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EDITORIAL

ARE PEOPLE CONDITIONED TO FOLLOW?

Online Editor Lauren Daniel says people are too easily offended by TV personalities like “Duck Dynasty’s” Phil Robertson. Read her point of view inside.

OPINION, p. 2

NEWS

OKC BOMBING ANNIVERSARY UPCOMING

Turn inside to page 6 to read about the OKC bombing and what students recall about that day. Also find out what is being taught in state schools about April 19, 1995.

NEWS, p. 6

SPORTS

FLAG FOOTBALL TO MAKE A COMEBACK

Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright says Thursday nights have been chosen for an upcoming flag football night. Read more inside.

SPORTS, p. 8

COMMUNITY

RACISM LEVEL GAUGED AT TLC MEETING

The Leadership Council recently broached the subject of race relations on the OCCC campus. Turn to page 10 to find out what campus club leaders had to say.

COMMUNITY, p. 10



PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APRIL 10, 2015

PIONEER.OCCC.EDU

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Troubleshooting



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

Automotive majors Jesus Cerda and Danny Colmenarez work on an assignment April 1 in the Automotive Lab located in OCCC's Transportation Technology Center. For more information about the field, visit www.occc.edu/automotive.

Homeless student finds ways to cope

Amy and her teenage son have lived in several places since her husband died in 2013

ETHAN COOPER
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In November 2013, things took an unforeseeable turn for one current OCCC student — leaving her and her young son homeless.

“We had a life,” she said. “We had a path we were on. And then life happened.”

The student, who asked to remain anonymous and will be called Amy for this story, said life had never been exactly easy.

For years, Amy had been a full-time caretaker to her husband, a double amputee. She also was coping with her own injuries from a car wreck at the time.

Then, she said, she awoke one morning to find her husband having a heart attack. Amy said she tried to save him but couldn't. Paramedics later said by the time she found him, it was already too late.

Still, she said, she continues to have post traumatic stress from that incident.

Amy had been out of the workforce for years and, suddenly, her family's one source

of income was gone forever.

She said her set of marketable skills was limited and, more than anything, the responsibility of caring for her teenage son rested solely upon her.

“I literally was found, in the

middle of my life, disabled,” she said — and it wasn't long before she and her son had to leave their home with their futures uncertain.

See **LIFE** page 9

Oklahoma City offers many helpful resources

BRYCE MCELHANEY
 Editor
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1,481.

That was the countable number of homeless people in the Oklahoma City area in 2014, according

to homelessalliance.org.

Though the state's homeless population has declined significantly since 2010, Oklahoma City's homeless population had increased by 20 percent in 2013,

See **ALLIANCE** page 7

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Everyone is too worried about being offended by others' beliefs

Reality TV needs religious views

I've always been a huge fan of reality television. I grew up watching "Jon & Kate Plus Eight," "Little People Big World," "Cake Boss" and "19 Kids and Counting." I still watch these shows and have added "Duck Dynasty" to my list. It seems like every week some star of a reality show is on every social media outlet for something they said, something they posted, or even what they think.



LAUREN DANIEL

Most recently, Phil Robertson, patriarch of "Duck Dynasty," made a speech at a prayer breakfast about atheists. Of course, this sparked a major controversy and involved everyone who has a Facebook page. This isn't the first time the Robertsons or stars of reality television shows have been ridiculed for having conservative beliefs.

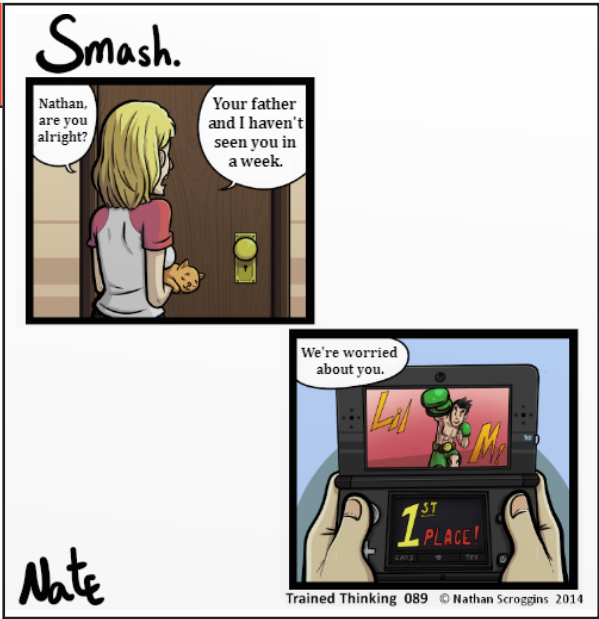
The Duggars, a family with 19 kids and the stars of "19 Kids and Counting" have been under fire the past couple of months because people believe they discriminate against the LGBT community. A petition to take the show off the air has been started by www.change.org and has about 188,000 signatures of the 500,000 they are trying to get. The people trying to get this petition signed are

influencing people far worse than the Duggars, in my opinion. They are trying to force people to adapt to their beliefs. By wanting to get the show taken off air, they are saying the Duggars are wrong and do not get to express their beliefs. This seems illogical considering the people signing the petition are basically forcing the Duggars to be silent while their views are displayed proudly for all to see.

The Duggars, like any other family on television such as "Duck Dynasty," are allowed to have opinions. They are allowed to believe homosexuality is wrong and they're allowed to express those opinions on television or social media. Just because the Duggars don't support the LGBT lifestyle does not mean they should be taken off the air.

The LGBT community is allowed to have their opinions and are allowed to express their opinions, as well. Just because the LGBT community has differing views than the Duggars does not mean the Duggars should lose their show.

Over the last few years, there has been a decreased tolerance for those with a different opinion. This has drastically altered what we see and hear each time we turn on the television. Each day, someone throws a fit because someone else has an opinion they find offensive. Where is the limit? When does it end? When is everyone going to grow up and realize how childish it is to keep limiting and censoring what we



say because the opinions don't match up? Everyone is trying to become more open, more accepting, but really, we're being conditioned to have a view that offends no one, and really not even have an opinion. As Americans, we have freedom of speech, religion and press. Part of what makes us a "melting pot" is our different backgrounds and different views. We should be allowed to openly express our opinions without being shut down by someone of a different viewpoint. It is possible to have a civil discussion without pulling the victim card. You can have your beliefs and I can have mine, but you don't need to interfere with my television schedule simply because a family has Biblical beliefs that differ from yours.

