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PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

CLASSROOM RESPECT GOES BOTH WAYS

Online Editor
Erin Peden says
professors should
treat their students as
the adults they are.
Turn inside to read
her thoughts.

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NEWS

TRICK OR TREATING IN THE METRO

There are numerous Halloween and fall activities happening in and around Oklahoma City beginning now. For a complete list, turn to page 7.

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SPORTS

NITRO BALL SEASON ABOUT TO BEGIN

Registration for Nitro ball is currently under way. Students can join until the season halfway point. Play starts Nov. 11. See more inside.

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CAMPUS LIFE

SEMSA RAISES MONEY TO HELP OTHERS

The Student
Emergency Medical
Sciences Association
has been holding
bake sales to raise
money for the club's
outings. Read about
it on page 10.

COMMUNITY, p. 10

TORING CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE OKLAHOMA CITY COLLEG

OCT. 25, 2013

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978



Sing it

Singing sensation Roz Brown performs one of her many hits Oct. 15 in the Bruce Owen Theater.

Brown entertained a crowd of about 175 during the second show of the college's Performing Arts Series this season

The next scheduled performer is Bravo Brass Quintet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12.

The brass quintet performs a full range of musical styles including baroque, light classics, jazz, contemporary and Broadway, according to www.occc.edu/cas.

For more information about upcoming Performing Arts Series performances, call 405-682-7579 or visit www. occc.edu/cas.

LORI VALENTINE/PIONEER

Overall, graduation survey results positive

On a 10-point scale, OCCC scored an average of 8.77

PARIS BURRIS
Editor

editor@occc.edu

occc graduates who responded to the college's 2012 annual graduate survey, most ranked their overall satisfaction at OCCC with an average of 8.77 on a 10-point scale, according to a document prepared by the Institutional Effectiveness office.

While overall satisfaction is high, other areas of the survey received less impressive results compared to the survey of 2011 graduates.

The survey shows 45.3 percent

of the responding graduates are not working in a position related to the degree or certificate they completed at OCCC compared to 40.9 percent in 2011.

About 41.5 percent said their position is directly related compared to 47.2 percent in 2011.

The results were gathered from a survey sent out to all OCCC 2012 graduates by mail six months after their graduating semester, Institutional Effectiveness Director Janet Perry said.

The survey consisted of 17 education and employment-related questions and a summary of the graduates' overall experiences at OCCC.

"The college takes the opportunity to survey our graduates through a variety of different methods to increase the response rate," Perry said. "It's over 50 percent which is our goal. The average for a survey such as this is about 30 percent and people are usually very pleased with getting a 30 percent response rate. So it's an excellent response rate."

Perry said the response rate of

this survey was only 17 percent when she started working at OCCC.

Employment percentages stayed about the same as the 2011 results: 65.8 percent responded that they are employed

See **SURVEY** page 9

OCCC cyber security program ranks high

LAUREN DANIEL Staff Writer staffwriter3@occc.edu

The college's cyber security degree program received national recognition recently by being ranked one of the top

25 cyber and internet security degree programs.

Al Heitkamper, cyber security professor, said he received an email congratulating OCCC's program from a website called

See CYBER page 9

EDITORIAL | Students, professors need to act like teh adults they are

assroom respect important

all hope to receive. We also give it to those we find worthy. The concept is simple, yet often overlooked.



ERIN PEDEN

This semester I started attending the University of Central Oklahoma while simultaneously finishing my degree at OCCC. The very first class I had at UCO was anything but pleasant.

The professor was rude from the start, threatening to lock a student out of the classroom the next time she came in late when the student had only been two minutes late. Considering it was the first day of class, the

professor's response was completely uncalled for.

Turning textbook pages before being told to by the professor, asking classmates questions and not taking enough notes are just a few of the things my class has been called out for this semester.

The thing that unnerved me the most was one day while preparing for an upcoming test, a student raised her hand and asked a question. The professor's response was "I know you guys aren't children. You shouldn't need me to explain everything to you."

Respect. It's something we all think we deserve and The student's question had been straightforward and honest, yet the professor used it as an opportunity to once again challenge the class.

> I understand there are certain rules and regulations professors have to follow and it is important to keep a classroom under control; however, my professor is right — we are not children and shouldn't be treated as such. There is never an excuse to belittle an individual.

> Educator and Professional Counselor Deborah Bauer promotes the idea of mutual respect between students and professors at www.educationspace360.

> "Mutual respect grows out of a positive learning environment. By showing consideration for your students and a genuine desire for them to learn, you will help to create a culture in which you can offer respect. In return, you will receive appreciation and even admiration from your students.'

> I believe you get the same respect you show others. Why should I feel inclined to attend, pay attention and do well in a class where I know the professor will confront students virtually every class period?

> College students sacrifice time, money and effort to better themselves, so when a professor tells them they are not up to standard, that is an insult.

> If students didn't care, they wouldn't show up for class. If a professor cannot respect a student person-

ally, the professor should at least respect the goal the student is trying to accomplish.

In return, students should be respectful toward professors. It is a two-way street that only works when both parties are on board.

I can honestly say the OCCC faculty does an excellent job of respecting its students. I have never felt like less of a person and very rarely have I had a disagreement with a professor here.

All of us should feel important. If we all put a little effort into how we treat others, we would all be happier people. Respect goes a long way and all it takes is a kind word, helpful gesture or a warm smile.

> -Erin Peden **ONLINE EDITOR**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | WNV letter

Place baby on back to help reduce infant death rate

To the editor:

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, the sudden death of an infant who is less than 1 year old and whose death is unexpected and cannot be explained after a thorough case investigation, is the leading cause of death in babies from 1 month to 1 year of age. Each year in Oklahoma about 35 babies die due to SIDS.

In an effort to reduce that number, the Oklahoma State Department of Health backs the national "Back to Sleep" campaign.

It's credited for reducing SIDS deaths by 50 percent just by emphasizing that babies be placed on their backs, not tummies, to sleep. Doctors agree the safest place for a baby to sleep is in your room in a separate sleep area. The OSDH and the American Academy of Pediatrics offer the following infant safety recommendations:

- Always place your baby on his or her back to sleep, for naps and at night.
- Use a firm sleep surface, such as a mattress in a safety-approved crib, covered by a fitted sheet.
- Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby's sleep area.
 - Make sure nothing covers baby's head.
- Dress your baby in light sleep clothing, such as a one-piece sleeper, and do not use a blanket.
- Breastfeeding is recommended and is associated with a reduced risk of SIDS.
- Baby should be up-to-date on all immunizations.
- Baby should not sleep in an adult bed, on a couch, or on a chair alone, with you or with anyone else.
 - Do not use pillows, blankets, sheepskins or crib

bumpers anywhere in your baby's sleep area.

