Campus construction taking shape

With the addition of the new John Massey Center, OCCC’s campus is expanding

JEREMY CLOUD
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Construction on the new John Massey Center has been under way since earlier this year, said J.B. Messer, Facilities Management director.

The building will sit right next to the former Child Development Center and Lab School on the southeast corner of campus. The CDCLS moved to a larger building off campus last June, leaving that building empty.

Construction on the new center started earlier this year.

"We started right at the beginning of the year, doing site work," Messer said.

“We're stabilizing the soil and getting the compaction we need to start laying the concrete for the building.

"And we've been doing preliminary work on all the utility systems that run to the building."

The new building was necessary, said John Boyd, Business and Finance vice president.

He said after the sale of the former building — located off campus near SW 119th and Interstate 44 — to Chesapeake Energy, the decision was made to relocate the departments housed in the former building to the main campus.

"The John Massey Center houses support personnel integral to the college including Finance, Human Resources, Corporate Learning and Institutional Planning and Research," Boyd said.

"Relocating these services back to the main campus will prove much more efficient for employees needing assistance from these areas."

Boyod said to the best of his knowledge, the sale of the former building was made for similar reasons.

He said it also was decided to build a new John Massey Center as opposed to using the former Child Development Center and Lab School for a couple of reasons.

"The current available space in what used to be the Child Development Center (and Lab School) is not adequate to house the personnel at the current JMC and would require significant renovation prior to relocation," Boyd said.

"Further, using the current location with renovations would not provide any additional space for utilization by other campus programs."

Funds from the sale of the former building are being used to construct and furnish the new one, Boyd said.

See CONSTRUCTION page 9

ACADEMIC CALENDAR HELPFUL TO HAVE AT FINGERTIPS

Students should be familiar with certain dates

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It’s back to school, again. Some students enroll for summer classes to get ahead; some do it because there is no better way to spend their summer.

History major Mary Cornelsen is taking six credit hours this summer.

"I didn’t have anything to do this summer but work so I decided to take some classes to get them out of the way and hopefully graduate sooner," Cornelsen said.

If you find yourself in the same position, be sure to know the important dates in the summer calendar.

The semester begins June 6 and ends July 29. Tuition and fees are due June 6.

The last day to withdraw with a refund is by midnight June 10. The last day to withdraw without a refund is by midnight July 15. It is suggested to do so before closing business hours in case there are any holds on the account.

"There are many things to keep in mind before deciding to drop a class," said Mary Ann Bodine, Academic Advising assistant director.

"The first step students need to take is to talk to (someone in) Financial Aid because dropping a class might help or hurt your aid for the current or upcoming semester," Bodine said.

See DATES page 9
OPINION

EDITORIAL | Continued criminalization of marijuana interferes with free will

Marijuana should be regulated, taxed

Medical marijuana paraphernalia is being legally sold and distributed — finally.

WeGrow, known as the “Walmart of weed,” held its grand opening June 1 in Phoenix, Ariz. This is WeGrow’s second location, the first being in Sacramento, Calif.

WeGrow is the first of its kind to actually promote growing your own marijuana. They advertise as being “the first honest hydro store” in that they don’t hide what they sell and why they sell it.

There has always been an abundance of “mom and pop” smoke shops selling hydroponics — which simply means equipment used to grow plants without any soil, mainly using water with nutrients added in.

But because of the legalities and the stigma, those stores usually claim the machines are for growing tomatoes or various other kinds of produce.

It’s this deep running hypocrisy that is most disheartening.

Marijuana — medical or not — should be legalized.

In America it’s perfectly legal to ruin one’s liver and actually become addicted to a substance, yet partaking in a far less-threatening substance to the body is considered criminal.

Without advocating the usage of marijuana, simply put, it should not be the government’s decision to tell a person if they can or cannot indulge in something so long as it does not infringe upon the rights of others.

To regulate free trade should be the line of involvement, as it is with cigarettes.

The “stoner” lifestyle is not something to admire or even idolize, yet it is still absurd that something so widespread is not regulated.

The moral issue aside, the revenue alone is worth the price of admission, so to speak.

According to CNN.com, “Medical marijuana cultivating, dispensing, and consuming will exist with or without governmental approval. It’s time to tax and regulate this industry so legitimate business people and patients are not criminalized,” said Dhar Mann, WeGrow’s founder.

