

PIONEER ONLINE

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EARTHQUAKES CAUSED BY FRACKING

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HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS BEING TAKEN

Know an OCCC alum who is deserving of a place in OCCC's Alumni Hall of Fame? Turn to page 10 for nomination information.

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PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JULY 18, 2014

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Lemonade for a good cause



JOHN HUYNH/PIONEER

Students enrolled in OCCC's College for Kids Giving Back class sell lemonade at OCCC's main campus to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation. A second stand was set up outside of the FACE Center. Students raised \$760. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation is a pediatric cancer charity founded by Alexandra "Alex" Scott. In 2000, at age 4, Alex wanted to set up a lemonade stand to help raise money for childhood cancer research. For more information about the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, visit www.alexslimonade.org.

Associate degree increases earnings

President lists advantages of a two-year degree

BRYCE MCELHANEY
Editor
editor@occc.edu

In the past year, 1,756 people have earned an associate, or two-year, degree at OCCC.

President Paul Sechrist said those students will have an advantage over those with a high-school diploma.

"If you look at the last recession, who stayed employed?" he said. "People with college degrees — much higher than

people who only had high school diplomas.

"The advantages of having an associate degree are numerous ...," he said.

Sechrist said associate degrees are divided into two categories: transfer degrees and immediate job entry degrees.

The associate of arts and the associate of science degrees are transfer degrees. Applied science degrees are designed for immediate employment.

"The ... associate of arts and the associate of science degrees [are] designed as the first two years of a baccalaureate program," Sechrist said.

He said this type of degree is

often referred to as a university parallel degree program, because the goal is to take the first two years at a two-year college, then transfer to a four-year university to complete a bachelor's degree.

Sechrist said it's a good idea to complete the first two years of college at a two-year institution.

"The advantages of [completing the first two years] at a community college are affordability, smaller classes, direct access with faculty, lots of support services and a wide array of courses and degree programs that are a good affordable way to test different disciplines," he said.

"If you look at the last recession, who stayed employed? People with college degrees — much higher than people who only had high school diplomas."

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT

"Almost every student who gets an associate degree, then transfers says ... they like having those first two years at a community college."

See **DEGREE** page 6

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Writer says it may be time for the Environmental Protection Agency to get involved

State damaged by fracking

Since 2008, there has been a significant increase in Oklahoma earthquakes. This year alone, we have had around 60 quakes with magnitudes of 2.0 or greater, according to Time.com’s Denver Nicks.

“In 2009 there were 49. In 2010 there were 180. In 2013 there were 291, and so far in 2014, there have been 59-plus and counting,” Nicks reported.



BRYCE
McELHANEY

Nicks said earthquake monitor EQ charts show there were between 0 and 11 earthquakes of 2.0 magnitudes or greater in Oklahoma every year between 1990 and 2008.

With the quakes increasing since 2008 and becoming more frequent than ever, I am concerned for Oklahoma’s safety.

There is significant evidence pointing to the correlation between fracking and the increase in earthquakes.

Fracking is “the the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc., so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas.”

That’s exactly what Oklahomans should be worried about.

The water-injecting methods are reasonably ques-

tionable when it comes to the sudden increase in earthquakes.

“Researchers believe that the earthquakes are caused by overpressuring a fault system,” according to a study by Scott Kaufman from rawstory.com.

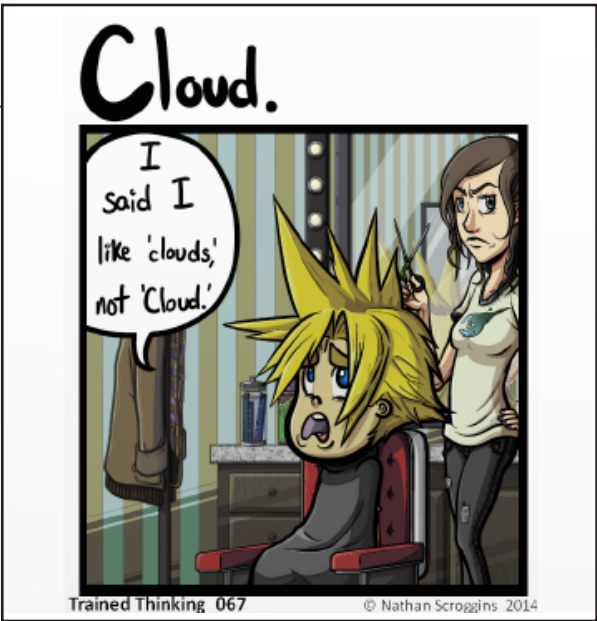
“Injecting too much waste-water into the ground causes tectonically stable areas to slip, resulting not only in a single earthquake, but a redistribution of pressures along the entire fault system...”

As history shows, fracking has been a common method for obtaining shale oil by gas companies in Oklahoma for many years.

“The oil and gas production practice [fracking] describes were benign entries in the driller’s dictionary for at least 65 years — with origins reaching even farther back to the petroleum industry’s birth,” according to asme.org.

Essentially, America has been running on oil and gas for a long time and it seems this trend will continue until we someday run out of our limited resources, i.e. fossil fuels, which are gathered in our backyards in Oklahoma.

With Oklahoma being a prosperous land of oil, more than 82,000 Oklahomans are directly employed by oil and natural gas industries, according to oerb.com. More than 344,500 Oklahoma jobs are supported directly or indirectly by the oil and natural gas industry. Because of that, there may be a tendency to



deny the possible connection between fracking and the increase in earthquakes.

Oklahoma also economically depends on oil and gas revenue. A 2013 State Impact NPR report shows Oklahoma collected an all-time high tax revenue of \$11.3 billion — most of that coming from oil and gas.

It’s time we look at the long-term damage to the state and put that ahead of the financial gains.

The Environmental Protection Agency already has taken steps to regulate the chemicals used for fracking, according to epa.gov.

With the EPA taking initiative to regulate fracking procedures, we can only hope they will also help create safer alternatives and better solutions for oil and gas collection.

—BRYCE McELHANEY
EDITOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Writer says public demands only charisma, appearance of genuine conviction

Student says few people seek facts, real truth anymore

To the Editor:

Recently, I completed one of the most challenging tasks I’d been assigned since entering OCCC. It was a speech; a group debate in which the teammates were chosen at random, and the topics of debate and the teams’ stances were chosen blindly out of a hat.

Some students found themselves arguing for things they’d never heard of before. I found myself arguing in favor of something that I have studied well and have stood passionately against for a long time. I took to the task with great gusto and gave the best speech I could, or really a performance rather, and I nailed it.

Like a proper scumbag, with a smile on my face, some manipulated data and charismatic slogans, I convinced impressionable, young classmates that some heinous thing was great for them all.

