

# OZARKA COLLEGE

December 2021 Campus Connection Holiday Edition

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#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT Dr. Richard Dawe

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season. As we complete an outstanding fall semester at Ozarka we have a great deal to be thankful for in how we support our students. Further developing technical programs has been a big emphasis and this results in careers for our students! We have deepened relationships with the communities we serve and with industry partners. I am very proud of the effort of so many of our colleagues to make that happen.

After we return from Christmas vacation we will be refreshed and ready to continue working to enhance programs and support for Ozarka students. I could not be prouder of the excellent work accomplished this year by everyone at Ozarka. We have brought onboard so many talented and motivated new colleagues and that just makes us stronger. Your commitment in our shared mission is what has recently resulted in Ozarka being recognized as the best two-year college in Arkansas. You are appreciated; keep up the great work and have a wonderful Christmas and holiday season!





## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT Rodrigo Dwight Cabanas, Disney World Cook

Rodrigo Dwight Cabanas, best known as Dwight around campus, started his story right here at Ozarka, graduating from the Culinary Program in 2021. Dwight chose to attend Ozarka to stay closer to home, but was soon pushed out of his comfort zone through life-changing experiences provided through education.

"I learned to always be prepared while in the kitchen and just in life, always have your prep done, always bring your chef knives to work, always have your clean chef's coat," said Dwight. "Make sure you show up every day with a positive attitude and the drive to do your very best every day. The people and the leaders in your life will see it even if you think they don't."

As of August, Dwight is now a part of the Disney Culinary Program and most recently wrapped up his work at the 2021 Food & Wine Festival in Epcot, one of the four parks at Disney World. The 2021 Food & Wine Festival allowed experienced guests to come and sample major food and drinks from around the world while walking the World Showcase. Already showing what he can do, he will be starting his new job at "Be Our Guest" in Magic Kingdom, which includes more fine dining than festivals.

"Cabanas was an outstanding student prior to his graduation." said Dr. Amy Queret-Mitchell, Ozarka Culinary Program Director. "Dwight has proven to be a very dedicated professional both in and outside of the kitchen, and has a wonderful career ahead of him" There DREAMS COME TRUE

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DWIGHT

OZARKA COLLEGE

professional both in and outside of the kitchen



\*Photo Caption: Rodrigo Dwight Cabanas, Ozarka Chef's Table Event.

## **MOVIN & SHAKIN** *Employee Transitions and New Hires*

#### Beau Broadus - Institutional Services Assistant, Mountain View

Beau will lead the effort to keep things clean and safe for incoming students, faculty, and staff. Beau is a native of Calico Rock, with a background in construction, maintenance, and transportation. Keep up the great work!





#### Cindy Williams - Administrative Specialist III, Ash Flat

Cindy has quickly settled into her new role in Ash Flat. A native of California with many years experience as an administrative assistant, Cindy is already showing what her experience can do. Fantastic job!

#### Clinton Jackson - Division Chair for Aviation

Clinton will lead the effort to train Ozarka Aviation candidates for Private, Commercial, and Instrument certifications in both single and multi-engine aircraft. Clinton brings more than 12,000 flight hours and 15 years flight instruction experience to Ozarka. Clinton is settling into the Melbourne community and is eager to help take Ozarka Aviation to new heights.





#### **Caroline Smith- Allied Health Faculty**

A familiar face around campus and an Ozarka alumni, Caroline will be an Allied Health Faculty. Previously Caroline has served as a clinical instructor as well as an adjunct instructor for Ozarka College. A wonderful addition to the already outstanding nursing team!

**Peyton Van Hoy - Part-time Administrative Specialist, Ash Flat** Peyton has jumped right into her new role in Ash Flat and is quickly becoming the face most students will see from time to time. She is already off to a wonderful start here at Ozarka College. Welcome!



## **SGA ACTIVITIES** Student Government Association

The Ozarka College Student Government Association (SGA) is collecting new toys for a Christmas Toy Drive in each of our service area counties. Collections are being accepted through December 10, to ensure time for sorting and delivery by the Division of Children and Family Services in each county. The Division of Children and Family Services will distribute the gifts to foster children from their county or to children from the Angel Tree in their county.

Thank you in advance for supporting SGA and this worthwhile project. All gifts accepted for newborn to 18 years of age.

Drop boxes are set up in the following locations:

Ash Flat Campus – Main building in the lobby and in the student commons area in the back building.

