

INSIDE**PIONEER ONLINE**

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Online Editor Whitney Knight says the college bookstore made a mistake in bringing back the 'no bags in bookstore' policy. Read more.

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With a valid OCCC ID, students can use a variety of gym equipment, the pool and take some fitness classes at no charge. Read more inside.

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Mercy School Institute now offers concurrent enrollment through OCCC. Turn inside for more information.

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

JUNE 29, 2012**WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER****COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978****HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS ELEGIBLE FOR UP TO 36 CREDIT HOURS**

Fee waivers offered to high schoolers

JEREMY CLOUD

Editor

editor@occc.edu

Perhaps the best thing about concurrent enrollment — taking college classes while still in high school — is getting affordable college credit, said Nhi Nguyen, computer science major.

Admissions Adviser David Orsburn said

while concurrent enrollment has always been available to juniors, in the past "they had to pay the full amount of tuition and fees" — only seniors qualified for help with tuition.

He said OCCC now offers concurrent enrollment tuition waivers to high school juniors as well.

The waivers, which originally covered the summer, fall and spring semesters of

a student's senior year, will now also cover those same periods in an eligible student's junior year, he said.

Christy Rogers, Recruitment and Admissions assistant director, said in a press release that students could obtain as many as "36 hours of paid college tuition."

She said evening classes also are available

See **CONCURRENT** page 9



OCCC President Paul Sechrist waits for the first cup of lemonade from Alex's Lemonade Stand on June 28 in front of the college's main entrance. Donations were accepted and go to Alex's Lemonade Stand foundation to help find a cure for childhood cancer.

CHRIS JAMES/
PIONEER

COLLEGE FOR KIDS CLASS OFFERING A GIVING BACK CLASS

Youngsters learn life lessons via lemonade

EMILY SCHORR

Senior Writer

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Children enrolled in this summer's College for Kids program are getting a chance to make a difference in the community via a class called Giving Back, said Paul Burkhardt, OCCC Community Outreach coordinator.

Burkhardt said the class is designed to teach kids about their communities and, as

the class title implies, giving back. A first session is about to end and a second one is scheduled for July 9 through 13, he said.

Burkhardt said the focus of the class will be for the students to "build character and give back to their communities."

"Kids will learn many elements of fundraising," he said. "The students can take what they learn and apply it."

Burkhardt said the students enrolled in the class also will learn about hardships in life — specifically how children cope

with cancer. After the students attend the class they will be responsible for using the skills they have been taught to fundraise, plan and promote Alex's Lemonade Stand.

According to www.alexslemonade.org, "Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation emerged from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra "Alex" Scott (1996-2004). In 2000, 4-year-old Alex announced that she wanted to hold

See **ALEX** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Writer says being asked to leave backpack with a student worker is 'insulting'

OCCC bookstore policy misguided

After years of forcing students to leave their belongings unattended outside of OCCC's bookstore, those on campus during the spring semester were met with a welcome surprise.



WHITNEY KNIGHT

For the first time this writer can remember, the bookstore actually allowed customers to take their backpacks and other large satchels with them into the store.

A college police officer posted just inside the entry kept bookstore wares safe, and students no longer had to fret about leaving their textbooks, laptops and other expensive items out in the open. It was a win-win situation for all.

Now, the sign welcoming guests to take their bags into the store with them is long gone. For some inexplicable reason, we've now reverted back to the

olden days — but with a twist.

Instead of forcing you to leave your personal belongings completely abandoned outside the bookstore, the college now makes you leave them with a student worker instead.

That's right, not a campus police officer or even a full-time bookstore employee. A student worker, just like you and me. Not only is the change ridiculous, it is downright insulting.

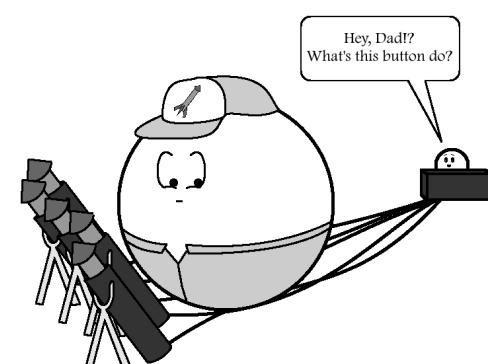
The college does not trust the students pumping money into their bookstore not to steal a pack of Ritz crackers, but they expect us to trust a stranger — one with no more authority than the rest of us — with our prized personal possessions.

It's like putting a rookie cook in charge of an extravagant restaurant's menu. Even if their intentions are pure, they clearly aren't cut out for the job all the same.

At its core, the check-in system really isn't a bad idea. But it is a poorly executed one.

If OCCC wants students to check their belongings

BALLIARD BILL



Why fireworks companies don't have "Bring Your Kid To Work" days.

© 2012

JEREMY CLOUD

in with a college employee, it should be with one of our police officers; someone who has the credentials to stand guard over personal possessions and keep them safe from theft.

That way, the bookstore could be assured that its products are safe from thieving hands — and students could be assured their belongings are safe from the same.

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
ONLINE EDITOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Illnesses, drowning can be prevented by following health department tips

Swimming safety should be top priority during summertime

To the Editor:

The State Department of Health encourages healthy and safe swimming behaviors to prevent recreational water illnesses and injuries.

RWIs are caused by germs spread by swallowing or having contact with contaminated water in swimming pools, hot tubs, water parks, play areas, fountains, lakes, rivers or oceans. They can also be spread by breathing in mists or aerosols from contaminated water. RWIs can be prevented if you:

- Avoid swimming when you have diarrhea.
- Avoid swallowing pool or lake water.
- Shower before swimming and wash your hands after using the toilet or changing diapers. Take children on bathroom breaks or change diapers often. Change diapers in a bathroom and not at poolside.
- Swimming in a well-maintained swimming pool will reduce your likelihood of developing an RWI as many of the germs are killed by chlorine.
- Avoid swimming in a pool that has cloudy or off-colored water or if you can't see the main bottom drain.
- Lakes aren't chlorinated and can pose a risk for an RWI including primary amebic meningoencephalitis.

PAM is a very rare, usually fatal disease caused by an ameba that grows in very warm surface waters such as lakes, ponds and rivers. Warm water temperatures allow the ameba to multiply. PAM may be prevented by not diving or dunking your head in warm, shallow bodies of fresh water. Hold the nose shut or use nose clips to keep water from entering the nose.

Blue-green algae can produce toxins that result in illness. Contact with water that has a blue-green algae bloom can result in a skin rash; eye, ear and throat irritation; asthma-like symptoms; and diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal cramps. Avoid recreational water activities where mats of algae appear on the water.

Drowning is another important concern. To reduce the risk of drowning, make sure that:

- Everyone knows how to swim and adults and older children know CPR.
- Children only swim in designated and well-supervised swimming areas, and wear a properly-fitted life jacket or personal flotation device. Products such as swimming noodles and water wings are not safety devices and should never be used in the place of life jackets or personal flotation devices.

- All individuals use a properly fitting, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket while boating or participating in boating activities, such as water-skiing, regardless of swimming ability or experience, size of boat, or distance to be traveled.

Swimming pools pose their own set of risks.

- Install four-sided fencing around residential pools that separates the house and play area from the pool. Use self-closing and self-latching gates that open outward and are out of reach from children.

- Clear the pool and surrounding area of toys that may entice children to enter the pool area unsupervised and fall in.

- Use locks or alarms for doors and windows in the home that open into a pool area.
- If a child is missing, check the pool first.
- Never leave children unsupervised for even a minute. People under the influence of alcohol and drugs should not be supervising children.

For more information regarding water-related injuries and prevention, please visit www.ok.gov/health for more information.

—OKLAHOMA STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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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, libel and obscenity. Letters should be fewer 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 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, 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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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | While manufacturer earns an F for shoddy work; sock monkey personality gets an A

Sock monkey makes fans everywhere

When it comes to purchasing your first sock monkey, you will want to make sure you are getting a quality product for your pay. Like children, sock monkeys require lots of love and attention.

The sock monkey craze is almost as colossal as the mustache madness that has taken over the pop culture of America. Understandably so, as sock monkeys are the reinvention of vintage style mixed with the innocence of plush animals.

Sometime in mid-March I bought my first sock monkey from Walmart in front of one of the Easter displays. After I spotted them, I couldn't help but reach into the depths of my pockets and spill out the \$7 or so it cost for the sock monkey.

Because it was around Easter, the sock monkey was set out with other seasonal items, and much to my delightful surprise I noticed a pair of bunny ears on it — another huge bonus since I am also into bunnies.

The sock monkey exhibited a traditional look, but also had the perks of sporting a lovely pink and brown striped shirt, along with an impressive shade of fuchsia colored lips. At nine inches long, this new purchase was perfect in every sense of the term.

As with most dedicated stuffed animal owners it was only proper to give such a remarkable sock monkey a name: Carl Morgan.

Though tangibly the sock monkey was lacking in quality, the inner spirit of Carl made up for whatever DanDee Collector's Choice had missed when they manufactured him.

It was almost expected, considering the purchase was made from Walmart, and thus it was most likely



manufactured in a less-than-minimal factory in some third-world country.

When Carl was around 1 week old, a small area on his left arm started to unravel and tear. This can't be mistaken for normal wear and tear, because I guarded him and protected him with my dear life.

This flaw was greatly disappointing, especially since he had been in my possession for such a short time.

Though Carl sports a phenomenally attractive and stylish shirt, it is sewn on. For those of you who may want to change the attire on your sock monkey, this is unfortunately not an option.

For any flaw that was made in his design, Carl makes up for it with personality.

