

KNIGHTLINE

Olney Central College



May 2021

Upcoming Events

May

10-13 *Final Exams*

10-13 *Spring Buyback, OCC Bookstore, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.*

10 *Summer and Intersession Textbooks Go on Sale*

14 *Last Day of Spring Semester*

15 *OCC Commencement, ASA/AGS Graduates, 10 a.m. and CTE/Allied Health Graduates, 1 p.m., OCC Gym*

17 *First Day of Intersession Classes*

18 *Last Day for 100 Percent Refund of Intersession Classes*

18 *Last Day for Intersession Textbook Refunds*

25 *Intersession Midterm*

25 *Last Day to Pay Intersession Tuition*

31 *College Closed Memorial Day*

June

4 *Last Day of Intersession Classes*

7 *Summer Classes Begin*

11 *Last Day for 100 Percent Refund of Summer Classes*

11 *Last Day for Summer Textbook Refunds*

IST Program refurbishes computers for TRIO SSS

Olney Central College's Information Systems Technology Program recently refurbished and donated 10 computers to the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges' TRIO Student Support Services Program.

"We are thrilled PJ (Zeilstra) thought of us and our students," said TRIO SSS Director Wain Davis. "These computers will help students get access to the technology they need to further their education."

The computers were distributed last month to three students at both OCC and Wabash Valley College. Two students each at Lincoln Trail and Frontier Community colleges also benefitted from the IST students' efforts.

The computers were used in IECC labs until being replaced with new equipment. IST students added RAM and made other minor updates needed for home use.

"Since the computers came from the colleges, it just made sense to try to donate the computers to students in our colleges," said Zeilstra, IST Specialist. "Contacting Wain in TRIO was an easy way for us to find some students who might be in need of a computer."

Zeilstra said the project provided his students with excellent hands-on learning.

See Computers, Page 3



Pictured are front row, from left, TRIO student Cindy Smith, IST Specialist PJ Zeilstra and TRIO student Jaedyn Luthe and back row, IST students Harrison Walker and Tyler McKinney and TRIO SSS Director Wain Davis.

2021 Commencement ceremonies May 15



Olney Central College will hold its 57th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 15. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and in consideration of students and guests, two separate in-person ceremonies are planned.

OCC will honor Associate in Science and Arts and Associate in General Studies students at 10 a.m. Career and Technical Education and Allied Health students will be recognized at 1 p.m. Both ceremonies will be held in the OCC Gym with additional seating available in the Dr. John D. Stull Performing Arts Center.

Guests are limited to four per graduate with a college-issued ticket. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed.

Administration will continue to monitor guidance from the State of Illinois regarding public gatherings. Please check the website at www.iecc.edu for updates as they relate to COVID-19 and the upcoming ceremonies.

Program hosts first high school welding competition

Top high school welders put their skills to the test during the First Brandon Blackford Memorial Welding Competition hosted by the Olney Central College Welding Program.

Fourteen students from Richland County, Fairfield Community, Red Hill, Newton Community, Edwards County and Hutsonville high schools competed for scholarships and prizes during the event held at the West Richland Center in Noble.

First-place finisher Jackson Martin, of Newton, won a \$350 scholarship, a Lincoln V350 Pro Welder and a helmet. Second-place winner Tyler Dowty and third-place winner Jacob Taylor, both of Olney, received \$100 and \$50 scholarships, respectively. They also won Lincoln V300 Invertec welders and helmets.

“I felt the competition was a huge success,” said Welding Instructor Curtis Marshall, who organized the event with Welding Specialist Maverick Fisher. “The turnout was great. I received many comments on how professional the students acted and conducted themselves in a safe manner in the shop. I want to thank all the students that came out and showcased their welding skills, even though this might have been their first time taking a structural test like this. I know everyone benefitted from the experience.”

Contractors frequently have prospective employees complete similar welding tests and then check the quality of the welds by conducting visual inspections and stress testing, Marshall said. The competition judges, retired OCC Welding Instructor Russ Jausel and program graduate Ethan Cole, applied the same criteria.

