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PIONEER ONLINE

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HERPES NEEDS TO BE PART OF STI TESTING

Staff Writer Siali Siaoasi says local health department should routinely check for HSV-2 when STI testing patients.

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Turn inside to learn how Black History Month came into being, the many famous blacks throughout U.S. history and students' thoughts.

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Students are encouraged to join Instructor Jayme Butler's fitness class, described as 'choreographed weightlifting.'

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ISA president says club aims to help international students make connections and have local experiences. Read more inside

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PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEB. 7, 2014

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Down time



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

Freshman psychology major Jordan Spasic chills with a cold drink between classes in the Main Building lobby. Students can find numerous areas on campus to hang out or study between classes.

TLC a campus voice for all students

The Leadership Council makes many decisions

LAUREN DANIEL
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The voice for student organizations and students attending OCCC is The Leadership Council (TLC).

Officers from different clubs and organizations make up TLC, said President Paul Sechrist.

"The administration uses this group as a student advisory council on issues facing OCCC that impact students," Sechrist

said.

TLC is responsible for representing their peers on different issues and questions that students may have about the college, said Marion Paden, vice president of enrollment and student services, and acting chair of TLC.

"Basically your responsibility is to represent and speak your own voice, for the voice of your friends, the voice of your classmates, and the voice of those that you represent in your student organization," Paden said.

TLC meetings are the way that OCCC administration becomes aware of matters that

students are dealing with.

"This is not student government ... " Paden said. "This is an opportunity.

"It's really the only one at

OCCC where we have a regular organized format by which we make sure the administration of

See TLC page 9

Blood donors needed to help with shortage

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The Oklahoma Blood Institute is hoping to lessen its current blood shortage when it hosts its first OCCC blood drive

of 2014 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 12 and 13 in the General Dining Area, said Blood Program Consultant Lindsay Hix.

Hix said anyone can participate in the blood drive. Donors must

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OPINION

EDITORIAL | Currently, the Oklahoma County Health Department does not screen for HSV-2

Testing for herpes should be routine

It's February, which means there's likely to be a significant increase in sexual activity among those who celebrate Valentine's Day. Unfortunately, increased sexual activity also means there's an increased risk for a person to either transmit or contract a sexually-transmitted infection (STI).



SIALI
SIAOSI

Now, I understand this is an awkward subject and not many sexual partners prefer health talks to foreplay. But as the season of love approaches, it's crucial that OCCC students be reminded of the harsh reality of STIs. If you've never been tested for an STI, you can gain reassurance regarding your sexual health by visiting the local county health department and undergoing a free STI screening. However, be forewarned: your local health department may only test for so much. Until recently, I was unaware that the Oklahoma County Health Department doesn't administer a blood-antigen test for HSV-2, more commonly referred to as "genital herpes."

This revelation came as a shock to me, primarily because the Health Department has to draw blood to test for HIV anyway. It seems illogical to draw blood from patients but refrain from testing for HSV-2. The sample is already on its way to a laboratory to test for one disease so why not have it tested for another? On its website, the Oklahoma County Health Department states that it provides a topical herpes test (meaning a culture is gathered from sores), but offers no comfort for those seeking to determine whether they are positive for HSV-2. Furthermore, having a negative topical test for HSV-2 doesn't mean that you aren't carrying the virus for genital herpes. According to the Mayo Clinic, HSV-2 is extremely contagious and can spread by skin-to-skin contact, even if the carrier doesn't have an outbreak. This means a person can be positive for HSV-2 without knowing, which increases the risk of transmission. "The Center for Disease Control estimates that, annually, 776,000 people in the United States get new herpes infections. Genital herpes infection is common in the United States. Nationwide, 16 percent,



or about one out of six, people aged 14 to 49 years have genital HSV-2 infection." Though the Health Department provides free STI screenings for HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and trichomoniasis, it's important that a person be knowledgeable about their overall sexual health. If the Health Department isn't going to determine whether a person carries HSV-2, who will? Perhaps if more were done by all health departments to determine who has HSV-2, the number of those who may be unknowingly spreading the disease would drop.

—SIALI SIAOSI
STAFF WRITER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Application deadlines are Feb. 14 and 28

Multiple student scholarships are available at website

To the Editor

Do you need a scholarship? If so, the OCCC Foundation is pleased to announce that there are more than 30 scholarships currently available — ranging from \$150 to \$1,500 — to help pay for your education. There are two scholarship applications that are due on Friday, Feb. 14 — the Alejandro Rendon Sanchez Memorial Scholarship (applicants must be Latino to apply) and the Safari McDoulett Endowed Memorial Scholarship (applicants must have graduated from U.S. Grant High School, Capitol Hill High School, or Northwest Classen to apply.) Both scholarships are listed online with each having different criteria to qualify. All other scholarships have a Feb. 28 deadline. I encourage every student to fill out the online schol-

arship application and let the system automatically match you with the scholarships you are qualified for or you can apply for each scholarship individually. By filling out just one application, students can apply for all of the available scholarships. Those are: Alejandro Rendon Sanchez Memorial Scholarship, Bartlett Memorial Scholarship, Black Student Association Scholarship, Bobby D. Gaines Memorial Scholarship, Cody Watkins Memorial Scholarship, Connie Nieser Memorial Scholarship, Derek Calhoun Nursing Scholarship, Marion Paden Endowed Distinguished Leadership Award, Engineers for Tomorrow Endowed Scholarship, International Student Association Scholarship, Jack Cain Memorial Scholarship, Kay Edwards Memorial Scholarship, Kayla Fessler Business Scholarship, Kenneth R. Nance Memorial Scholarship, Larry D. Golden Memorial Scholarship,

Lea Ann Hall Memorial Scholarship, Linda Thornton Memorial Scholarship, Mary Ann Merz Memorial Scholarship, Mary Nell Scruggs Holton Music Scholarship, Matt Skarvala Journalism Scholarship, Moore Service League Scholarship, OCCC Alumni Association Scholarship, Peter Wright History Scholarship, Robert P. Todd Leadership Scholarship, Rutledge Memorial Scholarship, Safari McDoulett Endowed Memorial Scholarship, Sechrist Family Endowed Scholarship, Sharon Robinson Memorial Scholarship, Southeast High School Scholarship, Susan Clowers Memorial Scholarship, The 11-10-02 Foundation Scholarship - EMT. Apply at <https://occc.academicworks.com>. For more information email jharrison@occc.edu.

—JENNIFER HARRISON
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | M-Audio Axiom is user friendly — especially for a first-time user

MIDI controller versatile, affordable

I am a music junkie and it has always been my dream to produce my own music. One of the most basic tools people start out with to help make that happen is a MIDI controller, which is a keyboard that produces sound through a computer with the proper software.

