OCCC continues to recover from storm

College officials seeking FEMA disaster relief for May 31 storm

CHRIS JAMES
Pioneer Editor
editor@occc.edu

OCCC classes have resumed, but some of the scars left by the May 31 tornado are still visible around campus, said Deirdre Steiner, marketing and public relations assistant director.

While the campus is still recovering, Steiner said, there doesn’t appear to be any long-term damage.

"I think it’s remarkable that in the span of one week, we went from having waterfalls from the ceiling to all departments functioning as they should," she said. "It was a team effort."

Steiner said FEMA disaster relief has been extended to cover damage from the May 31 storms, and the impact area includes OCCC.

She said the college is now submitting a request for assistance.

The Social Sciences Department remains closed and offices have been relocated to the Center for Learning and Teaching on the second floor of the SEM Building.

Parts of the Main Building’s third floor and the Recreation and Fitness Center also are closed due to the ongoing cleanup and repair effort.

Steiner said most of the interior damage to the college was done to carpet, drywall and baseboards.

She said a contractor has come in to help assess damage to OCCC’s office furniture. One of the areas flooded after roof damage was Records and Graduation, Steiner said, but the department’s printers were not affected.

Scholarship money available to many

LORI VALENTINE
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

There are a wide variety of scholarship opportunities available for OCCC students, said Development Director Jennifer Hardt.

There are several scholarships aimed specifically at freshman students as well as an assortment of scholarships available to any current OCCC student through the Oklahoma City Community College Foundation.

First-year students can qualify for freshman scholarships sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, based on their high school GPA or ACT scores at four different academic levels.

• The Academic Scholars pro-
OPINION

EDITORIAL | Writer says college showed its community spirit as storm approached

OCCC stepped up May 31

When storms rolled through the south side of the Oklahoma City metro on May 31, OCCC was in the direct path of the storm. With television meteorologists predicting damaging winds, hail, flooding rain and an impending tornado, the weather was nothing to play around with, and OCCC officials promptly sprang into action.

Classes and activities for the evening were canceled, but that didn’t mean the campus closed its doors to students or the public. Instead, OCCC sheltered numerous individuals from the storm.

Numerous individuals came to the Pioneer with their stories.

Javier Palacios, an Oklahoma City resident, said, “I would love to thank OCCC for all the great things they did for us.”

“They provided us with shelter, food, drinks, and gave us protection. My family and I feel very thankful for all the things this school did.”

It isn’t often that college campuses are threatened by the kind of storm that moved through the area that evening. The circumstances were unusual and, as anyone in Oklahoma knows, come severe weather season there’s only so much you can do to prepare for what the weather may bring. Thankfully, OCCC officials were prepared and ready.

The school’s first success was the efficiency and availability of updates from the Campus Alert Notification System (CANS).

Updates about the status of classes and the campus were delivered to students promptly through email and text messages, keeping students informed as to what plans they needed to make to ensure they would be safe during the storm, wherever they happened to be at the time it hit.

Students and student employees, myself included, were anxious to hear about the extent of the damage done to the school. With power out and heavy rains leaving roads all across the metro flooded out, it was impossible and unsafe for us to venture to OCCC to see for ourselves.

Updates about the campus were promptly sent out using CANS, assuaging some of the concern many students felt.

The officials and police officers who were in the building at the time of the tornado also went above and beyond to ensure that those being sheltered at OCCC were not only safe, but comfortable as well. It’s never easy to get ready for a storm of the magnitude that hit the south side on May 31 but OCCC officials were well aware of the impending tornado and acted swiftly, making some good calls as they went.

The decision to shelter students and residents of the south metro was a wise decision, and OCCC’s tornado procedures kept a good many people safe on the evening of the storm.

The goals of an institution like OCCC are largely centered around academia and learning but OCCC also has strong ties to the community around the school.

OCCC has become more than just a college. With the inclusion of the FACE center, which provides adult education courses and classes for the community, the swimming pool that is open to the public, a daycare center and other resources for the city, OCCC has become a beacon for the betterment of a community.

On the evening of May 31, OCCC employees and administrators were faced with some extraordinary circumstances and in light of that, they performed in a way that was exemplary.

