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EDITORIAL

CHILDREN DESERVE PROTECTION

Editor Jorge Krzyzaniak says everyone needs to get involved when it comes to the safety of children. Turn inside to read his thoughts.

OPINION, p. 2

NEWS

WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS

A College for Kids class recently raised more than \$1,000 for the charity Alex's Lemonade Stand. Lemonade stands were set up on the main campus and the FACE Center.

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SPORTS

INTRAMURAL FALL SPORTS ON CALENDAR

Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright said a number of sports are planned to take place in the fall semester. See page 8 for details.

SPORTS, p. 8

COMMUNITY

STUDENTS PROTEST BULLYING

A number of Upward Bound students gathered on July 9 to hand out pamphlets and raise awareness about the effects of bullying. Read more about the effort.

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PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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PIONEER.OCCC.EDU

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Bookworm



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

Diversified studies major Krystal Carter reads "Down the Rabbit Hole" in the Keith Leftwich library on July 13. "It's pretty good," Carter said. "A good wind-down from studying." Students who are looking for a specific book can check for it online on the Library website at www.occc.edu/library.

Survey shows OCCC students quite satisfied

CLAYTON MITCHELL

Senior Writer
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OCCC students are some of the most satisfied in the nation, according to a recent survey.

Institutional Effectiveness Director Janet Perry said 1,238 OCCC students participated in the April survey, issued every two years, to gauge the students' opinion of the school.

"The primary goal of the survey is to determine how students feel about the college, how satisfied they are with the services they're provided here at the college," she said. "And by finding that out, we can determine whether or not we need to change anything — what we need to improve upon."

Students who took the survey rated their satisfaction with the college higher than

See **SURVEY** page 9

Steward names executive VP successor

OCCC president sets stage for a number of employees to change hats

JORGE KRZYZANIAK

Editor
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As promised in a Pioneer interview in June, Jerry Steward used his first administrative action in his new position as OCCC President to name his successor to the Executive Vice President's office.

Steven Bloomberg, OCCC's Community Development Vice President since 2010, was appointed to the role of Acting Executive Vice President for his "dynamic leadership and strong track record of performance in

higher education," Steward said.

"I am confident that Mr. Bloomberg will continue to provide excellent leadership to the college in his newly expanded role."

Bloomberg said he looks forward to taking on the expanded responsibilities of his new position.

"It's going to be some work" Bloomberg said, "There's a lot to do but I think it's going to be fun."

On Thursday, July 2 — his first day as college president after replacing the newly retired former President Paul Sechrist — Steward also appointed Lisa Fisher as Acting Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services.

After serving as Student Support Services Director since July 2013, Fischer will replace

Marion Paden who recently retired, Steward said.

"I'm honored that President Steward has asked me to serve as the Acting Vice President for Enrollment & Student Services," Fisher said.

"In my time at OCCC, I have seen the dedication our staff, faculty and leaders have for our students' success, and I am so proud to be a part of it."

Business Dean Anne DeClouette was appointed as the Academic Affairs Acting Vice President, filling the position left vacant by Felix Aquino's return to a faculty position, Steward said. DeClouette was not available for comment.

Aquino voiced his approval of Steward's choice.

"Given the fact that I hired her, I am very pleased that Dr. De-

“

In my time at OCCC, I have seen the dedication our staff, faculty and leaders have for our students' success and I am so proud to be a part of it."

—LISA FISHER

ACTING VICE PRESIDENT OF
ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT
SERVICES

Clouette is being given this opportunity," he said. "I know she will acquit herself admirably."

Aquino said after 35 years working in administration, he's happy about the prospect of ending his career as it began, in

See **CHANGES** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Sometimes, the strong must step in and protect the weak

We must protect the children

Recently, when an angry man in a grocery store I was in rose his hand toward his daughter — no older than 4-years-old — and said, “I’m gonna slap your mouth,” I stepped close to him and quietly offered instead to slap his mouth.

Bystanders nearby had been shamefully hurrying away, keeping their disgust to themselves until I stepped in. But when they heard me, a few returned to back me up.

The man uttered a shaky apology and quickly went out the door.

It only takes one of us to start that kind of chain reaction — even a pacifist such as myself.

I’m against abuse and exploitation in all forms, but I understand there’s a part of us that remains very much an animal when called upon.

Children cannot fight back against abuse but I would certainly find it within myself to fight the pathetic breed of man that would hurt a child, pacifist or not.

I nurture this part of me too, and acknowledge that I not only know violence quite well but also, that if

I’m being honest with myself, I love violence.

This has served me well in some situations. But, now, I want to rededicate it to serving someone else.

I have abandoned the law of the wild, as Jack London puts it, “to oppress the weak and obey the strong.”

We have to separate ourselves from the world of beasts by being civilized or we destroy ourselves.

London’s law of the wild from “White Fang” is too commonly practiced among humans though.

The men most timid in the face of the strong are often the most violent against the vulnerable.

Oklahoma is rotten with this predicament. Our most vulnerable — children — face terrible and common abuse.

According to the most recent reports available, Oklahoma’s Department of Human Services investigated 57,088 cases of child abuse and neglect in 2013, a significant increase from any of the previous three years.

Only 12 times was it the victim of the abuse who reported it. Most often, abuse is reported by law enforcement and commonly by relatives, doctors, or teachers of the child. Less than 7 percent of the time is child abuse and neglect reported by people without any connection to the children.

It is terribly uncomfortable but we have to step into these situations and stop them, and let abusers know



JORGE KRZYZANIAK



that abuse is not socially acceptable. People refuse to react because nobody else is reacting. If we have the bravery to react, others might too.

The healthy mind possesses the mechanism that makes us want to protect children. But exercising repression of that mechanism wears it down until it no longer functions properly.

Parents lose themselves. They react too quickly and they hit their children out of spite and anger.

Not only do we have to be more willing to report abuse or suspected abuse, we need to be willing to intervene.

I hope others also can take the violence within them and use it so they may serve as a vanguard for those who might otherwise be victimized.