I had been wanting one for a long time so I decided to spend all my Christmas money on the M-Audio Axiom 61 2nd Generation 61-key USB MIDI Keyboard Controller.

The Axiom was originally \$399.99, but I found it on clearance at Guitar Center for \$299.99, which happens to be the same price as the M-Audio Axiom 49 2nd Generation 49-key USB MIDI Keyboard Controller.

I was really excited that I could get the same exact controller for the same price but with more keys.

I looked at quite a few different MIDI controllers before deciding on the Axiom. The deciding factor was definitely the semi-weighted keys.

I have been playing piano for 13 years so I prefer a keyboard that plays like an acoustic piano. The Axiom is the best MIDI controller I have played that imitates



an actual piano.

The Axiom also has the standard features that most controllers have such as: MIDI trigger pads, and assignable buttons, knobs, and sliders. The display screen also is very well-lit and easy to read.

I use Mainstage through Logic Pro 9, software that allows me to produce the sound for the controller.

The sounds produced are incredible.

I have even recorded a bit with the Axiom and I am very well pleased with the results, especially being my first time.

I also use the Axiom to play at my church for the youth group. It works very well in that setting.

The Axiom is extremely user friendly and is pretty much self explanatory.

I would highly recommend the MIDI controller to anyone who is interested in producing their own music. I also would recommend it to anyone playing for an audience. It is a great versatile MIDI controller.

Rating: A

—LAUREN DANIEL
EDITOR

RADIO STATION REVIEW | KTUZ offers up flare and fun plus information on upcoming events

Spanish radio station amazing find

I was recently asked to review a local radio station called “La Zeta” on KTUZ 106.7FM for a class assignment. The station is primarily in Spanish with the exception of a few English translations here and there.

Moving to Oklahoma, the heart of America’s Bible Belt, I was afraid I’d leave the hometown feel of New Mexico and West Texas where I grew up.

But it’s Oklahoma City’s little perks like La Zeta that remind me of my childhood collecting rocks and strange keepsakes out in the desert sun, and eating the tortillas that my grandmother made from scratch.

Though I don’t consider myself fluent in Spanish, my mother is Hispanic and I’ve learned from experience what most Spanish words mean — especially the bad ones.

However, from the Spanish I’ve gathered from La Zeta, I was very impressed and excited to listen.

The station is upbeat and fun, much like the Spanish language itself.

In the mornings, La Zeta airs a syndicated broadcast featuring radio personality Don Cheto, a well-known comedian in the Latino community.

The conversations seemed to go well, with Cheto telling a female caller at one point that she needn’t



worry about the man she’d recently split with because she was going to be just fine. He also informed a caller named Carlos that he should have more respect for his elders.

It’s difficult trying to find a decent Mexican restaurant in Oklahoma, but at least it’s easy to find a quality Spanish

radio station.

Traditional Spanish flare is prominent throughout La Zeta’s programming, advertisements, and music. It had a great balance of fast-paced, dance-inducing songs as well as slow-paced, romantic ones.

The station even played a song by Los Tigres Del Norte, a Norteño band that my grandmother loves to listen to. And since it’s an FM station, La Zeta has a superb sound quality.

La Zeta’s website includes a link to Cheto’s Facebook as well as other important information regarding the station and its upcoming events. However, it’s difficult to navigate if you aren’t a native Spanish speaker.

I advise anyone who loves Spanish music to tune-in to La Zeta and experience the flare and fun of KTUZ 106.7 — you’ll find it hard not to listen.

Rating: B

—SIALI SIAOSI
STAFF WRITER

COUNSELOR'S Corner

Own your college experience

“No one is born fully-formed: it is through self-experience in the world that we become what we are.”

—PAULO FREIRE

PEDAGOGY OF THE OPPRESSED

The purpose of a college education is to transform its participants into adults capable of thinking critically and creatively. Although this type of thought must be founded on the acquisition of facts and the learning of processes, it’s necessary for students to step outside their comfort zones and to truly engage in activities that challenge their current perceptions of life in order to become transformed. Getting to that level requires that students actively engage in their learning and approach each class with curiosity and a desire to learn.

Be an active participant. Whether a class is exciting or boring has a lot to do with you. Life is not a spectator sport. You have to be willing to live it in order to enjoy it. That involves taking risks and making mistakes. If you’ve ever had the thought that “someone” ought to do something, remember that you are someone.

Ask questions. Too often, students do not ask questions or ask for help because they are afraid that someone might think they are foolish. That may or may not be true, but the bottom line is, “Who cares?” Why are you willing to pay for a class that you aren’t going to fully benefit from? Give us a chance to fill in the gaps and clarify the unclear.

Make time. Real learning is a somewhat slow, messy, tiring process. Often, it happens over a period of time, so what you begin to learn in a class may be uncomfortable, especially if you don’t yet have life experiences on which to anchor this learning. Talking with classmates who may have other experiences than your own can be very helpful. Also, participating in service learning and volunteer opportunities can help you hone your skills and think about things differently.

Remember that college isn’t an obstacle course that you must get through in order to begin your life. It should be an integral component of life that provides experiences you can build on forever. If you aren’t feeling that connected, or you’re not sure how to get the most out of your time here, we in Student Support Services want to help. Stop in and see us.

—MARY TURNER AND ALTA PRICE
LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

Reviewers on opposing sides regarding ‘Perks’

BOOK REVIEW | ‘Perks of Being a Wallflower’ is confusing and likely has no point

I enjoy reading books after the hype has died down, so I can truly enjoy it without getting sucked into the latest fandom. “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” by Stephen Chbosky has been popular for awhile so naturally, I kept putting reading it on hold.

I spotted the movie one day when I was shopping. Because I strongly believe in reading the book before watching the movie, I purchased the book.

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” appears to be an emotional and interesting read by first glance. The book had reviews from many different respected book reviewers, and popular magazines and newspapers. It also happens to be on the New York Times Bestseller List.

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is written in letter form to an unknown

friend of the main character whose name is Charlie. The format definitely takes some getting used to.

The whole book is basically just Charlie whining about his struggles throughout his freshman year of high school. It also describes his childhood experiences that have shaped who he is as a person.

He starts smoking, tries drugs, and hangs out with people who are much older than he and who prove to be bad influences, in my opinion. The book also goes into pretty graphic detail about his sexual exploration, which is not my cup of tea.

When I started reading the book, it really did not hold my attention. However, I kept reading, because I was hoping it would get better. Sadly, “The

Perks of Being a Wallflower” did not prove to be a captivating novel.