—KATIE THURMAN
Staff Writer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Already at least 11 children have died this year from being trapped in hot vehicles

Children should never be left alone in or near cars

To the Editor:

So far in 2013 there have been at least 11 deaths of children unattended in vehicles; three have been confirmed as heatstroke and eight which, based upon the circumstances, are most likely heatstroke, according to www.ggweather.com/heat.

Last year, there were at least 32 deaths of children after being left in or having gained access to hot cars, trucks, vans and SUVs.

Since 1998, there have been at least 570 documented cases of heatstroke deaths of children in vehicles. This study shows that these incidents can occur on days with relatively mild (i.e. 70 degrees F) temperatures. Vehicles can reach life-threatening temperatures very rapidly.

Kids and Cars keeps statistics on these tragic deaths.

“On average, 38 children die in hot cars each year from heat-related deaths after being trapped inside motor vehicles. Even the best of parents or caregivers can overlook a sleeping baby in a car; and the end result can be injury or even death.”

Remember:

• Never leave children alone in or around cars; not even for a minute.
• Put something you’ll need, such as a cell phone, handbag or employee ID, on the floor board in the back seat so you’ll have to check there.
• Keep a stuffed animal in the child’s car seat when unoccupied. When the child is placed in the seat, put the stuffed animal in the front passenger seat as a visual reminder.
• Ask child care providers to call if your child doesn’t show up when expected.
• If you see a child alone in a vehicle, get involved.

—RONNA AUSTIN
OCCC Employee
Fall Out Boy show a big rush

When tickets for Fall Out Boy’s comeback reunion tour went on sale in February, most shows sold out within the hour.

The show, scheduled for the Palladium Ballroom on June 8 in Dallas, was a similar story. Fans like myself cued up in the online waiting room for tickets well over an hour before they even went on sale. Luckily, I was one of the fans able to purchase a ticket so I made the trip to Dallas the weekend of June 8 to see one of my favorite bands perform.

After a total of three-and-a-half hours driving time, a few more spent navigating the busy and unfamiliar streets of Dallas, a pretty penny dropped on the ticket and accommodations for the weekend, and four hours of waiting outside to get into the venue, I was only an hour and a half away from seeing a concert I’ve dreamed about seeing since I was a teenager.

The experience didn’t disappoint.

More than 2,500 fans packed in the Palladium Ballroom to see the sold-out show. There were certain discomforts at first — the heat inside the venue was no joke, especially with the crowd being as large as it was. My friend and I were fortunate to have gotten in early enough that we were able to nab a spot a couple rows from the barricade, and we avoided most of the crazy concert antics that were taking place in the center of the crowd.

By the time the opening act came on, the crowd was getting restless. But New Politics, the band that had the honor of starting the show, were good at setting a mood that was lively and fun and soon enough, the troubles of being cramped and crowded were replaced by the adrenaline rush that concert-goers feel whenever the party gets started.

After a surprisingly quick set by New Politics, the sophomore album.

What followed was a rousing 21-song setlist, comprised of some of the band’s more well-known early works as well as hits from their latest album, released in April.

It would appear that the time the band took off, from 2008 to 2013, has only helped them flourish in their comeback. The Fall Out Boy I saw at the Palladium on June 8 were experienced and professional musicians, masterful in the ways they played their songs and worked the crowd.

The highlights of the show were surprising as some of the best material of the night were songs I hadn’t really expected. The track “Alone Together” from the band’s latest album was intensely moving live, with the large crowd of fans screaming the lyrics “Let’s be alone together/We can stay young forever” along with the band. The concert was a unified effort, steeped in an outpouring of the feeling of belonging and feeling like you’re a part of something.

It was an emotional couple of hours, and an adrenaline rush like no other. Fall Out Boy did an amazing job of coming back in a big way, and offering their fans the chance to get up close and personal with them in small venues like the Palladium.

Rating: A+

—Katie Thurman
Staff Writer

Despite ups and downs, tanning salon rates a B+

The Bronze Tanning Salon at 10600 S Penn Ave. has been open for quite some time but I had not tried it until last week.

Previously, I was tanning at a salon in Moore which I loved but it was a long drive, and besides, it was destroyed in the May 20 tornado.

Before the tornado, I had learned about The Bronze which is closer to my home. A week ago, I decided to try it out.

I was surprised at the size of the salon.