Carl became an immediate social attraction. I took him to work with me; he went to the skating rink; he dazzled his charm with the waitresses at a local Coach's restaurant. Wherever Carl went and wherever Carl goes, people beg for a picture with the classy gent.

If you are able to open your eyes to the endearing spirit of this inanimate sock monkey, your heart will be filled with the best kind of imaginary love.

But if you are looking for a sock monkey that will serve as a quality made stuffed animal, you are better off just playing make believe with a pillow sham.

Carl Morgan Rating: A

DanDee Collector's Choice: F

—CASEY R. AKARD
VIDEOGRAPHER

PRODUCT REVIEW | Boredom is never an issue with all the flavors a personal vaporizer offers

Smoker cuts back on habit with eGo

I've been a smoker for more than 10 years, at a pack per day. I recently decided to start down the path of quitting smoking, and start using a personal vaporizer or e-cigarette.

One of my friends let me use his e-cig, and I enjoyed the experience immensely, and proceeded to order one for myself.

The eGo-T type B I got has a larger tank that holds two milliliter of liquid, as opposed to one milliliter for the type A, so it lasts twice as long.

The tank tip is incredible as well, as it lets users fill it with whatever flavor of "smoke juice" they want.

"Smoke juice" is simply flavoring, nicotine and vegetable glycerine, so the only thing you get that isn't really good for you is nicotine. This of course is a step up from "analog" (regular) cigarettes which have tons of bad stuff in them.

The batteries in the e-cigs last ages as well. I've gone two days of use without having charged them, but

my friend says they last four days without needing a recharge.

The atomizers are a little tricky though. Other reviews say they only last a week, but I haven't needed to replace one yet. The type B tanks cost \$16, and the type A tanks cost around \$9.

Now for what's really important: vapor quality.

The vapor is thick when the fluid uses vegetable glycerine. Most of the time when I use my eGo it feels like I'm smoking a cigar with how much vapor a 3- to 4-second draw releases.

I've been enjoying the eGo. It's helped me cut my cigarette consumption by two packs per week and that's just the beginning. With all the flavors and flavor combinations, you could vape all you want, and never get bored with the flavors.

Rating: A

—ROBERT BOLTON
ONLINE WRITER

COUNSELOR'S Corner

Meet with advisers now to enroll early

"Commitment turns a promise into reality with words that speak boldly of your intentions and actions that speak louder than words."

Too often, students arrive on campus carrying a very casual and nonchalant attitude about education with them. The spirit of consumerism that permeates our culture has reduced the idea of knowledge, for some, to a commodity that can be purchased like candy from a vending machine. Not surprisingly, these individuals engage in behaviors that will simply not support them in achieving their educational goals.

The acquisition of knowledge requires curiosity and being open to new experiences. As very young children, we tend to exhibit those qualities fully. We want to know how things work and why. We want to touch things and experience things and take risks. Somewhere during the process of our formal educational experience, those qualities are harnessed and reignited in so that we learn to wait passively for someone to tell us what to think and when.

Success in college, and in life, requires that we regain our natural inclination to see the world with a sense of wonder and awe, and to begin asking those "pesky" questions again: "What is this?" "What does it mean?" "How will I use this in future endeavors?" Seeking knowledge means making it a priority in your life. It then becomes important enough for you to commit to it. As with human relationships, making a commitment to your education means that you spend quality time with your learning. You show up for class even if it would be nice to stay in bed. You participate in class even though participating may expose you to the judgments of your professor and peers. You stretch yourself beyond what you thought your limits were. Your relationship with school is no longer casual. It stops being something that you do and becomes something that you are.

The great innovators and movers and shakers in life are never the people who are content to sit quietly and watch from the sidelines. They are the people who set goals for themselves and then alter the universe to achieve them. We in Student Support Services are here to help you find your passion and the tools to turn your promise into reality.

—MARY TURNER
LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

WEBSITE REVIEW | Viewers share anonymous secrets

Postsecret.com allows visitors to gain freedom

We all have those secrets, thoughts and feelings that reveal the deepest of our emotions and make their homes in our minds and chests.

If exposed, they would reveal the true, raw, uncensored and sometimes embarrassing corners of our minds. Postsecret.com is a little spot on the Internet where individuals can go to share these secrets while still keeping them secrets.

Postsecret.com makes this possible by allowing individuals to anonymously mail in homemade postcards which share the very thing they are wanting to say.

The site creates an outlet where individuals can read confessions that may relate to their own feelings, share their own confessions, or even have a good laugh at some of the humorous ones that are posted.

Over several years of personal visits to the website, the secrets have been found to cover a vast array of subjects.

These include religious convictions, childhood memories, body image, forgiveness and unforgiveness — and the list goes on.

In a society where social media has such a strong impact on the world and its people, primarily the youth, when a social community project like this comes along, it makes an impression.

The website has millions of hits and, since starting

in 2005, Postsecret.com founder Frank Warren states on postsecretcommunity.com that he receives around 200 postcards per day.

This isn't all that Postsecret.com has to offer.

By going online to postsecretcommunity.com/postsecret-events, a schedule of the Postsecret events can be found.

At these events, individuals are able to hear and share their secrets and stories with others, meet the man who founded it all, and grow as a community by getting these things off of their chests and pushing themselves to grow.

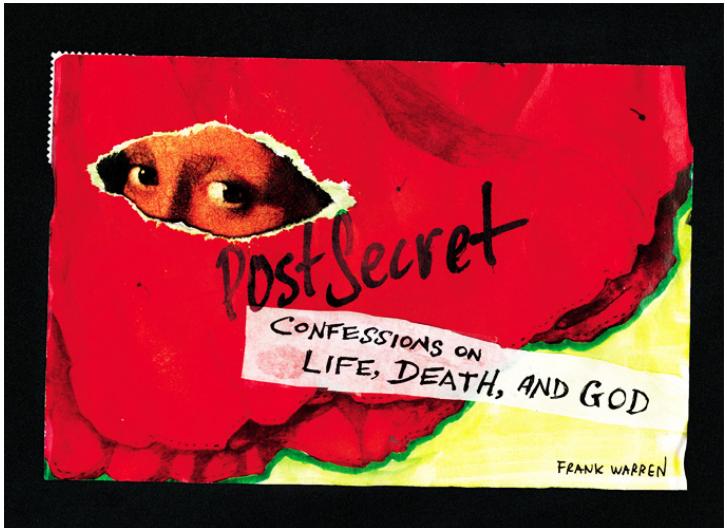
Books containing hundreds of postcards can be found by also visiting postsecretcommunity.com.

A select collection of the postcards are shared, just as they are on the website, reaching millions.

Just as on the website, the creator of the secret is never released.

The website also has a YouTube channel where secrets can be heard and shared via video.

A forum found on the website is also available for individuals looking to communicate with other



postsecret users.

Whether it is to share a secret or read a secret, giving a visit to Postsecret.com is a great way to participate in a growing social community that has helped and continues to help many people overcome their own boundaries.

Rating: A

—PARIS BURRIS
STAFF WRITER

THUNDER SEASON REVIEW | Despite Finals loss, fan sees championship in near future

Thunder season was not disappointing

Losing is rarely a cause to celebrate anything in life, much less when it comes to basketball. The Thunder were officially ousted by LeBron James and the Heat a week ago in the Finals — and while that may be disappointing on its own — looking back, it's a testament to how good the season was for Oklahoma City, both the team and the city.

The beaten-down narrative of how young and inexperienced the Thunder is were lines no fan wanted any part of during the playoff run we just experienced.

Most thought, "We're not young anymore, we've handled the playoffs before. We're ready to win. Now."

Yet once you saw how the Heat closed out the Thunder, once you saw LeBron make "LeLeap" as Bill Simmons put it, once you saw James Harden, Kevin Durant, and Russell Westbrook taking in the loss together on the sidelines — you saw all at once that the Thunder just wasn't ready to become the NBA's best team.

That time is still to come.

The proof for that declaration is

within the Thunder's 62 wins (regular season and playoffs included) witnessed this year.

For much of the regular season, the Thunder was the league's best team. While home-court slipped away, the Thunder more than made up for it by reeling off four straight wins against the robotically designed basketball machine Spurs en route to the Finals.

Before that, the Thunder beat the league's previous defending champions by sweeping the Mavericks and kicking Kobe Bryant and the Lakers to the curb as well. In this playoff run we've witnessed the changing of the guard in the West; the Thunder is now the team that others will use as a benchmark for their success.

Individually speaking we've also seen the evolution of Durant, who just a couple weeks ago was crowned the king of clutch in the NBA.

That will happen to you when you hit a couple game-winners over the course of the season in addition to scoring 16 and 17 points in the fourth quarter of games one and two of the NBA Finals, which makes Westbrook

one of the highest scoring players in a Finals series ever.

For as maligned as Westbrook is, the nation finally realized the power he possesses as he almost single-handedly led the Thunder to a game four win over the Heat, totaling 43 points.

Add that to the quickly developing offensive game of Serge Ibaka, the maturation of Harden, and the defensive reliability of Thabo Sefolosha, Nick Collison and others, it's clear to see the future outshines the darkness that was the game five loss to the Heat.

While a championship was the goal, and a very realistic one at that, it would be nothing less than greedy to expect a team whose best players are all 23 years old and under to win an NBA title in only the team's fourth year in OKC.

Thunder fans probably don't want to be comforted by promises of a successful future this soon after a Finals loss, but as the stages of grieving go, acceptance will come soon enough.

