June 2012

ONNECTION

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Upcoming

EVENTS:

-Summer II begins Monday, July 9

-VPAA welcome receptions

Tuesday, July 17: Ash Flat, 10-11 a.m.

Wednesday, July 18: 11 a.m.

Thursday, July 19:

-Amphitheatre ribbon cutting Tuesday, July 31, 6-7:30 p.m.

New VPAA hired

Ozarka College President Dr. Richard Dawe has announced that a new Vice President of Academic Affairs has been hired.

Dr. Dennis C. Rittle. Dean of Academic Affairs at Brown Mackie College in Salina, Kan., will begin in the position on July 2.

"I am excited for the opportunity to work with Dr. Rittle at Ozarka College," said Dr. Dawe. "The leadership, experience and educational philosophy he brings to

the college will enable us to advance to higher levels of performance in educating our students and serving our communities."

The Vice President of Academic Affairs is the chief academic officer of the college, responsible for overseeing academic programs and curricula, ensuring quality of instruction, and supervising all faculty members.

Joan Stirling, Vice President of Institutional Research and Planning, has served as interim VPAA since mid-March and chaired the position's search committee.

Dr. Rittle began serving in higher education in 1995 and earned his Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership with a maior in Human Resource Development from the School of Global Leadership and Entrepreneurship at Regent University.

During his service within higher education, Dr. Rittle has served on the staff of the Kansas Board of Regents where



Dr. Dennis C. Rittle

he aligned technical curriculum for postsecondary institutions across the state of Kansas.

See VPAA, Page 2

Adult Ed Graduates 185

The Ozarka College Adult Education Program recognized the 185 students who have earned their GED since May 2011 at a Commencement Ceremony Thursday, May 31 in the John E. Miller Education Complex Auditorium on the Melbourne campus.

> See ADULT ED. Page 4

Tuition increase avoided

The Ozarka College Board of Trustees have approved a budget that will avoid an increase in tuition for the

tive year.

Students at Ozarka College's

management has allowed us to keep tuition at the same level..."

- Dr. Richard Dawe, President

servative budget after seeing recordbreaking enrollment growth at the second "Additional support... and sound financial campuses in Mel-

College has operated on a very con-

bourne. A s h Flat and Moun-

four campuses will continue to pay an affordable \$75 per credit hour. lege Weekly, a biweekly publication "Additional support from our comdistributed to community colleges namunities and sound financial managetionally, named Ozarka College to the list of Top 50 Fastest Growing Comment has allowed us to keep tuition at the same level while tuition nationmunity Colleges in the nation with less wide has been steadily growing," said

Even with flat funding from the State for the past several years, Ozarka College has continued to provide outstanding services and degree programs without passing along additional financial burdens to its students.

tain View. Recently, Community Colthan 2,500 students enrolled.

achievable for our students." Over the past two years, Ozarka

President Dr. Richard Dawe. "Our

Board of Trustees and the adminis-

tration do everything we can to keep

college opportunities affordable and

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Lt. Gov. visits Mountain View campus



Pictured left to right: Ozarka College - Mountain View Site Coordinator Gin Brown, District 10 Sen. Missy Irvin, Lt. Gov. Mark Darr, and Ozarka College President Dr. Richard Dawe.

While in the Stone County area on Thursday, May 17, Arkansas Lt. Gov. Mark Darr and District 10 Sen. Missy Irvin visited Ozarka College – Mountain View for a tour of the campus.

The Lieutenant Governor also met with Ozarka College President Dr. Richard Dawe and Site Coordinator Gin Brown.

"We appreciated the opportunity to meet with Senator Irvin and Lieutenant Governor Darr at our Mountain View campus," said Dr. Dawe. "Senator Irvin continues to be a very strong supporter of Ozarka College and higher education in our state and we were very pleased to have the chance to convey the powerful learning opportunities we are providing not only in Mountain View but throughout our four county region. Lieutenant Governor Darr also is clearly committed to higher education and the community college mission."

Receptions scheduled to welcome VPAA

Ozarka College will hold meet-and-greet receptions at each of its four campuses for Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Dennis C. Rittle.