Ash Flat Technical Center – Main lobby.

Mammoth Spring Campus – Main building.

Melbourne Campus – Student Services Center Lobby and the Administration Building Lobby where the tables are located.

Mountain View Campus – Classroom building near the front door.

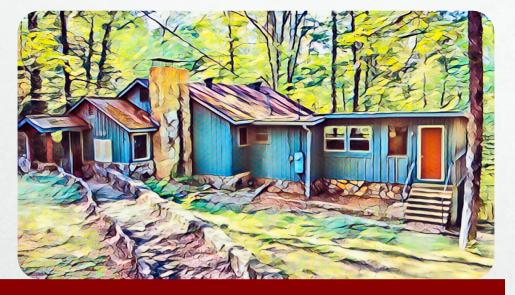
## **BCM ACTIVITIES** Baptist Campus Ministry

The Baptist Campus Ministry met November 30, 2021 for one of their first gatherings. Students came and enjoyed fellowship with a free Thanksgiving meal followed by a time of worship and prayer. A representative is on campus each Thursday for students who would like to discuss their faith.



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## CAMPBELL GIFT Betty Campbell

The Ozarka College Foundation was recently gifted a piece of property on Whapeton Hill in Sharp County. The grantor of the gift, Betty Campbell, didn't attend Ozarka College but chose to support the College and expand access to higher education for individuals in her adopted community of Hardy, AR. "Ms. Campbell's contribution underscores her tremendous commitment and passion for helping our students, " said Garry Lawrence, Ozarka College Foundation board member and long-time friend of Ms. Campbell. "All gifts, whether they are cash or gifts of real property, directly benefit Ozarka students. Ms. Campbell's property gift will ensure scholarships for these students for perpetuity and we are grateful."

For over 30 years, Ms. Campbell and her family made the drive from Columbus, OH to Hardy, AR to spend the summer in a quaint cabin on the banks of the Spring River. According to her youngest daughter, Courtney, "We left the day after school ended in May and came home the day before school began in the fall".

Betty has been a friend and supporter of the College since 2007. Previously, she established two endowed scholarships in her late husband's name, the Robert Kalischer Memorial Nursing Scholarships, which support two \$500 scholarships each year. "When I first met Ms. Campbell, she was making frequent trips to her vacation home," stated Dr. Richard Dawe. "It has been an honor to get to know Betty over the years and become familiar with her love for the people of Sharp County and her passion to support Ozarka College."

Betty recently turned 95 years of age and continues to live vibrant life а as documented by a recent visit by the Advancement Staff to her home in Columbus. Ohio. She swims every day and is an avid reader and sharp investor. Because she no longer makes the trip to Hardy, she gifted the property in hopes it would encourage others in her situation consider to a gift the property to Foundation.

The proceeds from the sale of the cabin will be used for additional scholarships.



\*Photo Caption: Betty Campbell

# FOUNDATION CORNER...

## We ran, we golfed, we sang and we even saw Santa!

The Ozarka College Foundation hosted several successful events this fall: Sprint at the Spring 5k in Mammoth Spring, Fall Concert in Mountain View and, annual Golf Scramble in Melbourne, and Santa made the trip to the Miller Building for Trees and Tidings. Community support for each event was overwhelming!

We look forward to an exciting spring event schedule to include the Ladies Luncheon in Mountain View and the annual Spring Gala on the Melbourne campus. For more information on how to get involved, contact the Advancement Department at <u>foundation@ozarka.edu</u> or 870.368.2059.



## **ENDOWMENT UPDATES**

As we approach the end of 2021 several endowment funds are close to completion or have been completed.

#### **Bonnie Dawe Memorial Nursing Scholarship**

This fund was established in memory of Dr. Dawe's mother, Bonnie. A nurse by vocation, and coincidentally a member of the first Ozarka College nursing class of 1976, Bonnie will be remembered for her life of service, her kindness and her zest for life. After generous support from Ms. Dawe's family, friends and employees of the College, this endowment has met the \$10,000 level. The scholarship will be available for students beginning with the fall 2022 semester.



\*Photo Caption: Bonnie Dawe



\*Photo Caption: Delynne Duerkes

#### **Delynne Duerkes Memorial Scholarship**

The College community was deeply saddened by the untimely passing of our friend and colleague, Delynne Duerkes. It was quickly evident that Delynne left many friends and was a positive influence in her community. In an effort led by Dr. Chris Lorch, the College community established a memorial scholarship in Delynne's name. "What better way to honor Delynne's dedication than by continuing to help students by establishing the Delynne Durerkes Memorial Scholarship," added Lorch. Contributions are being recieved and the endowment is growing.