Rating: A

—MORGAN BEARD
STAFF WRITER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of June 22 through 24
www.yahoo.com

1. *Brave*
2. *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*
3. *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*
4. *Prometheus*
5. *Snow White and the Huntsman*
6. *Rock of Ages*
7. *That's My Boy*
8. *Marvel's The Avengers*
9. *Men in Black 3*
10. *Seeking a Friend for the End of the World*
11. *Moonrise Kingdom*
12. *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*
13. *The Hunger Games*
14. *Battleship*
15. *Bernie*
16. *Safety Not Guaranteed*
17. *Teri Meri Kahaani*
18. *The Dictator*
19. *What To Expect When You're Expecting*
20. *To Rome With Love*

SELECTING A NEW SCHOOL AFTER GRADUATION CAN BE SIMPLE

Transfer Center assists students with options

MICHELL RICHARDS

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Transferring schools from OCCC can be a stressful experience for many students. However, the school offers multiple outlets to ease the burden of the transfer process, including hosting various schools and universities at the colleges Transfer Center.

Students looking to transfer have multiple options of local schools who often send representatives to the Transfer Center, located on the first floor of the Main Building.

Institutions such as the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Christian University, DeVry and the University of Central Oklahoma send connections to the Transfer Center, even during the summer session.

Chuck Flint works in the office of admissions for Oklahoma City University and was recently representing the school at the Transfer Center.

Flint said the transfer process to OCU "fits nicely with OCCC for someone with an associates degree going for a bachelor's."

Flint is also the coordinator of military admissions and affairs for OCU, he said.

Even though OCU is a private school and is more expensive than most schools in the area, the school is a part of the Yellow Ribbon tuition assistance program to make tuition more affordable for veterans, he said.

"All the schools are trying to help returning military

people get into college," Flint said.

One of the most popular programs for OCCC transfers is OCU's nursing program, he said.

According to Flint, most OCCC classes transfer to OCU.

Flint said many nursing students take their basics at OCCC and then transfer to OCU.

"I can't say every class transfers, but we have a really good relationship with OCCC and there is always a petition process if the class doesn't transfer," Flint said.

"Transferring students don't lose much, if any."

Kasie Warr, a music business major, transferred her OCCC credits to the Academy of Contemporary Music at UCO last spring.

"The transfer process was easy," Warr said.

Flint said OCU is known for its performing arts, business and nursing programs mostly, but the school offers many other majors.

OCU also boasts an impressive athletics resume with a lot of NAIA national championships, most recently in cheerleading, Flint said.

Flint said he is usually representing OCU at the Transfer Center every week.

Another great resource for students looking to transfer is the Transfer Center's website. The site offers links to contacts from various schools, a schedule of the universities sending a representative to the Transfer Center, as well as helpful tips and checklists for transferring students.

For more information on transferring to a different

Scheduled university visits

Oklahoma Christian University

A recruiter will visit the campus from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, July 9. Visit with a recruiter from Oklahoma Christian University at the Transfer Center in the Main Building located by the advising office.

University of Oklahoma

A recruiter will visit the campus from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 11. Visit with a recruiter from University of Oklahoma at the Transfer Center in the Main Building located by the advising office.

St. Gregory's University

A recruiter will visit the campus from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 18. Visit with a recruiter from St. Gregory's University at the Transfer Center in the Main Building located by the advising office.

school or to speak to an adviser, visit the Transfer Center's website at www.occc.edu/TransferCenter or call 405-682-7567.

PSY-1001 TEACHES STUDENTS TO PLAN THEIR FUTURE

College course focuses on building students' careers

JEREMY CLOUD

Editor

editor@occc.edu

Students who aren't sure of what they want out of their degree might consider attending this fall's section of PSY-1001, "Career Exploration."

"It is a bit like the Success in College and Life classes," said Debra Vaughn, Student Employment and Career Services director.

But, according to Vaughn, the difference is while the success classes are more broadly focused on study, degree tracks and how to get through college, "Career Exploration is a look at one of the slices of that success class, how to plan a career," she said.

"SCL is about getting started. Career Exploration is about getting launched."

Vaughn, who teaches the fall preparation class, said one of the misnomers she has to clear up at the beginning of every class is that while it does have a psychology subject code, PSY-1001, it's not just about psychology.

"We cover all different kinds of degree programs. Medical, legal, engineering, sciences, everything," she said.

Vaughn said one of her favorite examples is to point

out the Prosthetic Technician degree program in the catalogue before taking her students to the website of a prosthetics company and showing them patient testimonial videos.

"We want to show them 'if you get this degree, this is what you could be doing.' So for a student getting that prosthetic tech degree, they could be helping people," she said.

"We want to give them that personal connection. 'These are the people you can help, this is what you can do,'" she said.

But the class doesn't just cover different degree options, and the careers associated with them, Vaughn said. It also looks at what students need to do in college to get prepared for those careers.

"For instance, a student comes to me and says, 'I'm pre-med;' well that's wonderful, have you applied to the nursing program yet? You'd be amazed at how many students don't know about competitive entry, or at how many different fields and schools in those fields use it," Vaughn said.

"I didn't know about it back when I was starting school as a freshman. I mean, you think, well I'm in college now, and I'm paying to be here, why do I have to be accepted into a school I'm paying for already?" she said.

“

We cover all different kinds of degree programs. Medical, legal, engineering, sciences, everything."

—DEBRA VAUGHN
DIRECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

Vaughn said it's the little pitfalls like that which she hopes to teach her students to avoid. She said the class also covers many of the topics her department offers seminars on, such as dressing for an interview or writing a resume.

"We actually do an inclass presentation on how to tie a tie," Vaughn said, laughing.

"It always goes over so well, even with the lady students! It just surprises them, windsor, half-windsor, shelby, bow-tie. Who knew there was so many ways to wear a tie?"

Vaughn said she enjoys teaching the classes, and is looking forward to her fall section. "It's always great. The students are wonderful."

For more information, contact Vaughn at 405-682-1611, ext. 7362 or visit Student Employment and Career Services in room 1G7 on the first floor of the Main Building.

Vice President's Honor Roll students acknowledged

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.

Skye Abbott, Euvia Abdullah, Jacob Abraham, Mariah Abram, Daniel Adame, Bruce Adams, Ann-Marie Adams, Rita Addo, Bolaji Adegoke, Lois Adkins, Thomas Adkins, Mariam Ahmad, Philomine Aka Atabong, Jonathan Ariel, Aldana Perez, Tyler Aldridge, Ginger Alexander, Christine Alkaakaty, Sydney Allbritton, Scott Allen, Aaron Allen, Brandon Allen, Ana Alvarez, Marc Anthony, Adeel Anwar, Katherine Apgar, Deborah Armstrong, Verna Ashalintubbi, Cailyn Atkinson.

Saad Ayadi Berrada, Gabriela Baeza, Andrew Baker, Kyla Baker, Gregory Baker, Carter Baker, Mark Barber, Elizabeth Bare, Skylar Barker, Jolene Barnett, Candice Barnett, Caleb Barrette, Jacob Barter, Kayla Barto, Adam Barton, Alanna Barton, Tracy Bass, Khristian Baumann, Morgan Beard, Tiffanie Bedford, Erin Benear, Madeline Bentley, Michael Bentley, Adeline Bickerstaff, Christy Bingham, Garrett Bishop, Shrappa Bista, Lavanna Bittle, Jessica Bixler-Sutton, Corey Black, Elizabeth Blackledge, Vanessa Blackwell, Darrian Blanchard, David Blott, Devin Blunck, Andrew Boles, Rusty Bondeson, Tyanika Bonds, Cassady Bovee.

Tabitha Bracey, Sarah Bradford, Luke Bradshaw, Deanna Brassfield, Rhianna Bravenec, Megan Bressler, Fallon Brock, Redman Brown, Tony Brown, Harvey Brown, Thomas Brown, Kaylie Brown, Lyle Brown, Nicole Bryan, Alec Bryen, Matthew Buchanan, Ray Buck, Criselda Bui, Autum Bui, Ethan Bullock, Ethan Burchett, Ashley Burchett, Michael Burchfield, Sindee Burga, Scott Burnett, Justin Burns, Renee Burris, Kaitlyn Burton, Charles Burton, Remington Butler, Jodi Butler, Brittney Butler, Timothy Butler, Kelly Butner, Shelby Byrd.

Davina Caddell, Emily Cain, Matthew Cain, Mariah Camargo, Julie Campbell, Anthony Canalejo, Kim Cao, Graciela Cardenas, Lauren Carl, Roman Carothers, Brandon Carter, June Castle, Sally Chairez, Ko-Yu Chang, Julia Charbonneau, Linda Chastain, Sahar Chavili, Hanxiao Chen, Patrick Chevis, Daniel Chinchilla, Aaron Chirinos, Brian Chu, Cara Chunn, Jon Aaron Cieri, Tiffany Clark, Sarah Clark, Gerald Clark, Kenneth Clark, Haley Clary, Amy Clayton, Jayna Clemons.

Elaine Cleveland, Ashley Cleveland, Shirley Clifford, Kindy Cloakey, Jeremy Cloud, Pamela Cochrane, Michael Colbart, Sharon Colbert, Ariel Coleman, Jessica Collier, Rebecca Collins, Rosa Collins, Bryan Compton, Cassie Compton, Christopher Conklin, Austin Conway, Darci Cook, Ian Cook, Stephanie Cook, Sarah Cooper, Blake Cooper, Candy Corbin, Terra Corley, Michael Cowan, Brandan Crabill, Janese Cramer, Daniel Cranford, Barry Crawford, Bailey Crawford, Catherine Currier, Tippi Curry.