The real challenge of this all though was the research. To find a single source offering some real benefit proved difficult but I toiled at it and uncovered sources from their murky depths. Citing multiple, credible sources was a mandatory part of this project. To be caught relying on a fallacy of any sort would render your argument dismissed and the final grade penalized.

Beyond these walls though, there is no such punitive policy towards persuasive speech. When we are told how to feel about things by some silver-tongued fellow, speakers are under no obligation to cite the source of their information and if they were, it would likely only bore us. We demand only charisma and the appearance of genuine conviction to whip us into a frenzy.

Outside of the classroom, when the impassioned speeches are made, the burden of proof is solely on the listener. There is no fact checker scouring some endless almanac. It’s just us and them and we want so badly to be moved, to be stirred, to be passionate about anything; real or imaginary.

I affirmed something today that I’d always known. We can be moved with utter lies and misinformation, and people can be stirred into perpetrating horrible acts upon their earth or upon one another without a single, tiny shred of any real evidence of the benefit of doing so. And it can all be sparked by the charismatic words of some enthusiastic man with absolutely no allegiance to the words he’s saying.

—JORGE KRZYZANIAK
OCCC STUDENT

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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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 no more than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located 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 http://pioneer.occc.edu.

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

MOVIE REVIEW | With all-new cast and confusing storyline, fans will be disappointed

‘Transformers’ an optimal fail

Let me say first that I am a huge “Transformers” fan. So last weekend I ran to the nearest theater to see the much anticipated new movie “Transformers: Age of Extinction,” the fourth movie in the well-known “Transformers” series.

The movie, with Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz and Jack Reynor, features a whole new cast for the “Transformers” films.

A new cast can be very tricky to the success of a movie, so I was excited to see how they would tie up the last chapter of the former movie, and begin the new one.

The movie is set five years after “Transformers: Dark of the Moon.” The autobots have gone into hiding and the famous Optimus Prime is nowhere to be found.

The plot moves along when Cade

(Wahlberg) comes across Optimus and helps the beaten leader. In the process, Cade drags his daughter and her boyfriend into the world of war of the autobots.

In this film the focus moves away from Bumblebee and to Prime as the main link to the humans. Oddly, it is never explained why Bumblebee left his owner Sam, since he was supposed to be his most loyal protector.

The shallow and sloppily thrown-in love connection between the daughter and boyfriend is disappointing.

Within the two hours and 45 minutes of running time, the plot just gets too thick and, at points, is flat out boring, so the viewers are either asking questions or bored.

The only enjoyable parts of this

film are the action scenes and special effects.

This was by far the worst of the “Transformer” movies. Director Michael Bay should have questioned his ability to make an interesting sequel when he decided he was going to recast the entire film and in no way wrap up what had happened to all of the characters fans had grown attached to.

Altogether the film was too long, too stretchy, with very shallow characters. I would not recommend this movie to anyone who is a fan of the previous “Transformers” movies. They will leave very disappointed, and scratching their heads in confusion.

Rating: C

—MYCALYN BLOMSTROM
ONLINE WRITER



Truck It OKC — a free app dedicated to directing hungry patrons to food trucks around the Oklahoma City metro—launched on June 25 and had more than 2,000 downloads during its first two weeks, said Developer Josh DeLozier.

DeLozier said he and his business partner Travis Stephens have been developing the app since October 2013.

“... I was looking for a food truck for lunch one day,” he said. “I figured out very quickly that the only way you could really find them was following them individually on social media — it was really time consuming and really difficult to figure out.”

Truck It OKC includes a number of features to help you find your favorite food trucks — including a GPS map, food menus and the hours a truck is parked at specific location. It also allows users to post to their Instagram or Twitter feeds directly from the app.

“We specifically didn’t put a search feature in our app because we didn’t want to exclude any of the food trucks,” DeLozier said. “Usually, you’re not going to have to search very hard to find the food truck you want.”

He said excluding the search feature allows patrons to find food trucks they might not have known about initially.

“A lot of people in Oklahoma City don’t know about many of the trucks, so if they just wanted pizza, a number of trucks wouldn’t show up that people may enjoy.”

The Truck It OKC team will update the app if they’re sure food trucks will be at specific events, DeLozier said, but most of the discoverability relies on the food truck owners.

“We put it in the food trucks’ hands,” he said. “All they have to do is update their location and their hours inside the app, and they’re live.”

—SIALI SIAOSI
ONLINE EDITOR

VIDEO GAME REVIEW | Reviewer says storyline is outstanding, melancholic

‘Gone Home’ an A+ experience

Alfred Hitchcock once said, “There’s nothing more frightening than an unopened door.” That statement is best demonstrated in the PC game “Gone Home.”

The story opens on a stormy evening of June 1995. A young woman named Kaitlin Greenbriar comes home after spending a year abroad.

Expecting a warm welcome from her family, Kaitlin instead finds a note from her sister, Samantha, telling her not to search for the answers of her whereabouts. Upon entering, Kaitlin realizes not even her parents are home. In order to find out why her family has disappeared, she must investigate the house for clues.

The player takes the role of Kaitlin, who can interact with objects found throughout the house. The items are used as clues to uncover what has happened to Kaitlin’s family while she’s been away.

The story in this game is outstanding.

By searching the family’s newly acquired house, trash, pictures, books, journals, and other environmental clues, the player discovers the family has had a very rough year.

The atmosphere creates worthwhile suspense too. Imagine how terrifying it would have been to be Clarice Starling in “Silence of the Lambs” as she searched Buffalo Bill’s house. “Gone Home” is pretty much the same experience.

The amount of character depth in this game is rare.

By searching the family’s belongings, the player is able to analyze their decisions and discover why they are the way they are. Movies can do this too but with limitations.

Video games normally take countless hours to



complete. Depending on how long the player wants to investigate the house, this game could take only three hours to finish. Controls make it easy for anyone to use too.

“Gone Home” is available to download for \$19.99 at <http://store.steampowered.com>. More than a melancholic

story, this game is an important achievement. “Gone Home” is a rare experience. It proves video games are finally starting to head in the right direction.

Rating: A+

—ETHAN COOPER
WEBMASTER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Pornography point of view disputed

Reader says editorial hurts women

To the editor:

This is in response to “Pornography has its Good Points,” Jake McMahon, June 7.

I am aghast any paper would choose to print the ramblings of a guy who thinks porn actually decreases sexual assaults on women.

The insensitivity expressed in McMahon’s piece was truly shocking and shows just how clueless some men evidently are regarding sexual violence.

