

OTC Honors Program

Spring 2020
Volume 22

Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est.

The Pinnacle Destination Known

LEAP INTO ACTION

BY: JENNY FORTNER

Dear Valued Student Body,

This is the explanation and my challenge for the upcoming leap year. Did you know that the leap year happens every four years? This sequence is used to follow the Julian calendar, but was later switched to the Gregorian calendar. These two calendars follow how the earth rotates around the sun, but the Gregorian calendar is more precise. This day is so important to our calendar because it is based on astronomical events such as the winter solstice. Interesting enough, the leap year runs for three hundred sixty-six days, which means one more day than the average. This day also constantly happens on the last day of February. The Gregorian calendar marks the upcoming leap day to arrive on February 29, 2020.

I wonder if on that day we all could take a moment and share thankfulness for the world around us. I realize we are in college and live busy lives, but understanding and growing an oneness around us will only benefit our ambitions. In fact, a traditional way to celebrate leap day was by women asking men to become their husbands. That indeed is ambition and opens the door to even more fun, creative ways to celebrate this leap day. In my own idea, I am going to discover something new I have been curious about. Particularly, I am going to work with resin, a type of epoxy, in a creative way. I challenge you to celebrate leap day together, as a student body. After all, it is the extra time we have all been given.

The OTC Honors Program provides academically motivated, high achieving students who conduct themselves in a responsible manner, the opportunity to develop their potential through collaboration with a designated community of scholars and enhanced learning environments and opportunities.



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CONTACT US

If you are interested in applying to the Honors Program or have already been accepted and wish to have your work published in the newsletter, you may email honors@otc.edu for more information or search 'honors program' on the OTC website.

Office Phone: 417-447-7500 – Ext. 8905

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

On Campus Opportunities

3/3/2020 General Council Meeting 8:30am-10am

3/10/2020-3/11/2020 St. Patty's Day Bake Sale 10am-2pm

Off Campus Opportunities

3/2/2020 Harmony House 2pm-4pm

3/31/2020 Convoy of Hope 6:30pm-8:30pm

Other Opportunities

3/13/2020 Pythian Castle Ghost Tour 8pm-10pm

3/14/2020-3/22/2020 Spring Break!!!

April

On Campus Opportunities

4/7/2020 General Council Meeting 8:30am-10am

4/14/2020-4/15/2020 Spring Bake Sale

4/18/2020 Honors Conference 8:30am-4:15pm

4/22/2020 CBCO Blood Drive 9am-2pm

Other Opportunities

4/14/2020 MSU Secret Garden 7:30pm

4/9/2020-4/12/2020 Spring Holiday

4/17/2020 Alumni Dinner

4/25/2020 Crystal Bridges 8am

BLOOD DRIVE

BY: PEYTON LONG

On February 5th, we had planned to have our blood drive for The American Red Cross; however, we unfortunately had to cancel due to weather. The Red Cross will be back next semester for a drive as usual, but this shouldn't detour you from donating in your free time. After the holiday, the Red Cross is in an emergent need for blood. Your donation can save up to three lives, and will go to either help fill the shelves of local blood banks or go to emergency locations all over the world! To donate just go to our local Red Cross at 1545 N West Bypass. With a small act of kindness you can make a difference in many people's lives.

HONORS ORIENTATION

BY: PAIGE MCFARLAN

At the beginning of each semester, the Honors Program holds an orientation that introduces new members of the program and showcases the upcoming semester. Out of all the events held throughout the semester, this is the only event that requires all honors students to attend.

To kick off the orientation, Mr. Yerby and John began with a quick introduction of the program and expectations, following the swift introduction of the program and new officers and staff was a team building activity. Due to the weather not being in our favor, a last-minute preparation of a college-themed game of jeopardy was made. Tons of trivia questions later, the Honors Program crowned the winning team by a strategic one point with some swag bags full of OTC gear. By the end of the game, lunch had arrived. While lunch was served, the Honors Program featured a member from the Chamber of Commerce to talk about the city of Springfield. Cora spoke eloquently about the growing potential of the city and informed the students about many opportunities that Springfield has to offer.

