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**Ozarka Office  
Hours - Summer:**  
Mon. - Thu.  
7AM - 5:30PM  
Closed on Fridays.

Lunch Served 11AM-  
12:30PM Daily.  
Cost: \$3.00 or \$3.50  
with dessert.

**MENU:**

Mon 5/22  
Chicken Salad  
Sandwich & Pasta  
Salad

Tue 5/23  
Hamburger & FF  
Wed 5/24  
Stuffed Pork Loin  
Thu 5/25  
Crispitos, Refried  
Beans and Rice

Mon 5/29  
Memorial Day  
Holiday

Tue 5/30  
Turkey & Swiss  
Sandwich w/ Chips  
Wed 5/31  
Baked Catfish,  
potatoes & coleslaw  
Thu 6/1  
Baked Pasta Salad  
& Garlic Roll

# Ozarka College Connection

VOLUME III, ISSUE 9

MAY 22 - JUNE 2, 2006

## Ozarka College Holds Graduation

Ozarka College graduates and their guests filled the John E. Miller Auditorium for 2006 Graduation ceremonies held Thursday, May 11.

The ceremony began with an invocation given by Director of Admissions, Randy Scaggs. Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Barbara Perryman, welcomed everyone to the momentous occasion and College President Dr. Dusty R. Johnston introduced members of the Ozarka Board of Trustees and Foundation Board members who were present for the ceremony.

Johnston also served as the Commencement speaker, and delivered an exuberant and inspiring address to the graduates and their families regarding their current achievements, and the importance of continuing to learn and succeed in their chosen path. Johnston assumed his new position as President of Ozarka College in January of this year, and brings 23 years of experience working in the community college setting to Ozarka.

Ron Helm, Vice President for Student Services, presented the class with diplomas awarded by Johnston, Perryman, and interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Gary Phillips.

Helm provided the benediction, while Sandra Miller played the processional and recessional.

For a complete list of graduates and their degrees, follow this link [2006 Ozarka Graduation](#) or go to [www.ozarka.edu](http://www.ozarka.edu) under Campus News.



## Around Campus

- ◆ **First Day Summer I Classes** Monday, May 22nd (late registration through May 23rd.)
- ◆ **ELECTION DAY** - Tuesday, May 23rd
- ◆ **Ozarka Board of Trustees Meeting** - Thursday May 25th @ 4PM in the Board Room.
- ◆ **Memorial Day Holiday** - Monday May 29th - No classes. Ozarka offices closed.
- ◆ **Ozarka Foundation Board Meeting** - Monday, June 5th @ 9:30AM in the Board Room.
- ◆ **Ozarka Kids College** - June 19-22. Contact Kim Lovelace for more information at 368-2038.

## Many Scholarships Awarded to Attend Ozarka

The Fall 2006 John E. Miller Scholarship recipient has been announced. Miller awarded the scholarship on May 11<sup>th</sup> to Heather Billingsley of Melbourne. Also present was Ozarka College President, Dr. Dusty R. Johnston. Billingsley will receive \$500.00 per semester, which will be renewable for three semesters as long as she is enrolled fulltime and maintains 3.0 GPA at the college. Criteria for selection of this scholarship includes academic ability, good character, determination to succeed, and financial need.

Heather, who graduated from Melbourne High School in 2005 has recently completed her first year at Ozarka College. She was accepted into the LPN Program which begins in the upcoming Fall semester. Upon completion of the practical nursing program, Heather wants to continue with the RN Program. She states that becoming an RN is a lifelong goal she has set for herself and is excited about getting started on that journey this Fall. Heather is married to Curtis Billingsley and they have a ten month old son, Kiegan Curtis.

On May 9<sup>th</sup> at the main branch of First National Banking Company in Ash Flat, FNBC President, Marty Sellars awarded Ryan J. Tarver of Horseshoe Bend a \$4,000 scholarship to attend Ozarka College. Also present to congratulate him was Ozarka College Director of Admissions, Randy Scaggs.

Tarver, a recent graduate of Highland High School will be awarded \$1,000.00 for tuition, fees and/or books during the Fall 2006 semester and will be renewed up to three semesters providing he completes 12 credit hours each semester with a minimum grade point average of 2.75.

This scholarship was established in 2004 by FNBC as a way to assist local individuals with educational opportunities. "What better way to invest in our community than to offer the life changing opportunities made available through higher education," said Sellars. "We at FNBC are proud of our association with Ozarka and recognize the positive impact they are making in our communities. Not only is Ozarka offering area residents the ability to further their education without traveling long distances, but is also making a significant economic impact on our area."

Ryan is the son of Flemon and Terry Tarver and has been a member of the National Honors Society and Who's Who Among American High School Students. He was active in FCCLA, Science Club, Beta Club, and a member of the Boy Scouts. He was a representative at Boy's State and has donated time to raising money for hurricane victims. In 2005, Ryan was honored with awards in Agricultural Science and Technology. He plans to attend Ozarka College to complete his general education studies, then

transfer to a four year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in physical therapy

Two local high school students have been selected as winners of an essay contest sponsored by the English Department at Ozarka College. Morgan Stegeman of Mount Pleasant High School and Jessica Wilkinson of Timbo High School, have each been awarded a one-year, full tuition scholarship to attend Ozarka College.

Stegeman's essay was entitled "My Ideal Place" and Wilkinson's "Broken Glass" will appear in Ozarka College's collection of student writings entitled *In Flight* which will be published later this summer.

For the past six years, the English Department at Ozarka has sponsored this essay contest to award scholarships to two area high school seniors.

