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EDITORIAL

BE NICE WHEN FUNDRAISING

Sports Writer Jorge Kzryzaniak says those who are raising money should never look down on those who don't or can't donate to the cause. Read his thoughts inside.

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NEWS

EVERYONE CAN FIND A WAY TO RECYCLE

As Recycle Day nears on Nov. 15, turn to page 7 to learn ways the college recycles and how you too can do more to reuse various products.

NEWS, p. 7

SPORTS

DANCE CLASSES OFFERED FOR EVERYONE

OCCC's Recreation and Fitness area offers a selection of dance classes to fit anyone's skill level. Read more about the classes inside.

SPORTS, p. 8

COMMUNITY

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM PLANNED

Veterans Services Coordinator Janis Armstrong said she is making plans to commemorate the more than 700 veterans on the OCCC campus. See more.

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PIONEER

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PIONEER.OCCC.EDU

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978



Expert advice

Award-winning director, writer and producer Francis Ford Coppola takes questions from a group of OCCC film students during an Oct. 20 master class in the VPAC Theater. Also pictured is OCCC Artist-in-residence Gray Frederickson who co-produced with Coppola on "Godfather II." To find out what he discussed, turn inside to page 6.

LAUREN DANIEL/
PIONEER

Bursar's office passing the buck to students

Those paying by credit card will incur 2.75 % fee after Nov. 4

BRYCE MCELHANEY

Editor

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Changes are being made in the Bursar's office over the next few months that will affect most OCCC students, said Bursar Cynthia Gary.

The first change started Nov. 4 when students became responsible for paying a 2.75 percent convenience fee when paying their tuition with a credit or debit card, Gary said.

It's a way of reducing costs that were formerly paid by the college, she said.

According to OCCC credit card payment records, OCCC paid \$296,708 for credit card

service fees in fiscal year 2014.

Gary said many colleges such as the University of Oklahoma and University of Central Oklahoma had already made similar changes.

"We're really following behind [colleges] who have already gone that direction," she said.

Gary said, as of Nov. 5, her office revamped the billing and account viewing process so students will know the exact amount of the fee before they finish paying the bill.

"[This way], it doesn't come as a surprise," she said.

"At that time, they can decide 'I don't want to pay that,' then they can go another route."

To avoid the extra charge, students can pay by cash or check, Gary said.

Gary said beginning in Feb-

ruary, the bursar's office also will change billing procedures.

She said OCCC will discontinue all paper bill mailings in the college's efforts to go green and save money on postage.

Gary said it just makes sense to handle all transactions electronically.

She said the bursar's office

mailed out about 8,000 bills to student's addresses in October. That process can number anywhere from 6,000 to 10,000 depending on what semester it is, she said. Many of those are returned unopened.

"I think people would be very

See **MONEY** page 9

Campus group asking for Thanksgiving donations

LAUREN DANIEL

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

The average Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, bread stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls with butter, peas, cranberries, a relish tray of carrots and celery, pump-

kin pie with whipped cream, and beverages of coffee and milk for a family of 10 cost around \$49.04 in 2013, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The turkey, around \$20 for a 16-pound bird, is the biggest

See **TURKEY** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Those raising money should have good attitudes

Looking down on others is wrong

I haven't missed many cupcakes. Bake sale fundraisers see me and recognize their prime demographic. I've sampled thousands. I've had some awful ones. But none has ever been so bitter as the cupcake I refused to buy — the United Way cupcake.

I came upon a bake sale last week. Young volunteers were raising money for a campaign that had swept the school. In days before, I had passed similar tables. Once it was compliment-O-grams. Another time, root beer floats. Then a place to write inspiring



JORGE KRZYZANIAK

people's names to affix to a paper tree for some reason. And each time, there was a bucket of cash for the United Way.

(I'd also received 20 United Way emails and forms soliciting payroll-deducted donations.)

I greeted fundraisers with a smile. I declined politely, wished them luck and thanked them. Most responded in kind.

I approached this bake sale though, and was asked if I wanted a snack and to support the United Way. I smiled warmly, "No. Thank you."

This was half true. I did want a snack. I always want a snack. It's a curse. I did not want to support the United Way but I'll get to that.

The girl asking responded with sheer disgust and an audible, "Ugh." She glared and turned to the others to trash-talk me before I had taken another step.

When I passed again later, I smiled apologetically. She turned to the others and spoke of me like I was not walking right past her. I'd never seen them before. They know nothing about me but appearance and a "No. Thank you."

The feeling was familiar; cold marginalization. I'd known it in Chicago winters, hearing car doors lock when I walked by.

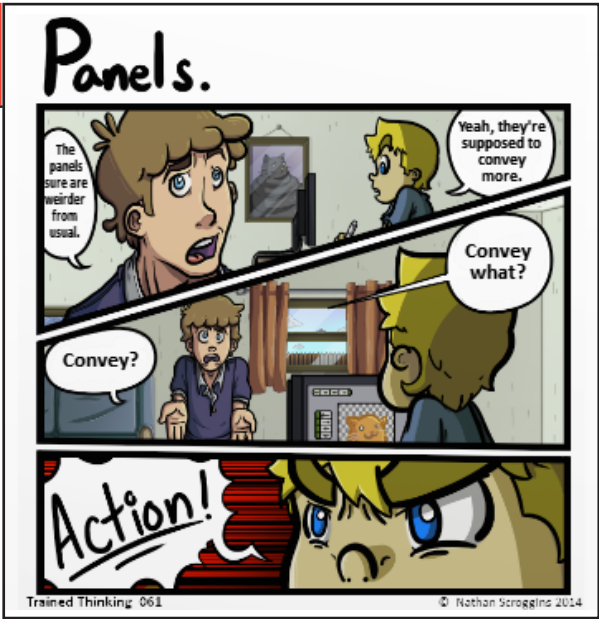
I experienced homelessness first at 15. I lived on the streets intermittently for years. Each day I'd felt that indignity. I was drifting garbage to people who sometimes patted themselves on the back for their philanthropy. I was kind through those days. I never begged or harassed anyone. It's not like I was fundraising for United Way or anything.

I advocated for the less fortunate even then.

I flourish to have more to give. I donate to countless causes. I volunteer. Against injustice for those who can't stand for themselves, I've stood. For it, people threaten my family, and I've been harassed and beaten up by authorities. So, forgive me if I don't buy a cupcake. Still I was kind.

I didn't support United Way. It's fine dropping money in a bucket for charities but few explore the principles of United Way agencies. Some organizations supported by United Way practice cruel-spirited discrimination. Others lobby to restrict and deny rights to some Americans.

I can't get behind that. I won't lend my money to hurt people or keep anyone impoverished. It's possible that agencies supported by United Way hold values



averse to your own. You should be made aware of it up front and without harassment.

A list of agencies in your community supported by United Way does exist — somewhere. It's not on unitedway.org but enough digging should reveal it within the region-specific sites. For the Oklahoma City area, the agencies are listed at www.unitedwayokc.org/partner-agencies/agency-directory.

I don't look down on anyone trying to do a good thing. I don't dissuade anyone from volunteering, fundraising or donating to United Way. I read every one of the relentless emails with an open mind.

