ACTION!

Film and video production majors Sam Pender and Alyssa Cawthon work on their third lab in Cinematography I. The sound stage and video equipment provide everything they need to turn their vision into a movie with one-on-one instruction and the latest technology.

COLLEGE OFFICE TAKING TOY DONATIONS

Veterans Affairs office collecting for Toys for Tots

KATIE THURMAN
Editor
teacher@occc.edu

OCCC Veterans Services office personnel will help make several children happy this holiday season.

Veterans Services has begun collecting toys for distribution to Oklahoma children for this holiday season as a part of their annual Toys for Tots toy drive.

Chris Fulcher, a Veterans Affairs work study aid and former U.S. Navy corpsman, has participated in the program. He said the Toys for Tots foundation is run by the U.S. Marine Corps as a way of collecting and disbursing toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them Christmas gifts. The program was founded in 1947 by the Marine Reserve.

Janis Armstrong, Veterans Services coordinator, said OCCC Veterans Services participates in hosting a toy drive for Toys for Tots every year. Armstrong said last year's drive was "very successful" and that donations have already begun for this year's drive.

All donations gathered at OCCC will be picked up on Dec. 13 to be prepared for delivery to Oklahoma children. Veterans Services requests that toys for all ages of children be donated, be new and in the original unopened package.

There are a number of donation bins around the Main Building of OCCC. One bin is across from the Veterans Affairs office collecting for Toys for Tots.

See TOYS page 9

DEC. 9 MARKS START OF TEXTBOOK BUYBACK

LAUREN DANIEL
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Textbook buyback and rental return will be held at the college bookstore on the last week of fall classes Dec. 9 through 16. Students are encouraged to participate, said Sheila LaFerney, textbooks and general manager. LaFerney said buyback will be from 8 a.m. through 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9; from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday.
Video games deserve recognition as art

It is time to put to rest the age-old debate: are video games a form of art? My answer is a resounding yes. I firmly and strongly believe all video games are a form of art.

Some may not agree. To those people, I propose this: All the elements that go into making a video game are forms of art — the drawings, the writing and the music — so how can the overall game not be art?

According to debate.org, 86 percent of people agree video games are a form of art while 14 percent say they are not.

This is what the 14 percent had to say: “There needs to be a word for the overly serious and reverent praise of digital games by individuals or institutions who are almost certainly too old, too intellectual and too dignified to really be playing at this stuff.”

They are commenting on the main reason I love video games. They are adaptable and can carry with you your entire life because they are stimulating and a great escape from reality.

Players get to use the video game art to live another’s life and see a story through alternate eyes.

With that said, it was even stated on CNN.com that the Supreme Court considers video games to be a form of art, and therefore, deserve all the rights given to art under the First Amendment.

The games that best prove this point are: “World Of Warcraft” — just the detail put into this game goes above and beyond any other video game.

The next game is one of my favorites of all times; “Halo Reach” — one of the games that first opened my mind to the thought of video games being art. Its campaign level has something beautiful in the sky that resembles the Aurora Borealis; and Minecraft. This game gives the player full creative control of how the game is played. Users get to create whatever kind of world they want. I have seen many people go into the game and create wondrous masterpieces.

So, the next time you play a video game or watch another person play one, try to look at it from a new perspective — as art.

You might just expand your mind.

—Grant VanWinkle
Sports Writer

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | 2013 Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey released

Electronic cigarettes unsafe to those who are exposed

To the Editor:

New data on tobacco use among Oklahoma youth indicate a significant number of youth are trying electronic cigarettes. Research shows that youth who are exposed to tobacco use are more likely to become regular tobacco users, and public health officials are concerned the same will be true of e-cigarettes and vapor products. Oklahoma has no state law prohibiting the sale of e-cigarettes and vapor products to youth, unlike laws that restrict youth access to other tobacco products.

The 2013 Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey shows 7.8 percent of Oklahoma high school students and 6.6 percent of middle school students who responded to the survey had used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days.

Of those who responded, 17.9 percent of high school students and 6.6 percent of middle school students reported ever using an e-cigarette. The 2013 survey is the first year that the OYTS has included a question about e-cigarette use.

Nationally, e-cigarette use among middle and high school students nearly doubled from 2011 to 2012. Data from the 2012 National Youth Tobacco Survey show that electronic cigarette use increased among middle school students from 0.6 percent in 2011 to 1.1 percent in 2012 and among high school students from 1.5 percent to 2.8 percent.