The fact is: there is no getting rid of weed. Its use in society is like death and taxes — inevitable. Why not make a profit from the unavoidable?

— Priscilla Colley

Staff Writer

YOUR VOICE | One-time only theatrical showing of extended edition

‘Lord of the Rings’ trilogy special event in theaters

To the Editor:

One of the most magical adventures in motion picture history is coming to the big screen this summer — bigger and better than ever — as NCM Fathom and Warner Home Video present “The Lord of the Rings” Motion Picture Trilogy Extended Edition Event.

The Academy Award-winning trilogy will be featured in an exclusive series of in-theater events in June, including “The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring” June 14; “The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers” June 21; and “The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King” June 28, all beginning at 7 p.m.

During each event, audiences will view nearly an hour of additional feature footage per film with additional and extended scenes that were carefully selected under the supervision of director Peter Jackson. In addition, fans will be treated to personal introductions to each film from Jackson, which were captured on the set of his current film “The Hobbit,” all making this an historic series that can only be experienced on the big screen.

Based on the bestselling novels by J.R.R. Tolkien, Jackson’s movie trilogy is an epic journey of men, hobbits, elves, dwarves and the rest of Middle-earth’s creatures and cultures. The trilogy chronicles the struggle of good versus evil with fantastic special effects and a strong emotional center; capturing the enduring fellowship and ultimate sacrifice while enhancing the chaos and destruction of Middle-earth.

“The Lord of the Rings’ Extended Edition Trilogy is a visual masterpiece that returns to the big screen to be experienced the way Peter Jackson intended: with the additional feature footage for each installment,” said Dan Diamond, vice president of NCM Fathom. “Combined with all-new introductions to each event by Jackson, the exceptional quality of digital cinema and the one-of-a-kind experience the movie theater offers, ‘The Lord of the Rings’ Extended Edition Event marks a new landmark in cinematic history.”

The following theaters will participate:

Tinseltown USA at 6001 N Martin Luther King Avenue in Oklahoma City, $10.50
Spotlight 14 at 1100 N Interstate Drive in Norman, $6.50 children/seniors, $7.50 students, $8.50 adults

— Sam Threadgill

Scoop Marketing

The PIONEER is a publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts and Humanities. It is published weekly during the 16-week fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session. Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher. The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author’s name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the author’s name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, style and clarity. Letters should be shorter than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 172 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, faxed to 405-682-7843, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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**Pizza joint makes OKC debut**

In south Oklahoma City, good pizza is hard to come by.

If your taste favors the cardboard-flavored, heavily processed fare from joints like Mazzio’s and Pizza Hut, you should probably stop reading now.

But if you’re a southsider who yearns for something more than the usual suspects, then Marco’s Pizza, newly opened at 12201 S. Pennsylvania Ave., is the place to go.

Marco’s was founded in 1978 by Pasquale “Pat” Giammarco, who moved from Italy to the U.S. when he was nine. Since then, Marco’s has expanded to more than 200 food joints in 18 states, in cities like Edmond and Lawton.

This new locale, however, is the first to open on the city’s south side — and hopefully not the last.

Unlike some establishments, lifting the lid on a Marco’s pizza box isn’t a game of chance where you keep your fingers crossed that the crust isn’t burnt and wonder if the pizza dough is sufficiently sauced.

Instead, it’s like breathing a whiff of Italy into your home.

When you order a pizza at Marco’s, you can select from four sizes, starting with the 10-inch small for $7.99 to the 16-inch extra large for $12.99.

After you select your size, you are presented with a smattering of more than 20 topping options, ranging from meatballs and grilled chicken to feta cheese and pineapples.

Even if you prefer a classic pepperoni pizza, you have two types to choose from: the typical American style and traditional “old world” pepperoni, a spicier meat.

As if that weren’t enough, all pizzas also come with free crust toppers; delicious flavorings that turn that bit of bread ing that you tear off and give to the dog a truly tasty treat. Topper choices include garlic butter, Roma seasoning, Parmesan and ranch.

If you’re not in the mood for pizza, never fear: Marco’s goes above and beyond the calling of a normal pizzeria, offering everything from Italian subs to chicken wings, salads, and a $9.99 meatball and sausage platter.

Possibly the only downside to be had at Marco’s is that there isn’t enough space to dine in — but when you can either walk in, call, or go online at www.marcos.com to order delicious pizza and have it ready in less than 15 minutes, that really isn’t a problem to begin with.