I give my support more directly to charities of sound principles. Charity is important. But people getting high and mighty about fundraising for abstract "charity" while treating the humans right in front of them like garbage, well, they can keep their cupcakes.

—JORGE KRZYZANIAK
SPORTS WRITER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Professor says ENGL 1003 was created based on a need to help students enter the workplace

New academic vocabulary class offered in spring '15

To the Editor:

English and Humanities announces a special topics course ENGL 1003: Academic Vocabulary, which is being offered Spring 2015 on Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 to 10:50 a.m.

Students, from across all discipline areas, interested in increasing vocabulary strategies and skills, should consider this course and earn three hours of credit.

This course has been created based on a need across academic areas to assist students in building their vocabulary skills, both to assist them with all their academic work and benefit them as they graduate and enter the workplace or seek a higher level degree.

In this course, students will also work to develop the skills necessary when encountering new and difficult words.

As they encounter these words, this course will demonstrate using the context and word parts to determine word meaning. These skill benefit readers throughout their lives as they seek to become proficient learners.

Approximately eight weeks into the semester, students will use different disciplines' base-line content to understand and utilize difficult words specific to their area of study.

The Academic Vocabulary course can provide a

healthy vocabulary foundation for students studying in different content areas and programs at Oklahoma City Community College.

Although reading across the curriculum may seem a daunting task at times, understanding text and acquiring knowledge of words provides a valuable skill to students aiming to be successful in understanding college materials. As students read and grow in different aspects of college life, they are on their way to seeing their dreams come true. Let a semester in ENGL 1003: Academic Vocabulary help.

—LORI FARR
ENGLISH PROFESSOR

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

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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>.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | Fluidmaster delivers affordable quality

Chrome flusher handles it all

A strong home is like a strong chain. If one link breaks, you forfeit the boat you're towing to Davy Jones's locker. We may not appreciate the little things in our home, but when one stops working, we learn its true value.

In other words, my toilet flusher broke.

When someone flushes a toilet, the handle moves an arm which pulls a chain, which yanks a rubber plug out of a hole. The water then goes down the hole. It's pretty high tech.

My toilet's arm somehow snapped in half one day. It may be related to my need to karate chop the flusher after a successful bowel movement.

Regardless, when a flusher breaks, you have to physically reach into the toilet's disgusting watery tank and pull the chain.

The water in the tank is not clean. I don't care what my mom says. No priest in any confessional could possibly understand the shame I felt every time I reached into that water.

I needed a new handle before I had to start paying for therapy.

When I found the hardware aisle at Walmart, I



had two sudden realizations. First, there is a huge variety of fancy toilet flushers. Secondly, there are people who will pay \$20 for the handle on their toilet.

There were only two cheap options. Both were plastic. One was white and the other was chrome. Being the naughty desperado I am, I had to get the chrome one. It made my toilet look like the toilet a motorcyclist might use.

The Fluidmaster Inc. chrome metal arm tank lever changed my life. I'm not afraid to use my toilet anymore and because it's made of a hardy plastic, I'm not afraid to karate chop my cares away. That's not bad for \$5.

Earlier this week, the flusher had its first true test. I'm proud to say that my new chrome buddy made it through Chinese food night and survived unscathed.

I must spread the word over hill and dale: Fluidmaster flushers can thwart any foes, be they Chinese, Indian or even Mexican.

Rating: A

—JAKE McMAHON
VIDEOGRAPHER

ONLINE BUSINESS REVIEW | Online company offers unique, healthy treats

Graze delivers snack food to your door

We all love snack foods — trail mix, cookies, crackers, granola bars, Chex mix — but it's almost always fattening and usually addictive. The latest craze, or even game, is trying to find filling, healthy snack foods that still please your taste buds.

I heard about Graze, a company that makes their own snacks, packages them, and ships them to you for \$6.99 including delivery and sign up. For less than a monthly Netflix subscription, you can receive four small portions of different snacks twice monthly.

Graze has many different categories including popping corn, dips and dippers, flapjacks, savory selection, wholesome treats, pure fruit, whole nuts, nuts and seeds, super seeds, a touch of chocolate, and raw bars.

Most of their snacks looked amazing and my mouth was practically watering as I decided which snacks I wanted. Then, I discovered picking my snacks was not an option. Graze picks the snacks and sends random ones in each box.

Luckily, they give you some kind of control by allowing you to rate your snacks with four options: "Trash," "Try," "Like," "Love."

By choosing "Trash," they won't even send that particular snack. "Try" means you're happy to try it.



"Like" means they'll send it occasionally and "Love" means they'll send it often.

I've gotten around 10 boxes by now and mine come every two weeks. I enjoy the variety of options they send, but I wish they would send more new snacks, because several of the selections have been repeated.

Some of their snacks, usually the healthier ones, taste kind of odd and I made sure to push the "Trash" button the minute after I tried them.

My favorite ones so far have been packages of the popping corn, the salted peanut butter cookie wholesome treat with baked salted peanuts, fudge pieces, mini chocolate cookies and red-skin peanuts, and the sour cream and onion cashews.

I'm waiting for them to send some of the new fall selections that include chocolate, such as cookies & cream or honeycomb crunch. With the weather changing, hopefully my variety will too.

If you like trying new things or are tired of searching for unique, healthy snacks, try Graze. Find them at www.graze.com.

Rating: B

—LAUREN DANIEL
SENIOR WRITER



Hobo life just an app away

Tired of living by society's standards? Want to give up on your college career and your parttime jobs? The answer to these questions is undoubtedly "yes" and there's only one thing you can do to remedy these problems: become a hobo.

Don't think you can run for the trains yet, though. There's an entire secret hobo language spraypainted across the inner cities.

Lucky for you, there's an app for reading and deciphering this language.

Hobo Signs is on the app store for iPhones for 99 cents and shows the various different signs.

The signs are mostly simple designs, such as triangles with stick man arms which means "gun" and others like a circle with a dot, which means "give money" or jagged lines which means "dog on site."

At last, humanity has found a way to decipher these "homeless heiroglyphics," or as I like to call them "hoboglyphics."

If you plan on abandoning society, with the exception of still using your iPhone, the Hobo Signs app is a must have. More than just helpful signs and codes, the app also has a brief history of the signs and codes.

So grab your stick, your hankie, your pocket full of dreams, and R-U-N-N-O-F-T to the Big Rock Candy Mountains.

—BRYCE McELHANEY
EDITOR

Have an app review idea for the Pioneer? Email Editor Bryce McElhaney at editor@occc.edu.

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office in 1F2 AH
Let your voice be
heard!

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

GAME REVIEW | 'Animal Crossing: New Leaf' takes players into a dimension of good times

Nintendo game a wholesome adventure

In a town not much bigger than my thumb, birds are chirping, butterflies flutter all about and the sun seems to shine brighter than usual as you emerge from a red-roofed cottage buried in an orchard of golden pear trees.

The weather seems fair today, and you wave to your neighbor, Lionel, who's whistling the town's signature tune outside while watering his flowers as the clock tower chimes 10 times to remind you how late you've slept in.

