SSC Constitution Day Emphasises Diversity

In celebration of Constitution Day 2006, Seminole State College hosted a public presentation featuring author and president of the Respect Diversity Foundation, Michael Korenblit, on campus Monday, Sept. 18.

Korenblit, who was at the college earlier this fall speaking to faculty and staff during their back-to-school in-service program, was invited back to campus by the SSC Phi Theta Kappa chapter and the Student Government Association. Korenblit, whose parents were survivors of the Holocaust, draws on his family history of survival and perseverance in discussions about social injustice and intolerance in today’s society. His presentation focused on the importance of participation in the political process and the role that citizens play in protecting the principles of freedom.

Korenblit, is co-founder and president of the Respect Diversity Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt educational organization, founded with the purpose of teaching respect and tolerance for all people. Through its speaker’s bureau and programs they work with students, teachers and adult groups offering seminars, diversity workshops and interfaith panels.

This publication, printed by the SSC Print Shop, is issued by Seminole State College as authorized by the SSC Phi Theta Kappa chapter and the Student Government Association. The last few days of September, 2006 will be remembered as red-letter dates in the history of Seminole State College.

Several milestones were reached in beginning a new phase of construction and development on the College’s 81-acre campus. The Oklahoma Higher Education Finance Authority (ODFA), acting on behalf of SSC, issued revenue bonds for the construction of a new 150-bed student housing facility.

“Breaking ground on the residence hall this past week sets in motion plans for other major construction to be done on campus in the coming year. Through funding provided by the 2005 Higher Education Bond, a maintenance building, a softball complex and wellness facility, and additions to Tanner Hall consisting of classrooms, labs, offices and a one-stop student enrollment and success center will be built,” Utterback said. Utterback said that the recent accomplishments are a result of literally years of planning and teamwork between many entities and individuals.

SSC Elects New SGA Representatives

Seminole State College elected new officers for the 06-07 school year. SGA officers are elected by the SSC student body.

Pictured are individuals representing student organizations across campus.

SCC’s Red-letter Week of Progress

“For a small college we are truly making incredible advancements.”

-- Dr. Jim Utterback, President

opened in 2000. However, the 82-bed Roessler Residential Learning Center was filled to capacity when it opened – and the need remained a pressing matter.

Seminole State College is co-founded and president of the Respect Diversity Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt educational organization, founded with the purpose of teaching respect and tolerance for all people. Through its speaker’s bureau and programs they work with students, teachers and adult groups offering seminars, diversity workshops and interfaith panels.

This publication, printed by the SSC Print Shop, is issued by Seminole State College as authorized by the SSC Phi Theta Kappa chapter and the Student Government Association. The last few days of September, 2006 will be remembered as red-letter dates in the history of Seminole State College.

Several milestones were reached in beginning a new phase of construction and development on the College’s 81-acre campus. The Oklahoma Higher Education Finance Authority (ODFA), acting on behalf of SSC, issued revenue bonds for the construction of a new 150-bed student housing facility. The bonds were sold on Sept. 29. Preliminary construction activity is occurring at the site.

Dr. Jim Utterback, SSC President, said “This is the beginning of historic changes that will shape the future of the College forever.”

The steps taken in late September bring long-term plans for the College into reality. The need for additional housing for SSC students has been on the College’s master plan for decades. The need was partially met when the Roessler Residential Learning Center opened in 2000. However, the 82-bed Roessler facility was filled to capacity when it opened – and the need remained a pressing matter.
SSC Welcomes Back Students with Ice Cream Social and Area Service Fair

Area business and organizations met in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union Wednesday, Sept. 13, and Thursday, Sept. 14, to participate in the College’s 13th Annual Area Services Fair. The fair provided SSC students and faculty a chance to learn about goods and services available in the community, and gave area businesses the opportunity to promote their products and services. A special feature of this year’s fair was a booth hosted by the Seminole County Election Board where students and employees could register to vote. The event was co-sponsored by the SSC Student Services and Public Relations Office.

The Area Services Fair was held in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on both days. In conjunction with the event, the annual Back-to-School Ice Cream Social was also held in the exhibit area of the Union. SSC faculty and staff served free ice cream and students could build their own sundaes.
AmeriContact Building Grand Opening Scheduled for October 23

The old Nichols grocery store prior to renovations.

The Nichols’ Building after extensive renovations by the Seminole State College Educational Foundation. The building will be the new home of the AmeriContact call center after the official grand opening on October 23.

New carpeting and electrical wiring are part of the new interior of the building.

The AmeriContact call center is moving into a new home at 600 W. Strother. The call center was recruited to Seminole in late fall of 2003 by the Seminole Economic Development Council with assistance from Seminole State College. A temporary business incubator was created for the company in the Haney Center on the SSC campus. The college has continued to provide space, resources and support for the business over the past three years.