The least appalling aspect was the lack of legitimate sources from which he quoted statistics. He tried

to correlate the national decrease in rape with the widespread availability of Internet porn. A more accurate observation would be sexual violence against women was not popular in the media until the mid-90’s. To claim the decrease in violence is due to the saturation of porn via in-home Internet is like saying “The Sopranos” is responsible for the decrease in organized crime.

... Rape has nothing to do with sex. Rape is the imposing of one’s will upon another for the sole purpose of hurting, humiliating,

and dominating that person. One does not need an erect penis to sexually assault another person nor does being impotent magically erase misogyny.

To state I should be happy because I haven’t been raped — for any reason — was the worst part of this drivel.

McMahon clearly will never understand the fear only women know and, because of the mentality expressed in this article, the fear women must know.

—ADDIE BICKERSTAFF
OCCC STUDENT

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

MUSIC REVIEW | Musician takes a number of chances with latest release

Ed Sheeran's direction change works on new album

I discovered a brilliant British, ginger, tattooed, singer-songwriter more than a year ago named Ed Sheeran.

After listening to his album “+” (Plus) countless times, I was highly anticipating his new album “X” (Multiply) that was released in early July.

At first, I was a little anxious about hearing the album because the single, “Sing,” — released prior to the album — had a different sound and feel to it than the normal Ed sound I had come to love.

However, this album is even better than his first one. He has a lot of old sounds on “X” as well as new sounds with more of a hip-hop feel that are pretty groovy. Sheeran integrated more instruments in a very refreshing way that complements his last album which was mainly just acoustic guitar and had a calmer feel.

The new beats and melodies this album offers are simply amazing and will tempt you to start dancing, yet he still manages to stay true to his acoustic roots.

My favorite songs on the album are: “I’m a Mess,” “Don’t,” “Photograph,” “Runaway” and “Afire Love.”

One thing I appreciate on this album is that Sheeran decided to take out the curse words, providing a clean listening experience.

In a way, doing so actually emphasized where the words would be, making it a gutsy choice that paid off. I can’t think of many artists who would actually do something like that by choice.

Not only does Sheeran have an outstanding, unique voice, but he also raps and he does it very well. He has taken three things — singing, playing acoustic guitar, and rapping, and turned it into a product that no one can recreate.

He’s easily the best singer-songwriter I’ve ever heard.

I’ve been listening to this album constantly since I downloaded it, and guarantee you will do the same. “X” is a piece of artwork.

Sheeran sings and raps with such emotion.

All of his songs are personal and come from deep within. No one else writes songs like him. No one has successfully been able to copy his sound.



He’s original, and that’s something we don’t see in music anymore.

Rating: A+

—LAUREN DANIEL
SENIOR WRITER

ONLINE REVIEW | OKCupid, eHarmony outdated when it comes to meeting people

Tinder replaces older dating sites

With instant communication the new norm, Internet dating is redefining itself. Gone are the OKCupid, eHarmony and Christian Mingles of the Internet-dating world, as most users of instant communication often seek instant gratification as well.

Enter Tinder, the newest way to entice endorphins and reaffirm confidence in your personality, your looks and your sex appeal.

Tinder is a dating application that connects to users’ Facebook accounts, displaying their photos, age and personal interests to other Tinder users within a specified number of miles.

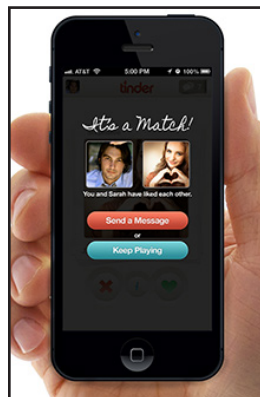
Once Tinder has determined your location and you’ve filled out the credentials — a short bio and your preferences — you can begin playing.

The cool part about Tinder is that it’s unbiased: you can browse men, women or both. However, the only users that appear are those who have selected the same preferences.

Once you’re ready to browse, the photos of fellow Tinder users appear and you’re able to swipe left if you think they’re hideous and swipe right if you don’t.

It’s the perfect occasion to enact revenge on the sorority girl who denied your advances when you were a college freshman.

If you swipe left and dislike someone’s profile — and essentially their morals and everything they stand for — fortunately, you never have to face the horror of seeing them appear ever again. If you swipe right, one of two things can happen. If it’s a match — meaning



the person also liked your profile — the two of you can now message one another.

But if that doesn’t happen, don’t worry — the profile simply disappears and you keep on playing, meaning you don’t have to face the embarrassment of not getting a match as your attention is immediately directed to new, prettier person sporting a plummeting neckline (besides, you’ll be notified if the person matches with you later).

While people can’t send photos directly to each other, Tinder includes a “moments” feature, meaning users can upload temporary public photos to share with all their matches and vice versa.

This provides the perfect opportunity to show your matches how cool you are while you’re walking your dog alone, having drinks at the bar alone or wolfing down junk food at home while watching Netflix alone.

Similar to swiping user profiles, when you upload a moment, your matches can either support your lifestyle choices by liking them or ignore them altogether by swiping left. Also, if one of your matches is a super creep and incessantly gives you unwarranted cyber affection, you can politely unmatched them. The only problem is that person might be five feet away, so be cautious when using Tinder in abandoned alleyways.

Overall, the app is fun, flirty and a good way to see who’s also desperate and single in your surrounding area.

Rating: B-

—SIALI SIAOSI
ONLINE EDITOR

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of July 11 through July 13
www.newyorktimes.com

1. *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*
2. *Transformers: Age of Extinction*
3. *Tammy*
4. *22 Jump Street*
5. *How to Train Your Dragon 2*
6. *Earth to Echo*
7. *Deliver Us From Evil*
8. *Maleficent*
9. *Begin Again*
10. *Jersey Boys*
11. *Think Like a Man Too*
12. *America: Imagine A World Without Her*
13. *Edge of Tomorrow*
14. *The Fault In Our Stars*
15. *Chef*
16. *X-Men: Days of Future Past*
17. *Snowpiercer*
18. *Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania*
19. *Rio 2*
20. *Boyhood*

Biology prof says fossil discovery 'exciting'

MOLLY FITZGERALD

News Writing Student

A major fossil discovery has shed new light on the development of vertebrates, and more specifically the origin of jaws, according to the NY Times.

When asked about his knowledge of the new discovery and research, OCCC Biology Professor Julian Hilliard said he has followed the news with interest.

"I am aware of the new research and it is exciting," he said.

Hilliard said the fossils discovered belong to a fish called *Metaspriggina*. This fish grew to be about two inches long and lived anywhere from 515 million to 500 million years ago in North America, he said.

According to Jean-Bernard Caron, one of the study authors from the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, "the fish had no jaws but structures near the gills show

what the precursor to jaws looked like."

Hilliard said the find is important.