Pulling on your favorite chino pants and sweater vest — the townspeople wouldn't recognize you without a collared shirt — you equip your fishing rod and head down to the beach, tripping every so often because you've left your shoes behind.

You encounter Old Mayor Tortimer, who's examining seashells before boarding Kapp'n's sailboat to the town's nearest tourist spot, a quaint little island boasting collector's items and exotic fruit.

As they sail away and you bid them farewell, you pack up your rod and head back to town for a busy day full of bug-catching, planting flowers and digging up fossils.

Along the way, you pocket a few peaches and golden pears to take to Reese, the pink alpaca at the retail store who's always eager to put more bells in your ATM account.

Before you've had the chance to make it home, you



find yourself in a game of hide-and-seek with more townspeople and quickly thwart their assumptions that you're all business and no fun after finding them all within 10 minutes.

Next, it's time for tea at Melba's house — a date you'd forgotten you'd set a day before — who insists you still come over despite being sweaty from hide-and-seek, and barefoot from visiting the beach.

You know from experience it's best not to deny the advances of a koala with an Australian accent.

As you excuse yourself from Melba's poorly-decorated home after a few minutes of small-talk and terrible tasting tea, you rush home to freshen up and make it to Club LOL for KK Slider's weekly performance at 8 p.m.

Entering the venue, you're greeted by a gaggle of

your closest friends, and you're pleased to hear Slider strum a tune that you've suggested.

Once he's done with his set and the club shuts its doors, the gang heads to the to the night owl coffee shop that recently opened in the town's museum.

Overall, today's been swell — and as you head home with friends in tow, it's difficult not to try catching fireflies as they dance and glow among the golden pear trees. Soon it's time to save and quit so you can be rested for tomorrow's adventures.

Closing your Nintendo 3DS system, you snap back to reality and away from the peaceful, exciting townspeople and experiences incited by "Animal Crossing: New Leaf," Nintendo's most wholesome handheld treasure to date.

Rating: A+

—SIALI SIAOSI
ONLINE EDITOR

FILM REVIEW | 'Jiro Dreams' follows the lives of a traditional Asian family

Sushi documentary oddly captivating

Over the weekend my room-mates and I watched the documentary "Jiro Dreams of Sushi."

The film is about Jiro Ono, an 85-year old master sushi chef whose restaurant Sukiyabashi Jiro is legendary among Tokyo food enthusiasts.

The sushi is so well crafted and prepared that the 10-seat restaurant's meals cost \$300 a plate.

Customers also must reserve seats several months in advance to dine at Sukiyabashi Jiro.

The documentary focuses on the relationship Ono has with his two sons who also are sushi chefs.

The youngest son Takashi has left Jiro's restaurant to start his own.

The older son Yoshikazu is obligated to succeed his father and take over Sukiyabashi Jiro when Jiro either retires or dies.

The story goes in depth into Jiro's childhood, showing how he started out as a young apprentice, the struggles his family faced while living in poverty and the sacrifices he made to become the legendary chef he is today.

This documentary also shows how Japanese culture



has affected this family.

In one scene, with no sign of bitterness, the two siblings discuss how they became sushi chefs to please their father's wishes.

The techniques Jiro's restaurant uses to prepare meals are extremely worthwhile and time consuming.

It took one of Jiro's cooks 10 years of practice before he was allowed to touch the eggs.

And it took a few more years until his egg sushi could satisfy Jiro's taste.

On top of being a great documentary about family and obligations cultures create, we get to see an awesome cooking show.

I never knew close-ups or slow motion could make rice appear more appetizing than steak.

There is one downside from watching this documentary. From now on when I eat sushi, I will do so knowing it will never be as satisfying or divine as Jiro's.

Rating: A

—ETHAN COOPER
PHOTOGRAPHER

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Oct. 31 through Nov. 2
www.newyorktimes.com

1. *Ouija*
2. *John Wick*
3. *Fury*
4. *Gone Girl*
5. *The Book of Life*
6. *St. Vincent*
7. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*
8. *The Best of Me*
9. *Dracula Untold*
10. *The Judge*
11. *Annabelle*
12. *The Equalizer*
13. *The Maze Runner*
14. *Addicted*
15. *Birdman*
16. *Dear White People*
17. *The Boxtrolls*
18. *Guardians of the Galaxy*
19. *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*
20. *Blast*

Diabetes topic of campus health discussion

GLENN FLANSBURG
News Writing Student

Cutting back on TV time can reduce the risk of diabetes, said OCCC nursing student Randall Cuthbertson in a presentation on campus.

"According to the Mayo Clinic, children who watch television [for] more than 20 hours a week have much higher risk of diabetes than those who watch TV for 10 hours a week," he said.

Cuthbertson spoke to a room of about 20 on Oct. 13 during the nursing department's Brown Bag Lunch Series in the Health Professions Building.

His topic was diabetes in youth and ways to reduce the risk of getting it.

Diabetes refers to a group of diseases that affect how the body uses blood sugar, also called glucose.

Glucose is the brain's main source of fuel. Diabetes means a person has too much glucose in the blood, which can lead to serious health problems.

The most common form of diabetes is type 2, or non-insulin dependent diabetes. People with type 2 diabetes are able to produce some of their own insulin, but often, it is not enough.

Certain people are at higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes because of genetics, Cuthbertson said. If you have a history of type 2 diabetes in your family, your risk is increased.

African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders also have a higher incidence of type 2 diabetes.

"Type 2 diabetes in children may develop gradually," Cuthbertson said. "Some children who have type 2 diabetes have no signs or symptoms."

Often type 2 diabetes is associated with people who are overweight and living a sedentary lifestyle, Cuthbertson said. You can help reduce the risk for diabetes by making several healthy lifestyle changes.

Focus on fruits and veggies, Cuthbertson said.



Eating a variety of fruits and vegetables every day may cut your diabetes risk by as much as 22 percent, according to results from a 12-year dietary study of 21,831 children.

"Get moving," Cuthbertson said. Getting at least 30 minutes of exercise a day can help cut your diabetes risk in half. If you are overweight, dropping a moderate 5 percent to 10 percent of your weight cuts your risk for complications in half.

Cut out sugary drinks, Cuthbertson said. Health data from 43,960 children showed that, compared with their peers, children who drink two or more sweet drinks (soda or fruit juice) a day have a 25 to 30 percent higher risk of diabetes.

What about those artificial sweeteners? Cuthbertson asked. They may not add to the solution.

Recent studies have suggested that regular consumption of artificial sweeteners may, in fact, cause the body to react in the same way as regular sugars by secreting a hormone that tells the body to create more insulin. This increase in insulin, over time, can lead to insulin resistance.

Insulin resistance occurs when insulin, normally the "key" to open the body's cells and allow the glucose to enter, fails to work.

A study conducted this year by Israeli researchers suggests that bacteria in the intestines exposed to artificial sweeteners are altered, resulting in a change in performance of the digestive tract, which leads to weight gain.

"Our findings suggest that [artificial sweeteners] may have directly contributed to enhancing the exact epidemic they themselves were intended to fight," the study concludes.