Whether you’re a southsider like me or you’re looking for a fast, inexpensive, and most importantly scrumptious meal to take home after your classes, take a quick drive down to Marco’s down on Pennsylvania Avenue.

You won’t be disappointed.

**Rating:** A+

**— Whitney Knight**

**Online Editor**

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**Vocal chameleon doesn’t disappoint**

Philly neo-soul singer Bilal released his most current album, “Airtight’s Revenge,” last September.

While possessing many vocal ranges, Bilal sometimes puts his listeners in the mind of modern-day Prince, but he incorporates his own style without sounding like a wannabe.

Many times Bilal is placed in the neo-soul genre, but he also infuses rock, pop, reggae, and even heavy metal into his music.

This ability to combine many different genres of music — often on the same CD — has made Bilal a craved-after artist.

The first track, “Cake and Eat It Too”, has a catchy eclectic beat with a jazz club vibe.

Track four, “Flying” is epic Bilal. The song has many musical changes as well as vocal ones from sweet to almost satanic as he changes his voice to a deep baritone.

Track 10 “Who Are You” starts out sounding like a country and western song sung by a black man. Bilal sings this song so well it would make Charlie Pride proud if he were still alive.

Bilal has been missing in action from the music scene for almost 10 years.

In an interview with XXL Magazine, he said the main reason for the hiatus was due to his second album “Love for Sale” getting bootlegged and hitting the Internet.

Despite having been out of sight for a decade, he received two Grammy nominations in 2011, one for “All Matter,” and the other for “Little One.”

“Little One” is a song Bilal wrote for his autistic young son.

Although “Airtight’s Revenge” is influenced by Bilal’s trademark of being different, he successfully makes sure it sounds nothing like his previous albums.

For newbies of Bilal music, be sure to check out “First Born Second” and his unreleased album “Love for Sale” which can be found online.

**Rating:** A+

**— Christy Johnson**

**Staff Writer**

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**Q:** Where on campus can I go to receive help with math?

**A:** OCCC has a Math Lab located in room 2G6 of the SEM Center. The Math Lab offers free tutoring to OCCC students without an appointment. We have more than 100 computers for student use. We also have all the current textbooks for students to use while in the lab. We lease graphing calculators to students to use in class that require it. There are also tables for students to use to study. Summer hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**— Christine Peck**

**Math Lab Supervisor**

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**Q:** Why aren’t there more power outlets on campus?

**A:** The number of outlets the college has was determined by the building code at the time the college was constructed. At the time, there was not an apparent need for a large number of public accessible outlets. As a need is assessed and funds are available, we will be adding more.

**— J.B. Messer**

**Facilities Management Director**
MOVIE REVIEW | Creators show adversity with dream team cast

‘Bridesmaids’ could be best movie of the year

If “Wedding Crashers” and “Something About Mary” had an affair, “Bridesmaids” would be their love child.

Easily the best comedy of the year, even in the face of adversity with such films as “The Hangover Part II” out, “Bridesmaids” holds its own.

Judd Apatow, the King Midas of comedy producers, and Kristen Wiig, with her spot-on comedic timing, joined forces to create a dream team of sorts.

The two ingeniously created a balance of the unforgiving honesty of boy humor and effortless chemistry among the cast.

The two-hour comedy starring Wiig and Maya Rudolph follows two friends through the sometimes-absurd rituals of marriage.

Annie, (Wiig) whose life is a mess, must serve as her best friend Lillian’s (Rudolph) maid of honor.

Being the maid of honor means Annie must coordinate events and deal with Lillian’s colorful band of bridesmaids.

As the wedding draws closer, Annie’s own personal situation spirals downward, teaching her to fight for what she wants in life.

“Bridesmaids” shows the dynamic of best friends trying to retain their friendship while coping with life’s changes.

It is nearly impossible to go wrong with Apatow blessing the movie with his golden touch and expert writer Paul Feig’s fantastic dialogue. “Bridesmaids” is truly a horse of a different color.

In a world where romantic comedies reign supreme and female characters don’t curse or commit filthy acts, “Bridesmaids” breaks all boundaries.

It establishes that a female cast can appeal to both sexes.

Experiencing “Bridesmaids” is like witnessing perfection via film.

“Bridesmaids” is everything you could possibly hope for in a movie.