- Do not smoke or allow smoke around your baby.
- Never place a crib near a window with mini-blind or curtain cords, or near baby monitor cords; babies can strangle on cords.
- Place baby on his or her stomach while awake and someone is watching. Tummy time helps baby's head, neck and shoulder muscles develop.

To learn more about safe sleep or the Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility initiative, visit http://iio.health.ok.gov, and talk with your baby's health care provider.

For information on crib safety guidelines, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at 1-800-638-2772 or www.cpsc.gov.

-OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

IONEER

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

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

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

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Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at www.

OMMENTS AND REVIEWS

BUSINESS REVIEW | Reviewer says Super Center is friendly, affordable, fast

Fast Lane's good for basic repairs

While on the way to class last week, my Jeep made a check on the fluids, lights, belts, and hoses. I feel a clunking noise when I applied the brakes.

Since I live near Edmond, it seemed best to get my vehicle checked out by a mechanic before making the drive to OCCC.

Fast Lanes at 2025 N 142nd St. was nearby, so I went there.

Gary, the manager, greeted me outside the bay doors with a smile. I've been a customer there for a long time.

The clunk was as audible outside of the SUV as it was from inside, so they put it up on the lift and removed the wheels. The pads were fine, but a brake caliper was broken. If I had driven to class instead of getting it checked, it could have caused an accident.

I like the fact that Fast Lanes has a clean waiting area with a television and playroom for the kids. They come in periodically to keep you updated on the progress of your vehicle and will never complete any work without first having you approve it.

They show you the bad parts so you can see the actual damage that was done.

Whenever they work on my vehicle, they also do

safer knowing they are paying attention to details.

Safety for employees and customers is a priority, so they have numerous procedures in place. It shows me they take their work very seriously.

After the brake was repaired,

I was given a ticket for a free car wash. This is something else that I've come to like about having

them do my repairs.

I usually have them wash the outside, wipe down the dash and trim work inside, and vacuum the floorboards and mats.

My car is usually cleaner afterwards than it was before. After they apply a choice of scents, it smells wonderful, too.

The price is reasonable, especially considering what you get for what you pay. My only complaint is that they are limited on the types of repairs they do.

Even so, I'd recommend this garage if you are in need of basic repairs. I was out the door for less than \$100. Rating: A-

-NANCY MARTINEZ

STAFF WRITER

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Burgers are just one item on extensive menu

Burger Shack fare affordable, yummy

Sometimes it's nice to sit back and enjoy a big plate of hearty food and not worry about the calories.

Irma's Burger Shack, located in Midtown at 1120 Classen Drive, has great food for a full meal without breaking the bank.

If you go with a big appetite, the "What U Lookin' @" platter might be exactly what you need.

The plate overflows with a breakfast food lover's dream: a sandwich piled with fried eggs, hot links, bacon, pepper jack, swiss, hot ham and Oklahoma's own "No Name Beef" all in between buttery, toasted bread.

It's definitely a mouthful, but at a price of \$15.95, the full meal is well worth the money.

While it's sure to fill the appetite of a mighty hungry eater, it's also a great dish to split with others.

Now, if you're just looking for a mouth-watering, tasty burger that



simple "Irma Burger" is a yummy way to satisfy your cravings without going overboard.

At \$4.95, this burger, paired with some fries or hand-breaded onion rings is the perfect way to grab a quick, tasty meal.

The best feature of the restaurant, I do have to say, is their buttermilk pie.

If you've never had buttermilk pie, you're sort of missing out. If you've never had a buttermilk pie from Irma's, you're really missing out.

Every bite is just as delicious as the last, the crust is perfect, and while \$3 for one slice is a little pricey, it is definitely worth your while.

Buying a whole buttermilk pie for \$10

is definitely a better deal and you'll get to enjoy it at home too.

If you're looking for a pie to bring to Thanksgiving dinner, everyone will thank you for bringing them a yummy Irma's buttermilk pie.

Along with these delicious treats, Irma's also offers Frito chili pie, chicken fried steak, hot dogs, salads and more.

Not only is the food great, but I've received good service when I've been there as well.

Irma's Burger Shack is a great, affordable place for yummy



Students main focus of 'OCCC Roadmap 2018'

This fall, OCCC published our new longrange plan, "The OCCC Roadmap 2018." This plan not only reinforces our work on preparing students to meet the challenges of the workplace or to transfer to a university; it also seeks to dramatically increase the number of Oklahomans who are able to achieve the "American dream" through the surest and most reliable pathway — a college education.

The focus of the plan is captured in the college's new aspiration statement: "Through bold and transformative action, OCCC aspires to raise the educational achievement of all of our students and to be an indispensable pathway to a more prosperous and fulfilling future."

Over the course of this year, OCCC will enroll close to 30,000 different students — most in our college programs but many in our adult basic education programs.

We believe that OCCC will play a vital role in helping these students not only with academic achievement, but also moving them closer to making the America dream come true.

We know that just enrolling or taking a course or two is only the first step on the path. The real value is only realized when students complete a certificate or degree.

I know that our faculty, staff, administrators, and the Board of Regents are committed to the goals of the OCCC Roadmap and its "destination"— significantly more people completing a college program and enjoying the American

A complete copy of "The OCCC Roadmap 2018" can be found on the OCCC website at this address: www.occc.edu/planning-research/ strategic-annual-plans.

> -Paul Sechrist **OCCC PRESIDENT**

American food. Rating: A

-Paris Burris **EDITOR**

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

ONLINE BUSINESS REVIEW | Online shopping should be convenient and dependable

Forever 21 online store needs improvement

Ah, online shopping — a shopaholic's best friend.

Until a couple of years ago, I wasn't the biggest fan of online shopping. However, I'm a very specific kind of shopper so I typically don't buy

unless I go looking for one particular thing to add to my collection.

The handful of stores I do frequent are so familiar with me that I'm basically on a first-name basis with the employees who work there. Their knowing my clothing sizes and what I'm looking for really takes the guesswork out of shopping for me.