The prices seemed a little bit higher than the place I went to before, but not enough to complain.

I have only used a couple of their beds so far. I have tanned in their level 3 which had new bulbs.

The only problem with that bed was the timer was on the outside. Granted it was only a 12-minute bed but it still bothered me not to know how long I had been in the bed.

One of the beds had a mattress on the bottom which is replaced after each use. It is a 24-minute bed and at 12 minutes you flip over. The canopy on the bed also is mechanical which was weird to me since I am a little claustrophobic. A couple of issues I have run into with the Bronze is they only have one level 5 bed, and it is often in use. Same with the level 4 which is the mattress bed.

Another issue is that their fan in the mattress bed did not work. I tried repeatedly to turn it on but it would not work.

Overall, the place is very clean and the staff is quite helpful. They don’t push you to buy higher-priced packages and lotion that you really do not need. It is not outrageous pricing like you would pay for a corporate tanning salon.

Rating: B+

—Katie Horton
Staff Writer
COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Monday night Burger Madness just one of many specials offered

Bill’s Island Grill an affordable family eatery

As many of you may know by now, I am always on the lookout for good food that doesn’t empty my wallet. I have found a new place that meets this requirement and my family’s approval.

Bill’s Island Grill at 1013 SW 89th St. is probably my new go-to-eat-out place. Bill’s has many specials depending on the day of the week, like Monday Burger Madness with any burger plate on the menu costing $5 — it comes with an abundant side of fries.

Even the regular menu items are affordable for those who have to penny pinch but don’t want to cook dinner that night.

The staff is friendly and patient. Our last waitress made an extra copy of the kids menu just so my 4-year-old could color while we waited for our food.

My children, ages 2 and 4, love eating at Bill’s. Maybe this is not so much because of the food as it is the pirate mask and coloring page menu they get when we eat there.

Burgers, salads, fish and jambalaya are just some of the tasty options on Bill’s menu.

The restaurant is clean with fun decor, like sharks, parrots and even an inflatable duckie. The bathrooms are always well kept and clean each time I have been there — a must for anyone.

The most expensive item on the food menu is $17.99 for a 12-ounce ribeye steak with salad and one side. The majority of the menu options are around $7.99.

The best part of Bill’s is the money saved on your thrifty dinner can be used to buy a dessert for only $5.99.

The dessert options are Florida key lime pie, hot apple cobbler with ice cream or triple chocolate cake.

The hours for Bill’s Island Grill are: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday.

To check out the complete menu and upcoming events, go to the website at www.billsislandgrill.com.

Rating: A

—Buffie Richardson Brown
Senior Writer

MUSIC REVIEW | LV review

Prince of Darkness resurrected

The Heavy Metal Gods look down from their thrones this year in awe. Black Sabbath’s 19th studio album “13” was released June 11. The release of an album of this magnitude is not only a vital piece of music but an important piece of history.

It has been 45 years since Sabbath was formed and 35 years since Ozzy Osbourne and Sabbath recorded music together. This album proves that age is just a number. This album will satisfy the young and old alike.

The original members began production on this album in 2001 with producer Rick Rubin. Because of contractual issues, drummer Bill Ward decided he would no longer be part of its production. Brad Wilk from Rage Against the Machine was chosen to fill in for him on this album.

Wilk joined with Osbourne, bassist Geezer Butler, and the God of the Heavy Metal Riffs Tony Iommi to create possibly the most anticipated album of the year.

Those die-hard Sabbath fans who have dismissed this album because Ward bowed out of production are missing out on a true historical monument.

I have to admit I too had my doubts about this album because of his absence but upon hearing “13” for myself, my doubts melted away within the first 30 seconds.

This is what a Sabbath record should sound like. The songs off of this album are simply impressive material.

The atmospheric sound produced by crisp guitar riffs and thumping bass, mixed with Ozzy’s iconic voice, makes this an album to be reckoned with.

As a whole, this record embodies an expansion of the blues and metal universe. I give this album high marks. Yes, the drums were a bit safe for my taste and the overall sound was missing Ward’s adventurous drum style but I commend Wilk. He did an outstanding job filling in for a legend like Ward.