Katie DallaRosa, Aaryn Dalton, Annie Dang, Phong Dang, Amanda Dang, Thu Dang, Linsey Davenport, Alisha Davidson, Inda Davis, Christopher Davis, Taylor Davis, Michael Deloney, Alyvia Deme-

“ My congratulations to all those who made the Vice President's Honor Roll. Each of you is an OCCC success story. You have shown a continual striving for and achieving of excellence. My best wishes for you in your future endeavors.”

—FELIX AQUINO

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

ter, Emily Dennis, Hannah Denny, John Depanion, Kritana Dhungana, Annette Dillingham, Phuong Dinh, Tony Dinh, Kristi Dixon, Adam Do, John Do, Sophia Do, Meghan Dobbins, Sarah Dombrowski, Joseph Dougherty, Sofia Dozmanova, Linda Ducos de Copeland, John Dudek, Alisha Duncan, Caylon Dunn, Quanisha Dupree, Glenna Durrett, Thomas Durrett, Ian Duty.

Sheena Eaton, Sara Edminsten, Christina Edwards, Steve Edwards, Deja Eisenhour, Shams El Din El-Fouly, Juliet Elenwo, Julie Eppler, Guadalupe Espino, David Eubanks, Melanie Evans, Modebola Fadare, McKinzi Farrell, Lisa Farris, Kurtis Felker, Nicholas Fennema, Caley Ferguson, Myles Ferguson, Maria Fernandez, Rebecca Fesler, Emily Filosa, Shawna Finley, Geri Finn, Thomas Fixico, Steven Flores, Loretta Fluellen, Teresa Foor, Rebecca Foster, Megan Foster, Tyler Franklin, Mike Freeman, Ashlea Freeman, Austin Freeman, Lauren Freie, Andrew Frey, Kym Friels, Christian Friend, Lindsay Fritts, Pamela Frye, Tarah Frye.

Jessica Gaddis, Amanda Gain, Jayme Gaiser, Dalton Gaither, Summer Galliher, Darneisha Gamble, Ashley Gamm, Cristina Garcia, Meagan Gardner, Christopher Garrison, Cori Garrod, David Garza, Larry Gatlin, David Gattis, Bridgette Gaylord, Virginia Geurkink, Julie Giddens, Latrese Gildon, Courtney Goff, Shannon Gogel, Liberty Belle Gonzales, Heather Gonzales, Alicia Gonzalez, Elizabeth Goodhead, Jennifer Goodwin, Rafael Gracia, London Graves, Lauren Gray, Amanda Grayson, Britton Green, Shawna Green, Broghan Grider, Zac Griggs, Jonathan Grinnell, Milanda Grisham, Griffin Grubb, Jannette Guerrero, Lura Guhr, Punam Gurung, Angela Gutierrez, Silvia Guzman, Roberto Guzman, Stanley Gwaabe.

Seddik Halabi, Bryan Hale, Cylen Halford, Alessa Hall, Cara Hall, Christy Hall, Rachel Hamidi, Marissa Hamilton, John Hamilton, Stacey Hamilton, Kayla Hanley, Spencer Hannon, Rami Hanoon, Florence Hanson, Sherita Harding, Eric Harmon, Alisha Harmon, Veronica Harmon, Haley Harris, Ella Harry, John Hart, Jayson Hartless, Casnedo Haskins, McKinsey Hastings, Jacob Hastings, Cristal Hawley, Luke Hayes, Larheba Haywood, Susan Heinken, Benjamin Helms, Rebecca Henderson, Lisa Henderson, Brittney Henderson.

Amy Hendrix, Aubrey Hendrix, Rachelle Hernandez, Saraha' Hernandez, Samuel Herrera, Chelsey Herrin, Zachary Herring, Renee Hesby, Neda Hessami, Nathan Hester, Maggie Heuangsaseng, Shanetra High, Phey Hing, Tanda Hixson, Uyen Hoang, Loc Hoang, Quy Hoang, Jenny Hoerr, Crystal Hoffman, Corey Holland, Natausha Holman, Kimberly Holston, Stephanie Holt, Andrea Hooten, Charles Hornuovo, Christopher Horton, Cinnamon Howell, Alexandra Howell, Ursula Hudson, Austin Huffman, Chad Hughes, Melissa Hulsey, Melissa Hunt, Robert Hunt, Joseph Hunter, Amanda Hursh, Jennifer Husted, Randy Hutchins, Jessica Hutchinson.

Feryal Ighani, Ann Marie Imperato, Laura Incarnato, Brandon Inda, Barbara Ivey, Glenda Ivy, Ashley Jackson, Caleb Jackson, Venus Jacobs, Christopher James, Mersedeh Javadian Farzaneh, Elizabeth Jeanes, Conor Jenkins, Chazten Jenkins, Jiyoon Jeong, Elisee Jionang Dapeu, Arthur Jobe, Haley

Johnson, Elisabeth Johnson, Tambrea Johnson, Taryn Johnson, Paul Johnson, Heather Jones, Barbara Jones, Jamie Jordan, Patrick Jordan.

Andrew Kammerlocher, Philip Karanja, Dilip Karna, Mark

Karstetter, Joseph Keffer, William Keller, Patrick Kelley, Shannon Kelley, Sarah Kellum, Ricky Kendrick, Daniel Kennedy, Logan Kennedy, Bonnie Kerr, Alyssa Kesner, Erin Kidwell, Tin Kieu, Jihyeon Kim, Allira Kimrey, Katy King, Rylee King, Alexandra King, Jennifer Kirk, Annesha Kirk, Lucinda Kiser, Michael Knapp, Whitney Knight, Rebecca Koehler.

Nicole Labbe, Rachelle Lagunes, Mary Lane, Steven Lang, Terence Lange, Christopher Lansdale, Tia Lasiter, Melvin Lawrence, Michaela Layne, Albert Le, Trang Dai Le, Chau Le, Robin Lebo, Luis Lebron, Daniel Lee, Ju Hwan Lee, Elizabeth Lefler, Ladena Leger, Bethany Leiter, Penny Lewis, Brendan Lindgren, Alyssa Lindsay, Myles Lindsey, Kendall Lindsey, Brittney Linster, Brittany Litke, Michelle Lively, Freddy Londone, Sunny Loneman, Ricardo Lopez, Yovana Lopez, Colby Lovelady, Xiangyu Luan, Alisa Ludolph, Juan Luna, Courtney Lusk, Cayla Lynes Ballard, Casie Lynn.

Matthew Maag, John Magelssen, Jennifer Maher, Lucy Maina, Melissa Maisano, Matthew Malbrough, Veronica Maldonado, Justin Mallory, Robert Malmstrom, Jacob Mangus, Mercedes Manning, Rachel Manyen, Sarah Marris, Isaac Marrone, Jordan Martin, Chris Martin, Amanda Martinez, Jonathan Martinez, Jackie Martinez, Louis Martinez, Nancy Martinez, Joel Mascote, Kathy Mason, Sherry Mason, Justin Massey, Lovely Mathai, Brian Matheson, Malori Maynard, Pius Mburu, Robin McArthur, Mary McAtee, Rachel McCathern, Barbara McDonald, Thomas McDonald.

Andrew McDonald, Haley McElhaney, Andreea McGinnis, Kelly McGlynn, Cheryl McGuire, William McKinsey, Shelby McLaughlin, Robyn McNeil, Matthew McReynolds, Jennie Means, Keith Medina, Benjamin Melton, Hannah Melton, Veronica Mena, Shelby Menser, Lauren Merhout, Katrine Meyer, Daniel Michael, Sharon Miller, Kelsye Milligan, Amanda Mills, Tiffany Milspaugh, Autumn Miranda, Andrew Mitchell, Stacy Mize, Cory Mize, Guadalupe Montelongo, Nicholas Montue, Elizabeth Moran, Jason Morgan, Charles Morris, Tina Morris, Kimberly Morton, Jennifer Mosteller, Nadia Moudkiri, Kendall Munoz, Daniel Murphy, Chyenna Mustin, Daniel Mwaniki.

Avi Natha, Elmira Nazar, Patrick Neal, Kelsey Neher, Emily Nelson, Craig Nelson, Matthew Nelson, Sabina Neupane, Jacqueline Ngo Biheng, James Nguyen, Trinh Nguyen, Thai Nguyen, Cindy Nguyen, Thai Ngan Nguyen, Jessica Nguyen, Quynh Nguyen, Quangsangho Nguyen, Hy Nguyen, Lan Nguyen, Cindy Nguyen, Phuong-Anh Nguyen, Meagen Nichols, Jane Nickolls, Deependra Niroula, Jules Stephane Nkolo Balla, Jennifer Nunez, Jose Nunez Hernandez, Guy Nwanko, Mirimma Nwosu.

Taylor O'Brien, Shannon O'Connell, Tessa Ogburn, Beatrice Ogunremi, Caili Okoh, Temitope Olaniwun, Oladayo Olaoye, Chelsey Oliver, Thiago Omena, Shari Ostroff, Candi Page, Pedro Palomo, Luzmila Parra, Tanay Patel, Ankit Patel, Neeral Patel, Priyank Patel, Parth Patel, Urvashi Patel, Kandy Patterson, Ndeye Paye, Nolan Payne, Kasie Pedulla, David Pemberton.

Shaina Penland, Jeremie Pennington, Gabriela Pennock, Francisco Perez, Luis Perez, Robert Perez, Kimberly Perez, Nicholas Perkins, Tuan Pham, Anh Pham, Thai Phan, Jordan Phillips, Michelle Phillips, Casey Phillips, Miles Phillips, Shelby Phillips, Francesca Pleets, Steven Plumlee, Matthew Porter, Andrew Poteet, Kelli Potts, Lindsay Pouder, Roberto Prado, Kathy Prater, Jesse Prather, Yolanda Puente, Ivone Pulido, Cindy Pyle.