Cuthbertson suggests using Stevia instead of artificial sweeteners such as aspartame or saccharin.

Stevia is a natural sugar substitute extracted from the leaves of the plant *Stevia rebaudiana*. Stevia is up to 150 times sweeter than sugar and is non-caloric.

In 2013, there were an estimated 382 million people worldwide with diabetes and an estimated 37 million people in North America alone, Cuthbertson said.

The most severe form of diabetes is type 1, or insulin-dependent diabetes.

With type 1 diabetes, the body's immune system attacks part of its own pancreas and destroys the insulin-producing cells.

According to the American Diabetes Association, only about 5 percent of people with diabetes have type 1, Cuthbertson said.

Long-term complications of diabetes will degrade a person's health and lead to a shorter life, Cuthbertson said.

These include an increased risk of cardiovascular problems, nerve damage, kidney damage, eye damage, and skin conditions, as well as an increased risk for dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Nerve damage and poor blood flow to the feet increase the risk of foot complications.

For more information about diabetes, visit the American Diabetes Association website at www.diabetes.org.

Theft, verbal harassment reported to campus police

LAUREN DANIEL
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Theft and harassment top the latest crime reports,

At approximately 5:03 p.m. on Oct. 21, OCCC student Ana Pulido, 22, reported she saw a white male checking cars for unlocked doors in Parking Lot A. Pulido said she saw the man eventually take two canvas tool bags from a white Chevy Silverado owned by OCCC

student Joseph William, 29. The man who took the bags was driving an older model brown Chevy Suburban.

Campus police said security footage of the area shows the suspect vehicle left campus at 5:06 p.m.

Additional information is available in a supplemental report that was requested but not provided.

A missing textbook was reported at approximately 8 a.m. on Oct. 27.

Carla Morgan, 49, said her OCCC textbook went missing when she was at the downtown public library. Morgan said she wasn't sure if it fell off of her electric scooter or if it was removed by someone.

Morgan filed a report with the Oklahoma City Police Department and the OCCC Police Department.

At approximately 10:04 a.m. on Oct. 27, OCCC student Patricia Benavides, 39, reported she had been harassed

on campus.

According to the report, a 19-year-old male student had been verbally threatening and harassing Benavides.

According to the report, the man was "referred to the Campus Judicial Process."

Additional information is available in a supplemental report that was requested but not provided.

Some information was redacted from the reports under the direction of Marketing

and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCC 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.

OCCC offers 12-month automotive program

KATIE AXTELL

News Writing Student

A shortage of automotive technicians nationwide is what prompted OCCC to offer a 12-month fast-track certificate in the program, in addition to the two-year associate in applied science degree, said Professor Brad Walker.

Walker now heads the automotive technology department.

He said OCCC is one of the three or four schools in the nation chosen by General Motors to offer the certificate that began in 2013.

It's been a success thus far, he said.

"Out of the 13 or 14 students nationwide, seven are from here."

Of those seven, he said, five have returned to OCCC after completing the certificate to further their education and get a degree.

Walker said that that is exactly what they were hoping for.

He said students can choose between two certificate options.

The General Motors emphasis involves online training through GM, Walker said, and leads to work at dealerships.

The other option is for those who plan to work at other shops, such as Pep Boys, Firestone, Hibdon Tires, and others.

"We work really well with a lot of the indepen-



JORGE KZRYZANIACK/PIONEER

Having recently acquired a 12-month automotive certification, Justin Vannoy works on a car in the Automotive Lab in pursuit of an associate degree.

dents so they can go either way," Walker said of the certificate.

The certificate covers four out of the eight automotive areas.

The qualifications are the basic automotive fundamentals, how the shop works and basic maintenance, GM electrical hands-on training, brakes, steering and suspension, and heating and air.

Walker said those qualifications will leave the students 90 to 100 percent certified in the GM areas nationwide.

"This will help get technicians into the shops faster," he said.

A requirement for the program is that the student also be working at a GM dealership. That can occur in two ways Walker said.

Students are placed by OCCC through an agreement with GM dealerships or GM dealers send their employees to OCCC for the year-long program.

Walker said the college has a list of dealerships that will employ students who enroll in the program.

Student Justin Vannoy recently finished his certificate, and is now back at OCCC to get his degree. He said he had no problem getting the required job when he was in the program.

"It's pretty easy to get one when they're looking for you," he said of job searching for the program. "It wasn't really hard at all."

Vannoy has high praise for the pro-

gram.

"They teach you all of the very basic stuff to where you can go up there and actually start immediately working on cars and know what you're doing," he said.

The 12-month certificate program began last fall and continues to be a success, Walker said. He said although students can enter the program in the spring, it's "best if they start in the fall."

For more information, contact Walker at 405-682-1611, ext. 7128, or email at bwalker@occc.edu.

Students take direction from Frances Ford Coppola

JSTYN STRAIN

News Writing Student

Academy Award winning director, writer, and producer Francis Ford Coppola told a group of film students that part of being a creative person is self-doubt. He also explained how, in order to move past this doubt, sometimes you can't analyze your work right away, but rather must wait until the end to judge it.

On Oct. 20 Coppola offered a master class to Film and Video majors, about 100 of whom joined him on stage, while another 400 people took seats in the Visual and Performing Arts Center auditorium.

Director of classic films such as "The Godfather" trilogy and "The Outsiders," Coppola did not disappoint his audience in the first of OCCC's VPAC Signature Series.

A sold-out crowd of more than 1000 came to fill the seats of state-of-the-art facility for his evening presentation.

One spectator, Dr. Janet C. Perry, OCCC's director of Institutional Effectiveness, found the presentation moving.

"Francis Ford Coppola lived up to my expectation,"

she said. "His ability to respond to student questions in an open professional manner was truly inspiring."

One of the students that Coppola responded to was film major Terrance Littlejohn.

"I learned that originality is very important," Littlejohn said. "You should continue to stay on the path that you're on."

"He gave us some tools we can work with. I learned that success is a scale that you have to judge yourself on."

Another film student, John Cunningham, whose focus is documentaries, seemed to take away a similar message.

"There's lots of good information, especially for documentaries," he said.

"He said if you make a documentary, make sure you're passionate about it, which I think would be one of the biggest things."

"You can't make a documentary if you're not passionate about it."

While some students listened to the inspiration in his words, many others listened to the education he provided.

"I came to this tonight to continue my education and to hear advice," said Oklahoma Film Institute

student Bune Tomlinson. "Everybody has a different opinion, but sometimes that opinion can change who you are."

Indeed Coppola gave the audience a glimpse into what it took for him to become a five-time Academy Award winner.

He talked about how he dealt with the actors he had cast in his movies.

One way he helped his actors was by telling them to go through their roles in an "as if" way. What this means is he would set them up "as if" they were playful, or "as if" they were angry, and see which situation he felt best fit the story.

Coppola also said that he would often have the actors just think their lines instead of actually speaking them. He explained that this would force the actors to bring out their emotions.

By doing this, he learned he could transform the actor into the character being portrayed, a skill only a true artist could accomplish.