—LAUREN DANIEL
ONLINE EDITOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | 'Talk With Us: Poverty in Oklahoma City Neighborhoods' to focus on south side of city April 16

Non-profit news group hosting public forum on poverty

To the editor:

I'm an OCCC journalism graduate with a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma. I now work for Oklahoma Watch. I want to tell you about an event you might be interested in attending — a public forum on Thursday, April 16, on the challenges of low-income neighborhoods in south Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma Watch is a non-profit news organization located at OU's Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication. Those two organizations are sponsoring the event. The question-and-answer forum with local leaders will focus on the needs and concerns of south Oklahoma City communities and is tied to a mobile-video news project "Talk With Us:

Poverty in Oklahoma City Neighborhoods."

The forum is from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church gymnasium, 123 SW 25th St., Oklahoma City. It is open to the public. Those interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP to events@oklahomawatch.org and come with questions. Oklahoma Watch Executive Editor David Fritze will moderate a discussion with civic and community leaders about issues they see and deal with in south Oklahoma City. The panelists include:

—Oklahoma City Councilwoman Meg Salyer. Salyer took office as the Ward 6 council member in November 2008 and was re-elected to a third term in March.

—Oklahoma City Public Schools Board Member Gloria Torres. She currently serves as the coordinator of the OCCC Capitol Hill Center.

—Attorney Michael Brooks-Jimenez. His legal services team focuses on defending the rights of Hispanics.

The project is made possible by a grant from the Online News Association Challenge Fund for Innovation in Journalism Education. It features virtual conversations between low-income residents and public leaders about issues facing some of the city's struggling areas. For more information visit oklahomawatch.org and talkwithus.net.

—LINDSAY WELCHEL
OCCC GRADUATE

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

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

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

The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be 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>.

Vol. 43 No. 28

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

REVIEW | Reviewer weighs in on Oklahoma's unpredictable weather in time for storm season

Wacky weather totally worthwhile

If you've lived in Oklahoma for more than a week, it's not difficult to grasp the craziness of the weather here.

People from many other places claim the weather where they are from is the most unpredictable in the entire world. Frankly, experience makes me disagree.

I have fond memories of these times. At a camp in the summer of 2008, I remember it being sunny all day, then suddenly becoming cloudy and raining torrentially for about 45 minutes, and then becoming clear and sunny again. In fact, people at that camp from other states were bewildered by what had happened. I was not.

Then again this year, highs were in the 70s in January, then snow dominated February and early March, with mid to late March ravaged by storms and tornadoes. On the other side, there are things about Oklahoma's weather that are predictable. Such as the fact that if you live in Moore long enough, a tornado will probably destroy your home at some point. Sorry Moore, but it's true.

Having lived in Oklahoma for my entire life, I feel

like I should understand it could be over 100 degrees for 100 straight days during the summer and be able

to reach below zero the following winter — and that there also will be a tornado during that same winter. Realistically, that is just normal, but it still befuddles me from time to time.

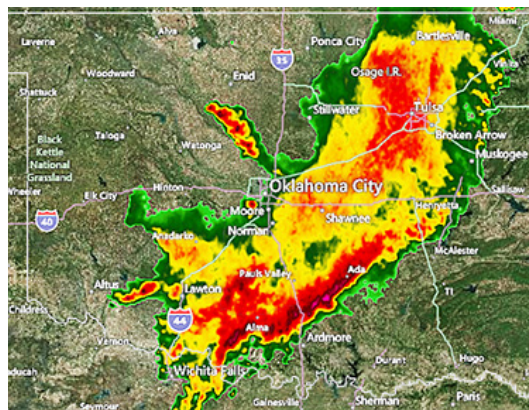
The weather here can destroy entire areas, ruin your daily commute to work for a week with ice, or directly set you on fire. But at least it is more entertaining than

knowing what the weather is going to be like every day of the year.

I would rather live in a place like Oklahoma, where on any given day I don't know if I am going to have to put my nearly hail-totaled new car in the shop for six months or not, than in a place where it's always hot or cold. There's slight sarcasm in that statement because the car thing is a true story. However, I do enjoy the excitement.

Rating: B-

—CLAYTON MITCHELL
SPORTS WRITER



Darn you 'Duet'

I don't get frustrated easily. For me to lose my cool, it takes a long series of failures. If I mess up a job interview, I'm calm, but if I fail at the exact same menial task literally dozens of times in a row, I understand how some people will chainsaw a stranger's car in half.

"Duet" is an app designed for frustration. It will have people grinding their teeth until they spit powder. It is more discouraging than trying to walk a tightrope on ice skates.

"Duet" is an extremely simple and minimalistic game. Two balls, one red and one blue, sit at the bottom of the screen waiting for the player to rotate them right and left to dodge the obstacles flying at them from the top of the screen.

It seems easy enough at first, but when one ball moves left, the other moves right. The player has to watch the flying obstacles, move one ball out of the way, and make sure the obstacle doesn't hit the other ball afterward.

It is not easy. The entire game is counterintuitive, and after playing through several levels, the obstacles become ridiculous. Some of them will split in half when they approach the balls, some of them will rotate, and some of them are actually false decoys that will trick you into smashing a ball into another real obstacle.

Oh, and the smashing is wonderful. If a ball hits an obstacle, it will splat against it and the level starts over. However, when the player performs the level again, all the splatters from the previous failures are still on the same shapes.

The splatters are probably the worst part of the game. I could literally twist and dodge my way through a crazy level with my heart racing, see the final obstacle coming up, and notice a red splatter on the right corner of it from where I died last time.

And I got to watch myself make the exact same mistake as I did before, with the exact same timing, coating the old red paint with some fresh red paint. This happened constantly.

"Duet" reminds us all of the futility of life, the way history repeats itself, and the fact that even when a person succeeds, another series of failure is right around the bend.

That all being said, it is more fun than "Tetris" and more addictive than meth. "Duet: There Is No God."