Rebecca Qualls, Lyndsay Queen, Zoha Qureshi, Elizabeth Ramer, Morgan Ramirez, Mackenzie Rappe, Daniel Rascon, Michael Ratcliff, Christopher Ratz, Miranda Reagan, Nathan Redman, Christopher Reece, Aaron Reeves, Monica Regoub, Gloria Rennels, Alishia Reno, Desiree Reyes, Rosa Reyes, Leovaldo Reyes-Ariza, Lauren Reynolds, Christopher Richards, Mitchell Richardson, Amanda Riley,

Callie Rinehart, Amber Rinestine, Marion Ritchey, Mariah Rivera, Rachel Robinson, Fausto Rodriguez, Crystal Rodriguez, Jose Rodriguez Valadez, Mia Rogers, Trevor Rogers, Amanda Roggow, Eden Rollins, Ana Romero, Nidia Romero-Murillo, Brett Rostykus, Bobbie Rudkin, Joshua Russell, Brittany Russell, Awet Russom, Steven Rutherford, Mathew Ryan.

Zachary Sale, Aimee Salem, Brandon Sallack, Karla Sanchez, Daniel Sanchez, Chanda Sanders, Amanda Sanders, Joneta Sandy, Meaghan Santos, Sunshine Sass, Shara Schane, Racheal Schatz, Regina Schatz, Evan Schinnerer, Shay Schultz, Jonathan Schumm, Jerry Scott, Luke Selby, Cheyanne Sell, Mary Sellon, Kendall Senchal, Philip Sermersheim, Misael Serna, Stephanie Sharp, Timothy Sharp, Stephanie Shelton, Jason Sherman, Jessica Shinaber, Kia Shorter, Sajana Shrestha, Santosh Shrestha, Levi Shultz, Caleb Shultz, Steven Silver, Young Sin, Amritanshu Singh, Moses Skariah, Matthew Skibo, Stephen Skinner, Kristen Smallwood, Samantha Smeltzer, Kim Smith, Tabatha Smith, Brittany Smith, Chrystal Smith, Krista Smith, Megan Smith.

Kasey Smith, Jessica Smith, Pamela Smith, Bryan Smith, Rina Soh, Tiffany Solomon, Gayla Sossamon, Jonathan Southard, Michael Southerland, Wade Spear, Jesse Spencer, Courtney Spires, Steve Squires, Tammy Steenburg, Sheryl Steininger, Marlin Stephens, Karen Stevenson, Jennifer Stewart, Braxton Stewart, Colbie Stoeckel, Natalie Storgards, Madison Stricker, Bailey Stringer, Cassandra Stuart, Michael Stutzman, Carmen Suarez, Whitney Sudhoff, Symantha Suffridge, Marshall Sulanke, Paige Summers, Greg Sweat, Sarah Sweger, Sandra Swinehart, Charice Swope, Uzziah Syrus.

Emily Tackett, Kayvon Taghizadeh, John Tastad, Johnny Taylor, Heath Taylor, Emily Taylor, Karsyn Taylor, Wendy Tecumseh, Tabytha Teel, Kayla Terrel, Scott Terry, Andrea Thatcher, Candice Thomas, Peky Thongkham, Christina Thrysilius-English, Tamara Tillman, Jacob Tinsley, Jose Toledo, Christina Tomlin, Alexandra Torres, Veronica Towery, Tyler Trail, Alisa Trammell, Phi Tran, Timothy Tran, Jason Tran, Vu Thuy Hoan Tran, Dakota Treat, Jonshi Trejo, Kim Trine, Sheryl Truelove, Julie Trump, Rachel Tullis, Brittany Turner, Hartley Tyler, Taishia Tyler, Lacey Tyler.

Nancy Vail, Monica Valles, Christa Vanzant, Dana Vara, Jimmy Varughese, Bailey Vaughan, Dustin Vaughan, Chastity Veal, Jazmin Velasco, Nathan Velasquez, Emily Vice, Crystal Vidal, Alice Vile, Luke Viles, Christopher Vincent, Kathy Vo, Justin Voda, Cody Vu, Vu Vuong, Christopher Wade, Traci Wade, Genetia Wagoner, Stephen Wake, Bradley Wallace, Chase Wallace, Brooke Walling, Shelby Wallis, I-Shih Wang, Joseph Ward, Christopher Warman, Brent Watson, Kenny Watson, Martina Webb, Emmett Webb, Mary Katherine Weeter, Trever Welch, Chavon Wennersten, Joshua Wesley, Virginia Whisler, Kiersten White, John White, Aaron Whitestar, Nicole Whitley, Gavin Wicker, Courtney Wilkerson, Danielle Wilkerson, Shannon Wilkinson, Bobby Williams, Kevin Williams, Trent Williams, Emily Williams.

Christopher Williams, Melissa Willis, Jimmy Willis, Brent Wilson, Cody Wilson, Bertscott Wilson, Annastazia Wilson, Kileigh Wimer, Derek Winchester, Brandon Winkler, Ronald Wiskup, Janet Wisooker, Crystal Witt, Chancee Womack, Timothy Wood, Ashley Wood, Preston Wood, Sarah Woodruff, Karen Woods, Christina Wooten, Chara Word, Amanda Worley, Michael Wormley, Kristin Wright, Connor Wynne, Kody Wynne.

Amanda Yocham, Yu Jeong Yang, Guohui Yang, Kristen Yeary, Laryssa Yoder, Michael Yost, Sara Youkna, Pamela Young, Matthew Young, Kyle Yount, Courtney Yuenger, Winifred Zajac-McConaghay, Tapita Zamna, Juan Zapien, Luke Zettl, Li Juan Zhang, Mycal Zimmerman, Lynetta Zoch, Quinten Zoch, Brian Zumwalt.



Academic scholars named to President's Honor Roll

Students are eligible to be on the President's Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 4.0 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 4.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

HSharon Adams, Elham Aghillou, Olalekan Ajala, Casey Akard, Ashley Akers, Carlos Akins, Funke Akinwale, Rita Akubueze, Robert Alaniz, Taylor Aldridge, Daniel Alvarado, Matthew Anderson, Daniel Andrews, Marilyn Andrews, Cole Anglin, Katie Anthony, Areebah Anwar, Lavanda Aponte, Jessica Asperheim, Mojgan Assadpour, Susan Atnip, Denesa Autrey, Marcelino Avila, Maricela Avila, Heidi Axtell.

Matthew Babiak, Isaac Badayos, Ian Baggett, Sarah Baker, Courtney Baker, Lindsey Baldwin, Kimberley Barber, Richard Barnes, Stephanie Barry, Scott Batary, Kasi Beam, Dawn Beck, Jessica Bell, Sara Belmir, Khalil Benalioulhaj, Karen Benson, Charlene Bentley, Michael Berry, Kyoko Berry, Jack Beyer, David Bittle, Lauren Blatzheim, Trevor Boerner, Jonathan Bogle, Lauren Bolt, Shasta Borowski, Beatrice Bosin, Steven Boyd, Wiley Bradford, Phillip Breeden, Kay Brezny, Jennifer Broad, Lauren Brown, Hung Bui, Kayli Burbridge, Valeri Burkett, Casey Butner, Sharayah Buttry, April Buxton and Rio Byerly.

Christopher Cain, Joe Caldera, Mathew Caldwell, Vincent Camp, James Camp, Jeffrey Campbell, Elizabeth Campbell, Michelle Canham, Benjamin Canizales, Aurora Canizales, Craig Cardin, Melissa Cargal, Cody Carpenter, Sheri Carr, Gerardo Carreon, Manuel Carrillo, Zackary Carson, Ana Castillo, Megan Castle, Shawn Ceyler, Matthew Chalender, Holly Chambers, Kwai-Sum Trevor Chan, Oukham Chansombath.

Abiebatou Chatman, Daniel Chau, Linh Chau, Francesca Cheatham, Isra Cheema, Jiayi Chen, Brittany Chilton, Devin Clark, Susan Clark, Kate Clark, Cody Clark, Kristopher Clark, Justin Cline, Lauren Coats, Kathryn Coffman, Lori Colbart, Belinda Colby, Amber Cole, Dawn Coleman, Taleshia Coleman, Kevin Coleman, Ashley Colley, Bobbie Compton, Mitchell Conant, Caitlin Connell, Matt Connelly, Brenton Conrad, Barton Considine, Anissa Core, Joshua Couffer, Carolyn Crafts, Cole Craig, Tyler Crain, Lane Crawford, Shae Cribbs, Rachel Cuevas, Dixie Cupp, Paul Curtis, Randall Cuthbertson.

Kristen Damphousse, Mariah Danhoff, Sara Daniel, Sydney Darling, Paul Davenport, Jesse Davenport, Melissa Davidson, Emily Da-

vis, Carrie Dawson, Alissa Dawson, Rebecka Day, Michelle DeLeon, Frances Deason, Stephen Deckard, Marisa Deloera, Candace Devane, Sonam Dhungana, Christopher Diaz, Brianna Dick, Albert Diena, Shannon Dilks, Krystal Dinh, Hanh Dinh, Kevin Dixon, Armony Astrides Djipsu Yomi, Xuan Do, Huyen Do, Xuan Do, Savanna Dobbs, Megan Doughty, Todd Droscher, Stacy Duffee, Tony Duong, Stephen Dwyer.

Erikka Eaton, Alexander Echverria, Erica Edwards, Athena Eggleston, Farnaz Eghani, Sarah El-Fouly, Rachel Ellis, LaDonna Elliston, Nadia Enchassi, Paul Enright, Robert Estes, Christopher Evans, Ross Evans, Clarissa Everly.