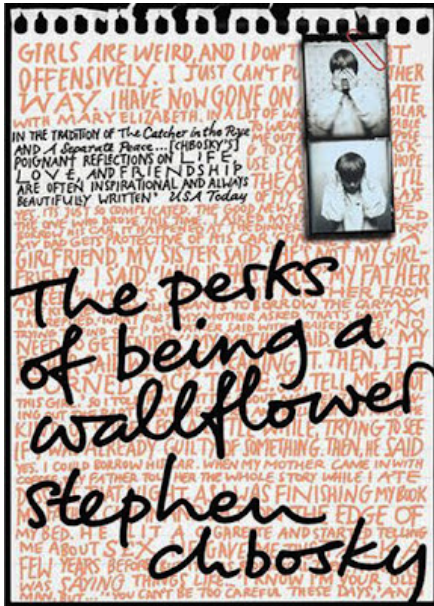
After finishing the book, I just sat in confusion about what I had read. I did not understand the point of the book and decided there may or may not have been one.

I expected some sort of touching story that all teenagers could relate to or at least hoped for some life-changing quotes. Unfortunately, neither of those things existed.

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is nothing special. I would not recommend it.

Rating: C

—LAUREN DANIEL
EDITOR

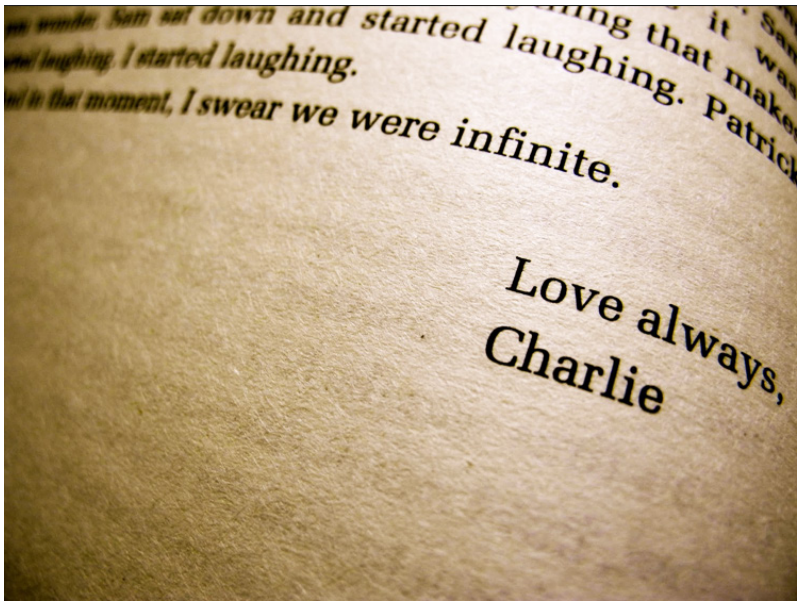


BOOK REVIEW | Book is a nostalgic, impactful read deserving of an A for angst

When I was an angsty teenager in 2009, a friend of mine suggested I read “The Perks of Being a Wallflower,” so I visited the library in my hometown and borrowed the book.

I was 15 then and I remember reading “Perks” in an empty church building instead of completing a community service project I was assigned.

I’ve since revisited the somber story written by Stephen Chbosky and, though it may have just been nostalgia for my teenage years, I still found the book as enjoyable now as it was then.



Now, for those of you rolling your eyes and claiming I’ve bandwagoned the book solely because Summit Entertainment brought it to the big screen with Hermione Granger as the female lead, I’d like to stress that I’ve never seen the film because the book is always better.

I’ve often regarded “Perks” as the ’90s counterpart to JD Salinger’s “Catcher in the Rye,” as it has a similar style of storytelling (as well as the same peculiar and suggestive central themes).

It’s a small book and quick read, but it’s packed with some heavy material.

“Perks” tells the story of Charlie, an observant individual with socially awkward tendencies.

Throughout the book, Charlie befriends Patrick and Sam, and engages in their alternative lifestyle — he attends his first party, experiments with drugs and explores his sexuality.

To some, Charlie’s coming-of-age tale might read

as dark or unfortunate.

However, though Charlie gains life experience in a non-traditional way, he undergoes quite a bit of personal growth as the novel progresses.

He learns a lot about his family, friendships and himself which allows the reader to consider his or her internal struggles as well.

If you don’t like a sad story — or you’re not a fan of sex, drugs, and rock ‘n’ roll — “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” may not be the book for you.

But if you like nostalgic, unusual and impactful writing, then take a chance on Charlie — you might feel infinite.

I give it an ‘A’ for angst.

Rating: A

—SIALI SIAOSI
STAFF WRITER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Jan. 31 through Feb. 2
www.newyorktimes.com

1. Ride Along
2. Frozen
3. That Awkward Moment
4. The Nut Job
5. Lone Survivor
6. Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit
7. Labor Day
8. American Hustle
9. I, Frankenstein
10. The Wolf of Wall Street
11. August: Osage County
12. Gravity
13. 12 Years a Slave
14. Dallas Buyers Club
15. The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
16. Her
17. Nebraska
18. Saving Mr. Banks
19. Devil's Due
20. Philomena

Students, community can get free income tax help

LAUREN DANIEL
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Students can get their taxes done for free on campus through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance said IRS Contact Service Representative Mr. Nunez. (Nunez said employees at the call center aren't allowed to give out their first names.)

He said OCCC will host the free tax service for low-income filers from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays through Tuesday, April 15.

The volunteers will be set up outside of the Student Life office, located on the first floor of the Main Building.

In order to get tax help from the VITA program, Nunez said, students must meet certain qualifications.

"If you visit our website at

www.irs.gov, it gives you the basic criteria of what the VITA signs are, what the requirements are for assistance," he said. "It states that if you made less than \$52,000 in combined income, they are willing to assist you."

Nunez said the volunteers can assist with basic income tax preparation and inform students about special tax breaks.

VITA sites usually only work on basic tax returns so students with more complicated forms may need to seek help elsewhere, he said.

"Anything that is too complicated — like if you start talking about specialty forms, or dividends, things that will take more than an hour on a tax return — they do have the right to refuse service."

Nunez said all VITA volunteers go through a tax program or course.

"It's not just your typical Joe coming from out of the street, sitting down at a computer, doing something for you."

He said students wanting to take advantage of the free service must bring a photo ID, social security numbers for everyone listed on the tax return, an individual taxpayer identification number, proof of foreign status (if needed) and birthdates for everyone listed on the return.

Several forms and statements also are required including: wage and earning statements from all employers (W2, W2G, 1099R, 1099Misc), interest and dividend statements from banks (forms 1099), the state return from last year, federal return from last year, and a bank account routing number and checking account number

for direct deposit.

Students who have children who attend daycare also will need to bring the total paid for daycare and their daycare provider's tax identity number.

If students are married and plan to file a joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the forms.