“We conducted the competition testing the same as contractors would for employment for a job,” Marshall added. “I’m glad the students were able to be a part of weld testing that will be identical to the testing they will undergo for a job. Also being in a timed environment where you only have one hour to compete a test allows the students to be under the gun just like they are when they take a weld test for employment. This should help with any nervousness that anyone getting into the trade will experience when going out for their first professional welding test. Hopefully, this will give the students more confidence when it’s time for them to take a test for employment.”

The event also enabled the OCC Welding Program to showcase the new welding lab and equipment at the West Richland Center.

“Many members of the community that are involved in the welding trades commented on how the lab resembled testing facilities they have taken tests in,” Marshall said. “Everyone I talked to was very impressed on how the old Noble High School had transformed into what it is today.”

The event is named and scholarship funds given in honor of 2014 graduate Brandon Blackford who completed the Industrial Maintenance Technology Program. Blackford’s father is also an OCC alum having earned an associate degree in welding in 1987.

The scholarship fund was established in 2015 to aid Richland County High School students entering the IMT or Welding Program. This year Brandon’s mother, Kate, reached out to Marshall and IMT Instructor Logan Marshall to extend the scholarship to students outside Richland County.

“Our goal is to help any student entering into either of these programs regardless of what school they are coming from,” Kate said. “I was so proud of the participants in the welding competition. They put their heart and soul into it. Just like Brandon would have.”

Kate said fundraisers are held each year to continue the scholarship award.

“The monies are made possible from the ongoing support of Brandon’s family and friends,” she said. “We couldn’t do it without them. We also make donations locally to other organizations including the animal shelter and Angel of Hope Garden.”

Marshall and Fisher plan to make the competition an annual event.

“This is something I want to continue,” Marshall said. “We are also going to try and have another welding contest prior to the Brandon Blackford Memorial Competition to give students a better understanding of how the test will be conducted for the main event.”



Scholarships and prizes were presented to the top three welders. Pictured, from left, are Instructor Curtis Marshall, Jackson Martin, first place, Tyler Dowty, second place, Jacob Taylor, third place, and Welding Specialist Maverick Fisher.



The OCC Welding Program hosted the First Brandon Blackford Memorial Welding Competition on April 21 with 14 area high school students participating.



WRC Open House

An Open House was held April 21 at the West Richland Center in Noble showcasing the OCC programs located at the facility. Area residents had an opportunity to tour classrooms and labs while learning more about the Associate Degree Welding, Information Systems Technology, Unmanned Aerial Technology, Massage Therapy, Cosmetology and Nail Technology programs.

Computers

Continued from Page 1

“It is great experience to take a computer apart, test the parts, clean the computer inside and out, and then try to make it working and usable again,” he added.

Two IST students involved in the project, Harrison Walker and Tyler McKinney, are themselves TRIO SSS participants.

“It’s nice to be able to do this for other students in TRIO SSS,” Walker said. “You know the work you are doing is helping someone and they are going to get something out of it.”

OCC student Jaedyn Luthe is among those benefitting from the donation.

“It will definitely help me,” she said. “This will be so much better than just working on a laptop all the time. It will be easier to get my schoolwork done. Now I will have a computer to take with me and I won’t have to buy one.”

For Walker, the project provided an opportunity to fine tune his skills.

“Prior to joining the IST Program, I had never worked on computers,” he said. “I really enjoy it. This was a nice and fun way to get additional experience. I’m looking forward to a career in IT.”

Zeilstra hopes the IST Program can assist more students in the future.

“I would love for this to be an ongoing program,” Zeilstra said. “It is easier if all of the computers are the same. We were able to borrow parts from other computers to make these better. And, for small donations of money, we could even purchase some RAM to be able to donate a few more computers. We would also like to take computers from the community too. There are many computers out there that might just need a little more RAM and a clean install of Windows and the computer would be very useable for a student trying to get their homework done.”