Alberto Fabrega, Lee Fardafard, Whitney Faulkner, Christi Ferguson, Pamela Fields, Kristi Files, Jenni Finney, Jason Fisher, Colleen Fitzgerald, Taryn Flores, Leah Flores, Tommy Flynn, Tiffany Foos, Matthew Ford, Nancy Fraire Gonzalez, Annalee Franke, William Franks, Jason Franks, Adrian Franks, Kyle Frantzen, Chong Fraisher, Dalton Frazier, Tina Friar, Heather Fry, Maureen Fuller.

Arthur Gaines, Lauren Gaither, Brian Gallagher, Matthew Gallear, Cynthia Garcia, Nicholas Garcia, Marcela Garcia Solano, Nicole Garrison, Catherine Geimausaddle, Roemetta Gellhaus, Matthew Gellhaus, Veronica George, Tony Gilliland, Vanessa Glass, Cody Glueck, Andrew Goett, Anthony Goforth, Amber Goldsbury, Norman Gonterman, Gabriel Gonzalez, Kristen Goss, Catherine Gouge, John Graham, Tasha Gravitt, Angela Gray, Joshua Green, Steven Grissom, Valerie Gulikers, Charles Guthrie, John Gutierrez, Gustavo Guzman, Jo Gwee.

Joshua Hacker, Jan Haley, Elizabeth Hall, Samantha Hames, Nicholas Hamilton, Diane Hamm, Cynthia Haney, Thomas Hanna, Miranda Hannon, Nicholas Hardersen, Karl Hardy, Daniel Harper, Katie Harrell, Arlyssa Harris, Tabitha Hasley, Susan Hatfield, Justin Hawkins, Adam Haynes, Jason Heathcock, Vennetta Hefner, Adam Heiden, Briton Heitt, Yiliya Helili.

Bradford Hendrickson, Christopher Henry, Garrett Henson, Stephen Herrell, Joshua Herren, Nathan Herrera, Ava Hidalgo, Teal Hightower, Rene Hightower, Megan Hildreth, Katie Hill, Wendy Hinricksen, Vy Ho, Kathleen Hoang, Hoa Hoang, Stephanie Holliman, Lecia Hopkins, Jeff Hopkins, Amy Howard, Cybele Hsu, Holly Hudson, William Hudson, Kylie Huffman, Jessica Hughes, Calet Hume, Summer Huntington, Ryan Hurt, Sarah Hussain, Tyler Hutchinson, Vu Huynh.

Nathan Ice, Valencia Islas, Sherry Isom, Shannon Jackson, Brianna Jacobsen, Christopher James, Brandon James, Madiyah Janjua, Erin Jarvis, Mitchel Jay, Jae-Young Jeon, Lolon Johnson, Natalee Johnson, Mary Johnson, Jeremy Johnson, Mitchell Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Stephen Jones, Twila Jones, Nina Jones, Roderic Jones, Tanner Jones, Elbert Jones.

Krystyna Kamara, Mounir Karimada, Coty Karr, Jennifer Karther, Stephen Keel, Jamie Keenan, Leslie Kennedy, Leonard Kennedy, Andrea Kern, Abby Ketchum, Devan Keys, Nabina Khanal, Josiah Kim, Kangshin Kim, Philip Kim, Jennifer Kindred, Cheryl King, Kyle King, April King, Nicholas Kipngetich, Rhonda Knight, Sujan Kunwar, Yunwei Kuo.

Suzanne LaMay-Melton, Danny Lam, Anh Lam, Sarah Landon, Jamie Lane, Hannah Lashbrook, Jason Lauderdale, Jessica Lawrence, Blaine Lawrence, Lamar Lawson, Lisbeth Lazo-Reyes, Jennifer Le, William Le, Donna Leachman, Eileen Lebel, Richard Lee, June-Kwon Lee, Hannah Leggett, Megan Leite, Tamaira Lewis, Michele Littlecalf, Lirong Liu, Kristina Logan, Traci Long, Sarah Long, Alina Lorant, Kari Lord, Petrina Lorenz, Kathleen Lovasz, Jay Lowe.

Sui-Ting Mah, Timothy Maher, Patrick Maher, Maggie Mainzer, Zack Maley, Audri Malik, Phousana Malilay, Sidi Mamoudou, Josephine Mamukam Ouandji, Myrna Mansfield, Amber Maples, Douglas Marcom, Jeff Marks, Matthew Marshall, Jami Martin, Richard Martin, Donna Martin, David Martinez, Sayra Martinez, Jesus Martinez, Alondra Martinez.

Morgan Mason, Sarah Mastin, Biji Mathai, Mary Mathes, Emily Mayes, Krystal McMaster, Jana McClarney, Tonya McCracken, Grant McDanel, Jonathan McDaniel, Jennifer McGleish, Luke McGraw, Verlondro McKinzie, Rex McLaughlin, Russell McLaughlin, Amber McMahan, Edward McMichael, Aaron McNeil, Kenneth Meador.

Daniela Mello de Almeida, Scott Michael, Ashley Milam, Dustin Miller, Kevin Miller, Kathryn Milner, John Mitchell, Valerie Mobley, Maria Montelongo, Kacee Montgomery, Cori Moore, Stephanie Moore, Maria Moreno, Jaree Mueller, Margot Mueller-Reid, Sarah Mukiri, Dennis Murphy, Alicia Murphy, Brandy Murray, Jessica Murray, Corbin Murrow, James Murunga, Ginger Myers.

Joey Nahrous, Mark Nakmali, James Nantze, Leila Ndomche Kondo, David Nestor, Kendra Nevin, Kathy Newland, Loan Ngo, Tan Ngo, Jeanette Ngo, Khoa Nguyen, Tuan Nguyen, Twan Nguyen, Mai

Nguyen, Cac Nguyen, Tung Nguyen, Huong Nguyen, Linda Nguyen, Dieu-Thy Nguyen, Anh Thu Nguyen, Anh Nguyen, Nen Nguyen, Khoa Nguyen, Tara Nixon, Saad Nmili, Sara Noriega, Timothy Nosaman, Adam Nowlin.

Jennifer O'Dell, Stephanie Odell, Tina Ohler, Sarah Okeh, Oludari Olajide, Mara Ortega, Pamela Ortega, Alyssa Orton, Laura Otalora, Elizabeth Otido, Megan Ott, Hamid Ouabdenbi, Ryne Overfield, Linda Overfield, Sara Overturff.

Johnson Padinjareyattathu, Candace Palmer, Sungmin Park, Tina Parkes, Susan Parks, Cassandra Partin, Akash Patel, Kyle Paysnoe, Michelle Pearsall, James Pearson, John Peck, Adriana Pelissari, Denise Peltier, Carol Pemosso, Lauren Penner, Claire Perez, Aileen Perez, Richard Perry, Daniel Peters, Jennifer Petranek-Angulo, Khoa Pham, Nancy Pham, Eric Pham, Andrew Pham, Kieu Nga Pham, Thu Pham, Thanh Phan, Minh Phi, Marquita Phillips, Kristi Phillips, Jeremiah Phillips, Carla Pierce, Sarah Pinc, Merrilee Pipkin, Jeffrey Platt, Tabitha Polson, Jonathan Pope, Quinton Porter, Monique Pouliot, Tracey Powell, Joseph Prince, Derek Pyle.

Sanaa Qarqour, Yen Quach, Sandra Quintanilla, Ryan Raberding, Imane Rachid, Elisha Raley, Emily Ramon, Darcy Ramos, Reza Rangbast, Felicia Rangel, Sarah Rasco, Kathryn Rawdon, Evan Redland, Charles Redmon, Brianna Reed, Brandy Reeves, Debbie Reich, Michael Reid, Tania Rembert, Stephanie Renaud, Conner Reynolds, Ja'Mae Rhoades.

Christopher Rice, Julie Rice, Teena Richardson, Windi Riggs, Megan Riggs, Julie Rinehart, David Ritchey, Enrique Rivera, Justin Robbins, Brandon Roberts, Garrett Robinson, Justin Rodgers, Dustin Rodgers, Alex Rodriguez, Michael Rolewicz, Richard Romines, Garrett Romines, Shawna Rosenfelt, Laboni Rozario, Jacalyn Russell, Hugh Russell, Kymdria Russo, Justin Ryland.

Jenni Sabatino, Christopher Sakal, Vanessa Salas, Kenya Samuels, Jesse Sanders, Mitzi Sav-

age, Ryan Scaramella, Bryce Schmidt, Megan Schoneberg, Lia-nna Schoonover, Micky Schroeder, Darlene Seck, Matthew Seifried, Veronica Senkowski, Kasey Sewell, Fatoumata Seyni, Anas Sghouer, Derek Shaw, Christian Shearer, Janice Shelby, Rachel Shenold, Sally Shipman, Christopher Shock, Michelle Shockley, Paige Showalter, Jeremy Sieg, Teri Simmons, Joshua Sisson, Kimberly Sivils, Heather Skiba, Frederick Smeltzer.

Caleb Smith, Angela Smith, Spencer Smith, Austin Smith, Kristen Smith, Beverly Smith, Darcie Smith, Megan Smith, Jonathan Smith, Monica Smothers, Delaney Sofinowski, Peng Song, Marcos Souza, Mikaela Spaulding, Joshua Spiegler, Melania St Onge, Kelly Stevens, Joyce Stiebler, Alexander Stover, Nicole Stratton, Michael Strauss, Lucas Strickland, Angie Stubblefield, Michael Stuckert, Yang Su, Jake Swanson, John Swatzell.