The process can seem overwhelming, Nunez said, but students can typically be done in less than a half an hour.

This does not include the waiting time in line, which students can try to prevent by arriving early.

"It just depends on how complicated the tax return is," Nunez said. "If you have a simple W2 and it's a 1040EZ form, they can be in and out in 15 to 20 minutes depending on how efficient the volunteer is."

For more information, contact the Student Life office at 405-682-7523.

Presentation highlights how students can use apps for learning

LAUREN DANIEL
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Apps for Education was presented to a group of about 50 students Jan. 28 in the College Union. The presentation showed students the many smartphone apps they can use to help them along on their academic journey.

There were 16 apps in five different categories presented by OCCC faculty and staff.

Those included storing, studying, surfing, styling and sharing.

The storing category included Keeper, an app that keeps all of your passwords in one convenient location.

"You just have to know one of your passwords by memory..." said English Professor Angela Cotner.

Dropbox also was included in the storing category. Dropbox is a cloud storage application students can use to



save files, said Jason Cimock, instructional technologist.

"With Dropbox you actually never have to use a flash drive ever again," Cimock said.

Darby Johnson, student learning coordinator, introduced students to Cloudon.

She said the cloud storage app is similar to Dropbox with the big difference being that students can start Microsoft documents inside of Cloudon.

"(However)... it does not have every single (Microsoft) feature available for free," Johnson said.

Another app highlighted

at the presentation is Quickoffice, an app students can use to edit Microsoft Documents such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint in a hurry.

"It's not full Microsoft office," Cimock said. "You cannot do everything in Quickoffice that you could do in Word..."

English Professor Pamela Stout introduced students to Evernote, an app that helps students create notes and manage them.

"You can create notes in it, [and] you can share notes with other people," Stout said.

For the studying category, the apps presented were Songza and Studyblue.

Stout said Songza allows students to select music based on the activity they are participating in at the time. Playlists are recommended for different activities.

Studyblue is a tool that students can use as an alternative

for handwritten flash cards.

Students can create their own cards or find notes and cards from other students.

"It's going to prioritize results from other students [who] attend OCCC and have taken that particular course you're searching for," Cimock said.

Many other apps were presented, including Puffin, Springpad, Flipboard, Pocket, Skitch, Paper, Haiku Deck, iMovie and Book Creator.

Cotner encourages students to download these apps and use them to their advantage.

"I think that students should take advantage of this because it allows their phones and iPads to be useful in school..." she said.

Most of the apps are available for Android and iOS devices, and some are even available in website format.

The majority of the apps are free, have a free version or are less than \$5.

For more information about Apps for Education, or the apps listed above, call Cimock at 405-682-1611, ext. 7459, or email at jcimock@occc.edu.



Student Employment & Career Services 

OPTIMAL RESUME

<https://occc.optimalresume.com>

Students' access ID is their OCCC email address; example > john.t.doe@my.occc.edu

Resumes • Cover Letters • Interview Skills

Black History Month recognizes equality

SIALI SIAOSI

Staff Writer

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February is Black History Month and political science Professor Sharon Vaughan said it's important to consider the reasons why it's celebrated in the first place.

"I have mixed feelings about [Black History Month]," Vaughan said. "Any time we start compartmentalizing things like that, it loses some meaning."

Vaughan said before teaching at OCCC, she taught at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga. — an all-male, historically black private college that Martin Luther King Jr., attended.

She said Black History Month is important as it symbolizes the progression of African-American people, but she said she's also worried Black

History Month is recognized for the wrong reasons.

"On one hand, [Black History Month] is educational," she said. "But on the other hand, I'm afraid these individuals and the things we focus on are treated so superficially ... they are reduced to caricatures of who they really are."

"I find that with Dr. King and Rosa Parks, they have been turned into these caricatures ... we roll them out [for Black History Month], and then we roll them back in."

Vaughan said most Americans re-

“On one hand, [Black History Month] is educational ... but on the other hand, I’m afraid these individuals and the things we focus on are treated so superficially ...”

—SHARON VAUGHAN
POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

member King for his "I Have a Dream Speech" and Parks for her historical refusal to give up her bus seat at the demand of a white man, but nothing more.

"Very few people know that Dr. King was one of the very first Americans to protest the Vietnam War ... [and] he was one of the first Amer-

icans to highlight poverty," Vaughan said. "He was consistent throughout his career in his commitment to non-violence."

Vaughan said society has made Parks a false archetype by deeming her a "tired old seamstress" who didn't want to get

up on the day she was asked to move.

"She had a strong sense of justice," Vaughan said. "She was a committed activist her entire life ... she was tired of feeling inferior."

Vaughan said the social struggles for the African-American population still occur today.

America has come a long way since desegregation, she said, but there's still more progress to be made.

"In 2014, race matters. Blacks still earn a lot less, the education levels for young African-American men are horrific for college — there's just a long way to go demographically."

"People don't want to hear it," Vaughan said this Black History Month, OCCC students should not just consider how far African-American people have come but also remember that there is still work to do.

Rosa Parks more than just a hero

BRYCE MCELHANEY

News Writing Student

Rosa Parks suffered immensely after she decided not to give up her bus seat to a white person, leading to a decade of criticism, hate mail, and death threats, said Political Science Professor Sharon Vaughan. She gave a detailed presentation on Rosa Parks Day, Feb. 4, in the College Union.

Vaughan discussed not only the importance of the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement, but also gave great detail about Parks, an African American woman from Montgomery, Ala., and other African-American women who were involved in the late 1950s.

Vaughan said she had mixed emotions about celebrating these historical events.

"If we don't schedule a specific time to talk about it, it will never be talked about," she said.

"We do not give enough acknowledgements to the very specific details of cases like Rosa Parks and too many details go unrecognized."

Parks' action of civil dis-



obedience was a deliberate decision, Vaughan said.

"Parks was a part of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) for 20 years before getting arrested."

"Parks was the perfect person — having a clean record — to stand up and represent the problem of inequality in American society, for herself and for all other African-American people."

In the NAACP, Parks had a duty of teaching the youth about their personal rights, Vaughan said.

"There is so much untold about the whole Rosa Parks story," she said.

Vaughan said when people think about Parks' story, they tend to think of her simply as a hero and not focus on the personal struggles she endured

after the bus situation.

Her action on Dec. 1, 1955, precipitated the Montgomery bus boycott that led to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling against segregated buses. The boycott ended on Dec. 21, 1956.

"Rosa and her husband lost their jobs because of Rosa's actions, received hate mail and death threats, which all led to stress, causing poor health," Vaughan said.

"There was a lot of unrecognized suffering that occurred."

At the end of the presentation, a student asked "What should we gather from this today in 2014?"