However, making constant trips to the mall for one shirt at a time became a bit tenuous and started to waste a great deal of my time which isn't really an ideal thing for a college student to be wasting. So I discovered the beauty of online shopping.

Of all the online shopping experiences I've had, the ones I'm fairly pleased with are the ones I've had with Forever21.

FOREVER 21
While there are two Forever 21 stores in Oklahoma

While there are two Forever21 stores in Oklahoma City, taking the time to run to the mall doesn't always fit into my schedule. That's where www.Forever21. com comes in.

The strong point of the website is, of course the convenience. In addition, orders over \$50 ship for free and you're able to track your package the entire way. Shipping also is usually very fast, which is a major plus when you want new clothes now.

Then there are things that could be made a bit better. The webpage where you place the order itself is messy and hard to understand.

Once, it led me to purchasing the same sweater twice.

There's also no way to opt out of annoying weekly emails from the online store which tend to clutter

my inbox.

I also wouldn't recommend ordering jewelry — especially earrings — from the online site. Twice, earrings arrived either missing components or falling apart.

On both occasions, the Forever21 store at Penn Square Mall was more than happy to let me trade the earrings in for pairs that were complete or unbroken, but I saved myself no time by ordering online in these cases.

In closing, I really feel the good points outweigh the bad.

A recent online shopping spree of four sweaters and a scarf was affordable, eligible for free shipping and arrived at my front door in about four business days.

> -KATIE THURMAN SENIOR WRITER

ONLINE GAME REVIEW | Players challenge each other for online coins and music cred

SongPop a great musical test game

Think you are a master song whiz? SongPop will test that knowledge.

A free app that can be downloaded for iPhone or Android or played on your desktop computer, SongPop is a fun way to challenge your friends on songs from all decades.

Users can find opponents by connecting to their Facebook account

and challenging friends or they can choose a random opponent.

Once a game has been started, users have four categories of music to choose from in which to challenge their opponent. After a category has been selected, a three-second countdown will occur and the first song is played. The song is played at a random spot in the tune and users must pick the correct answer from four choices. The choices will be either artists' names or song titles.

Users can take as much time as they need to pick a song. Once an answer has been clicked, the game will automatically let players know if they got it right or wrong.

Once they have gone through five songs, a list of songs that were played will pop up, allowing players to see what they missed or got right, as well as how long it took them to answer. The game will then be sent to the opponent who will guess the same songs.

The opponent will then choose a playlist, guess the



songs and send it back to the first player. Each round, the player with the most points wins three coins and the loser receives one. Coins can be saved up to buy extra playlists outside of the ones that come with the game.

At the end of the week, scores are added up and the game will inform

players which opponents they beat and which opponents scored more points than they. Players are then given coins for each opponent they beat. The scoreboard is then reset for the upcoming week.

Song Pop is a game that truly tests your song knowledge and speed. It is a fun way to kill a few minutes of free time, discover new songs and brag about your musical wisdom.

I like that while you can choose to spend money to buy new playlists, the coins you receive from playing the game also give you a chance to buy playlists without ever spending a dime.

There also are hundreds of playlists to choose from, some from categories I have never heard of.

I would highly recommend this game to anyone who loves music. There is definitely something for everybody with SongPop.

Rating: A

-ERIN PEDEN
ONLINE EDITOR

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Oct. 18 through Oct. 20 www.newyorktimes.com

1. Gravity

Rating: B-

- 2. Captain Phillips
- 3. Carrie
- 4. Cloudy With a Chance of
- Meatballs
- 5. Escape Plan
- 6. Prisoners
- 7. Enough Said
- 8. The Fifth Estate
- 9. Runner Runner
- 10. Insidious: Chapter 2
- 11. Rush
- 12. Machete Kills
- 13. Don Jon
- 14. Baggage Claim
- 15. I'm in Love With a

Church

- 16. 12 Years a Slave
- 17. We're the Millers
- 18. Pulling Strings
- 19. Instructions Not Included
- 20. Despicable Me 2

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\$10,000 scholarship for business majors

CARLTON THOMPSONNews Writing Student

Oklahoma City University is aiming to attract more business majors from OCCC to its campus on Northwest 23rd Street. To make the private school more affordable, business students at OCCC have an opportunity to obtain a Meinder's \$10,000-a-year transfer scholarship to OCU

"We would be the natural next step for a business student interested in a four-year degree," said Steve Agee, dean of the Meinders School of Business at OCU.

A number of the transfer scholarships may be offered, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist.

"Any student who is a business major, who holds a 2.5 cumulative GPA and has completed at least 30 hours at OCCC, would be eligible for the scholarship," Sechrist said.

When asked how many scholarships were being offered, Sechrist said he was told, at this point, there is no limit. This scholarship is brand new.

This additional \$5,000 per semester would help with tuition, which runs about \$12,000 a semester at OCU.

Sechrist graduated from Southern Nazarene University, a private college in Bethany, and also has experienced academic life at a large public university, the University of Oklahoma.

Sechrist noted the benefits of attending a private school.

"Generally you may find smaller classes, more interaction with professors, perhaps opportunities for international travel," he said.

Agee said this offers a unique opportunity to grow as a business student.

"OCU provides an opportunity to work hands-on with projects and assignments that deal directly with students' majors," he said.

"Dr. Herman Meinders gives the investment club \$100,000 for the undergraduate team to make investment decisions each year," Agee said.

"Finance professors help work up a portfolio to invest into the market and get hands-on experience."

OCU alum Carlos Robinson works as Admissions and Outreach adviser at OCCC. He earned his bachelor's degree at OCU after completing his associate degree at OCCC and lent his voice of support to transferring to the private university.

"They cater to looking to how students can use scholarships, financial aid and a good GPA to

THE SET OF THE SET OF

get through OCU reasonably," he said.

At OCCC Robinson served as president of the Black Student Association and chair of The (Student) Leadership Council.

Robinson explained how campus involvement is a key factor to getting admitted into OCU.

"You get more of an edge

when you're active," he said. "Being involved helps create connections with higher-ups who really help with a good letter of recommendation to transfer to OCU."

Additional information about OCU scholarships is posted at www.okcu.edu.

Contact Lynette Martin for admissions information by email at lmartin@okcu.edu.



Hip-hop on holiday party dance card

News Writing Student

tudents with an awesome Halloween costume and the need to dance will have the opportunity to show their moves and get a good workout at OCCC's first ever Hip-Hop Halloween Dance Party at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, in the Wellness Center in room 1C4.

