

PIONEER ONLINE

For news, features and instant updates, visit www.occc.edu/pioneer.



EDITORIAL

IS A TOBACCO BAN OK?

June 21, the OCCC Board of Regents voted to make the college tobacco-free. Read what two Pioneer reporters think about the Board's decision and whether the ban is the right thing to do.

OPINION, p. 2

CHARITY

CDCLS TO COLLECT DONATIONS

The Child Development Center and Lab School will host Christmas in July July 17 to collect donations for families with sick or injured children. Learn more about the event inside.

NEWS, p. 12

RECREATION

LIFEGUARD GAMES TO END AFTER 25 YEARS

The Southwest Regional Lifeguard Games will be July 9 for the final time. Read more about the competition inside.

SPORTS, p. 8

PIONEER

JULY 2, 2010

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Financial aid increases with fall tuition hike

Pell grant, Oklahoma's Promise recipients will get more money to cover the cost, college says

JUSTIN COMBS
Editor
editor@occc.edu

Students will see an increase in their fall 2010 tuition bills, but for those receiving Pell grants or in the Oklahoma's Promise program, there will be extra money to cover it, said Harold Case, Student Financial Support Services dean.

The college will award up to \$200 more in Pell grant money per student, Case said. He said the money will help offset the tuition hike.

Students involved in the Oklahoma's Promise program also will receive more money, Case said.

"The Oklahoma Promise program is going to cover [the increase], plus the school has a scholarship we attach to that Oklahoma Promise covering the basic mandatory fees," he said.

Some students are likely to feel a pinch from the 5.5-percent tuition increase the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved June 24.

Students who are not receiving Pell grants or who have

See **AID** page 9

Getting prepared



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Rebecca Whitson, elementary education major, prepares New Student Orientation packets June 29. Orientation dates and times are listed in Student Life. To sign up for New Student Orientation, call Student Life at 405-682-7523.

TECHNOLOGY HELPS LIBRARY BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE, DIRECTOR SAYS

New digital services added to campus library

JEREMY CLOUD
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

The Keith Leftwich Memorial Library is adding new digital services to help students use the library's facilities more easily and effectively, library staff say.

Amanda Lemon, electronic services librarian,

said she has implemented several new programs, including adding chat and text to "Ask a Librarian," an online program where students can get help with library-related questions.

Students can call or e-mail a librarian while the library is open, with the chat or text functions available 3 to 5 p.m. Mon-

days through Fridays, according to the website.

"Basically, we're trying to make the library more helpful and accessible for students that take online courses," she said.

Lemon said the staff also is trying to get the library website integrated with ANGEL, a web-based course management and collaboration

portal.

Students have access to search the library catalog directly from ANGEL, she said, but the library is expanding on that service.

Lemon said she also added several new tutorial videos.

The tutorials include a basic introduction to the library, tips for using

EbscoHost to find articles and advice on how to determine if a website is a credible source, Library Services Director Barbara King said.

Tutorials average fewer than five minutes, King said.

The new additions to the "Ask a Librarian" help

See **LIBRARY** page 9

OPINION

POINT/COUNTERPOINT | Smoking-ban on campus: Healthy move or nobody's business?

Better solutions need to be sought

The OCCC Board of Regents voted June 21 in favor of banning smoking on campus. It did so to stop smokers from lighting up next to doorways and to help make OCCC a healthier campus.



MARK SMITH

While on the surface this may seem like a positive move in the direction of a healthier campus, the Board should have made a different choice. The choice it made to ban smoking from OCCC property unfairly punishes smokers rather than seeking out a solution that is fair to both sides.

Rather than banning smoking, there are other solutions the college should consider that will allow campus smokers and nonsmokers to live peacefully.

For example, the college could designate smoking areas that are away from the entrances and sidewalks. This would allow nonsmokers to enter the building

without breathing secondhand smoke.

The college also could allow smokers to smoke but implement a cleanup policy that requires those caught smoking in entranceways or those throwing cigarette butts on the grounds to clean up the campus for one hour a day for a week. This could dissuade smokers from smoking near entrance ways or from throwing cigarette butts on the ground.

This policy would require students who violate the rules to help grounds workers clean the drains and landscape.

There are several approaches the college could try if it wants to be fair. We need to rescind the ban and give smokers another chance to snuff their bad habits.

Smokers should petition the college, pledge to put their butts in the ashtrays and smoke away from the buildings. The college should reconsider allowing smoking to continue. OCCC is a campus for everyone.

Discrimination shouldn't be tolerated regardless of the face the public places on it.

Comment on this article at www.occc.edu/pioneer

Smoke free is a good decision for all

The OCCC Board of Regents voted June 21 in favor of a resolution that will make all college properties tobacco free.

Previously, college policy barred students, staff and visitors from smoking cigarettes within 25 feet of any campus entrance.

Had this policy been regularly enforced, perhaps the 25-foot rule would have been enough.

However, many smokers blissfully ignored posted signs about smoking from a safe distance. Few were disciplined for their actions, and nonsmokers had no choice but to soldier through smoke-filled pathways and doorways just to walk into the college.

Now, the right to smoke, chew or snort tobacco anywhere on campus will be taken away. It is unfortunate those who actually obeyed policies will be punished.

But students should not have to walk through smoke to get to their classes. As a community college, not every student at OCCC is a young adult who might

be more accustomed to a smoke-filled environment.

Every day, people from all walks of life walk through campus doorways.



WHITNEY KNIGHT

The smoke exposure at the entryways and along the walkways may be fleeting, but according to the U.S. Surgeon General, there is no such thing as a safe level of secondhand smoke exposure.

To someone who smokes, walking through a group of smokers probably isn't a big deal. But an asthmatic who suffers an attack due to a whiff of cigarette smoke would probably disagree.

The Regents should be applauded for making a decision that is not only wise, but one that will provide a healthier,

happier environment for everyone who attends, works at or simply visits this campus.

Comment on this article at www.occc.edu/pioneer



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

YOUR VIEW | Company keeps safety in mind

Tipsy Tow service offered during holiday weekend

To the editor:

AAA Oklahoma will offer its Tipsy Tow service in seven cities across Oklahoma for the Fourth of July weekend.

"You don't need to be a member of AAA," said Chuck Mai, AAA Oklahoma spokesman. "Tipsy Tow is a free community service of AAA and is available to anyone who has been drinking at a holiday party or bar and doesn't feel they are able to drive home safely."

AAA will give the caller and one other person a free ride home plus tow their vehicle home at no charge, within a 15-mile radius of point of pickup.

Tipsy Tow starts at 6 p.m. July 2 and runs through July 5 in metropolitan Tulsa, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Lawton, Ardmore, Enid and Shawnee.

To call for Tipsy Tow, dial 1-800-222-4357 and ask for Tipsy Tow.

