



# The Knightline

Olney Central College Students & Employees Monthly Newsletter

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## OCC's 48th Commencement May 11

### *Walter Koertge recipient of 2012 Alumnus Award*

Olney Central College's 48th annual commencement exercises will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 11 in the OCC Gymnasium.

OCC will confer approximately 396 degrees and certificates. Friends and relatives of the graduates are invited to attend.

The 2012 Alumnus Award will be presented to Walter Koertge, Vice President and Branch Manager for Citizens National Bank of Albion and a past member of the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Board of Trustees.

"I'm very honored to receive the award,"

Koertge said. "It was a great honor to get and I was very surprised."

Koertge, the son of Loy and Peggy Koertge, attended Calhoun Grade School and was graduated from East Richland High School in 1965. He began his studies at OCC that fall, just as the fledgling college was entering its third academic year.

"There were probably no more than 200 or 300 students attending classes in the old Pure Oil Building," Koertge said. "I don't think there were many night classes or any technical programs then. Basically, it was just English, math, science and business



**Walter Koertge**

classes."

At the time, Koertge said the college drew students mainly from Olney, Lawrenceville, Flora and Newton. He enjoyed maintaining the friendships he made with classmates at East Richland and meeting students from the surrounding communities.

"It was a small school and you knew most of the students," he said. "I made a lot of good friends and we had a lot of fun together."

OCC's basketball team played its first season during the 1965-1966 school year and Koertge enjoyed attending the games.

"We had a group of friends that would follow the team to different games and at home a group of us would sit together and cheer them on," he said. "We had a good team and a winning record."

Koertge also fondly recalls the day he ran into OCC's new dean, Gail Lathrop.

"He was my high school principal for four years and he was chuckling when I saw him. He said, 'I thought I got rid of you and I've ended up having you again.'"

Koertge said it wasn't uncommon in those early

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## OCC ranked among top 120 community colleges

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has ranked Olney Central College as one of the nation's best community colleges for the second consecutive year.

Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America's community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program recently released a list of 120 community colleges which made the cut to be considered for the \$1 million fund for the 2013 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The Aspen Institute identified the elite community colleges – 10 percent of all institutions – using a quantitative formula that assesses performance and improvement in four areas: graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates and equity in student outcomes. These colleges will now compete for the prestigious honor following a year-long research process into how well their students learn, complete degrees and get jobs with competitive wages after graduating.

The inaugural Aspen Prize for

Community College Excellence was awarded to the 70,000-student Valencia College in Orlando, Fla., in December 2011.

It was the first broad national recognition of extraordinary accomplishments at individual community colleges.

Some 7 million students – youth and adult learners – enroll in America's nearly 1,200 public and private community colleges every year.

"The success of our nation's

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# Ranes receives Rising Star Award

Olney Central College President Rodney Raney is a recipient of the 2012 Rising Star Award presented by Eastern Illinois University's College of Education and Professional Studies.

Established in 2009, the CEPS Alumni Awards program celebrates and honors alumni who have excelled in their fields. The Rising Star Award is presented to alumni, within 10 years of graduation from EIU, who have excelled in their field or career for which the CEPS degree prepared them. The alumni awards were presented during a reception March 28 at EIU.

"I'm very honored the College of Education and Professional Studies would think of me for such an award," Raney said. "I thoroughly enjoyed the faculty who set me on my path and helped me meet the goals I set for myself years ago.

"The master's program provided excellent work experience with graduate assistantships and intern-



**OCC President Rodney Raney receives the 2012 Rising Star Award from Eastern Illinois University's College of Education and Professional Studies.**

ships," he added. "It provided a solid foundation with the coursework provided by the faculty."

A graduate of OCC, Raney joined the college as its Dean of Instruction in 2009. He served as the college's interim president from August 2010 until March 2011, when he was named OCC president.

Before joining OCC, Raney served as Director of Graduate Admissions at Eastern Illinois University

in Charleston for four years.