This Halloween-themed class is aimed at generating an interest in dance.

"This little event is basically part of our attempt to bring dance to OCCC," said Elizabeth Hobi, fitness instructor with the office of Recreation and Fitness.

"We will have a fun dance class with jazz, funk, and hiphop for all levels," Hobi said.

"Students should attend to move and groove a little with others who love dance too."

Hobi said it's important to offer a variety of musical genres so as to make it a comfortable atmosphere and work-out session for everyone from beginners to seasoned dancers.

"No previous training is required," Hobi said.

"It's not going to be anything that is going to intimidate anybody that has never had a dance class."

Hobi said she would like the opportunity to offer more events like this one.

"I want to do whatever I can to offer as broad a variety of dance as possible here," she said.

Emily Montgomery, a nursing major,



Dance Instructor Elizabeth Hobi and fellow dancer Jennifer Crowdis, Michelle Daniels, Tiffany Martin, Megan Gamero, Courtney Terry and Arrie Ledesme get ready for a hip-hop Halloween party being held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, in the Wellness Center, Room 1C4. Hobi said everyone is welcome to participate. No previous dance training is necessary. For more information, contact Hobi at elizabeth.hobi@gmail.com.

said she saw the flyers around campus, and is excited to attend.

"I'm planning on dressing as a fairy," Montgomery said.

"I've already invited some friends

Montgomery also said that she would

like to see more events like this one offered to students.

"It really gets the students involved and helps other students meet new people," Montgomery said.

Though she's not an experienced dancer, Montgomery said, she's excited to just have a fun experience.

"I'm a little nervous about the workout, but everyone will be having fun so it shouldn't be too bad."

The party is free.

For more information, contact Hobi at elizabeth.hobi@gmail.com.

Speaker wants to help students with relationships

JAMES VATER News Writing

Relationships are a vital component of any student's growth in college, said Jenna Howard, licensed professional counselor on campus.

She said that's one reason her office has scheduled Jennifer Coulson, Domestic Violence Assistance Program coordinator, to speak at OCCC.

Coulson will be giving a speech entitled "Relationships: The Good and the Bad" at noon Wednesday, Oct. 30, in CU2.

Coulson said she will provide information on positive relationships by identifying healthy and unhealthy patterns that define the relationship.

"Anyone who is, or plans to be, in a relationship is invited to attend the presentation," she said.

All too often couples aren't able to identify the signs of an abusive or unhealthy relationship, Coulson said.

"I will attempt to give listeners the tools to identify what a healthy relationship looks like," she said.

Coulson said she has done this presentation on a number of occasions.

Additionally she has given many different presentations on domestic violence and how to identify exactly

what that is.

Howard said Student Support Services and Student Life are sponsoring this presentation in acknowledgment of October as domestic violence awareness month.

She encourages students to bring a brown bag lunch and come listen.

For more information about this event, contact Howard at 405-682-1611 ext. 7621.

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Halloween fun happening all over metro area

corner, lots of spooky fun is available in the metro and surrounding area.

- Chester's Party Barn and Farm : An \$8 admission includes a pony ride, a pumpkin to take home, a hayride, playing in the huge sandbox, a petting zoo, inflatables, carnival games, karaoke and the giant slide. Find your way through a three-acre corn Mystery Maze for an additional fee. Located at 5201 Cimarron Rd. in Piedmont. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday through Nov. 3. Call 405-373-1595 for more information.
- Frontier City's Frightfest: Frightfest will provide family activities in the daytime and adult fun at night. Kids can enjoy the Booville trick-or-treat trail, a pumpkin patch, pumpkin decorating, face painting and storytelling through Oct. 27. At 7 p.m. the Nightmare Haunted House, FreakShow Deluxe in the Opera House, and the Festival of Fright Parade begin. All activities are included with regular park admission except the haunted house, which costs \$5. Frontier City is located at 11501 N I-35 Service Rd. Call 405-478-2140 for more information.
- Halloween Boofari: Take a hayride or spend time with 170 animals from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 21 through Nov. 5. Walk through the pumpkin patch and select one to take home. Admission is \$7 per person. Pumpkins are \$9 per person. Boofari is located at 963 County St. in Tuttle. Call 405 -381-9453 or visit www. boofari.com for more information.
- Halloween Train Ride: Wear your favorite costume and enjoy a 25-minute ride on a full-size train for Halloween. Children will receive toy treats on the train instead of candy. Check out the model train layout or play on the playground. Admission is free. Open from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. starting Oct. 26 at 3400 NE Grand Blvd. The train ride is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children over the age of 3. Purchase tickets at the door or at www.oklahomarailwaymuseum.org. Call 405-424-8222 for more information.
- Haunt the Old Town: Downtown Moore business owners will be decked out in costumes to pass out candy to the kids from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, on Main Street. A variety of games, music, balloon art, hayrides, entertainment and an assortment of other activities will be available to treat your little ghosts and goblins. Metro food trucks will be on site. Call 405-793-5090 for more information.
- Haunt the River Cruise: All ages can have a great time on the water for Halloween at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Oct. 25 and 26. Adults over 21 can don their most creative costumes and party with friends on an authentic river