—AAA NEWS RELEASE

PIONEER

Vol. 38 No. 37

Justin Combs.....**Editor-in-Chief**
Whitney Knight.....**Online Editor**
Ethan Hendricks.....**Senior Writer**
Jennifer Massey.....**Staff Writer**
Bonnie Campo.....**Staff Writer**
Demerye Paulin.....**Staff Writer**
Christian Kosted.....**Staff Writer**

Daniel Parker.....**Staff Writer**
Jeremy Cloud.....**Staff Writer**
Christy Johnson.....**Staff Writer**
Jennifer Pearsall.....**Photographer**
Bishal Malla.....**Advertising Manager**
Ronna Austin.....**Lab Director**
Mark Schneberger.....**Faculty Adviser**

7777 S. May
Oklahoma City, OK 73159

phone:
405-682-1611, ext. 7409

e-mail:
editor@occc.edu

The **PIONEER** is a publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts and Humanities. It is published weekly during the 16-week fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the **PIONEER**, the college or the publisher.

The **PIONEER** welcomes **letters** to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The **PIONEER** will withhold the author's name if the request is made in writing. The **PIONEER** has

the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be fewer than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the **PIONEER** office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, faxed to 405-682-7843, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The **PIONEER** ONLINE also can be accessed at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Color printing this semester is paid for, in part, from a grant from OPUBCO Communications Group.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | Movie contains enough comedy to bust your belly

Some people never grow up

“Grown Ups,” Adam Sandler’s latest addition to his empire of stupid comedies, is projected to be a shoe-in for the 2010 Raspberry Awards for worst picture.

It’s a very bad film, but its only redeeming feature is an important one: it’s hilarious.

Dennis Dugan directed the film, and he specializes in the realm of the stupid, with films such as “Problem Child” and “Happy Gilmore” under his belt.

The plot involves five friends in their 40s reconvening at a lake house for a week following the death of their seventh grade basketball coach.

The group members bring their families in tow, and they find themselves alienated from their modern lives and their

children, so they regress to behaving like 13-year-old jackasses.

Of course, their seventh grade adversaries, an opposing middle school basketball team, conveniently live near the lake, and the losing team is still hungry to be vindicated.

The movie is jam packed full of stars, or at least washed-up Saturday Night Live alumni such as Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock, Rob Schneider, David Spade and Selma Hayak.

The liberal use of cameos adds to the cluttered ensemble piece, so keep your eyes peeled for Steve Buscemi and Randy Quaid. “Grown Ups” is like watching an old Friars Club Roast, where every line is a zinger and everyone gets savagely lampooned.



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA PICTURES

It also harkens back to the slapstick of the “Three Stooges,” and as a general rule, if there is cow dung on the ground, someone, somewhere will fall and face plant into it.

The actors seem to be improvising their dialog, and they constantly crack up at each other’s lines. Every single second there seems to be a joke that’s

not derived from the plot, a joke for the sake of a joke.

“Grown Ups” is not for pretentious film aficionados who are offended when their intelligence is insulted, but if you want to laugh until you’re lobotomized, it’s the best comedy since “The Hangover.”

Rating: B-

—DANNIEL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

DVD REVIEW | The lads across the big pond have us beat

British ‘Office’ better than American

Americans who are familiar with “The Office” may be unaware that it is a direct copy of a British sitcom on BBC.

The hit starring Steve Carell is a direct spinoff of a 14-episode British series from the mind of comic geniuses Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant.

But which is better, the British or American version?

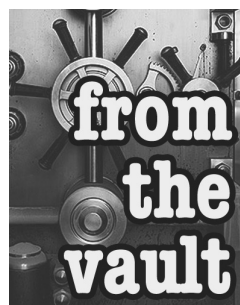
Although the American version is certainly funny, the British version takes its cringe-worthy, uncomfortable and dry wit to a new level.

The British version is available on Netflix with a special edition box set due out later this year.

The British version has better characters that are better developed. The tendency of the American show is to descend into the fantastical while the British version stays away from clichés such as Jim and Pam’s wedding.

The situations on the British version seem more real. They seem like they would actually take place in an average office.

What makes “The Office” in all its forms revolutionary and interesting is that it takes the style of



a documentary, many have called it a “mockumentary.”

The show contains no laugh track in the background and centers on themes of self-importance and social clumsiness.

The humor is very dry but seems new and fresh. Often the viewer laughs and cringes at the same time.

Although the British show only ran two series of six episodes each plus two

Christmas specials, it has been spun off five times. It has been optioned and remade in Chile, Germany, France, Quebec, and in the U.S. In the French version, “Le Bureau” the boss’ name is Gilles Triquet.

The British version — the original — is the best, the funniest, the sitcom that changed what viewers perceive a sitcom to be and sound like.

The British version of “The Office” is so dry, so understated and so cool that you’ll be glad you saw where it all started.

Rating: A+

—CHRISTIAN KOSTED
STAFF WRITER

COUNSELOR'S Corner

Generalized Anxiety Disorder is characterized by feelings of just not doing well. People who experience this disorder can’t really put their finger on what is wrong, but they know that something is. Sometimes they attribute the feeling to something they are doing at the time, such as taking a stressful class or preparing for an exam.

If the discomfort is tied to a specific event, however, the anxiety should improve once that event has passed.

It’s not surprising that more individuals are struggling with feelings of anxiety or even depression. It seems that our world is going to explode with all the natural disasters and bad things that occur each day.

I don’t know if there is more evil and uncertainty in the world today than there ever has been, but we certainly have the technology today to bring those things up close and personal all the time.

A century ago, we had to wait to read about a tragic event in a newspaper. Reading about it may have shocked us or made us feel sad, but we were removed from the event.

Later, we could hear about things on the radio (and even later, on T.V.), but the images and messages were carefully sanitized so as to be more appropriate for general consumption.

By the late twentieth century, we received an overload of information from T.V., on our computers, and on our cell phones.

Now, we can receive instant, up-to-the-minute, unfiltered accounts directly to our cell phones.

As the filters have come down, anxiety, for some, has gone up.

Anxiety is a real phenomenon, and it can affect how you feel and how healthy you are. We in Student Support Services want you to know that if you feel anxious, or if you have other issues that are negatively affecting your life, you can talk to us about what is going on.

We house licensed counselors who can work with you to help you find solutions and feel better.

At times, anxiety disorders can limit people’s abilities to function well both in the classroom and in everyday life.

If you have been diagnosed with anxiety that interferes with your personal or academic progress, speak with the assistant director of Disability Services who is also housed in Student Support Services.

As always, our services are free and confidential, so come by and see us.

—MARY TURNER

LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | Toys return to the big screen with a bang

‘Toy Story 3’ outdoes its predecessors

Woody (Tom Hanks), Buzz (Tim Allen) and the rest of the “Toy Story” crew returned to the big screen after 10 years, released June 30 in “Toy Story 3.”

