington, D.C. For more information, visit [www.fbلا-pbl.org](http://www.fbلا-pbl.org).

# Foundation provides funds for new IMT, HVAC equipment

The Olney Central College Foundation is dedicated to ensuring student success by providing the funds needed to purchase essential equipment for the classroom. Students in the Industrial Maintenance Technology and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning programs are among those benefiting this fall.

With the foundation's assistance, Instructor Logan Marshall acquired six Siemens Programmable Logic Controllers and Human Machine Interface educational packages as well as two dual-fuel heat pump systems for student use.

Marshall noted that several manufacturers use the Siemens' products and the training equipment will enable students to gain skills sought by area employers. Both the IMT and HVAC students will utilize the heat pump systems. The units include new technologies and will give students the opportunity to work with 410A refrigerant, which is now a standard in the industry.

"I appreciate the funding and support the foundation has provided to our programs," Marshall said. "Without their help, we would not be able to offer the level of training we should to the local employers."



**Pictured with the new IMT and HVAC equipment, from left, are Instructor Logan Marshall, Foundation President Bart Zuber and Foundation Members Walter Koertge and Larry Miller.**

## Top *Continued from Page 1*

No. 27 is the highest-ranked program in the state.

Selections were based on a number of factors including admissions, student loan default, retention and graduation rates provided by colleges and universities to the National Center of Education Statistics.

"This year, we reviewed all accredited beauty and cosmetology schools in the U.S. to select 50 that provide students with the best learning experience," said Charlotte Morris, of the Outreach Team for TheBestColleges.org. "OCC stood out with an outstanding program."

Miller said OCC's selection validates the program's efforts to provide a wide array of opportunities and training in the latest industry techniques. That includes bringing product educators to the West Richland Center, which houses the program.

An educator with the hair-coloring manufacturer, Scruples, recently instructed students on hair painting, an emerging technique, which creates natural-looking highlights.

"She was surprised at how much our students knew," Miller said. "A lot of the

schools she had been to were not teaching it. It is nice to know we are doing things other schools aren't. It reaffirms that we are keeping up with the latest advances."

OCC's cosmetology students also are exposed to the latest trends through their attendance at national hair shows in cities like Nashville and Chicago.

"There, students get to picture what the whole field is like," Miller said. "They can see there is more to cosmetology than being a stylist behind the chair. They can be a product educator and work full- or part-time as a manufacturers' representative selling products to salons. They can be makeup artists and even a teacher."

While enrolled in the program, students participate in both classroom and clinical experiences, learning all facets of the industry, including hair shaping, skin care, makeup, scalp treatments and chemical hair relaxing. Pedicures, manicures, massage and shop management are also covered. Students can complete their certificate in less than 12 months.

Last year, the cosmetology program expanded its opportunities for students by creating a Nail Technology Certificate, which is offered in the evenings.

Students can complete the program in two semesters, receiving clinical training in manicures, pedicures, fabric and sculpting procedures, light cured gels and massaging of the extremities.

Both programs enable students to work under the tutelage and supervision of the skilled instructors.

"The one-on-one teaching is really helpful," said Casey Hinkle, a cosmetology student from Fairfield. "I've enjoyed the program and I'm looking forward to starting my career."

Cost is also important to students. Miller noted OCC's tuition and fees are significantly lower than those of other cosmetology programs. Unlike private beauty schools, financial aid is available for qualifying OCC students.

Miller continues to be proud of her students and their success. This year the program boasted a 100-percent pass rate for graduates taking the state-licensing exam.

"What sets us apart is we have a support team that really cares about our students," she added.

OCC's School of Cosmetology is accepting new students for fall classes, which start Aug. 17. For more information or to register, call 395-7777.

## Nail Technology accepting students for fall semester

Olney Central College's Nail Technology Program is accepting new students.

Courses are offered in the evenings and students who begin the program this fall will be able to complete their certificates in May 2018. The program consists of four classes with students receiving clinical training in manicures, pedicures, fabric and sculpting procedures, light cured gels and massaging of the extremities.

Area cosmetologists and massage therapists can expand the services they provide to clients by completing this training.

Classes begin Aug. 21 at the West Richland Center in Noble.

Those interested in the program are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible.

To register or for more information, call 395-7777. You can request an appointment to meet with the program advisor at [www.iecc.edu/occ/appointment](http://www.iecc.edu/occ/appointment).

## Automotive Program receives new lift

As Olney Central College's Automotive Service Technology instructor, Tyler Boyles continually strives to improve the program and its facility. This fall students will have access to a new lift purchased with funding from the OCC Foundation.

Boyles said the acquisition of a third lift will enable students to undertake more projects in this hands-on program. Students also will benefit from learning how to operate the lifts, which they will encounter in the workplace.

"The classes have 15 to 20 students and we are very thankful to have the new lift," Boyles said. "We are grateful to the Foundation. We would not have this equipment without their help."

With the need for skilled automotive technicians continuing to increase, Boyles said now is a great time for both recent high school graduates and individuals looking for a second career to enter the program.

"There is a huge gap in the workforce right now with the baby boomers retiring," he said. "That need for trained technicians makes our program even more important."



The Automotive Service Technology Program purchased a lift with funds from the OCC Foundation. Pictured with the lift, from left, are Foundation Member Walter Koertge, Foundation President Bart Zuber, Foundation Member Larry Miller and Instructor Tyler Boyles.

## Biker Bible Church donates funds for scholarship



Members of Olney's Biker Bible Church presented a donation to establish a scholarship at OCC in memory of 8-year-old Sabrina Stauffenberg, who was killed last November.

Shortly after the Olney girl's death, James Thomas said members were approached about assisting the family with funeral expenses. They eagerly agreed and organized a fundraising ride, which generated more than \$3,570.

When organizers learned other charities had already covered the family's expenses, they decided to use the monies to honor the third-grader's memory through a scholarship at OCC.

The scholarship will be administered through the OCC Foundation and awarded to students with financial need who utilize the OCC Learning Skills Center's services.