EIU established an award in Raney's honor. The Rodney S. Raney Graduate Faculty Mentor Award recognizes faculty who exemplify the highest ideals of the engaged faculty member. The award honors faculty whose mentoring serves as an example to the graduate community by combining a commitment to scholarship, professional, clinical

or creative work with innovative and effective graduate teaching.

Raney was employed by the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District from 1996 to 2002, serving as a part-time advisor for the Upward Bound Program before being named assistant director and later director of the Educational Talent Search Program.

Raney holds a master's degree in college student affairs from Eastern Illinois University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in education and organizational leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

An Olney resident, Raney is a member of the Rotary Club of Richland County, Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission, Olney Chamber of Commerce and the Richland County Development Corporation.

## OCC Jazz Fest

Guest Clinician Patrick Harbison directs members of the Southeastern Illinois Honors Jazz Ensemble during the OCC Jazz Fest on May 3. Harbison is a professor of Jazz Studies at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Also performing were the Lawrenceville High School Jazz Band, the East Richland High School Jazz Ensemble, the Newton Community High School Jazz Band and the OCC Jazz Ensemble.



# Russ Jausel retiring after 35 years at OCC

Russ Jausel came to Olney Central College in 1976 to complete his student teaching and never left. Now the college's most tenured instructor, Jausel is preparing to retire later this month.

"I'm going to miss the people and the students," Jausel said. "Knowing you're doing something to help others is a good feeling. The paycheck here isn't always monetary."

Jausel, who served 35 years as an instructor, relished preparing students for careers in welding and industrial maintenance.

"I've enjoyed seeing the students come in, get involved, mature, get a job and then come back and say, 'Thanks,'" he said. "A lot of them come back and tell you what they're doing. They have families and successful careers. It's been very rewarding."

"I have students who were lax in high school with homework," he continued. "They come here and find something they really like to do. They volunteer to do things. That's the environment of col-



**Retired OCC President Dr. Jackie L. Davis recognizes longtime instructor Russ Jausel during a retirement reception May 1 in the OCC Banquet Room.**

lege. Parents tell me these same students are doing outside assignments voluntarily."

As an instructor, Jausel especially enjoyed working with students on the various projects they have undertaken annually. Over the years, students have built items for local industry and completed several community projects.

Last year Jausel's students constructed a new sculpture for the college's north entrance. Jausel said the students took

ownership and pride in the sculpture, which bears their names. Many came in on their own time to work on it. Jausel and his current students are putting the finishing touches on the sculpture and hope to complete the project in time for graduation.

Jausel also enjoyed the occasions when he and the students could cook together making chowder or frying morels students brought with them.

"When we completed a project and received

money, we would use it to purchase food and cook for the students," he added.

Jausel noted both welding equipment and classroom instruction have changed since he began teaching. Students now check grades and take tests online, giving them instant feedback. In addition to lecture, they can now watch DVDs.

"We used to have them read the book, talk about it in class and do it," Jausel said. "Now, instruction covers multiple learning styles."

Jausel earned a master's degree in education at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He was previously employed as an ironworker journeyman and welder.

Jausel said it was his lifelong love of learning, which led him to pursue a career in education.

"One way to stay in school is to teach it," he added.

Jausel plans to continue teaching part-time at OCC following his retirement.

## Register now for fall semester hybrid math classes

Olney Central College is offering two hybrid math classes, which combine the best of face-to-face and online instruction.

PRE 0420 Intermediate Algebra will meet from 10 to 10:50 a.m. and MTH 1102 College Algebra will meet from 11 to 11:50 a.m. Both classes will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the fall semester. Students will complete assignments, quizzes and exams online.

"Sometimes students are a bit tentative about doing some of their work

online, but the course software we have is very helpful," said Lisa Benson, the instructor for both classes. "For example, if they are doing a homework problem at 2 a.m., they obviously can't talk to their instructor, but inside the software they have several options if they are stuck. There is a view an example option, a help me work this problem option, a watch a video option, and a watch an animation option."

Benson said the view an example option takes students through the solution to the problem and then

gives them a similar problem to work. The help me work this problem option takes the student through the problem step by step with immediate feedback on each step, then gives them a similar problem to work on their own. Watch a video allows students to see a teacher working out the problem on a whiteboard while watch an animation shows each step of the problem.