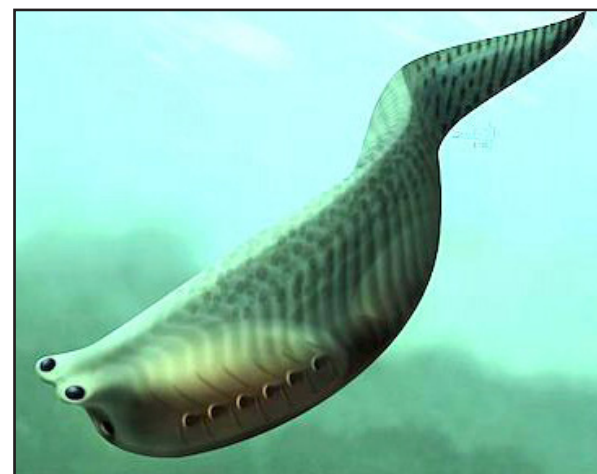
"Biologists have known for decades how (in general) jaws must have evolved in early fishes ... It is very gratifying to find a set of fossils that agrees with our predictions," he said.

This research and discovery won't pose any real change to OCCC science students as far as classroom lessons are concerned.

"This isn't a controversial or paradigm-shifting discovery since it provides better evidence for how we thought this portion of evolutionary history occurred," he said.

However, he said, some of the classes in the science department will be getting new textbooks this fall.

Hilliard said the more updated the classroom materials are, the more interesting the class is for the students.



"We want to keep things fresh and interesting for our students."

For more information, email Hilliard at jhilliard@occc.edu

OCCC offers 28 languages

STEVEN MUDD

News Writing Student

Students who are looking for a new language to speak, need look no further than OCCC's World Languages and Cultures Center located on the second floor of the Main Building.

The center offers nine language courses on campus as well as 11 languages via Rosetta Stone software on the center's computers.

The center also boasts satellite television with more than 150 foreign films in eight languages.

The nine languages offered on campus are: Spanish, French, Japanese, Vietnamese, Arabic, Chinese, Italian, German and Russian.

The times and dates for those classes can be found in OCCC's Class Schedule at www.occc.edu/Schedule.

Rosetta Stone offers Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and English.

"Rosetta Stone is the most popular program in the lab," said World Languages and Cultures Center Director Chiaki Troutman.

To use Rosetta Stone, Troutman said, users have to create an account to take a course in a specific language.

"Rosetta Stone is a helpful tool for students to learn a language on their own," she said.

Troutman said the most popular Ro-



setta Stone language is Spanish.

In addition to Rosetta Stone, OCCC offers a program called the ESL Academic Bridge Program.

This English as a Second Language program allows immigrants, international students, working professionals and anyone else who is interested to further their knowledge of English, Troutman said.

She said, with this program, students will learn how to communicate effectively and fluently in the English language, as well as learn more about American culture.

The center is available to every student at OCCC as well as anyone in the community who is interested in learning a new language, Troutman said.

The World Languages and Cultures Center offers lab hours from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday; and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday.

For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7104.

Student makes music at Nice Tuesdays

ALEXANDER MUTZ

News Writing Student

The beginning of the week is usually a time when people are recovering from the weekend and getting back into the normal work week. One doesn't often hear stories of parties thrown on a Tuesday night. However, local musicians and music fans in Norman have decided their Tuesday nights can be put to better use.

"Nice Tuesdays" consist of an ever-changing array of musicians and local venues, most of which are simply peoples' living rooms they've volunteered to transform into venues for a night.

Local musician and OCCC student Cici Simon is one of the many performers who has found a place to hone her craft at the Tuesday-night concerts.

"I've played guitar for 10 years and written music for the past five," Simon said. "When I was in sixth grade, I first saw the movie 'School of Rock.' That's what initiated me playing guitar."

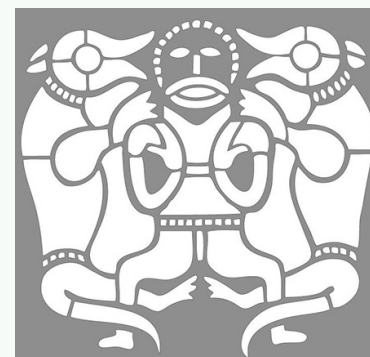
"Later, I just listened to a lot of different music and started writing. Eventually, I heard about Nice Tuesdays from my friend Michael Stafford, the host of it."

Simon said her style of folk song writing, which is inspired by Iron & Wine, the Civil Wars and Ed Sheeran, fits in quite well with the diverse amount of music one can hear at any given Nice Tuesday.

"There has always been a line-up with musicians of all genres when I've played," she said. "There's been a pretty wide variety of audiences too, and the crowd is usually a decent size."

Music fans can find a little of everything at the events, from singer-songwriters like Simon to punk and math rock bands like Surf Minus Surf.

Simon said despite the constantly changing lineup of venues and musicians, it's quite easy to get involved and attend Nice Tuesdays. Their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NiceTuesdays always lists the performers and the location of the venue for each week. She said all are welcome to attend.



Two-year college grads have earning power

According to the latest data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2012, the following are some of the highest-paying jobs that require only an associate degree. Listed are only those occupations where a degree in that field is available at OCCC. For a complete list, visit www.businessinsider.com/high-paying-jobs-with-associates-degree-2013.

• **Diagnostic medical sonographer:**
Median annual wage: \$65,860

• **Registered nurse:**
Median annual wage: \$65,470

• **Magnetic resonance imaging technologist:**
Median annual wage: \$65,360

• **Web developer (web development certificate):**
Median annual wage: \$62,500

• **Occupational therapy assistant:**
Median annual wage: \$53,240

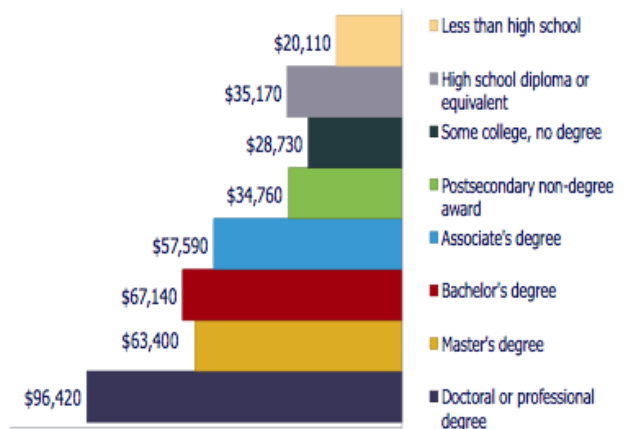
• **Physical therapist assistant:**
Median annual wage: \$52,160

Occupations that typically require postsecondary education for entry (except some college, no degree) paid more than \$34,750—the median annual wage for all occupations in May 2012. The highest median wage was for doctoral or professional degree occupations. Workers in occupations typically requiring a bachelor's degree or master's degree for entry were paid more than \$60,000 per year, and bachelor's degree occupations were paid a little more than master's degree occupations. Master's degree occupations include various counselor, therapist, and social work occupations, which tend to be lower-paying occupations.

