

KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



February 2020

Upcoming Events

February

17 College Closed —
Presidents Day

19 Transfer College Fair, 9
*a.m.-1 p.m., Wattleworth
Hall*

28 Midterm

28 Last Day to Pay Spring
Semester Tuition & Fees

March

2 No Classes Pulaski Day

3-6 Spring Break

9 Mid-semester Classes
Begin

9 Ticket Sales Begin for
*OCC Theatre's Mamma
Mia!*, 10 a.m.

College Visits

*Tables will be located out-
side Student Services.*

February 12 Murray State
*University Free Application
Day*, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

March 9 Eastern Illinois
*University Representative
Brianna Schmidt*, 9 a.m.-
1 p.m.

March 25 McKendree
*College will have informa-
tion about its online classes
and Nursing Program*,
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

March 26 Columbia
*College Chicago Represen-
tative Kenneth Guthrie*,
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Welding students rehab playground equipment

A much-beloved fixture on the Cozy Corner playground has been given a makeover thanks to the hard work of students in Olney Central College's Welding Program.

The "bouncy car," has been a longtime favorite among the youngsters attending OCC's childcare program, but Director Bev Mathews said years of use and exposure to the elements had taken a toll on the equipment, which has been in place for more than a decade.



Over a three-week period, the welding students refurbished the vehicle to resemble a Tonka Truck. "It definitely needed some work," said Welding Instructor Curtis Marshall. "We replaced some of the tubing that was cracked. We also dropped the roof down to give it a better appearance. We wanted to make it look as much like a real truck as we could."

The students also installed additional benches to create more seating for the children and even added tires. Other enhancements included a new steering wheel and a dashboard, which features working levers, gadgets, switches and buttons. A coat of bright yellow paint completed the body work.

In addition to helping Cozy Corner, the project gave welding students an opportunity to improve their skills.

"It gave the students a chance to work on cutting and fabrication while providing them with real world experiences," Marshall said. "When you're working in a shop, you will have people bring in old items that will need structure members taken out and replaced. For the dash panel, the students had to do layout and precise measuring. They also had to drill holes for the switches. The project gave them practice using their imaginations to visualize an image in their heads and see it come to fruition."

In the spring, the students will put the finishing touches on the truck by installing a motor they received from the Automotive Program. The piston heads have already been removed from the engine, which will be encased in plexiglass. A handle will be attached to the motor and when the children turn it, they will be able to see the engine parts move.

"It will give them experience with motors and how they work," Marshall said. "We really hope the kids enjoy playing on the truck. We wanted to make something they would enjoy."

According to Mathews, Marshall and his students have succeeded.

"The kids really love the changes," Mathews said. "It is something all the kids can play with and that is what the teachers like most about it."

The refurbished truck is the latest improvement to the playground area. Projects last summer included the installation of new equipment and the construction of a new sidewalk linking Wattleworth Hall to the playground.

OCC Theatre announces cast for 'Mamma Mia!'

Cast members have been selected for the Olney Central College Theatre's upcoming production of "Mamma Mia!," sponsored by TrustBank.

Names of the characters and cast members are **Donna Sheridan**, Jessica McDonald; **Sophie Sheridan**, Taylor Meritt; **Tanya Cresham-Leigh**, Kate Spiller; **Rosie Mulligan**, Brenna Keeler; **Sam Carmichael**, Andrew Pittman; **Harry Bright**, Derek Mason; **Bill Austin**, Andrew Flynn; **Sky**, Dylan Reed; **Ali**, Delaney Shryock; **Lisa**, Amelia Ginder; **Pepper**, Keegan Tucker; **Eddie**, Harrison Hahn; and **Reverend Alexandria**, Bea Gardner.

The ensemble includes: Bea Gardner, Kenzie Stubbe, Nikki Strohl, Katie Zuber, Sophia Ranes, Summer Culpepper, Bryce Klingler, Shaun Hopkins, Pat Foust, Blaine Niebrugge, Grace Hahn, Neita Lenear, Harrison Walker, Tracy Snyder, Emily Smith, Ashton Wesley, Chris McDowell, Colby Garrard, Haylie Roark, Jason Klingler, Heather Ackman and Jason Shryock.

Evening performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. on March 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28. Afternoon shows will begin at 2 p.m. on March 22 and 29.

Tickets are \$12 and will go on sale at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 9.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.iecc.edu/occtheater or by calling 618-395-7777, ext. 2408.



DID YOU DROP A CLASS THIS SPRING? DO YOU NEED A CLASS TO GRADUATE?

Complete a Course in Just 8 Weeks

ENG 1101 Intro. to Composition, 1:00 PM-2:50 PM, Mon., Wed. & Fri.

MTH 1102 College Algebra (Hybrid), 10:00 AM-10:50 AM, Mon.-Thurs.

MTH 1103 Liberal Arts Math (Hybrid), 8:00 AM-9:15 AM, Tues. & Thurs.

