

PIONEER

Back to School
Photos Page 6

Nina Smith: Beloved Faculty Member Remembered



BY SAVANNAH MELHER
Pioneer Editor

Nina Smith believed in her students. Smith, her colleagues said, was a dedicated professor who fought through her illness to finish her last semester at OCCC before dying in January.

In her introduction for the Oklahoma City Community College Humanities website Smith wrote:

"Central Oklahoma has been my home all my life: prairies, thunderstorms, orange-hued sunsets, and tornadoes. Wherever I have been, books have resided. The inquiring mind always needs another book."

Smith was a film studies professor. She described herself as a "movie buff" who had a

passion for silent films and classic movies. Movies, she said, should be "uncut, shown in the correct aspect ratio, original language, and commercial free!"

Before coming to OCCC, Smith said her love of books led her to open a small bookstore with her mother in the early 1990's. Her mother died in 2004 and soon after Smith began working in several positions at OCCC.

Her students said she cared more than the average professor. They said she worked diligently and respectfully to improve the lives of everyone she met.

One of her students, Austin Peden, said, "Even if she was having a bad day, you wouldn't know it." He said he had Smith as an English Professor. Peden said her method of teaching was uplifting. Instead of lecturing at students Peden said she wanted to help her students succeed.

Peden said during the last semester with her he was overwhelmed with film projects. "She said Mr. Peden, I'll give you an extension on all of these projects," he said. "She even waited until after the last day of school to grade a paper, that meant a lot to me."

He said Smith impacted the lives of other students as well, "I noticed students in her class were just kinda taking care of their stuff, and they didn't really have ambition or dreams," he said. "She kind of helped fuel those."

Smith was humble and private with her life he said. Even after she fell ill he said he couldn't tell she was sick.

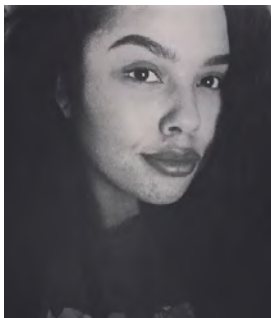
She was a professor and human, he said.

Peden said Smith should be revered for her compassion and empathy for each student she taught.

EDITORIAL/OPINION

EDITORIAL | /Humanity and Activism Can Work Together

Be Gentle *and* Speak Out



Activism can alter a person’s outlook on life to be better or bitter.

The previous year was filled with political protest stretching the muscle of the 1st Amendment; calling to question what was ethical for the American people.

It began with the women’s march in January. Millions of people all over the globe dawned pink hats and marched in the streets.

We saw several other protests arise such as the March for Science in April aimed at combating President Donald Trump’s denial of global warming and the retaliation Charlottesville protests which followed a neo-nazi rally the night before.

We the people have expressed our concerns and activists are always behind the scenes doing the heavy lifting for their represented group. A person can forget to take the time to gather their mental strength needed to remain positive in a world filled with never ending battles.

When we remain positive we are more likely to help others to progress. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only love can do that. Hate multiplies

hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction.”

What this means to activists, or an average person, though you fight for a noble cause you cannot forget to be kind to yourself first and then others. Self care is necessary when you find the weight of the world suddenly making you bitter.

You can take care of yourself by first changing the narration in your mind. Something i’ve learned from my favorite book, the Mad Fat Diary, is to think of yourself as a child. Would you tell a child they are incompetent? Would you tell them their dream, no matter how impossible, is idiotic? Obviously not, so treat your dreams and aspirations the way you would nurture a child and contemplate others ideas with respect.

Outside of your average role you have to be selfish with your time. Taking the time alone to collect your thoughts could be the most rewarding self care method.

I know I had my activist hat on for so long I had become single minded, never taking the time to breathe, to make sure my mental health was okay. I forgot to take care of myself and it

showed in the way I treated my friends and family. They always knew about the newest issue in politics and the massive state budget hole.

However, they didn’t know much about my life or interests outside of the day-to-day issues. I distanced myself from those who weren’t political, or maybe someone who didn’t necessarily agree with me on every level.

I reflected many in America. How divisive and separated we are because of politics. Don’t get me wrong, civil discourse is essential to a growing society. It’s when we speak and we’re bitter, or condescending or when we stop speaking, is when the bigger problems of our society arise.

We will spiral into destruction.

We cannot forget our mistakes of last year where we divided significantly, coining names for each other like snowflakes, and deplorables.

We are all Americans, we’re all citizens of this world with DNA, and blood in our veins. So we must find common ground with each other, we have to speak to one another.

Before we speak we have to be gentle with ourselves.

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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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 reserves the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list a major. OCCC staff and faculty must list a 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.