Vaughan replied by saying "that we understand that there was a lot of bravery, pain, suffering and personal sacrifice, and that this was a big deal of what they did."

Student Jessica Gaddis said she often refers to Rosa Parks when doing her own protests.

"Rosa is an idol of mine and I came to this presentation to learn more about her," Gaddis said.

"The presentation was very informative and it was interesting to see more of the story behind Rosa Parks."

What does Black History Month mean to you?



"I suppose it's just a way to think back on what our ancestors went through ... recognizing that ... we have come a long way."

—Trevion McCarthur
Music Composition major



"I guess it just means how far we've come as a nation — being equal and treating people with fairness."

—Sarah Trosper
Psychology major



"It means that we've learned from our past ... and it means equality."

—Clayton Thompson
Engineering major

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH OUR READERS AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCCCPIONEER OR AT WWW.TWITTER.COM/OCCCPIONEER

Tests, free condoms offered through V-day

SIALI SIAOSI

Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Many young people don't realize how common it is to contract a sexually-transmitted infection, said Terry Dennison, Planned Parenthood education director.

Dennison said National Condom Week, an event dedicated to informing students about safe sex and HIV/AIDS prevention, is Feb. 10 through 14.

He said the week is a tradition started in 1978 by a group of college students who wanted to bring attention to the many great things a condom can do for people in terms of prevention and sexual responsibility.

Dennison said instead of scaring people with campaigns about STIs and unplanned pregnancies, National Condom Week emphasizes humor and makes talking about safe sex fun.

He said the Planned Parenthood organizations in Oklahoma City have participated in National Condom Week for 22 years.

"[National Condom Week] reminds us that part of being a sexually responsible adult is to get tested on a regular basis and to take care of yourself," Dennison said.

Although condoms are less effective against STIs contracted from skin-to-skin contact, such as HSV-2 (genital herpes) or human papilloma-virus, Dennison said, it's important to use them.

He said about half of all people will contract an STI by the age of 25, but wearing a condom can prevent this from occurring.

"The majority of people who become infected [with an STI] don't show symptoms," he said.

"[Condoms] significantly reduce the risk [of contracting an STI]."

Dennison said men often don't show symptoms for specific diseases such as trichomoniasis and women rarely have symptoms of chlamydia.

"One of the things we are trying to do with National Condom Week is show people that it's not just the same old stuff that your dad or grandpa once used," he said.

"There's a lot of variations in condoms — they can be a lot of fun and even open up communication in a relationship ..."

Throughout National Condom Week, Dennison said, Planned Parenthood clinics across the Oklahoma

City metro area will be giving out free condoms.

He said clinics always offer STI testing and accept most forms of major health insurance.

Dennison said students should get creative with condoms to liven up a responsible sex life.

"Just have fun with it," Dennison said.

"Have a themed day and use flavored condoms ... there's just so many different things that you can always try.

"Make it a part of having fun."

For more information about the services offered, call Planned Parenthood at 405-528-0221 or visit www.plannedparenthood.org.



What are your Valentine's Day plans?



"Maybe just go out to eat with friends because I'm not in a relationship with anyone."

—Nalinee Junkaew
Business major



"I'm going out to a movie and dinner."

—Justin Sherman
Sociology major



"I really don't have any plans for Valentine's Day."

—Melissa Nguyen
Business major



"I think I work that day, honestly."

—Alan Maya
Computer science major

Creative gifts way to go

SIALI SIAOSI

Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

If you're a trying to impress someone this Valentine's Day, stay away from perfumes and colognes. Instead, try some ideas that reek of originality and consider personalization over price.

If you're a big-spender, by all means, go for name-brands and quality products — just make sure it's something that your significant other will enjoy.

"One of my exes did a scavenger hunt of small gifts that led to a big one," said journalism major Nicole Henderson.

Henderson said since the gift was homemade, it made the day more meaningful and fun.

She said the "big gift" was composed of roses,

a homemade dinner, and her favorite movie.

"I was 17, but it's probably one of the sweetest gifts I've ever [received] for any holiday."

Girls love it when you listen, so do just that.

Pay attention to what her favorite color is, what shows she likes, what kind of candy satisfies her sweet tooth and then purchase all of that instead of getting her something that you "think" she might enjoy.

Taking someone out for dinner is another Valentine's Day tradition that you might consider putting a personal spin on.

Don't be cliché and go to Olive Garden. Find somewhere small and quiet where the food is prepared from scratch instead of heated under a burner. Go for ambiance instead of convenience. I promise your date will appreciate it.

For more ways to make Valentine's Day anything but ordinary, visit www.jsonline.com.

**WHAT ARE YOUR VALENTINE'S DAY PLANS?
SHARE THEM WITH OUR READERS AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCCCPIONEER OR
AT WWW.TWITTER.COM/OCCCPIONEER**

SPORTS

Workout time



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

Khoa Doan, engineering major, takes advantage of the college’s weight room. Doan said he works out “to relieve some stress.” The weight room, gym and OCCC pool are available free of charge to OCCC students with a valid ID.

SPORTS | Instructor compares workout to ‘choreographed weightlifting’

Sets and Reps a fun class set to music

SIALI SIAOSI
Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

For OCCC students seeking a quick, intense workout, fitness instructor Jayme Butler said Campus Recreation’s Sets and Reps class is fast-paced and fun.

“It’s like choreographed weightlifting,” Butler said.

“It’s usually upbeat music — and sometimes it’s songs that you know.”

Butler instructs Sets and Reps from noon to 12:55 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Butler said her class on Jan. 29 had 13 participants. She said Sets and Reps is popular because of its style of isolating each aspect of the body.

The class is a healthy combination of cardio and strength training as it incorporates higher reps to increase

MONTH	TIME	DATES	DAY	SECTION #	FEE REG/60+
January	12-12:55 p.m.	3 - 31	M/W/F	WELL 0001 SR1	\$36/\$24
February	12-12:55 p.m.	3 - 28	M/W/F	WELL 0002 SR1	\$36/\$24
March	12-12:55 p.m.	3 - 31	M/W/F	WELL 0003 SR1	\$28/\$16
April	12-12:55 p.m.	2 - 30	M/W/F	WELL 0004 SR1	\$36/\$25
May	12-12:55 p.m.	2 - 30	M/W/F	WELL 0005 SR1	\$36/\$24

heart rate, Butler said.

“It’s not so much about using heavy weights ... you’re just doing more reps,” she said. “We [mainly] use hand weights and barbells.”

Sets and Reps implements weightlifting and cardio techniques to ensure participants are getting the most of their workout, Butler said. She said each exercise is specific to the part of the body being used.

“It’s a full-body workout. You’re going through the scientifically proper way of how to lift weights — starting with bigger muscles [and moving] to smaller muscles ...”