Through his experience and knowledge, Coppola left the message that people are all individuals. He warned the student not to get taught out of their great ideas.

"Your thoughts are one in a billion," he said.

America Recycles Day celebrated nationwide

JORGE KRZYZANIAK

Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

The benefits of recycling are undeniable. The Environmental Protection Agency encourages recycling to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfills and incinerators, conserve natural resources, prevent pollution, save energy, reduce greenhouse gasses. Recycling also can lead to new, well-paying jobs in U.S. recycling and manufacturing industries.

According to the Keep America Beautiful organization, most people's aversions to recycling stem from shortfalls of willingness or a scarcity of information.

OCCC occupational therapy major Andria Wallen said she doesn't usually recycle but said she would if OCCC offered more ways to do so. Wallen said recycling is important.

"I don't really see a whole lot of recycling bins," she said, "but I think if I saw them more then ... I would do that."

America Recycles Day takes place each year on Nov. 15. It is a nationally recognized day for educating the public about recycling, and encouraging Americans to recycle and buy recycled products, according to americarecyclesday.org

All-recycling-facts.com suggests recycling in some form or another has probably taken place since the dawn of man. Basic goods have not always been as cheap or easy to produce as they are now. Reusing materials has been a matter of basic survival since well before any large-scale recycling programs took form. Times of war and economic depression in American history placed great value upon reusing everything people could.

However, an economic boom took place after

World War II that brought cheap, disposable goods flooding into American households. For the average consumer, it suddenly made more sense to throw products out and buy new ones than to repair and reuse old ones. This created many unintended detriments to the environment.

In the '60s and '70s, an awareness of these detriments was growing among the American people. Recycling developed into a mainstream ideal once more; a concept heralded by the first Earth Day in 1970.

America Recycles Day began in 1997 as a day to encourage more Americans to join the movement to use our resources more responsibly, according to americarecyclesday.org.

It is a campaign sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, Waste Management and several other organizations that encourage Americans to recycle.

Volunteers in hundreds of communities around the nation are organized through America Recycles Day to take part in

events to educate and raise awareness of the benefits of recycling, according to their website.

Individuals and organizations can register to host a recycling day event of their own or can join an existing event in the community at americarecyclesday.org.

The site helps users learn about recycling in their own community and offers instruction to help transform one's household, workplace, or school into more environmentally responsible entities. Individuals can also find out what materials are recycled in their community by visiting their city website.

Student Life Coordinator Kendra Fringer said there are no America Recycles Day events scheduled on OCCC's calendar as of now. She said students are encouraged to take part in this nationally celebrated day in whatever way they can.



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Computer Science major Sigmund Zhang disposes his plastic water bottle in a recycling bin located in OCCC's cafeteria.

Pre-nursing student Guillermo Flores said he hadn't heard of America Recycles Day before but said he does recycle and thinks recycling is important.

"I try not to be wasteful," he said. "A lot of people don't have a lot of stuff like we do in this country so we should always keep that in mind."

To learn more about America Recycles Day, to host or join an event, or for educational materials, visit americarecyclesday.org.

Looking for ways to RECYCLE?

When it comes to leaving a smaller carbon footprint, OCCC students have several options:

- Several blue recycle bins are located around campus where you can recycle paper, including old notes, handouts and packets you obtain throughout the semester.
- The campus is home to a number of Dream Machines where you can recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles.
- Refill your empty water bottles at designated water refill fountains specifically designed to help recycling efforts.
- Reuse old folders and bind-

ers instead of buying new ones each semester.

- Place paper, plastic and aluminum objects in the corresponding recycle bins on campus.

To recycle outside of campus, follow these tips from www.eponline.com:

- Buy recycled paper and print on both sides.
- Recycle your outdated technology.
- Make recycling bins readily available.
- Recycle your empty ink and toner cartridges.
- Buy remanufactured ink and toner cartridges.

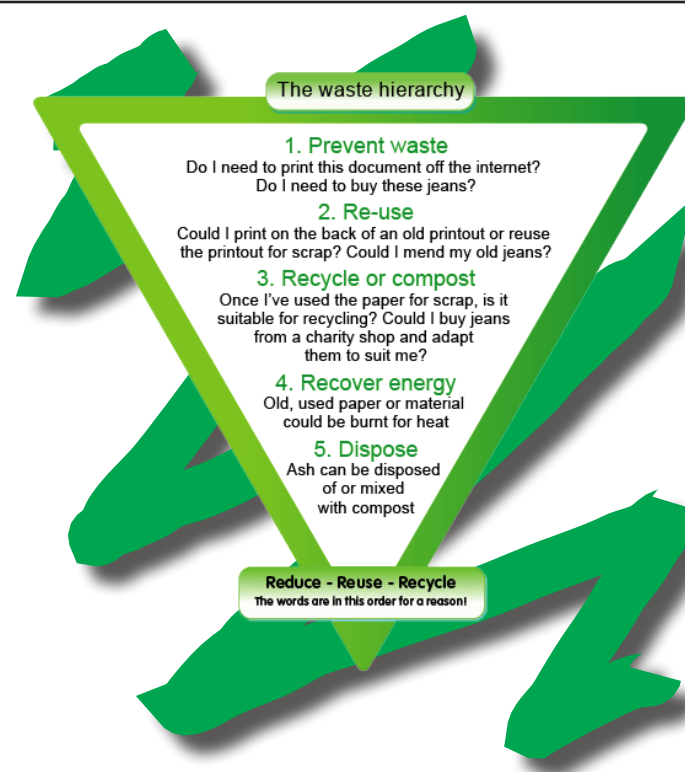
- Recycle old newspapers lying around the office.

- Look for the recycled option in all the products you buy.
- Buy rechargeable batteries.
- Purchase rewritable CDs and DVDs so that you can reuse them from project to project.

- Reuse your morning coffee cup.

"Recycling helps us to convert our old products into new useful products.

"Since we are saving resources and are sending less trash to the landfills, it helps in reducing air and water pollution," according to www.conserve-energy-future.com.

