



# The Knightline

Olney Central College Students & Employees Monthly Newsletter

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## Foundation provides funding for websites

The Olney Central College Music Department is unveiling two new websites to promote activities in the arts throughout the region.

The OCC Foundation donated funding for the websites' development in honor of Bob Ferguson, who served 12 years on its Executive Board before leaving this past July.

"The Foundation is very appreciative of Bob's service on the Executive Board and the difference he made for the college and its students," said OCC Foundation President Deborah Mitchell. "The Board wants to recognize Bob and express our appreciation through this donation."

The first website [www.occmusic.org](http://www.occmusic.org) features information about upcoming performances, audition dates and requirements and course offerings, as well as interviews with faculty, students and community members sharing their thoughts about their experiences in the OCC Music Department.

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The OCC Foundation recently provided funding for the development of two new Music Department websites. The donation was made in honor of longtime Executive Board Member Bob Ferguson. Pictured, from left, are Ferguson, OCC Foundation President Deborah Mitchell and OCC Director of Bands Suzanne Downes.

## Information Systems Technology Program added

Olney Central College will offer a new Information Systems Technology Program beginning this fall.

"Speaking with the students, we felt like there was a real need for a computer information program," said OCC Dean of Instruction Dr. Jeffery Cutchin. "We responded to and addressed that need by developing the IST degree and certificate."

The program will prepare students to handle the

day-to-day operations of the computer-related activities for a business and an organization's information systems. Students who complete the program will be able to both support and maintain computer hardware as well as software programs. Local Area Networks, Wide Area Networks and Wireless Networks also are addressed.

"It is definitely hands-on and deals with both hardware and software so the

individual learns how to physically work on and replace hard drives and maintain computers as well as connect computers to a network," Cutchin said.

The classes will be offered in the evenings, which will enable students to continue working while they complete their training.

Students enrolled in the IST Program can earn either a one-year certificate or a two-year associate's

degree. Those who complete the degree will be able to transfer to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and finish their bachelor's degrees either on campus or through SIU's online program.

"I explicitly worked closely with SIU at Carbondale to ensure the program would transfer," Cutchin said. "The idea is that a student can come here for two years, find

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# Host families needed for international students

Olney Central College and Youth for Understanding (YFU) offer area residents the opportunity to welcome the world home.

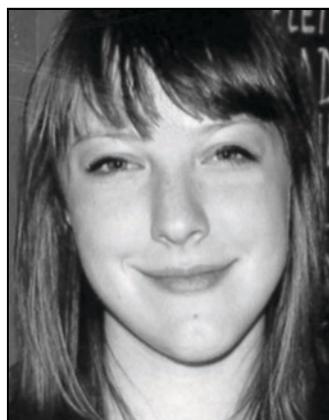
Olney Central College needs three host families to open their homes and their hearts to an international student arriving this August. Students in need of host families are Marianne from Switzerland, Leonie from Belgium and Tran from Vietnam.



**Marianne**

jects during her stay, including drama, music and art. In addition, she is interested in exploring academic courses involving history, sociology, marketing and sales.

Marianne's mentor describes her as an open-minded, communicative young woman. Friendships and social activities are important to Marianne and will play a key role in her experience of studying abroad.

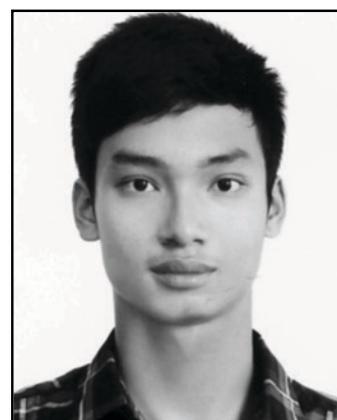


**Leonie**

Music is a fundamental part of Marianne's life. In her free time, she is listening to music, playing the guitar and singing.

Marianne grew up on a farm where family life plays a big role in everyday interactions such as helping her parents with daily chores and spending free time together.

Marianne is excited to become a member of your family and is eager to share her Swiss culture



**Tran**

with her host family's community.

She is open to occasionally attending religious activities with her host family.

**Leonie**

Leonie's teacher describes her as sociable, witty and highly intelligent. She is excited to have the opportunity to be an exchange student and is coming to the U.S. ready for new experiences. She hopes to be successful

**See Host, Page 5**

## Students complete Certification as Medical Office Assistants

Five Olney Central College students recently received their certification as Medical Office Assistants.

