

KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



October 2020

Upcoming Events

October

15 Midterm

15 Last Day to Pay Fall Tuition & Fees

15 Virtual FAFSA Night, 5-7 p.m.

16 Mid-Semester Classes Begin

20 In-person FAFSA Night, 5-7 p.m.

22 Virtual FAFSA Night, 5-7 p.m.

29 Virtual FAFSA Night, 5-7 p.m.

30 Application Priority Deadline

November

3 College Closed – Election Day

College Visits

OCC is hosting virtual college visits for students who plan to transfer after completing their associate's degree. For additional information and links to register, visit www.iecc.edu/advisingtours.

Oct. 21 Columbia College Chicago, 10 a.m.-noon

Oct. 22 University of Illinois at Springfield, 10 a.m.-noon

Nov. 10 Millikin University, 10 a.m.-noon

OCC grad named Nurse of the Year

Olney Central College alumnus Mary Correll, of Wakefield, was recently named a Nurse of the Year by Deaconess Health System, receiving the Florence Nightingale Award for Deaconess Midtown Hospital.

As stated in the award, "Florence Nightingale set the example of compassion, commitment to patient care and diligent hospital administration. This award is given in recognition of meritorious service of the nursing profession and is characterized by devotion, sincerity, dedication and compassion."

"I was quite overwhelmed when my team leader called and told me I had received the award," Correll said. "It was a real honor."

Correll has been a nurse at Deaconess since



MARY CORRELL

August 2007, and works in the Neuro Medical Intensive Care Unit at Deaconess Midtown Hospital. She cares for patients undergoing treatment for brain tumors, strokes, respiratory pneumonia and septic shock.

"I've always wanted to be a nurse," Correll said. "What I enjoy most is seeing people get better and well enough to be discharged. There is a satisfaction in knowing you helped them get better, especially when they have been in the ICU, where they are really sick and can be for a long time."

Correll initially entered the healthcare field after high school. She worked as a CNA at Newton Rest Haven, but left on her doctor's advice as she and her husband, Joe, were starting their family. In the intervening years, Correll

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Evening Welding Certificate added for spring

Olney Central College is excited to announce it will offer an evening Welding and Cutting Certificate starting in Spring 2021.

"This is such a great opportunity," said Welding Specialist Maverick Fisher. "It's a chance for high school seniors to get a jump on college. And, it's especially helpful for someone who is working full-time and would like to pursue a career in welding, but can't afford to give up their day job to come to college."

Classes will start at 6 p.m. and meet Monday through Thursday. Courses available for spring include Combination Welding, Metal Cut and Prep and Shielded Metal Arc Welding. The evening certificate will take three semesters to complete.

Beginning next fall, OCC will offer a new Welding and Fabrication Associate's Degree.

"Students who begin classes this spring will be able to go directly into the degree's second-year courses in Fall 2022," Fisher said. "Those classes will also be offered 100 percent in the evenings and students will be able to graduate with their associate's degree in Spring 2023."

For more information or to register for courses, call 618-395-7777. Spring classes start Jan. 11.

The Welding and Fabrication Associate's Degree is a Title III program that is supported in part by a five-year grant awarded to Olney Central College from the U.S. Department of Education effective October 1, 2018. The estimated total cost for all project activities is \$2,506,775 financed by the grant award of \$2,249,968 (90%) and \$256,807 (10%) by Olney Central College.



OCC offering virtual and in-person FAFSA Nights

Olney Central College is hosting several virtual and in-person FAFSA Nights this month.

Financial Aid can be stressful and the FAFSA can be confusing, but OCC can help. OCC Financial Aid professionals will be available to assist students and parents in filling out and submitting their 2021-2022 FAFSA.

The next in-person FAFSA Night will be from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 20. Appointments are required. Contact Director of Financial Aid Taryn Bunting at 618-395-7777, ext. 2017, to reserve your 30-minute session.

To limit group size, only one parent or guardian should accompany the student. All participants are asked to wear masks.

