

April Newsletter

Spring is Here at IVCC!

As the days grow longer and the weather warms up, it's hard to believe the semester is already winding down! With just a few weeks left, now is the time to stay focused, finish strong, and take advantage of all the exciting events happening on campus. This month, we're celebrating student achievements at our annual awards banquet, welcoming future Eagles at Explore IVCC, and offering plenty of opportunities to get involved before summer break. Don't miss out - stay connected and make the most of your spring at IVCC!



April Event Highlights

April 3 | 9:00am Online;
10:00am In Person
Summer/Fall Registration
Opens

April 7-18
IVCC Spring Art Show; held
outside the Humanities
Department & in the main
lobby. Reception held on
April 11th from 5-7pm in the
Student Life Space

April 8 | 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Explore IVCC – [RSVP Now!](#)

April 10 | 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Annual Academic Awards
Banquet – [Learn More](#)

April 16 | 8:00am – 3:00pm
MIMIC Fair

April 27 | 7:00pm – 8:30pm
IVCC Jazz Ensemble
performance

April 28 | 7:00pm – 8:30pm
IVCC Choir Concert

[See All Events](#)



The IVCC Theatre Department
presents
AMERICA'S FAVORITE MUSICAL COMEDY
HELLO, DOLLY!
starring
Tamra Challacombe

April 3-13, 2025
Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Sundays at 2:00 p.m.
Weeg Cultural Centre
Online Box Office
<https://www.ivcc.edu/theatre>

Book by
MICHAEL STEWART Music and Lyrics by
JERRY HERMAN
BASED ON "THE MATCHMAKER" BY THORNTON WILDER
Original Production Directed and Choreographed by
GOWER CHAMPION
IVCC's Production Directed and Choreographed by **DON GRANT ZELLMER**

Free admission for IVCC Students!

This musical adaptation of Thornton Wilder's hit play The Matchmaker bursts with humor, romance, energetic dance and some of the greatest songs in musical theatre history. The romantic and comic exploits of Dolly Gallagher Levi, turn-of-the-century matchmaker and "woman who arranges things," are certain to thrill and entertain audiences again and again.

Tickets

www.ivcc.edu



Support Highlight of the Month!

Jacobs Library

Jacobs Library is a helpful learning resource to assist you in soaring through your career as a student at IVCC. As part of our mission, we strive to provide resources and services to help enable our community to seek, evaluate, and use information.

With over 500,000 resources in the library's physical, online, and digital collection, we seek to provide to a variety of needs. Additionally, we pair these with services to help you find and utilize these resources, such as reference support, embedded class services, instruction sessions, interlibrary loan, technology services, citation help and copyright support.

Highlights:

- One Book, One College
- Technology Support
- Research Help
- Study Spaces
- Technology Loans
- S.O.A.R.

VISIT WEBSITE



- [Admissions and Records](#)
- [Academic Counseling](#)
- [Project Success](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Safe Journeys](#)
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [Accessibility & Neurodiversity](#)
- [Academic Calendar](#)
- [Academic Support Center](#)
- [PATH Grant](#)
- [Jacobs Library](#)

IVCC HEALTH PROFESSIONS



Alpha Delta Nu students presented at the IVCC Career Fair to encourage future nursing students! Pictured with advisors Dr. Knowlton and Dr. Myers and IVCC's Director of Nursing, Sue Smith



**Dental Program Coordinator
Lyndsey Beetz earned tenure
in March - congratulations!**



Students in Mrs. Boughton's NUR 1210 course gained valuable hands-on experience during their clinicals at OSF St. Elizabeth's BHU and OSF St. Clare. Thank you for supporting their learning!



LOCAL JOB POSTINGS



OSF POSTINGS

MORRIS
HOSPITAL

LASALLE COUNTY

IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE?
VISIT IVCC'S CAREER SERVICES!

Students with CCN Accounts, remember you can log in to find other related job postings here: www.collegecentral.com/ivcc.



Explore IVCC

April 8th | 5:30pm-7:00pm

Curious about what IVCC? Explore IVCC offers prospective students the opportunity to learn from current students about their experiences at IVCC, meet with faculty and student services, and take a guided tour.

[Learn More & Register](#)

IVCC AND SAFE JOURNEYS PRESENTS: **SPRING INTO WELLNESS**

TAKE A BREAK AND LEARN ABOUT REST!