Dr. Rittle was recently hired as the chief academic officer at Ozarka College and began his duties on July 2. He most recently served as the Dean of Academic Affairs at Brown Mackie College in Salina, Kan.

Cookies and punch will be served at the following receptions:

Tuesday, July 17

Ozarka College – Ash Flat: 10 – 11 a.m.

Ozarka College – Mammoth Spring: 2 – 3 p.m.

Wednesday, July 18

Ozarka College – Mountain View: 10 – 11 a.m.

A barbecue lunch will be served at the Melbourne reception, which will be held on the main campus on **Thursday, July 19** from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

For more information, please contact Suellen Davidson, Director of Advancement, at 870-368-2059 or by email at sdavidson@ozarka.edu.

Appointments made

Ozarka College President Dr. Richard Dawe recently made hiring appointments based on recommendations from search committees.

Both positions will begin on July 1.

Amber Rush, Accounting Coordinator, was hired as Business Manager. She has more than five years of various accounting experience and has been with the College since January.

DeEdra Steed, Human Resources Specialist, was hired as the Director of Human Resources. Steed has been at the College for the past three years and has expanded the HR department tremendously, including developing a new employee orientation.



Amber Rush



DeEdra Steed

VPAA, CONT.

He has also served as a technical education administrator at Butler Community College in Kansas, which has an enrollment of more than 12,000 students.

In addition, Dr. Rittle served as a program director, instructor and curriculum writer for the Community College of the Air Force.

His scholarly endeavors include presenting at numerous national and international business and leadership conferences, including serving as a guest lecturer in Oxford, U.K. He has published extensively in publications such as the Journal of Business and Leadership, the Effective Executive, HRM Review, Global CEO, and the Journal of Advances in Business Research.

Dr. Rittle and his wife, Christy, have been married for 20 years and have two children, Daniel and Childress.

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Complete photo album at facebook.com/OzarkaCollege

Fulton County golf tournament a success

Proceeds benefitted Mammoth Spring building fund

The Ozarka College Foundation Board hosted its second annual Fulton County golf tournament at Cherokee Village South Golf Course Saturday, June 9.

There were 18 teams that competed in this year's event that raised money for the Mammoth Spring building fund.

Winners of the Championship Flight were 1st place: Robert Jean, Randall Godwin, Barry Keck, and Logan Hart; 2nd place: Mike Robertson, Chris Simmons, Mike Case, and Carl Tune; 3rd place: Terry Harris, Cody Knight, Nathan Criss, and Matt Modelevsky.

Winners of the Second Flight were 1st place: John Shaver, Ed Swartz, Billie Counce, and Steve Miller; 2nd place: Terry Smith, Danny Wallace, Scott Michols, and David Smith; 3rd place: Dr. Richard Dawe, Chris Dawe, Michael Orf, and Scott Pinkston.

Winners of the Third Flight were 1st place: Spencer Ary, Butch Steed, Zach Steed, and Bobbi Jo Cooper; 2nd place: Bobby Kendall, Aaron Honeycutt, Brock Kendall, and Rick Hart; 3rd place: Jerry Lindsey, Betty Lindsey, Mick Warden, and Alene Warden.

"The Ozarka College Foundation appreciates everyone's hard work and support to make this year's golf tournament



Championship flight winners Robert Jean, Randall Godwin, Barry Keck, and Logan Hart.

Right:Third Flight 1st place winners Spencer Ary, Butch Steed, Zach Steed, and Bobbi Jo Cooper.

Below: Ozarka College Board of Trustee Bob Evins watches as his son, Chris, takes a shot.

successful," said Development Officer Hannah McWilliams. "We believe this year's event was as successful as last year's and we continue to be excited about the future of the Mammoth Spring campus."

The event sponsors for this year's tournament were Gladin-Eder Insurance Agency, First National Banking Company, North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, and K-Kountry 95/The Gift.

Breakfast for the participants was sponsored by McDonalds of Hardy and lunch was spon-





sored by Liberty Bank.