#### Wayburn Watson Memorial Scholarship and Wayne Wilson Honorary Scholarship

Two additional endowment efforts are nearing completion and we expect them to reach the \$10,000 level by the end of the year or early 2022. The Wayburn Watson Memorial Scholarship is a fund dedicated to the life and memory of Wayburn Watson, father to Ozarka College employee, Donna Watson Hill and Ozarka College Trustee, Mike Watson. The second fund near completion is the Wayne Wilson Honorary Scholarship Fund in honor Dr. Wayne Wilson, former Director of Adult Education at Ozarka College.

Ozarka College will create a permanent endowed scholarship to be named according to donor specifications for each gift of \$10,000. Criteria for the scholarship will be determined by the donor(s). A \$500 scholarship will be awarded annually (\$250 per semester to recipient) for each endowment of \$10,000.

# PARDON OUR PROGRESS...

The Carpenter Technical Center (CTC) in Ash Flat renovations are coming to a close as we wrap up a productive fall semester. The CTC continues to amaze with each passing month brings added construction and new equipment. By the time we head home for the extended holiday break, the CTC will have a fully equipped and operational Automotive / Diesel Technology, Precision Machining, and Welding labs. Thanks to the continued hard work of Ozarka staff and faculty and significant grant support, the CTC will be in full operation in time for spring classes and well ahead of the original schedule.

In spite of obstacles, dedicated faculty and staff persisted through the renovations and equipment installations to provide advanced technical training to students this fall semester, first at a temporary, off-site lab space and then back to the Center as renovations were completed. Special thanks go out to Marcus Orf and Kaye Tribble (CTC staff), Todd Smith (machining faculty), Brad Holzhauzer (welding faculty), and Marty McFarlin (maintenance director) for accommodating our students through these transitions.



\*Photo Caption: Marcus Orf, Carpenter Technical Center Director, discusses what the center has to offer to Thayer High School students.



But wait there's more ...

Since our last edition, Ozarka has taken advantage of an expeditious opportunity to expand technical training offerings in Stone County as well. A result of significant industry engagement with Mountain View area employers in 2021, Ozarka is moving forward with a Welding Technology Center in downtown Mountain View. Marcus, David Mitchell, and Dr. Chris Lorch (AKA Ozarka's Technical Trio), have moved quickly to acquire a space for lease, initiate renovations, and coordinate equipment installation— All efforts have been at warp speed to ensure completion in time for welding classes to be offered in January. Again, we give special thanks to Marty and his trusty sidekick, Penny Ramsey for their quick renovation work!



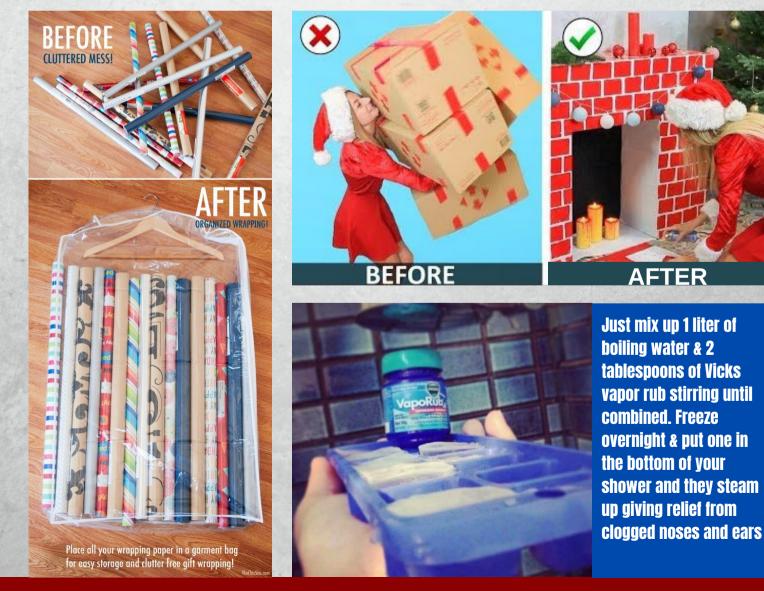
## **RECIPES...**







## LIFE HACKS... Fan Requested





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Providing Life Changing Experiences through Education

# Fall Semester 2021