ONLINE CLASSES

PRE 0420 Intermediate Algebra REM 0422 Math Literacy

ENG 1101 Intro. to Composition

LSC 1105 Environmental Biology

LSC 1107 Introduction to Human Genetics

PLS 2101 Government of the U.S.

SOC 2102 Social Problems & Trends



Contact

OCC Student Services

618-395-7777 to Register

Classes Meet March 9-May 7



Sheri Gray joins OCC as Advisor/Recruiter

Sheri Gray has returned to Olney Central College as an Advisor/Recruiter.

Gray previously worked for the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District for five and half years as an advisor for the Educational Talent Search Program at OCC. For the past 12 years, she has taught English in the Richland County School District.

"I am very excited to be back at the college," Gray said. "One of the things I really enjoyed with ETS was advising because you get to provide individual attention to the student. I am looking forward to doing that again. I am also working with a great group of people. I always knew I wanted to end up here again."

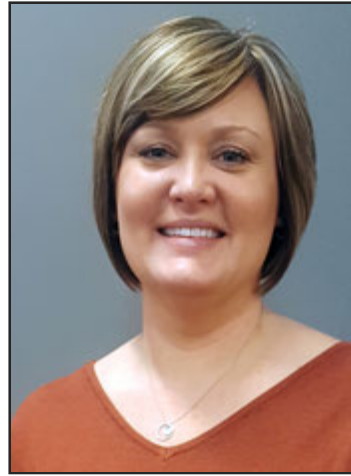
Gray earned both an associate's degree and Cosmetology Certificate at OCC. She transferred to the University of Illinois at Champaign where she completed a bachelor's degree in history and later received her master's degree in education from Greenville University.

Both Gray and fellow Advisor/Recruiter Jodi Schneider will be traveling to area high schools in the coming weeks. Gray is looking forward to meeting with students.

"I enjoy public speaking and I am really excited about this opportunity," she said. "I can't stress how much OCC has done for me. I hope that comes out when I'm recruiting. There is so much this school can offer and I'm excited to share that with the students. I know OCC helped me in my career path. I'm very thankful for this opportunity to get back to my roots."

A native of Richland County, Gray resides in Olney with her husband, Micah, who was a member of the Blue Knights Baseball team. They have two daughters ages 8 and 10.

Gray is active in the Mt. Gilead Church in Olney and currently serves as the facilitator for the Richland County CEO Program.



Sports Schedule

Men's Basketball

Feb. 12 — OCC at Vincennes, 6 p.m.

Feb. 15 — OCC vs. Lewis & Clark, 3 p.m. at home

Feb. 19 — OCC vs. Lincoln Trail, 7:30 p.m. at home

Feb. 22 — OCC vs. Southeastern Illinois, 3 p.m. at home

Feb. 24 — OCC at John A. Logan, 7 p.m.

Feb. 26 — OCC at Shawnee, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 12 — OCC at Vincennes, 4 p.m.

Feb. 19 — OCC vs. Lincoln Trail, 5:30 p.m. at home

Feb. 22 — OCC vs. Southeastern Illinois, 1 p.m. at home

Feb. 24 — OCC at John A. Logan, 5 p.m.

Feb. 26 — OCC at Shawnee, 5:30 p.m.

Baseball

Feb. 17 — OCC at Union, 1 & 4 p.m.

Feb. 18 — OCC at Cumberland, 1 & 4 p.m.

Feb. 28-March 2 — OCC at Ripken. Experience

Softball

Feb. 15 — OCC at Mississippi Delta, noon & 2 p.m.

Feb. 16 — OCC at Coahoma, 1 & 3 p.m.

Feb. 27- March 2 — OCC at Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Art Club to host first meeting Feb. 19

OCC's Art Club is reforming. Students interested in art are invited to attend the initial meeting at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 19 in Room 202. Participants are not required to be enrolled in an art course.

For more information, contact Advisor Heather Sandy at sandyh@iecc.edu or call 618-395-7777, ext. 2220.

Transfer College Fair Feb. 19

Olney Central College will host a Transfer College Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 19 with tables located throughout Wattleworth Hall.

Representatives from the following institutions will attend: Western University, Chamberlain University, Columbia College