From Annie’s awkward quirks or the absurd antics of Megan, to the pretentions of Helen the pretty friend, “Bridesmaids” exaggerates if not mirrors reality perfectly.

Without compromising its integrity as a fall-out-of-your-chair laughing comedy it manages to portray the realities of life.

“Bridesmaids” is everything you could possibly hope for in a movie.

Rating: A+

—Priscilla Colley
Staff Writer

MOVIE REVIEW | ’The Hangover Part II’ offers same funny tale, but still packs laughs

Familiar story line produces same results

Let us recap for a moment. In “The Hangover” there was a wedding that was almost missed, four friends, a missing person, and strippers.

This plot was the anthem for the summer of 2009. The movie was refreshingly funny and brought scenarios to the silver screen that had not been seen in that light before.

In “The Hangover Part II,” Phil (Bradley Cooper), Stu (Ed Helms), Alan (Zach Galifianakis) and Doug (Justin Bartha) travel to Thailand for Stu’s wedding.

After the unforgettable bachelor party in Las Vegas for Doug’s wedding, Stu is taking no chances and wants nothing more than a pre-wedding brunch.

However, with this group of guys and Alan behind the wheel, things don’t go as planned.

What happened in Vegas is one thing but what happens in Bangkok is another.

“The Hangover Part II” strangely follows almost all of the same patterns as the original, almost as if the writers found gold and couldn’t part with it.

Although the same patterns and some really familiar scenarios with different faces arise, “Part II” still delivers many laughs.

The plot does thicken and takes one, maybe two routes that were not expected, but other than that, moviegoers can pinpoint what will happen next.

Bottom line — the movie is strangely familiar and funny.

If a movie patron is looking for twists and turns maybe a thriller would be better suited than a sequel.

Rating: A+

—Emily Schorr
Staff Writer

TOP 20 MOVIES
weekend of June 3 through 5
www.yahoo.com

1. X-Men: First Class
2. The Hangover Part II
3. Kung Fu Panda 2
4. Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides
5. Bridesmaids
6. Thor
7. Fast Five
8. Midnight in Paris
9. Something Borrowed
10. Jumping the Broom
11. Rio
12. Water for Elephants
13. The Trees of Life
14. Priest
15. Cave of Forgotten Dreams
16. Rango
17. Source Code
18. Soul Surfer
19. Born to be Wilds 3D
20. Insidious
PAYROLL CHANGES TO TAKE EFFECT JULY 1

Full-time employees to see biweekly payday

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As of July 1 of this year, all new full-time employees will be paid on a biweekly basis, said Larry Robertson, Compensation and Human Resources director.

In addition, all current full-time employees and faculty also will have the opportunity to make the change to the new payroll system, he said.

The change has been in the works for some time, Robertson said.

In August 2009, all part-time and student employees were switched over to a biweekly payroll.

“That started the discussions about making the change for all employees and faculty, but this is the first year that we’ve really made it an initiative,” Robertson said.

He said one of the downsides to the change will be a lag period employees will face right after.

“When we go to transition, employees will get a monthly check on June 30. Then the new pay schedule kicks in, ending on July 9, so there’ll be only be six working days on that paycheck.

“They receive that check on July 27 for those six days, and then they get the next check on Aug. 4.

“The disadvantage will be that they’ll only receive one check in July, and it’s only for six days.”

Robertson said that among the benefits of the change would be fewer payroll errors, more frequent paychecks for employees and a more environmentally conscious payroll system.

“One of the things that will be different is that our current non-exempt employees for fulltime will fill out a paper timesheet.

“Those that move over to a biweekly payroll will able to fill out the online form on Mineonline.”

Nicholas Webb, Communications Lab assistant, said that’s one of the features he’s looking forward to.

“I’m not too fond of the current [paper] system,” Webb said.

He said while he’s looking forward to the change over, he has no plans to go to the biweekly system on July 1.

“I’m interested in waiting to see if there will be a conversion plan, and I’ll probably wait until the last minute to make the change.”

Robertson said although there was initially talk of creating a plan to ease the transition that would allow employees making the change to convert sick leave and vacation time into salary, the plan has been shelved for now.

“That plan hasn’t been put in place, and we don’t even know if we’re going to do it. It’s likely that when we make the change mandatory for the whole college that we will try to do something like that, but it’s still in discussion."

John Richardson, online marketing coordinator, said that while the transition might be rough, he’s opted to make the change on July 1.