Dawn Campbell and Stefanie Bayles of Olney, Jo McGlothlin of Newton, Nichole Evans of Robinson and Katherine Rogers of Fort Wayne, Ind., all passed the National Center for Competency Testing's Certified Medical Office Assistant Exam, which is offered at OCC.

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.

Instructor Amie Mayhall said the students, who recently completed OCC's Medical Office Assistant Program, did very well on the tests

with one individual receiving an overall score of 93 out of 100.

Mayhall was especially pleased with the students' outcome on the medical terminology portion of the exam as all five earned scores in the 90s.

"Shasta (Bennett) and I are really proud of the students and wish them luck as they begin their careers," Mayhall said.

According to the NCCT, many physicians' offices and health care clinics are now looking for certified office professionals.

While the testing is optional for OCC's Medical Office Assistant students, Mayhall said those who earn the certification can increase their employment opportunities and earning potentials.

"The certification really does set them apart from others in the field," she said. "It demonstrates that graduates carry with them the required

knowledge for positions in the field of study."

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. Of the four Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, OCC is the only one to offer NCCT certification testing.

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.

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. The program is currently enrolling students for the fall semester.

# Walmart awards grant to TRiO Upward Bound

The Walmart Foundation recently selected the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges TRiO Upward Bound program to receive a grant through its Local Community Contribution Program. Upward Bound - West, located at Olney Central College, received a \$2,500 grant from the Olney Walmart. The grant money will be used to provide essential items necessary for college-bound seniors to be successful in post-secondary education.

TRiO Upward Bound is a college preparatory program, which is 100 percent federally funded through the Department of Education. It is designed to provide academic support, counseling and cultural enrichment to high school students who desire academic success in both secondary and post-secondary education.

The program provides assistance to low-income, first-generation (neither parent having earned a bachelor's degree) and/or high school students demonstrating academic need.

Application for admission to the IECC TRiO Upward Bound program is open to students in a specific target area which includes, Crawford, Edwards, Jasper, Lawrence, Richland and Wayne counties. The Upward Bound program currently serves a total of 140 students at eight local high schools. Upward Bound - West serves students at the East Richland, Edwards County,



**The Illinois Eastern Community Colleges TRiO Upward Bound program recently received a \$2,500 grant from the Walmart Foundation's Local Community Contribution Program. The money from the Olney Walmart will be used to provide essential items necessary for college-bound seniors to be successful in post-secondary education.**

Fairfield and West Richland high schools.

"We are passionate about providing support necessary for post-secondary success," said Assistant Director Tiffany Cowger. "The grant from Walmart will allow us to better prepare our students with items necessary for college success. We are grateful for Walmart's belief in the

Upward Bound program."

For more information, contact the TRiO Upward Bound - West office located at OCC, 305 N. West St., Olney, IL or by calling 395-7777, ext. 2282. You can also find more information by visiting the Trio Upward Bound webpage at [www.iecc.edu](http://www.iecc.edu) and clicking on TRiO Programs.

## Upcoming college visit

Nicole Jackson with Franklin University will have a table outside the OCC Students Services Office from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10.

## College closed

Olney Central College will be closed on Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.



## CNA of the Year

Laci Wyrick, right, accepts the first CNA of the Year Award from Lincoln Trail College instructor Lori Cramer during the Spring CNA Workshop at Olney Central College. Wyrick is employed at Cotillion Ridge Nursing Center in Robinson. The CNA Educators of the Southern Region of Illinois established the award to acknowledge CNAs in the community who are providing excellent patient care and who are professional employees. Seven other CNAs from surrounding healthcare agencies were nominated for the award and received certificates during the workshop. The committee hopes to present the award on an annual basis.



## Karate students earn black belts

Olney Central College karate students Kianna Sharp and Trygve Butler received their black belts after completing their testing in May. They are pictured with OCC Karate instructor Sensei Charles Mick Jr. OCC will offer karate classes again this fall. To register, contact the OCC Student Services Office at 618-395-7777. For more information about the classes, call Mick at 618-843-9631.

## Register now for fall classes at OCC

Olney Central College is currently registering students for fall semester classes, which begin on Thursday, Aug. 15.

Fall schedules may be obtained from the OCC Student Services Office or visit the website at [www.iecc.edu/occ](http://www.iecc.edu/occ).

## IST

**Continued from Page 1**  
employment and continue to work while they finish their bachelor's degrees. It's important for some of our students to be able to do that."

Through the program, IST students also will be able to earn important IT certifications. Students in the certificate and associate's degree programs can complete their Comp TIA A+ and Comp TIA Network+ certifications. In addition, degree-seeking students can receive certifications in MCSA: Windows 8 and MSCA: Windows Server.