For information about making a donation, contact Zeilstra at 618-393-3490 or zeilstrap@iecc.edu.

TRIO is a 100-percent federally funded program assisting low income, documented disability and first generation students.

IST is a Title III Program. The Title III Program is supported in part by a five-year grant awarded to Olney Central College from the U.S. Department of Education effective October 1, 2018. The estimated total cost for all project activities is \$2,506,775 financed by the grant award of \$2,249,968 (90%) and \$256,807 (10%) by Olney Central College.

Complete math requirements in just 6 weeks this summer

Olney Central College is offering three summer hybrid math courses students can complete in just 6 weeks.

MTH 1105 Trigonometry will meet from 8 to 8:50 a.m. and MTH 1102 College Algebra will meet from 9 to 10:50 a.m. OCC is offering MTH 1103 Liberal Arts Math for the first time as a summer course. The class, which meets math requirements for graduation, will be held from 11 to 11:50 a.m.

All three courses will meet Monday through Thursday, from June 7 to July 19, with Instructor Lisa Benson.

High school graduates can enroll in the courses and get a jump on math requirements needed for their degrees. The classes also are ideal for students who are home for the summer and want to pick up a math class that will transfer to their current college.

Successfully completing the Trigonometry and College Algebra courses during the summer will prepare students to take Calculus I in the fall.

To register or for more information, contact Student Services at 395-7777.

Lost and Found

If you have lost an item, please check with Student Services.

Lock Vehicles

Students utilizing the OCC parking lots are advised to keep their vehicles locked when unattended.

Student's photograph featured in NIU exhibit

A photograph by Olney Central College student Troy Green is among the works included in Northern Illinois University's Community College Student Juried Virtual Exhibition.

Green, a student in Heather Sandy's online Introduction to Photography course, was one of 79 artists whose works were selected from more than 150 submissions.

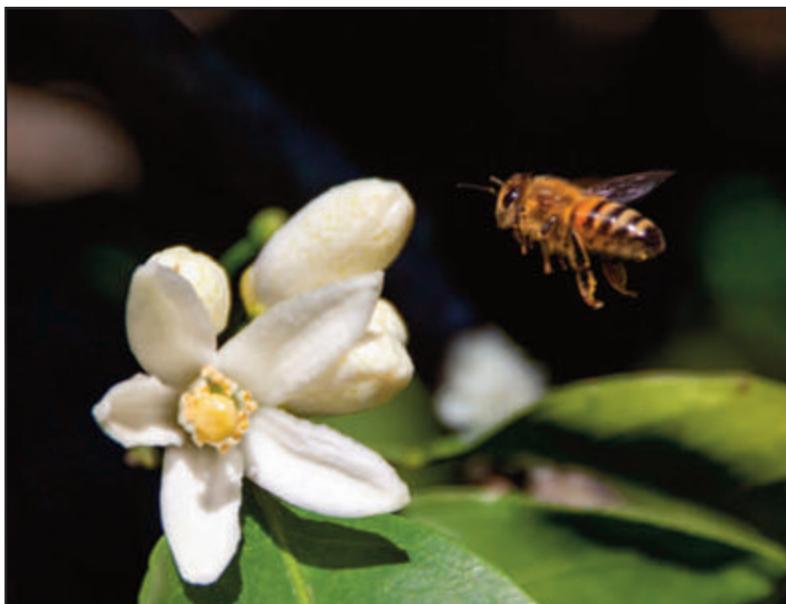
"I was honored, impressed and humbled all at the same time," said Green, who resides in Geismar, La. "I thought it was a good photo, but I didn't know how it would compare to other photographers' work. It's a high honor to be included."

The photograph, "Bee-utiful Blossom," was taken for a class assignment focusing on animals.

"We have a citrus tree in our backyard," Green said. "A honey bee was in flight above the blossom and I snapped a photo."

Green's accomplishment is even more impressive considering he enrolled in the class with little photography experience.