- 7 ith Halloween just around the cruise. A full cash bar with hot food will be provided. Prizes will be given for the best costumes. The Haunted River ride will have some concessions available and candy for children. Kids are welcome to dress up, but there will be no costume judging. Call 405-702-7755 or visit okrivercruises.com for more information.
 - The Haunted Barn/Trail of Terror: Open from dark to 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26, and 31 in El Reno at 2701 W 10th St. A frightening night out in a barn settled in wide open country. Adults pay \$10. Children 12 and under pay \$8. Call 405-650-6651 for more information.
 - Lake Thunderbird Halloween Festival: Have fun with pumpkin bowling, fishing game and a bean bag toss on Saturday, Oct. 26. The Cleveland County Sheriff also will be on hand to fingerprint little ghouls. This 12-and-under event is held in an area off of Highway 9 at the Clear Bay entrance (Look for signs.) Call 405-360-3572 for directions.
 - Oklahoma City Zoo: From 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Oct. 26 through Oct. 31, children can visit zoo animals, meet mascot characters, visit Halloween booths and get a treat bag. Adults get in free with each paid child's admission of \$7. Save \$1 on admission by purchasing early. 2101 NE 50th. Call 405-424-3344 or visit www. okczoo.com for more information.
 - Oklahoma Gazette's Halloween parade "Ghouls Gone Wild": Join 60,000 other spectators at one of the largest Halloween events in the state. The parade starts at 7 p.m. Oct. 26 in downtown Oklahoma City through Midtown and Automobile Alley (NW 10th and Hudson to NW 6th and Broadway). Live bands, floats and zombies will flood the downtown area for a howlingly good time. Parade watchers are urged to dress in costume. Call 405-528-6000 or visit http://okgazetteparade.com/ghouls for more information.
 - Pumpkinville: From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 31, visitors can see a pumpkin village at 301 West Reno. More than 3,000 pumpkins went into creating this small village with displays, games and activities such as bobbing for apples, storytimes in the candy corn fort, a hay bale maze and crafts. Myriad Gardens members enter free, but others pay \$3 for adults and \$5 for children. Call 405-445-7080 for more information.
 - The Sanctuary Haunted House: Four full stories of terrifying ghouls and ghosts set in movie set style. This haunted house, open from 8 p.m. to midnight Oct. 25 and 26 and Oct. 30 through Nov. 2, is extremely realistic and frightening. General tickets are \$18, VIP tickets are \$28 and the group rate is \$14 per person plus small fees. Located at 530 S

Broadway behind the Chesapeake Arena. Call 405-602-8700 or visit www.thesanctuaryokc. com for more information.

- Spooksville: Have a safe and fun-filled night complete with a haunted house, costume contest, carnival, face painting, games and more starting at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Yukon Community Center, 2200 S Holly. A costume contest, open to everyone, starts at 2 p.m. Enter your pet in the Halloween masquerade costume contest. \$3 per person. Call 405-354-8442 for more information.
- TG Farms Pumpkin Patch: Locations in Norman and Newcastle will have a corn maze, petting zoo, giant slide, tricycle race track and hayrides plus a general store full of fresh produce and decorations for sale from 3 p.m. until dark, Monday through Friday through Nov. 1. Admission is \$8 plus tax per person (walking age and above). Admission is \$10 plus tax after 3 p.m. and weekends. Entry fee includes your choice of a pumpkin. Season passes are \$19.95. Call 405-387-3276 or visit emailreservations@tgfarms.com for more information.
- Trail of Fears Haunted Trail: This twisting trail of fright will be open starting at 8 p.m., Oct. 26 at Little River Park in Moore. Miniature train rides, a viewing of the movie "Monster House," storytelling and other activities will take place to entertain your little vampires and werewolves. Bring your best ideas for the Jack-o-lantern contest. \$5 per person. Tickets must be pre-purchased at the Moore Community Center located at 301 S Howard. Call 405-793-5090 for more information.
- Trick or Treat City: A Halloween fantasy land, full of carnival games for the kids to play and several moon bounces, will take place from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 29, at Joe Barnes Regional Park, 8700 E Reno in Midwest City. There will be all types of hot carnival food including hamburgers, hot dogs and cotton candy. No age limit and costumes are welcome. Admission is free, but game tickets are 4 for \$1. Call 405-739-1293 for more information.
- Trick-Orr-Treating and Costume Contest: Ride the train, carousel or hay ride and more from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 26 at Orr Family Farm located at 14400 S Western. Costumes are welcome and candy will be given out to the little ones. Admission is \$12.50 for adults and children 2 and up. A pumpkin is included in the cost. The corn maze and costume contest are \$5. The zip line is \$10 per ride. Call 405-799-3276 or visit www.orrfamilyfarm.com for more information.
- Trick or Treat on the Street: From 5 to 7 p.m. Oct. 31, children can trick or treat downtown Edmond merchants dressed in costume. Free admission. Call 405-249-9391 for more information.

What are your Halloween plans?



"I'm going to see Rocky Horror Picture Show." —Edwin Grimes **Business Major**



"I'm just hanging out with my friends." -Mimi Nguyen Dental Hygiene Major



"I'll just study." -Matt Kidder History Major

Share your Halloween plans, tips, recipes, costume ideas at www.facebook.com/ occccpioneer

SPORTS

Free workout



GRANT VANWINKLE/PIONEER

Computer repair major Aldo Cadena bench presses 135 pounds for his third set of the day. The weight room is free to all students with a valid ID. For more information about this and other free services in the Wellness Center, visit the area, located on the first floor of the Main Building, or go to www.occc.edu/rf.

SPORTS | All students encouraged to join new intramural sport

Nitro ball teams forming for Nov. 11 start

GRANT VANWINKLE

Sports Writer Sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC's Nitro ball season is starting soon. Registration is already open and is free to all students with a valid OCCC student ID, said Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

"Students can join all the way until the halfway point in the season," Wright said

"They will have to play in at least one game to be eligible for the playoff games."

The Nitro ball season begins Nov. 11 and goes until Dec. 9, he said.

Wright said teams can have a minimum of four players and a maximum of six.

"The teams can also be coed," he said. Wright said it's up to each team to decide when and where they want to practice.

"All they have to do is contact me to make sure I am on campus and I can set up the court for them."

Games will be played Monday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m.

Wright said this is the first year Nitro ball has been offered on campus as an intramural sport.

"During the summer at the (kids) camps ... we tried it out and it went really well," he said.

"Even the counselors got into playing Nitro ball.

"We will be having a demo soon to show anyone [who] is interested, how to play the game."

Wright said there are three major rules of the game.

"The first rule is the ball must be served underhanded behind the back line of the court.

"Second rule is you have to let the

ball hit the ground once before hitting it, like in tennis.

"The third rule is there can only be three hits per side just like in volleyball."

Peter Boucher is the creator of Nitro ball, once known as inverted volleyball, according to www.peuniverse.com.

Boucher came up with the idea when he was conducting a summer PE class with more than 100 students.

The class was on the tennis court with limited equipment, he said, so he used a volleyball and created the game.

"You can play this game on any tennis court or any gymnasium around the world," Boucher told the Canton Citizen.

"All you need is a ball and four-plus boys or girls. The propensity for the sport to multiply quickly is limitless."