Although the nature of orientation seems overwhelming as a newly inducted honors student, it is a great way to unwind from the load of a new semester and learn more about the students within the program.



OZARKS FOOD HARVEST

BY: BRITTANEY BRENT

Every semester, the Honors Program donates time to Ozark Food Harvest. We make boxes for the elderly and backpacks for our community's children. The experience is humbling and everyone that volunteers their time is extremely grateful to help. This semester was no different. We ventured off to Ozark Food Harvest on February 8th and what a difference we made! The first half of the day, we constructed 312 boxes for the elderly, which translates to 7,696 meals. That is incredible service to our community, and just helping others to worry less about where their next meal is coming from can do so much good for the soul.

In the second half of the day, we built backpacks for children. We made 966 backpacks total, which translates to 5,796 meals. Something so simple can spread so much joy to children in need, and every little bit helps. I implore you to reach out to your community and find a way to help, in any capacity. It does not take much time but it could transform someone's life. There are many outreach-programs Springfield offers, and we in the Honors Program make it our mission to give back. Thank you to all the people who sacrifice a little of their time to better their community, and thank you to all the students who came out and helped at Ozark Food Harvest. We are all made stronger by becoming better citizens of the world, and every little bit helps.



If you want to be one of the volunteers to help give hope to the hungry, if you want to say, "because of me, someone eats today", contact Jo Thompson at 417-865-3411, ext. 114 or go to the OFH webpage, www.ozarksfoodharvest.org

VALENTINES BAKE SALE

BY: NAKIA CRUMBO



We want to say "Thank You" to everyone who helped and supported our "Welcome Back to School" cookies and hot cocoa and Valentine's Day bake sales. Also, thank you to those who worked the table, worked the mobile carts, and baked the goods. We are incredibly proud of everyone. The events were a tremendous success, and the baked goods were delicious! Everyone did so well; we even broke records in sales for both events! Now it is time for the next bake sale, which is just around the corner for St. Patrick's Day on the 10th and 11th of March. Let's continue to keep the momentum going and have another successful bake sale!

MEET THE OFFICERS

Spring 2020



President– Kori Little

VP of Fundraising– Nakia Crumbo and Michael Santiago

VP of Community Service– Brittany Brent

VP of Publicity– Kylie Gillen and Cheyanne Griffin

Treasurer– Jenny Fortner

VP of the Pinnacle– Paige McFarlan and Ebony Williams

Secretary– Rebecca Shelton

VP of Social and Educational Activities– Clint Weems

VP of Campus Service– Peyton Long

SPRINGFIELD STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

BY: KORI LITTLE

The SGA's of OTC, Drury, Evangel, and MSU hosted the 3rd annual Springfield Student Leadership Summit on February 22nd, 2020. The Springfield Student Leadership Summit is a yearly gathering of Springfield's brightest and boldest students, to teach the values of unity and shared community service to the city of Springfield.

The day began with speakers from each school on Excellence (diversity and unity, citizenship, critical thinking, sustainability). The featured OTC speaker was Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Psi Tau Chapter Vice President and United Nations Association of the United States OTC Chapter President Igho Ekakiti. Igho spoke on diversity and unity as it relates to excellence in leadership.

Then, the approximately eighty Springfield Student Leadership Summit attendees spent the afternoon volunteering at local non-profit organizations. We enjoyed time with our fellow student leaders at Ozarks Food Harvest, The Dream Center, The Rainbow Network, and Eden Village.

“The heart of the leader is manifested through service to others.” – Artika Tyner

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

Jenny Fortner:

This was my first year attending Student Leadership Summit and let me tell you it did not disappoint. If you are looking to learn ways of self development, motivation, and issues happening in our community than this is the conference for you. Special speakers from other colleges such as Drury University and Evangel University gave insights on how to be a successful person. These sessions allow you to gain more in your education ,but also allow you to connect to students. Forming relationships with future entrepreneurs, dream changers, and interns leaves you with limitless opportunities. After all the speakers were finished the conference leaders divided all of us up and sent us out to work in the community around us. Like every end to a great speech change must take place and that is what we had the privilege to do. I had the privilege of working at Eden Village, which is a permanent living place for people with chronic homelessness. It was really eye opening as to see how many people really do struggle on a day to day bases. Student leadership Conference is something to be part of and is not so easily forgotten.