"I needed one more class to graduate and photography sounded like an interesting course," he said. "I bought a camera several



mester online and here I am."

Green, who will finish his degree this month, is pleased with his decision to take the photography class.

"I loved the class," he said. "I've enjoyed the challenge. Heather has taught me a lot about how to use the camera and the composition of photographs. I would absolutely recommend the class to others. I enjoyed working with Heather. She was very responsive. In our discussions, she critiques your work and shows you where you can improve."

years ago and didn't really know how to use it. I thought the class would enable me to get use out of the camera and get my last credit."

Green started his associate's degree when he was living in Robinson in the early 2000s.

"I took night classes at both Lincoln Trail College and Olney Central College," he said. "Then, I moved to Memphis and never pursued it again until a couple of years ago. I called LTC and found out how many classes I needed to wrap up my associate's degree. I started taking one class a se-

Farr Named to NJCAA All American Team, Selected Region 24 Co-Player of the Year

Individual postseason accolades continue to rack up for the Blue Knights basketball teams. On May 5, sophomore Elijah Farr was voted as a Second Team NJCAA Division I All American. The second team selection is the highest selection in Olney Central basketball program history.

Farr led the Blue Knights averaging 16.3 points and 7 rebounds per game with shooting splits of 47.9 percent field goals, 38.9 percent three-point field goals, and 76.6 percent free throws en route to a 14-7 record and a two seed in the Region 24 tournament.

His best performances of the season came against highly touted opponents including performances of 27 points and 20 points against nationally ranked Vincennes and 22 points and 10 rebounds against Wabash Valley. As a result of his big conference performances and consistency, he was also named the Region 24 Co-player of the Year.

Farr has signed to play at Murray State, a member of the Ohio Valley Conference, next season. He is the third All American selection for OCC in the last four seasons. Jalen Moore was selected for the 2019-2020 season and Josiah Wallace was selected for the 2017-2018 season.

"This is a great accomplishment for Elijah," said Head Coach Casey Wyllie. "Two years ago Elijah was playing football in the Missouri Valley and now he's an All American Junior College basketball player. We got the job in June and he chose to come back to Olney for his sophomore year and it paid off. He trusted us at Olney and we are thankful for that. We could tell he was starting to figure it out basketball-wise toward the end of his freshman year and this year he made a huge jump. Elijah really worked at it this year. Give him credit. We are excited about following Elijah and Murray State next year."



Student Senate, PTK Donation

OCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter and Student Senate donated more than \$200 in supplies to Paws and Claws. Thanks to all who supported this fundraising effort for the animal rescue service in Olney. Pictured, from left, are Candie Belcher, of Paws and Claws, and PTK President and Student Senate Vice President Stephanie Blake.



Bergbower serving as Illinois RiverWatch Program Citizen Scientist

Olney Central College Assistant Professor of Life Sciences Sarah Bergbower has completed training as a citizen scientist in the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center's Illinois RiverWatch Program.

The Illinois RiverWatch is a volunteer stream monitoring program administered by the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center (NGRREC). Established in 2002, NGRREC's scholars and scientists study the ecology of the big rivers, the workings of the watersheds that feed them and ties to the river communities that use them.

NGRREC aspires to be a leader in scholarly research, education and outreach related to the interconnectedness of large rivers, their floodplains and watersheds, and their associated communities. NGRREC's unique location, strong partnerships and overall purpose make it an ideal home for administering the Illinois RiverWatch Program.

Consistent with NGRREC's mission, Illinois RiverWatch provides volunteers a hands-on opportunity to become involved in the stewardship of Illinois rivers and streams while helping scientists monitor stream conditions across the state. Through RiverWatch, volunteers are trained as citizen scientists to conduct monitoring of the state's rivers and streams and collect scientific data that can subsequently be used by professionals and the general public to study long-term trends in stream health, develop land management strategies, identify potentially degraded waters and assess the effectiveness of restoration projects.