For more information about Nitro ball registration, contact Wright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7684.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• Nov. 4

—Ab Express class begins. The class, designed to strengthen abdominal muscles as well as improve lower back strength, is limited to 25 people and costs \$20. This class meets from 5:05 to 5:25 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

—Theatrical Dance class begins. Participants will increase core strength, coordination and flexibility with elements of ballet, jazz, modern dance and pilates. Tights and leotards or stretchy, close-fitting attire, ballet, jazz or dance shoes are required for the class. No tennis shoes. Bare feet allowed. The class is limited to 15 and costs \$25. It meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

—Cardio kickboxing begins. Learn how to use your hands and feet to defend yourself while increasing your coordination, speed and stamina. The class is limited to 30 people and costs \$30. It meets from 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

• Nov. 5

Total Body Workout class begins. The class improves overall strength, agility, balance, and conditioning. The class is limited to 20 people and costs \$30. It meets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

• Oct. 28:

Nitro ball season starts. Games are Monday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m. Teams will be a 4v4 and can be coed. For more information, call 405-682-7860.

• Fall semester:

Visit the Recreation and Fitness website at www.occc.edu/rf/swimming-diving to enroll in a number of events held in the college's Aquatic Center or call 405-682-7860 to find out about Aquatic Center events.

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

PIONEER | OCCC.EDU/PIONEER OCT. 25, 2013 • 9

Auto accident, suspicious fax reported

KATIE THURMAN Senior Writer seniorwriter@occc.edu

A non-injury accident and a suspicious fax kept campus police busy Oct. 14 and 15.

On Oct. 14, Officer Gordon Nelson responded to a noninjury accident on eastbound Keels Blvd. in south parking lot A. When Nelson arrived on the scene, he was met by drivers Logan Hackworth and Ashlei Wilson, as well as a witness, Amanda Woods. All three are students at OCCC

Hackworth told Nelson he struck Wilson's car, a Volkswagen Jetta, because she turned in front of him to pull into a space and he couldn't stop in time. Woods, the witness, confirmed what Hackworth said. Woods was taken to the campus police department to fill out a witness statement form.

Nelson reviewed security camera footage of the incident and confirmed that Wilson, had turned in front of Hackworth and that is when Hackworth, driving a Ford Explorer, struck her vehicle. According to Nelson, it did appear that Hackworth tried to stop but couldn't.

On Oct. 15, Officer Patrick Martino responded to a call about a suspicious fax that was received by staff member Janet McNeill in the Records and Graduation.

According to Martino, the fax was seven pages in length and was both hand-written and time. Martino said the text was "approximately 95 percent

unreadable?

Martino attempted to contact the sender via the phone number it was sent from but he was unable to do so. Martino left a message for the sender.

Martino said that he used a search engine to find the number and discovered that it was from Alberta, Canada, and that there were multiple complaints from people who had received similar faxes from the sender.

The complaints said that typically, receivers of the fax had encountered an older male making "random and outrageous" claims, such as identifying himself as the Canadian Prime Minister and saying John F. Kennedy was being held hostage.

There did not appear to be anything threatening in the fax received by McNeill, according to Martino's report.

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

Survey: Graduate survey results viewed as mostly positive

Continued from page 1

full time, 23.3 percent responded working part-time, and 10.9 percent responded as being unemployed and seeking work.

Among the average approximate annual salary before taxes, most responded with an income of \$30,000 to \$35,000.

Nursing, business, psychology, computers and accounting were among the top five majors reported.

When asked to rate how well their degree or certificate prepared them to continue their education, most responded it had prepared them well with an average of 8.6 on a 10-point scale.

The University of Central Oklahoma is the top institution graduates reported transferring to after graduation with 162 students reported in attendance there, according to the document.

University of Oklahoma came second with about 142 reported in attendance and 20 at Oklahoma State University.

Only 5.7 percent of graduates reported having difficulties when transferring to another institution. About 74.8 percent of graduates said they are attending school full time, and 25.2 percent reported part-time enrollment.

Perry said it's vital for graduates to respond to this report.

"I think the critical thing, and a lot of people don't understand this, is that when they respond to the survey, I collect each and every comment that the graduates provide to us," Perry said. "This information is shared by division with each of the deans. They look at those and see if there are some areas that they may want to improve upon."

When asked if they were likely to recommend OCCC to a friend, 97.7 percent of graduates responded "yes."

About 88.5 percent of graduates said they reached their intended goal after graduating from OCCC, according to the document.

For more information, call Perry at 405-682-1611 ext. 7213.

Cyber: OCCC's cyber security program in nation's top 25

Continued from page 1

Gadget Gnome.

Other colleges and universities on the list, including the University of Maryland, the University of Dallas, and the Stevens Institute of Technology, made it an honor to be mentioned in such company.

This is not the first honor the program has received and Heitkamper believes it will not be the last.

"We were one of the first six two-year institutions identified as a National Center of Excellence in Information Assurance in Education. That's known as a 'CAE2E," Heitkamper said.

The cyber security program was awarded the CAE2E in 2010, but it will expire this year, so Heitkamper and his colleagues plan to reapply.

"We started out working in

2004 doing this, and I went to the University of Tulsa to get a second master's degree, so I could come back and run this program and teach it," Heitkamper said.

He said the program has been around about eight years, which is a long time for this type of program. Heitkamper said the program is successful because of the methods being

"We give students a touch of a lot of different things, so when they go out to the field, they have a lot of tools to take out there with them,"

Students are pleased with the program.

Austin Gossmeyer, cyber security major, is one of them.

"I have always been impressed with the courses I have gone through," he said.

Gossmeyer and his peer, Kris Hall, another cyber security major, are currently working in the information technology industry.

"To students who are just getting started, it is actually very beneficial," Hall said.

The program currently offers two different degrees — an associate in applied science degree and a certificate of mastery. Both are designed to lead directly into the job market.

Heitkamper said although students can get jobs in the IT industry with a two-year degree, many choose to transfer.

"A lot of people in my program go on to OSU-IT to get that bachelor's degree, because they realize that is really what employers are looking for."

OSU-IT in Okmulgee offers an online bachelor's degree that takes about two years to complete, Heitkamper said.

Gossmeyer plans to complete his bachelor's degree at

OSU-IT. He said the OCCC program made him want to pursue cyber security because of the community he felt throughout the program.

"I've met a lot of people who have similar interests and similar goals, and everybody has a different way of looking at the problems," he said. "I always get something interesting out of it."

Hall also plans to transfer to OSU-IT. He said OCCC's program has room for improvement and needs more accreditation.

"I'm actually really surprised that the program is doing as well as it is," Hall said. However, he said, the program is pretty good compared to other schools he has attended.