"Not every problem has every option available, but they all have view an example, and help me work

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# Lisa Benson retiring after 27 years with IECC

Longtime math instructor Lisa Benson is retiring from Olney Central College after 27 years with the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District.

An OCC graduate, Benson returned to her alma mater in 1995 after teaching 10 years at Wabash Valley College and two years at Belleville Area College, now Southwestern Illinois College.

"I was a community college product. I came from a small high school and couldn't afford to go to a four-year school right away," Benson said. "I have enjoyed being able to teach and give back to the college that gave me my educational beginning."

Benson earned both a bachelor's degree in secondary math education and a master's degree in mathematics education from Eastern Illinois University. In 1997, she received the OCC Alumna Award. In 2007, the Illinois Mathematics Association of Community



**Retired OCC President Dr. Jackie L. Davis congratulates Lisa Benson on her retirement during a reception on May 1.**

Colleges recognized Benson with its Distinguished Service Award.

"The thing I've enjoyed most about teaching is watching the students develop over the course of the semester or, if they are taking a sequence of classes, watching them develop over two or three semesters," she said.

Benson served as OCC's Dean of Instruction from 2004 until 2008, when she decided to return to the

classroom full-time.

"I really enjoyed my administrative experience," she said. "I got a different perspective of the college and how it runs on the administrative side."

Benson noted technology in and out of the classroom has changed greatly since she began her career.

"When I started at Wabash Valley, we were still using mimeograph machines and we corrected

mistakes with a razor blade," she said. "We were lucky if we had a typewriter in the office. There have been a lot of technological developments in the past 10 years. We've gone from distance to online learning and are able to look at new ways to present material and get it to the students. It's been challenging and exhilarating at the same time."

During her years at OCC, Benson has coordinated the annual World Wide Youth in Science and Engineering competition for area high school students. She also has been an active member of the OCC Theatre and last fall participated in the Community Chorus.

Benson plans to continue teaching part-time at OCC and will be the instructor for two fall semester hybrid classes, intermediate and college algebra.

"I really enjoyed the people I have worked with and I will miss seeing them every day," Benson said.

## Spring Fling

Students participate in the Fear Factor contest during OCC's annual Spring Fling on April 19. The Student Senate-sponsored event featured a free pancake breakfast, games, live bands, and inflatables. Around 70 students attended this year's event.



## Summer, fall registration

OCC is now registering students for intersession, summer and fall semester classes.

Three-week intersession classes begin Monday, May 14 and eight-week summer semester classes start Tuesday, June 5. Fall semester classes begin Thursday, Aug. 16.

Summer and fall schedules may be obtained from the Student Services Office or visit [www.iecc.edu](http://www.iecc.edu).

For registration information and appointments, contact the Student Services Office.

## Radiography program application seminar

The Olney Central College Radiography Program will host an application seminar for prospective students at 6 p.m. on July 26 in the OCC Banquet Room.

All students wishing to apply for acceptance into the Radiography Program for 2013 must attend the meeting. No registration is required.

Those attending will receive the radiography application and admission requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Pre-Radiography Advisor Joyce Nix at 395-7777, ext. 2015.



## Community Band Concert *Blue Book Presentation*

The OCC Community Band will present its annual concert at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 10 in the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center. Admission is free.

**OCC Student Nurses Association Vice President Aurora Gibbs of Casey, and President Miranda Mitchell of Albion, present Anderson Library Director Charlotte Bruce (center) with the Illinois Blue Book the Nursing Department received from Secretary of State Jesse White. The book will be housed in the library's collection.**

## OCC

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community colleges is more important than ever before," said Aspen Institute College Excellence Program Executive Director Josh Wyner. "At a time when a college degree is essential to entering the middle class, community colleges like Olney Central College offer the most promising path to education and employment for literally millions of Americans. This competition spotlights excellence and we encourage OCC to apply for the nation's top community college prize to help raise the bar for all community colleges to improve student achievement and better prepare the next generation for the job market after college."