—JAKE McMAHON
VIDEOGRAPHER

REVIEW | Putnam City little league sports prove themselves exciting for one satisfied parent

T-ball a big hit with moms and kids

The sun is finally starting to shine. The smell of freshly cut grass is in the air. Birds are singing the spring songs.

It is finally that time of year and my son is finally that age to begin my family ritual of being immersed in baseball.

Being in this foreign, flat land of nothing, finding a good team to sign him up for T-ball was proving to be a bit of a disappointment.

After the season had already started, my hopes of my mini-me following in the footsteps of my family tradition were smooched.

Then my sister-in-law came along and had us sign up for her stepson's team in the Putnam City Optimist's league.

I was ecstatic, but hesitant to trust this league to be all that I remember mine to be.

Now, after one game and one practice, seeing my son having the time of his life, I am more than happy to have him be a part of the team.

A large part of that happiness is being able to contribute my own experience and coaching skills.

I'm not one of those moms who will calmly sit



on the side lines. I'm the crazy jumping lady going up and down on the side lines screaming and cheering during the games — even if my son is only two months shy of being five years-old.

During practice, my husband and I both are able to contribute to the children acting like chickens running around with

their heads cut off and herding them to where they need to be.

We are able to be a part of the team and able to come home as a family with dirt, chalk and grass stains alike.

For any parents who are looking for a wonderful and friendly league to sign their children up for softball, baseball, or football, my recommendation would be Putnam City Optimists.

More information for them can be found on their website pcosports.com.

Rating: A

—KATIE AXTELL
COMMUNITY WRITER

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

SOFTWARE REVIEW | Logic Pro X has drum machines, synths, pianos and more

Music recording program makes melodies come to life

For most Mac owners, GarageBand is a cute little program to record music on. When I first bought my MacBook Pro, I thought this program was incredible. To think there was a way to finally record my horrible cover songs and share it with the world was amazing.

My 17-year-old self happily played sensitive acoustic guitar and slapped some reverb on it, and called it good. I have several forgotten audio files to prove it, but now things have changed.

Ever since I downloaded Logic Pro X, my life has gotten significantly better. The program made me realize how many different ways you can distort, flang, echo and reverse echo until you make a catastrophic acid trip condensed into an mp3 file.



Nowadays, I pull out the MIDI keyboard, create complex three chord progressions, add some sick beats on there and pretend like I'm the next J Dilla.

Sure, I'm still making horrible music, but I'm enjoying it a little more with all the finer details the program offers.

GarageBand is kept very simple, like the nature of a Mac. Logic takes a little

longer to figure out, but it's worth discovering all the nooks and crannies.

I've owned the program since last fall, but I'm still finding things about the program I haven't touched

before.

Recently, I've been going through an EDM bass phase. Last month, it was ukulele. Just last night, I found a dubstep option — too bad it's not 2010.

The point is, owning two banjos, a ukulele, a couple of guitars and, of course, a MIDI keyboard is more satisfying when you own Logic Pro X to record it all on. It's nice to have acoustic instruments, but I have to tell you, the MIDI keyboard tops it all when using Logic Pro X.

The amount of drum machines, synthesizers, pianos and arpeggiators is seemingly limitless with a plethora of options.

If you're willing to invest in the \$200 program, I can confidently say you won't regret it.

Rating: A

—BRYCE McELHANEY
EDITOR

MOVIE REVIEW | A filmmaker's love letter to the origins of cinema

'Hugo' pushes film boundaries

Over the weekend I had time to watch one of my favorite movies directed by Martin Scorsese.

No, I did not watch "Goodfellas" or "After Hours," though they are both excellent.

Instead I decided to watch the historical adventure family drama "Hugo."

The film stars Asa Butterfield as Hugo Cabret, a young orphan living a secretive life in the walls of an early 20th century Paris railway station where he maintains the station's clocks.

Living in hiding, Hugo works on repairing an automaton his father was working on before he died.

But the automaton is missing a heart-shaped key.

And without the key, the automaton cannot function.

Convinced the automaton contains a message from his father, Hugo goes to great lengths to fix it.

Hugo begins stealing parts needed for his automaton, but a toy shop owner (Ben Kingsley) catches Hugo and confiscates his blueprints.

Hugo befriends the toy shop owner's goddaughter Isabelle (Chloë Grace Moretz) and together they set out to uncover the mystery surrounding Hugo's automaton.

This is one of the best movies about movies.

But there is more to "Hugo" than paying homage to classic films.

While showing us the world of the past, the film also pushes the boundaries of modern filmmaking.

Although 3D has been abandoned and reserved for superhero movies, back in 2011, "Hugo" was the movie that convinced me 3D could become the next step for filmmaking.

3D technical gibberish aside, Thelma Schoonmaker's editing is spot — on amazing as usual.

The music, cinematography, writing, acting and everything else, combine to create one sensational film.

"Hugo" was made by some of the best filmmakers who I hope never stop making movies.

Overall, "Hugo" is more than a terrific movie — it's a filmmaker's love letter to the origins of cinema.

The film is currently available to watch on Netflix Instant.

Rating: A+

—ETHAN COOPER
PHOTOGRAPHER



TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of April 3 through April 5
www.newyorktimes.com

1. *Furious 7*
2. *Home*
3. *Get Hard*
4. *Cinderella*
5. *The Divergent Series: Insurgent*
6. *It Follows*
7. *Woman in Gold*
8. *Kingsman: The Secret Service*
9. *Do You Believe?*
10. *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*
11. *American Sniper*
12. *Run All Night*
13. *McFarland, USA*
14. *While We're Young*
15. *Focus*
16. *The Gunman*
17. *Detective Byomkesh Bakshy*
18. *Danny Collins*
19. *Fifty Shades of Grey*
20. *The Spongebob Movie: Sponge Out of Water*

OCCC vice president inducted into hall of fame

LAUREN DANIEL
Online Editor
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Marion Paden's parents picked her up from Will Rogers World Airport and dropped her off at the front door of South Oklahoma City Junior College.

Paden was living in Texas at the time and working for Navarro College in Corsicana, Texas, as the Student Life Director, but decided it was time to apply for a job in Oklahoma.

Now, 32 years later, Paden is the Enrollment and Student Services vice president and longest serving Chief Student Affairs Officer in the state.

Every day, she looks out her office windows that were once the doors she walked in when she first applied at OCCC.