For further information on scholarship opportunities at Ozarka College, call 870-368-7371 or toll free 800-821-4335.



Pictured Left to Right: John E. Miller, Heather Billingsley and Dr. Dusty R. Johnston

*"What better way to invest in our community than to offer the life changing opportunities made available through higher education."*  
FNBC President,  
Marty Sellars



Pictured left to right: Randy Scaggs, Ryan Tarver and Marty Sellars.

# Safety Plan for Domestic Violence Victims

Ozarka College's Coordinated Campus Response Team held a meeting in April at the Melbourne campus entitled "Creating a Safety Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence." Presenters were Ozarka Victim Advocate, Beth Qualls and Izard County Deputy, Kristy Robbins.

Beth explained how the most dangerous time for a victim of domestic violence (DV) is often when the victim is attempting to leave the abuser. She adds, "Making a safety plan helps the victim to leave in a safer manner." Next, Robbins described the tense and unsafe situation encountered for the victim and the responding officers when responding to a DV call.

After the presentations, the attendees watched a video sponsored by *Safe Passage* entitled "Batterers Will Kill." This agenda was designed to educate the attendees of the ultimate level of violence an abuser can reach.

The following information describes some of the highlights of a safety plan.

Oftentimes, the act of leaving an abusive relationship is the most dangerous time for a victim of domestic violence. Victims of domestic violence are not always able to anticipate when the next time their abusers will strike. The attack can come out of thin air and can often have devastating effects. For persons in a violent relationship, a safety plan can not only provide a sense of security, but perhaps even save a person's life.

- Practice getting safely out of the house. If children are involved teach them to do the same. Become familiar with all exits leading out of the house.
- Teach children how to use the telephone and help them to memorize numbers of friends, family members, and the police.
- If leaving the house is not possible, get to a room that is free of potential weapons. Usually bathrooms and kitchens are dangerous places in the case of an attack.
- Have a bag packed with essentials in an unknown but accessible location so that the victim and children can grab it and go... or leave it with a reliable friend or neighbor.
- Try to leave extra money, keys, clothing, and important documents in an unknown, safe place. This could be with a neighbor, friend, or relative. If time allows, create a separate savings account. Important documents may include social security card, driver's license, credit cards, birth certificates, protection orders, etc. Always keep copies in case the originals are not attainable.
- Notify a neighbor of the situation and ask them to notify police if they hear a disturbance coming from the house. If a lawyer is involved, make it clear that he should not leave messages on the phone or visit the house. Speak to the attorney only in private.

It is the victim's choice when and who to ask for help. Having a support network of friends, family, and coworkers can help a great deal when the victim de-

cides to leave the abuser. When leaving an abuser, have a plan in mind, know where you will be going and have a list of supportive persons that can supply you with shelter and/or financial assistance. These tips cannot guarantee a safe getaway; however, by having a set safety plan, a victim is not completely helpless should an abusive situation arise. If you are a victim of domestic abuse, there are people who can and want to help.

Information can be obtained by Ozarka students from the victim advocate on each campus (368-2006) by Stone County residents from Stone County Abuse Prevention (269-9941), by sharp county residents from Spring River Adult and child Services (856-4119), by Izard County residents from Safe Passage (368-3222), by Independence County residents from Family Violence Prevention (793-4011), and Fulton County residents may contact the agencies for Izard or Sharp County.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2005-WA-AX-0019 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

***"Making a safety plan helps the victim to leave in a safer manner."***  
***-Victims Advocate Beth Qualls.***

**Ozarka  
College**

P.O. Box 10  
218 College Drive  
Melbourne, AR 72556



# Ozarka College

*A Short Drive to Great Distances*



## Success for AAT Students

On Saturday, May 13, the first group of Ozarka College Associate of Arts in Teaching students graduated from Arkansas Tech University with their bachelor degrees in education. Ozarka College began its Associate of Arts in Teaching Degree program in 2002 with hopes that students would attain a four year degree without having to leave the Ozarka College service area. That has now come to fruition.



L to R: Stanley, Gardner, Thomas, Lindsey, and Kinion.

Arkansas Tech delivers upper level courses via Internet, allowing students to stay in this area. This is important to non-traditional students who have families, jobs, and other obligations. Of this group of eight students, seven are considered non-traditional, according to one student. "Without the online classes, I would have never been able to finish my degree," she adds.

Ozarka College's AAT Coordinator, Michelle Cooper, has worked diligently to observe each of these students during this semester as they have completed their student teaching at local elementary schools. "I have been impressed with the way these students have handled themselves at the professional level. Our program is grateful for the schools who allowed the students to come into their classrooms to utilize their knowledge and hone their skills in a real classroom setting. The teachers have been excellent mentors to our students."

Students have completed their student teaching under Patricia Wooldridge and Debbie Asberry at Cave City Elementary; Linda Box and Sheila Caraway at Melbourne Elementary; JoAnna Bray, Gaye Qualls, and Jodi Moody at Mt. Pleasant Elementary; and Laura Howard at Mountain View Elementary.

The students who completed the program are: Amy Anderton of Horseshoe Bend, Michele Herron of Franklin, TaKara Kinion of Brockwell, Renee Lindsey of Calico Rock, Tabatha Stanley of Mountain View, and Kim Thomas, Sherry Henry, and John Gardner, all of Melbourne.

These graduates have been offered the opportunity to practice their abilities during the annual Ozarka Kids College the week of June 19 by coordinator for the program, Kim Lovelace. For more information on the Associate of Arts in Teaching program at Ozarka College, please contact Admissions at 870-368-7371 or toll free 800-821-4335.