Rating: A

—Lori Valentine
Staff Writer

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of June 7 through June 9
www.newyorktimes.com

1. The Purge
2. Fast & Furious
3. Now You See Me
4. The Internship
5. Epic
6. Star Trek Into Darkness
7. After Earth
8. The Hangover Part III
9. Iron Man 3
10. The Great Gatsby
11. Mud
12. Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani
13. The Croods
14. Frances Ha
15. Before Midnight
16. Oz the Great and Powerful
17. 42
18. Oblivion
19. The East
20. The Kings of Summer
EXTRA WORK PAYS OFF FOR GRADUATES

Honors program adds to student marketability

KATIE THURMAN
Staff Writer
onlinewriter@occc.edu

OCCC students can graduate with honors by participating in the college’s Honors Program said Coordinator Nina Smith.

The program "give students and their instructors an opportunity to create insightful, personal projects and processes in nearly any class. The goal is to help students develop deeper understandings of course material through the projects they create for the class," Smith said.

And the contract, physically, is the form that you fill out that explains what is the contract — the basic summary of the project, what are the specific tasks you’re going to be asked to perform, the criteria by which it will be evaluated and what is the written component involved in the project.

Smith said the professor for the course will evaluate the project and the program coordinator will sign off on the project to make sure it meets Honors Program rigor.

Honors Contracts can be created for a student in almost any course offered at OCCC, she said, as long as a professor feels he or she has the time to work with a student on the project.

Smith said any student who meets the eligibility criteria for the Honors Program is welcome to join. This includes part-time or concurrently enrolled high school students.

Students entering the program for the first time must have a composite ACT score of 22 or higher or a high school grade point average of at least 3.5.

Continuing OCCC students must have 12 or more completed credit hours and a grade point average of at least 3.5.

Students who wish to join the Honors Program must complete an application process that includes an application form, an essay, and a personal interview with the Honors Program coordinator.

"Ideally," the OCCC Honors Program website states, "students should apply to the Honors Program before completing 30 credit hours."

Smith said for a student to graduate with honors, that students would need to earn 15 hours of honors credit.

She said the program should be started early on because after a student has completed more than half of the hours in their chosen degree plan, it can be difficult to complete.

However, she said, a student who has completed 30 credits or more can still complete the program — it would just be more challenging.

There are many benefits for students who decide to participate in the Honors Program, Smith said.

The Honors Program website shows that students who join the program will be offered "one-on-one academic interaction with instructors, scholarship opportunities, honors stoles which will be worn at commencement, and ‘With Honors’ notes printed on the student’s transcript and diploma."

Smith said the program offers benefits that will serve students now, but also will help them in the future, no matter what they choose to do after they have completed their degree at OCCC.

"For now, it’s a real academic lift," Smith said. "They’re choosing their own path, they’re being guided by their instructor.

"It doesn’t get any better than that for a student who really wants to learn more."

In the future, Smith said, having completed a degree and graduating with honors could be what sets a student apart from others in a sea of competition in the job market.

Other perks, such as tuition waivers for qualified applicants and recognized academic distinction, also are offered to students who successfully complete projects and assignments with the Honors Program.

To learn more about the OCCC Honor’s program, visit www.occc.edu/honorsl or contact Smith at 405-682-1611, ext. 7141, or by email at nsmith@occc.edu.

Annual triathlon event canceled

CHRIS JAMES
Pioneer Editor
editor@occc.edu

The OCCC Supersprint Triathlon, scheduled for June 8, was canceled due to the ongoing cleanup and repair efforts around campus. It will not be rescheduled.

Marketing and Public Relations Assistant Director Deirdre Steiner said it just wasn’t possible for participants to run around the campus and use the Aquatic Center with all of the workers that were working to get the campus ready for classes to resume on Monday, June 10.

"It really was a shame we had to cancel the triathlon," Steiner said.

"It is such a good event for OCCC, but rescheduling such a large event and asking the athletes to fit it into their already busy schedules would be unfair."

All participants were notified, Steiner said, and a full refund was issued to each person.

For more information about this and other fitness events, contact the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860 or at www.occc.edu/rcs.
OCCC has a variety of labs aimed at providing students with additional academic support services such as tutoring, access to computers, software, and other course-related materials. Labs include the Communications or Comm Lab, Math Lab, Student Computer Lab, Biological and Physical Sciences Centers, and World Languages and Culture Center.