—**JORGE KRZYZANIAK**
EDITOR

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Living Longer, Living Stronger campaign focuses on various ailments

State health department offers help to chronic pain sufferers

To the Editor:

The Oklahoma State Department of Health is partnering with other agencies to provide a program aimed to assist those with a chronic disease.

Oklahoma’s Living Longer, Living Stronger program is designed to assist individuals who have chronic health conditions such as hypertension, arthritis, heart disease, stroke, lung disease and diabetes improve their health and quality of life and lower their medical expenses.

It focuses on problems that are common to individuals dealing with any chronic condition such as pain management, nutrition, exercise, medication use, emotions and communication with doctors and

other health professionals.

Individuals with one or more medical diagnoses such as diabetes, arthritis, and hypertension develop the skills and coping strategies they need to manage their symptoms.

Some of the strategies and techniques this six-week program employs are action planning, interactive learning, behavior modeling, problem-solving, decision-making and social support for change.

Anyone interested in participating may call for programs scheduled at the following sites:

- Aug. 5: 1:30 to 4 p.m.
Shawnee Housing Authority. 918-623-1800.
- Aug. 13: 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Choctaw Library. 405-271-6424

• Aug. 25, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Memorial Road Church of Christ: Edmond.
405-271-6424

• Oct. 14, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative: Oklahoma City. 405-271-6424.

The program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services Aging Services Division, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, the Oklahoma Health Equity Campaign and the Living Longer, Living Stronger Partnership.

—**OKLAHOMA STATE**
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

MOVIE REVIEW | The use of spiders causes an otherwise strong film to lose momentum

‘Enemy’ starts slow, ends campy

Nobody likes a copycat. Everyone feels a little threatened by someone who imitates us a little too closely, but, of course, never as well. Instinctively, we all know that what we do is somehow cheapened if someone else also is doing it.

On the other hand, there is something fascinating about the idea of the twin, an exact copy of a person or thing in every way and yet, somehow different. There are many variations — the ordinary twin brother or sister, the clone, the evil twin, the doppelganger — that raise serious philosophical questions.

We don’t usually think about these subjects. Most of us take our unique identities for granted, but the existence of someone who looks and sounds exactly like you raises doubts about the nature of identity and knowledge.

How do other people know you are you? With imperfect human memory, how can you be sure that you are the author of your actions?

With such deep questions to draw from, there should be plenty of room for great drama in “Enemy,” a film based on the novel “The Double” by Jose



Saramago.

The film loses its way near the beginning. Jake Gyllenhaal does an excellent job in the dual roles of Adam Bell, a college history teacher, and Anthony Claire, a little known actor.

Mélanie Laurent and Sarah Gadon are just as compelling as Bell’s girlfriend and Claire’s wife respectively.

The bright lights and muted colors of the film create a striking atmosphere, but there are some annoying distractions.

Rather than dealing exclusively with the tension caused by the sameness of two men so alike they have the same scars, the film inexplicably adds a spider theme not present in the book.

Spiders show up in annoying and unexpected places in the film — in Gyllenhaal’s dreams and in real life.

Their use in the film seems tied to Anthony Claire’s wife, suggesting that she is trying to entrap him in her web, but the execution is silly and campy. Ultimately it detracts from what is otherwise a very strong film.

Rating:B+

—AMAR MOLINAS
WEBMASTER

BUSINESS REVIEW | Students can make a cool \$50 each visit

Plasma donations bring in money

I need money. I’m not asking you for money, though if you email me I will give you my mailing

address and a picture of my smiling face each time you do. I’m just explaining why I went to CSL Plasma.

CSL Plasma is a place where people can be plugged into a machine that sucks out their blood.

After the blood is sucked out, it is separated into the blood cells (the “jelly-ish” part of the blood) and the plasma (the watery part of the blood). Afterward, they give your cells back and keep the plasma for their own greedy, life-saving agenda.

Plasma is good because, unlike whole blood, anyone’s plasma can go into anyone’s veins. At CSL Plasma, they don’t care what your blood type is. Everyone is paid the same.

Well, actually, that isn’t technically true. People who weigh more than 150 pounds can donate more plasma in one day, so they are paid considerably more than little skinny people — usually women. It seems a little unfair and sexist, but I only get mad about sexism the few times it negatively affects me.

For newcomers, CSL Plasma gives out a cool \$50 for everyone’s first five visits, regardless of weight, as long as it’s within 21 days. After that, the pay isn’t so good.

I went twice and had two very different experiences.

CSL Plasma

On visit one, I was there for four hours.

I took my girlfriend, so it slowed me down a

bit, doing everything after her. We had to read some documents, sign some things, have our pictures taken and do a physical.

Since it was our first time, we got VIP treatment and got to go straight to the front of the insanely long line. It was a Saturday afternoon, so we vowed not to come back on a Saturday afternoon.

I sat on a plastic-ish recliner thing for about an hour as they drained me. The needle hurt a little bit the entire time. My girlfriend told me hers didn’t hurt at all. I gave that day a C+. I took my \$50 to the Cuppies and Joe coffee shop across the street for a delicious orange brownie.

Four days later at 9 a.m. on a Wednesday, the line was only 10 deep. We got to the chairs in no time and I got my needle in by 9:30 a.m.

Unfortunately, not long after they got the needle in, the lady attending me got a funny look on her face.

She told me I had an “infil,” or an infiltration. In other words, they missed my vein and a bit of fluid got pumped into my arm tissue.

I had to stop and leave. I still got paid, though. For me, that day was an A-.



App helps with police interactions

In today’s America it is not uncommon for a traffic stop or other law enforcement encounter to go badly.

The free app “Cop Watch” can come in handy anytime a person feels a situation may be unfolding with law enforcement that needs recording.

According to the iTunes app store, “The Cop Watch Video Recorder app provides the easiest way to create and upload videos about police-citizen interactions.

“Settings are available to have the app begin recording as soon as it is launched, and to upload video ... automatically.

The app also provides some handy reference material concerning your right to shoot these videos.”

Recordings are uploaded to a YouTube account the user sets up, with the user in control of who sees the videos.

An upload notification message also will be sent to the network for the Elimination of Police Violence, if the app user chooses to do so.