To complete the FAFSA application, please bring the following: Student FSA ID, Parent FSA ID and the student and parents' 2019 tax information.

Frontier Community College, Lincoln Trail College, Olney Central College and Wabash Valley College are partnering to offer free virtual FAFSA Nights from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 15, Oct. 22 and Oct. 29. Register online at www.iecc.edu/fafsa to receive the information needed to join the sessions via Zoom. Breakout rooms will be available to meet one-on-one with financial aid professionals.

TrustBank is offering special raffles for those who register for either the in-person or virtual events.



OCC Financial Aid Coordinator Taryn Bunting and Office Assistant Bobbi Hart-Walka assist students during the first virtual FAFSA Night on Oct. 8. Additional FAFSA Nights will be offered throughout the month.

Medical Office Assistant ranked among top online programs

Olney Central College's Medical Office Assistant Program has been recognized as one of the country's top online degrees.

The health-career website BestHealthDegrees.com ranked OCC No. 9 in its List of the Best Online Medical Assistant Associate's Programs for 2020.

"We are excited to hear that our program has been chosen for this award," said Instructor Shasta Bennett. "It is always an honor when the hard work of our faculty and students is recognized."

Programs were ranked based on price, accreditation, reputation and salary potential, using data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and Niche, U.S. News and World Report, and other higher education rating publications.

OCC's Medical Office Assistant Degree is designed to prepare medical office assistants, medical transcriptionists, medical receptionists and other related personnel to meet the needs of area and national medical offices. The program is also offered in a traditional classroom format. Graduates are employed in hospitals, clinics, doctors' offices, insurance companies, health foundations, local industries and Illinois state and U.S. governmental agencies.

"Our Medical Office Assistant Program has been a major asset to Olney Central College," said Instructor Amie Mayhall. "We take pride in updating the program regularly to meet local employer needs. We also strive to offer the program to meet the scheduling demands of our wide array of students."

Medical Office Assistant is one of several medical career programs available at OCC. Others include Health Information Technology, Medical Coding and Medical Transcription.

To learn more about the medical career programs at OCC, contact Mayhall at 618-395-7777, ext. 2229, or by email at mayhalla@iecc.edu.

For more information about BestHealthDegrees.com's rankings, visit <https://www.besthealthdegrees.com/online-medical-assistant-associate-degrees>.





Heather Sandy earns award at outdoor painting event

OCC Art instructor Heather Sandy participated in a plein air painting event Oct. 3, capturing a top award.

Artists gathered at the Foundry Art Centre in St. Charles, Mo., where they completed paintings on location during a five-hour period. Sandy was awarded third-place for her acrylic painting by juror John Troy, who is a Senior Professor of Art and Design at Lindenwood University.

“The bonus challenge was that it rained on and off for the duration of the event,” Sandy added.

COVID-19 precautions were in place for the event with social distancing and face coverings required.

Students encouraged to apply by Oct. 30 priority deadline

Students are encouraged to apply to OCC and complete their FAFSA before Oct. 30 to be first in line for scholarships.

Students that fill out the application and finish their FAFSA should have an estimated cost of attendance before the holidays.

OCC will offer an in-person FAFSA Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 20. Call 618-395-7777, ext. 2017, to register.

Virtual FAFSA Nights will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 15, 22 and 29. Register online at www.iecc.edu/fafsa.

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Frontier | Lincoln Trail | Olney Central | Wabash Valley

New lab and classroom ready for Welding associate's degree

Olney Central College is ready for the startup of its new Welding and Fabrication Associate's Degree next fall with the completion of a new state-of-the-art lab and classroom at the West Richland Center in Noble.

The renovations are part of a Title III Grant initiative, which includes revamping OCC's welding program to establish an Associate in Applied Science Degree. Work on the former high school welding shop began in June and wrapped up last month.

"There is not a thing in here that isn't brand new," said Welding Specialist Maverick Fisher. "This puts us among the elite welding schools. As far as a quality education, we're as good as the top schools in the country including Hobart (Institute of Welding Technology)."