COMM LAB
The Comm Lab offers students assistance with their writing skills, according to a pamphlet describing their services. They have tutors, computers and handouts on grammar. The lab also offers workshops on topics such as MLA format or source citation for papers.

Communication Lab work study student Linus Morgan said students will find the help they need there.

“We give advice to help improve their quality of writing,” she said.

The Comm Lab is located on the first floor of the Main Building, just outside of the College Union and Bursar’s Office hallway.

Their summer hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. They’re closed Sunday.

MATH LAB
Students can find the Math Lab on the second floor of the Main Building.

Acting Math Lab Supervisor Christine Peck said the Math Lab gives students access to resources such as graphing calculators, textbooks, workshops and other course materials.

“Our mission is to provide support to the students and the math faculty by providing tutors who are familiar and experienced with all of the math courses that we teach on this campus,” Peck said.

“We have about 115 computers in the Math Lab for students to use for any of their OCCC homework and especially their My Math Lab courses. They can get tutoring and help as they work through those.”

Summer Math Lab hours are 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The lab is closed on Sunday.
Areas offer tutoring, language lessons

COMPUTER LAB
The Student Computer Lab gives current students access to printers and computers updated with the latest versions of software like C++, AutoCAD, and Microsoft Word and Excel, according to an informational pamphlet.

The lab is located on the third floor of the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library. Its summer hours are 7:30 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Saturday. The lab is closed on Sunday.

BIOLICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE LAB
Located on the first floor of the Main Building, the Biological and Physical Sciences centers are facilities meant to accommodate lab and tutoring needs of students enrolled in OCCC biological and physical science courses, according to the college website.

Summer hours for the Biological Sciences Center is 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. It is not open Sunday.

The Physical Sciences Center also is located on the first floor of the Main Building.

The lab’s summer hours are 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The lab is not open on Sunday.

WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES CENTER
The World Languages and Cultures Center provides help to students learning new and foreign languages.

World Languages and Cultures Center Coordinator Chiaki Troutman said they have resources like Rosetta Stone, foreign satellite television, international films, tutors and English as a Second Language software.

The Center is situated right by the main stairway on the second floor of the Main Building.

Summer hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays. The center is closed on weekends.
SPORTS

Soccer fun

Goalkeeper 6-year-old Joaquin blocks the ball in an OCCC Kids Sports Camp on June 12 in the college gym. The Sports Camps are meant to help kids get acquainted with the fundamentals of sports like basketball, tee-ball, and soccer, according to the college website. For more information about any of the camps, contact Recreation and Fitness at 405-682-7860.

Wellness Center classes available

LORI VALENTINE
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Starting July 1, the OCCC Recreation and Fitness department will offer a Group Fitness Pass that allows students to participate in 10 group fitness classes for one low price, said Fitness instructor Khari Huff.

"We offer a group fitness pass to students for $35 for the entire semester," she said. "[Students] have access to all classes at anytime with this pass.

"This offers them quite a big discount as opposed to paying per class per month and gives them more flexibility with their busy schedules."

Huff said the fees also cover any equipment needed in order to take the classes.

"The only thing that you have to bring with you is yourself, a water bottle if you want, and a positive attitude to have a good and fun workout."

Huff said the most popular classes are Zumba and the spinning class.

The Zumba class is a cardio dance class that fuses music and easy to follow moves that everyone can follow along for a fun and exciting workout experience, she said.

Huff said the spinning class is a cardio cycling workout including expert coaches and inspirational music to keep students motivated.

"Our most popular class right now is our spin class," she said. "This is also the class that is limited in number due to the amount of spin bikes that we have available."

Theatrical Dance incorporates dance styles like Ballet, Jazz, and Modern Dance mixed with Pilates to make an invigorating workout.

Water fitness classes also are offered Huff said. The Wellness Center offers both shallow water and deep water workouts.

Huff said Cardio Kickboxing class teaches students to defend themselves as well as improves their overall strength and stamina in the process.

Yoga classes also are on the list. Huff said those are slow paced classes that help firm and tone the body in a relaxing environment.

"I try to instill in our student staff as well as students in general how important it is to establish a healthy lifestyle now while they are young," Huff said. "They will see the benefit in this as they get older."