“The app even has built-in defensive measures against evidence manipulation, including a “test mode” banner that pops up when in recording mode, intending to deceive anyone who seizes your phone.

A number of similar apps have popped up recently, but after reviewing several I believe this app to have the best overall structure and stability, with good code and a reliable interface.

The app’s helpful, succinct articles about the rights of a private citizen when dealing with and recording the police are a nice addition.

This app is great for anyone who worries about their rights possibly being violated.

“Cop Watch” requires iOS 6.0 or later, and is compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

—GRANT SWALWELL
PODCASTER

All in all, I’ve done way more repulsive and unpleasant things for \$100.

I would go back again, but only until the \$50 deal runs out.

CSL Plasma is located at 716 NW 23rd St. in Oklahoma City. No appointment needed.

Rating: B

—JAKE MCMAHON
VIDEOGRAPHER

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | Long-lasting, durable shoes are made from burlap, yoga mats

Sanuk sandals feel like soft houseshoes

Sanuks. The style of their shoes has always confused me. Why is the seam on the outside of the shoe? Are they houseshoes? Slippers for nomads?

As a strip of burlap lazily sewn to a yoga mat, they've always struck me as something we would make when we began running out of textiles and fine sewing machines.

Somehow they have drawn me in with their sandals. What is this sorcery?

After seeing a customer wearing them, I bought a pair of Sanuk Yoga Sling sandals two years ago. Not once have I regretted the \$30 I shelled out for seemingly overpriced flip flops.

Once you figure out how to maneuver your foot



32 patterns.

I want to buy another pair but since my pair doesn't look worn at all, I don't have an excuse. The top of the shoe is just as durable as the bottom and the

through the two straps, your feet will thank you. The footbed is gel-like and firm, supposedly made from a yoga mat. This in no way motivates me to do yoga, but I think walking on a yoga mat all day should count for some sort of athletic training.

When I bought my purple zigzag pattern sandals, Sanuk was just getting started with this style. Now they come in 15 colors and

straps haven't stretched much at all. They've held up extremely well for being my primary summer shoe.

My sister loved them so much that she started stealing them on a daily basis. I had to get her a lime green pair for her birthday so I could be reunited with my shoes.

The downside is they dissolve if they get wet. Only joking! But if you do get them wet, it can take an eternity (eight hours or more) for them to stop being sponges. Don't wear them to the pool.

These also are difficult to run in so I wouldn't advise wearing them if you're playing a summer sport or running from a fire-breathing dragon.

Sanuk, your sandals have won my approval. But I still think you're selling houseshoes.

RATING: A

—DARLA KILHOFFER
COMMUNITY WRITER

APP REVIEW | Customer reviews help make restaurant choices easier

Yelp helps users locate area eateries

Newcomers like me who have been in America for just a short time can have problems finding some good and appropriate restaurants or hanging-out places for the weekend.

During my first four months in Oklahoma, I went over and over again to the same two restaurants which are close to my apartment because I did not want to try new places where I did not know about its food or prices. I also just did not know any other places to go.

Luckily, my problem was solved after one of my friends introduced me to a search app called Yelp. He told me that even some Americans have the same issue I have as well and use the app.

Yelp is smartly designed for users to look for any kind of restaurant they want to go, in many criteria such as price, food styles and location. Furthermore, if you already know the name of the restaurant, you just simply type the name on the search bar and Yelp will provide exactly the address, direction, phone number and opening hours of the restaurant for you.

With this app,

users are able to consider their choices based on reviews left by former customers. These comments are usually about how the food tastes, how good the service is and how many stars they would rate the restaurant. Sometimes, images of the restaurant are included too.

Most of the comments on Yelp are reliable and trustworthy.

Sometimes, however, I suspect there are restaurant employees (especially new restaurants) hired to create fake accounts and write only good things about the restaurant.

Nonetheless, after using Yelp, I knew many more good places to hang out, even if some of them are unknown by my classmates who are the locals here. I think everyone should give it a try.

One more aspect I enjoy about Yelp is whenever I search for the place, it shows me the distance between my current location to the restaurant.

Yelp is very easy to download, it's fast and takes very little storage space on your device.

And it is free.

All you have to do after downloading is to create an account and start using it.

Rating: B+

—HUNG TRAN
STAFF WRITER



TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of July 10 through July 12
www.newyorktimes.com

1. *Minions*
2. *Jurassic World*
3. *Inside Out*
4. *Terminator*
5. *The Gallows*
6. *Magic Mike XXL*
7. *Ted*
8. *Self/less*
9. *Max*
10. *Baahubali: The Beginning*
11. *Spy*
12. *Amy*
13. *San Andreas*
14. *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*
15. *Dope*
16. *Mad Max: Fury Road*
17. *Avengers: Age of Ultron*
18. *Love & Mercy*
19. *The Breakup*
20. *I'll See You In My Dreams*

Expert explains Moodle's inner workings

When the cloud-based application was down for two days in June, all online courses as well as other areas were affected says OCCC Technology Infrastructure Director Rob Gregg

CLAYTON MITCHELL

Senior Writer

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Moodle. Most students are familiar with it — and many professors use it for a variety of reasons, such as teaching online courses or logging grades.

However, most don't know exactly what Moodle is or how it works — or sometimes, doesn't work, as was the case recently.

On June 23, an email was sent by Information Technology Infrastructure Director Rob Gregg to students and faculty when a problem was noticed with Moodle's file submission system, which caused the program to not accept files.

Gregg said Moodle saves files on a cloud-based application, and the cloud was not working properly.

Cloud storage is a method of saving files and data on remote servers controlled by a third party, instead of on your own computer or a bulky external hard drive, Gregg said.

He said the cloud is extremely important to Moodle working properly.

"We don't directly host the Moodle service. The Moodle service is hosted in the cloud. But all authentication to Moodle happens through our campus."

"The way that the authentication works, and the access to the Moodle cloud works, (is) you're using different servers for different parts of the experience."

On June 23, Gregg said, "the particular portion of Moodle that was being most dramatically affected was the portion of Moodle that directly related to upload or the receipt of files."

He said the Moodle servers experienced a "distributed denial-of-service" attack, or DDoS attack.

According to searchsecurity.techtarget.com, a DDoS attack "is one in which a multitude of compromised systems attack a single target, thereby causing denial of service for users of the targeted system. The flood of incoming messages to the target system essentially forces it to shut down, thereby denying service to the system to legitimate users."

Because of this, Gregg said, the problem had to be solved by the service provider.

"We try to ensure that Moodle is being communicated with about the problems their users are experiencing, that we, on-site, are doing everything we can to facilitate a resolution with Moodle and with the Center for Learning and Teaching and with the OCCC staff," he said.

"But in end, in a situation like this, where it really

isn't part of our infrastructure per se, we have to rely on the service provider to ensure a resolution ..."

The email Gregg sent to students stated once the problem was diagnosed and a resolution was complete, everyone would be notified when Moodle was back online.

"Moodle took actions that supposedly mitigated the problem, or alleviated some of the symptoms pretty quickly, but we could not confirm with Moodle that it was resolved quickly," he said.

"So we sent out the email saying this could persist, it might still be an issue, and we'll let everyone know as soon as we have 100 percent confirmation from Moodle that the issue is fixed."

Almost two full days later, students were notified of the fix, Gregg said.

He said the problem was actually fixed quickly but some time elapsed afterwards before OCCC was notified.

"Moodle was very aggressive in the treatment of this ticket, and actually had the issue mostly resolved within about four or six hours, but they weren't actually able to confirm for OCCC that it was 100 percent resolved until the time in which we sent out the email, which is why there was a delay."

However, the outage still created a bind for many classes relying on the service for its file submission for homework and lectures, Gregg said.

Psychology department chair Jeff Anderson said he uses Moodle for his classes, but reported

no problems because he has a backup plan.

"I did not have any issues," he said.

"I allow students multiple methods to get me their assignment."

Biology professor George Risinger said while he was notified of some problems, they ultimately did not cause his course to be disrupted.

"I received a few emails from a couple of students who were in the middle of exams when the problems began," he said, "but all of those issues were easily remedied."

"Besides the short-term inconvenience to these few students, the problem did not greatly impact my class."

Mathematics professor Daniel Benton said he and many other math professors had no problems, because they rarely use Moodle at all for their classes.

Benton said Pearson's MyMathLab and McGraw-Hill Connect are some of the programs used in place of Moodle.

He said the alternate programs used depend on the publisher of the textbook used for each class. He said these programs are used because Moodle simply does not work as a mathematical program.

"Moodle is fine for posting documents, but it doesn't have an application that generates and rec-

ognizes mathematical expressions," he said. "You can write programs for it, but for math it's great to have something that will generate new problems, and will recognize different forms of answers."

Benton said the math department has always questioned how effective required online training for Moodle has been.

"Some people saw it as a bureaucratic waste of time that involved learning stuff about Moodle that we're never actually going to use," he said.

Gregg said because many professors do rely on Moodle, it is important that it runs properly, and that any issues be resolved quickly.

"I think it is a critical part of the academic resources and learning system that is represented at OCCC," he said.

"It is our Learning Management System, so it is a critical part of all of our learning process at OCCC."

"For every class that exists at OCCC, there is an online portion," he said.

"They may not always have every piece of content that is available to the course, but the students can log in and see that class online, so if the instructor chooses to make content available online, it's there via the Moodle LMS."

Every class section must be registered on Moodle and have an official page, Gregg said. However, he said, many professors use it only for taking attendance or submitting grades, and leave the sections for class handouts and tests untouched.

He said, for other professors, it is the most essential classroom tool. Some upload every handout to Moodle, as well as provide PowerPoint presentations there of every lecture.

Gregg said many professors also rely on Moodle for submission of homework or testing through Moodle's test modules.

With the exceptions of any classes using McGraw-Hill Connect, online classes run specifically through Moodle, he said.

Those classes use Moodle forums for class discussions, as well as homework and tests being specifically submitted through Moodle.

Gregg said Moodle is normally fully operational and that lapses in functionality, similar to what happened on June 23, are rare.

"I wouldn't want to speak to the specific occurrences, because I don't have the records in front of me, but it is very rare that we experience some type of systemwide outage with Moodle," he said.

"The initial reports were that students and faculty members were having difficulty submitting files to the Moodle cloud system," he said.

"We notified Moodle as soon as we were aware of the problem."

Technical Moodle issues can be reported to Information and Instructional Technology Services at techsupport@occc.edu or by calling 405-682-7777. To contact Gregg, call 405-682-7877 or email rgreggs@occc.edu.

For help in getting familiar with Moodle, log on to Moodle, and visit the Moodle Orientation tab under "My Courses."



"We don't directly host the Moodle service. The Moodle service is hosted in the cloud. But all authentication happens through our campus."

**—ROB GREGG
TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE
DIRECTOR**

Martinez-Brooks honored for her public service

MIRANDA ROBERTSON
News Writing Student

During the ceremony where she was honored for outstanding public service, Jessica Martinez-Brooks thanked her elders for the example they had set for her.

OCCC's Community Outreach and Education Department director spoke with teary eyes after receiving an award June 30 at the college's FACE Center.

"I have been surrounded with strong women my entire life," Martinez-Brooks said.

She thanked her mother-in-law Patricia Brooks, retired Spanish professor, for showing her what grace, compassion and hard work look like in the classroom. She also spoke of her late grandmother, Anita Martinez, for being a strong influence not only in the Hispanic community, but also on Martinez-Brooks herself.

Anita Martinez was director of La Puerta De Oro Senior Citizen Center for 30 years, and was honored by the Oklahoma Human Rights Commission.

Martinez-Brooks earned the 2015 Public Service Award from the United Nations As-

sociation of Greater Oklahoma City, as well as a Legislative Citation, for her life-changing work throughout the community.

The award was presented by then-OCCC President Paul Sechrist, and UNA-OKC board members.

Opening remarks were given by World Experiences Foundation Executive Director Akash Patel who nominated Martinez-Brooks for the award,

"Jessica helps students feel like they belong in the classroom," he said. "She believes they can be champions."

Martinez-Brooks is immersed in the local community through technology centers, nonprofit organizations, and local businesses, to provide free adult education.

Priya Desai, UNA-OKC president, spoke of the work Martinez-Brooks does.

"She has helped over 3,000 people annually across Oklahoma to overcome language barriers," Desai said.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist spoke highly of Martinez-Brooks' accomplishments.

"It truly is beautiful to see her fulfill her personal mission of making sure people are economically sound, can speak



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

Community Outreach and Education Director Jessica Martinez-Brooks, left, poses with UNA-OKC President Priya Desai, and then-OCCC President Paul Sechrist. Martinez-Brooks was given a UNA public service award June 30 for outstanding public service.

English, and find a home here in America," he said.

Oklahoma City School Board member Gloria Torres and Assistant Director of Adult Education Deborah Copeland

presented Brooks with the Legislation Citation.

"Wherever you go with Jessica, people are stopping her to thank her," Copeland said.

"Everywhere she goes, you

know it's going to be great."

For more about the UNA-OKC, call 405-585-3310. For information about the Public Service Award, visit www.una-okc.org/public_service.html.

Students create orientation video for freshmen

DANIELLE RUTLEDGE
News Writing Student

Two students from the TRiO program are creating a special student orientation video for incoming freshmen this fall.

Lisa Shaw and Aaron Kimberlin are very excited about giving back to the program that afforded them the opportunity to participate in an international service learning experience in the Dominican Republic, said TRiO Director Lathonya Shivers.

Part of their obligation, in return, was to perform a project for their school back in Oklahoma.

Shivers said the video will outline the opportunities available in TRiO, as well as the experiences Kimberlin and Shaw had while in the program.

"The video will expose stu-

dents to the endless possibilities that TRiO offers," she said.

Shivers said Kimberlin and Shaw recently were the only students selected from OCCC to go to the Dominican Republic. She said that shines a light on TRiO because if it were not for the program, they would not have had that chance.

"We never had that opportunity to send students on an international trip before now," she said.

Traveling abroad and doing a service learning project, then returning to their own community, and using the skills and knowledge gained to create a service learning project for incoming students is a very rewarding experience, Kimberlin said.

Shaw said they hope to encourage others to consider TRiO.

TRiO

"Aaron and I have both benefited tremendously from the guidance and assistance received from TRiO," Shaw said. "We hope to show others how they can gain a strong college experience and a long lasting relationship with the staff members of TRiO."

Shaw said their goal is to inform incoming TRiO students about the benefits and resources available through the program such as scholarship assistance, tutoring, mentoring, comprehensive advising, and transfer assistance.

"We also intend to focus on the social, cultural, and educational opportunities associated with being a TRiO member,"

she said.

The OCCC Public Relations and Marketing Department is assisting with the project. Dan Anderson, a video production specialist at OCCC, will help with the production process. The video will include footage from past TRiO events and some footage of Shaw and Kimberlin during their adventures in the Dominican Republic.

"One fun segment will include Aaron jumping into the tallest waterfall in the Caribbean," Shaw said.

TRiO support services has been available on campus since 2005 and is funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Students accepted into TRiO do not have to pay for the program, Shivers said. Applications are received year round from current students who

meet certain eligibility criteria.

TRiO applicants must attend OCCC, have low income or be first-generation college students. "First-generation" means neither parent can have obtained a bachelor's degree, Shivers said. Students with a disability are accepted and have to be interested in graduating from OCCC and transferring to a university.

"Our mission is to help first-generation, low-income students succeed through college," Shivers said.

For more information about TRiO support services, visit the student office located in room 117, next to the Bursar's office on the first floor of the Main building.

Interested students also can call the TRiO office at 405-682-7865 or visit the website at www.occc.edu/TRiO.



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

Rachel Vu, 11, Faith Tran, 11, Alexandra Butler, 11, Esmeralda Garcia, 13, Madeline Angiel, 13, and Iliana Silva, 13, sell lemonade at Alex's Lemonade Stand near the entrance to OCCC's SEM center on July 9.

College for Kids students raise funds for charity

DARLA KILHOFFER

Community Writer

communitywriter@occc.edu

On July 9, College for Kids Giving Back class raised \$1,057.63 for childhood cancer research by hosting Alex's Lemonade Stand on OCCC's main campus and at the FACE Center.

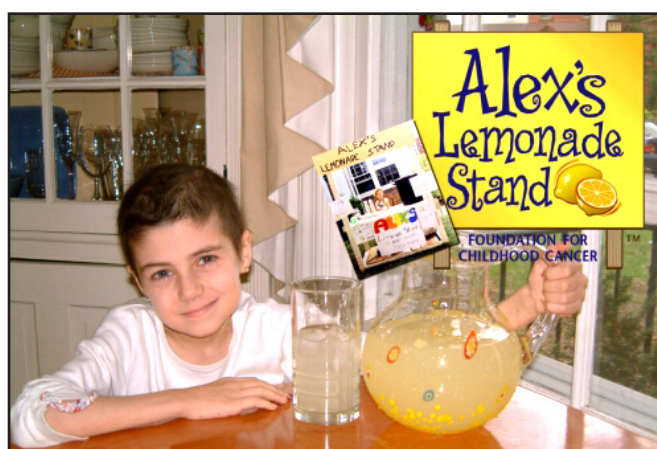
Selling cups of pink lemonade gave kids the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of other children.

"I think it's important because we're helping people — that we can give them a longer life, give them more research," said 13 year-old Iliana Silva.

"And they can help other people in the future who have cancer."

Rachel Vu, 11, shared the background of Alex's Lemonade Stand, a foundation that has reached beyond its founder's lifetime.

"A girl named Alex started it when she was 4," Vu said. "She had cancer and she wanted to raise money



JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER

The founder of Alex's Lemonade Stand was diagnosed with childhood cancer before her first birthday. She died in 2004 at the age of 8. She had raised more than \$1 million for the organization.

to donate to her hospital to find a cure for childhood cancer."

According to their website, Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) began when Alex, diagnosed

with neuroblastoma before her first birthday, set up a lemonade stand to fund cancer research. She raised more than \$2,000 in one day. By the time Alex died in 2004 at the age of 8, she had raised more than \$1 million for the foundation.

ALSF's mission is "to raise money and awareness of childhood cancer causes — primarily research into new treatments and cures — and to encourage and empower others, especially children, to get involved and make a difference for children with cancer."

Since 2008, ALSF's travel fund has provided more than 400 flights, 2,800 nights of lodging and 17,000 gas cards to families in need during their child's cancer battle.

The foundation also has raised more than \$100 million for research as well as funded more than 500 research projects at 100 institutions.

For more information on setting up an Alex's Lemonade Stand or to make a donation, visit www.alexlemonade.org. For more about College for Kids, visit <http://www.occc.edu/coe/college4kids.html>.

SPORTS

Workout time

Nursing major Amanda Maciaz does the deadlift with a barbell in OCCC's gym on July 8. When asked about her exercise, Maciaz said, "I love lifting. It's one of my favorite hobbies."

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.

JAKE MCMAHON/
PIONEER



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.

SPORTS | Students can start a team or join an existing team for fall season starting in August

Intramural sports return for fall

HARRISON LANGSTON

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

This fall, intramural sports teams will make their way back to OCCC, said Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

Starting in August, Wright said, several sports teams will make up the roster. Those include five-versus-five basketball, seven-versus-seven flag football, dodgeball, volleyball, ultimate frisbee, pickleball, and possibly soccer.

Soccer is the only sport that might not happen this semester, he said.

Of these, the only sport new to OCCC is pickleball.

"It's like a mixture between tennis and badminton, kind of," Wright said.

"The balls are kind of like wiffle balls and you have paddles, like table tennis paddles but they're a little bigger, and you just hit the ball back and forth, kind of like tennis."

Regarding the format of the teams, Wright said, "Some of them may be in tournament form, like dodgeball and pickleball ... instead of a season like flag football and basketball are."

"We do the flag football outside, so usually we do outdoor

soccer in the spring. I'm going to look into maybe doing a small, indoor type soccer thing possibly. That's the only one that's not set in stone for the fall."

The teams will be casual, he said.

"It's just a way for everybody to come out and get exercise, have fun ...," he said. "It's not like it's super serious. Nobody gets a trophy for winning or anything like that."

"It's up to the players whether they want to practice or not, but usually I have a meeting before the league starts."

"It's a good way for incoming freshmen to meet new people that have similar interests."

To start a team, participants must sign it up before the season begins, Wright said.

He said he prefers at least a day's notice.

However, Wright said, students can join teams "even a week or two after the season starts."

Intramural sports are free for all OCCC students, faculty and staff.

League dates and times will be posted on imleagues.com/occc in August.

For more information, contact Wright at matthew.j.wright@occc.edu, call the Recreation and Fitness office at 405-682-7860, or visit the office on the first floor of the Main Building.



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.

Changes: Jerry Steward steps into role as OCCC president

Continued from page 1

the classroom.

"I look forward to the day-to-day interactions with students and hope that I can play some small role in their future success," he said.

Steward said Bloomberg, as the new Executive Vice President, had the opportunity to name the successor to his for-

mer position — Community Development Vice President. That position reports directly to OCCC's Executive Vice President, Steward said.

Lemuel Bardeguez, OCCC's Cultural Programs Director, was appointed to the Community Development Vice President position. Bloomberg said Bardeguez is "a more than suitable replacement."

In his former position as Cultural Programs Director, Bardeguez also served as the managing director of the OCCC Visual and Performing Arts Center; the director, producer and promoter of the OCCC Performing Arts Series; and the college's flagship annual community arts event, Arts Festival Oklahoma.

He also serves on the board

of directors of the Cultural Development Corporation of Central Oklahoma, a non-profit organization for developing arts and culture in central Oklahoma.

Steward said it's these types of initiatives that have inspired the community surrounding OCCC and demonstrated the true capabilities of its leaders. "Our Community Develop-

ment programs have had an enormous impact on the lives of thousands of Oklahomans each year — from our workforce development courses to our annual Arts Festival Oklahoma," Steward said in a recent press release.

Of his promotion, Bardeguez said, "I'm looking forward to continuing to serve OCCC like I have in the past."

Survey: OCCC satisfaction survey taken by 1,238 students

Continued from page 1

the national average in all 70 survey questions, Perry said. All OCCC students are given the opportunity to participate, she said.

"Compared to the national average, we're doing an exceptional job here at the college responding to the students' needs," she said.

"You want to look at your level of satisfaction, and compare it to the national level of satisfaction.

"There were 70 questions we could compare in the satisfaction, and, of those 70 questions, the college was statistically significantly greater than the national average which is outstanding."

Perry said the survey focused on 12 areas, which included: academic services, academic advising and counseling, instructional effectiveness, safety and security, campus climate, service excellence, admissions and financial aid, individual concern, campus support services, responsiveness to diverse populations, registration effectiveness, and student centeredness.

She said the survey used — the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory, hosted by Buffalo Noel-Levitz — was first used in 2013, after nearly two decades of using a different survey.

"We used the Student Opinion Survey up until 2013, when ... the Student Opinion Survey company decided that they

were no longer going to have it," she said.

"I did research on all the student satisfaction surveys out there, and I mapped the questions from one to the other to see which one closely resembled the one that we had been doing since the 1990s, so we would have very similar data."

Perry said the Noel-Levitz survey was taken by 185,000 people from 208 community colleges around the U.S.

"It's not a small pool, so that's pretty significant to compare us to them," she said.

She said student response was 34 percent higher than in 2013.

"So we had a much better response rate this time."

Perry said, based on the survey, OCCC students indicated their biggest complaint was professors not notifying them earlier about poor grades.

"That's one we are going to be looking closer at," she said.

"They're going to be encouraging more faculty to do more on Moodle to make those grades accessible to students, so they understand in their course time how well they're doing.

"We continue to do things like that, especially when we see things pop."

Perry said this is not the first time a specific issue has "popped," and said the solutions that brings about typically bring survey ratings back up.