On April 7, Paden became the first woman from OCCC to be inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist nominated Paden for her contributions to the campus and the community.

"I was honored to recommend Dr. Paden for induction," Sechrist said. "Her long and distinguished service as the chief student officer at OCCC and in the state of Oklahoma certainly makes her worthy."

"But if you couple her service at OCCC with her community involvement and leadership, Dr. Paden has more than earned this very prestigious recognition."

Paden has held various positions at OCCC, including the Dean of Students and Student Relations Director. She was the first to hold each position.

"I never inherited a file cabinet or an operations manual for the office," Paden said.

Over the years, Paden has done a little bit of everything on campus from

recruiting people in the community to helping design the College Union.

"I did everything from the entertainment at the Arts Festival to recruitment programs, lugging the information materials and going to the high schools, and going to Crossroads Mall, speaking on behalf of the institution — just really trying to build the reputation of the college, because we were new."

"People didn't know us and so I've done a lot of outreach in the community," she said.

Paden said she was dedicated to helping people become more comfortable on campus in an effort to have more adult students enroll.

She went the extra mile many times, staying on campus for extended hours, chaperoning dances and events. Although it was crazy, she said, making a difference in students' lives makes it all worthwhile.

As the Enrollment and Student Services Vice President, Paden said she is responsible for communicating with the students and making campus a better place for them.

"I am, by title, the official student advocate, the spokesman for students. That's what I have to remind people — that we're here for the students," she said.

Paden said she wasn't exposed to many successful women growing up and assumed women could only be teachers, secretaries or nurses.

So, she decided to be a teacher, but after working with younger children, she decided that wasn't for her.

She switched her major and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree in student personnel services with a minor in counseling.

She said the lack of help and advice

"I am, by title, the official student advocate, the spokesman for students. That's what I have to remind people — we're here for the students."

—MARION PADEN
ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT
SERVICES VICE PRESIDENT

during her college transition gave her the desire to help students.

"I went to college to work at a college, because when I went to college as a freshman, I had a horrible, horrible, horrible freshman year experience," she said. "Everything was wrong from probably the fit of the school I attended ..."

"Fit" is very important to the life of a college student and even to an employee, she said.

Paden said she believes it's her job to give back to people every day. She believes in the Biblical expression, "To whom much is given, much is required."

"I really do believe that you are given certain gifts in your life and it is your responsibility to use them wisely and generously," she said.

When Paden found out she would be inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame, she said she was surprised because she looks up to many of the women who have been inducted or will be inducted and considers it an honor.

"I knew I had been nominated and they called me and said 'congratulations,' and I was really kind of surprised," she said. "I had done some research on the website ... and I looked



JAKE MCMAHON/PIONEER

Marion Paden

at the previous inductees — many of them are women that I have heard of, that I have known, who I have admired, and I thought to be able to stand with them or be in the same category as them was very rewarding, very validating."

In addition to holding positions at OCCC, Paden also is the longest serving adviser to Sechrist, serves on the Oklahoma City Rotary Club, the Rotary Club International, Leadership Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma Sports Association and more.

She has served in leadership in the community at Christmas Connection, the Red Cross and Arts Festival Oklahoma, and has helped with teen pregnancy and breast cancer awareness. She also has done international work in India.

For more information about the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame, visit www.ok.gov/ocsw/Oklahoma_Women's_Hall_of_Fame.

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Oklahoma City bombing remembered 20 years later

KATIE AXTELL

Community Writer
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Nearly 20 years have passed since the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City, and the memory of the event still lives on.

Computer Science Professor Al Heitkamper reflected on where he was at 9:02 a.m. April 19, 1995.

"I was in Choctaw teaching class and, all of a sudden, the building shook really bad ... Someone said something happened so we turned on the TV.

"It was a really interesting time," Heitkamper said. "A very scary time. It was the first major domestic attack we've ever had."

Computer Science Professor Vicki Gibson also was teaching that day.

"I was in Lawton at the time teaching high school," Gibson said. "We had TVs in our rooms, but the administration wouldn't let us turn them on."

Gibson said the teachers there tried to keep the knowledge of the attack from the students.

"It was sad," she said. "The teachers were all out in the hall running them

down and talking to them. We kind of had to keep the students from what was going on.

"I feared that [one] of my students would have somebody in the building and not know about it."

Education major Michele Bolin was living in Illinois, but said she still remembers the shock the day it happened.

"I was at work," Bolin said. "I was shocked that it happened and knowing there was a daycare there.

"I had just had [my daughter] and I just couldn't imagine what it would be like having a child there."

Physical Therapy Assistant major Nathanael Taylor said he was born a few months after the bombing, but knows people who were injured in the attack.

"There's a lady [at the VA] who was there," Taylor said. "She went to open up a door, and the bomb went off and the door completely slammed and crushed her wrist. She was able to get out just fine, but she lost her shoe and her wrist was shattered."

Heitkamper said he remembers another person who was injured in the bombing. He said she was running the federal credit union program that he was also working with at the time.

"She told us a story about how she was sitting at a table having a staff meeting and all the people were [at the other end of the table]. After the bomb went off, she looked up and there was nothing left there. She was the only person."

Taylor said although it is taught in school, the history of what led up to the event should hold more importance.

"The bombing itself is a very short subject," she said. "It's a very traumatic subject. However, I do think what happened before the bombing, the events that led up to [it], are significant."

For more information, or to pay tribute to those who died, survived and changed from the bombing, the website for the Oklahoma City Memorial can be found at oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org.

The Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum with a garden, reflecting pool and sculptural memorial commemorating victims of the 1995 Murrah Building bombing, is located at 620 N Harvey Ave. For information, call 405-235-3313.

For more about the bombing, visit www.history.com/topics/oklahoma-city-bombing.



Al Heitkamper



Vicki Gibson



Michele Bolin



Nathanael Taylor

Area schools teach about April 19, 1995, event

CLAYTON MITCHELL

Sports Writer
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April 19 will mark the 20th anniversary of the 1995 bombing that destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

Killing 168 people, it is the most deadly case of domestic terrorism in American history, and was the most deadly terrorist attack until 9/11.

In July 2010, House Bill 2750 went into effect, requiring by law that Oklahoma schools teach about the bombing as part of their history and social studies core curriculum.