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Star Wars the Last Jedi:

Relevant Themes for Today's Society



BY CICI SIMON
Pioneer Senior Writer

During Christmas time, cinemas never fail to amp their audience with a list of epic box office lineups. This holiday season, the most epic was the groundbreaking chapter of the galactic series: "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," directed by Rian Johnson.

The saga has carried on through generations and the movie re-entered the big screens on December 17th, this time with a new twist.

With a fan base that holds the films close to heart -- seeing another Star Wars film meant a sold out theater come Christmas day -- opening day was a judgment day for some.

As the Warren Theater filled to capacity, excited chatter echoed as I found my seat.

When the lights grew dim, the room shook as brass from John William's opening theme gave the talkative IMAX room an immediate reason to hush.

Heads tilted back with 3D glasses, as the

historical context in yellow text reflected off them. Star Wars was back.

In our previous chapter we were left with new age heroine Rey (Daisy Ridley), finding the legendary Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) to bring him back to stop the First Order.

Not long after her battle with Kylo Ren (Adam Driver), unconscious Finn (John Boyega) awoke as he soared through the galaxy with his first words being, "Rey."

Newer characters began growing on the audience as the film continued, similar to the original characters played by Hamill and the late Carrie Fisher.

Upcomer Kelly Marie Tran won the audience with her fearless acts of selflessness and fight for the greater good playing Rose Tico, a ship mechanic who soon became Finn's partner in crime.

Captain Poe Dameron, beautifully played by Oscar Isaac, gained a larger role as he fought with Vice Admiral Holdo (Laura Dern) and the resistance to stop the First Order, while they plot to do the same.

The film had themes that were relevant to today, almost like a reminder of what could come. Poverty, war, rebellion, how being different for some could mean life or death in some parts of the world.

How actions can sometimes speak louder than words, and how younger eyes are still so strongly influenced.

For Kylo Ren, he faced a theme we all fight against -- the war against ourselves.

Johnson gave not only fulfilled expectations, but triumphed and then some with new creatures, new planets, and battle scenes that kept your chest pounding.

At the end of the film, the late Carrie Fisher gave what the audience wanted -- a leader they could remember, and hold close to home, and a heart wrenching final performance that would stay with the star wars legacy forever.

Johnson gave her justice, and gave the audience anticipation for the next.

The film as a whole was a symbolic metaphor that there is always 'hope.'

Opinion

Communication Important to Help Those Facing Mental Illness

BY JENNA LOWRANCE
Pioneer Staff Writer

Mental illness is the dirt in our houses that we sweep under the rug. If no one else sees it, then it does not exist.

Although mental illness cannot always be seen, it is still present and is an issue. We as individuals and as a society fail to realize the impact mental illness can have on a person's life.

When we talk, we start to understand. When we understand, we are able to help.

Some people in our society may refuse the impact mental illness has because they have never experienced one for themselves. Look around, there are people all around us coping with mental illness.

As a society, we turn our backs and silence them. Everyone needs to be heard and deserves a chance to speak up and seek help.

The stigma of mental illness prevents those who are suffering to do these things. Due to fear, shame, guilt, and other emotions individuals lose their chance to receive the help they need to progress.

I am one of those individuals.

I live my life in a bubble filled with darkness, fear and judgement. I fear people won't listen or believe what I say because they cannot see the true pain I endure. I do not want others to judge me for the things I do, because they cannot understand what is going on inside my mind. As a result, there is a constant rain cloud over my head.

Living life this way and feeling shameful is no way to live.

No one should feel shameful for having a mental illness or for seeking help. Mental illnesses are not personal weaknesses or a character defect. It is a condition caused by a combination of genetic, biological, psychological, and environmental factors.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness describes mental illness as a condition that affects a person's thinking, feeling, or mood. Such conditions may affect someone's ability to relate to others and function each day.

One in five adults experiences a mental health condition every year. Half of mental health conditions begin by the age of 14, and 75 percent of mental health conditions develop by age 24.

Recognizing these statistics, mental illness can affect anyone at any age. Mental illnesses can add additional difficulties throughout day to day life.

The American Psychiatric Association said learning about developing symptoms, or early

warning signs and taking action can help. Early intervention can help reduce the severity of an illness.

The earlier we start to talk openly and educate ourselves on the issue the easier we can recognize the signs and symptoms, which can result in providing those who suffer and their loved ones the proper information faster on how and where to get help.

It is true, there are many lists of hotlines one can find online, but shouldn't there be more involvement than only that.

Oklahoma has plenty of programs, services, and treatment centers for mental illness.

For example, The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Oklahoma has eight affiliates through-

“As a society, we turn our backs and silence them. Everyone needs to be heard and deserves a chance to speak up and seek help.”

out the state that facilitate support groups, conduct education programs, and send speakers out into the community. NAMI's mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals and families affected by mental illness through support, education and advocacy.