Butler said the class exercises leg

muscles for the duration of a song and then progresses to other parts of the body during other songs.

“You’re working through each body part ... and moving the intensity to a different part of your

body,” she said. “It’s intense but fun.”

Butler said newcomers to the Sets and Reps class might not understand the movements at first but that it’s easy to catch on.

She said the class is a lot of fun and that she hopes to get more participants as the semester progresses.

Students can purchase a fitness pass for \$35 at the Campus Recreation desk to attend Butler’s class for the rest of the semester or students can pay \$5 per class.

For more information about classes and other fitness events, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•Feb. 27
Men’s Spring Open Basketball League pre-season open run for registered teams at 7 p.m. in the OCCC gym. Teams will be assigned to their divisions according to their performance. Open Divisions: A and B. League Fee: \$275 per team. League dates are March 6 through May 1. Game days are Thursdays at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. End of season tournament is May 8 and May 15 (single elimination). For more information, call 405-682-7861 or visit www.occc.edu/rf/adultsports.

• March 1
Final day for Spring Coed Volleyball registration with payment. League starts March 10 and runs through April 21. Games are at 6:30 p.m. each Monday. Each team will play 12 games plus tournament using USVBA rules with some modifications. League fees: \$230 per team. Roster limit is 12. For more information, call 405-682-7861 or visit www.occc.edu/rf/adultsports.

• Spring semester:
Visit www.occc.edu/rf/swimming-diving to enroll in a number of events held in the college’s Aquatic Center.



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to be directed to a list of OCCC Intramural events, complete with the most current updates.

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

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

Sexual battery, missing phone, pornography reported

LAUREN DANIEL
Editor
editor@occc.edu

Sexual battery, a missing cell phone, pornography and an abandoned minor kept campus police busy the last two weeks of January.

A sexual battery involving two students was reported at about 11:17 a.m. on Jan. 28 near exit 3 in the Main Building. A 22-year-old woman claimed a man, 21, stopped her and began to "hit on her." He then requested her number so they could study together.

The victim said she did not want to be rude so she stopped to talk to him even though she felt uncomfortable. According to the police report, the victim told the man she needed to go

home multiple times, but he kept talking.

The suspect touched the victim's face and then hugged the woman. He then attempted to kiss her on the mouth.

Officer Daniel Piazza questioned the man who denied the allegations.

After being told the incident was captured on camera, the man admitted the allegations were true. He was told by officers his behavior was inappropriate.

At approximately 6:32 p.m. Jan. 22, student Georgette Forshee reported her cell phone missing. She told campus police she thought she had left the Galaxy S4 on the bookstore counter. Officer David Madden called the victim's phone but it was turned off. Forshee said the

phone had been fully charged.

Police used video surveillance footage to determine student Cynthia Herrera had been mistakenly given the phone by bookstore employees who thought she had left it behind.

When questioned, Herrera claimed she thought the phone was hers and did not realize she had two phones until she arrived home.

Herrera told police she had called OCCC to report having the phone but there was no record of the call according to the report.

Herrera returned the phone to campus police Jan. 24. At that time, it was found she had active warrants with Oklahoma City and Moore. She was held until Oklahoma City marshals arrived.

Two days later, a 32-year-old male visiting campus was reported to be viewing pornography on a library computer according to a campus police report.

Officer Tim Harris said the suspect was issued a "Notice to leave Oklahoma City Community College," which prohibits him from coming onto OCCC property for six months. The man was then escorted off the campus.

At approximately 6:36 p.m. Jan. 31, a 12-year-old girl became separated from her older sister and sister's friend in the library.

Officer Jeremy Bohannon searched the library and could not locate the parties the minor had been with.

The minor's father was called and told that his daughter was

alone on campus. The father told the officer that the minor's sister and sister's friend had walked home.

The minor was then picked up by her father.

All names were redacted on all reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCCPD Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld."

To obtain a copy of the procedure, email cjordan@occc.edu.

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.

TLC: The Leadership Council is all about campus issues

Continued from page 1

the college hears students, and vice versa."

Although the administration pays attention to the multiple ways of communication, Paden said, TLC meetings are where voices are heard more clearly.

"Now we listen to the student editors, the letters to the editors, the articles, the emails, the suggestions that we get ... but there is no real formal vibe that we might get a resolution for them, or a recommendation from that we then respond to as the administration."

Important topics are dis-

cussed and acted upon, Paden said, such as the price of tuition, food services, or the resolution against guns on campus.

"The last four or five years, we as an institution, the students, the TLC, have affirmed the resolution that is in opposition to guns on campus," she said.

Sechrist said TLC also has acted on issues in the past that are making the campus a better place for students.

Examples are the OCCC Roadmap, the directional signs both outside and inside the buildings; recommendations on tuition and fees and advisement on the student

conduct code.

Jessica Macias, TLC co-chair and diversified studies major, said when students bring up issues, TLC contacts the person in charge of that area and asks them to a meeting.

"We usually bring the president each semester and we try to do him first," Macias said.

"We always try to bring the food services since they've changed now and we usually bring the vice president, which is Marion [Paden]," she said.

Sechrist said to become a part of TLC, students must first join a club or organization.

"The first step is to get in-

volved with a student club or organization, be elected by the members as an officer, and then agree to attend the meetings of TLC," he said.

Macias said students who are not a part of an organization or club are still invited to attend TLC meetings.

"If you're not involved in any club whatsoever you can sit in the back and then see who is represented for each club, and then talk to them, as well, so you can be a part of this," she said.

Joining TLC gives students a chance to make a difference on the OCCC campus and in

their community, Macias said.

"It gives them more information about things that are going on around school, and to make our school better."

Sechrist encourages students not only to become involved with TLC, but also in clubs and organizations in general.

"Getting involved with student clubs and organizations allows students the opportunity to provide input to the administration on issues that face students," he said.

For more information about TLC, contact Paden at 405-682-7595 or email her at mpaden@occc.edu.

Drive: With hospital blood supplies down, donors sought

Continued from page 1

be at least 16 years old to donate without parental consent.

"If you are 16 or 17, you have to weigh [at least] 125 pounds," Hix said.

"If you are 18 and older, you have to weigh [at least] 110 pounds.

"We just ask that everyone eat a good meal and make sure they are very well-hydrated before they donate."

Hix said walk-ins are wel-

come at the blood-drive, though making an appointment can quicken the process.

Appointments can be made by going online to <http://obi.org/about-us/contact-us>.

She said donors will undergo electronic health history screening to ensure their blood is safe to donate.

"After [the donors] pass all of those questions, we'll take their blood pressure, temperature, and prick their finger for iron," Hix said.

"Once they're [donating], it only takes about 15 minutes or so."