“I was on the President’s Advisory Council where they made a presentation. And I told them right then and there that I want to go for it. And as soon as I got the form, I filled it out and sent it back in.”

Richardson said he’s not worried about the lag period.

“Obviously, that could create some challenges for people that have to budget very closely, which is probably most of the people on this campus. But I think once people get past that issue, it’ll be smooth sailing.”

As of this time, the change is optional for current employees, Robertson said.

“And at some point in the future, it will become mandatory that all employees move to the biweekly payment schedule, but that time has not yet been determined.”

For more information, e-mail lrobertson@occc.edu or visit employee.occc.edu/biweekly.

FIRST CLASS WITH OKC IMPROV IS FREE THIS SUMMER

Improv studio offers summer classes starting June 18

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Calling all performers.

OKC Improv will hold improvisational classes starting June 18 for adults interested in expanding their theatrical and improvisational talents.

Producers and brothers Buck and Clint Vrazel will teach a level one class at 2 p.m. and a level two class at 4 p.m. every Saturday June 18 through July 23, according to the company website www.okcimprov.com.

OKC Improv is a non-profit community arts organization based out of the Ghostlight Theatre Club at 3110 N. Walker in Oklahoma City.

The organization hosted its first show 10 years ago and is devoted to building a thriving and sustainable improv scene by providing regular performance opportunities, the site said.

“The great thing about improv is that it appeals to a lot of different kinds of people,” said Eric Webb, OKC Improv co-producer. “There are people who come take classes who just want to build confidence.”

According to the website, the level one class is geared toward beginners, lapsed improvisers, actors and comedians looking to try something new.

It will cover the basics of storytelling, stagecraft, character work, mime, improv structures, and group mind.

The level two class is aimed at experienced improvisers looking to refine their skills.

It will cover the further improv fundamentals, advanced character and scene work, and strategies for excelling in different kinds of improv.

A higher-level class also exists, but has a prerequisite.

“The level three class is for those who got through the first two classes and need more advance training,” Webb said.

A former level one student posted positive reviews online. “Buck and Clint are supportive of every effort you do,” the student said. “They are talented, great teachers, fun and enthusiastic. Be prepared for intense learning. It is a good way to get out of your comfort zone.”

Webb said students are welcome to form troups during the current run and practice performing their newly learned skills. Drop-ins also are always welcome in the level 1 class, he said.

“The classes are designed for people to come in and get something out of it and if you want to continue on, there are avenues for you to do so,” Webb said.

The first class is free. There is a $10 fee for each additional class.

OKC Improv also will start a five-week run of shows at 8 and 10 p.m. every Saturday starting June 18. Tickets are $10 each and $5 for improvisers and improv students.

Throughout the run there will be 26 diverse Oklahoma acts and two returning acts from Texas.

“The classes are super affordable and fun,” Webb said.

“Since it is an improv class, there is even some improv in the teaching. No one class will ever be retaught in the exact same way.”

If you are interested in enrolling, visit www.okcimprov.com or call 405-343-1570.
Vice President’s Honor Roll acknowledges students

Students are eligible to be on the Vice President’s Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 3.5 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 3.5 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Vice President's Honor Roll acknowledges students