When former Gov. Brad Henry signed the bill into law on April 6, 2010, he said it is important for school children who had been born after the bombing to learn about one of the events that has shaped Oklahoma's history more than most others.

"We owe it to the victims, the survivors and all of the people touched by this tragic event to remember April 19 and understand what it meant and still means to this state and this nation,"

Henry said at the bill signing ceremony at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum.

The museum has become a gateway for students to learn about the bombing.

The museum has exhibits dedicated to different parts of the bombing, including a room that plays a recording of what it sounded like from a nearby building, scientific findings of how the building's structure was impacted by the explosion, and a remembrance area for those injured or killed.

The museum states on its website that educating people about the bombing in particular, as well as violence prevention in general, is their top priority. The website also states that its leadership was integral in helping pass House Bill 2750.

Section 1B of House Bill 2750 allows use of resources provided by the museum to help educate students. One of the ways the museum does this is by allowing schools to apply for the Educational Enrichment Grant, which if accepted, would allow schools to bring students on field trips to the museum free of charge.

The next section of the bill, Section 1C, requires that history textbooks be evaluated to ensure that they appropriately teach about the bombing and its effect on Oklahoma history.

An example of this is the American Pageant, a college-level textbook published by Cengage Learning, which is commonly used in Advanced Placement U.S. History courses in high schools. The book contains a picture and graphic to go along with a paragraph about the bombing.

The book mentions Timothy McVeigh as the responsible party, McVeigh's motivations for the bombing, specifically the 1993 Waco Siege of the Branch Davidians compound, and that his execution was the first by the federal government in roughly 40 years.

Some students feel that is not enough. Erica King, Aerospace Engineering major, said while she was in high school, very little was taught about the bombing.

"They should definitely teach more about it," she said. "I hardly remember any of it."

Psychology major Ryan Harter said

the subject is covered appropriately.

Harter attended ASTEC Charter Schools in Oklahoma City.

"We never went to the memorial museum in school," he said. "But every year in middle school and high school, there was a ... day about it.

"One day of thoughtful remembrance is appropriate. Focusing on the negative things too much inhibits progress."

Andrea Bonilla, diversified studies major, who also attended ASTEC, agreed.

"I think that schools do a sufficient job of teaching about that day," she said.

"By the time students enter high school, they've been taught about the event a few times, so it makes sense that it's mostly just a day of remembrance."

Oklahoma City Public Schools social studies curriculum is overseen by Peter Brown. OKCPS curriculum directors have their curriculum maps and plans on okcpssecondarycurriculum.weebly.com. For more information, Brown can be reached at pdbrown@okcps.org.

To find other school systems' curriculums, visit your local school system's website.

Oklahoma’s homeless has many faces

A total of 58,158 college applicants indicated on federal financial aid forms for the 2012-’13 academic year they were homeless — up 8 percent from 53,705 in the previous year, according to federal data.

The Count

Each year, Oklahoma City takes one day to count and survey people who are homeless in the city. The intention of this count is to provide a snapshot picture of homelessness in Oklahoma City, of both the number of people and their characteristics. A large team of community volunteers from more than 14 organizations survey people in emergency homeless shelters, transitional housing facilities, hot meal sites, crisis facilities such as hospitals and the jail, encampments, and various street locations.

The Point-in-Time count yields valuable data to help service providers understand how many local people are homeless and what kinds of needs they have. This information aids in planning Oklahoma City’s services and programs to feed and shelter the population as well as to help them find affordable housing, access transportation, receive rehabilitation and counseling, find employment, improve their skills through education and training and ultimately end their homelessness.

Results

In 2014, there were a total of 1,481 “countable” homeless individuals in Oklahoma City. It’s estimated that a community’s annual number of homeless is four to five times it’s one-night census – in this case 5,924 to 7,405 people who are homeless in Oklahoma City every year.

This survey does not attempt to count people who are considered “couch homeless,” people who are homeless but temporarily staying with a friend, relative or acquaintance. The number of couch homeless is uncertain, but the Oklahoma City Public School District has 2,185 homeless children enrolled in the 2014-15 academic year, the majority of whom (83 percent) are couch homeless.

Statistics

In Oklahoma City in 2014, people who are homeless reported:

- 12% were chronically homeless by HUD’s definition
- 14% are a member of a homeless family with children
- 35% report mental illness
- 33% report substance abuse
- 12% claimed to be veterans
- 12% reported being a victim of domestic violence
- 9% are 17 years old or younger

The Point-in-Time count was a joint project of the City of Oklahoma City, the Coalition to End Poverty, and the Homeless Alliance.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

CITY CARE
citycareinc.org/
City Rescue Mission
cityrescue.org

THE HOMELESS ALLIANCE
www.homelessalliance.org/

HOPE COMMUNITY SERVICES
www.hopecsi.org

UPWARD TRANSITIONS
www.upwardtransitions.org

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES ORGANIZATION
nsookc.org

OKC METRO ALLIANCE
okcmetroalliance.com

RED ROCK BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
www.red-rock.com

YWCA
www.ywcaokc.org

GRACE RESCUE MISSION
405-232-5756

SALVATION ARMY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
salvationarmyokcac.org

SUNBEAM FAMILY SERVICES
sunbeamfamilyservices.org

LATINO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
lcdaok.com

PHOENIX HOUSE
405-525-0201

GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY URBAN LEAGUE

www.urbanleagueok.org

RAIN OK
rainoklahoma.publish-path.com

OKLAHOMA VETERANS AFFAIRS
www.ok.gov/odva

WINDS HOUSE
www.windshouseokc.org

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
www.catholiccharitiesok.org

JESUS HOUSE
www.jesushouseokc.org

YOUTH SERVICES OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY
ysoc3.publishpath.com

THE WONDERFULLY MADE FOUNDATION
www.thewonderfully-madefoundation.com

—list courtesy of **www.homelessalliance.org**

Alliance: Homeless resources offered through state agency

Continued from page 1

according to a national report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Homeless Alliance, located on 1724 NW 4th St. in Oklahoma City, is an example of the resources available to the homeless. Communications Director Kinsey Crocker said the mission is to rally the community to end homelessness.