Chiew Ping Tan, Cory Tanner, Stephen Taylor, Doresse Tchuite, Brandon Thomas, Shelbi Thomas, Ryan Thomas, Susamma Thomas, Kimberly Thomason, Laura Thompson, Cody Thornton, Kaitlyn Thurman, Amanda Thurmond, Amber Tillman, Relindis Tita-Gwenjeng, Brent Todd, Kemmie Tolbert, Rachel Tope, Maria Torres, Jacob Touchstone, Prisca Towery, Kathryn Trammell, Angie Tran, Diem Tran, Vinh Truong, Victor Truong, Lauren Tubbs, Danielle Tucker.

Sarah Vafadar, Davis Varghese, Deanna Vaughn, Dustin Venard, Anthony Vess, Casey Violette, Hung Vo, Minh Vo, Richard Vollmeier, Clifton Wallace, Jeffrey Walls, Ashley Wangerin, Rachel Wardrip, Brenda Warren, Paige Warren, Haley Webb, Deborah Weiss, Regan Wickwire, Stephanie Wilbourn.

Eric Williams, Chelsea Williams, Sarah Williams, Tori Williams, Whitney Willis, Steven Wilson, James Wilson, Alicia Wilson, Rebekkah Wilson, Cory Winter, Amanda Wise, Mary Witten, Kathryn Wolff, Joshua Woodard, Myriah Worthen, Harrison Wright, Amber Wright, Ashley Wyatt, Li Yang, Jessie Yedjou, Tasha York, Alexandra Young, Phuong Hue Zarco.

I commend the outstanding achievement of those listed on the President's Honor Roll. Well done—these talented students deserve this recognition.”

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT



SPORTS

Follow the leader



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Zumba Instructor Christine Wilson runs a class of seven June 21 in the OCCC Wellness Center. According to the fitness class schedule, Zumba is offered at 7:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, noon and 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 4:30 p.m. Fridays.

SPORTS | Recreation and Fitness Center has free amenities for current students and staff

Department offers no strings fun

MICHAEL RICHARDS

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

It's not often a college student hears the word "free" and has an opportunity to take advantage of it with no strings attached, but OCCC's Recreation and Fitness Center is completely free to use for current students.

A lot of students are finding time to workout during the summer session by taking advantage of the center's amenities.

Student Dillon Bellamy is using the school's Aquatic Center to train for an upcoming triathlon. He uses the pool for lap swimming during its designated hours throughout the week.

This will be Bellamy's first triathlon, but he has participated in multiple half-marathons.

Bellamy said he loves training for races, mostly 5Ks, and has a few races lined up in the coming months including a six-mile obstacle course, Race the Reaper, in Sparks, and the Zombie Bolt 5K in Guthrie.

The indoor Aquatic Center features a competitive pool 50 meters in length and 25 meters wide that is usually divided into two separate areas by a movable bulkhead for lap and recreational swimming.

The diving well is another feature of the Aquatic Center, with multiple springboards and diving platforms up to 10 meters (over 32 feet) to dive into the over 18 feet deep pool.

According to the Aquatic Center's website, the Aquatic Center was built in 1989 as an outdoor facility and was later enclosed in 1991.

The water in the pool is usually around 82 to 84 degrees Fahrenheit.

Bellamy said prior to becoming a student at OCCC, he had a family gym membership that he used.

"The membership cost about \$40 to \$50 a month, and I would seldom use it," Bellamy said.

"That's why using the OCCC gym is so nice, it doesn't cost me anything if I use it or not."

The fitness center includes three full-size basketball/volleyball courts, a weight room, and a cardio room which offers stationary bikes, treadmills and elliptical equipment.

The Recreation and Fitness Center also boasts various classrooms used for their many aerobic workouts. These fitness classes include Zumba, Spinning, theatrical dance, yoga, pilates and many more.

Students can purchase a fitness pass to grant them access to any and all group fitness classes for the summer for \$35.

"It's really nice that the school offers all of this to students," Bellamy said.

Bellamy said he's glad the fitness center has flexible hours to accommodate his busy schedule of work and school and personal life.

A complete list of fitness classes and Aquatic and Fitness Center hours is listed in the Fitness and Enrichment Programs catalog as well as the the Recreation and Fitness Center's website at www.occc.edu/rf.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

July 4 : Recreation and Fitness Center closed for Independence Day. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

July 9 - 13: Youth Competitive Swimming Camp. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

July 16 - 20: Youth Volleyball Camp. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

July 16 - 20: Youth Soccer Camp. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

July 23 - 27: Youth Cheer and Dance Camp. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

July 23 - 27: Youth Flag Football Camp. For more information, call the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue.
Email
sportswriter@occc.edu.

Have sports news you want to share?

Email Mitchell at:

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Stolen backpack reported to campus cops

JOEY STIPEK

Special Assignments Reporter
staffwriter4@occc.edu@occc.edu

A student worker said his backpack was stolen from the Wellness Center's men's locker room June 5.

According to an incident report filed June 5 by OCCC Police Officer Gordon Nelson, Deven Thompson reported his backpack had been taken from an

unlocked locker in the Wellness Center men's locker room.

In a phone interview, Thompson said he has been employed by OCCC as a part-time lifeguard in the Aquatic Center for the last two years and used the lockers without incident.

He said the reason he didn't use a lock was that he was going to work out for just 20 minutes.

"I let my guard down for one second and that's all

it took," Thompson said.

Thompson described the backpack as a red string bag with black strings with OKC in white lettering on the bag.

"I lost my house keys, car keys, my wallet containing \$250, my debit card, work clothes and ID," he said.

"I'm pretty sure I'm not going to get anything back, but it's a good lesson to learn."

Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7691, with information.

Concurrent: High school students praise program

Continued from page 1

to concurrent students. "We know high school students schedules are pretty packed."

Orsburn said there is not a limited number of waivers. And, he said, those benefits can be extended for longer periods, and to younger students now.

"If you meet the admission requirements, you've got it."

"There's a concurrent enrollment form that has to be filled out by the student's counselor, principal and parents," Orsburn said.

He said students need to also bring their ACT scores and high school transcripts.

"They bring those in and

fill out the general admission forms," he said. "Then we look over their ACT scores and determine which courses they're eligible to take."

Orsburn said the only difference in admission deadlines is that concurrent students cannot miss the first class period of any course they enroll in.

"So there's no late enrollment for concurrent students," he said. "... Other than that, it's the same."

Orsburn said one of the benefits concurrent enrollment offers students is a faster path to their degree.

“ Students who are concurrently enrolled can use those credits both for high school and college credit.”

—DAVID ORSBURN
OCCC ADMISSIONS ADVISER

"Students who are concurrently enrolled can use those credits both for high school and college credit," he said.

Orsburn compared the students who are concurrently enrolled to those in advanced placement classes.

He said he believes concurrent enrollment to be a less risky option.

"If a student is trying to de-

cide between taking an AP class or concurrent enrollment, a factor to keep in mind is that the concurrent enrollment credit is almost guaranteed, if the student can pass the class.

"But if the student takes the AP course and fails the AP test, that was almost a waste of time."

While Nguyen said she would strongly recommend concurrent enrollment, students considering it need to be prepared.

"You have to be really organized, and keep up with your high school work and college classes. But if you're organized

and know what's coming next, you'll be fine."

Nguyen said she herself enjoyed it, despite the workload.

"I think it's challenging, but it will help me in the long run."

She said concurrent enrollment gave her a head start.

"It developed my mindset about how college is."

"It got me used to what college classes are, and how to prepare and study for them. It taught me how to find teachers you clique with and can learn from."

For more information about concurrent enrollment, contact Recruitment and Admissions at 405-682-1611, ext. 6222.

Alex: Lemonade stand teaches children to give back

Continued from page 1

a lemonade stand to raise money to help find a cure for all children with cancer. Since Alex held that first stand, the Foundation bearing her name has evolved into a national fundraising movement, complete with thousands of supporters across the country carrying on her legacy of hope."

The seventh and eighth grade students from the first class manned two lemonade stands on June 28 — one outside of the Main Building and one at the FACE Center.

Fifth and sixth grade students can still enroll in the second session, said Community Education Coordinator Brannon Dresel.

The class is from Monday, July 9 through Thursday, July 12, he said, with the students from that class leaving the classroom to sell lemonade on July 12.

Again, there will be two stands — one from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, July 12, outside of the Main Building,

“ Kids will learn many elements of fundraising. The students can take what they learn and apply it.”

—PAUL BURKHARDT
OCCC COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Burkhardt said. "We accept cash and credit card donations."

Students can enroll in the second session of the Giving Back class by calling Community Education Coordinator Brannon Dresel at 405-682-7859.

Classes are held at the Family and Community Education Center, 6500 S. Land Ave. in Okla-

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homa City, just south of OCCC.

For more information about Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation or to enroll in College for Kids classes, contact Dresel at bdresel@occc.edu.

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Fear the beard



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Matthew Bediako, Adriauna Franklin, Marqueon Tramble and Chanel Long of the OCCC Black Student Association "Thunder up" on June 21, Fear the Beard Day, in honor of James Harden of the Oklahoma City Thunder.

COMMUNITY | Concurrently enrolled Islamic students make OCCC home

Mercy students new to campus

NADIA J. ENCHASSI

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

An increasing number of head scarves have been floating around OCCC's campus lately, and concurrent enrollment is the reason why.

Mercy School Institute, an accredited private Islamic pre-K through 12th grade school in Edmond (14001 North Harvey Avenue), recently incorporated concurrent enrollment into their junior and senior high school curriculum.

Nida Safdar, Maryam Mian and Sidra Mesiya are a few of the newly concurrent students from MSI this summer semester.

"We were all scheduled to take the ACT and, based on our score, asked if we were interested in concurrent enrollment," Safdar said.