Lisa Deane, whose name asked to be changed for this article, attends a NAMI support group. She believes talking and sharing at least parts of your situation can be very therapeutic.

“Just the simple verbal release of pent-up stress, sadness, concern, and worry can give you the power and strength to move forward, to understand, to be emotionally prepared to love and be supportive,” she said.

Lack of communication and involvement can cause the person suffering from mental illness to feel misunderstood and alone. Due

to such strong negative emotions and negative judgement, they may reach inside themselves instead of reaching out. Having to deal with their emotions and mental illness alone can cause an unhealthy lifestyle and life choices.

Individuals living with serious mental illness face an increased risk of having chronic medical conditions. Data from the National Association of State Mental Health Program shows that adults in the U.S. living with a serious mental illness die an average of 25 years earlier than others, largely due to treatable medical conditions.

Statistics show that nearly 60 percent of adults with a mental illness did not receive mental health services, and almost 50 percent of youth aged 8-15 did not receive mental health services in 2014.

Untreated mental illnesses can cause additional emotional, behavioral, or physical health problems. Some people who suffer from mental illness may begin to have suicidal thoughts and even attempt suicide. According to Mental Health America, most people who die by suicide have a mental or emotional disorder. As stated by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services more than 90 percent of children who die by suicide have a mental health condition.

Why are we not doing more to prevent these problems?

People feel uncomfortable and shy away from this issue because they do not fully understand. Staying silent, not recognizing what is going on is not in any way going to help solve the problem.

Communication and involvement brings awareness and with it support and understanding. When we feel comfortable and okay with talking and sharing our stories then we can start to heal, start to help others, and start to improve the issue.

In order to change society's outlook on mental illness we need to start talking. Once we communicate and get involved, sufferers will not feel the need to sweep their problems to the side and hide.

I am tired of hiding.

I try to convince others that I am okay, when in reality, I am not. I want to start communicating, show my support, and help others just like me.

We can be in denial and stay silent all we want, but no matter what we do mental illness will continue to be an issue.

It is time to communicate, get involved and speak out.

Silence should no longer be an option.

Harrison Named Dean of Arts, English and Humanities Division

BY KARALEE LANGFORD
Pioneer Staff Writer

On January 2, Dr. Thomas Harrison became Oklahoma City Community College's Dean of Arts, English Humanities.

Harrison said he was excited to join the rush and scramble that many of the new students experience on the first day of school.

"When you have a student that flies and to know that you have had an impact and that you have helped them learn to fly in whatever ways flying means to them," he said. "That's my passion."

Although Dr. Harrison is new to OCCC he has, in many ways, always been a part of the community. "I am hoping in the years to come that we will be a bright spot that everyone will be proud to be a part of," he said. "I hope to build on the traditions that have been established before me and the wonderful people that have been the dean. I hope to continue that and add some little things along the way that make that fun."

Harrison said he has many expectations for the students at OCCC, but he also has goals for himself.

"My goal for the semester is to provide seamless student experience with high academic rigor," he said.

One way that Dr. Harrison is going to follow up on that promise is by making sure that the students have what they need to succeed.

"Qualified faculty in every room who are focused and allowing students to express their energy and creativity in whatever discipline they are in. We want to see students succeed," he said. "There is always room in the family for more. I want more students because the more students we have the more services we can offer and the more diverse we are. The experience of the students is more enriched rather when the campus is in a full mode of students, everybody is happy."

Although Dr. Harrison is new to the school, he said he would be very visible. "I am limited in my knowledge of what past deans have done," he said. "I am very hands on. I am at concerts and exhibitions, dropping in class-



rooms, that type of thing. I am always one who is curious about what our students are thinking and what they need."

With an extensive academic background in business, media, and teaching, Harrison has learned to value the English language. "I was born in Little Rock Arkansas so I am a southerner," he said. "I went to private speech class for five years to get rid of my accent so I could be in broadcasting."

Harrison said he takes the English language

very seriously. "My biggest pet peeve is people who butcher the English language without knowing it. I guess that's just the journalist in me."

Harrison also offered some advice new students who are starting this semester: learn absolutely everything that you can.

"Be as creative as you can," he said. "Listen more than you talk, and learn business etiquette and manners as quickly as possible. Common courtesy opens many doors."