Crocker said it’s a broad goal since there’s not one easy solution so the focus is to look at gaps in services.

“We work with other non-profit government agencies and community partners to help (prevent) homelessness,” she said. “We look at [the] best practices used around the country and try to bring new initiatives around Oklahoma City.”

Crocker said some examples of the programs are operating the WestTown homeless resource campus, which is located near the Homeless Alliance.

She said the campus includes two buildings — a one-stop social service building and a day shelter.

“It’s a safe, warm, dry place for people to go to during the day.”

The day shelter is open five days a week and averages about 275 people per day, Crocker said. The shelter provides lunch and breakfast, showers, phones and computers. A lot of different services and agencies try to engage people in programs to help end their homelessness, she said.

“About half of the people who go there are unsheltered,

“There are about 1,400 people who are homeless in Oklahoma City. A lot of those people blend in. You wouldn’t necessarily recognize them if you passed them on a street corner.”

—KINSEY CROCKER
HOMELESS ALLIANCE
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

meaning they don’t go to one of the overnight shelters here in Oklahoma City,” she said.

Homelessness is a complex issue, Crocker said, so one agency addressing every single issue wouldn’t work.

“We wanted to bring multiple agencies under one roof,

so if you’re in a crisis and you’re homeless, you don’t have to navigate the system — you’re not driving around trying to access all these agencies, she said.

“[Instead], you can come to one building and get their resources under one roof. That’s the resource building on campus.”

There are about 1,400 people who are homeless in Oklahoma City, Crocker said.

“A lot of those people blend in You wouldn’t necessarily recognize them if you passed them on a street corner.

“I think it’s important for the community to know that there are people out there who are struggling with homelessness.

“There are organizations out here in the city who are doing

a really good job.

“We’ve made a lot of progress here in Oklahoma City because of such great collaborators.”

Oklahoma City recently joined in a national effort to house all chronically homeless people, or people who have been homeless for a year.

According to www.homelessalliance.org, statistics show 12 percent of Oklahoma City homeless people are chronically homeless, 35 percent reported being mentally ill, 33 percent reported substance abuse and 12 percent say they are veterans.

For more information about shelters and resources, contact The Homeless Alliance at 405-415-8410, or visit www.homelessalliance.org, cityrescue.org, www.jesushouseokc.org or www.homelessshelterdirectory.org.

SPORTS

Peddling

General Studies major Timothy Niemiec exercises on April 2 in the Fitness Center located in OCCC's Wellness Center.

The center provides numerous fitness areas free to students with a valid OCCC ID. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rf/wellness.html.



ETHAN COOPER/
PIONEER

SPORTS | Individual students or teams can sign up for flag football at imleagues.com/occc

Popular flag football games return in spring

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

One of OCCC's most popular intramural sports, flag football, is making a return to the intramural lineup for the spring semester, said Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

Not on the original spring sports roster, Wright said the new sport was added after spring break, along with weekly basketball tournaments, as a way to finish the semester of intramural sports in a strong way.

"I'm going to try to do another flag football season here in a couple of weeks," he said. "That's going to be on Thursday nights, but I'll have more info on IM Leagues for that."

Flag football eliminates the danger that contact football has by allowing players to pull flags from around an opposing player's belt to take the place



of a tackle.

Any sort of excessive physical contact will result in a penalty.

Wright said the field behind the Aquatic Center will be used for the games. The field is smaller than regulation football fields because of the less competitive nature of intramural sports.

Wright said that while the games will have a downs system for possession like normal football, the system will

be somewhat different.

"There are three sections of 18 yards," he said. "You get the ball at the 10, and you have four downs to make it to the 18-yard line."

"Once you cross over, you have four downs to get to the next 18-yard line, and then four downs to get into the end zone."

Students can sign up at imleagues.com/occc, or by visiting the Recreation and Fitness office on the first floor of the Main Building.

Students can start a team, sign up for an already existing team, or sign up as free agents.

Teams must have seven players to participate. The season will last until the end of the semester.

For more information, contact Matthew Wright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7684, or matthew.j.wright@occc.edu, or contact the Recreation and Fitness office directly at 405-682-7860.

EVENT NEWS

SPRING 2015:

- 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. Classes are free to OCCC students with a valid ID. 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.

Life: One OCCC student struggles with daily homelessness

Continued from page 1

For the most part, the two of them were able to stay with family and friends. But not always. With her son sent away to relatives one summer, Amy made the choice to take lodging at an area shelter.

"I don't want to drag my family or friends down in this process," she said. "There's places you can go that are funded for those purposes. So, I did stay at the Family Rescue over the summer."

She said when a new school year approached for her son, the two moved in with friends again. Soon she began school too, at OCCC.

Alongside the work she did in class, she said she worked to get herself and her son into a permanent home.

She said it was only a "little sprint" from September 2014 to the beginning of March 2015 that she and her teenage son were able to live in Section 8 housing in Oklahoma City.

Amy said that didn't last long. "We got into housing but we just had to move out," she said.

Amy had found her new neighborhood more frightening than the prospect of homelessness when a gunfight erupted in front of her house one night. Afterwards, she said, she and her son eagerly forfeited their new home.

"I told [housing authorities] that I'd rather not have Section 8 if it means I'm going to stay somewhere that's unsafe," she said. "I got out on Friday. By that Monday two people had been shot in that area, and one was dead."

Currently, she and her son are staying with friends and family again, and staying as close to their respective schools as possible, she said. Things aren't easy, Amy said.

"Getting back and forth to school is difficult even though I have a car."

And, she said, with a child, things become even harder.

"I've taken his education on myself in getting him to and

from school because there's no set place where he can get on the bus every day or walk from school since it's always changing."

She said maintaining a focus on academics during this transitional period has been strenuous for both of them.

"The hardest part is having that place in time where you can just push all of that situation out of your mind," she said. "It is an ever-pervading thought that gnaws away at you, not knowing what you're going to do or where you're going to stay."

"Not only are you dealing with the personalities at school. You're dealing with the personalities of the people in whatever situation you're in outside. Those combined make it difficult to get an education," Amy said, "If you're staying with somebody or you're in a shelter, there's multiple distractions."

She said OCCC has in many ways become a rare place of solace; something somewhat crucial to academic success.