The animation is cutting edge and is the best of the latest 3-D genre. Even without the IMAX 3-D experience, the film is in-depth and real.

Full of humor and action, the film is a roller coaster ride from beginning to end.

The comedy is pure, laugh-out-loud funny and can be enjoyed by adults and kids.

In “Toy Story 3,” running 103 minutes, Andy (John Morris) is

going off to college and must decide whether to donate his beloved childhood toys or store them away in the attic.

When the toys are accidentally mistaken for garbage, they hide themselves in a box and are taken to Sunny-side Daycare.

There, they meet Lostso Huggin’ Bear (Ned Beatty) and a slew of new toys that seem to welcome them with open arms.

They are excited about their new lives until they realize that they are being held captive in a crazy class of toddlers.

As they try to escape,

the comedy becomes reminiscent of a prison break film.

The film is family fun with so many twists and turns viewers never know what will happen next.

Making a grand entrance in the film is Ken (Michael Keaton). He tries to romance Barbie with a classic ’80s-style, surfer dude attitude.

“Toy Story” is suspenseful and engages viewers as they connect with the characters to feel empathy and joy.

Of course there’s plenty of humor, such as when a flirtatious Spanish speaking Buzz Lightyear (voiced by-



COURTESY OF DISNEY PIXAR INC.

Javier Fernandez Pena) breaks up the action with his Latin seduction of Jesse (Joan Cusack).

With such a talented

cast, jokes and even subtle comedic nuances are felt by everyone.

“Toy Story 3” has surpassed its prequels by far and fits right at

home in the Disney/Pixar “Toy Story” trilogy.

Rating: A

—JENNIFER MASSEY
STAFF WRITER

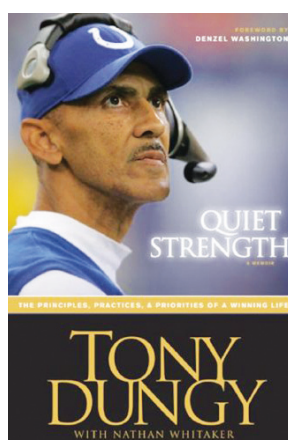
BOOK REVIEW | Tony Dungy tells readers to ‘work with what you’ve got’

Former NFL coach’s success story an uplifting read

“Success is uncommon and not to be enjoyed by the common man,” coach Cal Stoll told the young college bound Tony Dungy and the rest of his University of Minnesota football teammates when faced with the reality of working in the game of life.

“I’m looking for uncommon people because we want to be successful, not average,” Stoll said.

Those few words of advice caused Dungy to start paving his own way to fulfilling his purpose in life and gives readers a detailed account of what it took



COURTESY OF TYNDALE
HOUSE PUBLISHERS

for him to get there in his 2006 memoir, “Quiet Strength.”

The New York Times bestseller chronicles a man eager to share his story from working as a staff coach on a football

team to becoming the first black head coach to win a Super Bowl.

Dungy’s system in football of being patient and prepared before reacting to the moment combined with his faith-based priorities is carefully outlined in the book.

This is a good book with a lot of substance, and if only one sentence has touched you, the book has done its job.

This memoir, which can be bought for \$9.99 at Barnes and Noble online, doesn’t represent a prototypical head coach.

This book includes

recollections of Dungy at an early age, working his way to the top of the corporate sports ladder, starting a family, and using his faith to guide him through the loss of his young son.

This is not a sports book, but a book that promotes family and becoming better individually every day.

Readers will enjoy this book because it’s so uplifting.

The book will motivate them to take care of today, and focus on the next day.

The stories and examples presented in this book give the reader more of a basis

to reflect on what great things are to come in the future.

The writing in this book is very patient, very easy to read, and understand. Readers won’t get lost in the book, for the words will “hold your hand” and bring them through each page.

The foreword by Denzel and Pauletta Washington only makes the book an even better read as he and his wife express their love and respect for a man whose dignity goes beyond the football field.

“Quiet Strength” sustains a wonderful flow

and reaffirms that all things are possible and there is a way to tackle every difficult situation.

From start to finish, readers will be reminded that being quiet can truly be the loudest voice of all.

The concept of this book is very simple, and it complements the everyday reader.

“Quiet Strength” sets out to prove in order to become the best at what a person does, he has to live with what he is born with, work hard and be different.

Rating: A+

—DEMERYE PAULIN
STAFF WRITER

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONNECTION DESIGNED FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, BUT OPEN TO ALL, COORDINATOR SAYS

Website helps foreign students connect

THOMAS HERNDON
News Writing Student

OCCC international students now have a college-sponsored social networking site to sign up for, said Sunny Garner, International Services coordinator.

International Student Connection is a website which can help students overcome the shock of coming to a new country, Garner said.

"If you're coming from Asia or Africa and you don't know anything about the school, then (the site is) a way for you to meet individuals and make connections before you arrive," she said.

All students new to the country go through culture shock, Garner said.

This network, which is similar to social networking sites Facebook or MySpace, is a way for students to meet others who are going through the same process and offers features that



PHOTO PROVIDED

OCCC's International website allows foreign students to interact with one another for free.

cater to international students' needs, she said.

Although the site is designed for international students, everyone is welcome to join for free, she said.

The network offers videos, photos, blogs and an opportunity for family members to stay

connected to their students, Garner said.

"I wanted a place where students from OCCC could come on and have their own domain," Garner said.

The network also incorporates sections that help the students feel connected with

their home countries, she said.

Online Marketing Coordinator John Richardson said students can even get late-breaking information about what is happening in their home country.

"We have a news feed from Reuters that's very specific to international news," Richardson said.

The network also gives OCCC an opportunity to place international student-specific information onto a secure location, Garner said.

"On the social network I am able to let students know this scholarship is coming up next week and here's the application," Garner said.

The network has 157 students, she said, but has an unlimited amount of space to fill.

Domestic students are en-

couraged to join as well if they are interested in international affairs and gaining an inside look into another culture, Garner said.

While pages are open to the public, a user must be admitted by an administrator in order to participate in the site's activities, Richardson said.

International students said they like the site better than having a Facebook page.

Students voiced their opinion on a recent poll located on the home page of the site and overwhelmingly chose the option to keep the OCCC network, Richardson said.

Members will not be charged because the college will pay for the service.

"There will be a nominal cost associated with it," said Richardson.

International Student Connection
occcinternational.ning.com

Retention Alert System referrals increasing, specialist says

More students receiving help thanks to program

CHELICIA HUNT
News Writing Student

The college's Retention Alert computer system — an online program that helps teachers target students who are in danger of failing out of college — has been successful, said Mary Turner, Learning Support specialist.