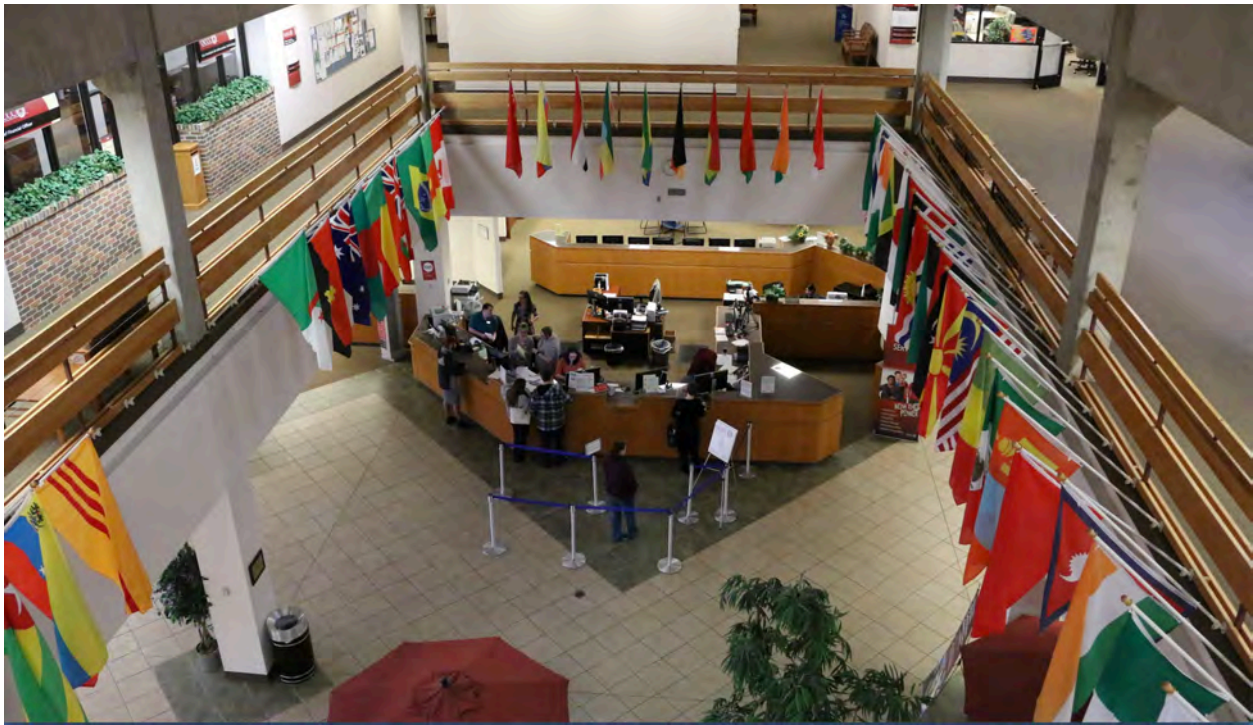
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Students Return to OCCC for Spring Semester



The students are back at OCCC. Sophomore Stephanie Anthony (above) prepares for her spring semester enrolling in her final classes. Left and right: Student advisors assist incoming students enroll for the spring semester while student workers, and advisors are helping prepare incoming students with brand new identification cards at student registration.
Photos by Cici Simon/Pioneer

Fall OCCC Honor Rolls Announced



Rajshree Singh Acharya
Stephanie Acord
Jennifer Acosta-Lopez
Rahul Adhikari
Jeff Akers
Yazan Albakheet
Deidra Alford
Cole Allar
Kenneth Allen
Jessica Allen
Haley Allen
Natosha Anderson
Nicholas Anderson
Alexandria Anderson
Rebekah Anderson
Esteban Andrade
Estreya Angeles
Bailey Antrim
Zabrina Antry
Allison Arledge
Lilliandelrisa Arnold
Casandra Arthur
Fatma Asadi
Amir Asadpour
Sarah Asante
Nathaniel Ashley
Zoe Ashworth
Katie Avino
Bernard Ayikpa
Isabella Babb
Youngmoo Baek
Jesus Bahena
Bradley Bailey
Emily Baker
Alexis Baker
Camron Baker
Jordan Banfield

Timothy Barajas
Forrest Barbour
Ivan Barnes
Joshua Barnes
Dustin Barrett
Emily Barry
Sarah Baskerville
Dhiraj Basnet
Oghene Ovie Bassey
Logan Bassham
Kaylie Batacao
Natasha Bates
Jessica Bedard
Brooks Bell
Kathryn Bell
Craig Bell
Nathan Bennett
Roderick Berko
Ethan Berry
Christopher Bethke
Billie Bishop
Kelci Blackburn
Collin Bohn
Maya Bohora
John Boulanger
Saman Bounthavy
Casi Bowles
Katelyn Bowser
Melissa Boyer-Zermeno
Ryli Bradford
Delaney Brand
Colten Brock
Kaylee Browder
Brenden Brown
Braydon Brown
Jimmey Brown Ebanks
Robert Broyles