Three of the institutions which made the list are part of the four-college Illinois Eastern Community College System, which includes OCC, Frontier Community College in Fairfield, Lincoln Trail College in Robinson and Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel.

OCC, LTC, WVC and 117 other community colleges will be winnowed to between eight and 10 finalists in September based on how much students learn, how many

complete their programs on time and how well students do in the job market after graduating.

OCC and the other colleges are now eligible to submit an application containing detailed data on these criteria. Colleges must demonstrate they deliver exceptional student results, use data to drive decisions and continually improve over time.

The Aspen Institute will conduct site visits to each of the finalists in the fall. A distinguished Prize Jury co-chaired by John Engler, president of Business Roundtable, former Michigan governor and former president of the National Association of Manufacturers, and Richard Riley, former South Carolina governor and U.S. Secretary of Education, will select a grand prize winner and four runners-up to be announced in March 2013.

"American employers have jobs open right now, but lack enough skilled, educated workers to fill them," Engler said. "The job training programs at community colleges must play a central role in filling those gaps and preparing the American workforce. Community colleges' success will help determine

whether and in what sectors America will continue to lead in the global economy."

While every community college faces challenges, particularly in today's economic climate, Secretary Riley underscored the importance of improving outcomes for community college students, the majority of whom are underrepresented minorities.

"Many community colleges across this country are doing an excellent job of boosting student success, but we need to encourage all community colleges to achieve excellence," he said. "When students learn more, graduate or transfer to four-year institutions, and get competitive-wage jobs after college, it helps everyone – students, employers and our nation's economy as a whole."

The Aspen Prize is funded by America Achieves, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Joyce Foundation, JP Morgan Chase Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Lumina Foundation for Education.

A full list of the top 120 community colleges is available at [www.AspenCCPrize.org](http://www.AspenCCPrize.org).

## Massage Therapy taking appointments for clinicals

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

The clinics are open to the public. Appointment times are 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., 1:45 to 2:45 p.m., 2 to 3 p.m., 3 to 4 p.m., 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. on June 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27; and July 9, 10, 11 and 16.

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 muscle 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 Holistic Fair

**Mandy Fox, owner of Mandy's Massage and Ear Candling in Fairfield and an OCC graduate, performs ear candling on Devin Nesler during the Massage Therapy Program's Holistic Fair on April 28. The fair gave visitors an opportunity to learn more about chiropractic care, healing touch, nutrition and massage therapy.**

## ONLINE PAYMENT

**Step 1:** Log into your Entrata account with your username and password. Click on the Banner Web icon at the right-hand side of your screen.



**Banner Web**  
Records | Financial Aid |  
Transcript

**Step 2:** Click on Pay Tuition, Fees, and Other Charges Online — Credit Card to make your online Payment.

Student Records

- Account by Term
- Account Summary
- Account Summary by Term
- Degree Evaluation
- Final Grades by Term
- Holds on Your Account
- Payments - Pay Tuition, Fees, and Other Charges Online - Credit Card
- Payment History and Statement
- Select Tax Year
- Student Information
- Tax Notification
- Transcript - Unofficial

RELEASE: 7.5

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.

## OCC emergency alerts

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges has contracted with e2Campus to provide alert notification services.

The system will notify students and employees of campus emergencies and closures by e-mail and/or cell phone text message. Log onto Entrata and click on the alerts link to activate an account.

IECC Alerts is an opt-in service. While there is no direct cost for signing up for the service, you may be charged a text message fee by your cell phone provider.

Please check your cell phone

plan to understand the costs you may incur using the service.

The system will be used to send text messages related to campus emergencies,

weather-related closures, test messages and notifications when accounts are about to expire.

If you do not have an Entrata account, please contact the Records Office at 395-7777.



## LSC offers students free tutoring

Need help bringing up a grade in one of your classes? The Learning Skills Center offers free tutoring in any subject taught at OCC.

Study guides and videos are available in several subjects.

If you have any special learn-

ing needs, come and see the LSC staff.

They will be glad to provide suggestions, help and/or accommodations.

The LSC is located in the back of the Anderson Library in Conference Room 4.

## PTK collects textbooks

If you can't sell your textbooks back to the OCC Bookstore, don't throw them away. Donate them to Books for Africa.

OCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter is collecting textbooks from any subject.

The textbooks will be packed up and shipped to college students in Africa who do not have access to the quality of books that are available in America.

Textbooks may be placed in the collection boxes around campus now through May 11.

## College closed

OCC will be closed on Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day.



## *SAN Community Service Project*

**OCC's Student Advantage Network Leadership Class developed a community service project to benefit the SWAN (Stopping Woman Abuse Now) shelter in Olney. After reaching out to community businesses for help funding the project, SAN students were able to raise \$400 during their porkburger fund-raiser. Community members who helped were Patrick Burke, Cindy Snyder, IGA, McDonald's, Pizza Fast, First National Bank, First Financial Bank, Olney Daily Mail and Ferrell Gas. SAN would like to thank all of its community partners for helping with the project. SWAN is an important helping hand in our community and has touched the lives of many. SWAN plans to use the funds raised for medication and a fun activity day for the children there. Pictured presenting the donation, from left, are Logan French, Dena Smith, Brynn Hickenbottom, SAN Academic Counselor Jennifer Stroughmatt, SWAN Program Director Anne Zuber, Haley Nolen, Elizabeth Frichtl and Nathaniel Stout.**

## Koertge

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days for students to complete a single year at OCC before transferring.

"At that time, OCC wasn't accredited and some things didn't transfer," he said. "The universities didn't always readily accept classes and you had to be careful. Things have really changed since then."

Koertge transferred to Southern Illinois University and received his bachelor's degree in 1969. He served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1971.

After being discharged, the Richland County native and his wife, Nancy, moved back to the Olney area. Except for a short period of time in Memphis, Tenn., they have continued to live in Richland County. The couple currently resides on a farm south of Olney, which Koertge's grandfather purchased in 1927.

Koertge has been involved in lending and banking in different capacities since 1971 and attended the Graduate School of Banking at

the University of Wisconsin.

He also farmed for several years in the late 1970s and 1980s. Koertge attends Ebenezer United Methodist Church and recently joined the OCC Foundation Executive Board.

Koertge also served nine years as a member of the IECC Board of Trustees.

"Because of that, I have a much greater understanding of the importance of the community college system, especially in communities served by our IECC District," he said. "I really enjoyed those years. The college is a great thing for the community and a great institution."

Koertge said OCC has come a long way since voters approved establishing a junior college in September 1962.

"I think we have had very good leadership and instructors over the years. OCC is a tremendous asset to the community and will continue to be. Most people never envisioned 40 years ago that OCC would have

evolved into what is today. There were some naysayers, who said, 'We don't need a college.' Thank goodness for the strong leadership of people like Gail Lathrop, Les Purdy and Dr. Kent Wattleworth. They really made it grow and evolve over the years. It has provided a lot of opportunities for a lot of people.

"I was not an honor student in high school and if I had not gone to OCC, I might not have been accepted at a university," Koertge added. "OCC provided the opportunity for me to do things I might not have been able to do otherwise. It was a great place to get started."

The Koertges have two children, Shelli and Brent, who also attended OCC and transferred to SIU.

Shelli and her husband, Tom Wright, have three children, Samantha, Adam and Chloe.

Brent Koertge and his wife, Kelly, have two children, Jackson and James.

Both families reside in the St. Louis area.

# OCC students named to All-Illinois Academic Team

Phi Theta Kappa co-advisors Carmen Jones and Kelly Payne attended the annual All-Illinois Academic Team Banquet, on April 18 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield.

Jones and Payne were joined by the college's nominees to the All-Illinois Academic Team, Brandon Bailey and Amy Britton. Family members of both students were also in attendance for the special dinner and award ceremony.

For their commitment to academic excellence, Bailey and Britton were presented with a special certificate and medallion. A framed picture featuring both recipients was also presented to the college and can be viewed on the wall outside Room 102, where photographs of past OCC recipients also reside. Bailey and Britton had previously been recognized for their academic team selection at the OCC Student Awards ceremony on April 9.