Since its installation in fall 2009, Turner said, the college has seen a 300-percent increase in the number of students being contacted because they seemed academically or emotionally at risk.

There are between more than 1,000 referrals during

a two-semester period, she said. The number of referrals has remained consistent but the increase in student contact has changed, she said.

"We want students to know that being referred doesn't mean they're in trouble," Turner said. "We just want to help however we can."

The first step in the referral process is for faculty to refer students who are struggling from emotional, academic or attendance problems to Turner through the MineOnline faculty page.

From there, Turner attempts to contact the students through e-mail, phone and finally by letter in hopes of aiding them, she said.

Turner said this aid can come in many forms, ranging from counseling to helping a

student drop a course.

Students don't have to wait for a referral, she said, they can visit Student Support Services whenever they want.

Although the program doesn't require an annual budget, the initial cost of the software was about \$50,000. Turner said that included installation, test runs and faculty training.

She said the investment has paid off and has offered both challenges and opportunities. "My greatest challenge was adjusting to the fact that students have smart phones now and respond much more quickly to my e-mails," she said.

Turner said she is the only person who works with the referred students and some-

times works 12-hour days.

With the enormous increase in referrals this past year, she said, she would like to see Student Support Services grow by hiring more people to help with the referrals.

Although Turner said she tries her best to help all students who are referred, some simply don't reply.

She said she also would like to see more faculty and staff use the system so that more students can be helped.

Liz Largent, Student Development dean, said she uses the alert system, and believes it has had very positive outcomes.

"I usually submit a referral because of attendance issues or a student not turning in their assignments," Largent said.

Since she has begun using this system, she said, she has never seen a negative result from referring any of her students.

Despite the system's success, students are still unaware of it.

Charissa Parker, nursing and psychology major, said she hadn't heard of the retention system but would respond if she were referred by a faculty member to Turner.

"I would probably respond to the e-mail more than anything because it's not as forward as a phone call," Parker said.

Tiffany Perry, nursing major, also hadn't heard of the new software but agreed that it is a good system and that she too would respond to being referred.

BEST SELECTION FROM JURIED COMPETITION AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

OCCC Art Gallery Exhibits Oklahoma Watermedia Association art showcase

CHRISTIAN KOSTED
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

The OCCC Art Gallery, located in the Visual and Performing Arts Center, is hosting the 2010 Mixed Media Collage Juried Exhibition. The Exhibition showcases local artists who use mixed media.

Admission is free and runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday through July 22.

Mixed media is any type of art, sculpture, or canvas that uses two or more types of materials such as wood and string, Oklahoma Watermedia Association Vice President Janice Mathews-Gordon said.

"Because the exhibition is juried, the art that is on display is the best of what was entered," Mathews-Gordon said.

The artwork was judged June 9.

The exhibition features 50 pieces of art by 31 local artists.

The media used to compose the art vary from wood and metal to thread and paper maché.

"It's really great to have so many interesting pieces of art here at OCCC," said curator Michael McMillian.

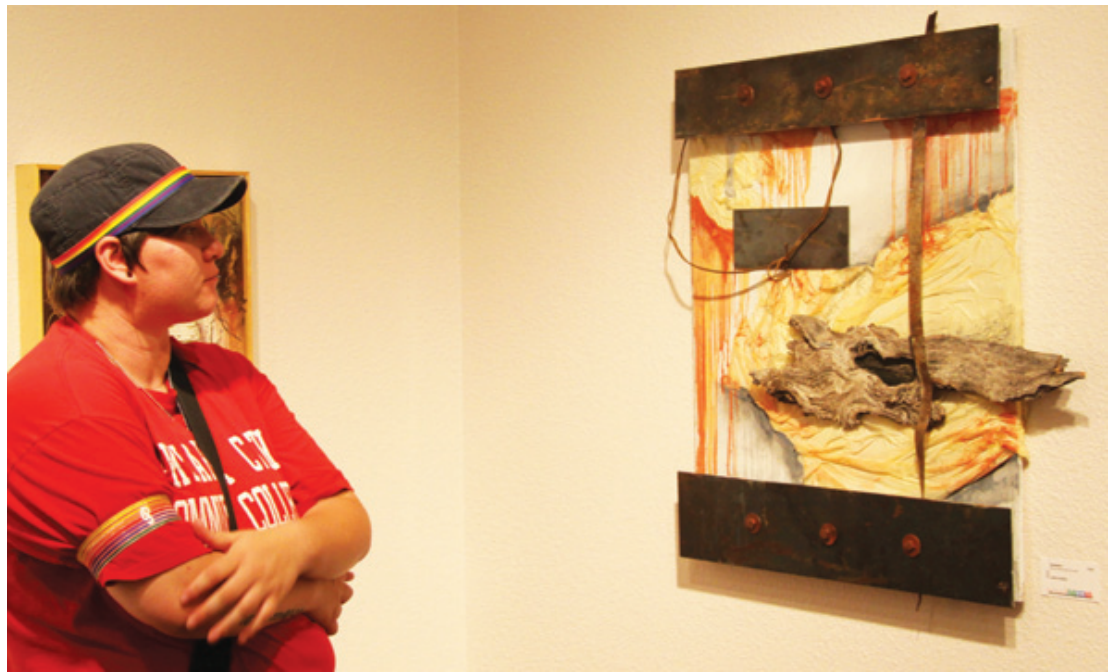
Some of the different types of art include baskets, sculptures, and canvases. The baskets are made of paper and thread and also wire and fabric.

Other mixed media pieces are composed of metal, wood, canvas, newsprint, and string, Mathews-Gordon said.

"Haberdasher" by Corazon S. Watkins from Norman won the Best of Show award, which was given at the exhibition opening June 18.

But all the pieces in the show offer something unique, Mathews-Gordon said.

For more information or to purchase a piece of art, e-mail Janice Mathews-Gordon at art@mathews-gordon.com or call 405-848-8883.



CHRISTIAN KOSTED/PIONEER

Camryon DeCarlo, film and video editing major, admires "Elements I" by Laine Godsey. "Elements I" was created from acrylic, metal, oil, paper and wood.

BEST OF SHOW

"Haberdasher" by Corazon S. Watkins

HONORABLE MENTION

"Pulled in Every Direction" by Rosie Leonard

"Island of Dreams" by Bert Seaborn

"Burning Oaks #203-10" by Michi Susan

EQUAL MERIT AWARDS

"Red Tower" by Stephanie Grubbs

"Spending Money Like Water" by Michelle Junkin

"Exit" by Regina Murphy

"Chatahoula Leopard Dog" by Diana Smith

Workshop offers students cover letter writing guidance

CHRISTIAN KOSTED
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

Student Employment and Career Services held a workshop June 28 on campus focusing on the importance of cover letters.

The free workshop was attended by five students who wanted to hone their cover letter writing skills.