“The use of vapor products among youth is concerning, as nicotine is a highly addictive substance that may negatively affect the developing brain,” said State Health Commissioner Terry Cline. “It’s important that we protect youth from exposure to these products, just as we work to protect youth from exposure to all tobacco products.”

Vapor products also are available in a variety of flavors, whereas flavored cigarettes were banned by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2009 due to their potential appeal to youth.

The lack of restrictions related to sales to minors, advertising, and availability of flavors may impact current and future use of e-cigarettes and vapor products by youth in Oklahoma.

In addition to concerns about youth exposure to and use of vapor products, health officials are concerned about the potential negative health impact for anyone exposed to vapor products.

“We still need more research on vapor products and their long-term effects on health, but we know from existing research that they emit more than just water vapor,” said Cline.

“Research shows that users and bystanders are exposed to nicotine, chemicals and other tobacco contaminants in the vapor.”

The OYTS is a representative survey of all middle school and high school students in Oklahoma. The OYTS was conducted in the spring of 2013 by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Oklahoma State Department of Education, and numerous partners from local health agencies and local school districts.

—Oklahoma State Department of Health
Lawton eatery dishes great burgers

Last weekend my family and I decided to go out of town to have a treat. The Meers Store and Restaurant, located in Lawton, seemed like the perfect place.

While driving to Meers Store and Restaurant, it feels like you are driving in the middle of nowhere. It only takes about an hour and 20 minutes to drive there from Oklahoma City. We were pretty close to the restaurant at sunset, so the view was absolutely breathtaking with the sun setting behind the Wichita Mountains.

Once we arrived, we were able to seat ourselves. They are usually packed with people waiting out the door but because it was a Friday night, not many people were there.

The atmosphere is relaxed and old-fashioned in a sense. There are antiques and vintage advertisements hanging on the walls. Drinks are even served in Mason jars.

Their burgers are made with 97 percent lean grass-fed Longhorn from the family’s own herd. I got two mini cheeseburgers that were served on homemade rolls. The rolls melted in my mouth, and the patty was fresh, juicy and cooked for just the right amount of time. My family purchased one order of fries and one order of onion rings which we all shared. The fries and onion rings were OK, nothing special.

Their famous “Meers Burger” is seven inches in diameter and it is served on a pie plate for $6.85. Two people can easily share the burger. A “Meers Cheeseburger” is $7.35.

All of their burgers come with green leaf lettuce, tomatoes, mustard, dill pickles and red onion. “Cowboy Burgers” can be made any way you like.

The Meers Store and Restaurant also serves hot dogs, steak, chicken fried steak, and barbecue dinners. They also have many different appetizers and sides including: fried okra, fried corn on the cob and fried green tomatoes.

Homemade ice cream and various cobbler also are on the menu.

I recommend taking the longer-than-average drive to Meers. I assure you their burgers are amazing.

Your taste buds will thank you.

Rating: A-

—Lauren Daniel
Senior Writer

Spring semester will bring about many changes

The recent chill in the air is a reminder that the fall semester is rapidly coming to conclusion — which of course means another Christmas and a new year will closely follow.

I recognize there is much to be done to complete the work of this semester but I would like to take this opportunity to wish you the very best during this upcoming holiday season.

The holiday break between semesters is a time of celebration, reflection, and renewal—a time to enjoy family and friends—a time of giving and receiving — and a time to prepare for a new year and a new semester.

Like many of you, I will spend time during the break with my family. Plans are already under way for several holiday gatherings — from a Christmas Eve dinner through a New Year’s Eve party. We will retell the stories of the past, some happy and some sad, remember those who are no longer with us, welcome those who are new, and share our hopes for the future.

To our faculty and staff, let me once again thank you for your tireless work on behalf of OCCC and our students. I know you share with me a deep sense of pride and honor to be a part of Oklahoma City Community College. To our students, I wish you the best as you complete your work for the semester.

When we return in January, the new Visual and Performing Arts Center Theater will be completed. The loop road around the campus will be open and the barriers around Parking Lot C will be removed. One of the first events of the new year will be the dedication ceremony of this incredible new theater.

I hope you will join me in the lobby of the theater for the ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14. Backstage tours of the entire facility will follow the ceremony.

In the meantime, enjoy the upcoming break and I will see everyone back on campus in 2014. Happy holidays!

