

# OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE KNIGHTLINE



MARCH 2024

## CALENDAR

### MARCH

12 — Summer/Fall Registration Opens

15-16 — OCC Theater Presents "Fiddler on the Roof," 7 p.m.

17 — OCC Theater Presents "Fiddler on the Roof," 2 p.m.

19 — IECC Student Trustee Election, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Outside Student Services

21-23 — OCC Theater Presents "Fiddler on the Roof," 7 p.m.

24 — OCC Theater Presents "Fiddler on the Roof," 2 p.m.

29 — College Closed for Spring Holiday

### College Visits

**March 13** — University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale Representative Raeghan Goins will be at OCC from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**March 13** — Eastern Illinois University Representative Bri Dominguez will be at OCC from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**March 19** — University of Southern Indiana Representative Simone Payne will be at OCC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**March 27** — University of Illinois Springfield Representative Jessica Hoos will be at OCC from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tables will be located outside Student Services.



**OCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter held its new member induction ceremony on March 1. New members attending, from left, are Cami Pollard, Courtney Crawford, Sydney Scherer, Hayley McGann, Brody Sharp and Aiden Potts.**

## Phi Theta Kappa inducts 29 members

Olney Central College's Phi Theta Kappa chapter welcomed 29 new members during an induction ceremony on March 1.

The event capped off the chapter's celebration of National PTK Awareness Week.

Public Relations Officer Courtney Crawford said members are working to increase student involvement in the honor society and expand its presence on campus.

The 2024 inductees are Elizabeth Cook, Courtney Crawford, Kira Daniel, Kaylee Dhom, Jake Dicus, Caleb Dow, Benjamin Faatz, Andrew Goldman, Kristen Greenwood, Zachariah Gualdoni, HL Hager, Carli Hosler, Ming Huang, Allison Kirts, Reyse Klier, Maya Rodriguez-Manholt, Hayley McGann, Lauren Muhs, Cami Pollard, Aiden Potts, Lisa Runyon, Sydney Scherer, Kirsten Schmidt, Brody Sharp, Jalyn Smith, Levi Smith, Colby Steber, Sidney Watson and Taylor Zuber.

Students, who received invitations to join PTK, have until May 31 to accept. For more information, contact Advisors Dr. Sarah Bergbower at [bergbowers@iecc.edu](mailto:bergbowers@iecc.edu), or Brandi Rich at [richb@iecc.edu](mailto:richb@iecc.edu).



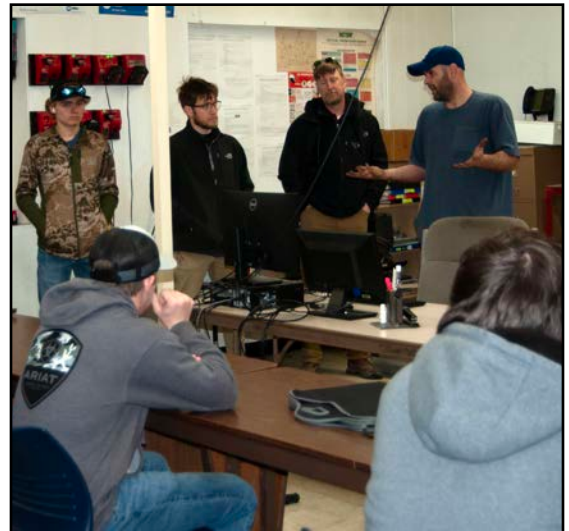
**PTK's new officers, from left, are Public Relations Officer Courtney Crawford, President Hayley McGann, Advisor Dr. Sarah Bergbower, Secretary Elisha Scoles and Treasurer Sydney Scherer. Not pictured is Vice President Ming Huang.**

# OCC celebrates CTE Month with annual Showcase

OCC hosted 85 area high school and homeschool students for the annual CTE Showcase on Feb. 28.

Students had an opportunity to explore the Automotive Service, Collision Repair, Industrial Maintenance and Welding programs while engaging with instructors and touring the facilities. One of the highlights was a demonstration of the new virtual paint booth. The event concluded with lunch and prizes.

Participating high schools included Cisne, Full Armor, Hutsonville, Lawrenceville, Newton Community, North Clay, Oblong and Robinson.



# Employment Workshop March 28

Get work ready by attending the IECC Employment Workshop on March 28 in the OCC Banquet Room. Choose from one of two sessions either 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 2 to 6 p.m.

Illinois Department of Employment Security Staff will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to assist participants with resumes and applications. Those attending will leave with a work-ready resume.

Participants will learn effective job search methods and how to navigate Illinois Job Link.

Interviewing skills also will be covered.

The event is sponsored by Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, Illinois Department of Employment Security and Southern 14 Labor Workforce Investment Board.

For more information, call 618-847-9160.