To enroll, call 405-682-7860 or enroll online at www.occc.edu/rcs.

Office Hours are 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.
Classroom disturbance reported to campus cops

BUFFIE RICHARDSON BROWN
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

A classroom disturbance topped police reports for the month of May.

On May 17, Officer Jimmie Watts responded to a call that a student was being disruptive in classroom 2E3 in the Arts and Humanities area. Watts reported that he was met by Language Arts Department Director Kim Jameson and student Kyler Edwards, who was in Jameson’s office.

According to the report, Edwards told Watts he had been playing a game on one of the classroom computers when he got up and left the class for a few minutes.

When he returned Teresa Kuhlman, the instructor for the class, was closing the game and turning off the computer.

Edwards said he became upset about the game being turned off and told Kuhlman “it could make him lose money,” according to the report.

The report shows Edwards then took one of the work packets for the class and tried to leave. He said Kuhlman would not let him leave and was touching him. Edwards said he told Kuhlman to stop touching him and that he would get an attorney.

Edwards said Kuhlman told him to get an attorney and then, he said, she closed the classroom door to prevent him from leaving. He said he then went to Jameson’s office.

According to the report, Kuhlman told the officer that Edwards was supposed to be doing a group assignment with two other students but instead was playing a game on the computer.

She said she told Edwards he could not leave with the packet because the other two students needed it to finish the assignment. She said she then held out her hand and asked Edwards several times to give her the packet.

Kuhlman said she did not touch Edwards nor try to stop him when he walked from the class.

Watts interviewed three other students about the incident and their stories were consistent with Kuhlman’s.

Student Courtney Snyder said Edwards argued with Kuhlman about leaving the classroom with the packet. After Edwards left, Snyder said Edwards did not return to the class.

The case has been referred to Student Life.

Two false fire alarms had officers responding a couple of weeks later.

On May 28, officers responded to a fire alarm in the Main Building.

According to a report, the alarm was activated by popcorn burning in a microwave in room 1G7E located in the Student Life area.

The report shows the smoke detector was removed and cleaned, and after that, the fire alarm was reset.

A second alarm sounded the evening of Sunday, June 2, in the Main Building. A report shows a dirty smoke alarm was the cause.

According to the report, dust generated from contractors working in an area that was damaged by recent storms was on the smoke detector. The smoke detector cleaned and the alarm reset.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-7872. For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.

OCCC: The campus continues May 31 tornado clean up

Continued from page 1

the hardest hit by falling water. She said student records and most other pieces of equipment were spared.

Fitness activities in the Recreation and Fitness Department have been suspended.

Steiner said. They are expected to start July 1 if all goes as planned, she said.

In the meantime, students have an option.

“Earlywine YMCA has extended an offer to current students, staff and faculty to use their facilities while our Recreation and Fitness Center is closed,” she said. The Earlywine YMCA is located at 11801 S May Ave.

Steiner said the only activities that have resumed in the Recreation and Fitness Center are swimming lessons and the camps for children.

Sport and Recreation Specialist Eric Watson said it was important to return the camps to OCCC as soon as possible with the onset of rising temperatures. He said the facilities the camps were temporarily moved to were not air conditioned, so coaches and students are happy to be back.

Steiner said academic classes that have had a change of venue will stay in their new locations for the remainder of the summer.

They should go back to their original locations for the fall semester.

Scholarships: Students should plan to apply for fall

Continued from page 1

gram is a 4-year program where recipients will receive a tuition waiver for the first two years and $900 per semester from the regents to offset enrollment fees and book expenses.

Applicants must score 29 on the ACT or have a minimum GPA of 3.7, and rank in the top 5 percent of their graduating class.

• The Regent’s Scholarship is a 2-year program that pays tuition for up to 60 credit hours excluding fees, and $200 for books and supplies each fall and spring semester. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and ACT score of 20 or higher.

• The Freshman Scholarship is a 1-year program that pays up to 30 credits with applicants who have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and ACT score of 20 or higher who can also demonstrate active involvement in high school and/or community activities.

• The OCCC foundation gives away more than 100 scholarships a year to current students ranging from $250 to $1,000.

Hardt said the foundation raises about $8,500 each year for their scholarship program.