—Paul Sechrist
OCCC President

Latest ‘Hunger Games’ movie edgy

Are the odds in your favor? For “Hunger Games” main character, Katniss Everdeen, they were not as she is faced with more twists and turns in “Hunger Games: Catching Fire,” the second rendition of the book-turned-movie series, directed by Francis Lawrence.

The first scene reveals Katniss (Jennifer Lawrence) hunting in the woods with her friend, Gale, (Liam Hemsworth) trying to resume a normal life following her participation and victory in the previous year’s Hunger Games, an annual event that forces individuals between the ages of 12 and 18 to battle to the death.

When Katniss attempts to shoot a turkey with her bow, she suffers from a flashback of killing someone in the arena last year. It is here that we first see the effects that the games had on her.

She goes back home to find President Snow (Donald Sutherland) waiting for her. He tells her the “stunt” she pulled during last year’s games was viewed as an act of rebellion toward the Capitol instead of an act of love for her district partner Peeta (Josh Hutcherson.)

The event he references is one where Katniss offered to commit partner suicide with Peeta rather than be faced with the task of killing him.

Snow is suspicious of her true feelings for Peeta. He tells her while she is on the victory tour going across the districts to celebrate last year’s victory, she must calm the nation and convince Snow of her love for Peeta or Snow will have her and everyone she loves killed.

Snow appears unimpressed by her efforts to prove her love for Peeta after the tour. He makes an announcement that for this year’s “quarter quell,” which is a special addition to the games added every 25 years, this year’s selected warriors for the games would be chosen from an existing pool of past victors.

Katniss, being the only victor from her district, is inevitably chosen to compete in the games for a second time.

The movie used a generous amount of scenes from the book but skipped a few decent parts, including one of my favorite scenes where it depicts how Haymitch Abernathy, the mentor of Katniss and Peeta from district 12, won the games during the second quarter quell 25 years ago.

In the book it tells that the second quarter quell had double the amount of tributes and Haymitch used the Capitol’s force field in the arena against his opponents to win the games.

The movie was everything I hoped it would be. There is more action than the last movie and the traps in the arena were captured perfectly.

The final minutes of the movie had me on the edge of my seat, although I knew what was going to happen.

Lawrence did a fantastic job of taking the book and turning it into a masterpiece of a sequel movie. Definitely go see this movie if you haven’t — it doesn’t disappoint.

Rating: A+

—Grant VanWinkle
Sports Writer
Every young woman looking for fashionable clothing should check out Deb. For the last five years or so, Deb has been my go-to place for most of my clothing. I’m not a huge clothes buyer, but Deb definitely has me addicted. Selling both junior and plus size clothing, Deb makes sure no woman gets left out. Since there are no locations near me, I choose to buy most of my stuff from debshops.com. While I have bought a couple things from the actual store, I can honestly say the online store has much more to choose from. The clothing is true to size and I never have to worry that something I order may not fit me. While some of the clothes may seem a little pricey for a broke college student, Deb almost always has sales up to 20 and 30 percent off. Not once have I ordered from their site without having a coupon or when they weren’t having a sale. The only bad thing about ordering online is the shipping prices. Because shipping is so expensive, I always spend at least $50, which isn’t hard to do, so I can receive free shipping. The hard part is waiting seven to nine days for my clothes to arrive. Overall, my experience with Deb shops has been positive. I often get compliments on my clothes and have people ask me where I get them. Perhaps my favorite things I have purchased from Deb are dresses. Nowhere else have I been able to find cute dresses with such a perfect fit and at a reasonable price. I have bought several pairs of shoes, all of which have not let me down. The only disappointment I’ve had has been with jewelry, which seems to be made a little cheaply. With half my closet full of clothes from Deb, I have no intention to stop buying anytime soon. I highly recommend Deb to any girl who is looking for comfortable, cute and fun clothing. The only downfall will be the lack of money you have when you are done shopping.

**BUSINESS REVIEW** | Deb clothes are fashionable and long-lasting

*Rating: A*

—Erin Peden

**ALBUM REVIEW** | Benefit’s mascara offers impressive quality

 give you the most bang for your buck. In the year and a half that I’ve been exploring makeup, there’s no doubt that “They’re Real!” is the best mascara that I’ve purchased. The formula isn’t waterproof and that might be a deal breaker for some people; but the trade-off for a non-waterproof mascara that looks great on the lashes seems like a fair swap for a dry waterproof formula that will leave lashes looking messy and crusty.