Kylie Gillen:

The Springfield Student Leadership Summit brought together local colleges in Springfield Missouri to discuss leadership. With four different speakers, each from a different college and career field, the variety was refreshing. With 25 minutes for each speaker to endow their wisdom and ask critical thinking questions, the morning was educationally fulfilling. After listening to the speakers and eating lunch, everyone split into groups to volunteer at their respective locations. These locations included Eden Village, Dream Center, Ozarks Food Harvest, and Rainbow Network. I personally went to the Dream Center and helped with their “Taxapalooza”. An event where anyone in the community can come in and have their taxes done for free. My fellow students and I worked for three hours by moving chairs and cleaning floors. The experience as a whole would definitely be something I would recommend.





Art by Honors



Photos by: Jenny Fortner



Painting by: Cheyanne Griffin

THE HISTORY OF THE PYTHIAN CASTLE

BY: CLINT WEEMS

As many of you know, and will be attending, we will go to the Pythian Castle on Friday, March 13th, 2020. Originally built in 1913 as an orphanage by the Knights of Pythias, Pythian Castle is said to be haunted. Just the fact that it has been featured on several paranormal television shows tells me that it should be exciting.

The Knights of Pythias was a fraternal organization that constructed the castle and detached a power plant as a retirement home for needed members, widows, and children. Later during WW II, the military commanded the castle and hospital next door to rehabilitate injured US troops. The castle also helped POWs (prisoners of war) mainly from Italy and Germany, and a few from Japan. At that time, the castle had a movie theatre, ballroom, bowling alley, pool hall, library, and arts and crafts area.

In 1993, the military sold the castle which is now privately owned by Tamara Finocchiaro. Renovations were completed and it reopened to the public on August 1, 2010. The castle is now said to be haunted then in 2011, was featured on Ghost Lab. In 2017, the legendary castle was featured again, this time on Ghost Adventures. I look forward to seeing all of you there.