RiverWatch monitoring occurs one to two times per year, spring and optionally fall, at a registered site featuring a second or third order stream. Parameters for monitoring include a habitat survey with physical and chemical characteristics as well as a biological survey with a sampling and identification of macroinvertebrates. Some macroinvertebrates are indicator species, whose presence leads into a calculation of the water's quality and level of pollution.

The weekend workshop Bergbower attended included presentations and supplemental educational materials on site selection and the entire monitoring process — from the field to the laboratory — for stream health within the watershed.

"I plan to expose OCC's Science Club, Environmental Biology class and any other interested students to citizen science with their participation in the annual sampling and data collection from Big Creek Woods Memorial, an Illinois Department of Natural Resources nature preserve owned by the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Board of Trustees," Bergbower said. "We may feature other demonstrations, presentations and workshops for our students as well. In the future, I would like to host the citizen science training workshop in Olney for members of the public to have this opportunity and to represent Southeastern Illinois in data collection. It's an important time in our lives to better understand science."



Students named to PTK All-Illinois Academic Team

Olney Central College students Stephanie Blake and Caleb Thomas have been named to the All-Illinois Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa, the international two-year college honor society.

Blake and Thomas, both of Olney, were selected from among community college students across the state on the basis of academic achievement, volunteer work, campus activities, honors and awards. The All-Illinois Academic Team initiative honors outstanding Illinois community college students and highlights the high-quality education provided by the 48 public community colleges and the six private two-year colleges in the state. Recipients were recognized at the virtual All-Illinois Academic Team Banquet. Blake and Thomas will receive medallions and certificates by mail.

“I am extremely honored to have been chosen to be on the All-Illinois Academic Team,” Blake said. “When I began my back-to-school journey, I never really imagined I would be awarded something like this.”

Blake, who will graduate in May, plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree in business at Eastern Illinois University and possibly continue her education with a master’s degree.

“I have enjoyed so many things about PTK,” Blake said. “I have appreciated being able to meet everyone that is enrolled and active within the PTK club. I was honored being able to swear in the new members at the induction ceremony this February. I am thankful to have led so many positive-impact projects within our community the past two years. I feel being an active PTK member has given me an advantage when applying for scholarships.”

Blake recently received a \$1,000 Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship from EIU.

“I am grateful for being chosen to be on the PTK All-Illinois Academic Team,” Thomas said. “The thing I have enjoyed most about PTK is how flexible the program is with one’s schedule.”

Thomas will graduate later this month with an associate in science and arts degree. He plans to transfer to the University of Southern Indiana and pursue a bachelor’s degree in Computer Information Systems.

“I chose OCC because of its affordability and because it is in my hometown,” he said. “The thing I love most about OCC is the size of the classes. It has allowed me to easily get help and create relationships with instructors.”

Blake said serving as PTK president and treasurer allowed her to acquire additional leadership skills that will continue to serve her in the future. She is proud of her accomplishments serving as a PTK officer and Student Senate Vice President.

“I believe I have made decisions and implemented ideas to better organize our PTK chapter and Student Senate at OCC,” she said. “I hope that the future presidents and officers of these clubs continue to grow these organizations and accomplish so many amazing things in the future.”

Blake is especially grateful to PTK Advisor Amie Mayhall.

“She has taught me many things within PTK, different ways to accomplish our goals, ways to engage in student involvement and so much more.” Blake said. “She is a fantastic leader and advisor. I wish we had more time to spend together, however my journey at OCC is coming to an end in just a few weeks.”



OCC students Caleb Thomas and Stephanie Blake were named to the All-Illinois Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa. They are pictured with PTK Advisor Amie Mayhall (center).

Register now for summer and fall semester classes

Registration for summer and fall classes is ongoing.

Summer classes start Monday, June 7 and fall classes begin Tuesday, Aug. 17.

Schedules are available online at www.iecc.edu/schedules.

New programs for Fall 2021 include Unmanned Aerial Technology and Welding and Fabrication Associate Degree.