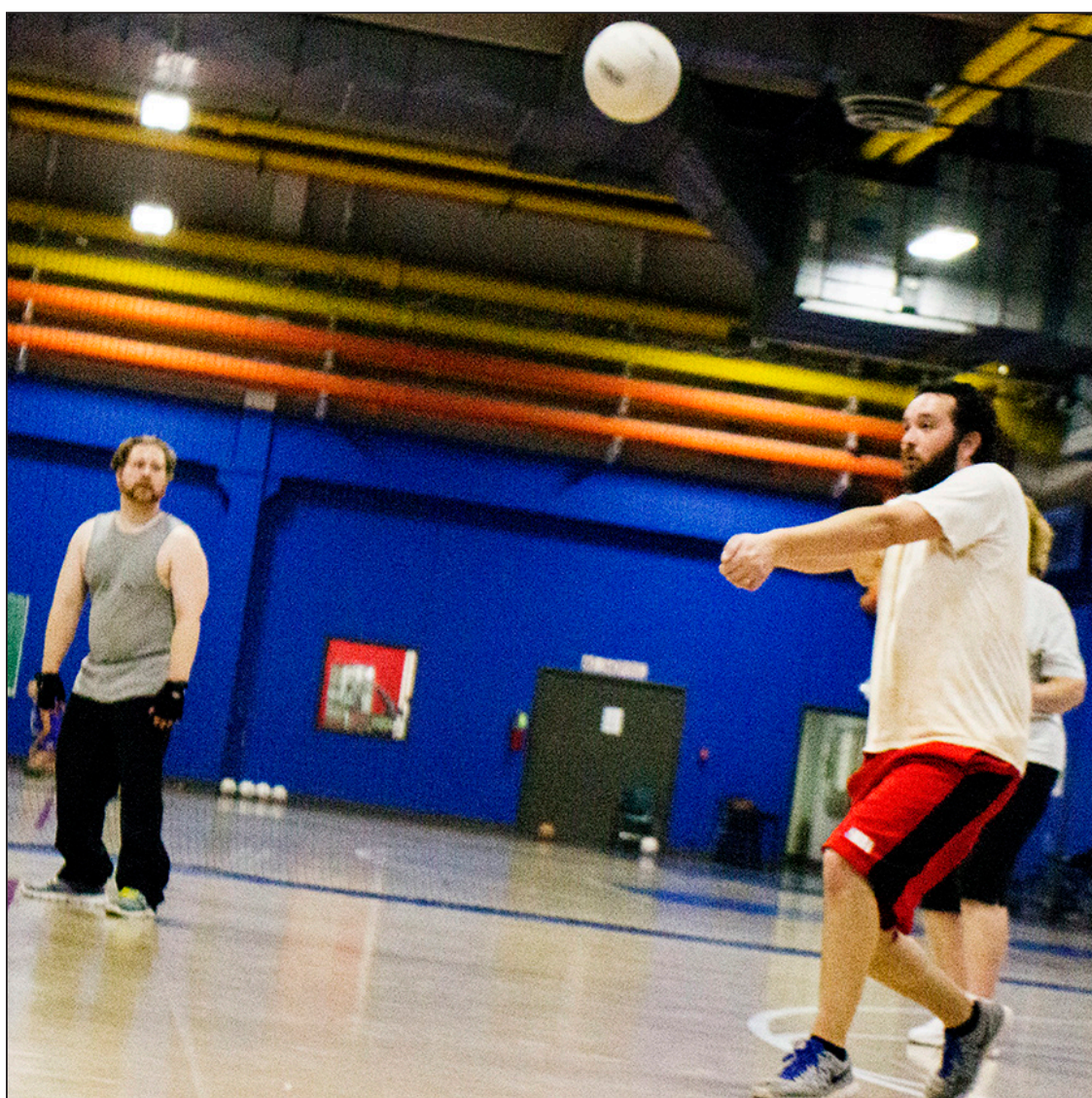


SPORTS

Serve!

Student Services Specialist Josh Wade sends a volleyball back to the opposing team during the Employee Volleyball Tournament on Oct. 22.

"It was a great time," Wade said. For more information about campus sports, visit www.occc.edu/rf.



ETHAN COOPER/
PIONEER

SPORTS | All skill levels invited to take part in Rec and Fitness offerings

OCCC offers variety of dance classes

JORGE KRZYZANIAK

Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC's Recreation and Fitness department offers a selection of dance classes to fit any person at any skill level, said OCCC Dance Instructor Elizabeth Hobi.

Early Childhood Development major Hilario Ochoa agrees.

"Any dance style can be accepted by anyone," Ochoa said. "I wanted to be in a group so I could learn from others that are more skilled than me."

OCCC and a strong instructor have provided that, Ochoa said.

"I'm gaining the experience and learning what I've wanted to learn."

Hobi teaches all the dance classes at OCCC, and is the founder and director of the college's dance company Dance Theatre OKC.

Hobi said all dancers benefit from training in techniques that are unfa-

miliar to them.

There are a number of classes to choose from, she said.

Theatrical Dance class is held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

"It's grounded in ballet," Hobi said. "We spend time developing the muscles in your feet and it's pretty codified."

Theatrical Dance class incorporates elements of jazz and modern dance, Hobi said. She said students will learn big, dramatic movements.

Although beginners are welcome, Hobi said she wouldn't recommend the class for those who have had no prior instruction.

Hobi offers Power Dance for those wanting to learn a different technique.

The class is at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

"If they want to do hip-hop and kind of get sexy, for lack of a better term, they should come to power dance," she said.

"Power Dance is hip-hop that's got a pop to it, but also we do hip-hop that's

got a lot of flow to it."

Hobi said she will host an open house Power Dance party at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Nov. 18.

Social Dance is offered from 7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Hobi said this class teaches a sampling of styles. Currently, she said, students are learning Rumba and West Coast Swing.

"You do not have to have a partner."

An open house holiday dance party is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 17, in the group fitness room located on the first floor of the Main Building. Hobi said the event is open to the public.

Dance Theatre OKC, will perform at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, in the Visual and Performing Arts Center Theater for the school's holiday extravaganza.

For more information about dance and other group fitness classes visit www.occc.edu/rf/wellness-classes or email Intramural Sports Assistant Matt Wright at matthew.j.wright@occc.edu.

EVENT NEWS

Fall 2014:

- Students with a valid OCCC ID can use the Aquatic Center free of charge. The Aquatic Center features two pools, and an 18½-ft. deep diving well with 1- and 3-meter spring boards and 5-, 7- and 10-meter platforms. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF.

- 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.

- The Recreation & Fitness Center is open to students, faculty, staff and community members. The center features a 15,000-square-foot gym with two basketball courts and one recreational volleyball court, a cardio room with three treadmills, two cross trainers and two recumbent bikes as well as a weight room featuring a complete circuit of Cybex equipment and free weights. Students with a valid OCCC ID can use the facilities free of charge. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF or call 405-682-7860.



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.

Money: Bursar's office trades paper mailouts for electronic

Continued from page 1

surprised about the amount of returned mail we have from bad addresses," she said.

"Every bit of cost that we put into something that doesn't work or is not effective, is a negative for the college. We

want to save money for the college."

Gary said it's important for students to check their bills online. If parents are paying, students need to give their parents the information they will need to go online and access the bills themselves.

"[It's important] for [students] to read the communication that we send to them in the mail, and to read their emails, so their parents are informed," she said. "When we send out bills, we want anything that we pay for to be meaningful.

"If parents are still calling us

anyway to ask for the balance, that really defeats the purpose of mailing the bill."

Gary said, as an added precaution, students should set up a PIN and an email for their parents or guardians, so they can access the statement each month.

"We're here for the students," she said. "We want students to come by and see us ... If students have any problems, I have an open door policy."

For more information, call the Bursar's office at 405-682-7825, email bursar@occc.edu, or visit www.occc.edu/bursar.

Turkey: Future Alumni Network needs help with food drive

Continued from page 1

expense. Because of that, a bird may be unaffordable for some Thanksgiving menus.

The Future Alumni Network (FAN) Club is hoping to change that for one group.

Randy Cassimus, Alumni Relations and Community Development coordinator, said the FAN Club will be collecting donations each week to help give members of the Single Mothers Academic Resource Team (SMART) the Thanksgiving dinner they deserve.