Hole sponsors included Mammoth Spring Chamber of Commerce, Sherrie Keylon, Simmons First National Bank, United Country Real Estate – Thayer, Spring River Chiropractic, Allen Supported Living, LLC, Dr. Scott Ream, Whatever – Salem Square, Fred's Fish

House, Salem Drug Co., Langley Animal Clinic, Farm Bureau Insurance Agency, Dr. Tim Young – Midway Medical Clinic, Spring River Oaks Campground, Family Health Care – Tamra Ward, ANP, Atkins Saw Shop, Century 21 Real Estate – Thayer, Thayer Fitness Center, Bank of Thayer, Riverview Motel, Everett Farms and Construction, Subway - Thayer, Larry Kissee - Attorney at Law, Eleven Point Title and Perkins Law, George D. Hay Foundation, Shelter Insurance Agency, Mammoth Spring Mayor Jean Pace, Arkansas Foothills Realty, J & J Farms, Fin to Fur Wholesale, Myers Pharmacy, Thayer-Mam-Spring Rotary Club, Riverbend Restaurant.

Cash and prize sponincluded Dills Trucking, Inc., Southern Missouri Glass, State Farm Insurance Agency, Stateline Station and Restaurant, Pierce Arrow Theater - Branson. Modern Woodmen Financial Services, Great Southern Savings, Hirsch Farm and Feed Centers, Victorian Palace - Branson, Riverside Resort, Forschler's Home and Hardware, Keith's Auto Repair, Jerry Smith, Suellen Davidson, Harp's Grocery, Palace Drug, Anthem Eder, Areawide Media, Cooper Drug, and Radioshack.

The Ozarka Foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization and all donations are tax deductible on itemized tax forms.

For more information about giving opportunities at Ozarka College, please contact Hannah McWilliams at 870-368-2060.

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ADULT ED, CONT.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was Ozarka College Allied Health Director Ruby Johnson, who herself is a GED graduate. After completing her GED at Black River Technical College she pursued and completed her LPN certification at Ozarka College. After completing the LPN program at Ozarka College, she went on to complete an Associate of Science in Nursing and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Arkansas State University and a Master of Science in Nursing and Education from the University of Phoenix. She was hired as a nursing instructor at Ozarka College in 2000 and advanced to the Division Chair position in 2001.

Those who graduated include: Randal Adams, Cortney Askins, Bryan Avey, Frank Aviles, Tina Bailey, Daniel Barker, Dakota Basinger, Lauren Beaumont, Brittany Bishop, Tabitha Bliss, Monica Bologna, Edward Boris (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Ethan Bowlin, Keaira Boyd, Cara Brooks, Susan Brown, Jesse Butler, Mary Lynn Campbell, Zachery Carrasco, Taylor Chadwich, Shelby Chevallier, Brandie Chism, Julia Clark, Mackenzie Clayton, Charlea Collins, Tyler Compton, Elizabeth Corter, Jessica Crotwell, Christen Decker, Kaitlynn Drinkard (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Chatherine Duncan, Stephanie Edwards, Zachary Ellison, Christina Esparza, Jordan Everett, Tiffany Eversmeyer, Justin Farmer, Jeremy Farris (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Tamara Faulkner, Taylor Fleetwood, Mariah Foley, Jesse Ford, Michelle Foster, Erica Frazier, James Frey, Devon Frierson, Douglas Fuller, William Galbicsek, Asa Garrison, Iimmie Gillaspie, Jesse Click, Anthony Goodermote, Lance Goodman, Bradley Greer, Kevin Gregory, Emily Grimes,