Lauryn Bryant
John Bryant
Rupak Budhathoki
John Bui
Brian Burns
Aubrey Cahill
Lina Marcela Callaghan
Tajh Calloway
Callie Camp
Rheis Campbell
Olivia Campbell
Denique Canady
Macey Cargill
Taylor Carney
Christopher Carpenter
Janet Casas
Catherine Cash
Alexander Casillo
Karina Castaneda
Sarah Castillo
Cynthia Castillo
Alex Castro
David Cervantes
Patrick Chagnon
Cole Chambliss
Kevin Chancellor
Rhett Chanley
Brittney Chatham
Rakesh Chaudhary
Kriti Chhetri
Tessa Christian
Khanh Chu
Matthew Churchwell
Cing Cing
Montana Clark
Kealey Clark
McKenzie Clawson

Samantha Cleveland
Mickey Cochran
Dantron Colbert
Ashley Cole
Ashley Collis
Kayla Colter
Yvette Colunga
Bryan Combs
Stephenie Conner
Shannon Cook
David Corley
Sergio Cortes
Christine Crain
Katie Crane
Thomas Crawford
Tyra Crayton
April Critser
Carlie Crook
Christopher Croslin
Bradley Cross
Jingzhuo Cui
Maja Cukovic
Bryce Cunningham
Keri Cupp
Amanda Dahack
Alice Danesh
Keli Davenport
Kara Davis
Tromona Davis
Emilio Davison
Leigha Day
Karina De Lara Ruiz
Catherine De Warren
Brittany DeFrancesco
Jesse Dean
Joni Dean
Elaine Dean
Heather Dehaven
Blake Delaney
Mauricio Deloera
Fatoumata Dembele
Jacob Devecchio
Rupak Devkota
Brianna Deweese
Caleb Deyo
Yasmin Diaz
Christopher Dietrich
Victoria Dixon
Destinee Dodd
Candice Dolan
Tania Dominguez
Sarah Dooley
Camlin Dunn
Michael Dunning
Hoang Duong
Nam Duong
Tomika Dykes
Lillian Eades
James Easley
Extonia Eddington
Darrell Edmondson
Constance Ejong

New OCCC Honor Rolls Announced

Andra Ekhoﬀ
Heather Enchassi
Cody Engdahl
Ludwin Escobar
Lisa Escobedo
Sabra Estill
Jordan Evans
Hal Ezzell
Kaylee Fairless
Mindy Falsafi
Jonah Farrell
Jordan Fellwock
Stephen Ferguson
Matthew Fichtemaier
Briana Fitzgerald
Karley Flatt
Benjamin Fleischer
Selena Flores
Isamar Flores
Dina Flores
Skylar Flowers
Shirley Fonte
William Foster
Shelby Franklin
Joseph Frederick
Erin Galbraith
Jeremiah Gallagher
Suzeth Gallegos Parrilla
Jesse Gamboa
Iliana Garcia
Jose Garcia
Jesus Garcia Rojas
Stefanie Garland
Austin Garner
Nicole Gates
Zane Geyser
Kristen Gibbs
Michael Gibbs
Jaymie Gill
Mary Gillespie
Sierra Gilmore
David Gilroy
Melanie Gladden
Haylee Glass
Kevin Glover
Derrick Goldston
Francisco Gomez
Vanessa Gonzales
Ismar Gonzalez
Silvia Gonzalez Sosa
Tashina Goodbear
Madyson Gordon
Misti Gould
Megan Graver
Joshua Gray
Dylan Green
Sierra Green
Tylor Greenroyd
Julie Gregg Beeton
Lydia Gregory
Wyatt Gregory
Lainee Grider
Gerardo Guerrero

Bibek Gupta
Patricia Gutierrez
Crystal Haith
Trenton Hale
Tanisha Hall
Jasmine Hall
Jillian Hammer
Tyler Hammons
Alycia Hamon
Stanton Hand
Danny Hang
Richard Hansen
Colton Hare
Jessica Harper
Marydith Harris
Kaila Harris
Trey Harris-Matienzo
Deion Harrison
Diego Hartico
Jacob Hartley
Kendra Haslam
Sarah Hawkins
Zachary Hawkins
Cheyenne Hayes
April Haynie
Christopher Heath
Lyndze Heidelberg
Emily Hendrix
Addison Hennigan
Gisselle Henriquez
Angela Hensley
Jeryt Henson
Ciara Henson
Oscar Hernandez
David Hernandez
Sarai Hernandez
Leonardo Herrera
Christopher Herrera Rivera
Elizabeth Hester
Kenneth Hilburn
Christopher Hill
Charlene Hines
Harrison Hipp
Matthew Hogle
Callie Hokett
Sammy Holland
Jerri Hood
Carson Hopkins
Rebecca Houck
Devin House
Bailey Howard
Ty Howell
Madison Howell
Zachary Huddleston
Allison Hughes
Matthew Hutton
Thomas Huycke
Olivia Ibiam
Nichollette Inocente
Derae Irvin
Jessica Isbell
Carly Ishcomer
Allison Jackson