The formula for “They’re Real!” isn’t hypoallergenic, so those with known cosmetic allergies might want to be cautious if they decide to give the product a try. When it comes to removing the product, a special eye makeup-removing wash is needed because it tends to be hard to clean from lashes. “They’re Real!” is the first mascara I’ve owned that manages to lift and separate lashes, making them appear elongated, while still coating them with enough formula that they look thicker and fuller.

“They’re Real!” is a must-have for beauty gurus and enthusiasts who love a good, dramatic eye look.

**‘They’re Real!’ gives good look**

*Rating: A*

—Katie Thurman

**Editor**
May ceremony awaits December graduates

The following students have applied for December graduation. Diplomas will be granted after credits are completed and degree requirements are met. Students who fulfill degree requirements may participate in the May commencement ceremony.


Crawford, Emma Crow, Kelli

Bailie Chambers, Jessica Collier, Ryan 

fie Clispo, Sara Coil, Emily Coker, 

ness, Amelia Che, Patrick Chevis, 

Carbajal, Jaqulyn Carter, Markeisha 

Kevin Burks, Leslie Burleson, Greg 

Alice Bowers, Blake Braden, Kevin 

Chris Bookout, Brooke Booth, 

Beach, Taylor Beardshear, 

Megan Baxter, Matthew Baysinger, 

Barton. Justin Barron, Alanna Barton, Kelly 

Ball, Delores Barajas, James Barnes, 

Nussbaum, Aryn Balfour, Alyssa 

Rhiannon Baker, Jennifer Bales-

Ary, Stayce Atieno, Cuong Au, Ciria 

Allen, Guadalupe Alvarez, Maria 

man Alford, Souleiman Al-Khouri, 

Natalie Aldieri, Nirmal Ale, Tru 

Deanna Adams, John Adams, 

Diplomas will be granted after cre 

plied for December graduation.

Jamine Cabrera, Andrew Cadaret, Jerri Cadogan, Ky 

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Vanez Cebalo, Cole Chapman, 

Shandis Chappell, Mariella Char-

ames, Amelia Che, Patrick Chevis, 

Carolina Child Lyons, Amanda 

xia Chtz, Dusty Cook, Brooke Booth, 

Philip Borghoe, Cameron Bost, 

Lisa Boswell.

Samuel Botello, Marc Boulanger, 

ice Bowers, Blake Braden, Kevin 

hryor, Katrina Brinkman, Tame 

Bridges, Jessika Brittain, Courtney 

Brown, Len Ann Brown, Logan 

Brown, Afela Bruner, James Bry-

ant, Lilian Bueno, Matthew Bui, 

Ethan Bullock, Connor Burks, 

Kevin Burks, Leslie Burleson, Greg 

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Carolina Child Lyons, Amanda 

xia Chtz, Dusty Cook, Brooke Booth, 

Philip Borghoe, Cameron Bost, 

Lisa Boswell.
Christmas a time for giving, music and good cheer

Pioneer staff shares favorite holiday tunes

Paris Burris, Lab Assistant
Album: “Songs for Christmas” by Sufjan Stevens
Song: “Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy” by Tchaikovsky

Lauren Daniel, Senior Writer
Album: “We Have a Savior” by Hillsong
Song: “Christmas Love” by Justin Bieber

Katie Thurman, Editor
Song: “Christmas Love” by Nat King Cole

Henry Nguyen, Advertising Manager
Song: “Silent Night” by Priscilla Ahn

Nancy Martinez, Staff Writer
Song: “It’s Christmas” by Modern Talking

Diamond Middleton, Circulation Manager
Song: “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” by Louis Armstrong and Velma Middleton

Erin Peden, Online Editor
Album: “Merry Christmas, Baby” by Rod Stewart
Song: “Do They Know It’s Christmas?” by Bandaid

Ronna Austin, News Writing Instructional Assistant
Album: “Banjo or Freakout ’X2010” by Alessio Natalizia
Song: “Fairytale Of New York” by The Pogues & Kirsty MacColl