"We are still required to take classes at MSI during both our junior and senior year," Mian said.

"Like, physics and Islamic theology, which includes a mixture of Arabic, Quran, and Islamic studies."

"During the weekdays, we're at OCCC in the morning and at MSI in the afternoon," Mesiya said. "We even have a carpooling system."

A one semester, three credit course at OCCC is equivalent to a full-year, one-credit course at MSI.

"We were kind of nervous at first," Mesiya said. "But, after the first day and noticing the similarly small class sizes, we were OK."

"Most of us are actually probably going to go on to OU, UCO or another four-year university later on," Mian said. "So we plan on branching out even further."

" Most of us are actually probably going to go on to OU, UCO or another four-year university later on. So we plan on branching out even further."

—MARYAM MIAN
OCCC CONCURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENT

"OCCC is ... a really nice transition from MSI," Mesiya said.

Freshly juniors, the girls agree that it's been a learning experience in more ways than just strictly educational.

"We've had plenty of questions and conversations arise about Islam," Safdar said.

"It's a good opportunity to teach people more about us Muslims," Mesiya said.

"We've actually gotten quite a few compliments, as well," she said.

"And, even if we don't open our mouths to speak, the way we dress and act make us a lot like walking pamphlets," Mian said.

"Everyone's just been super nice," Safdar said. "They've made it easy to adjust."

"I think we make at least one new friend a day," Mian said.

"I also think that almost half of the vending machine revenue comes only from us."

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

First day of late summer classes

The first day of late summer classes (second four weeks) is July 2. For more information, contact Enrollment and Students Services at 405-685-7595.

Independence Day holiday

Campus will be closed for the Independence Day Holiday July 4.

Last day late summer class registration

The last day to register for late summer classes is July 5. For more information, contact Enrollment and Students Services at 405-685-7595.

Last day to drop late summer classes (with refund)

The last day to drop late summer classes with a refund is July 6. For more information, contact Enrollment and Students Services at 405-685-7595.

New student orientation

Student Life will host a New Student Orientation session for the summer semester from 6 to 8:30 p.m. July 2, and from 9:30 a.m. to noon July 3, in CU3. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet fellow students, take a campus tour, become familiar with available resources and services and more. For further information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Local College Internships Presentation

Student Employment and Career Services will be hosting a 30-minute Local College Internships presentation at 12:30 p.m. on July 5 in 1G7. Attendees will become familiar with potential paid and unpaid, with or without college credit internship opportunities as well work on cover letters and resumes. For further information, contact Student Employment and Career Services at 405-682-7519.

Loan disbursement

Loan disbursement dates for the summer semester include July 6. For further information, contact the Financial Aid office at 405-682-7525.

Tuition Fee Waiver

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the Fall 2012 semester are now available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m., July 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue.

Email your event to communitywriter@occc.edu or drop by the Pioneer office located at AH Entry 2 in room 1F2.

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Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

BABY ITEMS FOR SALE: Fisher Price infant to toddler blue baby rocker w/ activity bar, barely used: \$20. Slightly used clean Jumperoo with accessories: \$50. Bright Starts baby activity gym, new: \$15. wicketiwack@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Limited edition wakeboard, still packaged: \$200; new, limited edition Jim Beam bean bag/cornhole toss game, \$150. 405-818-0083.

MUST SELL: 1995 Vulcan 750 171K (needs carb kit and fuel pump) and Vulcan 750. Both are parts bikes. Not running. \$1,000 for both. Text 405-532-6262 for more information.

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THIS WEEK'S PIONEER PUZZLE

Marine Life

Find and circle all of the listed words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the name of a sea animal.

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T	S	P	A	L	C	P	A	O	U	I	S	D	O	C
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N	F	R	A	L	L	R	I	R	F	P	S	Q	P	E
G	Y	B	E	I	L	L	U	N	P	T	H	E	S	A
R	L	O	N	T	A	A	W	T	A	O	N	I	W	L
A	L	C	I	H	S	O	C	R	A	G	I	H	N	I
Y	E	T	D	A	L	B	F	S	U	E	A	S	Y	O
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T	P	U	S	H	E	E	T	A	N	A	M	M	P	M
S	O	S	S	B	A	R	R	A	C	U	D	A	M	I
Y	N	H	S	I	F	L	L	E	H	S	H	L	A	R
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K	E	A	N	C	H	O	V	Y	W	A	L	R	U	S

ANCHOVY	MANATEE	SEA TURTLE
BARRACUDA	MARLIN	SEALS
CLAM	OCTOPUS	SHELLFISH
CLOWNFISH	OYSTER	SHRIMP
COD	PENGUIN	SPONGE
CRAB	PORPOISE	SQUID
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AREA FIREMAN SAYS FOURTH OF JULY TIME TO USE CAUTION

Have fireworks fun — safely

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

As the Fourth of July draws near, many will celebrate the occasion by lighting up the sky with fireworks.

Mustang is one of the few Oklahoma cities that allows citizens to set off fireworks on and around the holiday, said Mustang Firefighter Chris Edwards.

Edwards said all fireworks, including childhood favorites like snakes and sparklers, are illegal in Oklahoma City.

But from now until July 3, it is legal to set off fireworks within the Mustang city limits between 3 and 9 p.m. On July 4, fireworks can be set off between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.

However, if you find yourself handling one of the explosive devices, Edwards said, you must take proper safety precautions.

"Fireworks are unsafe," he said. "They are dangerous."

Edwards said everyone, especially children, should be supervised when they are around fireworks.

"Adults need to be the ones lighting them — period," he said.

Every year, Edwards said the Mustang Fire Department and other emergency services tend to "a lot" of kids who sustain burns from handling fireworks.

He said celebrants must also be aware of their surroundings. Fireworks should only be lit in open areas away from homes.

Proper clothing also is a must, Edwards said.

"I know everybody wants to be running around in their summer clothing, but if you're doing a lot of the lighting, jeans are always the best," he said. "They don't burn as easy as cotton shorts."

Edwards said safety measures must be taken when disposing of fireworks, too.

"We respond to multiple trash can fires every Fourth of July and it's not because people are just setting them on fire.

"They set off fireworks, gather all of the trash together and put it in the garbage. What they don't realize is there's still hot embers there and after a few hours, they set everything on fire."

After using a firework, Edwards said, submerge the remaining casing in a bucket of water before throwing it out — even if you don't see any embers. Then, it's safe to put it in the trash along with everything else.

And, speaking of trash, Edwards said, those who do set off fireworks in cities where it's allowed should clean up after themselves before leaving.

"A lot of years, the [Mustang City Council] argues about taking the privilege to shoot fireworks away because people come in from out of town and just leave the trash for other people to pick up."

"So if you go somewhere to pop the fireworks, make sure you pick up the trash when you're done."

Even if you're not celebrating with pyrotechnics, Edwards said, recent weather changes means everyone is feeling the heat.

"We're already in 100 degree temperatures," he said. "If you're outside, you have to stay hydrated."

Edwards said many believe they can stay hydrated by drinking a glass of water while they're at the lake or outside barbecuing, but it actually needs to be much sooner.

"If you know you're going to be out tomorrow, you need to start drinking water today," he said. "It takes a little bit for that water to get into your system."

If an injury occurs or a fire starts when you're out celebrating this Fourth of July, call 911 immediately, he said.

For more information about staying safe during the holiday, visit www.usa.gov/topics/independence-day.phtml.

For a full list of Oklahoma laws regarding fireworks, visit www.oscn.net. From there, click "Legal Document Index" at the top of the page and search for "fireworks" under the Oklahoma option.

"Variously known as the Fourth of July and Independence Day, July 4th has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution (1775-83). In June 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies then fighting in the revolutionary struggle weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues."

— www.history.com/topics/july-4th



Independence Day celebrated in state

Area events

Red, White, and Boom

The Oklahoma City Philharmonic will perform Patriotic Pops at 8:30 p.m. July 3 at the State Fair Park Entertainment Plaza. The evening will conclude with a fireworks display.

For more information on this event, visit <http://okc.about.com/od/holidayevents/a/okcjuly4th>.

LibertyFest — Edmond

Recognized by CNN and USA Today as one of the top 10 July 4th festivals in the nation. Includes a parade, free watermelon feed, live entertainment, children's activities and fireworks show.

For more information on this event, visit <http://libertyfest.org>.

FreedomFest — Tulsa

Located along Tulsa's River Parks. Includes face painting, food concessions, inflatables, and the largest free fireworks display in Oklahoma. With live music from local bands, this area is perfect for a holiday family picnic.

For more information on this event, visit www.riverparks.org/freedomfest.

Art in the Park: A Celebration in the Heartland — Moore

This family-oriented celebration includes many activities for children such as an art tent and giant sand pit. Adults can enjoy browsing through the annual car show, taking a whirl on a carnival ride, or enjoying some Fourth of July barbecue, burgers, and more.

For more information on this event, visit www.cityofmoore.com/celebration-heartland-independence-day-festival.

Freedom Fest — Yukon

Located at Yukon's city park, this event provides many activities for children such as a holiday parade, crafts, free swimming, and many games. Free watermelon, ice cream, and live music will also be provided along the Chisholm Trail Park. The evening ends with a fireworks display and a patriotic performance by the Oklahoma City Philharmonic.

For more information on this event visit http://www.travelok.com/article_page/let-freedom-ring-top-july-4th-celebrations-in-oklahoma.

Blanchard Independence Day Celebration

Held from 6 to 10 p.m. July 3, at SouthPark. This event will include games, giveaways and entertainment. The evening will end with a performance by the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band and a fireworks display.

For more information on these events, visit www.cityofblanchard.us/upcoming_events.