A cover letter accompanies a résumé and introduces an applicant to an employer, said Student Employment and Career Services Director Debra Vaughn, workshop speaker.

She said a cover letter is an important and underempha-

sized aspect of the employment process.

Employment Services Coordinator Judi McGee also spoke at the workshop.

"A cover letter is so important because it's usually the first thing Human Resources reads to determine whether or not they will even read your résumé," McGee said.

Some of the aspects discussed in the workshop were avoiding the hard-sell approach, addressing the cover letter correctly, and avoiding poor grammar and misspellings, Vaughn said.

Vaughn also cautioned against the use of form letters.

"A form letter can be spot-

ted by an employer and may signify a lack of effort," she said.

Vaughn also said it's important to print résumés on résumé paper. Résumé paper is available for free in the Student Employment and Career Services office, Vaughn said.

Another tip discussed in the workshop is to have a friend or colleague review the résumé.

This helps get an outside voice or different perspective, Vaughn said.

Student Employment and Career Services will host free Employment and Career Power Workshops 12:30 to 1 p.m. every Thursday, July 1 through the 29, in the Main Building, Room 1G7.

“A cover letter is so important because it's usually the first thing Human Resources reads, to determine whether or not they'll even read your résumé ...”

—JUDI MCGEE

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Upcoming sessions

- **July 1** — Career Exploration
- **July 8** — Applying for Jobs on and off Campus
- **July 15** — Interviewing
- **July 22** — Optimal Interviewing
- **July 29** — Professional Dress for Interviewing

WHEN: 12:30 to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Main Building, Room 1G7

INFO: 405-682-7519

"Even though the workshops are held Thursdays, students can drop by anytime for help with any of the topics covered in these workshops," Vaughn said.

For more information, call 405-682-7519 or visit the Student Employment and Career Services office, located in the Main Building.

AWARD GIVEN AFTER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FULFILLS STRICT REQUIREMENTS

Facilities Management employee recognized

ETHAN HENDRICKS
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Chris Snow, Facilities Management assistant director, was awarded the Certified Educational Facilities Professional certification from the Association of Physical Plant Administrators June 2.

APPA International is an organization dedicated to maintaining, protecting and promoting the quality of educational facilities around the world.

Snow, who began the certification program in January 2005, said he joins an elite group with this award.

Only two other members of APPA have achieved this certification, said Snow's boss, Facilities Management Director J. B. Messer.

"I completed eight separate educational tracks which allowed me to take the certification test," he said.

In addition to these tracks, Snow

also needed his 23 years of service in facilities management at OCCC and his master's degree in higher education in order to qualify for the test.

"I knew that I had an aggressive approach and method," Snow said, "but I did not find out that I was only one of three until after the award of my credential."

"It's surreal."

Snow has worked in at least four different positions for the college since he started as a Building Services assistant in 1987.

He said Messer has had the largest influence in his career and success.

"My certification achievement would not have been possible without the continued support of my director," Snow said.

"He has been my positive driving force in supporting the credentialing achievement."

Messer had only praise for Snow.

"Snow is proactive," he said.

"I would say that Chris has taken advantage of all the opportunities that have been provided to him by the college over the time frame he has worked here," he said.

Snow said the certification doesn't change his goals at the college.

"My number one goal is to continue to be part of OCCC and work to ensure its vision, mission and goals."

"I enjoy people," he said, "especially the down-to-earth kind."

"In the Facilities profession, it holds a very diverse but humble group of individuals."

On top of his OCCC duties, Snow is active in the Oklahoma APPA organization.

"I am a business officer that works with two other vice-presidents in support of the president," Snow said.

The presidential turnover is annually, which means Snow will be the president of the Oklahoma APPA region in two years.



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Chris Snow, Facilities Management assistant director, was awarded a prestigious certification from the Association of Physical Plant Administrators on June 2.

World Cup, popcorn on Student Union's menu

HANNAH FOSTER
News Writing Student

So far, more than 100 students have cheered on their favorite FIFA World Cup soccer clubs in the College Union and munched on free popcorn as part of a new Student Life offering.

"We are screening (the games) so that students either passing by or with a lunch break or whatever can sit down and watch the games," said Stephanie Baird, first year and Student Life programs coordinator.

The games are being shown every class day through the last day of the games July 11 near the windowed wall in the College Union.

Baird said the games start at 9:30 a.m. and continue throughout the day until the last game of the day.

She said screening the World Cup is something Student Life wanted to offer students during the summer, since not many sports pro-

grams are usually on.

"The students are interested and it's a very easy thing for us to do, you know, to provide a TV and turn it on and have some popcorn for them," she said.

"It's a good way for the students to meet other students and to enjoy their company," Baird said.

Rodolfo Ivan Monsivais, Student Life employee, said he has enjoyed serving popcorn and watching the games with everyone.

Last week, he said, more than 106 students participated during one 5-hour span.

Yosef Menjiavar, undecided major, said he enjoys what Student Life has been doing and has participated.

"In between classes or whenever I have free time, I don't have to go all the way home, like if I have another class later," Menjiavar said.

"I can just watch the game over here."

Menjiavar said his father played soccer, as did Men-



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.WORLDCUP2010SOUTHAFRICA.COM

As World Cup 2010 unfolds in South Africa, OCCC students have been able to catch the games while munching on free popcorn in the Student Union, courtesy of Student Life.

jiavar, so the World Cup is a meaningful pastime at his house.

Despite living in the United States, Menjiavar said he has

been rooting for Argentina and Spain, while Monsivais said was cheering for Mexico.

Baird, who admits she isn't much of a fan, said she also

was watching and cheering for the U.S. team.

For more information on the World Cup, visit www.fifa.com.

SPORTS



Throw it long

Zach Mayes, 11, throws a football June 28 as part of the FitKids Camp in the Wellness Center gym. The summer camp is for children ages 6 through 12 and costs \$35.

FitKids Camp concludes on July 30 with Wet n' Wild for children ages 6 to 12. The cost is \$35 per child.

The Wellness Center gym is open 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf.

JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **July 6-9:** The FitKids Camp will offer Fitness Fun to children ages 6 to 15. The cost is \$35 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 12-16:** The Youth Sport Camps will offer Multi-Sport 2 to children ages 6 to 11 and 12 to 14. The cost is \$60 per child. Youth Sport Camps will also offer Swimming-competitive stroke to children ages 9 to 11 and 12 to 14. The cost is \$60 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 12-16:** The FitKids Camp will offer We Are Family to children ages 6 to 12. The cost is \$35 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 12-16:** Camp-Rec Youth will offer Sports Extravaganza to children ages 6 to 11. The cost is \$40 per child. Camp-Rec Teen also will offer P.E. Week to children ages 12 to 15. The cost is \$40 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 19-23:** Youth Sport Camps will offer Volleyball to children 8 to 14. The cost is \$60 per child. Youth Sport Camps will also offer Soccer to children ages 6 to 11 and 12 to 14. The cost is \$60 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 19-23:** The FitKids Camp will offer Amazing Race to children ages 6 to 12. The cost is \$35 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Sports specialist, 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

RECREATION | Survival, skill, and time management all elements in upcoming games

Lifeguard Games prepares for final year

DEMERYE PAULIN
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

Lifeguards who want to compete in the Southwest Regional Lifeguard Games will have only one more chance to do so.