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Nicole Diaz, Marci Dickson, James Dill, Jaclyn Dixon, Felecia Dixon, Victoria Dixon, Sara De, Doa Solay.
Kilian Downey, Daria Draszyck, Todd Droscher, Stacy Dufee, Whitney Duncan, Katherine Durham, William Dunn.
Eric Edwards, Seth Eilerts, Sarah El-FoUly, Shams El Din El-FoUly, Rachel Elliott, LaDonna Ellison, Nadia Enchasi.
Erik Engel, Ouiame Errahmouni, Camila Escalier, Melanie Espinosita, Robert Estes, Karen Evans, Brian Evans, Kandi Evans, Jonathan Ezell.
Mikeal Foli, Wesley Fomin, Tiffany Foos, Christie Forney, Megan Fortan, Stephanie Foulchon, Jessica Franklin, Jason Franks, Amanda Freeman, Andrew Frizell.
Annalyn Gille, Brooke Gibson, Vanessa Glass, Autumn Gokey, Amber Goldsby, Joshua Gordon, Catherine Gorman.
Scott Hadder, Johnathan Haynes, Seddik Halabi, Sara Hamidi, Diane Hamm, Michael Hannan, Bree Harjo, Nathan Harp.
Morgan Hargrave, Michelle Harpur, James Harris, Ella Harri, Sara Hashem, Grant Hawkbaker, Amanda Head, Erik Heavner.
J. Hehly, Britton Heitl, Shara Hendriks, Marianna Hennigan, Lara Hensley, Kristin Herb, John Herrera, Jing Herwig, Nathan Hester, Leigh Hibbard.
Amelia Hicks, Shari Higa, Britany Higgins, Kristopher Higginbotham, Summer Hildebrand, Hailey Hill, David Hill, Wendy Hinricksen, Benny Hlavaty.
Khan Ho, Vyo Ho, Hao Hoang, Shele Hobbs, Stephanie Holt, Tammy Honea, Dongyo Hong, Seungheon Hong.
Velefte Hood, Heather Horn, Cybele Hsu, Samantha Huerca, Kevin Huercu, Stephen Huggins, Chad Hughes, Melissa Hunt, Jessica Hutchinson.
Mounir Karmada, Kaitlin Kars, Steven Karr, Jon Keeghan, Brittany Keller, Patrick Kelley, Michelle Kelley.
Mirim Kim, Brenda Kimathi, Allira Kimrey, April King, Ivy Jeanne Kinne, Lolanaite Kirkes, Lucinda Kiser.
Rhonda Knight, Willis Knight, Brian Koehn, Jeffrey Kopp, Der Krigbaum, April Kuhlman, Donna Kysela.
Hope Larson, Samden Lama, Valarie Lambert, Terence Lange, Christopher Lansdale, David Lasiter, Jason Lauderdale, Samantha Lasteyn, William Layden.
Janelle Martin, Joshua Martin, Devin Mathai, Michael Matthews, Stephanie Matthews, Jacob Maxfield, Mary McAtee, Caitrice McBride, Jana McClarney.
Kenneth Meador, Kristine Meggenberg, Rachel Menzo, Starla Miller, Catty Miller, Doobok Min, John Mitchell, Stacy Mize, Jimphot Moulassat.
Harold Morris, Jaree Mueller, Royal Mulinix, Daniel Murphy, Katherine Murray, Peter Mwan, Daniel Mwaniki, Sally Myers, Kelly Murray.
Moriam Na-Allah, Roxanna Namjou-Khales, Andrew Natzie, Veronica Nash, Yvonne Nash, Leta Ndomchke Kondo, Mary Ndungu.
Rachel Neasbitt, James Neely, Mulwork Negash, Milad Nematzadeh, Shane Newville, Thyoung Ngo, Jeanette Ngo, Cuc Nguyen, Thanh Nguyen, Sheng Xu, Raman Yadav, Li Ying, Yangi Yel, Fang Ye, Kacie Young, Brynne Zachary.
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5k run to help nursing students

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The OCCC Nursing Students Association and Student Physical Therapy Assistant Organization will sponsor the 3rd Annual Life Saver 5k and 1 mile Fun Run Sept. 17.

The event has seen its number of participants grow each year and OCCC Nursing Student Association President Jennifer Hader is keen to keep that trend going.

"I would very much like to encourage all current and previous nursing students to participate in the 5K, either by running or volunteering their time to help us make this event even more awesome than the last two," Hader said.

Race Director and Associate Nursing Program Director Deborah Myers also is optimistic the number of participants will grow this fall.

"We'd like to have 500 participants and we're hopeful that we'll reach that number for this year's run," Myers said. Whether it's a serious run or a relaxed stroll around campus, participants don't have to be in prime condition to take part in the event, she said.

"Everyone in the community is welcome to participate," Myers said. The majority of the proceeds generated by the event will go to supporting a scholarship fund, Hader said.

"All of the money raised in the race goes for either scholarships for students in the nursing program or back into the race. We had enough money to provide a scholarship to every applicant last year," she said. "This year we're expecting more students to apply so we of course want to work hard to provide for them."

Hader said she also sees the event as a way of getting students involved on the community level.

"[The run] is also a great time to encourage our students in the Nursing department and the PTA students to work hard and know that we appreciate all they are doing to become great in their career fields," she said.

The sponsors will offer prizes for the top three finishers in various age groups ranging from 12 and under to 80 years and above.

"There will be food, drinks, a live band and plenty of fun for the kids on the day of the race," Hader said.

Registration for the event is currently open and anyone interested in participating is invited to register for the event either online or by mail.