Michael Jarriel
Analeza Jasper
Jordan Johnson
Sheridan Johnson
Ashley Johnson
Mikaela Johnson
Hannah Joiner
Michael Jolley
Heather Jones
Jennifer Jones
Nischal K C
John Njatche Kamgang
Maureen Kangethe
Jane Karanja
Caleb Karr
Teresa Katra
Kristina Kchao
Kelcey Keel
Martin Kegley
Nisha Khadka Syangtang
Cami Khouri
Jacob Kim
Darcie Kimbro
Kayli Koger
Kelly Kopepassah
Roy Kubwimana
Mary Kulbiski
Anna Kump
Alexus Lambert
Karalee Langford
Tammy Langley
Lyle Lansche
Jacob Laplante
Ashley Lara
Christian Lara
Ryan Laronde
Hannah Larson
Rachael Lawson
Aaron Lawson
Cong Le
Linh Le
Dang Le
Vy Le
Matthew Leckrone
Johnathan Leeper
Jael Lemus
Amanda Lewis
Kylee Lewis
Alex Lewis
Vanessa Linares
Tristan Lindley
Cristofer Lluch
Sergio Loera
Kaci Logan
Ashley Logan
Brandon Lohman
Lizabeth Londono
Heather Long
Crystal Longhorn
Brianda Lopez
Mariana Lopez
Dominic Lopresti
Brittany Lord

Meiana Lovings
Kevin Low
Jenna Lowrance
Jose Lozano
Randi Luers
Subodh Luitel
Selena Luna
Emily Luschen
Tammy-Nhu Luu
Chung Luu
Erica Lynn
Schelby Madison
Megan Magness
Rajip Maharjan
Tori Mallow
Maryam Manaf
Jarod Manning
Brenden Maples
Maria Yessica Marroquin Espinosa
Travis Martin
Michael Martin
Morgan Martinek
Chelsea Martinez
Daniela Martinez
Mayra Martinez
Yesenia Martinez
Alondra Martinez
Ronnie Martinez
Antonio Martinez
Monica Martinez
Maegen Martinez
Andrea Martinez
Edgar Martinez
Alyssa Martz
Mahamuda Mary
Laronn Marzett
Susana Mascote
Thomas Massenat
Garrett Massey
Bailey Matthews
Allyson Mauldin
Rebekah Maurer
Brianna Maxwell
Abdou Mballey
Victorine Mbongeh
Donald McDowell
Easton McFerrin
Aaron McLean
Marcus McMinn
Angel McNeal
Bailee McVea
Lydia Means
Miles Medaris
Arlette Melendez
Caitlin Melgar
Joshua Melvin
Vanessa Merchant
Amanda Mersman
Ivan Meza
Lindsay Milkowski
Juan Miller
Amber Miller
Allison Miller

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Students Listed on OCCC Honor Rolls