Advisement appointments are available. Stop by Student Services or call 395-7777.

Casey Wyllie named Head Basketball Coach

Casey Wyllie has been named head men's basketball coach at Olney Central College. He has served as the interim coach since June when Coach Mike Burris left to take an assistant coaching position at the University of Indianapolis.

"To be named the head coach at Olney Central is an absolute honor," Wyllie said. "I am so thankful for the belief that Athletic Director Dennis Conley and President Rodney Raney have in me. Olney is a special place that has an unbelievable amount of community support. We will continue to build on the foundation that was laid here before us by previous coaches and players."

Wyllie led OCC to a 14-7 overall record during the 2020-21 season with OCC finishing second in both Region 24 and the Great Rivers Athletic Conference. OCC also beat pre-season No. 1 ranked John A. Logan College twice and beat Vincennes University when it was ranked No. 4.

The Blue Knights finished the season ranked No. 24 in the final NJCAA Division 1 Poll and were ranked as high as No. 20. Two OCC basketball players received All-Region or All-Conference recognition this past season under Wyllie's leadership. Murray State signee Elijah Farr was named Region 24 Co-Player of the Year as well as All-Conference. Cobie Montgomery was named All-Region 24 and All-Conference.

Wyllie served as an assistant coach at OCC during the 2019-20 season and helped the team reach a 24-7 overall record. Prior to Wyllie's time at OCC, he served as the Director of Basketball Operations at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville from 2017-2019. While working at SIUE, Wyllie was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the program including weekly schedules, planning and coordinating team travel, academics and budget management. Wyllie also acted as the team liaison for compliance which included maintaining and turning in phone logs to compliance, proactively identifying and resolving any walk-on eligibility issues, previewing official and unofficial



compliance paperwork and informing compliance of all coaches' travel schedules.

In addition, Wyllie coordinated, planned and directed all SIUE summer basketball camps. During his time at SIUE, Wyllie was part of back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference Tournament appearances, which was the first time the Cougars had made the tournament since the 2014-2015 season.

Prior to SIUE, Wyllie had a brief coaching stop at Vincennes University during June 2017. Before Vincennes, Wyllie served as a graduate assistant coach at Louisiana Tech in Ruston, La., from 2015-2017.

He assisted the Director of Basketball Operations at Louisiana Tech with the day-to-day operations of the program including organizing recruiting efforts, travel arrangements and summer basketball camps.

Wyllie earned his master's degree in Kinesiology with a concentration in Administration of Sport and Physical Activity from Louisiana Tech in November 2017. During his time at Louisiana Tech, the Bulldogs finished with a combined record of 46-20 while making back-to-back Conference USA Tournament appearances.

Wyllie earned his bachelor's degree in Workforce Education from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2015.

During his time at SIU, Wyllie gained valuable coaching experience as the head freshmen boys' basketball coach at Benton High School in Benton, Ill. He finished with a combined record of 43-23, including a 21-0 record in his third season. Wyllie earned an associate's degree from John A. Logan College in 2012. During his time at John A. Logan, he was the head junior varsity boys' basketball coach at Elverado High School in Elkhart, Ill.

A native of Dwight, Ill., Wyllie is a 2010 graduate of Dwight Township High School. During his senior year, Dwight finished with a 28-4 record and made a sectional finals appearance.

Spring Fling

The OCC Student Senate hosted Spring Fling on April 28. Activities included games with the chance to win gift cards to area businesses. Free snacks also were available.



Theresa Marcotte retires after 22 years

Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health Dr. Theresa Marcotte is retiring this month after 22 years with the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges District.

During her career, Marcotte has worked in a variety of positions at all four colleges — Frontier, Lincoln Trail, Olney Central and Wabash Valley. She has been a nursing instructor, department head and administrator. She was Dean of Instruction at Wabash Valley College from 2007 to 2010 and has served the last five years in her current position at OCC.