2012 GED Graduating Class

Chance Hall, Molly Hanlin (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Michelle Harrison, Bruce Haskins, Ashley Helm, Kyle Herring, Austin Hite, Charles Hodges, Steven Hoover, Ethan Hope, Wallace Hoyt Christopher Humelhans, Steven Humphrey, Cameran Hutcheson, Ashia Hutson, Donelle Hyrowski, Shawn Jackson, Lana Jason, Magen Jernigan, David Kanabus, Nicholas Kaplafka, James Keen, Christin King, Gina King, Jonathon Kingrey, Nathaniel Lamb, Lisa Lambert, Richard Lawler, Chad Lawrence, Christopher Lindley, Hamilton Liscomb, Lindsie Lormand, Statler Lowery, Lauryn Lute, Charles Mann, Melissa Marchbanks, Sven Martens (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Madge McComas, Lisa McCord, Robert McCoy, Cassandra McDonald, Garrett Middleton, John Miller, Robbin Miller, Christian Mizner, Jessica Moore (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Wade Morgan, Pamala Niles, Kurt Novotny, Johnathon Odom, Tony Olson, Garian Osborn, Zachary Parker, Amanda Payton, Scott Pennington (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Carol Peters, Nissa Petters (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Jeffrey Pickett (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), David Pier (Horizon Scholar-

ship Recipient), Garlin Pittman, Zachary Polston, Loretta Praught, Rebecca Praught (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Matthew Presley, Delena Prestidge, Candice Rackley, Koby Ray, Tyler Renfrow, Noelle Renn, Vanessa Richardson, Jayde Robbins, Timothy Robinson (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Taleah Ross, Bobbie Rusk, April Russell, Avery Russell, John Rutherford, Allison Rutledge, Kathy Sanchez, Magdalena Sanchez, Mandy Sanders (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Jessico Semoñ, Dennis Shanrock, III, Kelsey Shrader, Rayn Shultz, Alyson Sisk, Jeremy Sivley, Dakota Smith, Daniel Smith, Sarah Smith, Skyler Smith, Hannah Snell, Brienna Son, Justin Son, Vriginia Sparks, Michael Spragg, Chris Springer, Renee Stanford, Hannah Stanley, April Stevens (Horizon Scholarship Recipient), Rebecca Stevenson, Lonie Strauser, Ashley Sullins, Kimberly Sutterfield, Jessica Sutton, Joseph Swik, Ashley Tatro, Christopher Taylor, Cydney Taylor, Latisha Tharp, Shane Thornton, Justin Toles, Travis Traylor, Kendra Treftc, Justin Vaden, Lacy Vaile, Baily VanArt, Tiffany Wagler, Racheal Webb, Austyn West, Chynthia Willman, Colt Wine, Jason Wyse, Joda Younger, Krystal Yunker, Marton Zatrok.

The Ozarka College Adult Education Program serves Fulton, Izard, Sharp, and Stone Counties by offering small group or individualized instruction in various locations to work with students. The program offers GED preparation, communications and other job-specific skill enhancement courses. Students may register through Adult Education to prepare for and complete the GED examination to achieve equivalency of a high school diploma.

All Ozarka College campuses will observe summer hours until Monday, Aug. 6:

Monday - Thursday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday - Closed

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Construction on the Amphitheatre began in early spring. The new facility will seat 150 and will be used by the College for special events, as well as by the community.

Mountain View to unveil Amphitheatre

Ozarka College – Mountain View invites the community to join it at the ribbon-cutting of its newly constructed Amphitheatre. The event will take place on Tuesday, July 31 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served and entertainment will be provided by local artists The Cobb Brothers, the Mickler Sisters and Pam Setser.

Construction on the Amphitheatre began in early spring and was made possible by a grant from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC), which awards funds for projects that protect and maintain state-owned natural areas, historical sites and outdoor recreation.

The Amphitheatre seats 150 and is available for use by the College and community. Ozarka College will utilize the space for guest speakers and outdoor classroom experiences, student

organizational meetings, concerts, lectures, and other campus events.

Other donors include: Cornerstone Sponsor: Stone County Community Resource Council; Gold Sponsors: AMVETS Auxiliary Post #7, Stan and Gin Brown, E.H. Broyles, Jeremy Nicholson. Victor and Pam Setser, Simmons First Bank, Larry and Donna Sullivan, Kenneth and Janice Sutton, Dr. Charles and Debra Varela, and Joe and Maxine Wyatt; Silver Sponsor: Jackie Burgett; and Bronze Sponsors: Darci Looney Memorial, lane Shipman and Donna York.

For more information about this event, contact Suellen Davidson, Director of Advancement, at 870-368-2059 or by email at sdavidson@ ozarka.edu.