Hix said donors will be given a snack and drink before going on their way.

The blood collected is used for surgeries, trauma victims, burn victims and cancer patients.

OBI serves all of Oklahoma, as well as parts of Arkansas and Texas, she said.

Hix said OBI is always in need of volunteers.

"If any students need volunteer hours or anything like that, they can always volunteer with OBI," she said.

"We have blood drives seven days a week.

"We always need volunteers, whether it be at the specific blood drive on campus ... but we also need to help spread the word about the blood drive."

Hix said the blood drive hopes to gather 80 successful units of blood within the two days it is at OCCC.

"If anybody has thought about [donating] and has never given before, now is the time to give," Hix said.

"Right now, hospital usage is up ... the hospitals are really counting on it."

Hix said OBI hosts five blood drives at OCCC annually. She said the next blood drive will be held in April.

For more information about the blood drive on Feb. 12 and 13, contact Hix at 405-401-6832.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Common interests



JAKE MCMAHON/PIONEER

Yajun Zhang represents OCCC's Biotechnology club at the Organization Fair. Students were able to visit numerous tables set up by the various campus clubs. The fair, sponsored by Student Life, is held each 16-week semester so students can learn about campus clubs and organizations. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/StudentLife.

COMMUNITY | Feb. 13 rehearsal open to public free of charge

Philharmonic, pianist to perform Feb. 14

JAKE MCMAHON
News Writing Student

The Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra, with pianist Valery Kuleshov, will take the stage at the Grand Opening Concert for OCCC's Visual and Performing Arts Center Theater on Friday, Feb. 14.

Now an artist-in-residence at the University of Central Oklahoma, Kuleshov is a renowned pianist who has claimed a number of international prizes, according to the OCCC website.

Though the center has already had two separate inaugural events, this concert will be the first performance ever held in the new multimillion dollar theater, said Lemuel Bardeguez, director of cultural programs.

Free tickets are being provided to donors and various members of the college faculty and staff by invitation, said Lealon Taylor, executive director of institutional advancement.

Unused tickets, however, may be offered to students.

If they are, Student Life will notify

**Valery Kuleshov
rehearsal
7:30 p.m.
Thursday,
Feb. 13
Open to OCCC
staff, faculty and
students**

students by email some time in the week preceding the concert.

Even if no tickets are available to students, Bardeguez said, the orchestra will provide a full rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, that is free to all OCCC staff, faculty and students.

"We were excited to have the practice session to be on campus. It would be the perfect opportunity for students to listen and learn," Taylor said.

Pianist Kuleshov also will perform during the rehearsal.

Kuleshov was a Gold Medallist at the Busoni International Piano Com-



Valery Kuleshov

petition in Italy in 1987, a Silver Medallist at the Ninth Van Cliburn International Competition in 1993, and a First Prize winner at the Pro Piano International Competition in New York in 1998.

Bardeguez said while most students

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Study Skills Workshop Feb. 11

One of the experienced Communications Lab professionals will show you how to study your textbooks more effectively and have fun doing it. Whether you're a first-year freshman, a non-traditional student, or returning to OCCC for Spring 2014, helpful study hints are beneficial for everyone. The workshop will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. Feb. 11, in VPAC room 146. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.

Recognizing Rhetoric Workshop Feb. 11

Build strategies for analyzing arguments using rhetorical appeals with Communications Lab supervisor Lynette Leidner from 6 to 7 p.m. in VPAC room 146. The workshop will discuss ethos, pathos and logos, while examining various fallacies. Participants will analyze arguments for the parts of the rhetorical triangle and learn how to approach rhetorical analysis and persuasive essay assignments. For more information, contact the Communications Lab at 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.

Resume Workshop Feb. 13

Interested in creating a professional resume? Learn how to generate a resume that will get the attention of potential employers. Learn how to highlight your education, work experience, skills, and activities. The workshop is located in the office of Student Employment & Career Services in the Main Building, Room 1G7 (next to Student Life). For more information, contact Employment and Career Services at 405-682-7519 or send an email to employmentservices@occc.edu.

Interview Workshop Feb. 20

You only have one chance to make a first impression. OCCC's Student Employment & Career Services is here to help you polish your interviewing skills from 12:30 to 1 p.m. at the Student Employment & Career Services office located in Room 1G7 on the first floor of the Main Building. For more information, contact Employment and Career Services at 405-682-7519 or send an email to employmentservices@occc.edu.

MLA Style: A Royal Pain Feb. 24

Explore common difficulties with MLA documentation, style and formatting with presenter Nick Webb, from 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 24 in CU1 in the Student Union. This workshop covers paper formatting, works cited pages, and in-text citations. This is a perfect opportunity for first-year freshman or non-traditional students to brush up on their MLA skills in order to use them for future writing assignments at OCCC and elsewhere. For more information, contact the Office of Student Life at 405-682-7523.

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

will not be able to attend this concert, more events will take place, with tickets available for students to purchase.

For more information, call Taylor at 405-682-1611, ext. 7617.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1994 White Saturn model SC1. Body type CP, 169,000 miles. Asking \$800.00. Call 212.6027 for more information.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Two 40" CRT televisions. Both are in excellent condition. Great for a gaming TV in the kids' room. \$30 each. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Bed liner for standard long bed pickup w/ tailgate liner. \$75. GC. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures or more information.

FOR SALE: This space. For just \$8 per week, you could

advertise your business here. For more rate information, email adman@occc.edu.

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: Collector's Item! "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 all-in-one printer. New color and B&W cartridges. Power cord. Works great. \$50. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

TUTOR WANTED: Part-time tutor wanted for Accounting I and Macroeconomics. Pay is negotiable. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking to make extra money. Text 405-443-8448.

Public Notice of Upcoming Accreditation Review Visit by the ACEN ANNOUNCEMENT

Oklahoma City Community College Nursing Program wishes to announce that it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its associate degree nursing program by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). You are invited to meet the site visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled from 3 to 3:45 p.m. Feb. 12, 2014, in College Union 1 at Oklahoma City Community College. Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:

Dr. Sharon Tanner, Chief Executive Officer
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326

Or e-mail: sjtanner@acenursing.org

All written comments should be received by the ACEN by Feb. 4, 2014.