The new lab features 15 welding booths with Stick, Mig and Tig welding capabilities. Students also have access to aluminum spool guns, which provide a steady and reliable feed for soft aluminum wire.

Other additions are an Ironworker punch press students will utilize in the fabrication class, two industrial-sized band saws and three high-speed pipe bevelers.

"With this equipment, we are getting to the place where students will be able to weld all the time and won't be waiting for metal to cut," Fisher said. "The goal is to get the students as much welding time as possible."

The program also has purchased 20 tons of steel for student use in the lab.

The associate's degree fo-



Classroom and lab renovations are now complete for the new Welding and Fabrication Associate's Degree, which will begin next fall in the West Richland Center.

uses on fabrication and 6G pipe welding certification. As Certified Welding Inspectors through the American Welding Society, both Fisher and fellow Instructor Curtis Marshall are qualified to award this and other vital credentials to the students.

Fisher said these skills are highly sought after by both local and national employers looking to hire fabricators, pipefitters, boilermakers, ironworkers, steel metal workers and production welders.

The U.S. is currently experiencing a shortage of qualified welders as many employees are reaching retirement age. According to the American Welding Society, the deficit will

reach 400,000 workers by 2024.

OCC is making it easier for individuals to pursue a career in welding by offering an evening Welding and Cutting Certificate beginning in January. Classes will meet at 6 p.m. and be offered Monday through Thursday.

"This is an opportunity for people who are interested in welding to come to college without giving up their day jobs," Fisher said.

Students who begin classes in the spring will be able to enter the second-year courses for the associate's degree in Fall 2022. Those classes will also be offered in the evenings and students will be able to graduate

with their associate's degree in Spring 2023.

Students who have already received a welding certificate at OCC or Lincoln Trail College can earn their associate's degree by simply completing the second-year coursework.

For more information or to enroll in the program, call 618-395-7777.

The Title III program is supported in part by a five-year grant awarded to Olney Central College from the U.S. Department of Education effective October 1, 2018. The estimated total cost for all project activities is \$2,506,775 financed by the grant award of \$2,249,968 (90%) and \$256,807 (10%) by Olney Central College.

Basketball program hosts Golf Scramble

The OCC basketball program hosted the 2020 Coach Gene Duke Memorial Golf Scramble on Sept. 12.

The program fund-raiser at the Richland Country Club drew 20 teams and 31 hole sponsors. The winning team of Gary Cardinal, Pat Ryan, Dick Steinman, Jason Glover and Reese Glover shot 13 under par. The next closest score was 10 under par, shot by multiple teams.

Winner of the longest putt was Bryce Labhart. Winner of closest to the pin was Kyle Sancken. Winners of the speed hole with a time of one minute and four seconds were AJ Sharp, Jason Martinez, Patrick Molitor, and Tyler Danilson.

Each competition winner received gear donated by TJ Wheeler, who is a rep for Eastbay Sports, OCC Bookstore and OCC Baseball.

Remington Riccolo won the 50/50 raffle



of \$364.

The meal was donated by Donita Forneris, Betsy Elliott, Doug and Jodi Schneider, Brenda Glover, Janet Everette, Jessica Vandyke, Lauren McClain and Bobbi Hart-Walka.

"This was such a great day for our basketball program," said Coach Casey Wylie. "We couldn't have asked for a better day or turnout for this event. Thank you to Richland Country Club for allowing us to have this event on a Saturday. Also a

huge thank you to everyone that donated the meal, donated prizes, played and sponsored holes."

Wyllie added, "Today was such a great reminder that the program is so much bigger than ourselves. People from all over came to support our program and that type of commitment doesn't go unnoticed. Alumni, local businesses, family and friends made this day very special and we are already looking forward to next year."

Register now for mid-semester classes starting Oct. 16

Several fall mid-semester classes will start Oct. 16. Mid-semester courses are ideal for students who may have dropped a class this fall or for those who want to complete a course in just 8 weeks.