"As always, Carmen and I were excited to join Brandon, Amy and their families in Springfield for this special event," Payne said. "The evening's celebration represents the culmination of a year-long process which begins in early October with the selection of the two recipients and continues through the application



**OCC Phi Theta Kappa members Amy Britton and Brandon Bailey were named to the All-Illinois Academic Team.**

process to finally seeing each student have his or her medallion placed around his or her neck.

"In past years, the selection process has been one of the most arduous tasks Carmen and I face as PTK advisors; with so many talented students to choose from, selecting just two sometimes feels impossible," Payne added.

"However, as in past years, this year's recipients truly reflect the core hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa: scholarship, leadership and service. Brandon and Amy are excellent students and both have been active PTK members since they became members. They both eagerly take their PTK membership beyond the club meetings, never

hesitating to help out with various fundraisers and service projects PTK conducts in and around the campus community. Carmen and I are confident that both will continue to succeed in all that they do. We wish Brandon and Amy the very best as they continue with their educational and career goals."

Each community college in the state is permitted to nominate two students to the All-Illinois Academic Team. The students must complete a lengthy application process to even be considered for the honor. The banquet serves as the final recognition of their success.

This year, more than 1,600 community college students competed for

recognition, scholarships and a coveted spot on the national team. Of those 1,600 hopefuls, a small handful, based on their academic achievements and community service and involvement, are selected to the All-USA Academic Gold, Silver and Bronze Teams.

However, whether one is selected to the national teams or not, all of the students recognized at the All-Illinois awards ceremony reflect a commitment to higher education and how one person can truly make an impact on his or her community and on the world at large. The list of accomplishments already achieved by these students is both humbling and inspiring, and leads many to consider these special PTK Scholars as "first among equals."

Ultimately, the evening was a wonderful time to celebrate the accomplishments of these talented students and to spotlight the high caliber of education being delivered at community colleges around the state, and the country overall. These individuals truly represent some of the best and brightest students higher education has to offer, and as they make their way to various colleges and universities around the country they are reminded to "never forget from whence they came: Illinois Community Colleges."

## OCC encouraging students to complete GED before changes

Olney Central College is encouraging those who haven't completed their GEDs to do so before changes are made to the test.

"Anyone who has taken part of

the test already needs to finish as soon as possible," said Learning Skills Center Director Donita Kaare. "If they don't, they will lose those partial tests and have to start

over."

Kaare said the GED exam undergoes changes about every 10 years. Beginning in 2014, all GED testing

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# OCC student art exhibit

The Olney Central College Student Art show will continue now through Aug. 1 in the Anderson Library Gallery.

This is a collection of works by the OCC Art Introduction, Understanding Art, Painting, Drawing and Ceramics classes.

Artwork is available for sale through contact with the student artists.

Gallery hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Friday.



**An exhibit of student artwork is currently on display in the OCC Anderson Library Gallery.**

# OCC summer chemistry class

Looking for a summer semester class that will leave your afternoons free?

CHM 1120 Introductory Chemistry will meet from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Monday through Thursday, beginning June 5.

The class counts as five credits of physical science with a lab.

To register for the course, call 395-7777.

For more information about the class, e-mail instructor Nick Wright at [wrightn@iecc.edu](mailto:wrightn@iecc.edu).

# GED

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will be computer-based and each subject tested will include short answer questions.

"Those who aren't comfortable working with the computer will want to complete their testing because this will be their last chance to take it with pencil and paper," Kaare added.

Students also will encounter more

algebra questions on the new exam.

"In the past, algebra made up only a small percentage of the math questions," Kaare said. "On the new test, 55 percent of the questions will be algebra."

Fees for GED testing also will increase with the new exam.

"No one knows what the new test will cost, but it is expected to be

double what it is now," Kaare said.

OCC will offer eight-week day and evening GED classes beginning June 5. Subject areas taught include math, reading, science, social studies, English and Constitution.

All GED classes and books are free.

To register or for more information, call 395-7777, ext. 2267.

# Hybrid

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this problem," Benson added.

Katelynn Miller, who is taking the Intermediate Algebra course this spring, enjoys the online helps, which reinforce what she is learning in the classroom.