Cassimus said a donation table will be set up outside the Communications Lab on the first floor of the Main Building for one day each week leading

up to Thanksgiving where students can drop off donations such as canned goods, boxed goods, or cash.

"The cash donations will be used to actually purchase the turkeys to go to the families," he said.

Donation boxes also will be located around campus. Those locations will be the library lobby, Student Life office, the FACE Center, Capitol Hill Center, and outside of room 1D4A in the Arts and Humanities Building. Cassimus said the goal is to get all of the donations by Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27.

As donations are made, a posterboard turkey located at the donation table outside of

the Comm Lab will be dressed, tracking the process.

"The FAN Club officers have done up a little poster ... of a turkey — kind of a cartoon turkey — and the idea is to dress the turkey," Cassimus said.

"It has pants and shoes, and a hat and a vest, things like that. As the donations add up and meet certain goals, they're going to dress the turkey."

Helping people in the community is important, Cassimus said.

"Times are hard and people are struggling," he said. "It's just an opportunity to help students

here in our own community to enjoy a nice meal with their family that they otherwise might not be able to have.

"A lot of people take Thanksgiving dinner for granted and a lot of people don't have resources to do it. This is a good way to provide for folks in our college community that could use it."

Keisha Williams, SMART Center Coordinator, said all donations are welcome. She said those in the program are single, working mothers who could use a helping hand during the holidays.

"... This will help tremendously in providing a Thanksgiving meal for the moms and for their children, especially for the ones who aren't able to afford to purchase turkeys and everything like that for themselves," Williams said.

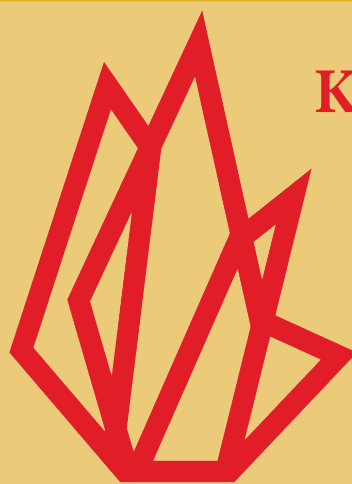
The FAN club is no stranger to helping the SMART Program. Christmas presents was the project last year, but this year, they decided to try a different holiday.

For more information about Dress the Turkey, contact Cassimus at 405-682-7478 or email fan@my.occc.edu.

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Rock for peace



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

A crowd of about 40 were in attendance as School of Rock performed Oct. 22 in the Bruce Owen Theater. (Left to Right) Music professor Jose Gabaldon and student musicians Zach Lebo, Lori Valentine, Arion Alaniz, and Seth Burchett took to the stage for the event "Songs of War and Protest." "We got a pretty good turn out and it was just a really good event," Alaniz said. The concert featured songs such as "Fortunate Son," "Life During Wartime" and "Rooster."

COMMUNITY | Former military qualify for numerous campus benefits

Veterans Day program planned

CAMERON COLAN
News Writing Student

More than 700 military veterans attend OCCC, said Janis Armstrong, Veterans Services coordinator.

That ranks OCCC as the fourth largest college for veterans in Oklahoma.

Armstrong said a program to commemorate Veterans Day will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in CU 1, 2 and 3 on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

OCCC Student Veteran Stella Smith will be the keynote speaker, Armstrong said. She said music professor Ron Staton, along with some of his students, will provide vocal performances.

"Veterans Day is one of my favorite days of the year because we publically get a chance to express our extreme gratitude for these courageous men and women," she said.

Armstrong said she has an affinity for veterans, although she has not served in the military herself.

Her father fought in both World War II and Korea, she said. Both of her brothers served in Vietnam.

She said she likes working with vets.

"It is a special group of people."

Armstrong said she views her assistance in helping veterans receive the benefits they've earned as her way of giving back for all they have given for the country.

She said she has worked in Veterans Services for

17 of the 30 years she has been employed at OCCC. There are a number of benefits vets are entitled to, she said.

Armstrong said the GI Bill offers veterans different levels of benefits depending on what they earned while they were in active service.

The most prevalent benefit package, she said, is the Chapter 31, or Vocational Rehabilitation, which helps veterans with service-connected disabilities and employment handicaps prepare for, find and keep suitable jobs.

Armstrong said about 400 of the veterans currently enrolled at OCCC receive this package.

Chapter 31 pays full tuition and fees for the veteran along with a monthly stipend and book money. These benefits were modified and updated after the 9/11 attacks to offer more lucrative incentives for veterans who wished to pursue higher education after their service, Armstrong said.

Other benefits, such as extra tuition assistance to students currently enrolled in the National Guard or Oklahoma Guard, also are available.

For more information about veteran services and a list of events being held on the OCCC campus during Veterans Day, stop by the Veterans Affairs office located near the Financial Aid office on the first floor of the Main Building, call Armstrong at 405-682-1611, ext. 7694, or email jarmstrong@occc.edu.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

ESL Conversation Groups aim to help fluency

English as a Second Language will host conversation groups designed to help strengthen the fluency of those who may not speak English as their first language. The groups are a safe place where participants can have fun while gaining self confidence. The groups are held from 12:30 until 2 p.m. each Monday in VPAC room 146 and from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. each Thursday in VPAC room 146. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/comlab/eslsg.html or contact Senior Communications Lab Assistant Lydia Rucker at 405-682-1611, ext. 7105.

Southwestern Christian transfer help available

Planning to transfer to get a bachelor's degree? Consider Southwestern Christian University. Visit with a representative and get assistance with the transfer process from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10, in the Transfer Center located on the first floor of the Main Building. For more information, contact Javier Puebla at 405-682-7567.

Quattro ensemble on calendar Nov. 11

Musical group Quattro will perform from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, in the VPAC Theater. Quattro is a fresh, new, and innovative ensemble that fuses classical crossover, Latin pop and contemporary jazz to produce a performance to be remembered, appealing to all ages and musical tastes. Their first CD garnered enormous critical acclaim, receiving a Latin Grammy Nomination for Best New Artist. 14th Annual Latin Grammy Nominee for Best New Artist. Quattro is raising the bar of originality with fresh composing and arranging that "pays homage to the classics" and forges a new contemporary sound. For more information and to buy tickets, visit <http://www.occc.edu/cas/quattro>.

Oklahoma City University rep to visit campus

Are you planning to transfer to Oklahoma City University to get a bachelor's degree? Visit with a representative and get assistance with the transfer process from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10, in the Transfer Center located on the first floor of the Main Building. For more information, contact Javier Puebla at 405-682-7567.

Service trip to the Regional Food Bank

Join the Student Life office for a service trip to the Regional Food Bank located at 3355 S Purdue Ave. in Oklahoma City. This event is from 8 a.m. until noon Friday, Nov. 14. Registration deadline is Thursday, Nov. 13. Students, faculty, and staff are all welcome to join the fun. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523, or visit the Food Bank website at <http://www.regionalfoodbank.org>.

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

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. Call 405.212.6027 for more information.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: 40" CRT television in excellent condition. Big screen makes it great for a gaming TV. \$30. Text 405-818-0083.