“With a lot of generous and dedicated donors to the foundation and we are blessed …to have such great contributors,” she said.

Hardt said interested students can apply for the scholarships online at https://occc.academicworks.com.

There also is an essay requirement for all scholarships, she said.

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For 30 ways to help the environment, write Earth Share, 3400 International Drive, NW, Suite 2K (A14), Washington, DC 20028.
OCCC offers many ways to get answers

KATIE HORTON
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

OCCC has several different ways to answer questions students may have about the campus, services offered and more.

Ask Tripp is one of the main ways students can get answers to their questions, said E-Student Services Director E.J. Warren. It’s located at http://occc.askadmissions.net/ask.aspx.

“Ask Tripp is a question-and-answer database set up to answer questions about your campus, your school in specific …” Warren said.

She said users can ask questions about various college departments ranging from Academic Advising to Financial Aid, or any general OCCC questions.

“The majority of the things that we have that people ask about is things they typically didn’t find easily or quickly on a web page,” Warren said.

She said the top things asked about are class schedule, the academic calendar and enrollment dates.

Ask Tripp does not have access to any personal information or student records, Warren said.

“If an inquiry comes in that specifically asks about a student document or record (or) financial aid, we have a response that sends back to actually notify them that this system does not access their private personal student records for their protection,” she said.

To use Ask Tripp, Warren said, type in your question, press ask, and you will get answers.

“They may get two or three responses,” she said, “but they will have a response back to whatever they ask.”

If Ask Tripp gives an answer that does not match the question, the user can submit that question to the support researchers who monitor Ask Tripp, Warren said. A personal response will be given within 24 hours.

“It is possible [users] won’t get exactly what they’re looking for depending on what they put in for their inquiry,” she said.

There also are other sources students can use to get questions answered.

To get feedback from a Recruitment and Admissions counselors, students can visit www.occc.edu/admissions/ask. There are spaces to enter certain information such as name, email, date of birth. At the bottom of the online form, the user can type a question to submit.

Another source to get questions answered is the student newspaper. The weekly publication provides answers to questions through its column “You Asked For It.” The column runs every four to five weeks in the print edition.

Submit questions to editor@occc.edu or come by the Pioneer office located in the Arts and Humanities area in room 1F2. Questions will be answered on a first-come, first-served basis.
CLASSIFIEDS

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


Personal classified ads are free to students and employees. adman@occc.edu.

Share your thoughts with us: Email Chris at editor@occc.edu

TRiO

TRiO helps students GRADUATE from OCCC and TRANSFER to earn a Bachelor’s degree.

M–F, 8–5 in MB 177 (by the Bursar’s Office) www.occc.edu/trio

Now accepting applications for Summer and Fall 2013

THIS WEEK’S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Warning Signs by Dave Fisher

Across
1. Usage fee
5. Ponderers
10. Nursery items
14. Nabisco product
15. Son of Cain
16. Halo
20. Keep out of...
21. Hawkeye State
21. Supervise
22. Gee predecessor
25. It stretched from Germany to China
27. Map abbreviation
28. “___ de Lune” (Debussy)
30. The first of a famous trio
32. Religion founded 5th century AD
36. Telephone ( slang)
37. A meal
39. Beer type
40. Do not punctuate...
43. Janis ___ (singer)
44. Overthrows
45. Fog
46. Part of a brooch
48. Actress Winger, to friends
49. A swindle
50. Globe
52. II ___ (Musolini)
54. Needlefish
55. Fatigues
59. Mechanical repetition
61. ___ are closer than they appear
66. Not written
67. Concur
68. Small amount
69. Rowboat
70. Commence
71. Night light

Down
1. Rocky hill
2. Pay dirt
3. Field
4. Places
5. Catcalls?
6. Let loose
7. Interest group, abbr.
8. Nymph who missed Narcissus
9. Hindu god, “The Destroyer”
10. San Diego players
11. Smokey to Simone
12. Family ___
13. Reasonable
18. Happy ___
19. Actor Joseph Gordon–___
22. Initiative
23. Like Brussels lace
24. Wheat meal
26. Matured
29. Stopping place
31. 60s draft dodger, perhaps
33. Tying
34. U.S. acquisition of 1867
35. Trusted guide
37. Tear
38. Stockholm’s airline
41. Containing copper
42. Flightless bird
47. To a great degree
49. You ___ would! (Sure!)
51. Greek letters
53. One is Halley’s
55. Ash, for instance
56. Longest river in Spain
57. Open a crack
58. High ranking NCO
60. ___ Brockovich
62. A Gershwin
63. Future flounder
64. 60 (stal)
65. Sought election

Fill a 3 Bedroom/3 Bathroom apartment and we’ll mount a 50” flatscreen TV on your living room wall!