"If I don't understand something, I can get extra practice online and see additional examples of the problems," she said. "With the hybrid class, you're actually getting double the practice."

Miller said the hybrid format is especially helpful if you must miss a class.

"You can always go online and watch the videos, which show you how to solve the problems," she said. "I can watch the videos and it is like I'm sitting in the classroom."

Joe Hunt, who is enrolled in college algebra this spring, enjoys the fact the tests and a majority of the quizzes are online.

"I like being able to take them on my own time," he said. "I can study right before the test and it is also a lot more comfortable taking them at home instead of in the classroom."

Benson said the online quizzes and exams give students the flexibility to take tests on days and times which are convenient to their schedules.

"They are still timed, but I allow a little more time than in an in-class setting and I usually give them two tries on each quiz or exam," she added.

In addition to the online help, Benson said students taking the

hybrid class still have face-to-face instruction time and an opportunity to ask questions of the instructor.

"I really like taking a hybrid class and would recommend it to other students," Miller said. "I'm not a huge math person, but I find it easier in the hybrid class."

Hunt, who hadn't taken a hybrid course before, said it has been a good experience.

"I would definitely recommend it to other students," he said. "You can get online and there are extra things you can do. If there is something you don't know, it will help you solve the problem. I actually think it is better than a traditional class."

For more information or to register, contact the OCC Student Services Office at 395-7777.

# LSC offering 3-week Fast Track GED class

Olney Central College is offering a GED Fast Track class to help students complete their GEDs in just three weeks.

Learning Skills Center Director Donita Kaare said the 15-day program is designed for students who have passed two or more subjects of the GED test or who have a 10th grade or higher reading level. Students will attend the free class from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday beginning May 14. The course will be taught by longtime ABE/GED instructor Cindy Foerster.

"The class is intended for highly motivated students who want to get a job or go to college and get on with their lives," Kaare said. "We offered the Fast Track class for the first time last year and three people were able to pass their GEDs right away. We hope more people will come in and finish this year."

Students who complete the class will be eligible to take their remaining GED tests in June and enroll in college this fall.

## Earn college credit in 3 weeks at OCC

Earn college credit in just three weeks with Olney Central College's summer intersession classes.

Courses meeting Monday through Friday, May 14-June 1, include:

- ENG 1121 Composition & Analysis, 10:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.
- PEG 1137 First Aid & Safety Education, 8 to 11 a.m.
- SOC 2101 Principles of Sociology, 10:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.
- SPE 1101 Fundamentals of Effective Speaking, 10:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.

Other classes available include:

## 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.

Kaare noted the GED test will be changing in 2014 and students, who haven't completed all subject areas by then, will have to start over and pay for the test a second time. The new test will be computer-based and each test will include short answer questions.

"Those who aren't comfortable working with the computer will want to complete their testing because this will be their last chance to take it with pencil and paper," Kaare added.

Fees for GED testing also will increase with the new exam.

"No one knows what the new test will cost, but it is expected to be double what it is now," Kaare said. "We encourage anyone who has started to get in and finish."

Applications are currently being accepted for the GED Fast Track class. For more information, call 395-7777, ext. 2267, or toll-free 1-866-622-4322 as soon as possible.

Those who don't qualify for Fast Track can enroll in regular summer GED classes, which start June 5.

• MUS 1101 Music Appreciation, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, May 15-June 1

• PRE 0420 Intermediate Algebra, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, May 14-May 31

Students who are home for the summer can take the English, music, sociology and speech classes and transfer the credit to their current university or the one they will be attending this fall.

To register, contact the OCC Student Services Office at 395-7777.

## Scholarship info

Looking for a good source for scholarship information? Then you will want to visit [www.studentscholarships.org](http://www.studentscholarships.org).

## 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:

### May

- 5 Tina Pierce
- 7 Ken Westray
- 8 Judith Hudson-WVC
- 12 Holly Farley
- 17 Shasta Bennett
- 25 Russ Jausel
- 26 Cheryl Dill

## Knightline Information

Please submit information for the Summer Knightline to Deanna Ratts by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5.

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