

Founded in 1899

**Student organizations find it can be fun to help others**



**Left and above:** In January, the National Junior Honor Society sponsored a diaper drive for a local ministry. They sold tickets for a drawing to be "Administrator For A Day." Dr. Dean Wilson mentored Jason Biyo.



**Left:** The National Honor Society gave us "Rent A Senior Day." 25 seniors were auctioned off in January and raised over \$1,000 for Judy Lawson's family. (See page 2.)

**Below:** Baptist Campus Ministry's annual silent dessert auction was in February. They raised nearly \$600 to help the family of Judy Lawson with medical and related expenses. (See story on page 2.) The BCM hosts a silent dessert auction each year, with the proceeds going to some charity.



**Students participate in All-State music**



In early February, two OBI students joined the best high school musicians in the Commonwealth at the Kentucky Music Educators' Association All-State event. Senior **Gabriella Tsappi** earned a place in the All-State Women's Chorus, while senior **Grace Kim** played first violin in the All-State Symphony Orchestra. After hours of rehearsals with their guest conductors, the groups performed concerts at the Kentucky Center in Louisville.

Gabriella stated, "All-State was all I ever thought or imagined music to be,

but magnified! It was awesome being surrounded by people who could all sing naturally. Every sound was beautiful!"

This was Grace's fourth year to be selected for All-State in violin. She noted, "This was my best year! My director was Korean, and her music style was unique; I learned a lot from her. All-State makes you learn persistence. I have even more desire to play now. It made me realize that music is my life!" □

**Above:** Grace with **Tim Cochran**, OBI choir director.  
**Below:** All-State Women's Chorus



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Spring can be a wonderful time to visit our lovely campus. Come and see us!



**Plan now for Homecoming 2015**

- 10/23:** Golf scramble at 8:30 a.m.  
 Alumni dinner at 5:00 p.m.  
 Fall play at 7:00 p.m.
- 10/24:** Registration starts 9:00 a.m.  
 Garden tour  
 Hymn sing / praise music  
 Barbecue lunch  
 Athletic Hall of Fame  
 50th anniversary: 1965 class  
 Supper with friends  
 Fall play at 7:00 p.m.
- 10/25:** Breakfast 7:00-10:00 a.m.  
 Worship at OBC at 11:00 a.m.  
 Lunch 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Alumni; former students, faculty, staff; friends of OBI, we'd love to see YOU in October!



On March 3 our art department hosted their annual art show. Students, staff and visitors were treated to the work of over 50 students, including foreshortening, one-point perspective drawings, and pop art. The artists used a variety of 2-D mediums, such as art pencils, ink, watercolor, acrylics, chalk and oil pastels. Our art teacher is **Mrs. Erica Baker**.



### A virtuous woman

By Larry A. Gritton, Jr., OBI president



Our Dean of Students, **Judy Lawson**, recently went to be with the Lord. While I am deeply saddened, I also rejoice in knowing Judy has received her eternal reward and is now in the presence of her Lord. During her 18 years of faithful service, Judy brought great joy to the students and adults of OBI.

Judy's funeral was really a celebration of life and a time of worship. The service was held in our chapel, and Judy was then laid to rest up on Cemetery Hill just behind the chapel. Many former staff members and students attended, as well as most of our student body and faculty/staff.

This large crowd, who gathered to show their love and respect for Judy, was indicative of a life well lived that had impacted many for the cause of Christ. A former OBI teacher preached Judy's funeral, and five students gave their lives to Christ during the service. This would have pleased Judy tremendously.

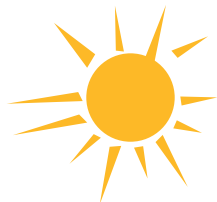
Judy's life and ministry reflected Proverbs 31:26-31 which says, "She is clothed with strength and dignity, she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed... Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all. Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

Judy served faithfully in our ministry as a houseparent, Dean of Students, and admissions counselor. I had the privilege of having a weekly meeting with her for the last year of her service. I was often amazed by her wisdom, resolve, and ability to minister to our students through difficult situations. We sometimes discussed unpleasant incidents, but I always knew we would somehow laugh together and I would leave her office encouraged.

I am going to miss my friend, Judy. We will all miss her tremendously, but we will honor her memory by continuing the Lord's work here in this special place. Judy, without a doubt, helped make this place special. She was a great source of strength, support, and encouragement for me personally, and she touched countless lives in her Oneida ministry. ☐

#### Summer dates

- May 18: Summer work program begins
- June 12: Summer work program ends
- June 14: Summer school students arrive
- June 15: Summer school begins
- July 17: Summer school ends



### Bits and tidbits

#### Our mission statement

The mission of Oneida Baptist Institute is to provide a Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students, Christian or non-Christian, is diligently challenged to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an *Education for Time and Eternity*.