Marcotte's legacy includes integrating innovative technology into the classrooms to ensure a new generation of nurses and radiologists are ready to care for the needs of their patients. She attained grant funds to purchase IV pumps, interactive Apple TVs for the classrooms and new student software.

Marcotte also acquired grant monies to procure four new state-of-the-art simulators for the nursing programs at all four colleges and a new simulator for OCC's Radiography Program. The simulators provide students with more real-world experiences.

"I've enjoyed the people and the students most," Marcotte said of her time at IECC. "I am especially proud of the innovations we've made in improving the program for our students and the technology initiatives made in my current role."

That includes putting iPads in the hands of every nursing student and all faculty.

While spearheading these efforts, Marcotte said changes were made as a team with strong input from faculty and staff throughout the process.

"A lot of big things have been accomplished and I'm proud of that right now," she added. "I feel like I did what I was supposed to. I feel like I have done that and more while supporting the faculty and staff."

Other milestones for Marcotte were implementing professional development for faculty and two continuing accreditations for the Nursing Program. The Radiography Program also underwent a successful accreditation visit in 2020.

"During COVID-19 and with a new director, the Radiography Program was in compliance with all standards and criteria met," she added. "That is pretty remarkable."

Each year, the program prepares 85 to 90 nurses to enter the workforce and 15 to 20 radiologic technologists. There are also many certified nurse aides that go into the workforce and also into the nursing program.

"Our students' success is what makes the program great," Marcotte said. "Our students give back. I have been able to hire nurse educators that were former students and accomplished their master's degree. I will miss that."

Marcotte earned an associate's degree in nursing from WVC and completed a bachelor's degree in nursing from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. She received her master's degree from the University of Southern Indiana and earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 2018.

During her career, Marcotte worked in the Cardiovascular Unit at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville and in the OB/GYN Unit at Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes, Ind.

Marcotte's future plans are to spend more time with her family, including twin grandchildren who are due this fall.

"I want to continue to work in the area of nursing and focus on my profession somehow, but I don't have any definite plans now."

Marcotte's last day on campus was May 6.



Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health Dr. Theresa Marcotte was honored during a retirement reception on April 30. She served 22 years with the IECC District and worked at all four colleges.



RN Pinning Ceremony

Olney Central College 2021 RN graduates participated in a Pinning Ceremony on May 1. Those honored include Miranda Clinton, Jessica Dart, Stacy Hanson, Hannah Leneer, Tonya Moseley, Celia Rudolph, Jessica Smallwood, Taylor Smith, Elizabeth Stewart, Stephanie Sturm, Cheyenne Wells, Izabella Wells and Victoria Yager.

Alpha Delta Nu Members honored

Olney Central College students, from left, Hannah Leneer, Tonya Moseley and Stacy Hanson are the newest members of the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges/OCC Associate Degree Nursing Program's Nu Chapter of Alpha Delta Nu.

The national honor society of nursing recognizes top associate degree nursing students. To be considered for membership, students must have completed their first year of nursing, have attained a 3.0 overall GPA and earned a B or better in the core nursing courses.

Students also must have demonstrated conduct on campus and in the clinical areas that reflects both integrity and professionalism. To be awarded full membership, students must finish their third semester of nursing and complete a group capstone project, which focuses on either recruitment or educational activities.

The students were recognized during the RN Pinning Ceremony on May 1 where they received a pin, a certificate and cords to wear at graduation.



OCC Baseball Summer Little League Camps start June 7

OCC Baseball is hosting Summer Little League Camps in June.

Camps for ages 6-8 will meet June 7, 9, 14 and 16. Camps for ages 9-12 will be offered June 8, 10, 15 and 17. All sessions will meet from 9 to 11 a.m. at OCC's Dennis Conley Field. Rain dates are June

11 and 18.

The cost is \$20 per day or \$60 for all four sessions. Registration forms are available at www.iecc.edu/occ/camps21 and must be returned by June 1. Late registrations will be accepted the day of the camp with an additional \$10 charge.

