



### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

The first week of May every year is teacher appreciation week, a time set aside to honor those who have one of the most important jobs in the world: Shaping the minds of our society. This year, Tara Farleigh coordinated a week-long celebration to honor the hard work that our educators have put forth in a time of great uncertainty.



To start the week, all FCC instructors were given a Frontier Community College umbrella and t-shirt. This ensured that even our evening instructors, who miss out on daytime campus activities, got recognition for their work.



a large candy jar, because she is a “treat” to have in class, to Rodney Maxey’s door featuring a six-foot-tall Minion exclaiming that, “Mr. Maxey is ‘one-in-a-Minion.’”

Full-time faculty were surprised when they arrived on campus to discover that their doors had been fully decorated with unique and custom designs celebrating their hard work. The designs varied greatly from door to door, with Linda Monge’s door showing

Finally, the week was capped off with all Faculty and Staff getting a hand-prepared sack lunch. This incredible week was a perfect way to celebrate the teachers that make Frontier the beacon of higher education in the region. Any educational facility is only as good as its educators, and FCC has been blessed with a team of instructors that are passionate about their jobs and truly make the campus shine.

### Upcoming Events

#### May

- 25 Midterm
- 31 Closed for Memorial Day

#### June

- 4 Last Day of Intersession
- 7 First Day of Summer Classes

#### July

- 1 Midterm
- 5 Closed for Independence Day
- 28 Last Day of Classes
- 29 First Day of Finals

Frontier Community College is following Governor Pritzker's Restore Illinois reopening plan. Campus and community events have been modified to incorporate social distancing and other recommended practices to help insure community and employee safety.



## LIFE IS GIVEN TO “DEAD WEEK”

The weeks leading up to finals week are some of the most laborious and intense weeks for students. Many campuses have dubbed the week before finals as “Dead Week” to describe how many students work themselves to



the edge in one last push for their classes. Historically these weeks have had few breaks for students, but one of Frontier’s newest hires, Amanda Kotch, decided to give students a chance to relax between all of the stress. As the new coordinator of student activities, Amanda planned a series of fun events for students. The series kicked off with a movie under the stars.

Though this event was forced to move inside due to inclement weather, students were treated to a showing of the *Goonies* on a giant 16 ft screen. This movie night was made complete with freshly popped popcorn and snacks, giving

students a night at the movies that they have been missing.

For students that were truly too busy to stop studying and attend an event, grab bags were placed in hot spots on campus with a quick “Crunch Time” snack. These bags made in collaboration with the Baptist Church, featured words of encouragement as well as various salty snacks and a Crunch bar. Bags were taken quickly, but replenished by Amanda throughout the week. These bags were not the only grab-and-go option; as one day, students were treated to sausage biscuits from Fairfield Memorial Hospital and coffee from Fairfield’s popular coffee shop, Bold Goat.



These events lead to the biggest event of the week that was put on in coordination with FCC’s Student Senate: a Cinco de Mayo street celebration. This event was held in front of the learning resource center and gave students a chance to unwind and enjoy the beautiful weather. A nacho bar was served to all that attended, giving everyone a theme-friendly lunch. Various lawn games were also set up, and throughout the day, different faculty and staff members could be seen playing games head to head with their students, often to great student victories, and friendly smack talk that was sure to be brought up in their next class.

This new tradition of bringing a reviving break into “dead week” was popular with both students and employees. Now that Frontier Community College has an on-site student events coordinator, students can look forward to these great breaks throughout the semester.

## AWARDS RECIPIENTS CELEBRATED IN WAYNE COUNTY PRESS

While Frontier Community College was unable to host its annual awards ceremony due to restrictions on local venues, the awards night committee was able to come to a creative solution using the new Faculty Recording Studio on campus. Each award recipient scheduled an individual awards session with the faculty member that chose them for the award. During this short session, the faculty member got a chance to share with the student why they were chosen to receive the award. Then an on-sight photographer captured a picture of the student receiving the award.



This picture was then used in a two-page spread made in collaboration with Wayne County Press. Each award recipient got their photo printed along with a short blurb by the faculty praising them for their success. While this year's awards ceremony was much different than in past years, the hard work by the

awards night committee to organize these presentations and newspaper spread helped ensure that award recipients still got to be celebrated for their academic achievements.