The median annual wage for occupations that need a high diploma for entry was a little more than the overall median wage. However, there are high-paying occupations in this category; twenty-one had median annual wages of more than \$60,000. All but one of these higher-paying high school occupations require additional preparation in the form of work experience, OJT, or both.

Occupations that typically require postsecondary education for entry have higher wages

Median annual wages, May 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections Program and Occupational Employment Statistics Survey.

Division of Occupational Employment Projections • EP-INFO@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/emp

Degree: President says college education equals a better life

Continued from page 1

Sechrist said there also are advantages for those students who go on to get a bachelor's degree.

He said the transfer associate degree provides the student with an easier pathway for transfer, eligibility for certain transfer scholarships and preference for admission as a transfer student to a university.

"There usually are scholarships that are available if you already have an associate degree," Sechrist said.

He said having an associate degree also helps in the event a bachelor's degree can't be completed for some reason.

For those wanting to enter the workplace immediately upon getting a two-year degree, Sechrist recommends an associate of applied science degree.

"This degree is designed to provide the student with the credential to enter the workplace in a professional position or in a technical position," he

said.

"At OCCC, we offer a number of applied associate degrees that prepare students for work," Sechrist said.

He named registered nurses, paramedics, physical therapy assistant, certified occupational therapy assistant, film and video technician, biotechnology research assistant, automotive technician, administrative office technician, cyber security specialist and several other information technology specialist positions.

"Most people who get an applied associate degree go to work full time in a fairly high paying job," Sechrist said.

Sechrist said while both types of degrees have significant earning power in the workplace, unless a transfer degree is completed at a four-year university, it doesn't pay as well as an applied science degree.

"The average wages of those with an applied degree are even higher than having (only) a

transfer associate degree," he said. "[With] this applied degree on average, you'll earn about the same as a person who gets a bachelor's degree, which is something most people don't realize. If you're getting an A.A. or an A.S., definitely go on [to get a bachelor's].

"Really, the full benefit of a transfer associate degree is if you go ahead and get the bachelor's degree.

"If you're getting an applied degree, you don't have to," he said.

"The applied degree is the pathway to a professional or technical position – generally with very good wages and opportunities for promotion."

Sechrist said the University of Oklahoma has collected data that supports his position.

"[Data shows] those who stay at a community college and complete the degree actually do better at [OU] than those who transferred earlier," he said.

Business major Savannah

Lester said she plans to get an associate degree before transferring to a university.

"It's possible that I might have to get my associate degree then wait to go on to my bachelor's," Lester said. "I want to have a degree so when I go to fulfill the rest of it, I'll at least have some background.

"And if I have to wait, I can at least get a job that's a little bit better with an associate."

Visual arts major Rachel Schutte also plans to get an associate degree before transferring.

"Generally when you get the associate, ... all your credits [carry] and that's very helpful," Schutte said. "It's cheaper here anyway and I like it. If I could get my bachelor's here, I would."

Sechrist said the more people who are educated, the better society functions.

He said those with an education are less likely to be on public assistance or be incarcerated.

"If you look at who's in prison, the fact of the matter is our prison population is largely a non-educated population."

And, he said, a college degree is beneficial in more than just cost-of-living terms.

"I think in terms of looking at education attainment overall, there's even maybe a greater purpose involved, like democracy," Sechrist said.

"To be able to participate in a democracy, where it says it's a government by the people, for the people, you want educated people who are governing ourselves," he said.

"To really have a vibrant democracy, you have to have people who understand the issues, who are able to intellectually and intelligently focus on the challenges and contribute to the solutions – and that requires people to be educated."

For more information about the types of associate degrees offered at OCCC, check out the college catalog, posted at www.occc.edu/career/degrees.html.

Community college 411: Who is it for?

advantages:

disadvantages:

COST OF TUITION
The most obvious reason students attend community college is for the financial advantage. Many junior colleges cost less than \$2,000 each semester to attend full time. Attending community college gives students the chance to prepare for the financial demands of a 4-year university if they plan on transferring.

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
Many students don't realize that if they plan on working while attending school, community college is, hands down, the best option. They offer far more night classes than other universities and more schedule options. The workload, unfortunately, is typically lighter than a state school or private university and attendance is not usually required.

GIVE STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE MAJOR OPTIONS
Instead of spending thousands of dollars at a private university toward a major that you are less than sure of, consider attending a community college while you are making your decision. Classes cost less, so you will have the opportunity to explore interests that you might not have otherwise pursued.

SMALLER CLASSES
The class size is surprising to most students because the tuition is so reasonable. While classes aren't as small as those of a leading private university, many have as few as 20 students. In a smaller class, professors have the opportunity to learn more about their students. Likewise, students will find their teachers more accessible and can get assistance when they need it.

QUALIFIED PROFESSORS
Everybody starts somewhere. Some of your professors will be fresh out of a master's program, but many will be well-seasoned academics who carry an impressive résumé. Community colleges are just as flexible for the students as for the professors. Many accomplished instructors teach part-time at community colleges to allow plenty of time to focus on their own pursuits and career goals. In fact, when I attended junior college, I ran into one of the professors from the private university I had previously attended, and she was teaching a night class — case in point.

TRANSITIONAL
Countless numbers of college freshman transfer out after their first year of studies. Many return; some don't. Unfortunately, many of these students felt displaced and found that their expectations were not met by the university they attended. Attending community college gives students the opportunity to earn college credit while taking the time to select the 4-year institution that is right for them. Because there is little financial investment, most students are deterred from dropping their studies altogether.

LIMITED CURRICULUM
Typically, community colleges are 2-year schools. If you plan on obtaining a 4-year degree you will have to transfer to another university at some point. If you're looking for a permanent residence, this probably isn't the best place for you.

LIGHTER WORKLOAD
The workload is significantly lighter than at a state university or a private college. There is sometimes very little course work aside from major exams but keep in mind that college is what you make it — putting in the time is entirely up to you.

UNINVOLVED STUDENTS
This is probably the biggest deterrent for the junior college: Many of the students are uninvolved. Few have plans for an academic future outside of what they receive at the junior college level — and they study accordingly. This causes tension in the classroom, particularly with more accomplished professors who are not accustomed to dealing with complacent students. Outside of the lecture itself, classroom discussions are rarely stimulating as they are carried on solely by the professor and one or two enlightened individuals. Good news for the dedicated student: The professor will recognize your potential and reward you accordingly.