‘Merry Christmas’ resonates happiness in any language

African/ Eritrean/ Tigrinja: Rehus-Beal-Leeds
Albanian: Gezur Kristilinden
Arabic: Milad Majid
Argentine: Feliz Navidad
Armenian: Shenoraav Nor
Dari ye’er: Pari Gaghband
Bengali: Shuvo Naba Barsha
Bohemian: Vesele Vanoce
Bosnian: (BOSANSKI) Cestit Bozic i Sretna Nova godina
Bulgarian: Tchestita Koleda; Tchestito Rojdestvo Hristovo
Chinese: (Cantonese) Gun Tso Sun TaoGung Haw Sun (Mandarin) Sheng Dan Kuai Le
Choctaw: Yukpa, Nitaik Hollo Chito
Columbia: Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo
Croatian: Sretan Bozic
Czech: Prejeme Vam Vesele Vanoce a sastany Novy Rok
Danish: Glædelig Jul
Dutch: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar! or Zalig Kerstfeest
English: Merry Christmas
Eskimo: (inupik) Jutdlime
Finnish: Hyvaa joulua
French: Joyeux Noel
German: Fröhliche Weihnachten
Greek: Kala Christoyennya!
Haiti: (Creole) Iwaye Nowel or to Jesus Edo Brijcho o Rish
D’Shato Brichto
Hawaiian: Mele Kalikimaka
Hebrew: Mo’adim Lesimkhah.
Hindi: Shub Naya Baras (good New Year not Merry Christmas)
Hungarian: Boldog Karácsonyt
Icelandic: Gledileg Jul
Indonesian: Selamat Hari Natal
Iraqi: Idah Saidan Ws Sanah
Irish: Nollaig Shona Dhuit
Italian: Buone Feste Natalizie
Japanese: Shinnen omedeto.
Kala Christouyenna!
Korean: Chuc Mung Giang
Kurdish: (Mandarin) Sheng Dan Kuai Le
Latin: Natale hilare et Annum
Switzerland (Swiss-German): Schici Venedamter
Lithuanian: Vesele Vianoce. A Vesele Bozicne
Macedonian: Sarbatori vesele or Craciun ferici
Spanish: Feliz Navidad
Macedonian: Sarbatori vesele or Craciun ferici
Swedish: God Jul and (Och) Ett Gott Nytt År
Switzerland (Swiss-German): Schonu Wienenachte
Thai: Sawadee Pee Mai or souksan wan Christmas
Turkish: Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun
Ukrainian: Z Rizdvom Krystovym or souksan wan Christmas
Vietnamese: Chuc Mung Giang
Welsh: Nadolig Llawen

— www.santas.net

For more information on area light displays, Google “OKC Christmas Lights.”

Branches Christmas: The Branch family has been decorating their home at 6708 NW 115th St. with a synchronized musical display for a couple of years. Tune your radio to 106.1 for the show.

Downtown in December: What better way to see the magical holiday lights than aboard a water taxi on the Bricktown canal? Bring a coat and stare in awe as the lights twinkle off the water. When you’re finished, enjoy more lights on the streets of Automobile Alley or at the Myriad Gardens.

Yukon’s Christmas in the Park: Since 1995, Drive more than three miles through 100 acres along lim Watson Drive and see more than 300 incredible light displays from your car. Admission is free, but donations are accepted at the end of the drive-through. Event runs from 6 to 11 p.m. through Dec. 31 in Yukon City Park.

Chickasha’s Festival of Lights: First started in 1992, the Chickasha Festival of Lights attracts visitors from all over the nation and includes an animated, musically-choreographed show. Be ready for some long lines, though, because this is one of the best around. This free event runs to Dec. 31. Bus tours, carriage rides and photos with Santa are available for a charge.

LIGHTS

— www.santas.net

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!
Rugby player helps team bring home bronze medal

NATHAN SHADID
News Writing Student

OCCC student Roman Wilson and his rugby teammates brought home the bronze medal after defeating Great Britain in the Maccabiah Games in Israel this past summer.

Wilson said this was not his first visit to Israel. He was there when he turned 13 and celebrated his bar mitzvah, the ceremony that marks a young man’s passage into the adult world.

Wilson said he would like to try out for the Maccabiah Games again in 2017.

Wilson said his father Tim “Tarzan” Wilson started the Oklahoma Sooners Rugby team in 1974.

The OU field, called Tarzan Pitch, is named after him.

Tim “Tarzan” Wilson was inducted into the Oklahoma Rugby Hall of Fame where his son Roman hopes to follow in his footsteps.

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Tim “Tarzan” Wilson was inducted into the Oklahoma Rugby Hall of Fame where his son Roman hopes to follow in his footsteps.