THE ONLY DOWNSIDE?

WHO GETS THE REMOTE?!

*Certain restrictions apply. See office for details.

Get your breaking news online: www.occc.edu/pioneer

Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?
OCCC has best college parking official says

KADEE FRENCH
News Writing Student

A huge tip when it comes to parking at OCCC is that parking lot A has the most calls for accidents, crimes, and other parking lot issues, said campus Police Chief James Fitzpatrick.

Although OCCC has very low crime and accident rates, this information gives drivers an incentive to drive a little further and use other lots besides A. “Parking at Oklahoma City Community College is one of the best,” said J.B. Messer, Facility Management director.

Car thefts have decreased from four in 2009, to three in 2010 three, and only one in 2011, according to OCCC’s Campus Police Department Annual Security Report of 2012.

Messer said many drivers are unaware of the parking lot layout which is arranged inside a circle road, Messer said.

“You can come onto the campus from three entries,” he said.

Two entries are on May Avenue and the north entrance comes off SW 74th Street.

Because of this circular pattern that surrounds OCCC buildings, there are multiple ways to walk into the buildings to get to your location.

Wherever you park, you can walk into the buildings from any location, and have access to any part of the building.

Because many people don’t know this, Messer said, certain parking lots fill up faster.

Some people park in Lot A because they see it first, although there are a variety of places people can park, and get to the same place.

“People tend to park in lot A and lot C more than any other locations on campus, without realizing they can get into the building just as quick or quicker if they would go around to parking lot D, E or F,” Messer said.

“Especially lot F: it is the closest to get into the building but yet it is the least utilized parking lot on campus.”

For more information email Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@occc.edu or Messer at jmesser@occc.edu.

Increase of surveillance cameras equals decrease in campus crime

KADEE FRENCH
News Writing Student

Installing surveillance cameras in parking lots and campus buildings has reduced crime and improved safety, said J.B. Messer, Facilities Management director.

An OCCC Campus Police Department Annual Security Report backs that up. It shows the number of crimes on campus has fallen drastically since 2009 when OCCC began installing the cameras.

Parking lot surveillance cameras have been a big help, Messer said, because they allow campus police to see what’s going on as it happens.

Messer said the cameras are so high tech they can see any vehicle coming onto campus, then follow the person as he or she walks into the building.

Curran Bradley, an OCCC student, appreciates the fact that campus police are watching.

“The OCCC parking lot safety features make me feel safe while walking to my car. And it helps me feel comfortable when leaving my car in the parking lot.”

--CURRAN BRADLEY
OCCC STUDENT

The OCCC parking lot safety features make me feel safe while walking to my car. And it helps me feel comfortable when leaving my car in the parking lot.

lot emergency call boxes provide security.

Emergency call boxes began to show up around 2005, he said. The boxes are located around the campus on light posts that are in the parking lots.

By going to these boxes, people can alert campus police to any situation they may have, such as an accident, a threatening situation, or the need for an escort into the building.

Currently, the boxes are being updated, Messer said.

“The emergency call boxes are now solar powered and some have a new feature called talk-a-phone,” he said.

Messer said the talk-a-phone boxes have emergency broadcasting capabilities with amplifiers that are powered from the electrical distribution system, with data lines that go from the OCCC network system.

As a result, when there is an emergency broadcast within the building, the same broadcast will be heard outside on the talk-a-phones.

In addition, 360-degree cameras also are being installed onto the emergency call boxes. As a result, there will now be additional surveillance, emergency broadcasting and emergency calls, all in one place, Messer said.

For more information, contact Messer at jmesser@occc.edu or at 405-682-7812.

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to see a map of the OCCC campus parking lots or visit www.occc.edu/maps.

(Free QR code reader apps can be found online or in app stores on smart phones. Follow the directions for the app you download.)