#### Want to receive the *Mountaineer* or *Alumni News* by e-mail?

Send your name, mailing address, e-mail address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to: [peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org](mailto:peggy.jackson@oneidaschool.org). Let her know if you'd like the e-Mountaineer or e-Alumni News or both. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to add [mountaineer@oneidaschool.org](mailto:mountaineer@oneidaschool.org) to your contact list in your e-mail program, or it may reject our publications as spam.

#### Need to contact us?

Phone: 606-847-4111 Fax: 606-847-4496

#### Does your church have a web site?

If so, ask them to link to OBI:

**Web:** [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org)

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/OBI.KY>

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/Oneida\\_Baptist](https://twitter.com/Oneida_Baptist)

#### It's easy to support Oneida!

Want an easy way to give? Go to our web site and click the "Give/Volunteer" tab, then the "Donate now" button to give via credit card, debit card or PayPal:

<http://www.oneidaschool.org/support.shtml>

#### OBI continues these programs:

##### Campbell's "Labels for Education"™

Send us the entire "Labels for Education"™ labels of Campbell's foods and others. Points earn free educational equipment and items.

##### Tyson's "Project A+"™

Send entire labels from specially marked Tyson chicken products, worth 24 cents each.

##### General Mills "Box Tops for Education"™

Send specially marked box tops, each worth 10 cents with points-to-cash.

OBI is proud to be part of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



### Snowed in and flooded out -- OBI has a rare "snow day"



The months of February and early March brought Oneida snow, ice, sleet, rain, flooding, and -- despite all of this precipitation -- a water shortage. "It was the 'perfect storm,'" said **Dave Jaspersen**, boys' work program supervisor. "In sub-zero temperatures that dipped to -15 degrees, we got 15 inches of snow in two days." On the second of those days, our school experienced something virtually unheard of at OBI -- a "snow day." Some of our students are from places that seldom or never see snow, and many of them enjoyed playing in it and sledding.

Some of our faculty and staff live off campus, and several could not make it to work. That put an extra load on those who could walk or drive to work, as they substituted for absent co-workers. Our food service department was hit especially hard, as all but one of them live off campus. Some had family members bring them to work in four-wheel-drive vehicles. Others stayed overnight in guest housing so they could report for duty the next day. Despite working short-handed, food service continued to keep everyone well fed.

By the end of the week, it warmed up enough to rain and melt much of the snow. The downside of this change of weather was flooding to 24 feet. Our maintenance, new construction, and work program staff members had already spent the week clearing sidewalks, streets, and parking lots of snow. The flooding meant that everything had to be moved from several buildings and fields.

Throughout the ordeal, our campus and community were blessed to have electricity, but the strain finally took its toll as Clay County and others lost water service due to pipes breaking. OBI and our faculty/staff housing were without water for two days, though some people in the county had no water for a much longer time. With two dormitories full of teenagers, the loss of water was a particular challenge. Many of the same staff who had worked tirelessly in the snow and flood now had to go from building to building, hauling water and flushing toilets in dorms, classrooms, and offices. The pastor of Oneida Baptist Church and one of our trustees joined the water-carrying team. Coolers were set up in the school buildings and filled with bottled water. The volunteer fire department gave bottled water to people in the community. Many OBI staffers made use of the snow drifts by collecting and melting snow for toilet flushing and sponge baths. We remained under a boiled water advisory for several days after water service was restored.

About the time circumstances seemed to have returned to normal, nature struck again with several inches of snow the day students were scheduled to leave for spring break. In view of the forecast, our administration decided to send students with airplane tickets to Lexington a day early. Immanuel Baptist Church kindly invited our teens and chaperones to stay in their building overnight...which stretched into the next day as flights were canceled. Meanwhile, those who were to ride the Greyhound were stranded on campus for an extra day before they could be taken to the bus station. As the March snow added to our already swollen river and creek the river crested at 28 feet, blocking roads in every direction. Faculty and staff who live on the farm side of Goose Creek had to relocate to the campus side, while parents were notified that there was no access to campus the day of their students' supposed departures.

**Paul Filiatreau**, head of new construction, stated, "It took all the help we could come up with to keep our campus safe -- our construction workers, maintenance team, work program crew, some of the kitchen crew, and guys from the boys' dorm. It took the dedication and sore muscles of all the folks who lent a hand through those three weeks of hard labor. Our auto mechanic, **Bobby Paul**, worked non-stop moving snow from roads and driveways, even using our bulldozer to plow the hard-packed snow from farm roads. The farm hands also pitched in to do snow removal on the farm roads. Everyone did an outstanding job, as always!" ☐

### FFA and Student Council host special events



**Left:** For February's National FFA Week, our chapter hosted a science fair for our science classes.

**Right:** Student Council sponsored our annual Val-A-Rama, including a special lunch, roses, balloons...and yes, even huge teddy bears. (Can you find the girl in this picture?)