Cutchin said a number of job opportunities will be available for IST graduates. With its diverse courses and certifications, the program will make graduates

highly marketable and prepare them for employment as computer software engineers, network engineers, database administrators, hardware engineers, e-mail administrators and even entry-level programmers or web administrators.

"This program prepares students for virtually any entry-level position in the information technology field," he added.

The Information Systems Technology Program is currently accepting students for the fall semester. To learn more or to register, call 395-7777.

Those interested in enrolling are encouraged to contact Olney Central College's Student Services Office as soon as possible.

## Free tutoring available

Taking classes this summer? The Learning Skills Center offers free tutoring in any subject taught at OCC.

Biology study guides are available, as well as videos for Basic Math, Beginning Algebra and Intermediate Algebra.

The LSC also can pro-

vide tape recorders, large screen monitors, readers and note takers.

If you have any special learning needs, come and see the LSC staff.

The LSC is located in the back of the Anderson Library in Conference Room 4. Stop by to learn more.

## Websites

### Continued from Page 1

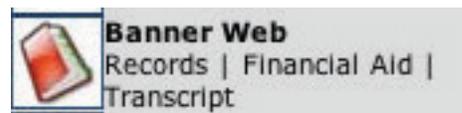
The second website [www.occarts.org](http://www.occarts.org) provides information about many of the performing and visual arts events at Olney Central College, including theater, visual arts, music and community events, such as the Southeastern Illinois Concert Association, Olney Arts Council and

many others.

"The goal of these websites is to allow the community to have greater awareness of the artistic opportunities available to the area to engage budding performers and audiences alike," said Suzanne Downes, Director of Bands at Olney Central College.

## 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.



**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 Alumnus Award

Olney Central College President Rodney Ranes, left, presents the 2013 OCC Alumnus Award to Dr. Brian Atwood, of Noble. Atwood earned his associate's degree from OCC in 1994 and transferred to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where he received a bachelor's of arts degree in physiology and biological sciences. He earned his medical degree from the University of Illinois' College of Medicine in 2001.

## Host

**Continued from Page 2**  
in journalism or maybe teaching.

She wants a career that allows her to express herself through writing and says, "I would love to take a creative writing course or a journalism course."

Leonie, 17, is a longtime gymnast. She has been involved with gymnastics since the age of 6. She practices a few times a week and teaches gymnastics to younger children. Leonie also enjoys baking and would love to share this hobby with her host family.

### Tran

Tran, 17, is described as a sensitive, confident and well-mannered young man. He is from a close-knit family and has a younger sister.

Tran is excited about coming to the U.S. and is ready for new experiences with his host family. He hopes to improve his English while exploring the world.

Tran is focused on his academics and is looking forward to studying in the U.S. He enjoys watching sports and is an active member of his school's soccer team. He is very eager to get to know

the U.S. and become a member of your family.

OCC has been selected as one of the community colleges nationwide to participate in this unique exchange program organized by YFU. Upon arrival, the students will live with host families within reasonable commuting distance of the college.

Transportation to and from the college is provided. Students will take part in all aspects of college life, from attending classes to joining sports and club activities, but most importantly, they become a part of your family.

All kinds of families have hosted YFU students in the past: married couples with or without children, single parents, singles without children, as well as families with teenagers. Your family provides room, board, love, guidance and the experience of what everyday life is like in America. YFU is one of the world's largest and most respected exchange organizations. To learn more about hosting a YFU student attending OCC, contact Tina Pierce at 395-7777, ext. 2024.

## Thank you

Thank you to the OCC faculty, staff and administration for the lovely ivy plant, cards and phone calls while I was healing.

Amie Mayhall

## 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:

### June

- 1 Joyce Nix
- 12 Carla Burgener
- 19 Kyle Thomas
- 20 Donita Kaare
- 21 Linda Miller
- 21 Kathy Fehrenbacher
- 23 Tyler Grubb
- 24 Tammy Harmon

### July

- 3 Tyler Boyles
- 4 Kathleen Hudson (WVC)
- 10 David Denton
- 12 Kim Wilson
- 13 Bobbi Hart-Walka
- 15 Bill Tucker
- 18 Curtis Marshall
- 18 Vicki Stuckey
- 21 Diana Emmons
- 23 Pam Madden
- 28 Amanda Pantry
- 28 Laurel Cutright
- 29 Chad Schuetz
- 29 Brittany Bass

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Our mission is to deliver exceptional education and services to improve the lives of our students and to strengthen our communities.