SE&S

Student Employment & Career Services OCCC

JOB BOARD

www.collegecentral.com/occc

Students register with their 7-digit student ID number
Alumni enter AL+last 5 digits of Social Security number

Find Jobs • Post Your Resume • Apply for Positions

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

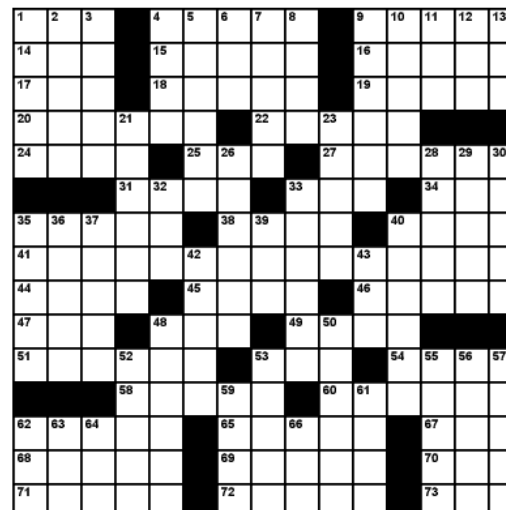
Hmm... Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. Hmm... a film studio
4. Slate-colored bird
9. Western brewer
14. He beat Joe and lost to Leon
15. Cookwear?
16. Gumbo ingredients
17. It's not for nay-sayers
18. Whooping, for instance
19. Great
20. Capital of Mali
22. Be busy as a beaver?
24. Moslem leader
25. __, amas, amat
27. Hmm... a rapper
31. Rowboat
33. Samovar
34. Outer prefix
35. Corroded
38. Resonated
40. Hews
41. Em, not 'M'
44. Bird lover's offering
45. Flightless South American bird
46. Indistinct
47. __ Wan (Star Wars sage)
48. Call for help
49. Where the stitches are
51. Hmm... a candy
53. Make do
54. Chances
58. Give way
60. Worship
62. A chaperone, probably
65. Inspect, in a way
67. Neither partner
68. Fergie, really
69. More slippery
70. Debtor's letters
71. Like a lobster
72. Plow inventor
73. Hmm... a business model

Down

1. Noncommittal response



2. Make like a star
3. East coast city
4. Trunk item
5. Disturbance
6. Armed grp.?
7. Yuppie abode, perhaps
8. Draftable
9. It has rows
10. Giraffe's relative
11. Former Boston Bruin, Bobby
12. Speakeasy tune, possibly
13. Comp. pt.
21. Intense
23. Come together
26. Aromatic resins (fit for a king?)
28. Link
29. Put out
30. Saunter
32. North of NY
33. Be a spoil sport at a costume party
35. __ Downs (Derby location)

36. Part of the Dutch West Indies
37. Associate
39. Manipulate
40. Sci-fi writer, Isaac
42. Jagged
43. Koop's grp.
48. Where to find a forge
50. Stranger
52. Originally Zimmerman
53. Draw out
55. Ubiquitous fabric
56. The very young or very old may do this
57. Plasma
59. Like a cornerstone
61. French 101 verb
62. Biblical transport
63. Skip stones over water
64. Flimflam psychic, Geller
66. Pass on

(Copyright © dave fisher - puzzles.about.com)

Donate plasma today and earn up to \$300 a month!*

Who knew I could **earn money**,
save lives, and **get free wi-fi**
at the same time?

1327 E. Lindsey St, Norman, OK 73071
405-447-9977

716 NW 23rd St, Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405-521-9204



Scan for an insider look at
the plasma donation process

To scan and view content, you must download
a QR code reader from your App store.

*Applicable for eligible, qualified new donors. Fees vary by weight. New donors must bring photo ID, proof of address and Social Security number.

CSLPlasma.com

CSL Plasma
Good for You. Great for Life.

Read us online!! <http://pioneer.occc.edu>

OCCC app features everything students need

LAUREN DANIEL
Editor
editor@occc.edu

OCCC's mobile app — available on Android and iOS devices — has recently been updated, said John Richardson, web development and social media supervisor. He said students can expect a new look and new features.

Richardson said the app now includes a background picture of the college, which gives the app a fresh look.

"The look is different," he said.

"If you've not upgraded to the new version of the app, it looks very different and I think in a positive way."

The app also contains links so students can log into their Moodle, MineOnline and student email accounts directly from the app, Richardson said.

"... I think that's a very important addition to the capabilities in the system."

Richardson said the app also has many other features, including a weather module, contact information, events, a news feed and links to OCCC's social media sites.

"We've got a link to our Facebook

page, a link to our Twitter account, a link to our YouTube account.

"We want to position the app so that if people want to know something about the college, or need to ask things about the college, they can think of that as an option available to them."

Richardson said there are many other features that students can expect to see soon.

"There are a few new features that we haven't turned on yet, simply because we want to do some planning to make sure that they function the way they're supposed to before everyone gets it on their phone ... so we have a few issues to work out, but overall, the change went very well."

Richardson said OCCC is looking at adding even more features on the app in the future, like a library interface and the OCCC handbook.

"We've had some conversations with people in the library about creating an interface between the app and their computer system," he said.

Push notifications, which send alerts to students' home screens, also will be a future addition that OCCC will

use to contact students. The notifications will be helpful when campus is closed for unexpected weather, Richardson said.

The OCCC app is free and can be downloaded in the Apple App Store, or the Android Store.

"There's no interest on our part in trying to make money off of this," he said.

"We want to provide it as a service to students, employees, and prospective students, as well."

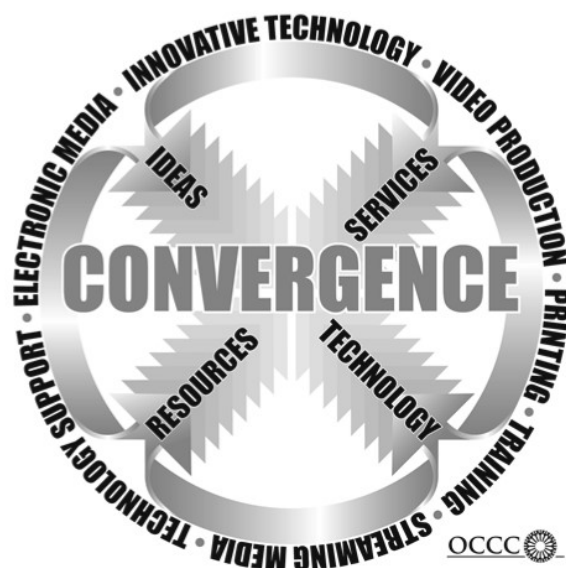
Richardson encourages all students to get the OCCC app on their phones.

"I hope they'll at least consider installing it on their phone and giving it a shot. We hope that it's something they'll find useful."

For more information about the OCCC mobile app, contact Richardson at 405-682-7552 or email jrichardson@occc.com.



EVERYONE WELCOME



CONVERGENCE Informational and Training Sessions

February 26
Noon to 4:00 PM

February 27
9:00 to 1:00 PM

CONVERGENCE 2014 College Union Rooms 1, 2, & 3

**Experience resources and technology
available on campus during the resource fair**

February 24

Noon to 4:00 PM

February 25

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM