Gage Crabtree of Orchardville has accepted an apprentice lineman position with Duke Energy based out of Columbus, Indiana. Crabtree completed the Electrical Distribution Systems Program in May 2014 at Frontier Community College in Fairfield.

As an apprentice lineman Crabtree will work with the transmission crew reconstructing transmission lines in the Southern Indiana territory. After four years training, he will become a journeyman lineman.

The lineman field is competitive. In fact, there were 270 applicants for this position and Crabtree was one of the two hired. Prior to being chosen for this position, Crabtree had worked for five months at Gaylor Electric out of Indiana, a company that does contract work for Duke Energy.

“Gage was an exceptional student,” stated Ed Patton, EDS Faculty at Frontier Community College. “He always worked hard in class and took pride in his work. I knew he was going to make it to an apprentice lineman.” Crabtree received the Outstanding Student award in the Electrical Distribution Systems Program for 2013-2014 and graduated with honors.

A 2009 graduate of Wayne City High School, Crabtree enlisted in the United States Navy following high school. He served three years in Yokosuka, Japan (20 miles south of Tokyo). During his time of service, Crabtree completed an online Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, through Columbia Southern University.

The Electrical Distribution Systems Certificate is a one-year program (fall and spring) that prepares individuals to build, repair, and maintain electrical distribution systems, overhead and underground, use safe practices, first aid, and perform pole top rescue. For additional information, call (618) 842-3711 or look online at www.iecc.edu/fcc.
Adding Bobcats Volleyball & Softball  
SUSPENDING GOLF & CROSS COUNTRY

Frontier Community College (FCC) has announced it is adding volleyball and softball into its athletic program for the fall 2015 while suspending golf and cross country. “Both golf and cross country were successful, allowing Frontier to be represented at many events. However, they are difficult to sustain,” stated FCC President Dr. Jay Edgren. “We’re thankful that they opened the door for athletics at our college and look forward to the inauguration of volleyball and softball in the fall. Participation at the lower levels in these two sports is popular and growing in our area. They are viable and we anticipate being very competitive.”

Starting this fall, the Bobcats athletic program is adding women’s volleyball and softball teams. At the time of publication, 9 student athletes have signed to play volleyball and 8 athletes for softball. Marty Slover is coaching Bobcats softball and Jessica Backes is the Bobcats volleyball coach. “I got very lucky by having the opportunity to hire 2 great coaches that have an extreme passion for what they do,” stated Tommy Kent, FCC’s Athletic Director. “That’s what it takes to build and sustain strong programs in college athletics. We are building a tradition of excellence here at Frontier Community College by recruiting great athletes that also have great character. We hope that the public can rally around us as we take our next step toward the future.” The fall season will kick off August 25 with the first Volleyball game at Illinois Central College, and play the first home game August 27th.

College Showcase 
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Frontier Community College is hosting a College Showcase, “Frontier – the fit for YOU!” on Friday, March 6. The event will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 12:30 p.m. This event is open to any high school junior or senior that would like to participate.

The college will be highlighting various programs, both CTE and transfer, so that students can explore a wide variety of potential career options. There will also be a session exploring scholarships and the financial aid process along with a session on career readiness and preparedness. Students will have the opportunity to interact with instructors, alumni members, and current students through panel discussions.

Wireless Printing in the LRC

Wireless Printing is now available in Frontier’s Learning Resource Center. This is a big advantage for anyone on or off campus who needs to print a document. Printing from laptops and other wireless devices is pretty simple. This service can be accessed through the LRC link on Frontier’s web page. Just follow the simple instructions. Items sent to the printer release station will remain available for 2 hours. After that time it may need to be resent to be available for printing. A huge thank you to Paul Tait, Chad Noble and the IECC IT department. If you have any questions please contact Merna Youngblood at the Learning Resource Center, 842-3711.

FAFSA Completion Nights

FCC is holding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Completion Nights. FCC staff will be available to assist with the online application from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. No appointment is needed. Students should bring the family’s 2014 tax return to complete the application (if a dependent).

February 9 Clay City High School  
February 19 Edwards Co High School

Career Services

Workshops and services are open to all FCC students. The Career Services office is located in the Richard L. Mason Building on FCC’s campus or call Alyssa Parrott (618) 842-3711, ext. 4009.

February 9: Resume Writing  
1 & 3:30 pm, RLM 25

February 2: Job Fair Prep  
1 & 3:30 pm, RLM 25

February 24 Resume Check  
11am-1pm, LRC lobby

February 26 Resume Check  
11am-1pm, LRC lobby

March 4 Community Job Fair  
10am-2pm, WDC

Governor Bruce Rauner Turnaround Tour

Newly elected Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner stopped in Fairfield February 5 while on his Turnabout Tour. A large crowd was in attendance to give him a warm welcome. FCC President Dr. Jay Edgren had an opportunity to shake hands and greet the Governor.
The next Alumni Network meeting is scheduled for February 19 at 6 p.m. in Foundation Hall. Items to be discussed are: Leadership Council and leadership positions, alumni memorabilia, and alumni involvement on campus and in the community.

At the initial Alumni Network meeting in January 2015, discussions included fund-raising, an alumni newsletter, and a fall homecoming. For more information, contact Alyssa Parrott at 618-842-3711, ext. 4009.

Construction Technology
Skills that Last a Lifetime!

Students enrolled in the Construction Technology Program continue to work at the Wayne County Well Surveys. Most recently they have been installing drywall, mudding the seams, and sanding to a smooth finish. Once the drywall is completed, students will install a ceramic tile floor, and add kitchen cabinets and counter tops.

At left, adjunct faculty Larry Barbre discusses the drywall seams with a student. This room will be a restroom.

Bobcat Fitness Center

The Frontier Community College Foundation has purchased the former Fairfield Fitness Center/Showtime Movie Theater with plans of renovating it into the Bobcat Fitness Center. Work is currently underway with tearing out dark paneling and ceiling tiles, pulling up flooring and removing theater seats. The Bobcat Fitness Center is set to open in August with the fall 2015 semester. There will be rooms for weights and exercise equipment, and a room with hardwood flooring for Zumba and yoga classes. Future plans are to add a room with stadium seating for large classes or meetings. What was once the concessions area will become a student lounge. Renovations are being done by FCC maintenance staff Galen Dunn and Kent Staley, along with IECC retiree Larry Johnson, and local contractors.

Photos at right: 1: Fitness Center, 2: Weight Room, 3: Student Lounge, 4: Hallway

FCC Alumni Network
February Meeting

Bowling Class
Starting Soon in Albion

Have fun while improving your skills in bowling with this class, February 23 - through May 11. Bowling class meets on Monday evenings, 7:15-9:45pm, with instructor Eric Resor. PEI 1111 will transfer to most universities as a P.E. credit or elective. To register, call (618) 842-3711.
February 5, 2015
12 p.m. to 12 a.m.
Learning Resource Center

Board Games  Subway
Wii Games  Pizza
Ping Pong  Fruit Tray
Karaoke  Cookies
Photo Booth  Popcorn

The Game-A-Palooza was a BIG success! The gate count for the day indicated over 400 people passed through the LRC doors (average is 170). Granted some of them were in and out more than once, but that is phenomenal!

Students, staff, and faculty enjoyed the games, food, and fun!