MISCELLANEOUS

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT: Close to campus. Male roommates only. Call Nahtali-Noel Nhongho at 832-738-2527 or email nahtali-noel-e-nhongho@my.occc.edu.

LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT: Male, 23, student looking to rent a room close to campus for no more than \$250-\$300 a month through fall semester. Email john.white336@my.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: Calpak Lightweight 20-Inch Rolling Shopper Tote from www.Overstock.com Item #14496686. Large polka dots in orange, brown and green. Used once. Asking \$20. Email for picture: 4allmypets@gmail.com.

ACROSS

- 1. Expect and wish
- 5. Radiant
- 10. Not barefoot
- 14. Historical periods
- 15. Thrall
- 16. Tropical tuber
- 17. Dispersed
- 19. Air force heroes
- 20. Snagged
- 21. Equestrian
- 22. Threesomes
- 23. Trap
- 25. Do without
- 27. Consumed food
- 28. 3-pronged spears
- 31. Sharpshoot
- 34. Every day
- 35. Fitting
- 36. Female chickens
- 37. Thaws
- 38. Sodium chloride
- 39. Buffoon
- 40. Embankment
- 41. Plateaux
- 42. Oaths
- 44. Enemy
- 45. Challenger
- 46. Incinerator
- 50. French for "Man"
- 52. Give a speech
- 54. ___-zag
- 55. Hodgepodge
- 56. Beekeeping
- 58. Focusing glass
- 59. Put off
- 60. Circle fragments
- 61. Eastern discipline
- 62. Mountain crest
- 63. Tidy



DOWN

- 1. Row of shrubs
- 2. Heavenly hunter
- 3. Yesteryears
- 4. S
- 5. Yearn
- 6. Clearing
- 7. Tardy
- 8. Save new data over old
- 9. Married
- 10. Go without food
- 11. Spanish estates
- 12. Chocolate cookie
- 13. Sleep in a convenient place
- 18. Angry
- 22. Neat
- 24. Short sleeps
- 26. Afflicts
- 28. Stories
- 29. A city in western Russia
- 30. Collections
- 31. Store
- 32. Close
- 33. Making known
- 34. Software engineer
- 37. Plateau
- 38. Observed
- 40. Not pre-recorded
- 41. Type of mushroom
- 43. Silver wattle
- 44. Times to come
- 46. Aspect
- 47. Sky-blue
- 48. Approximately
- 49. Excrete
- 50. Sacred
- 51. Margarine
- 53. Abundant
- 56. American Dental Association
- 57. Buff

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New business dean plans to be involved

LORETTA FLUELLEN

News Writing Student

Anne DeClouette stepped into the dean's position in the Business Division on Sept. 2, replacing long-time dean Jim Schwark.

Schwark retired in 2014 after 13 years at OCCC, said the Business Office.

Prior to coming here, DeClouette said, she was the dean of Business and Professional Studies at Santa Rosa Junior College in Northern California.

DeClouette said her immediate goals for the division include building stronger ties with the Chambers of Commerce, revitalizing the student business club, and preparing for the national reaccreditation of business programs.

But first, she's working to get acquainted with people in the division, said business Professor Lisa D. Adkins, who teaches Administrative Office Technology.

"She's meeting one-on-one with each faculty member to find out about each program that each instructor has," said Adkins.

DeClouette said she had already attended a meeting with Enactus, which is the student business club.

Both Adkins and DeClouette said the business division is preparing for its reaffirmation through ACBSP, Accreditation Council for Business Schools and



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Anne DeClouette

division, DeClouette said.

Her other goals include ensuring that OCCC business students are ready to transfer to a four-year degree program, DeClouette said.

For more information, contact the Division of Business at 405-682-7550 or go to the business division website www.occc.edu/business/index.

Programs.

She has also attended a meeting concerning the six standards for the self-study, the first step in the reaccreditation process.

"We're doing a lot of work to prepare for our accreditation," DeClouette said. "This is very needed in the business field."

OCCC's business programs first achieved national accreditation in 2005.

"ACBSP is the Good Housekeeping seal of approval for the business field," DeClouette said. The division will be submitting the self-study this fall.

DeClouette said she had scheduled a breakfast in the future to meet with the Greater Metro Chambers of Commerce. She also wants to meet with the other Chambers of different nationalities, such as the Black Chamber of Commerce, the Asian Chamber of Commerce, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

She aims to be involved in the community and recruit more enrollment in the business

Pathways director happy to be on board at OCCC

BAILEY BROOKS

News Writing Student

Pathways Middle College High School has made several changes to its program this year, including a new director. Chris McAdoo became the new director of Pathways when the new school year began in August.

McAdoo said he was approached by Chris Brewster, superintendent of Santa Fe South High School, about the job.

Pathways high school has occupied space on the third floor of the Main Building for 13 years. Beginning this fall, Pathways has become a unit of Santa Fe South.

McAdoo, who spent the last five years as the assistant principal at Harding Fine Arts Academy, said he was excited at the chance to work for Brewster, assistant superintendent Raul Font, and the organization.

"I've respected those gentlemen for 20 years now," McAdoo said.

"I've known them from back when Chris Brewster and I were teachers and coaches against each other. They run an excellent school for Santa Fe South and I want to learn from them."

"The facilities are absolutely amazing — to be able to have high school students go to the Communications Lab or to the Math Lab for resources or to get help on their stuff."

—CHRIS McADOO

PATHWAYS MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTOR

McAdoo said there are a lot of differences between Pathways and other schools that he has been at in the past, but the facilities stand out to him the most.

"The facilities are absolutely amazing — to be able to have high school students go to the Communications Lab (on campus) or go to the Math Lab for resources or to get help on their stuff.

"For our science students to actually go participate in a chemistry lab in a college laboratory is amazing.

"To have the facilities to where our kids can go do the computer research, that is unheard of.

"At my old school we had 40 computers for 400 students.

"This campus is amazing and the professors — everyone I have worked with is amazing. Just the resources and the facilities are unparalleled."

Knowing the importance of educa-

tion, McAdoo said he is happy to see it become important to the high school students as well.

"I absolutely love the kids," he said. "I love the fact that they're in an adult environment, and you see this wonder in their eye that they get to be a part

of that environment.

"By being a part of a more adult environment, they are naturally growing up faster."

McAdoo said he didn't realize Pathways Middle College High School was here, or that Oklahoma had a school like this, but said he is happy to be a part of it.

"I will tell you, I have loved every single interaction I have had with the OCCC community, from Dr. (Paul) Sechrist, to Dr. (John) Boyd and Dr. (Jerry) Steward," he said.

"They have been absolutely amazing to work with and I could not be more blessed as an administrator for a high school to work with such wonderful people ... I'm giddy to come to work every day."

McAdoo said he attended Northeastern State University in Tahlequah for



Chris McAdoo

his undergraduate years, and went on to obtain a master's degree at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

He has plans to obtain a doctorate from Oklahoma State University in the future.

For more information, email McAdoo at cmcadoo@santafesouth.org or call at 405-815-7919.