"Here you have the study rooms on campus and you have the library, and there's different areas around like the couches and things that allow you to kind of pull yourself out and get yourself into a more comfortable environment with less distractions."

"This becomes home."

Amy said the campus has offered more resources than she can recall.

"Student Support Services is definitely helping with counseling, and they help with hooking you up with different organizations and resources around town."

"I am grateful that OCCC has understanding professors too," she said, "They're willing to work with you when you have life difficulties. I don't ask for any breaks."

"I want my education and I want to do whatever is required of me but I also want them to understand."

Student Support Services

“It’s an ever-pervading thought that gnaws away at you, not knowing what you’re going to do or where you’re going to stay.”

—AMY

OCCC STUDENT

Counselor Jenna Howard said homelessness among OCCC students is all too common.

"We would love to say we have a place for them but we don't," she said.

Howard said Student Support Services offers what resources they can.

They've also produced a Community Resource Guide to help direct students toward off-campus resources and opportunities available in the community off campus as well.

"Our hope is to help the student get those basic needs because it is hard to go to school when you don't have food or you're not sure where to stay," Howard said.

"[A lot of the] students I've talked to ... are living at a shelter. I did talk to a student that was living in his car for a week until he got financial aid."

"Student Support Services talks with the students [who] are homeless and try to find out what their needs are," she said.

Howard said students struggling with their housing situation can sometimes find their way into temporary housing through Student Support Services.

"What we do is contact, talk to the student," she said, "and help them contact those places to see if there's a bed."

Howard said there are more available, convenient resources on campus than many realize.

"We have the Recreation and Fitness area."

"So, a lot of times I'll encourage students to take showers if they need to take a shower," she said,

"There's also day-use lockers."

Student Support Services also can help students work out transportation issues, Howard said, working out bus routes, schedules and fees. And students who might otherwise go hungry can be directed to local food banks, she said.

Amy said, while there is help out there, being homeless is humbling to the point that taking help is sometimes difficult. Sometimes, it's impossible, she said.

"It leaves you powerless. It sort of makes you feel helpless."

Amy said she doesn't talk about it much. Judgment and pity are often just more unwanted side effects of the situation, she said.

"It's not that I'm out there partying and drinking or doing drugs and not paying my rent," she said.

"It's just that there were real-life situations."

Amy said she and her son are pushing on though and new

things are certainly developing.

"Basically, my next step is just to try to get into a house," she said.

"I'm doing everything else necessary to just function for daily living but the stability is key to education."

"You have to be somewhere stable. You need a place where you can process your school work rather than just the horrible stuff."

Amy said for now, Section 8 isn't on the table for her.

"Because of the shooting I got out of the home that Section 8 provided before a year was up — so they are terminating me," she said. "And I'm appealing that action."

Recently Amy has applied to enter low-income housing near OCCC and is awaiting a decision on whether she and her son will be accepted.

New resources have come to light, she said, and during her last interview with the Pioneer, she said things were looking up.

April 17 last date to drop with a refund

The last day to drop classes without a refund for the 16-week semester is by midnight Friday, April 17.

Students have two options: they can visit the Registration Office to fill out a form or can log in to their Mineonline account to drop the class online.

Students who receive Financial Aid should talk with an adviser in that area before dropping.

To contact Financial Aid, call 405-682-7525 or visit www.occc.edu/financialaid/index.html.

For more information, contact the Records and Registration Services at 405-682-7522 or visit www.occc.edu/records/index.html.

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

All for fun and fun for all



ETHAN COOPER/PIONEER

The Gamers Guild plays a game of “Cards Against Humanity” on March 30 in a college union room. History major and Gamers Guild President Jared Scales said the group will play “Cards Against Humanity” one last time this semester at noon Monday, April 27. “We’re just gathering to have a good time, get some laughs and relieve some stress from school,” Scales said.

COMMUNITY | The Leadership Council brings race relations to forefront at OCCC

Education to help with racism

KATIE AXTELL

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

With the recent events producing racial tension on college campuses, The Leadership Council held a meeting to get a feel for OCCC’s take on race relations.

The Leadership Council is comprised of a representative from each of the clubs on campus, plus at-large members through application.

Guest speaker Myron Pope, vice president of Student Affairs at University of Central Oklahoma, asked attending students, faculty and campus club representatives questions to gauge the level of racism on campus.

Native American Student Association club president Samantha Harris said people’s concepts of some clubs are wrong.

“People think you need to be Native American to be in the Native American club, but they don’t. You can join any of these clubs.

“You don’t have to be a certain race.”

Black Student Association president Simone Mathenia said the same is true for her club.

“People feel like they have to be black to be a part of [Black Student Association], but we have another student who is from outside of the U.S.,” she said.



“We’re trying to branch out and let them know we welcome everybody.”

Many of the attendees addressed the issue of an education system needing to have classes on diversity to help with the issues of today, including Michelle Hestera, the Future Alumni Network club representative.

“We have to make sure

each of us understands diversity,” Hestera said.

“If we can get a class that is mandatory across the U.S. on diversity I think that can make a huge difference.

“I think we do a fantastic job of keeping open lines of communication. I love seeing groups working together.”

Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services Marion Paden said she didn’t know the level of racism on campus.

“The Leadership Council is the formal mechanism for which students provide input to the administration of the college.”

Student Life representatives said any student or faculty member on campus who has faced discrimination should report that to Student Life.

Comments can be submitted anonymously online or with the comment card boxes located around campus.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

OCCC hosting Blood Drive

OCCC is hosting a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15, in the GDA. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

Mentoring tips available for students

Student 2 Student mentoring tips will take place at noon Monday, April 13, in CU3. All students are welcome to attend to receive mentoring tips from student mentors. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

Leadership Series to cover etiquette

Dr. Marion Paden is covering etiquette at the Leader Series meeting at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, in CU1. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

Open discussion over coffee and peace

A Coffee and Peace ExCEL series meeting will take place at noon Monday, April 20, in CU3. The presentation and activities will be focused on promoting diversity, inclusion and cultural awareness. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

VPAC hosting Pilobolus Dance Theater

The Pilobolus Dance Theater is performing at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, in the VPAC. Students can pick up two free tickets starting April 14 from the OCCC Boxoffice with a student ID. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$45. For more information, contact the Cultural Programs office at culturalprograms@occc.edu or 405-682-7576.