"My favorite class would have been the forensics class. We actually stalked each other."

Jobs are in abundance right now.

The website where OCCC's program was recognized estimates there are about 30,000 jobs available, and not nearly enough people to fill those positions.

"There are so many different facets to it, which makes it in high demand," Heitkamper said. "IT is everywhere, so if you have security knowledge, you can leverage that into basically any industry."

For more information contact Al Heitkamper at aheit-kamper@occc.edu.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Choices, choices



ERIN PEDEN/PIONEER

Administrative office technology assistant Armetha Hall browses through baked goods Oct. 15 at the Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association bake sale, while EMS paramedic major Emma Crow waits to collect her donation. The money raised at the bake sale went towards supplies for their labs as well as SEMSA activities and scholarships.

COMMUNITY | Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association encourages involvement

Club's goal is community service

LAUREN DANIEL Staff Writer staffwriter3@occc.edu

A vast assortment of baked goods filled tables as the Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association held a bake sale Oct. 15. SEMSA holds bake sales to raise money for various causes, said Leaugeay Barnes, club sponsor.

"I think they are most known at the college for their bake sales," Barnes said. "... What sets them apart, I think, is that it is donation only. Nothing is priced."

Conner Thompson, EMS major and SEMSA member, said the bake sales are a great way to interact with different people within the school.

"It's a good way to raise money for causes in our community," Thompson said.

For the past four summers, Barnes said, club members have traveled to Colorado to participate in a 180-mile bike ride that serves as a tribute to EMS heroes who have died, visit the national EMS memorial and to provide supporting gear for the riders.

"It teaches them about the EMS community and it makes them part of the EMS community," she said. Barnes said SEMSA also raises money locally.

The club also has begun to host CPR classes and plans to train 500 people in the community this year. Forty people have already been trained. The classes help raise funds for the club, and gives students experience.

Barnes said, in the past, SEMSA has given classes on Boy Scout and Girl Scout first aid, sent teams for the OKC Memorial Run, participated in a golf tournament to raise money for scholarships, and held a conference at OCCC for EMS professionals at a drastically reduced cost. The club also allows students to build interpersonal relationships, have organizational structure, and help one another grow, she said.

"We really try to get them to value contributing to their community, contributing to their profession, and helping each other."

Barnes said in recent years, students have started providing more leadership and have become more involved.

"I think the leaders of SEMSA now in the last couple of years have really stepped it up, too ... We have a couple that have made it into the President's Leadership Class. EMS has never been part of that before."

Barnes said the EMS program is about helping students succeed.

"The bar is set pretty high here. I mean, we are the best EMS program in the state."

SEMSA captures what EMS is all about — helping others. "Students are always asking 'What's in it for me?' Well, you don't get what's in it for you until you get involved," Barnes said.

For more information or to join the club, visit the website www.occc.edu/studentlife/clubs.html or email semsa@my.occc.edu.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Spring Tuition Fee Waiver applications available

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the spring 2014 semester are available in the Financial Aid Office. Make sure that you have attached an Academic Transcript and that you are enrolled in the corresponding semester for at least six hours before submitting your tuition Fee Waiver to the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. on Nov. 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 682-7525.

Eliminate MLA difficulties on Documentation Day

Explore common difficulties with MLA documentation, style and formatting with presenter Nick Webb from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, in CU1. Refreshments will be provided from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Communications Lab. For more information, call 405-682-7379 or visit www.occc.edu/comlab.

Blood drive scheduled for Oct. 29 and 30

The Oklahoma Blood Institute blood drive will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, and Wednesday, Oct. 30, in the General Dining Area. Students are advised to eat a good meal and drink a lot of water before donating. For more information, contact Janelle Hanson at jhanson@occc.edu.

Different cultures to be celebrated Oct. 29

The 5th Modern Languages Festival begins at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, in the World Languages and Cultures Center, located on the second floor of the Main Building. The event features international poetry, and language and culture activities. Sponsored by Division of Arts and Student Life, refreshments will be provided and all are invited. For more information, call 405-682-7560.

Hip-hop Halloween party planned for Oct. 30

Dance the night away from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, in the Wellness Center, Room 1C4. No previous dance training is necessary for attendance. Costumes are welcome but not required. For more information, contact Elizabeth Hobi at elizabeth.hobi@gmail.com.

Students will show off poetry skills Oct. 30

Students enrolled in College Prep English I will display their poetry writing skills and give listeners a peek into their individual values in life as a part of Humanities & Diversity Month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, in the VPAC Art Gallery. For more information, email SLStaffDL@occc.edu.

OCCC offers career-focused instructional videos

"Career Spots Videos" are available to OCCC students and alums from noon to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, in Room 1G7. For more information, call 405-682-7519.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to communitywriter@occc.edu or visit the Pioneer office located in 1F2 AH.

ASSIFIFI

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

URNITURE

FOR SALE: Two 40" CRT televisions. EC. \$20 each. 405-818-0083.

FOR SALE: ProFormXP 550S treadmill. iFit compatible, heart-rate sensors, LCD display shows calories burned and more. Like new. \$400. For more details and pictures, text 405-818-0083.

FOR SALE: Queen-size black heavy headboard and footboard bed frame. Good condition. \$75. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

ITSCELLANEO

FOR SALE: Women's professional clothing, sizes 18W, to 22W. The lot includes 3 dresses, 2 2-piece dresses, and 9 skirt suits. All 23 pieces for \$100. Text 405-245-7319 for pics or more info.

FOR SALE: Neiman Marcus Robert Rodriguez collection size 14 strapless cocktail dress. Never worn. Still has store tags. \$50. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

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

FOR SALE: "Star Wars" Hayden Christensen autographed photo in plastic protector & Certificate of Authenticity. \$60. Text 405-818-0083 for more information.