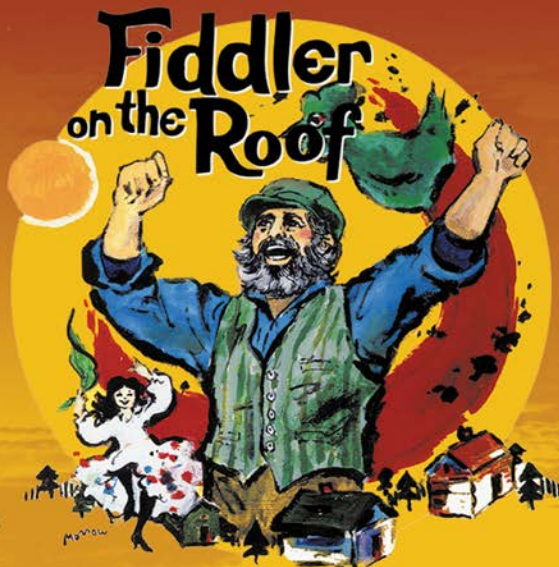


## FAFSA Night Basket Winner

Rachel Kramer (left) is the winner of Olney Central College's FAFSA Night Money/Goodie Basket Giveaway. The drawing was open to those attending OCC's FAFSA Night event and made possible through a partnership with TrustBank. Presenting the basket is OCC Financial Aid Specialist Stephanie Corley.



Olney Central College Theater Presents



Sponsored by  
**TRUSTBANK**

### Performances:

March 15, 16, 21, 22, & 23  
@ 7:00 pm

March 17 & 24  
@ 2:00 pm

Tickets on sale NOW!  
\$13 Reserved Seating

[www.iecc.edu/occ/theater](http://www.iecc.edu/occ/theater)

# OCC Foundation honors Ken Allen

The Olney Central College Foundation honored Ken Allen for his more than 35 years of dedication and outstanding service to the organization as its accountant.

OCC Foundation President Bartley Zuber presented Allen with a plaque during the February meeting. Allen is a retired OCC Business Instructor.



OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE

**SPRING 2024  
GRADUATION**

**APPLY NOW!**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: APRIL 19**

Students who file after the deadline  
will not be listed in the graduation program.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT YOUR ADVISOR!

# David Spitz to hold book signing in Learning Commons

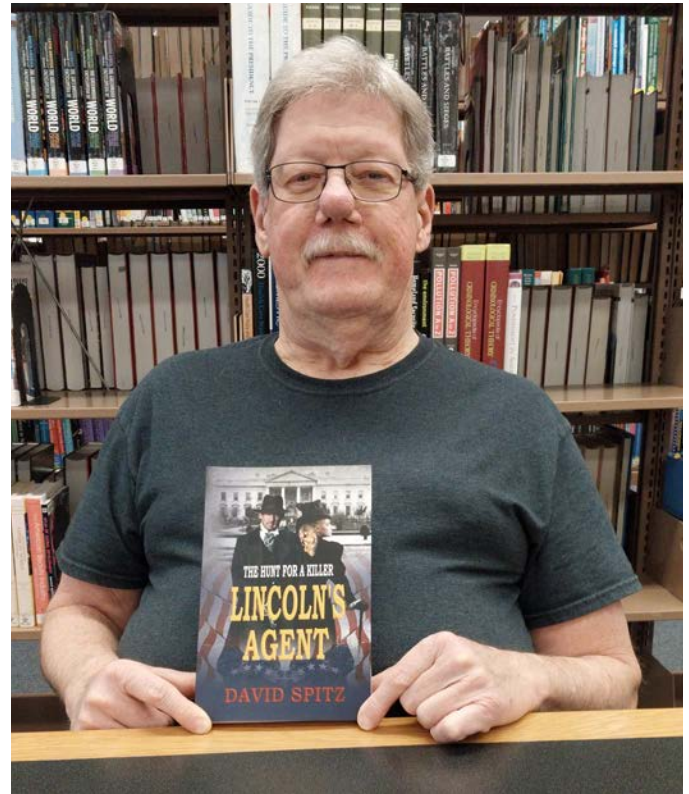
Olney native David Spitz will hold a book signing for his novel, *Lincoln's Agent: On the Trail of a Killer*, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 15 in the OCC Learning Commons. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at \$15 each.

Set amid the rising tensions of mid-18th century America, Spitz's work of historical fiction follows the struggles of U.S. Marshal Arnett McCann who is called to Washington, D.C. as the nation teeters on the verge of civil war.

Area readers will find familiar locations and names, as portions of this action-packed thriller take place amid the rolling hills and bluffs of Southern Illinois. Throughout the novel, McCann tries to keep his life together as the world around him spins out of control and he sidesteps the U.S. Civil War.

Spitz says of the novel. "It is complex with three or four issues going on at one time and more than one thing that leads to the book's conclusion."