## A HISTORIC BOBCAT BASEBALL GAME



Frontier Community College's Baseball team has had a fantastic season. Eight players signed to continue their academic and athletic careers at D1 schools, and the team had a historic win against a nationally-ranked team. It seems that the Bobcat Baseball team is still not done achieving new "firsts." After sweeping a series against Southeastern Illinois College, the Bobcat baseball team has earned a spot to host a home game in the postseason! This is the first time in the program's history that Frontier has gotten to host a playoff game.

Assistant Coach Zachary Gerch said, "These boys have worked their tails off for us all season and have earned this great opportunity." At the time of publication, this game has not yet been played, but the campus has been buzzing with excitement and is eagerly awaiting getting to support the Bobcats during this historic game!

## TESTING CENTER TO OFFER OVER 6,000 TESTS

Lori Noe, Robert Tennyson, and Terry Chrtt have been working very hard to get Frontier's newest addition, The Testing Center, ready to go for this year's test season. In the past, students have been required to travel to take different exams used for various certifications across numerous fields of study. With current credentials, FCC can now offer over 6,000 different official tests that students, employees of local organizations and high school students can take.



In addition to the Pearson VUE certification that was already held by FCC, the Testing Center has been created to meet the unique specifications required to administer Prometric ASE Testing used by Automotive Programs across the nation to certify Automotive workers to different levels of content mastery. With the new additions, the testing center can now offer exams from Pearson, Prometric, Accuplacer, CASAS, the ACT, and Prometric.

Frontier Community College and the Learning Resource Center are excited to host this wide variety of tests for our students and the community. The ability to host these exams will bring new people to campus and helps further engrain FCC as a staple in the local educational community.

## STUDENTS GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND



Taylor Fitzgerald, a nursing student at Frontier Community College, is currently battling Lymphoma. In honor of Taylor, the Student Nurses Association, SNA, collected cash donations that will go directly to Taylor for travel and other related expenses. SNA even matched up to \$500.00 in donations.

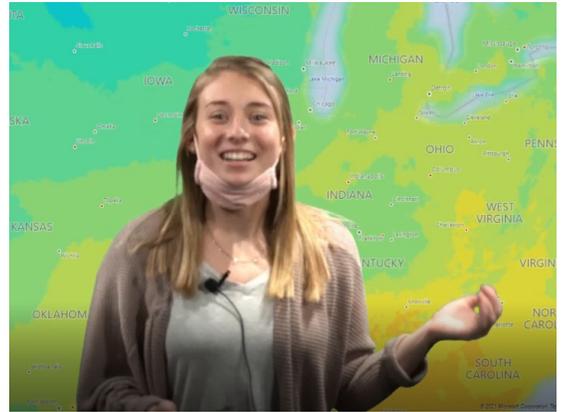
Frontier Community College's most active club, One. Love. Christian Club, continued its outstanding efforts to bring doses of positivity to campus. This time, club members did chalk drawings in front of all campus buildings with words of encouragement.



## TITLE III UPDATES

The Title III program is one step closer to the planned renovation of Mason Hall Rooms 22 & 23 Science labs. Sealed bids for the project were to be received by May 7, 2021 with bid opening scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2021. The project is slated for completion on August 1, 2021.

Recent Title III work has focused on identifying an online tutoring provider to pilot online tutoring services for Title III Grant associated classes including Med Lab Tech and hybrid Math classes. An online tutoring service has been found that can provide 24/7 online tutoring services available in both English and Spanish. Look for further details soon.



FCHS Seniors had a recent opportunity to tour the Faculty Recording studio located in the LRC and try their hand at weather reporting using green screen technology. Seen in the photo is Alexa Price, FCC student and Student Senate Member practicing her on camera skills. Alexa will become a familiar face to students who participate in the Financial Literacy module in the Online Student Orientation. As Title III develops the Financial Literacy pilot, Alexa has volunteered to be the presenter who will guide participants through the module. Staff and faculty surveys along with local professionals will be used to develop engaging information and guidance for students as they learn to navigate important financial issues including student loans, savings, insurance, and debt management. Several students answered “roving reporter” questions during the FCC Spring Fling event related to Financial Literacy. Portions of the interviews will be embedded in the Financial Literacy content to enhance the course and provide some lighthearted moments