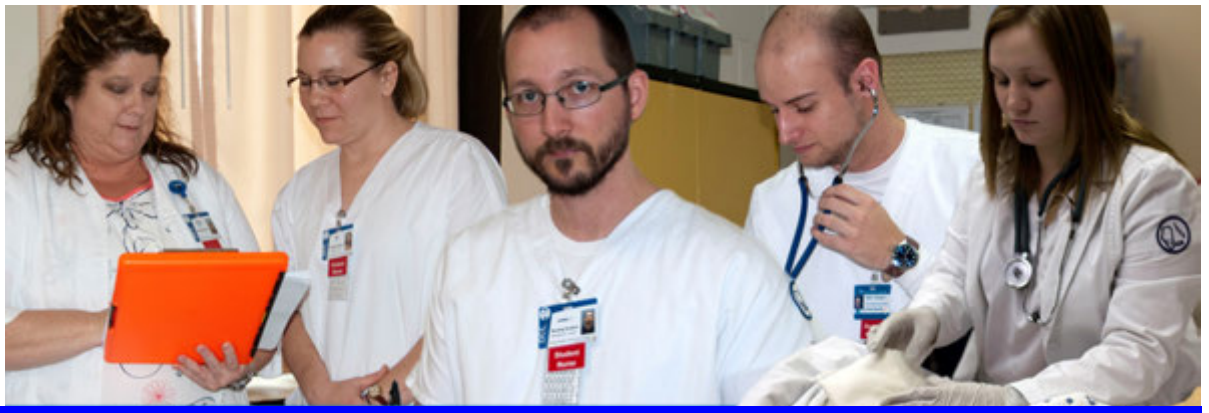
Chicago, Eastern Illinois University, Indiana University, MacMurray College, McKendree University, Indiana Wesleyan University, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Vincennes University, Greenville University and the University of Illinois.

For more information, contact Jodi Schneider at schneiderj@iecc.edu or call 618-395-7777, ext. 2018.



Food for Thought items available in Student Services

If you forget your lunch, need a snack before a test or your cabinets are running low, stop by Student Services and pick up an item from the "Food for Thought" basket. The basket is located at the reception desk.



Celebrating the Year of the Nurse with OCC's Anne Hustad

The World Health Organization has designated 2020 the International Year of the Nurse. The Illinois Eastern Community Colleges/Olney Central College Nursing Program is pleased to join the American Nurses Association in celebrating this designation.

This month our IECC/OCC Nursing Program spotlight features OCC Nursing Instructor and Department Head Anne Hustad.

Hustad has served as a nursing instructor and head of the nursing department at OCC for 15 years. She is the advisor for both the OCC Student Nurses Association and Alpha Delta Nu, the nursing honor society. She also provides the manual skills evaluation for CNAs who want to enter the nursing program, but are not on the state registry.

Hustad is a graduate of the IECC/OCC Associate Degree Nursing Program, having attended Frontier Community College in Fairfield. She completed her bachelor's degree in nursing from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and her master's degree from Regis University in Denver, Colo. In May, she will receive her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Hustad is a National League of Nursing Certified Nurse Educator and was awarded a Nurse Educator Fellowship by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in 2015 and 2018.

Before coming to OCC, Hustad worked 11 years as a school nurse in the Clay City Community Unit School District. She also worked as a WIC nurse for the Clay County Health Department and as a staff nurse at Richland Memorial Hospital, the Veterans Administration Medical Center and Flora Manor.

Why did you choose nursing as a career?

"It was where the jobs were. There is opportunity and a lot of versatility in nursing. You can go different places and do different things. But, you have to enjoy it. I tell the students if you don't have it in your heart, you will have a hard time dealing with the things that come up in nursing."

"I hadn't considered becoming a nurse when I was in high school. When I graduated, I went to the University of Illinois for pre-law, but I didn't like it as well as I thought I would. It was when I was applying for another position, that someone suggested I go to school for nursing. Everything worked out and I started

classes at FCC in the spring."

What have you enjoyed most in your career?

"As an instructor, it is seeing how much the students grow. They come in with all of these insecurities and you can see them evolving and growing during their time here. We always tell them we want to be proud of our graduates. The most rewarding thing for me is to see them working, doing well and making progress."

"As a nurse in general, what I have always enjoyed most is being able to brighten someone's day. Sometimes it's just listening to someone or giving them the attention they might not get otherwise. I tell the students in clinicals, you have all the time you want to help patients and make them feel special."

What is the most rewarding aspect of your current position?

"It's seeing our students do well. When you go to the doctor's office and see them there or working in the hospital, or you hear good things about them, that's very rewarding. Also, getting the opportunity to write reference letters for them when they want to further their careers. I enjoy doing that and knowing I'm helping them continue to succeed."

Why did you decide to become a nursing instructor?

"I was always interested in education. After working as a school nurse for 11 years, education was just a part of me. I also felt I had things to share with the students."

What do you want the community to know about the program?

"It provides a wonderful opportunity for students to get a good education, close to home, at a reasonable price. You learn a lot while you are here. A lot of times students get out of school and they want to go away to a four-year university, but they find it can be overwhelming. This is a great place to start. They can come here and not feel like it's a step down. An IECC Nursing education gives students a solid base to further their education, whether they want to get a BSN, MSN or DNP. We also work closely with local health care facilities. We are thankful they allow us to bring students in for clinicals. A lot of our graduates end up employed at those agencies."

"There are indicators we are at the start of another nursing shortage. Nurses are in high demand. I am proud of our program and graduates. We want them to do well. It's a hard program, but very rewarding. It's two years of our students' lives, but they can get out and do anything while providing a good living for their families. We have high standards we expect our students to live up to. Here they will learn what it takes to be successful."