CAMPUS LIFE (OR LACK THEREOF)
Junior colleges do have clubs and organizations, but campus life is not an integral part of the atmosphere. For most students at community colleges, their schedule revolves around work and classes are done in the meantime. If you are looking for a lively social scene, again, community college is probably not for you.

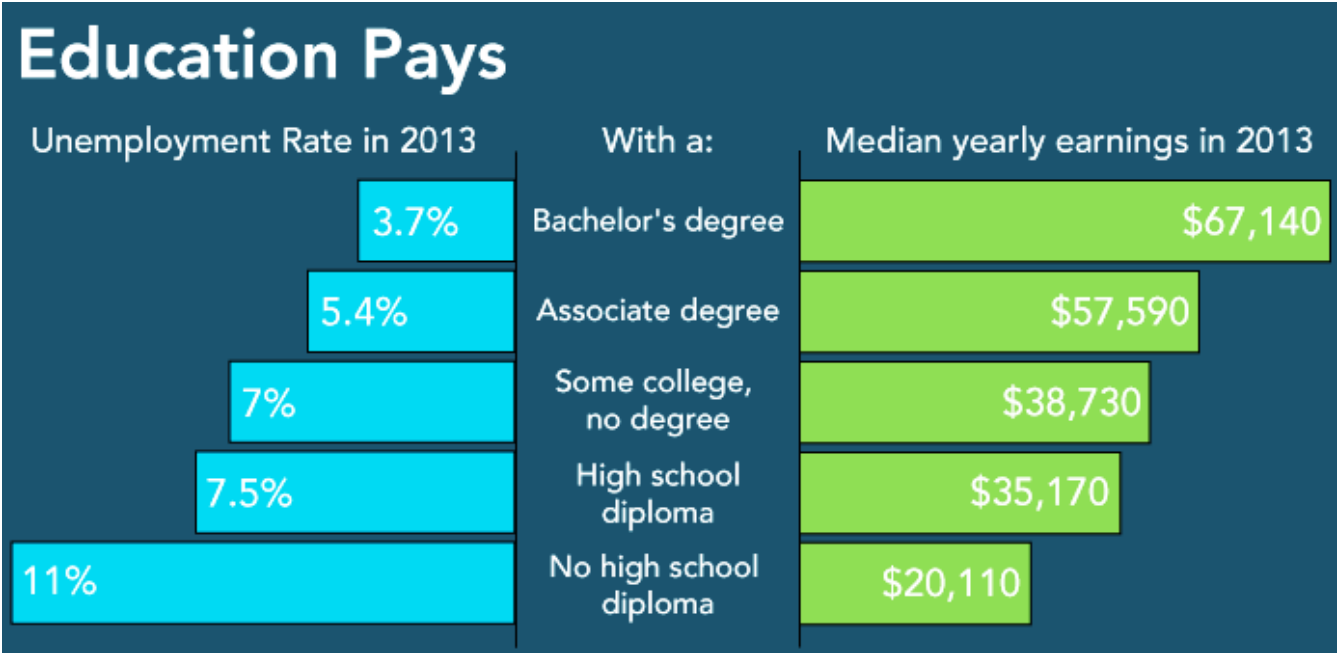
—WWW.SCHOLARSHIPS.COM

Registered nurses, automotive technicians, cyber security specialists and biotechnology research assistant are all top-paying jobs for which OCCC offers degree programs.

The correlation between unemployment and having a college degree shows the unemployment rate drops significantly for those with an associate degree as compared to those who completed high school. The earnings increase by a little more than \$22,000 a year.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said the more people who are educated, the better society functions.

“If you look longitudinally in terms of society or the percentage of people on some type of assistance, there’s a much fewer percentage of people who have college degrees that are on public assistance.”



SPORTS

Summer workout

Biology major Jerred Nelson works out on the modular low pull machine in OCCC's Wellness Center. The Wellness Center is free to students with a valid OCCC ID. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf/wellness.html.



JOHN HUYNH/
PIONEER

SPORTS | All-day and half-day classes taking place through August

Summer camps still accepting enrollment

LAUREN DANIEL
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The summer camps at OCCC are wrapping up with the summer semester coming to an end. However, there are still a few more camps children can attend, said Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

The last all-day camp Summer Blast Extravaganza will be offered from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 5, through Friday, Aug. 9.

The cost is \$100 per child and includes a field trip to Andy Alligator's Water Park.

"That's why the cost for that is \$100 for the whole week," Wright said.

"Normally the cost is a little bit lower during the other weeks. The cost and transportation is all included in that price."

Wright said participants get to play recreational games and end the week with a half day at the park.

"The Andy Alligator's one is really fun," he said. "We went for [about] three hours last year and the kids had a blast," he said.

OCCC also will offer some half-day camps.

Multi-Sport Fundamentals, which teaches basketball and soccer, and Intro to Dance Techniques, which teaches Jazz and Hip Hop, are both offered from 8 a.m. until noon Monday, July 22, through Friday, July 26.

Intro to Flag Football Fundamentals and Intro Cheer/Dance Fundamentals camps will be offered from



8 a.m. until noon Monday, July 29, through Friday, Aug. 2, Wright said.

The camps each cost \$65 per child per week.

Wright said during the sports camps, participants will learn basic skills they can use throughout their entire life.

"A lot of kids don't really know how to catch a pass correctly or play defense when they're playing with friends," Wright said.

"They're going to learn the skills needed to catch a football or to throw a football, just the basic skills they'll need when they play sports as they get older," he said.

On the last day of the Intro to Flag Football Fundamentals, Wright said, kids

will get the opportunity to play a scrimmage in front of their parents and show off the skills they learned during the week. The cheer camp also participates in the scrimmage by performing.

"We'll set up our flag football field we use for intramurals. They'll play a game."

"The cheer camp will come out too and they'll do their little cheer on the sidelines, they'll do a little halftime show, kind of like a real football game."

"We'll have a scoreboard out there and a lot of parents will come and watch their kids play their flag football game," he said.

Wright those interested can sign up online at www.occc.edu/rf/summercamps.html, visit the Recreation and Fitness Office located on the first floor of the Main Building or call 405-682-7860.

EVENT NEWS

• Through Aug. 1:

A variety of Summer Sport Camps will be held for girls and boys ages 6 to 12.

Campers enrolled in morning and afternoon camps will have a supervised lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Campers may bring their own lunch or purchase a lunch ticket from the cafeteria for \$5.25/day.