Nursing grads to take part in pinning ceremony

LAUREN DANIEL
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC nursing graduates will be honored in a pinning ceremony at 7 p.m. Dec. 12 in OCCC’s general dining area, said Deborah Myers, nursing program director.

“It basically is just signifying their completion of the program and their entry into practice and into the profession,” Myers said.

“It’s a time honored tradition in nursing that … we’ve done since the days of Florence Nightingale.”

About 65 graduates will be honored in the pinning.

Myers said the exact number of graduates will not be known until the semester is over and it is determined which students have officially passed the program.

“By the time they get to the last process, we don’t have as many failures,” she said.

“They’re pretty used to the program, pretty used to the rigor and the goal is close, so they put forth the effort they need to finish up, usually.”

The ceremony will last about an hour, Myers said.

“It just has to do just with the degree, just the nursing degree, just those graduates,” she said.

“They don’t have to wait through hours of watching other people that they don’t know … it’s just more personal.”

Myers said, sometimes, families get more excited about the graduation than the students.

“I think it means a lot more to … parents and grandparents, especially the older crowd … ,” she said.

She said the pinning ceremonies have been held off campus numerous times due to the number of graduates, staff, faculty, family members and friends.

“This will be the last pinning ceremony that we have either off campus or in the general dining area, because in the spring … we’ll start using the new theater.”

Myers said the theater will provide more than enough space for the ceremony.

“I’ll be glad we’re going to be changing venues in the spring,” she said.

“We’ve needed that for a long time. It will be nice to be in a new facility, and have all the space that we need to conduct that event.”

For more information about the ceremony contact Myers at 405-682-1611, ext. 7138, or email dkmyers@occc.edu. For directions, visit www.occc.edu/maps.
On Dec. 19 OCCC will play host to the Chesapeake Swim Club Pro Am meet, said meet director Paul Thompson.

Thompson said the college has hosted the meet every year for the past 22 years.

“The Pro Am meet is originally the only USA-Swimming meet where both the professional and amateur athlete competed side-by-side,” he said.

This meet will have amateur competitors as young as 11-years-old to 50 and older, Thompson said. The pro athletes range from as young as 14 to the mid-20s.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each section, Thompson said.

“The pros … receive a cash prize,” he said. “First place will win $600, second will win $300, and third will win $100.”

“The Am side … will win prize credits for merchandise to spend on vendors at the meet.”

Thompson said spectators are encouraged but are asked to follow a few rules.

“Spectators are asked to take photos from the seating areas upstairs,” he said. “Anyone asking for clearance to be on deck for photographic purposes must check in with the meet director ahead of attendance at the meet.”

Thompson said there is no cost to attend. However, there will be items for sale.

“Prelims heat sheets are priced between $5 and $6 with finals heat sheets priced between $1 and $3 depending on what pricing packages you purchase,” he said.

Thompson said Speedo will be on hand as well as D&J Sports with a wide array of aquatic sports apparel and sport items.

He said all profits from the Pro Am meet will go toward continuing to bring in national level talent to the Oklahoma City metro area and to “sustain the commitment of the Chesapeake Swim Club in its mission to develop champions both in and out of the water.”

For more information contact the Chesapeake Swim Club at www.chesapeakeswimclub.org.
People can donate to Toys for Tots in many ways and we let them know whether
be in clean condition for the
store determines if they can
at the scheduled time, “ she said.
Dec. 13.
from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday,
14. Buyback also will be held
on Friday, Dec 13; and from
12; from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Thursday Dec. 10 through Dec.

Bohannon. reported she had discovered a
firearm cartridge on her desk,
according to a report filed by
campus police officer Jeremy
Bohannon.

Johnson reported she arrived
at her office at 8 a.m. and didn't
see the cartridge at that time. She then went to a meeting.
After the meeting, she re
turned to her office and noticed
the cartridge. According to Boh
hannon, Johnson said neither she nor any other John Massey
Center employee had touched or
moved the cartridge after finding it.
Bohannon said a review of the security cameras from the
time Johnson was out of her
office showed five people entering and leaving the work
place. One was a fellow OCCC
employee who denied knowing
where the cartridge came from.
The other four people were part of the cleaning crew.
The following day, Johnson
reported that her son had been
in her office the prior week after
a hunting trip. Johnson's son
said he believed the cartridge
may have fallen out of his
pocket at that time.
Also on Nov. 19, part-time
employee Joel Soria reported
his vehicle may have been
involved in a hit-and-run ac
incident in parking lot D. Officer
Ventresca responded.
According to Officer Ronald
Ventresca, Soria parked his car
in lot D and when he returned, he
saw someone had hit his
vehicle, knocking off the pas
senger side mirror of his black
2005 Scion.
Ventresca reviewed video
footage of the drivers of the car
at the Scion.
Ventresca said footage
showed when the driver ex
tited the vehicle, she appeared
to inspect the damage done to
both vehicles and afterwards
got back into her vehicle and
drove away.
She then parked in lot E,
according to Ventresca.
The subject appeared to be a
white female in her 30s, wear
ning a dark jacket, white and
black T-shirt and faded jeans.
Ventresca printed a picture of
the subject in an attempt to
learn her identity.
To contact campus police,
call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747.
For an emergency, use one of
the call boxes located inside
and outside on campus or call
405-682-7872.

Toys: People can donate to Toys for Tots in many ways

Services office, in front of the Testing Center.
Two donation bins are lo
cated on the second floor of the SEM center outside of the
biology lab, and one final bin
is located near the front desk
at the main entrance.

Fulcher said if need be, more
donation bins can be put out
around the school.
Ryan Hurt, VA work study
aid, said the best thing about
participating in the program is
looking forward to the child's
reaction.
"It brings joy to kids' faces," Hurt said. "It always feels nice to
do something good."
Fulcher said programs like Toys for Tots are more impor
tant at times like this — when the economy is bad. "A lot of
parents are without jobs," she
said, and might have trouble
providing Christmas for a
child.
The Toys for Tots website,
www.toysfortots.org, lists gift
ideas for children of all ages.
In their FAQ section, they have a special list of gift ideas
for preteen children, ages 12-
13 or beyond, depending on
the community guidelines for
who will be receiving the gifts.
The website's gift ideas for
older children include: "sporting
equipment/bags/balls; books,
backpacks, cosmetics, purses,
watch/wallet gift sets, bath
gift sets, board games, ra
dio control cars/trucks, hand
held electronics, skateboards/
helmets, curling irons, hair
straighteners, and hair dryers."
The website also provides a
form and directions for parents
to apply for their children to
be eligible to receive toys.
The group said 97 percent of dona
tions go toward the program's
mission of "providing toys,
books, and other gifts to less
fortunate children."
"The 3 percent spent on
support principally covers
fund-raising expenses — not
one donated dollar goes to
pay for salaries or any other
manpower costs."
Online users also can make
a monetary donation that
will go toward being spent in
a region of their choice or
to whatever region needs the
donation most at the time.
For more information about
donating and volunteering with
the Toys for Tots program,
see www.toysfortots.org.
For more information, call
405-682-7527.

Buyback: Students can sell textbooks on, off campus

In order for the bookstore
to buy books, they have to be
current editions students will
use in the next semester.
Old books or editions that
will not be used again cannot
be bought. Textbooks with
software licenses, online pass
codes, or learning packets also are
not eligible to be bought.
Because the bookstore can
not overstock, LaFerney said,
they can only take a certain
number of each textbook.
Pricing is set by the book
store and it depends on each
individual textbook, said LaFerney.
"It depends on the book —
whether it has a code, whether
it's a new edition or old edition," she
said.
The bookstore's goal is to buy
back as many books as they can.
"We try to get as many from
the students as possible," LaFerney said.
"We are always wanting to
buy them back … if they're
being used again."
Gabriele Spaulding, child de
velopment major, said she was
very pleased with her previous
book buyback experience.
"It was pretty quick," she said.
"I sold two or three books."
While some students par
ticipate in textbook buyback for
the money, other students may
keep their books for future
reference.
"(I keep mine) just in case if
I want to reference them later," said premed major Adriana
Lopez.
Eduardo Santoyo, business
major, said he hasn't participat
ed in textbook buyback yet, but
said he plans to in the future.
Some students turn to other
stores off campus to purchase
and sell books.
"I feel like other places …
pay you more," said energy
management major Tae Roh.
Although students can shop
elsewhere, such as online or
at nearby Textbook Brokers,
located at 7445 S May Ave., the
bookstore staff enjoys helping
students.
For more information, visit
http://bookstore.occc.edu/
buyback. For information about
other options, students can
Google textbook buyback.
Ballroom Dancing Club sponsor Randall Abrams said the club can serve as an outlet for fun.

"I just think it would be a fun thing to do besides study all the time," Abrams said.

"College is a place to try different things... see what's out there," he said.

Joining the club will allow students to meet new people, become a bigger part of school and get exposure in different settings, he said.

Despite its unique subject, the hardest part of getting the club kick-started has been getting information to students, said club member Haley Harris.

Because the club is so new, they do not have a spot on bulletin boards found around campus.

"It's been kind of hard to get the word out about it," Harris said.

The club is aiming to get as many members as possible.

"We actually had a lot of people, it was over 50 people, say that they were interested in it," she said.

"I feel like students don't really know about some stuff offered to them," she said.

Harris said many people may feel too nervous to join the club because they are unexperienced, but she said no experience is needed to join the club.

Harris started ballroom dancing because her boyfriend was an instructor and has since grown to love it.

"I started learning ballroom about a year and a half ago," she said. "But (I'm) nowhere near actually feeling like I'm good at it."

Harris said classes start with basics.

"I think ballroom dance is something that a lot of people just don't do because they're afraid they won't be able to," she said.

"I think it will give people an opportunity to step out of their comfort zones a little bit and maybe find something that they'll actually really enjoy, they just don't know it yet," Harris said.

The dance instructor is former OCCC teacher Jeff Wolford, who used to be an instructor at Dance Masters.

The club meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. every Thursday in room 1C4 in the Wellness Center.

"I know that's kind of late for some people, but that was the only time we could get the room for," Harris said.

The club is determined to become more active next semester and has several events planned, including a potential Valentine's Day Ball.

For more information, call Abrams at 405-682-1611 ext. 7291.
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.


FOR SALE: New size 26 jeans — never been worn. Brands include Vans, Levi’s and Zumiez. $10 per pair. Retail for $40 each. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

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FOR SALE: Golden oak corner TV cabinet. Gold trim, glass door on power storage section. Gently used. $50. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

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Comments? Opinions? Let us know! E-mail Paris Burris
editor@occc.edu
Three nursing students appointed to state offices

NANCY MARTINEZ
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For the first time in the history of the college, nursing students have been appointed to represent Oklahoma and OCCC in state offices during the Annual National Student Nurse’s Association conference, said Cindy Milam, Nursing Students Association sponsor.

Katherine Chavez was elected as community project director, Kelsey Payne as legislative director and Kymdria Russo as breakthrough director.

“We’re extremely excited to have our first officers represent the college for our state in the nationals,” Milam said.

“We have one of the best nursing programs in the state,” Chavez said.

 “[OCCC] also won the Outstanding Service Award for Oklahoma student nurses.”

Payne said volunteering inspires her passion for nursing.

“That’s the spirit of nursing,” Payne said. “If you’re active in volunteering as a student, you’ll stay active as a nurse.”

The students actively volunteer with non-profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the Christmas Connection and the Walk Against Alzheimer’s, Payne said.

Chavez said because nurses work so closely with patients, focus and teamwork are important factors in nursing.

“Nurses should be able to think critically, clinically, technically and know why they are giving that shot and where,” she said.

It’s important to promote collaboration between healthcare positions such as nurses, paramedics and EMTs to show cooperation within the school, she said.

The conference will be held April 9 to 13 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, TN, Milam said.

For more information, email Milam at cmi-lam@occc.edu or visit the NSNA’s website at www.nsna.org.

Professor wins teacher of year

ERIN PEDEN
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

Political science professor Dana Glencross has been honored as teacher of the year by the Oklahoma Political Science Association (OSPA.)

Glencross has worked at OCCC for 23 and a half years.

“I’m a person who doesn’t think I’m going to win until it runs me over because there’s so many other good, talented researchers and dedicated teachers.

“All my colleagues came up and congratulated me and told me how well-deserved it was; it’s kind of hard to believe, but a great honor.”

Political science professor Sharon Vaughan nominated Glencross.

“She is a great teacher,” Vaughan said. “She really cares about her students and is very dedicated to them.”

Glencross said the most rewarding part about teaching is the relationship she develops with students.

“That’s why all of us do what we do,” she said. “To develop people to the point where they can succeed and get out and get whatever their dream is.”

For more information, call Glencross at 405-682-1611, ext. 7385, or email Vaughan at sharon.k.vaughan@occc.edu.

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