Dust completes Leadership Institute

Nancy Dust, Assistant to the President at Ozarka College, recently completed the Arkansas Association Two Year Colleges' Leadership Institute. She was recognized at a ceremony at the Winthrop Rockefeller Center in Morrilton on Monday, June 11.

The goal of the AATYC Leadership Institute is to identify, develop, prepare, and advance leaders from within Arkansas two-year colleges.

Through an experience-based model, participants develop general leadership skills and executive leadership skills related to academics, finance and student affairs. Approximately 24 participants from two-year colleges across Arkansas participate each year.

"I appreciate the opportunity provided by Ozarka College and Dr. Dawe to attend the Leadership Institute," said Dust. "Not only did this program provide excellent development of leadership skills, it also provided an opportunity to learn more about the governance of higher education. We were provided with an opportunity to learn from well-known leaders in Arkansas higher education and government."

"One particular insight that I gleaned from this networking experience was that even though all two-year colleges appear to compete for students and funding we are all working for the benefit of the student," she continued. "The Leadership Institute was a tremendous learning experience and I hope to apply my newly gained knowledge for the benefit of Ozarka College."

Dust has been with Ozarka College since 2006 and has become a tremendous asset, many times going well above and beyond her job description.

"I am pleased that we have the opportunity each year to select current or future leaders from our talented faculty and staff to attend the Leadership Institute," said Ozarka College President Dr. Richard Dawe. "It allows us to grow our future leaders from within, and allows them to become



Nancy Dust

even more productive and increase their leadership perspective. Nancy was an excellent candidate and we are very proud of her work and her accomplishments."

The Institute began four years ago after a study was released indicating that many of Arkansas' two-year college leaders would be retiring within the next five years.

To help fill this impending leadership gap, AATYC partnered with Dr. Linda Beene, former Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education and current Vice President and Partner at Martin-Wilbourn Partners, to develop, prepare and advance leaders from within Arkansas two-year colleges.

Institute participants are nominated by their President or Chancellor and include Vice Presidents, Department Chairs, Deans, and Directors who aspire to additional leadership opportunities.

This year's group was the fourth to complete the Institute, which consists of three-3 day seasons and a fourth one-day session.

Through an experience-based model, participants develop general leadership skills, and functions of executive leadership in higher education related to academics, finance, and student affairs are developed. Competencies endorsed by the American Association of Community Colleges are addressed.

For more information about the AATYC Leadership Institute, please visit www.aatyc.org.

Providing Life-Changing Experiences Through Education.

Ozarka College P.O. Box 10 218 College Dr. Melbourne, AR 72556

Business Department offering CP in banking and finance

The Ozarka College Business Technology Department is now offering a certificate of proficiency in banking and finance.

This certificate consists of six courses, which include: Law and Banking, Principles of Banking, Financial Planning, Microcomputer Applications, Electronic Spreadsheets and Computer Ethics and Security.

To enroll in this program, students must complete an application for admission either online at www.ozarka.edu or at any

of the four campuses at Melbourne, Ash Flat, Mountain View, or Mammoth Spring.

For more information, please contact Kathryn Langston at 870-368-2083 or by email at klangston@ozarka.edu.

July GED Testing Schedule

The GED® Test will be given at Ozarka College in Melbourne on July 18 and 26 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 516 of the Wyth Duke Adult Education Building.

The test will also be given at the following locations in June:

•Ash Flat	Ozarka College	9 a.m.	July 2 and 16
Mammoth Spring	Ozarka College	9 a.m.	July 3 and 19
•Mountain View	Ozarka College	9 a.m.	July 5 and 24
•Calico Rock	City Hall	9 a.m.	July 17
•Salem	Courthouse	9 a.m.	July 23

You must present an Arkansas photo ID, a Social Security Card, and proof of passing Practice Test scores dated within the last year. There is no cost to take the GED® Test. However, if you plan on taking the test at any of these locations, you MUST register by calling Ozarka College at 368-7371 or 1-800-821-4335 before the day of the test. Because of increased demographic information needed, it may be necessary to allow two days for the testing.