Registration will close at 11:59 p.m. Sept. 15. For fees, information and details about registering, visit www.occc.edu/lifesaver.
Construction: John Massey Center should be completed by January

The former building sold for $2,597,506, he said. The building was donated to the college in 2004 by former legislator John Massey.

Messer said although the ice storms earlier this year did delay the site work, the delays are not expected to cause any problems, and the new John Massey Center is tentatively scheduled to be completed in January 2012.

Above: A rendering of the completed John Massey Center currently being built on campus.

Left: Floor plans for the John Massey Center. The building will sit right next to the former Child Development Center and Lab School on the southeast corner of campus. The CDCLS moved to a larger building off campus last June leaving that building empty. Construction on the new center started earlier this year.

“'The John Massey Center houses support personnel integral to the college including Finance, Human Resources, Corporate Learning and Institutional Planning and Research,' said John Boyd, finance and business vice president.

---courtesy OCCC

Dates: Pay attention to drop dates

If a student finds him or herself failing the class, dropping it will preserve that student's GPA. Dropping a class by June 10 will completely remove the class from a transcript. However, waiting until July 15 will result in a W for withdrawal. To drop a class, students have choices, Bodine said.

If help is needed, it is best to set up an appointment with an academic adviser. There is also the option to drop a class through the registration office or online. Bodine suggests planning ahead so you don't have to drop any classes.

“Balance is everything.”
Show me the money

(Left to Right) Students Lizette Reyes, Garrett Romines and Lauryn Romines get information from the Guthrie Job Corps Coordinator Terri Kennedy June 2. The Guthrie Job Corps offers students who are eligible extra money for college. For more information, contact Terri Kennedy at 405-625-9838.

EMILY SCHORR
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The Hamil family of Piedmont, Okla., is going through tough times and OCCC’s Kappa Beta Delta chapter wants to help.

On May 24, the family lost their home and both of their sons, Ryan, 3 and Cole, 15 months, to a tornado that touched down in their area.

Catherine Hamil, 36, and her daughter, Cathleen, 5 were both hospitalized in critical condition. Since that time, Catherine has been released from the hospital and Cathleen has been upgraded to fair condition.

Kappa Beta Delta is nominating the Hamil family for Extreme Makeover Home Edition and needs everyone’s help, said Brenda Warren, Kappa Beta Delta member.

Warren is asking that everyone nominate the Hamil family for the makeover. “I can’t imagine the pain they’re going through,” she said. “I have two boys and it’s just horrible.”

Warren said there are two ways to nominate the Hamils:

1. Log into Facebook (or sign up), go to www.facebook.com/topic.php?uid=101501362030455438&topic=28705 and reply to the topic.

2. E-mail Extreme Makeover Home Edition at EMHEcastingdept@gmail.com and explain why the Hamil family should be considered. Michael Sullivan, Kappa Beta Delta president, said every vote is crucial. “If they get enough votes, they have a shot,” he said.

Kappa Beta Delta also asks that the information is passed along to friends, family and posted on Facebook. “We need to help each other,” Warren said. “This is how Oklahoma comes together.”

Kappa Beta Delta members also will have a table set up the first week of fall classes — location unknown at this time — to nominate and accept donations for the Hamil family.

For more information, contact Warren at brenda.g.warren@email.occc.edu.

Don’t be left in the dark. Follow us for instant news and updates! www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer

COMMUNITY | Kappa Beta Delta calls for students to help them help the Hamil family

Student club nominates local family for home makeover show

I can’t imagine the pain they’re going through. I have two boys and it’s just horrible

—Brenda Warren
Kappa Beta Delta member
WHOEVER SAYS LIGHTNING DOESN’T STRIKE TWICE IN THE SAME PLACE, HASN’T LIVED IN OKLAHOMA!

A young, single mom from Piedmont is starting life over again since she lost all her belongings in the violent tornado that struck May 24. Cortney had rebuilt her life after a fire took all she owned two years ago. This time she, along with her 9-month old son, escaped the storm with only the clothes on their backs, and are once more in need of anything and everything.

Mom is a size 2 and small, and her child is a 12-month size. If you have clothes, kitchen supplies, bath towels, sheets, etc., that you can contribute to this family, please call: Casey R. Akard at 405-514-0485.

Thank you for your help!