Presenters:

PERFECTLY FLAWED
FOUNDATION
SAFE JOURNEYS

Date & Time

APRIL 22ND, 2025
TABLE FAIR 10:30 - 12:30
PRESENTATIONS 1 - 3 PM

Address

ILLINOIS VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CTC-124

Organizations Featured at the Table Fair:

IVCC Jacobs Library, Transformative Growth and IVCC Peer Mentors, IVCC Student Success, Safe Journeys, Perfectly Flawed, OSF Healthcare, HumanKIND Initiative, Maitri Path to Wellness, LaSalle Public Library, Peru Public Library, North Central Behavioral Health Systems, and Illinois Valley PADS.



Things to Do:

Self-Care Activities, Free Giveaways, Pledge to Stand Up to Sexual Violence for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Raffle Entry, and more!

The Presentations:

Perfectly Flawed: Concept of Harm Reduction and Wellness Through Support
Safe Journeys: Wellness After Survival:
Healing after Sexual Trauma
Q & A after each presentation!

***April is Sexual Assault
Awareness Month - Wear Teal
to Show Your Support to
Survivors!***

SPOTLIGHT ON SURGICAL TECH SUCCESS

With a passion for healthcare and a dedication to helping others, Surgical Technician student Sydney Solsberry has emerged as a standout in the program. She completed the Surgical Technician program at IVCC in Fall 2024, and her journey through the rigorous curriculum and hands-on training has been marked by resilience, precision, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Sydney is currently advancing her skills through training at OSF, where she continues to demonstrate her dedication to patient care and surgical excellence.

What inspired you to pursue a career as a Surgical Technician, and how did you decide to enroll in IVCC's program?

I was working as a medical office assistant, but I wanted to do more than take vitals and talk to patients. I wanted to be more involved in patient care. When I learned about IVCC's Surgical Technician program, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to enter a hands-on, fast-paced field.

Can you describe your experience in the Surgical Tech program at IVCC? What were the most valuable skills you learned?

The hands-on training was the most valuable part of the program. **Rachel Warner**, our instructor, brought in real surgical supplies, like sutures and instruments, which helped me build confidence in my skills. The bookwork was important too, but the hands-on practice really prepared me for the job.



Pictured: IVCC Student, Sydney Solsberry

How did the hands-on training and observations prepare you for your role at OSF?

Without the hands-on training, I wouldn't have known how to properly pass instruments, load sutures, or drape a patient. The

training has also helped me understand how things work in an actual operating room.

Were there any challenges you faced during the program, and how did you overcome them?

Yes, it was a challenging time for me. I was balancing school with personal responsibility and struggles - getting married, losing my aunt and dog. I had to juggle everything while still focusing on my studies. My instructor was very understanding and even offered to let me take my final later, but I pushed through and completed it on time.

What was your favorite part of the program, and why?

My favorite part was the last hands-on final with Rachel. It really tested everything I had learned, and it felt like a big accomplishment to complete it.

How did it feel to transition from student to training, to about to be a professional in the surgical field?

It was scary at first because I didn't want to make mistakes. In class, you have room to learn, but in the

Operating Room, real patients are relying on you. Luckily, my preceptor at OSF has been amazing - she remembers what it's like to be new and has been incredibly supportive. Vanessa and Karla at OSF have also been great mentors.

Can you walk us through a typical day in your role as a Surgical Technician at OSF?

Right now, I'm in training through OSF's stipend program. It includes six months of orientation - three weeks in Peoria and the rest at the OSF I80 locations. I work under a preceptor who guides me through procedures. One of the most memorable moments so far was assisting in a cesarean section and seeing twins being born!

How do you feel IVCC's program prepared you for the responsibilities and challenges of your job?

Illinois Valley Community College's program did a great job preparing me. Rachel was very thorough, and since she also works at OSF, she knew exactly what to emphasize. She made sure we focused on sterile technique, which is crucial.

The only thing I wish we had more of was one-on-one hands-on training since our class size was fairly large.

What advice would you give to future students considering the Surgical Tech program at IVCC?

Take advantage of every hands-on opportunity, and don't be afraid to ask questions. If you can do extra observations or shadowing, do it! Also, be prepared for a fast-paced environment - it's challenging but rewarding.

Where do you see yourself in your career in the next five years, and how has this program shaped your goals?

I can definitely see myself staying in the surgical field long-term. It's a completely different world from what I was doing before, but I love it! I'm planning to take my certification exam once I get the required scrubbed-in hours. I also want to continue growing professionally - every day, my preceptor is helping me become a better surgical tech, and I want to keep improving so I can provide the best care for patients.

“The hands-on training at IVCC was the most valuable part of the program. Without it, I wouldn't have known how to properly pass instruments, load sutures, or drape a patient. It truly prepared me for the real-world operating room.”

-Sydney Solsberry