FOR SALE: HP office jet allin-one printer. New color and B&W cartridges. Power cord. Works great. \$50. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

FOR SALE: Golden oak corner TV cabinet. Gold trim. glass door on power storage section. Gently used. \$75. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-

FOR SALE: Netgear N300 wireless router. Great for setting up home worksites. Used for only one month. Comes with power cord and ethernet card. \$35. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

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THIS WEEK'S **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

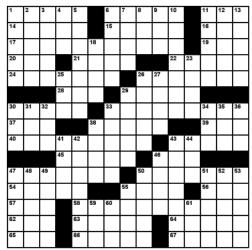
'Ouch!' Crossword by Dave Fisher (Copyright © da

- Across
 1. They might involve shills
- 6. Taco topper
 11. Footballer Parseghian
- 14. Artwork supporter
- 15. Basket material 16. Turkish headgear
- 17. Painful trespassers
- 19. Libra mo. hoo
- 21. Like Cinderella's stepsisters
- 22. Ham it up
 24. Painful embassy employee
- 26. Inherited
- 28. Got___ (Surprise!)
- 29. Laugh, perhaps 30. Vague 33. Painful stands
- 37. Soft drink
- 38. Mohammed's markets
- 39. Likely

46. Croak

- 40. Painful sandals
- 43. Get together 45. Mosque masters
- 47. Paint remover
- Painful fruit
- 54. More rustic 55. Troubles
- 56. Mel who's in many crosswords
- 57. UK award 58. Painful, moldable stuff
- 62. Sec. relative 63. Actor Buchholz of "The Magnificent Seven"
- **64.** A type of 52 down 65. Short for coolers
- 66. Cathartic plants
- 67. Twisted cotton thread

- 1. "Hasta la vista!"
- 2. Voyageur's vessel



- 4. Debussy's "La
- 5. Like a layabout
- 6. Pedestal
- 7. Covered in residue 8. Golfer's concern
- 9. Spanish 101 verb
- 10. Poison in a play title 11. ...Alive, Magic Is ___ Cohen)
- 12. Straight, pref.
- 13. People conquered by Cortez
 18. ___ Khan
- 23. Speed freak's drug
- 25. Bacon is known to do it
- 26. Gates, et al 27. Schedule abbreviations
- 29. Epoxy and mucilage
- 30. Test drive stat.
- 31. Proof of debt
- 32. Vichy, e.g. 33. Jakob ____,
- founder of modern

- 35. Shoulder fired weapon, for short
- 38. Check out
- 41. Part of a ceremony
- 42. Type of shrub
- 43. Vaporous 44. Common Market, abbr.
- 46. Bucks
- 47. It might make your mouth water
- 48. Three dimensional
- 49. Nice places 50. Wordsmiths
- 51. Pawns 52. Type of 64 across
- 55. Like an owl
- 59. Company with millions of members
- **60.** For
- 61. Once was Clay

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Comments? Opinions? Let us know! E-mail Paris Burris

editor@occc.edu

Newest additions to campus police settle in

NATALIE DAVISNews Writing Student

One grew up on a farm in Arkansas while the other spent his childhood in Pennsylvania's second-largest city, but both of OCCC's newest police officers have called Oklahoma home for a number of years.

Daniel Piazza and Ronald Ventresca both said they chose a career in law enforcement early in life.

Piazza, 41, grew up on a farm near Fayetteville.

"Basically, if I wasn't in school, I was back at the farm working," Piazza said. "I did play sports, but I was mostly dedicated to working on the farm."

After graduating from Lincoln High School in Fayetteville, Piazza came to Oklahoma to attend Redlands Community College in El Reno, majoring in criminal justice.

"I knew in fifth grade that I wanted to be a police officer," he said. "As a child ... I always looked up to them — how they carried themselves, the respect people gave them, the interaction I had with them.

"They were always very professional and they seemed to really enjoy what they were doing."

Piazza went on to be a police officer in Hood County, Texas, and then transferred to the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office where he had been working as major of operations for the past 12 years before

coming to OCCC.

One motivation was to have more family time.

"(My job at Cleveland County) was extremely time consuming," Piazza said.

"I'm married and have three kids, a boy and two girls. And I would say the majority of my time was devoted to work and not to them."

When Piazza saw an opening in the OCCC Police Department, he said



Dan Piazza

he came to campus and looked around. Once he got inside, he said he noticed everyone, the students, faculty and staff, were all positive and that attracted him.

"Iliked the atmosphere here, so that's when I knew it was time for a change," Piazza said.

Ventresca, 57, grew up in Pittsburg.

"I wanted to be a police officer because I wasn't interested in working in an office, being confined like that," Ventresca said. "I didn't want to do the same thing every day."

After graduating high school, he went to California for college and decided to stay awhile.

"That's where I started my law enforcement career," Ventresca said. "Then I got married, left there and came to Oklahoma in 1989."

When Ventresca heard that his

deputy chief was leaving the Luther Police Department, he said he decided it was time for him to make a change.

"OCCC has better pay, better working conditions and



Ronald Ventresca

it's a better opportunity," Ventresca said.

One thing that is evident to both police officers is that the department is oriented toward serving the campus community.

"We're here to help," Piazza said. "I mean obviously we do things people may not like, but we're here to give you a safe environment.

"Truly, 100 percent of our focus is to take care of the students, visitors and the staff here."

To contact the police department, call 405-682-7872.

Everyone invited to three-day Faculty Association garage sale

MELODY KORNMAIERNews Writing Student

Adult and children's clothing, furniture, books, china, household items and at least one large television will be among the items offered at the Faculty Association garage sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 30 and 31, and from 8 a.m. to noon Friday, Nov. 1, in CU 1, 2 and 3.

There have been lots of donations so far, but there is room for more, said history Professor Jeff Carlisle, a member of the group's scholarship committee.

Faculty Association Chair Rachel Butler said one of the group's older professors spent fall break cleaning out her storage shed to provide some of her large collection of china and crystal for the sale. The professor donated about 15 boxes of items.

"The china comes from some of the best antique

porcelain makers," Butler said. She named Haviland, Lenox, Syracuse, Wedgwood and Johnson Brothers. Butler said the professor also donated a 1970s Lladro figurine of a Japanese geisha that measures 12 inches tall.

Carlisle said donations will be accepted until Tuesday morning, Oct. 29. The garage sale, held every other year at OCCC, helps raise money for student scholarships.

This year the Faculty Association is hoping to raise \$2,000 to \$3,000, Carlisle said.

Volunteers are still needed to help set up, monitor the sale, answer questions, help people take their items to their cars and close down the sale, Carlisle said.

Any items left over on Friday will go on mark-down sale. Any remaining items will be donated to Mustang High School Project Graduation or Habitat for Humanity.

For more information, contact Professor Michael Machiorlatti at 405-682-1611, ext. 7454, or Carlisle at 405-682-1611, ext. 7391.





Bucky's Tip: Keep Your Hands on the Wheel

When buying a car, stick to a plan so you don't get sold "the most you can afford."

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