Spitz began his writing career publishing song lyrics in 2016. He then chose to pursue a bachelor's degree in creative writing. A university, where he applied, required a writing sample and Spitz's submission became the basis for *Lincoln's Agent*.



OLNEY CENTRAL COLLEGE

## Summer & Fall Registration

Opens March 12

Schedule your appointment

# 618-395-7777





# LADY KNIGHTS & BLUE KNIGHTS HONOR SOPHOMORES







# Sports Schedule

## Baseball

March 14 — at Shawnee, 3 p.m.  
 March 16 — vs. Shawnee noon & 2:30 p.m. at home  
 March 18 — at Oakland City, TBA  
 March 21 — vs. Frontier, 3 p.m. at home  
 March 23 — at Frontier, noon & 3 p.m.  
 March 26 — at Vincennes, 6 p.m.  
 March 28 — vs. Wabash Valley, 2 p.m. at home  
 March 29 — at Wabash Valley, noon & 2:30 p.m.  
 April 3 — vs. Oakland City, TBA  
 April 4 — at Rend Lake, 3 p.m.  
 April 5 — vs. Rend Lake, noon & 3 p.m. at home  
 April 6 — vs. Rend Lake, noon & 3 p.m. at home

## Softball

March 14 — at Rend Lake, 2 & 4 p.m.  
 March 16 — at Wabash Valley, noon & 2 p.m.  
 March 17 — vs. Lincoln Trail, noon & 2 p.m. at home  
 March 19 — vs. Southeastern Illinois, 2 & 4 p.m. at home  
 March 23 — vs. Shawnee, noon & 2 p.m. at home  
 March 26 — vs. Lake Land, 2 & 4 p.m. at home  
 March 28 — at Southwestern Illinois, 2 & 4 p.m.  
 March 29 — vs. John A. Logan, 2 & 4 p.m. at home  
 April 4 — vs. Frontier, 2 & 4 p.m. at home  
 April 6 — at Southeastern Illinois, noon & 2 p.m.  
 April 9 — vs. Kaskaskia, 2 & 4 p.m. at home





# Students and graduates participate in National TRIO Day

One hundred and five low-income and first-generation TRIO students and graduates participated in the 2024 National TRIO Day on Feb. 24.

Students who attended were inspired to continue their personal growth journey by learning about leadership, communication, social emotional learning and self-management, and resiliency.



Paradigmshift is an amazing organization who shapes future leaders. They deliver innovative leadership training and resources to students and professionals. Three Paradigmshift professionals attended the workshop and lead interactive sessions with TRIO students.

The day started with icebreakers, team building, and an overview of the day. Students from all over were able to meet one another, participate in fun icebreaker activities, and get ready for an exciting day of learning. The students were split into three groups and headed to each breakout session.

The first breakout session topic was leadership communication. In this session, students were able to learn how they communicate and how to better communicate with others. The second breakout session focused on self-management. In this session, students discussed how to think about what they are going to say before speaking, how their words may affect others, and how to have self-control.

The last breakout session topic was resiliency. This session helped the students understand how to be resilient. The students were given a task with little information about how to complete it. Working together as a group and not giving up on the task at hand, they were able to recover quickly from difficulties and succeed at completing the task given to them.

Seven federally funded programs called TRIO are making a world of difference for millions of students from low-income families who strive to be the first in their families to attend and graduate from college. For more than 50 years, TRIO programs have been providing students, from low-income and working families, with valuable supportive services, which enable them to successfully enter college and graduate.

TRIO services include tutoring, personal and financial counseling, career counseling, assistance with the college admissions process, college visits, instruction in composition, literature, STEM, personal development, study skills, lab science, foreign language, and mathematics, test prep, work study program, SEL, financial literacy and assistance with FAFSA and scholarships, in addition to academic support and advising in high school through college graduation.

Today more than 1,000 colleges, universities, and community agencies host more than 2,800 TRIO projects that serve more than 800,000 young people and adults. TRIO serves students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds. Currently, 34 percent of TRIO students are White, 33 percent are African-American, 21 percent are Hispanic, 4 percent are Asian-American or Pacific Islander, 4 percent are American Indian, and 1 percent are listed as "other," including multiracial students.

"We are so glad that we were given the opportunity to host such an amazing event where so many motivated, inspiring, and remarkable students came to spend their Saturday learning and growing together," said Annie McGrail, Assistant Director of IECC TRIO Upward Bound. "TRIO is lucky to have such determined young people who dedicate their time to becoming the best version of themselves. In honor of National TRIO Day, we proudly walk beside these students as they grow together with other students who are also working on their own personal growth journey."

*TRIO – Upward Bound programs are 100% federally funded by the Department of Education for (LTC) \$324,979, (OCC) \$376,462, and (WVC) \$309,505.*

*TRIO – SSS is 100% federally-funded for \$361,922 as a college-based educational opportunity outreach program that motivates and supports students from low-income backgrounds – including military veterans and students with disabilities.*