



Founded in 1899

VOL. 99, NO. 1

# ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

Education for Time and Eternity

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

January/February 2022

## Book Tasting at the Sweet Plot Cafe -- and Much More!

Students in grades 6-12 attended a "Book Tasting at the Sweet Plot Cafe," a two-day event in November created and hosted by OBI librarian, **Emily Kelley**. Each grade level met at the library for one class period to sample various literary selections.

Ms. Kelley explained, "A book tasting is an event where you can try a 'taste' of a book or genre in hope you will find something new you might like.

The genres covered were non-fiction, poetry, science fiction, realistic fiction, historical fiction, biographies, and mysteries. Students looked at the cover and inside flaps of a book and read a few pages. They filled in blanks on a menu with information and personal impressions from the books they 'tasted.' Then they were served cupcakes. I think they had fun, but most liked the cupcakes at the end the best!"

Many of the students were pleasantly surprised by the experience. One guest commented, "My favorite part about this was that it was something different and creative. I've never done something like this in any library. It was cool." Another patron wrote, "I liked that it pushed us out of our comfort zones. I did like books, and I didn't expect to." Complimenting the event and the chef, another reviewer said, "It was great to view books that I normally would look right over!"

The book tasting was just one of a number of ways Ms. Kelley is hosting events sponsored by the library...She has each grade (K4-5th) for 20 minutes weekly as one of their electives. Ms. Kelley reads them a story. Grades 2-5 then check out books. K4-1st

grade get a video or sing-a-long that matches the book read that day. "I'm working on teaching them library skills, like the parts of a book, author, illustrator, and genres," Ms. Kelley explained.

Students are welcome in the library each morning before school starts, and are given activity options. "I set up a seasonal craft station and have seasonal coloring pages," Ms. Kelley said. "There are also playing cards. I hope to get out a few board games in the future. Some students do homework or play computer games."

Ms. Kelley stated, "In today's libraries, there are often 'Makerspaces' set up with activities that involve technology, coding, robotics, sewing, design, etc.. Many are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) or STEAM activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). I'm working on creating more opportunities for the students to do these things in the mornings. I'm looking for grants to apply for, and I'm collecting Legos so they can engineer things. □

To donate used Legos, send them to OBI Library, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972.



*What could possibly be better than a good book, a friend, and a cupcake -- all at the same time?*

### Also in this issue:

- Good interest in agriculture .....p. 2
- Campers again .....p. 3
- Meet Dr. Scott, our new VP .....p.3
- The Mighty Mountaineers.....p. 4



## Hey! It's Hay Bales!



In the fall we had our annual hay bale decorating contest. Classes competed and staff, families and visitors had a fun welcome to our campus.

## Agriculture Program Thriving

### Livestock Show

The middle school Intro. to Agriculture class spent the first quarter gaining knowledge and skills in the area of livestock showing and then participated in the annual Livestock Show on October 23rd.

This year, students showed calves and lambs. They demonstrated to the judge their knowledge of showmanship rules, the names of the body parts of their animal, dietary requirements, and their animal's average daily weight gain. Instructor **Christa Bevil** noted, "They all started feeding a bottle of milk. Most of them weaned their calves to buckets by showtime, some even to just grain." □



#### Show winners

*Hayley Davidson, Kimberly Shephard, Dillon Hacker, Destiny Shephard, and Lexi Hoskins*

*The innkeeper pointed people to the star.*

### Walk to Bethlehem

The Walk to Bethlehem has been pointing the way to the Christ Child for many years. FFA students, farm staff, and faculty/staff volunteers kept the tradition going this Christmas season. The actors memorized their monologues and wore full costumes as the attendees followed a path lit by luminaries. The cast told the Good News and directed participants to follow the star, where they found the Holy Family and Magi. □



## See What Else We've Been Up To



(Left) OBI students attended the Veteran's Day Celebration at the Oneida Park on November 11, 2021. The event was organized by the Oneida Tourism Committee. □

(Below) The annual chapel Christmas program on December 13 combined grades K-5 and the high school choir, who sang as well as played handbells, percussion instruments and guitar. Many family members of our local students were able to attend, making it a good outreach. □





## Our New Vice-President: Meet Dr. Scott



Dr. Scott attended our choir's performance at the KBC meeting in November

**Dr. CB Scott** (far right) has come full circle in his lifelong ministry. His first pastorate was Northside Baptist Church in Barbourville, Kentucky. He has pastored churches in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, and Mississippi. Other ministries have included such diverse experiences as being a Director of Missions, Director of Development, Disaster Relief Chaplain, Prison Chaplain, Seminar Leader, and Consultant. He has held several positions with the North American Mission Board and with LifeWay. Scott even participated in church planting efforts in the Philippines, Korea, and Nigeria.