Students looking to earn a humanities credit will have the opportunity to enroll in ART 1141 Cinema Appreciation with Instructor Heather Sandy. This is the first time the course has been offered in an 8-week format.

Sandy is excited to teach the class where students will view and discuss films including Spike Lee's highly acclaimed "Do The Right Thing" and Diablo Cody's coming of age tale "Juno."

Mid-semester math classes include MTH 1102 College Algebra

and MTH 1105 Trigonometry. Both classes will be taught by Lisa Benson. Instructor Tammie Bohnhoff will teach MTH 1103 Liberal Arts Math.

Online courses available include:

PLS 2101 Government of the U.S. and SOC 2102 Social Problems and Trends, both with David Denton

ENG 1101 Introduction to Composition with Kelly Payne

ACC 1203 QuickBooks II with John Kendall

PRE 0420 Intermediate Algebra and REM 0420 Basic Mathematics, both with Jon Lafikes

For more information or to register, contact Student Services at 618-395-7777.

Nurse *Continued from Page 1*

provided in-home care and started her own seamstry business. It was Correll's children, Adam and Brenna, who convinced her to pursue her nursing degree.

"My kids talked me into going back to school," she said. "I started college with Adam, and Brenna and I graduated together in May 2007. It was hard. I hadn't been in school for 20 years and I had to learn to study all over again."

Correll is glad she chose to earn her nursing degree at OCC.

"I have no regrets," she said. "It is a tough program, but good. The instructors were very helpful. I got acquainted with people in class and four of us formed a study group. Now, I wish I had gone back to school sooner. I would never have done it if not for the encouragement of my kids and Joe."

During her career, Correll worked in a medical/surgical unit for five years. She also served on a medical/surgical/renal unit before transferring to the Neuro ICU.

"We are like family," Correll said of her coworkers. "We are all friends and we take care of each other."

Most recently, Correll has been caring for patients in the COVID-19 ICU Respiratory Unit.

"It has been very stressful because we lose a lot of patients," she said. "It has been hard on our psyche. It is hard to describe. No one really understands the mental and physical toll it takes. We have patients on ventilators, paralyzed. They are extremely sick and it is happening every day. It's also hard because they can't have their families with them so we become their family. We are the ones who have to help keep them upbeat and positive."

Classroom renovations complete for UAT Program

Olney Central College's Unmanned Aerial Technology Program is ready to welcome students with the completion of its classroom at the West Richland Center in Noble.

Renovations to the former science classroom began last fall and include the installation of new flooring, ceiling tiles, LED lighting and countertops. Modern instructional equipment along with tables and chairs specifically designed to meet program needs complete the facility.

"The room gives us a lot of space to spread out," said Morgan Henton, Unmanned Aerial Technology Specialist. "We have the room we need to work on and build drones so students get the hands-on experience they need. We also have new electrical runs that provide plenty of charging stations and we have space for storing program drones."

The program has acquired a variety of drones from the basic, light weight and durable Tello to the Mavic 2 Pro, the top-end drone for video and photography. Students also will have access to the dual-purpose Mavic 2 Enterprise, which features infrared vision and a spotlight and the Matrice 210, which includes advanced zoom and thermal imaging.

Drone technology is one of today's fastest growing industries. OCC's Unmanned Aerial Technology Program prepares students to expand their skill set for jobs in industries that use varied types of unmanned aerial systems including agriculture, public safety, surveying, inspection and logistics.

Students in the program will learn how to fly various drones, plan missions for data collection and learn different photography and videography techniques. The coursework also prepares them to successfully complete the Remote Pilot (Part 107) Certification.

Classes will begin in Fall 2021. For more information about the program, contact Advisor Vicki Thompson at 618-395-7777 or email thompsonv@iecc.edu.



Top, Renovations to the Unmanned Aerial Technology Program's classroom at the West Richland Center are now complete. Above, Work begins on the project last fall.



Above, The new classroom has space for students to work on and build drones. At left, Unmanned Aerial Technology Specialist Morgan Henton works with a new drone in the classroom.