Before Care is offered for parents to allow early drop-offs prior to the 7:45 a.m. camp drop-off time for \$10 per week. Campers must be registered for Before Care services on the Friday prior to the Monday start date of camp.

Sport camp and Before Care registration and payment must be made by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to the start date of camp. The Sport Camp Fee is \$65 per week.

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf/sport-camp-schedule.html#sthash.GCkc7E-BQ.dpuf.

• Fall 2014:

OCCC Group Fitness classes are offered at a variety of fitness levels and are spaced conveniently throughout the afternoon and late evening hours. Discounted group fitness passes are available. See more at www.occc.edu/rf/cr-group-fitness.



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.

CHASE PULLED FORMER MACHINE AFTER CONTRACT RAN OUT

College official says ATM to be replaced by fall

SIALI SIAOSI

Online Editor

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The ATM outside the college bookstore has been removed due to an expired contract with Chase Bank, said Business and Finance Vice President John Boyd. He said a replacement ATM will be installed before the fall semester begins.

"As with most standard agreements,

there was a termination clause provision in the agreement we had with Chase Bank," Boyd said.

"But we will have an ATM ... back on campus before the fall semester begins — that's our goal."

When Chase Bank came to remove the ATM, Boyd said, the company said the machine was outdated and needed to be replaced.

"To replace it, they told us it was going to cost OCCC \$250 a month — \$3,000

a year — to keep the ATM machine on site," he said. "In the past, they hadn't charged us anything."

"We didn't believe that was a good idea for OCCC, especially when there are other banking institutions that will gladly put their ATMs on campus for free."

Since receiving notice from Chase Bank, Boyd said, representatives from OCCC's Business and Finance Office have met with local banks to replace

the ATM. While he is hopeful the new ATM arrangements will be convenient for OCCC students, faculty and staff, Boyd said, there is no way to avoid transaction-fees.

"All ATMs have transaction fees unless you're banking with that bank and they don't charge you a fee," he said. "But we can't get a transaction fee-free machine — that's just not industry."

For more information about the new ATM, call 405-682-7501.

Non-injury accident, computer misuse reported

LAUREN DANIEL

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seniorwriter@occc.edu

Crime reports received this week include a car accident, a pornography incident and a lost prescription.

At approximately 8:09 a.m. on July 7, a non-injury auto accident occurred in Parking Lot D when a Ford Excursion owned by Justin Usera, 31, hit a Toyota Tacoma owned by Bobby Red, 27. According to the report, Usera hit the Tacoma as he was backing out of his parking space.

OCCC Police Officer Gordon Nelson took photo-

graphs and filed a supplemental report.

Additional information can be found in the supplemental report that was not provided.

At around 4:36 p.m. July 8, James Goldsberry, audio visual specialist, reported pornographic material had been downloaded on campus computers in the Arts and Humanities classrooms 2E3 and 2E5.

The suspect is a 19-year-old female who, reports show, is an OCCC student. The woman's name was redacted on the report under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCCPD Standard Operating Procedures involving informa-

tion released and information withheld." To obtain a copy of the procedure, email cjordan@occc.edu.

At about 9:40 a.m. on July 9, Samantha Stringer, 28, reported she lost her Adderall prescription on campus. According to the report, she had been at OCCC all day on July 8 and had traveled to Rose State for a brief time.

She said she thought it fell out when she had reached in her purse for another item. The case is still active.


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.

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<http://pioneer.occc.edu>

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Study humor



JOHN HUYNH/PIONEER

Advanced EMT students Colby Collett, Jason Gonzales and Brent Jenkins chat while studying July 10 in the Health Professions Center. To learn more about OCCC's EMT program visit www.occc.edu/health/emt.html.

COMMUNITY | This year's induction will be held Nov. 20

OCCC taking Hall of Fame nominations

LAUREN DANIEL
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC is now accepting nominations for OCCC's Alumni Hall of Fame, said Randy Cassimus, Alumni Relations and Community Development Director.

Cassimus said those who want to nominate someone will need to fill out the online application at <http://occc.edu/foundation/alumni.html> on or before Aug. 25.

"I would very much encourage students and faculty both to nominate someone that they think is worthy of the honor," he said.

According to the website, nominees will be considered based on categories that include, but are not limited to:

- Demonstrated significant, measurable achievements in their chosen field or their community.
- Contributed leadership service to the community.
- Past or present service to OCCC and/or its Foundation, Alumni Association.

Cassimus said OCCC usually

gets a fair number of applicants.

He said a process is used to narrow that number. The number of actual inductees varies from year to year.

"There's not a set number that we have to get in. It could be anywhere from six to 10."

Cassimus said those chosen are honored at an induction ceremony.

This year, the ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 20 in the VPAC theater.

It's a night the inductees will remember for the rest of their lives, Cassimus said.

"They have a very nice banquet that's thrown in their honor," he

said. "They get to bring their family and their friends ... to share the event with them."

"We put together a really nice profile video on each inductee and they get to stand up, make their 'thank yous' and ... address the gathering ...," he said.

Cassimus said induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame is one of the biggest honors a person can receive from OCCC.

Currently, he said, the 60 past inductees are listed at www.occc.edu/alumni/hall-of-fame-recipient.html. However, that may change.

"We do have some plans to set aside an area here at the college, you know, probably a wall or hall ... of recognition for all of those who have been inducted to date, and some room to grow for those that are inducted from this point forward."

Cassimus said it's best to make the nominations now.

"Don't wait until the very end." For more information, contact Cassimus at rcassimus@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7478.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

WCD-WIC Program now available

Sign up from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday at the FACE Center, 6500 S Land Ave., for the Wichita Caddo Delaware Women, Infants and Children Program. WCD-WIC provides healthy food, nutritional education, and referrals for health care and other services. Pregnant women, breastfeeding women with a baby up to 1 year old, women with a baby less than 6 months old, and infants and children up to 5 years old who qualify are eligible. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7690, or 405-933-3453 or visit www.wcdwic.org.

Coffee Shop, OCCC Cafe summer hours set

The summer hours of the OCCC Coffee Shop are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon; closed weekends. OCCC Cafe hours are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Closed Weekends.

CNG training planned for July 21

Compressed natural gas vehicle conversion training will be presented by Gratec and We R CNG from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, July 21 through July 24. Technicians require ASE certificates or one year of verifiable shop experience in engine performance, drivability and automotive electronics and Oklahoma technicians require a CNG License. The training will be at the Professional Development Institute, located at 7124 S. I-35 Service Road. For more information, contact John Claybon at 405-682-7855, or at jclaybon@occc.edu.

40th anniversary pow-wow Aug. 16

The Native American Student Association (NASA) will be attending an Indian Clinic - 40th Anniversary Pow Wow from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Aug. 16 at the Cox Convention Center. Students are encouraged to come experience the Native American culture with NASA. For more information, call Karlen Grayson at 405-682-7185 or email kgrayson@occc.edu.