"When we did surveys a few

“Compared to the national average, we’re doing an exceptional job here at the college responding to the students’ needs.”

—JANET PERRY
INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
DIRECTOR

years back, we noticed students were dissatisfied with the time they spent with speeches in the classroom," she said.

"We don't require students to take a speech class, but we thought, 'How would we improve this whole process?'"

"So we created the speech lab, available to all students. So if you're practicing for a speech, you can go in there and tape it and see how you're coming across."

Another thing that stood out to Perry was how highly students think of the education they get at OCCC.

"One thing that they ask the

students is, 'How important is the following in creating your decision to come to the school?'" she said. "And the top three areas are cost, financial aid and academic reputation."

"As a community college, to see academic reputation as the third choice, it's awesome."

Former President Paul Sechrist voiced his praise for the survey's results in a press release sent to faculty and staff on June 30.

"The dedication of OCCC faculty and staff is clear in the results of this survey," he said. "Over the years, we have worked hard to focus on the needs of our students."

"This survey tells us that we are going in the right direction."

Many students agree.

Nursing major Tatiana Elong said she has found her experience at OCCC enjoyable.

"I don't think I have a least favorite [thing]," she said. "I really like the system and I like

the professors. Most of the professors are really helpful and the help centers are really nice."

Civil engineering major Jeremy Ng said he enjoys almost everything about OCCC and would only change one thing.

"Maybe better food in the cafeteria," he said.

"I ate there once and was like, 'I'm probably not coming back.' Other than that, OCCC is really good."

Perry said she was encouraged by comments left by students on the survey where they got a chance to voice their specific concerns or just give an opinion about the school.

"One comment stood out to me," she said. "They said, 'OCCC is the bomb-diggity.' And I was like, 'The bomb-diggity? What does that mean?'"

"But someone told me it was a good thing."

For more information about the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory, or the results of the survey, contact Perry at 405-682-1611, ext. 7213, or at jcperry@occc.edu.



CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Bio buds

Biology major Evan Loomis and microbiology major Brian Le work together on a presentation for physics class on July 8. “The teaching style is very dynamic,” Loomis said. Le agreed, saying, “Not like your typical university.”

JAKE McMAHON/
PIONEER



COMMUNITY | Upward Bound booth brings insight on bullying

Students host anti-bullying awareness

DARLA KILHOFFER

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

Andrew Nguyen knows about the effects of bullying firsthand. He lost a friend to it.

“It was freshman year [of high school] and I noticed one of my friends had grown quieter and quieter throughout the months,” Nguyen said. “And one day, I decided to take action but it was too late.

“I discovered her in her backyard — she had hung herself. She had been bullied to the point of taking her life.”

He said it broke his heart to watch his friend’s baby brother break down and cry at her funeral.

“It’s unbelievable to see the pains that bullying causes. It’s unacceptable for another human being to treat a person like that.”

Upward Bound students gathered at 10 a.m. on July 9 outside the Communications Lab to raise awareness against bullying. Nguyen also handed out anti-bullying pamphlets at Westmoore High School.

Westmoore High School student Dara Mai sat at one of the anti-bullying booths at OCCC. She said this cause is important to her because she too was bullied when she was younger.

She said social media has made bullying easier “because you’re not facing the person. You don’t see

what you’ve caused.”

Yareli Ramirez of Southeast High School said people should stop being bystanders, and stand up for themselves and their friends.

“Many people, even though they know about it, they give a blind eye. They avoid the topic,” Ramirez said. “Be confident in yourself and help the person that’s being bullied.”

The events came about after Protests Revolution teacher Bill Smiley encouraged his students to pick up a cause and use free speech to stand up for what they believe is right or wrong.

Smiley said although bullying can be classified as cyber, physical or verbal, it all comes from the same place.

“I believe that bullying is born out of insecurity, because people classify others as being different,” Smiley said. “It kills someone’s self-esteem.

“We are making a statement that

bullying is wrong.”

Nguyen said even those who are afraid of being bullied need to stand up for others.

“As soon as you see something, interject,” he said. “Or, if you see someone being pushed about, even if it’s anonymous, you could call a teacher over there real quick.”

For more information on how to prevent bullying, visit www.stopbullying.gov.



CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

“Capitol Steps” to bring political parodies

The “Capitol Steps” will be performing their new album ‘Mock the Vote’ at 8 p.m., Aug. 22 in the Visual Performing Arts Center. Ticket prices range from \$35 to \$45. For more information, contact the Box Office at 405-682-7579 or culturalprograms@occc.edu.

Opening day to welcome new students

New and returning students are welcome to attend opening day from 1 to 4 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015. Students can receive a personalized campus tour to their classrooms and find information at a campus resource fair. Volunteers are needed to show new students around campus. Volunteers will be treated to lunch and will receive an opening day t-shirt. For more information or to volunteer, email Student Life Director Erin Logan at elogan@occc.edu or contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Fall tuition fee waivers applications available

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the fall 2015 semester are now available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. Monday, July 20. An academic transcript must be attached to the waiver form and eligible students must be enrolled for at least six credit hours for the fall semester. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525.

Peanut butter drive to stop childhood hunger

Francis Tuttle Technology Center marketing students are hosting OUTTA the Jar peanut butter drive with OCCC being one of their drop-off locations. OUTTA the Jar is designed to help feed hungry children through the summer, when discount meals and food programs are scarce. To donate, drop off a jar of peanut butter at the Student Life office. For more information, visit facebook.com/pages/OUTTA-the-Jar/352159508315937.

New Student Orientation sessions continue

OCCC will hold free New Student Orientation sessions through August. Upcoming sessions are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, July 20, and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 22, in rooms CU2 and CU3. To register for a session, e-mail Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or call 405-682-7523.

Pharmacy Tech course open for fall enrollment

Enrollment is now open for a 9-week course which will provide students with a certificate for basic prescriptions and dispensing. The course will be from 6 to 8 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays from Sept. 14 to Nov. 11 at the Professional Development Institute at 7124 S. I-35 Service Road. Cost is \$480, which includes textbooks. For more information, visit <http://www.occc.edu/pdi/pharmacy.html> or contact Francine Gissy at 405-682-7856 or fgissy@occc.edu.