Players will need to bring a bat, glove, helmet and shoes.

For more information or to pre-register, call Coach Dennis Conley at 618-395-7777, ext. 2131, or 618-843-0333. You also may contact him by email at conleyd@iecc.edu.

Blue Knights sign five players for 2021-22 season

Olney Central College Men's Basketball finished second in both Region 24 and in the Great Rivers Athletic Conference this past season. They had a regular season sweep over preseason No. 1 John A. Logan College and Wabash Valley. The Blue Knights also beat No. 4 Vincennes. OCC finished ranked No. 24 in the final NJCAA Division I Poll and were ranked as high as No. 20 in the country during the Week 6 poll.

The Blue Knights have signed five newcomers for next year.

7'3" Center – Tayt Harbour

Tayt Harbour comes to Olney after playing at Bishop Miege High School in Shawnee, Kan. and won a Class 4A state championship this past season. Bishop Miege finished the year 22-1. Harbour generated a ton of Division I interest last season from all different levels of Division I basketball. Two years ago, Harbour was 6'10" and weighed 400 pounds. He has now trimmed down to 285 pounds, and has grown 5 inches. Harbour's father played Division I Football at Kansas University back in the 1980s. His brother currently plays football at Division I Junior College Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville, Kan. Harbour is currently being trained by former professional basketball player Anthony Richardson. Coach Richardson was named Mr. Basketball in North Carolina in 2001. He was also a McDonald's All-American and four-year letter winner at Florida State.

6'6" Forward – Rickey Lovette

Rickey Lovette comes to Olney after playing the last two years at Montgomery County High School in Mount Sterling, Ky., for Kentucky High School Hall of Fame Basketball Coach Steve Wright. Lovette was named 2nd team All Region 10 and is currently ranked as the 13th best player in the state of Kentucky according to Prep Hoops. Lovette helped Montgomery County to a 33-22 record overall in his two years playing for the Indians. Last year he averaged 17 PPG and 12 RPG. Lovette also shot 65 percent from the field including 50 percent from three-point range. Prior to moving to Kentucky, Lovette played at Avon Park High School in Avon Park, Fla.

6'3" Guard – Eli Brown

Eli Brown comes to Olney after playing at Paducah Tilghman High School in Paducah, Ky. Paducah Tilghman is known for its rich tradition in athletics, especially in basketball. Tilghman finished with an overall record of 18-6 this past season and lost in the Regional Semi-finals. Brown finished the year averaging 16 PPG and 3.5 RPG. He shot 56 percent overall from the field including 45 percent from three-point range. Brown is currently ranked as the 51st best player in the state of Kentucky according to Prep Hoops. He also played on the AAU Circuit for the Illinois Bears directed by Justin Barrington.

6'1" Guard – Jordan Hardiek

Jordan Hardiek comes to Olney after playing at Teutopolis High School in Teutopolis, Ill. Teutopolis is one of the most historic basketball programs in the state of Illinois. Hardiek was a three-year varsity member that won 66 games over that span. Teutopolis lost in the IHSA Class 2A Super-Sectional his sophomore year. This past year Hardiek averaged 12.4 PPG and 3.2 RPG. He shot 38 percent (51/133) from three and 77 percent from the free throw line. He also played on the AAU Circuit for the Illinois Bears directed by Justin Barrington.

6'4" Forward – Chandler Moore

Chandler Moore comes to Olney after playing at Evansville North High School in Evansville, Ind. Evansville North was the winner of the Forest Park Holiday Tournament this year over Harrison. Evansville North finished the season with an overall record of 14-9. Moore was First Team All-SIAC and Hoosier Basketball Coaches All-District 2 Senior Team. Moore finished his senior year averaging 17.6 PPG and 6.2 RPG. He also played on the AAU Circuit for the Indy Heat.



Tayt Harbour



Rickey Lovette



Eli Brown



Jordan Hardiek



Chandler Moore