D'Ante Miller	Erica Orefice	Hannah Robinson	Kaelyn Sommer
Grant Miller	Saidy Orellana	Paul Roden	Giovanni Soto
Pamela Millus	Kylea Osborne	Ingrid Rodriguez	Omar Soto
Amanda Milstead	Gbolahan Osubu	Alexandra Rodriguez	Shelby Soto
Sarah Minton	Tyler Painter	Josel Rodriguez	Josue Soto
Dominic Mireles	Nicole Palmer	Rachel Rogers	Carey Southerland
Savannah Mischel	Rahulkumar Panchal	Miryam Roper	Kasin Sparks
Chandler Mitchell	Prashant Panth	John Rosales	Tyler Spears
Jacqueline Molina	Raju Parajuli	Jonathan Rose	Caitlyn Springer
William Steve Mongou Lele	Gabriel Paramo	Brittany Ross	Ida Stallvik
Jose Montenegro	Gabriela Paredes	Hope Rucker	Sarah Starwalt
Jazmyn Montgomery	Aayushi Parekh	Brian Rulon	Chris States
Cynthia Montoya-Moreno	Brittney Parker	Kurstie Russell	Melissa Stephens
Gabriel Moore	Betsaida Parra	Dustin Ryker	Lorie Stephens
Heon Morgan	Chandria Parris	Alexandria Sackett	Shelby Stephenson
Holly Morris	David Partlow	Farimah Saidi	Shela Steward
Montanna Morris	Mallori Payne	Katie Samsel	Wendy Stone
Katrina Moss	Kerie Pearson	Keely Sanchez	Ashley Stover
Paul Mulende Bwen	Miguel Perez	Yara Sanchez	Madison Stow
Sean Mulqueen	Tessa Perkins	Megan Sanders	Pratik Subedi
Chandler Munro	Sadie Perry	Maricruz Sandoval	Jonathan Sullivan
Brooklyn Murdaugh	Michael Pham	Colton Sandvik	Myles Swaner
Holly Murphy	Adam Phelps	Awisian Sang	Courtney Swann
Trace Myers	Lanney Phillips	Valeta Sango	Ethan Sweezy
Phyllis Narcomey	Bryce Phillips	Liliana Santillan	Alyssa Swift
Nicholas Nation	Alexx Phomphiphack	Alyssa Sappington	Kristi Szczerbacki
Trevor Nault	Carli Pinkerton	Susana Saravia	Susmita Tamang
Jessica Nelson	Reagan Pittman	Seth Satchell	Jorge Tapia
Zoie Nelson	Taylor Pitts	Robert Scherer	Jade Tate
Ki'ara Nelson	Rosa Ponce	Rylee Schones	Daniel Taylor
Christopher Nemecek	Cameron Poole	Rebecca Schoolcraft	Madeline Taylor
Leonce Ngale	Karissa Porter	Leslie Scott	Sonia Teolo
Cynthia Nguyen	Rachel Potter	Lakayla Scott	Kaytlin Tharp
Arnold Nguyen	Brody Potts	Dylan Seeley	Matthew Thomas
Oanh Nguyen	Trenton Pratt	Sarai Segarra	Julian Thomas
Chris Nguyen	Rebekah Preston	Guadalupe Serna	Alexandra Thompson
Christine Nguyen	Kaily Prince	Ali Shahriari	Gay Tipton Davis
Nghi Nguyen	Emily Purdom	Cassady Shaw	Jose Tirado
Dung Nguyen	Fabian Quezada	Rayna Shaw	Terri Toles
Thy Hoang Mai Nguyen	Jelousey Quinn	Kimberly Shealey	LaDasia Tonge
Manh Nguyen	Fnu Quinta Nahlesu	Lynlee Shelby	Haley Toone
Kevin Nguyen	Forrest Raines	Octavia Shelby	Daniela Torres
Van Hoang Khanh Nguyen	Isaac Ramirez	Randall Shell	Grace Touchstone
Shaun Nguyen	Alma Ramos	Stephanie Shelman	Quyen Tran
Nhu Do Khanh Nguyen	Devin Ramsey	Kitty Shiflett	Phung Trinh
Thi Nguyen	Carolyn Range	Bryon Shinn	Tayler Troglin
Matthew Nguyen	Frank Rawson	Matthew Shipman	Kristen Trotter
Mitch Nguyen	Elijah Rawson	Jade Short	Nathan Trotter
Quang Nguyen	Angelisa Rawson	Md Sikder	Britni Turner
Amrita Niroula	Tyler Reavis	Cristo Silva	Manatsu Ueno
Bethany Njoku	Brooke Reeves	Savannah Silva	Era Ulaj
Faith Norried	Amrit Regmi	Ashley Siska	Babar Usman
Justin Nsiakam Leuga	David Revitzer	Xueying Situ	Tyler Van Buitenen
Adella Nunez	Samantha Riccio	Elana Slater	Amy Van Tuyle
Mia Nysveen	Ann Margaret Rice	Allison Sloan	Alexander Varner
Jesse Obryant	Tiffany Richardson	Courtney Smith	Amy Vidana
Preston Ogle	Julie Richardson	Asia Smith	Blake Villa
Angela Okeefe	Amanda Riley	Marcus Smith	Shala Villemarette
Joanne Olilo	Crystal Rincon	Austin Smith	Evelyne Violeta
Helen Oliva	Luis Riojas	Stacia Smith	Myriah Violette
Jesus Oliva	Jamie Ritz	Brantle Smith	Huong Vo
Lyle Ompad	Taylor Robertson	Chelsey Smith	Bao Hoang Gia Vo
Jacqueline Ordonez	Kylie Robertson	Jose Solis	Pham Thao Vy Vo

2018 Honor Roll

Ngan Vo
Kassie Vu
Jeffery Wade
Elizabeth Walker
Elizabeth Walker
Krystalynn Wallin
Shuai Wang
Grace Warren
Rylee Watford
Jessica Watkins
Carly Webb
Jerett Webb
Garret Webster
William Wetzell
Liam Whitbeck
Tammy White
Nicholas White
Barbara White
Hunter Whitson
Julianna Wiens
Bryce Williams
Jillian Williams
Allison Williams
Stevie Williams
Gavin Williams
Cody Wilson
Jennifer Wilson
Jaclyn Wilson
Jordan Wilson
Allison Wilson-Burns
Christopher Winlock
Kyla Withey
Daniel Wojciechowski
Jackelyn Wolff
Amanda Wood
Jeffrey Wood
Hannah Woods
Mary Wright
Aimee Wright
Emily Wright
Christian Wright
Rani Yevugah
Kayleah York
Amber Young
Jie Zheng
Aroosha Zia
Sam Zimmer
Josiah Zupan

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New students finalize their enrollment in anticipation of the upcoming semester at Oklahoma City Community College. OCCC's 2018 spring semester began Tuesday. **Photos by Cici Simon**

Police Investigating Death of OCCC Student

BY SAVANNAH MELHER
Pioneer Editor

An OCCC film student was killed recently and police have a suspect in custody. Police say their investigation continues.