ESL group to help with communication skills

The ESL Conversation Club meets from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the VPAC room 146. The ESL group is there to help international students improve their English communication skills. For more information, contact James Sellers at james.f.sellers@occc.edu or 405-682-1611.

Solid Ground Ministries on Monday nights

Christians on Campus meet at 5:30 p.m. on Mondays in room MB1X5 for a “Solid Ground” ministry series. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Christians on Campus at christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu or club president Kaie Huizar at kaie.huizar@gmail.com.

Christians on Campus to meet each Monday

Christians on Campus host Bible studies at noon on Mondays in room AH1C3. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Christians on Campus at christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu or club president Kaie Huizar at kaie.huizar@gmail.com.

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.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: 19" CRT television in fair condition. Great for a gaming TV or in a child's room. \$25. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures or more details.

MISCELLANEOUS

FREE: Your ad here. Students can place non-business classified ads for free. No more than 7 lines. Submit your ad to adman@occc.edu with your name, student ID and valid phone number.

FOR SALE: This space for \$8 per week. Place your business classified today and reach thousands of potential customers. Up to seven lines. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or email adman@occc.edu.

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1. An alloy of copper and zinc
- 6. Manacle
- 10. Kind of school
- 14. Stud
- 15. Hodgepodge
- 16. Angel's headwear
- 17. Love intensely
- 18. Nonexistent
- 19. Creative work
- 20. Original
- 22. Anagram of "Tine"
- 23. Former Italian currency
- 24. Worn away
- 26. Contributes
- 30. Slice
- 31. 18-wheeler
- 32. Jump
- 33. Part of a foot
- 35. Chafes
- 39. Belly
- 41. Palatable
- 43. Not fresh
- 44. Boom
- 46. Urgent request
- 47. Type
- 49. Euro forerunner
- 50. Skirt lines
- 51. Scour
- 54. Part in a play
- 56. ____ du jour = Meal of the day
- 57. Powered by electricity
- 63. Hindu princess
- 64. Compassion
- 65. Draw forth
- 66. Therefore
- 67. Send forth
- 68. Cyphers
- 69. Observed
- 70. Dash
- 71. Amount of hair

DOWN

- 1. Fiber source
- 2. Go on horseback
- 3. Affirm
- 4. Slave
- 5. Pilfer
- 6. Harmonious
- 7. Emit long loud cries
- 8. Dossier
- 9. File cover
- 10. Record player
- 11. Speedy
- 12. Wash out with a solvent
- 13. Modelled
- 21. Recess
- 25. Break in friendly relations
- 26. "What a shame!"
- 27. Money owed
- 28. Early 20th-century art movement
- 29. Pillaging
- 34. White blood cell
- 36. Competent
- 37. The original matter (cosmology)
- 38. Oceans
- 40. Blend
- 42. Grownup
- 45. Religious outcast
- 48. Custodian
- 51. French for "After"
- 52. Cacophony
- 53. Cooktop
- 55. Construct
- 58. City in Peru
- 59. Smell
- 60. Naked
- 61. Frosts
- 62. To tax or access

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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.



Zelda Fan

Computer Animation major Stephanie Emperly plays music with her Ocarina on March 25 near the fountain located outside the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library. "I'm playing 'Zelda's Lullaby,'" Emperly said. OCCC offers many areas throughout campus for students to study or relax.

ETHAN COOPER/
PIONEER

Police arrest man for outstanding warrant

JORGE KRZYZANIAK
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC police recently made one arrest and solved a recent campus mystery, according to reports from the campus police department.

An OCCC student was arrested on campus after running a stop sign on Keels Boulevard. It's reported that Malcolm Rshad Lewis was found to be driving with a suspended license when stopped by Officer Zachary Andrews.

A call from Andrews to the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office confirmed Lewis had previously been cited for driving while his license was suspended and that he had "an extensive traffic record," resulting in a warrant for his arrest out of Oklahoma City.

Lewis was booked into the Oklahoma County Jail, charged with Driving While

Suspended. His vehicle was impounded by campus police.

Campus police, investigating possible property damage, determined it was a neighbor of the college who left ruts in the grass near Faculty Circle.

According to the report, footage of the incident was unavailable.

However, Officer Tim Harris was able to locate the responsible party when he was seen chatting with OCCC's grounds supervisor from his own backyard.

Robert Steel, who lives adjacent to the campus, explained that he'd driven through the grass to gain access to the rear of his own property during the storms on Wednesday, March 25.

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 choirs to pay tribute to Oklahoma City bombing

TYLER ADAMS
News Writing Student

To pay tribute to the solemn occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Murrah Building bombing, OCCC's three choirs will be performing Mozart's Requiem, said choral music program Director Ron Staton.

The concert will take place at 7 p.m. April 19, 20 years after 168 people lost their lives to an act of domestic terrorism in Oklahoma City.

The performance will take place in the Visual and Performing Arts Center. Tickets are free.

"The definition of a requiem is a mass for the dead," Staton said. "So the whole idea is to honor the lives lost in the bombing."

Learning the complex pieces is a challenge to vocalists.

"Typically we do two concerts a semester," Staton said. "Doing the Mozart requiem is really advanced and time consuming."

For that reason, there will be only one concert this term. About 150 students make up the three choirs, who will all be singing together.

The choirs will perform along with the Westminster Orchestra of Oklahoma City, Staton said.

OCCC's Symphonic Community Choir members are comprised of OCCC students and also members of the community who enroll and sing for pure enjoyment, Staton said.

The concert choir is open to all OCCC students who wish to enroll.

The chamber choir requires students to audition for membership. Auditions are held the first two days of

each semester, Staton said. It is comprised of some of the elite singers of OCCC.

Staton credits adjunct voice Professor Josh Phelps for the idea of performing the tribute concert.

Student Ezell Potter is a symphonic choir member.

She said she has sung a requiem before, "but never one this hard."

"It's pretty tough," she said. Not only is the requiem in another language, but the dead language of Latin, which isn't anyone's first language anymore.

Potter said for her it's mostly "just memorization."

She said she is a regular church attendee, which has given her some occasional weekly practice of singing in Latin.

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