Health department sponsors wellness classes

Free wellness classes meet one hour a week for 8 weeks. The goal of the class is to lose 5 percent of your body weight and become more active. Everyone 18 or older is welcome to attend. Locations include Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus: July 9 through Aug. 27; Oklahoma City Community College: July 10 through Aug. 28; and Ralph Ellison Library: July 7 through Aug. 25. To enroll, call 405-425-4422 or email TotalWellness@occhd.org.

"Preparing for Retirement" seminar July 23

Experts will provide information on applying for Social Security, investment portfolios, when to apply for OTRS, retiree health/dental benefits and more on Wednesday, July 23. To register, visit occc.edu/hr, choose Planning for Retirement Seminar and Register.

All Highlights are due each Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to editor@occc.edu or drop by the Pioneer office located in the Arts and Humanities area in 1F2, just inside AH Entry 2.

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, 169,000miles. Asking \$800.00. Call 212.6027 for more information.

APPLIANCES

FOR SALE: White gas digital stove. Less than six months old. Super clean. No visible scratches. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

FURNITURE

APARTMENT SALE: Mathis Brothers king-sized comforter set; dark brown toddler sleigh bed; bathroom decor. Many other items are being offered as well. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

FOR SALE: Dark brown sofa and love seat sofa recliner. Both microfiber. Call 405-922-0022 for prices and pictures.

FOR SALE: 40" CRT television in excellent condition. The big screen makes it great for a gaming TV in the kids' room or for the games in the man cave. \$30. Text 405-818-0083 for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT: Male, 23, full-time student looking to rent a room close to campus for no more than \$250-\$300 a month from May 17 to the end of the fall semester. Email john.white336@occc.edu.

FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED: Room with bathroom. Washer/dryer, Internet, cable. Close to OCCC. Big room. All amenities. Nice neighborhood. \$450 a month, all bills included. Honest person, no drugs, no alcohol. Call 405-317-4002.

ROOM FOR RENT: Only female. Includes all services. Near OCCC. Call or text Norma at 405-317-4002.

WANT TO RENT A ROOM: 21-year-old male Looking for a room to rent. Call or text Roman at 770-301-2791 with information and price.

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: 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.

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Quisling's city
5. Troubadours of yore
10. South American cattle catcher
14. Bureau projection
15. Word with jack or label
16. Undercover?
17. Sty denizens
18. Pola of silents
19. Shoreline recess
20. Start of some parental advice
23. Sound of a perfect jumper
25. Baby
26. Parental advice, part 2
31. Deep place?
32. Express a viewpoint
33. Some Mideastern palace rooms
37. Blissful place
39. Has the lead
41. Driver input?
42. One getting on-the-job-training, maybe
43. Prom transports
45. Mom-and-pop lender (Abbr.)
46. Parental advice, part 3
50. Gasoline rating
53. Medical astringents
54. Parental advice, part 4
59. Tony Musante cop show
60. Gin or vodka partner
61. Sacred Hindu book
64. Catch glimpse of
65. Slur over a vowel
66. Cupid's counterpart
67. Former money of Portugal and Brazil
68. Golf cup name
69. Notation on an invitation

Down

1. Assents
2. ____-cone
3. Auction loser
4. Preoccupy excessively
5. Diamond play
6. Once more
7. Latvian capital
8. Small fishing boat
9. Tattletale
10. Catcher
11. Orchestral winds
12. Mississippi sight
13. Proficient
21. It's said with a wave of the hand
22. Beginning line under RHE
23. Activity that destroys a hard disk
24. Weather forecast, sometimes
27. Raises
28. Lord, say
29. Happy as a lark
30. Manhattan Project physicist Enrico
34. Naysayers
35. Singer's goal, once
36. Attendance capacity
38. In the present
40. Distress signal
44. Musial of the Cardinals
47. Without this, a maid is mad
48. Sample bottle of perfume
49. Hardy or Twist
50. Shiny fur
51. X'd, as a candidate's name
52. Largo and allegro
55. Sacred
56. Oklahoma city
57. Word with arm or bet
58. Bakery employee
62. Sal's role in "Exodus"
63. Egyptian cobra

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Campus life



JOHN HUYNH//PIONEER

Adjunct professor Teresa Kuhlman and child development major Priscilla Segroves walk with their Success in College and Life class to the Wellness Center July 9. This class must be taken to obtain an associate degree from OCCC. For more information about this course, visit www.occc.edu/SCL.

Students can recoup money at book buybacks

MYCALYN BLOMSTROM
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Students who would like to recoup some of the money spent on textbooks can do so by selling those books once they're finished with them.

OCCC will hold its Summer Book Buyback July 23 through 25 in the OCCC bookstore, located on the first floor of the Main Building, according to a flyer posted on campus.

OCCC Bookstore employees declined an interview for further information.

Off-campus stores also are interested in buying used textbooks.

Textbook Brokers located at 7445 S. May is one. Store Manager Brice Verbal said they buy books throughout the year.

"We find this more convenient for students, especially with classes ending and beginning all the time."

Verbal said the price given for a book depends on



a number of things including the condition of the book and if the book will be used next semester.

"If a book is worth anything we will buy it," he said. "Students should visit our store because we offer competitive prices, we buy back more books, offer short lines

and we have a very knowledgeable staff."

Verbal said Textbook Brokers is a national company which means they deal with more book companies than anyone else.

"We offer the best prices from 20 plus companies that we deal with directly.

Half-Price Bookstore located at 1449 W Interstate 240 Service Road is another off-campus bookstore that buys used textbooks.

Book seller Susan Muegtenborg said they buy back books all year round.

"The offer that we give for books depends largely on condition and age of the book, as well as supply and demand for certain books."

Muegtenborg said the only requirements Half-Price

Books has when selling back books are for the student to stay in the store while the book is evaluated, and to have a valid I.D.

"Each book will vary in price, and all offers are cash."

Andrew Smith, diversified studies major, said when it comes to choosing between the OCCC bookstore, and outside bookstores when selling back his books, he always goes to bookstores outside of the college.

"I have learned in my couple of semesters that bookstores outside of the college will pay more for my books."

Mea Hill, transfer engineer major, said she prefers to sell her books on campus.

"It's very convenient, located right on campus."

Some students may want to look online as another option. Those looking to get the most back from their books may want to visit www.bigwords.com, a textbook search engine that searches all the online textbook retailers and rental sites to find the best prices. The site also will search for resellers to buy back books at the highest prices.

For more information about OCCC's Book Buy-back, call 405-682-7510.