Isaac Herrera, was known for being the oddball around the hallways, but his friends say he was different in an inspiring way.

Shay "Rody" Orcett, a student employee at OCCC, said Herrera was the definition of someone who was proud to be in their own skin. "He knew who he was and he wasn't afraid to flaunt it in front of people which I feel is a brave thing to do," Orcett said.

On his social media accounts Herrera stood against racism, supported LGBT rights, and discussed other issues he felt were important. "He was a good person who didn't have anything bad to say about anybody," Orcett said. "He looked for the good in everybody."

She said Herrera really cared about how others felt, and would listen to anyone's problems because they were important to that person. Orcett said she wished she had the chance to get to know Herrera better while he was alive, but she'll always remember

his kind smile and his willingness to talk to her as she worked.

Rahul Chakraborty, a digital cinema production major at OCCC, said Herrera was always happy even when he thought there was no reason to be.

"I remember he hugged me after my dad's death," Chakraborty said. "We had only known each other for a few months, but he would hug me and show his sympathy after my dad passed away."

He said this act of generosity is what made them closer friends after taking a course with him.

Chakraborty said Isaac wasn't into big groups of friends so he kept his distance from people, but never forgot to smile and be kind to everyone he saw. "He didn't have many friends but he would talk to everyone," he said.

Chakraborty said he was into theatre but wasn't an actor. He said Isaac cared about his art more than acting and was always supportive. "He was that one person who would never ignore me and he was always down to talk."

"He was one of those people who shouldn't have faced what he faced, he didn't deserve it."

CLASSIFIEDS

LAST ISSUE’S SOLUTION

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

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Arguments

6. Resorts

10. Small island

14. Log home

15. Team

16. Found on a finger

17. A drama set to music

18. Not there

19. Russian parliament

20. Water-soluble pigment

22. Module

23. Humdinger

24. Abandon

26. Epic

30. Little bit

31. Eastern Standard Time

32. Beasts of burden

33. Angers

35. Silk-cotton tree

39. Soft light woolen fabric

41. Trap

43. Eagle’s nest

44. Bygone era

46. Family group

47. Jump

49. Annoy

50. L L L L

51. Fine wheat meal

54. Rectum
56. Iridescent gem

57. The climax of a drama

63. Nil

64. Footnote note

65. Axial

66. Gait faster than a walk

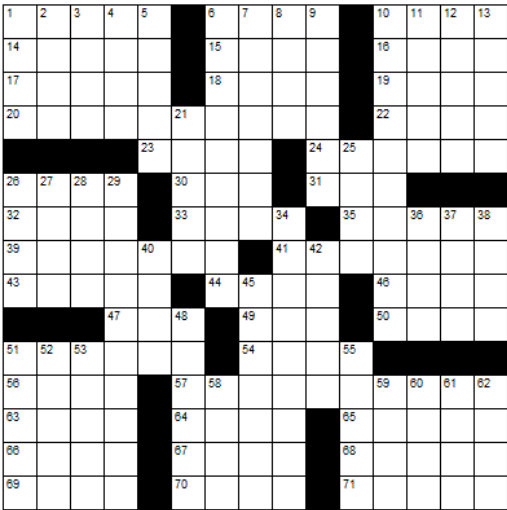
67. A flat mass of ice

68. Young lady

69. Rational

70. Cravings

71. Clean between teeth



DOWN

1. Flat-bottomed boat

2. Not Mama

3. Assist in crime

4. Rubber wheel

5. Entangle

6. Academic

7. Overture

8. Relating to aircraft

9. Veer

10. Electromotive force

11. Steam bath

12. Circumscribe
13. Gladden

21. Good-looker

25. Questions

26. Couch

27. Spindle

28. Equipment

29. Destroy

34. Sings (to attract)

36. Gloomy atmosphere

37. By mouth

38. Knows

40. A noble gas
42. Connection

45. Applause

48. Assuage

51. Typefaces

52. 3-banded armadillo

53. A radioactive gaseous element

55. Stave
58. Competent

59. Angle of a leafstalk

60. Storage cylinder

61. Ailments

62. Views

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