July 9 will be the last of 25 years of games and competition, Aquatics and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley said.

The games will start 7:30 a.m. at White Water Bay.

Just a few of the events to take place are the skill-based competition, spinal injury management, time-based competition, knowledge-based competition, and the soul survivor 10-second trivia games.

Hensley said the games are ending because "the number of participants have dropped off in recent years, and the economy may have attributed to that."

In the coming years, instead of one

Lifeguard Games event, the competition will split into several smaller events and be held at several local facilities, he said.

Junior guard and lifeguard team registration starts at \$125 with City Bites providing lunch. All team captains are responsible for picking up team lunches after registration.

Each team can have six members plus one coach and one alternate by rule.

Teams can pick up their registration packet at the Recreation and Fitness office or apply online.

T-shirts are available for sale for \$13 and \$15 for XXL. Pre-purchase T-shirts are \$10, \$12 for XXL upon pickup of the registration packet.

Hensley said new teams would be allowed to take a tour of White Water Bay to level the playing field.

The games will kick off with team meetings discussing safety precautions and an event timeline of events.

Hensley said the lifeguards will prac-

tice precautionary skills to make sure everyone stays safe. Hensley also will be the judge in four or five of the events to assist in any way possible, he said.

Friday, prior to the games beginning, teams will participate in a 20-minute warm-up before the beginning of the first competition, the Iron guard race.

Hensley said the games also are an opportunity to have fun and see competitors from the past stop by to show their support and witness the excitement of the competition that they were a part of.

The team meeting for the games is 6 p.m. July 8 at White Water Bay.

For more information about the 2010 Lifeguard Games, contact Recreation and Fitness director Roxanna Butler at 405-682-1611, ext. 7425, or call 405-682-7860 to place lunch and T-shirt orders.

Students also can visit online at www.occc.edu/RFLifeguard.html for more information.

Have sports news?

E-mail Demerye Paulin at
staffwriter2@occc.edu

CAMPUS CRIME

Accidents on, off campus keep Safety and Security officers busy

AJ GRAFFEO

News Writing Student

Three automobile accidents and an accidental fire alarm top recent OCCC crime reports.

June 16, a student reported her vehicle being damaged in parking lot B, according to a report filed by Safety and Security Officer Fredrick Evans.

Evans responded to a call from Thiuyen Le Phuong who said her white 2002 Toyota Corolla was struck while she was in class.

"Her vehicle was pointing north and the damage was to the passenger side rear corner of the bumper," Evans said in his report.

Evans looked at the vehicle and said it possibly was struck by a red vehicle as evidenced by the color of the paint transfer on the vehicle, according to the report.

The parking space was outside the viewing area of the security camera system, the report stated.

Campus security also responded to a two-car collision June 17 at the intersection of J. Lee Keels Boulevard and parking lot A, Officer Jacob Roby said in a report.

Campus visitor, Misty Berryman collided with visitor Ronda Grayson the accident report shows.

Berryman told Roby she thought she was in the middle lane. Minor fender and bumper damage occurred to both vehicles,

according to the report.

Berryman's vehicle collided with Grayson's when Berryman turned left from the right hand lane into Grayson's vehicle, according to the report.

After the accident, both Berryman and Grayson exchanged information before leaving the area, the report shows.

Off campus, students of the Family and Community Education Center were forced to leave the building when a child accidentally set off a fire alarm pull station June 9 at the center, campus crime reports show.

Read a complete article about the June 9 evacuation at the Family and Community Education Center at www.occc.edu/pioneer

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER
Online
www.occc.edu/pioneer

Brannon Dresel, Community Education coordinator, said the child bumped into a pull station and then accidentally set off the main fire alarm as he tried to reset the activated pull station.

"Once all the alarms were reset, all the children were allowed back into the building to continue with classes," Officer Tanya Vroenen said in the report.

Dresel said the alarm was not a hindrance to the educational process. He said the event helped better prepare those at the center to carry out the evacuation procedures in any circumstance.

Library: Upgrades to make services accessible for students while off campus

Continued from page 1

system are designed with students who take online courses in mind, Lemon said.

"With the chat and text functions, students can talk to a librarian directly without having to come in or call," she said.

"So students that don't have time to visit the library or talk on the phone can still get the assistance they need."

Lemon also maintains the library's blog and Facebook page that allow students and faculty to stay up to date on library news, King said.

"All of our librarians can contribute to the blog or Facebook, and are encouraged to," King said.

"But it's Amanda that usually handles the weekly updates, and makes sure that the blog and social networking pages are accurate."

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/Library and click on the question mark to "Ask a Librarian," or visit the library during business hours.

Aid: OCCC will award up to \$200 more per Pell grant

Continued from page 1

taken out all the Stafford Loan money they can receive during their associate degree years may have to come up with more cash.

These students may have to seek out private lenders, Case said by e-mail.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the funds available for federal student aid by filing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid by Sept. 21 for fall semester, he said.

"Students receiving financial aid shouldn't notice any significant impact on your funding," Case said. "It's a matter of taking advantage of what's available out there to help with that."

By the time the financial aid office winds down this month and finishes this school year, he said, \$43 million will have been handled in student aid in tuition waivers, Pell grants, student loans, work study and other grant programs from the state.

"The tuition hike is just a small per-

"I figured that in some way my student loans would just be more and doubted I would see less money. I just don't like the idea of having to pay back more money."

—HILLARY SWENKE
OCCC STUDENT

cent," Case said. "If a student is eligible for a Pell grant, they are going to cover that anyway."

Students not on financial aid will have to pay more next year than they paid last, he said.

Hillary Swenke, physical therapy major, said she is worried about how the tuition increase will affect her financial aid.

"I figured that in some way my student loans would just be more and doubted I would see less money," Swenke said. "I

"The tuition hike is just a small percent. If a student is eligible for a Pell grant, they are going to cover that anyway."

—HAROLD CASE
STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT
SERVICES DEAN

just don't like the idea of having to pay back more money."

Savannah Hodges, diversified studies major, agrees that students receiving financial aid should receive more money to make up for the raise in tuition.

"It's not that much of a difference in tuition," Hodges said. "So there shouldn't be any problem with getting a little more money for it."

For more information about financial aid, contact the financial aid office at 405-682-7525.