Now he has returned to Kentucky. Scott joined our administration as Vice-President to **Larry A. Gritton, Jr.** (OBI '93) One of his former positions was Vice-President of Brewton-Parker College, a private Baptist college in Georgia, so he anticipates this OBI ministry will be a good fit.

When asked why he wanted to join our ministry team, Scott replied, "I want to finish well for Jesus. I believe in this place I can do that. I see in Mr. Gritton someone I can work for while using the skills I have." Scott shared his goals. "My primary goal is to help President Gritton achieve his God-given vision for this school while using my own skills and training. My ultimate goal is to stay focused on fulfillment of the Great Commission in my position and in my personal life. I want to deny myself and serve Jesus every day until He calls me home." Welcome, Dr. Scott! □



*It was wonderful to have the Alabama Campers on Mission with us again in October.*



## 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*.

### Connect

**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)

#### President Gritton's Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/@lgritton>

#### Email:

[president@oneidaschool.org](mailto:president@oneidaschool.org)

[admissions@oneidaschool.org](mailto:admissions@oneidaschool.org)

**Phone:** 606-847-4111

### Want an easy way to give?

**Visit** the OBI website at:

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

**Click** the "Give/Volunteer" tab.

**Click** the "Donate now" button to give via credit/debit card or PayPal.

### Want to receive OBI newsletters via email?

Send your name, mailing address, email address and the 5-digit number above your name on this issue's mailing label to:  
[diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org](mailto:diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org)

### More ways to support OBI:

#### • Tyson's Project A+™

Labels are worth 24 cents each!  
<http://projectaplus.tyson.com/>

#### • GM's Box Tops for Education™

Box Tops are digital!  
<http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

#### • Amazon Smile

Earn and send 0.5% of your eligible purchases for OBI.  
<http://smile.amazon.com/about>



ONEIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE  
PO BOX 67  
ONEIDA KENTUCKY 40972-0067  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Oneida, KY  
Permit No. 4

## We Love Our “Mighty Mountaineers”



You know about cheerleaders and pep bands, right? But what about an energetic group of Lower School students called the “Mighty Mountaineers?”

New boys’ basketball coach, **Anthony Hibbard**, started the children’s squad with his wife, **Holly**. “We think it’s essential for any program to have some sort of coinciding youth program,” Hibbard explained. “This allows us to interact with young students in the community, and also gives these students a glimpse of our overall basketball program. It allows me, as the head coach, to

meet and work with the future of our program directly.”

Hibbard said, “The program is designed for young students to develop not only their basketball skills, but their love for the game.” Each participant wears a blue jersey and shorts with a big “O,” and has a matching blue basketball. The routine is filled with basketball skills and loud, fun music. They perform at half-time of most games. “We want The Mighty Mountaineers to be part of the overall basketball experience,” Hibbard stated. “We want our young students to feel pride putting on a uniform and representing the ‘O.’”

The Mighty Mountaineers actually conduct their practice sessions before the basketball season starts. “This allows us to create a routine and help the students practice,” Hibbard noted. “Once the season starts, we just perform at games. When I’m not able to lead the routine, my wife steps in and leads. We also have another helper, **Ashley Gay**.”

“My hope is for the Mighty Mountaineers to grow in numbers each year,” Hibbard shared. “I want these young students and their families to feel inclusive and valued. We want them to know that they are part of our family now, which extends greater than basketball. When our varsity basketball team breaks huddles or timeouts, we always break on ‘family.’ We define family as, ‘Forget about me. I love you.’ We want this mindset to supersede everything else in our program and community. You are one of us now.” □

