



Glen Miller takes the helm as director of Chemeketa Community College's Dallas Center. He started Aug. 17.

JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

More than just extended high school

New director hopes to increase enrollment at Chemeketa's Dallas campus

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — Glen Miller, the new director of Chemeketa Community College's Dallas Center, wants the community to know the campus doesn't just offer classes for students in high school fifth-year programs.

"Yes, we do offer general education classes," he said. "A student could get a significant portion of their associate of arts Oregon transfer degree here in Dallas. We are a legitimate college-course offering campus that I personally think is being underused by the community because they don't know we are a resource that's available."

Miller, whose first day was Aug. 17, believes the misconception stems partly from the campus' location, next to Dallas High School.

The campus does hold

classes for fifth-year programs at DHS, Central High School and Falls City High School, but spreading the word that the center offers more than that will be one of Miller's priorities as he takes the reins this fall.

"For as small as we are, we offer a fairly wide variety of classes students can take, so they can really get a good start on their education," he said.

Miller said people should expect to see Chemeketa participating in more community events and other forms of outreach about its general education and transfer degree classes.

"I would like it (the center) to become a resource for the community," he said. "That people will want to send their kids here or adults will want to come take classes here because they know they will get a high-quality education."

Chemeketa Dallas has

four classrooms at its main site and uses space at Central High School.

The schedule for those spaces is full, but not all of the classes are at capacity. Last year, from summer term 2014 to spring 2015, it served about 1,000 students. Miller would like to expand enrollment to fill those classes and offer more, particularly in Monmouth and Independence.

He said Chemeketa has begun a GED program for native Spanish speakers that will be offered in Independence.

"Our hope is to boost that, trying to find the connections to tell people that 'hey, we have this available,'" he said.

Miller's previous post was as the dean of the school's Applied Technologies Program — overseeing the welding, machining, automotive and drafting programs, among others. While finding space may be a chal-

lenge, Miller would like to add one or more of those programs in Dallas. He's planning to explore the need locally over the next couple years and, if there is, find suitable locations.

A Dallas resident for nearly 40 years, Miller is happy to be working in the community where he lives — and to forgo the commute to Salem each day.

His career in education began in "career services" helping high school students figure out what they wanted to pursue after graduation. Now he's working with adults, but hopes their experience at Chemeketa's Dallas Center plays a similar role.

"I'm excited about the potential out here, lots of possibilities," he said.

For more information about Chemeketa Community College's Dallas Center, go to www.chemeketa.edu/locations/dallas.

SCHOOL NOTES

Gate Youth to host Central tailgate

INDEPENDENCE — The Gate Youth Association's annual tailgater is Friday at Panther Stadium before the Central versus South Albany football game.

Pulled pork sandwiches, chips and drinks will be served. The cost is \$2 per person. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the meal and cheer on the home team.

For more information: 503-838-5653.

DSD hires 23 for new school year

DALLAS — Twenty-three new teachers are working in the Dallas School District for the 2015-16 school year.

The teachers and their assignments are: Emily Bogle-Todd, eighth-grade language arts, LaCreole Middle School; Gabrielle Brewer-Wallin, language arts, Dallas High School; Justin Brill, agriculture, FFA, career and technical education, DHS; Glenys Burgoyne, special education teacher, DHS; Michele Fast, fourth-grade teacher, Whitworth Elementary School; Joseph Frederic, art teacher, DHS; Mike Hettwer, band teacher, DHS; Melissa Hicks, first-grade teacher, Oakdale Heights Elementary School; Colleen Kuust, fourth-grade teacher, Whitworth; Phillip Lavior, special education, DHS; Kevin Laxton, math teacher, DHS; Loni McArthur, kindergarten teacher, Oakdale; Amy McFarland, special education teacher, LaCreole; Stacie McGraw, counselor, DHS; Angie Porter, third-grade teacher, Lyle Elementary School; Julie Schneidecker, special education teacher, DHS; Christal Shafer, third-grade teacher, Oakdale; Anna Tally, math teacher, DHS; Charlotte Vidrio, language arts teacher, Morrison Alternative School Campus.

MVCA to host annual garage sale

MONMOUTH — The Mid-Valley Christian Academy will host its annual garage sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the school, 1483 N. 16th St., Monmouth.

The school is still accepting donations for the event. All proceeds will be used for teacher needs.

For more information or to donate: 503-838-2818.

Central High to host open house

INDEPENDENCE — Central High School will host an open house Wednesday (today) at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Attendees will learn about the new grading process and the bell schedule.

Parents and students will be able to visit each class and meet teachers, learn more about the classes students are taking and get any questions answered.

ACADEMIC HONORS

OSU releases summer honor roll

CORVALLIS — Oregon State University has released the names of local students named to the summer term honor roll.

Dallas: Straight-A average: Katharine E. Crawford, senior, psychology.

GPA 3.5 or better: David W. Gorden, post baccalaureate, management; Richard S. Peek, senior, fisheries and wildlife science; Alyson N. Steckley, senior, human development and family science.

Monmouth: GPA 3.5 or better: Leah L. Ellingsworth, senior, human development and family science; Leif E. Olsen, non-degree undergraduate, university exploratory studies.

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