Library services available online

1 Ask a Librarian.
An online service for students to submit their library-related questions.

2 Tutorial videos.
Tips for finding articles and determining which websites can be used as a credible source.

3 Library blog and Facebook page.
Keeps students and faculty up to date on library news.

For more information about the library's digital programs, visit www.occc.edu/library.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Preparing for fall

Incoming freshmen Ashley Maybry, left, and Britni Wells fill out paperwork for Recruitment and Admissions before seeing an adviser. Fall semester classes begin Aug. 23.



JUSTIN COMBS/PIONEER

CAMPUS ACTIVITY | Local coalition aids in efforts to stop the targeting of ethnic groups

Group aims to prevent tobacco use

BONNIE CAMPO
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

Around the state, and particularly in the metro, black citizens face an issue of cigarette propaganda that tobacco opponents hope to reverse, said Michelle Terronez, Tobacco Use Prevention Coalition coordinator.

This problem has reached OCCC students as well, according to a tobacco prevention organization.

The Tobacco Use Prevention Coalition visited OCCC recently to pass out information on how the tobacco industry appeals to blacks and to encourage them to avoid using their products, Terronez said.

Tobacco companies target young ethnic Oklahomans through advertisements in clubs, bars and in their neighborhoods. This persuades

Fall coalition meetings

- July 26
- Aug. 23
- Sept. 27
- Oct. 25
- Nov. 15

WHEN: All meetings are at 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: American Red Cross, 601 NE 6th St.

INFO: 405-419-4247

blacks to buy a self-destructive product, Terronez said.

"A primary market are a lot of low-income areas for cigarettes, and that is why they are so strategically placed and commonly promoted in that community," she said.

Terronez said the coalition works to expose the tobacco industry for what it is and how blacks are targeted by specific kinds of cigarettes such as menthols.

"The problem is that

menthols are inhaled deeper and longer because they have a cool taste, and that makes them more dangerous to those who smoke them," she said.

Black Student Association President Centerria Wright said that before people smoke they should research the harmful effects smoking has on their bodies.

People should understand the types of diseases tobacco use can cause, Wright said.

Terry West, nursing major, said he has experienced the dangerous effects tobacco can have. West said many of his family members have died from cigarette-related cancer.

He said he thinks having the coalition visit campus is beneficial.

"I think it is a great idea that people want to help support African-Americans," West said. "I would

support anybody who wanted to stop smoking."

While reports show 31.8 percent of blacks smoke or admit to smoking, Terronez said, the numbers may not be accurate.

"Most young adults don't report smoking because they are ashamed or scared someone will find out," Terronez said.

She said the coalition hosts meetings to help people stop smoking or prevent people from starting. The meetings are open to everyone.

"The importance of the coalition is that it empowers the community and its wellness by helping as many people as we can," Terronez said.

The next meeting is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. July 26 at the American Red Cross building, 601 NE 6th St.

For more information, contact Terronez at 405-419-4247.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

New class offering

Students will be able to enroll for the first time in a parenting class that meets 1 to 1:50 p.m. every Monday in the upcoming fall semester. The one-credit-hour course focuses on strategies of parenting and cultural influences. For more information, contact Program Director Cecilia Pittman at 405-681-1611, ext. 7159.

Food Bank volunteers needed

Workers are needed to assemble emergency boxes with food and household products for families to use over the summer. Help is needed from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday and Saturday. Individuals can come by appointment Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Groups of five or more can come by appointment or 1 to 4 p.m. Monday and Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, or 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. For more information, contact the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma 405-972-1111.

Family Planning Clinic

The Oklahoma City County Health Department is providing sexually transmitted disease testing and physicals for both females and males. Vaginal exams and birth control are also offered. The assistance is based on household income and for first time applicants, appointments are available 7 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. Tuesday and Friday. The clinic is located at 921 NE 23rd St., Oklahoma City. For more information, contact the department at 405-491-4150.

Leisure Classes

OCCC is offering a Total Wellness class 10 to 10:50 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday that will offer instruction to students about how to live a healthier lifestyle. Also, a Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries class will meet for one week 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to noon Friday. The class will provide a basic introduction to sports medicine. The class meets Aug. 2 through 6. For more information, contact the Advisement Office at 405-682-7535.

English as a second language offered

Language classes will be taught 8 to 9:20 a.m., 9:30 to 10:50 a.m., 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. and online. All classes are non-credit and are taught by three professors. Students can choose from Advanced Grammar, Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and TOEFL Preparation. For more information, contact Abbie Glenn-Allen Figueroa by e-mail afigueroa@occc.edu

All Highlights are due 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in the next issue. Highlight forms can be picked up in the Pioneer office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator.

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. Mondays prior to the publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

FOR RENT

ROOMMATE WANTED: Female roommate needed to share room in SW Oklahoma City. Must have a good reference. Roommate offered own bedroom. Pets are allowed inside the house. Smoking and drugs are not allowed. Call Kelli at 405-205-0740, only after 6 p.m. or e-mail poohbear73064@hotmail.com.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 2006, Hyundai Tiburan, electric lock windows and doors, very low mileage, two doors, black sports car. Good condition and drives great. \$8,000. OBO. Contact: Maria at 405-659-8028.

TEXTBOOKS


"THE RED BACKPACK": Selling OCCC Nursing Program Kit. \$99. Call: 405-701-5931. Leave a message.

FURNITURE

READY TO SHAPE UP FOR SUMMER? Body shaping "Step and Flex" machine. \$40. Call 405-682-1611 ext 7765.

FOR SALE: Samsung 19" color television with remote. Great picture. \$50. Call: 405-200-8690.






Pioneer Treasure Hunt
Search the Pioneer for answers to our weekly treasure hunt questions.

Correctly answer four Treasure Hunt Questions and be entered in our final drawing of the semester:

- 1: What is the last date to drop classes for summer without refund?
- 2: When is OCCC celebrating a Tour de Route 66 event?
- 3: What is the approximate cost of the new theater that will be constructed on the west side of the VPAC starting this fall?
- 4: What is the name of the student who was featured in the "It's a Small World" article June 25 and where is she from?



Read the June 25 Pioneer issue for the answers.
Send your answers to: adman@occc.edu.



Honey,
Welcome home from Iraq!

~~Are you happy to be home?~~
~~What was it like?~~
~~Are you ok?~~
~~Were you scared?~~
~~How do you feel?~~

We can help you start the conversation.
www.SupportYourVet.org



TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Endure
- 5 Clock feature
- 10 Male swans
- 14 Type of molding
- 15 Duck-hunter's need
- 16 Nursemaid
- 17 Ill-tempered person
- 19 Speed
- 20 Saves
- 21 Purplish red
- 23 LummoX
- 25 Plateaus
- 26 Boo's relative
- 29 Had debts
- 31 Ordinary
- 35 "Leaving — Jet Plane"
- 36 Temporary gift
- 37 Schedule
- 38 Property destroyers
- 40 Musher's animal
- 41 Goes inside
- 42 Atmosphere
- 43 Fury
- 44 Contract
- 45 Type of register
- 46 German river
- 47 Spud state
- 49 Everything
- 51 Undress
- 54 Wise saying
- 58 One opposed

DOWN

- 1 Fasten
- 2 Chills and fever
- 3 Withered
- 4 Paces
- 5 Do arithmetic
- 6 Lower limb
- 7 Serve perfectly
- 8 — with: shared quarters
- 9 Feathered talkers
- 10 Stroked
- 11 Muscat's place
- 12 Piece of insulation
- 13 Mets' stadium
- 18 Can.'s neighbor
- 22 Measured
- 24 Ninnies
- 25 Guys
- 26 Miserable dwelling
- 27 Silly
- 28 Mr. Claus
- 30 "I — a Teenage

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

TORAH	ALBS	OSLO
OKAPI	SEEP	PIER
ELFIN	HAIR	ARNO
DATED	ENRICHED	
CUB	UGH	
ABLE	OAST	OFFER
LEI	SAME	SPIREA
ELECTRIC	GUITARS	
ROGUES	TARN	NIP
TWERP	ISLE	ICES
PEN	RAM	
UNDERTOW	LABEL	
SLOE	NAME	AGAPE
ANDS	EKES	MELEE
CASK	SENT	OSIER

8-5-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate

Wolverine

- 32 Loosened
- 33 Worship
- 34 Tavern brew
- 36 Town on the Rio Grande
- 37 Maui greeting
- 39 Longing for
- 40 Distress call
- 42 Chairman —
- 45 Swiss or brie
- 46 Having the most seniority

- 48 Loathe
- 50 Hasty escape
- 51 Tiny amount
- 52 Ancient Peruvian
- 53 Getz or Musial
- 55 Fit to —
- 56 Big celebration
- 57 Building additions
- 60 Quiet — mouse
- 61 Singer Damone
- 62 Nevertheless



BUY RECYCLED.



AND SAVE.

Thanks to you, all sorts of everyday products are being made from recycled materials. But to keep recycling working, you need to buy those products. For a free brochure, call 1-800-CALL-EDF.



Christmas in July helps families of sick, injured

LAUREN REED

News Writing Student

The Child Development Center and Lab School will host its annual Christmas in July event July 17 at the Ronald McDonald house in Oklahoma City.

Christmas in July is an event where children bring donations in the form of household items their families have collected to the Ronald McDonald House, said CDCLS Director Lee Ann Townsend. The Ronald McDonald House provides a home away from home for families with sick or injured children, she said.

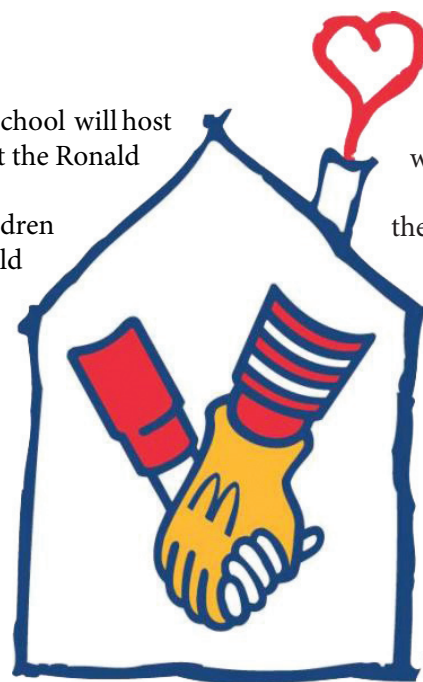
Townsend said the organization tries to relieve those family's burdens by providing food, laundry facilities and lodging for them.

This is the fourth year the CDCLS has participated in the event, she said.

Townsend said through the event children who help collect the donations learn they are important to the community.

It shows them that they can be of help, no matter how young they are, she said.

The Ronald McDonald house asks for donation items such as



trash bags, board games, cleaning products and multiple food items.

Maddisen, a 5-year-old preschooler who attends the CDCLS, explained how the process works.

"We get food, and put it in a bag, and we give the bag of food to sick people and their families so that they can eat the food."

The CDCLS celebrated a kick-off drive June 24 when 46 children took donation bags they had decorated with hand-drawn pictures to the McDonald's restaurant at the corner of 89th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, and passed them out to families who agreed to fill them with donations over a few weeks' time and take them to the Ronald McDonald House.

Townsend said the event has drawn more participation in recent years, partially because the CDCLS moved the event to the summer months.

She said, in the past, it was held around Christmas but said summer weather is far better for the event.

Townsend said the event also has become more popular because, "families have more time to help, but also because our teachers are doing a better job communicating to our families and children about the project."

Donation suggestions:

- Paper products.
- Trash bags.
- Aluminum foil, plastic wrap and sandwich bags.
- Laundry detergent and fabric softener.
- Cleaning products.
- Personal care products (deodorant, dental floss, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner).
- Entertainment products (games, movies, books, art supplies).
- Long-distance phone cards
- Gift cards for local grocery stores and gas stations.
- Greeting cards and postage stamps.
- Gift certificates to local grocery stores and department stores.
- Transportation vouchers.
- Passes to museums, cultural and sporting events.

—information courtesy of <http://rmhc.org>

Retention pond fountain in need of pump motor

OLANREWAJU SULEIMAN

News Writing Student

The fountain that shoots water up into the middle of the retention pond at SW 74th Street and May Avenue broke recently and won't be fixed for a while, said Facilities Management Director J.B. Messer.

The fountain, installed in 2005 at a cost of \$13,605, has a pump motor that stopped working for an unknown reason, he said.

Although the fountain has become a decorative fixture on campus, the water plume is more than just for looks, Messer said.

"It serves a mechanical purpose

as well," Messer said. "It introduces oxygen into the pond so that the water does not become stagnant."

Recent rain has been the only thing keeping the water circulating, he said.

Messer said he is unsure when the pump would be fixed and the fountain turned back on.

"A crew has taken the pump motor out to repair it" Messer said.

Kylea Boyd, an engineering major taking summer classes said she feels fixing the pond is not a very important issue.

"OCCC should focus on other things. [The fountain] is pretty when it works, but it doesn't make or break the school," she said.

Honey,
Welcome home from Iraq!

~~Are you happy to be home?~~

~~What was it like?~~

~~Are you ok?~~

~~Were you scared?~~

~~How do you feel?~~

We can help you start the conversation.

www.SupportYourVet.org



Ad
Council

IAVA
IRAQ and
AFGHANISTAN
VETERANS of
AMERICA