GOATS AND YOGA

BY: EBONY WILLIAMS

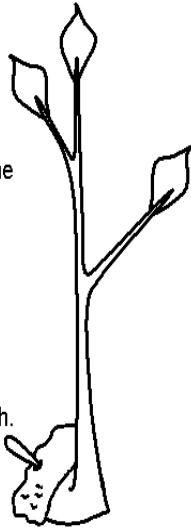
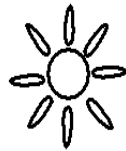
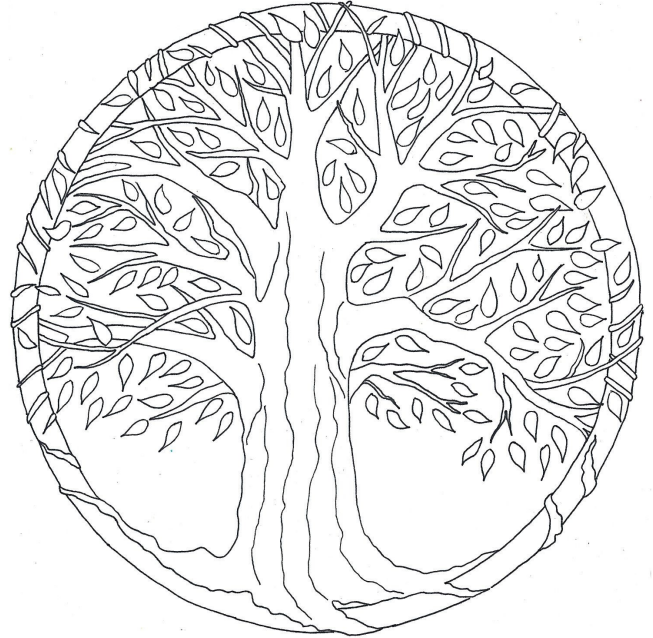
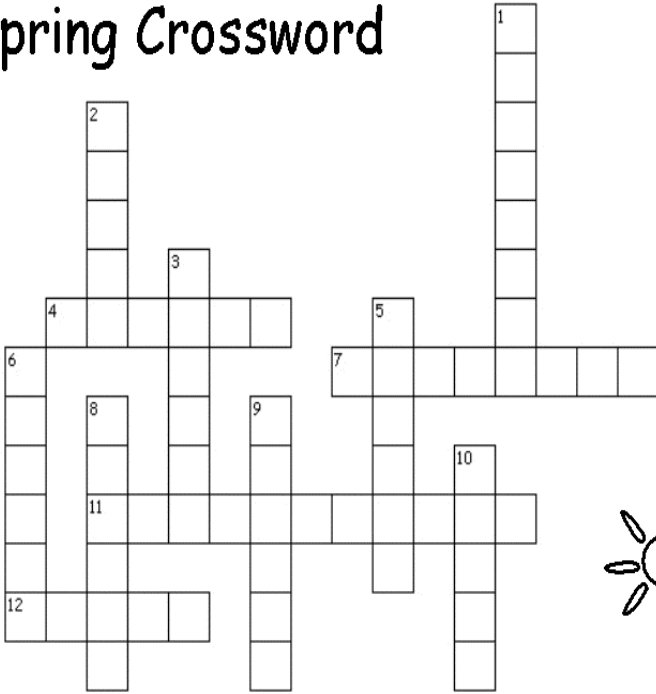
Do you like goats? Do you like yoga? If so, this might be the thing for you! Right here, in the 417 area, in Rogersville, Mo., there is a goat and yoga class. You heard it! Goats and Yoga is a foundation that was founded in 2015 and brought to Missouri in the spring of 2017. With a journey of moving around, finding people and places, the Goats and Yoga foundation bought a farm, "Herding Dogs Farm", in Rogersville, Missouri. This is where they hold these marvelous events and classes for Missourians to attend, to get attached to nature and animals while meditating and bringing inner-peace to the soul and being. Goats and Yoga is only the name. There are also bunnies that people can meditate with. Goats and Yoga call this "Bunny Meditation," where you can lay and meditate in a garden for 45 minutes with bunnies! Super cool.

So if you are ever feeling rough in the semester or just need time to get in contact with some of nature's most exquisite assets, this might be the place you want to go! And would greatly enjoy it. You can contact them at goatsandyoga@gmail.com or 724-777-3093 to get more information or purchase tickets. You can also purchase tickets online on their website.

Now, as broke college students, we often get a little on edge when hearing anything about purchasing. But the prices are pretty affordable. Just \$20 for an hour session with goats and yoga; an hour session with meditating with bunnies, only \$15! Sounds worth it. So go and get your zen on, in the most stylish way possible!

Mental Break

Spring Crossword



Across

4. To begin to grow and give off shoots or buds.
7. Baby duck.
11. Larval form of a butterfly.
12. Sow these in the ground in spring to get a harvest in the autumn.

Down

1. Yellow flower that makes a nice spring bouquet.
2. Dutch springtime flower.
3. Wear this on your head to fancy picnics or parades.
5. A small pool of water.
6. Fragrant bunches of purple flowers that grow on a bush.
8. Wear this to keep warm
9. The season between winter and summer.
10. Break out of an egg.

BRACE YOURSELVES

MIDTERMS ARE COMING

How to Join the Honors Program

Do you have a 3.5 GPA or higher? Are you looking for more challenges in the classroom? Would you like to graduate in the top 1%? The OTC Honors Program is here to promote academic excellence in OTC students. Are you interested yet? We're interested in having you! Here are the steps to apply for the Honors Program:

Fill out an application

Go to otc.edu and type in "honors program." On the right there should be a column with a tab, "apply to join." Fill out the application accurately and thoroughly.

Disperse three reference sheets to professors/mentors/co workers (no parents)

Write a 500 to 1,000-word essay describing why you want to join the honors program and what makes you a good candidate then send it to honors@otc.edu

Wait for the email!