OCCC LEADS CONTRACTORS ON A PRE-BID CONFERENCE

College theater one step closer to reality

JEREMY CLOUD
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The mandatory pre-bid conference for the new Visual and Performing Arts Center theater facility was conducted June 1.

The conference included a walkthrough of the current facilities, led by Facilities Management Director J.B. Messer and project architect Walt Joyce, of Triad Design Company.

“We have a mandatory pre-bid because general contractors will have bids from a lot of different sub-contractors, and the prime subcontractors are the mechanical and electrical,” Messer said.

“It basically puts everyone at an even playing field for the project.”

Messer and Joyce led the contractors through the facility, answering questions, explaining the details of the requirements and providing visual references for the information provided to contractors in the plans and whiteprints.

Joyce said he’s excited about the project, especially for the opportunity it has provided him to work with Schuler Shook Theater Design, a Texas company that helped with the technical design of the new facility.

“It’s just really well thought out in terms of quality,” Joyce said.

“It’s not the Cadillac equipment, but it’s not low end either. It’s in the appropriate range for this institution.

“For example, it’s got curtains in the attic space that are adjustable to fine-tune the [acoustics of the] performance space for whatever is called for.

“For instance, you want different acoustics for a rock band than for a choir or a play.”

Messer said in addition to quality technology in the theater systems, there are technical innovations in the heating and cooling system he’s particularly proud of.

“The way it’s set up, we didn’t have to do as much work to the central plant in terms of heating and cooling modes.

“It utilizes the central plant, but places more of the equipment on site,” Messer said.

Joyce agrees the system is innovative, and said he’s pleased with it.

“It’s a big deal.

“The college has been instrumental in terms of energy consciousness and awareness.

“And it’s based on that cutting-edge thinking that they took and eliminated the requirement for adding another central load to their plant for this facility.”

Joyce attributes the smoothness and success of the project to date to the continuity.

“We put a team together, and it’s been the same team, for all practical purposes, since the inception (of the VPAC),” he said.

“And even to the point where we’re doing our working drawing on Wednesdays, we would have the dean and other appropriate people come into these design meetings.

“It’s that continuity that I’m most proud of on these projects, and it’s that team feeling here at the college that has worked really well.”

Messer agrees, but also points out the vision of the designers at Triad is another major component.

“What we were able to do was build the VPAC, knowing how much funding we had at the time,” he said.

“And to envision in the process of building the VPAC what the theater would look like sitting in there, without actually putting it there.

“So then coming back together, and moving forward to put this project together, and seeing the way that the VPAC fits perfectly with this project — that takes a tremendous amount of vision.”

Messer said bidding for the contract to build the new facility opens at 2 p.m. on June 16.

Father’s Day falls on June 19 in U.S.

Father’s Day in the U.S. is celebrated on the third Sunday of June — this year it’s June 19.

There are a range of events, which may have inspired the idea of Father’s Day.

One of these was the start of the Mother’s Day tradition in the first decade of the 20th century. Another was a memorial service held in 1908 for a large group of men, many of them fathers, who were killed in a mining accident December 1907 in Monongah, W. Va.

What is known is Sonora Smart Dodd was an influential figure in the establishment of Father’s Day.

Her father raised six children by himself after the death of their mother. This was uncommon at that time, as many widowers placed their children in the care of others or quickly married again.

Sonora was inspired by the work of Anna Jarvis, who had pushed for Mother’s Day celebrations. Sonora felt that her father deserved recognition for what he had done.

The first time Father’s Day was held in June was in 1910. Father’s Day was officially recognized as a holiday in 1972 by President Richard Nixon.

The date when Father’s Day is celebrated varies from country to country.

It is also celebrated in Canada and in the United Kingdom the third Sunday of June.

It is also observed in countries such as Argentina, Canada, France, Greece, India, Ireland, Mexico, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa and Venezuela. In Australia and New Zealand, Father’s Day is on the first Sunday in September. In Thailand it is celebrated on December 5, which is the birthday of the country’s king. Brazilian dads are honored on the second Sunday of August.

For more information about Father’s Day, visit the source of this information at www.timeanddate.com/holidays/common/father-day.

For unique gift ideas, visit www.gifts.com/fathers-day/G0T or http://frugalliving.about.com/od/specialoccasions/tp/Fathers_Day

Those looking for affordable gift ideas under $100 can find those at www.mint.com/blog/how-to/11-affordable-fathers-day-gifts-dads-will-want.