After opening on Dec. 15, 2003, the company quickly grew to 50 employees and began extended shifts to accommodate business contracts. The Seminole business employs over 75, and has plans to expand to 200 in the new facility.

Through the efforts of the Seminole State College Educational Foundation, the former Nichols Grocery Store, was purchased last year and has been renovated for a state-of-the-art business incubator. The project’s financial assistance was acquired by former State Representative, now U.S. Congressman, Dan Boren, through the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District (COEDD). The building will be named in his honor at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 23, at 2 p.m.

The partnership between the College and the AmeriContact call center was recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in late April. The award was part of a State Regents’ program honoring higher education institutions and businesses for their outstanding collaborations which lead to furthering the education of Oklahoma’s workforce.

Additionally, the College was also awarded a competitive economic development grant through the State Regents in December, 2005 to aid with this project.

SSC Haney Center Hosts Terrorism Drill

Seminole State College’s Haney Center was the site for a Mass Immunization Prophylaxis exercise for four counties in central Oklahoma.

The bioterrorism drill handled 429 “would be patients” with an additional 89 participants serving as volunteers in the exercise’s simulated clinic.

The exercise was the first of its kind in the state. The Pottawatomie County Local Emergency Planning Committee along with Hughes, Seminole, Okfuskee, Lincoln and Pottawatomie County Health Departments participated. The focus of the exercise was the simulated treatment and prevention of a pneumonic plague outbreak.

Students from the Seminole State College nursing program participated in the exercise serving as both patients and staff members throughout the event. Along with other law enforcement agencies from across the area, the SSC police department assisted with traffic and other event logistics.

Another mass immunization exercises is scheduled to take place in two years.
Global Studies Announces 2007 Tours

The Seminole State College’s Global Studies program has released its 2007 itinerary. The “Dublin and London” and “Rome, Tuscany, the Riviera and Paris” tours are now enrolling participants.

The costs of the nine-day “Dublin and London” trip ranges from $2,254 to $2,544; the twelve day “Rome, Tuscany, the Rivera and Paris” tour ranges from $3,155 to $3,520. The price per individual for both tours is dependent upon sleeping arrangements and the date of trip registration.

The cost of the trip includes all transportation, the tour, transfers, tips, tickets into the cited tour venues, two meals a day, college tuition and fees. Participants will be responsible for the lunch, optional trips, and souvenirs.

As with past trips, participants can take the college course for credit or audit the course. The tours will be lead by SSC Language Arts and Humanities Division Chair Kelly Kirk.

The program is open to members of the general public and SSC students who have more and more students and members of the general public traveling with the college. It is an excellent form of global education.

“Touring other countries is one of the best forms of education you can experience. You can’t even compare seeing St. Paul’s Cathedral in person to looking at a picture of it in a book. It’s amazing.”

For additional information on the Seminole State College’s Global Studies program, or to schedule a slide presentation for a club or organization, contact Kirk at (405) 382-9251. Informational meetings will be held throughout the fall to discuss the trips and presentation content.

The program is based in SSC’s art department and emphasizes travel as a means to experience “the art of living.” The trips are designed to give participants a hands-on understanding of cultures, art and history. Participants will visit Mexico, Italy, Greece, France, Scotland and England.

“The program has been a tremendous success,” noted Kirk. “Each year, we have more and more students and members of the general public traveling with the college. It is an excellent form of global education.”

Toursing other countries is one of the best forms of education you can experience. You can’t even compare seeing St. Paul’s Cathedral in person to looking at a picture of it in a book. It’s amazing.”

Can You Find the Hidden Word?

The word HALLOWEEN is hidden in a story somewhere in this publication. The first person to report his/her findings, will receive a FREE 20 oz. Seminole State College insulated car mug from the SSC Bookstore.

Participants must report their findings to the SSC Media Relations Office, in person, on the first floor of the SSC Haney Center. The winner will also be pictured in the November COLLEGIAN.

All readers are eligible. Participants are limited to one win per semester. The type of contest is subject to change every month. Good luck, SSC Fans!!!

Hide and Seek

David Wilson, Chair of the Seminole State College Board of Regents, Harvey Robison, Chair of the Seminole State College Educational Foundation, and Dr. Jim Utterback, Seminole State College President, signed papers Thursday morning formalizing transactions regarding the real estate and bond sales for the College’s new residence hall project.

Residential Learning Center on the campus’ Marie Austin Drive. A three-story, 150-bed, 48,800 square-foot facility is being planned.

Lana Reynolds, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, said there are items such as furnishings for the new residence hall which will not be covered in the bond financing.

“The SSC Educational Foundation will be leading the charge over the next few months to raise funds for this project as well as scholarships and other capital improvements. They will be calling on everyone who loves this institution to provide special gifts in order to continue the growth of the College,” Reynolds said.

A formal ground-breaking ceremony for the residence hall project and other campus construction projects will be held later this fall in conjunction with the College’s 75th anniversary celebration.