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: 1997 Isuzu 4x4 Trooper; 5-sp. Runs great. Body in GC. Leather seats, CD player, premium speakers, Draw Tight hitch system can pull 5k pounds. Power

windows need repair. High miles. One owner. \$1,900. 405-812-4082.

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 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.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Served perfectly
- 5. Rascal
- 10. Upper limbs
- 14. California valley
- 15. Reef material
- 16. Mets' bygone home
- 17. Bed size
- 18. Pleasantly different
- 20. Got free
- 22. Changes for the better
- 23. Fable author
- 26. Manipulate
- 27. Scattered
- 31. Sounded a bell
- 33. Watery expanse
- 36. Rinds
- 37. Colt's mom
- 38. All-male party
- 39. Scraps of cloth
- 40. Math proportion
- 41. Mislaid
- 42. A great lake
- 43. Spring bloom
- 44. Fine fabric
- 45. Road curve
- 46. Flightless bird
- 47. Least polite
- 48. "Sex and ____ City"
- 50. Native Peruvians
- 52. Emits vapor
- 55. Sports player
- 60. Legislature, in Canada
- 63. Diva's forte
- 64. Figure skater's jump
- 65. Allowable
- 66. Misdeeds
- 67. Carousel, e.g.
- 68. U.S. symbol
- 69. Beat it!

Down

- 1. Initial bet
- 2. Crows' calls
- 3. Hero's tale
- 4. ____ Carvey of SNL
- 5. ____ door
- 6. College women
- 7. Pound sound
- 8. Damage
- 9. Petition
- 10. Fire remains
- 11. Diamond substitute
- 12. Patch up
- 13. Wilts
- 19. Arrogant
- 21. Dogs' feet
- 24. Formal speech
- 25. Eiffel Tower locale
- 27. Shopping binge
- 28. Salty drops
- 29. Enrolled
- 30. Other than
- 32. Keanu Reeves role
- 34. Relieves
- 35. Go-between
- 37. ____ Gras (Shrove Tuesday)
- 38. Skidded
- 40. Spanish waterway
- 44. Luxurious
- 46. ____ Moore of "Ghost"
- 47. Infant's toy
- 49. Actress ____ Berry
- 51. Suez or Erie
- 52. Ship's pole
- 53. Car for hire
- 54. Shopper's delight
- 56. Lad's girl
- 57. Musician ____ Clapton
- 58. Songstress ____ Turner
- 59. West's opposite
- 61. "Cry ____ River" (2 wds.)
- 62. Breakfast food



Everybody thinks they can see everything in front of their vehicle...not me.

KIDS AND CARS.ORG

Love Them, Protect Them

Comments? Opinions? Let us know! E-mail the editor at editor@occc.edu

OCCC police receive funding to upgrade radios

MIRANDA ROBERTSON

News Writing Student

Campus law enforcement officers received funding for more powerful police radios when the Board of Regents met June 16.

The regents approved funding to acquire the 800mg Hertz radios at the recommendation of James Fitzpatrick, OCCC's police chief.

"The standard radios the OCCC department have been operating with are 450mg Hertz," Fitzpatrick said, "This means that the frequency level of operation was only strong enough to reach the campus perimeters."

Fitzpatrick said the upgraded radios will reach all of the Oklahoma City metro area, even as far as Purcell. This will include the college's satellite locations, the FACE Center, 6500 S Land Ave., and the Capitol Hill Center, 123 SW 25th St., Suite 100.

"We are leasing 17 used radios from the Oklahoma City Police, and have purchased eight new radios," Fitzpatrick said. The total cost for the radios will be \$3,966 for this fiscal year.

The campus police began leasing the radios starting July 1, for a fee of \$12.50 monthly, Fitzpatrick said.

"This deal will put OCCC in the same frequency as the major emergency responders, such as the Oklahoma City police and fire departments and Oklahoma Highway Patrol units," Fitzpatrick said.

"This is a huge step for the department, and the student body's safety," Fitzpatrick said. "The new radios will be connected to local authorities, allowing city cops to respond to campus issues in a more timely manner."

"The response time will be cut in half."



JAKE MCMAHON/PIONEER

Officer Patrick Martino shows one of the new radios received by the OCCC police department.

Fitzpatrick said he has been with OCCC for more than four years. He has announced his retirement from the college on Jan. 4.

Fitzpatrick was with the Oklahoma City Police for 35 years, and served as director of the 911 department for two years.

He said his 11 police officers are certified officers, who completed training through the Oklahoma City Police Academy, Norman Police Academy, or Texas Law Enforcement Training programs.

For more information, contact Fitzpatrick at 405-682-7861 or by email at jfitzpatrick@occc.edu.

False alarm, needle stick reported to police

CLAYTON MITCHELL

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

A false emergency callbox activation and a nursing student stuck with a needle were reported to campus police in recent weeks.

OCCC Police Officer Ronald Ventresca responded to a dispatch alert of an emergency callbox activation around 5:23 p.m. on June 23, near parking lot E. Dispatch informed him a male and a female were spotted in the area by security cameras, walking away toward lot F.

According to the report, Ventresca arrived in the location and approached the suspects. He asked why they had activated the callbox.

The female admitted activating the emergency line but failed to give a reason for her actions.

Ventresca confirmed she was a student, and obtained her student ID to record her information.

He said he then explained the seriousness of her actions, and told the female student he planned to file a student misconduct form.

A misconduct form was completed on June 24.

On June 30, an OCCC nursing student visited the OCCC Police Department office and told police that, on June 26, she had accidentally stuck herself with a needle while working at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. She said she was curious about her risk to other students.

The student said, at around 8:20 a.m.

on June 26, she was giving an injection to a patient at the hospital, when she withdrew the needle and accidentally stuck herself in the left thumb.

Hospital staff took a baseline blood sample from the subject and a blood sample from the involved patient.

It was determined the patient was negative for HIV and hepatitis.

The student stated she required no medical treatment other than a bandage.

It was determined she was not a risk to any students.

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 PD 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.



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