

THE RIVER'S EDGE

Black River Technical College

Pocahontas · Paragould

Nursing and Allied Health Interdisciplinary Simulation

On November 9, for the first time BRTC nursing and allied health departments simulated an emergency in which all departments had to work together just as they would in a real life situation. Students in practical and registered nursing, respiratory, paramedic, phlebotomy, and dietetics all participated in order to understand interdisciplinary teamwork.



The event was a huge success. Not only did students learn, as one student said, "I now understand how and why we work with other departments in emergencies," students have a better appreciation of what their peers in other nursing and allied health programs do as well as the importance of working together in a crisis.



TRIO EOC Program Helps Students Enroll in GED, College

A 5-year, \$1.17 million grant will help Clay, Green, Lawrence, and Randolph county residents attain a GED, if necessary, and enroll in the college of their choice. This program provides one-on-one support to students interested in attending college.

Individuals over age 19 may visit with EOC staff to begin their journey. The program specifically targets low-income, first generation individuals as well as military-connected individuals, veterans, and ex-offenders. For more information or to participate, call (870) 248-4000 ext. 4056 or email TrioEOC@blackrivertech.edu



Linda Lee
Director



Matt Smith
Counselor



Lindsay Stewart
Advisor



Linda Bland
Admin. Assistant

BRTC Recognized for Top Paramedic Program



BRTC is excited to announce its paramedic program is recognized as one of the nation's best by The Community for Accredited Online Schools.

BRTC's program is led by Joseph Chappell and offers both paramedic and an EMT instruction.

For more information, visit our website!

JOY IT DOWN

December 15
Commencement

December 22-January 2
BRTC Campuses Closed

January 1
Financial Aid Deadline

January 9
Spring 2017 Begins

January 16
Classes observe MLK Day

AROUND CAMPUS Fall Science Symposium

The Fall Science Symposium on December 5 was held in the BRTC Pocahontas Health Science Building. Students in physical science, chemistry, and anatomy and physiology created and presented poster projects to the campus.



Student Wins \$50 Bookstore Drawing



Janice Harvey and Charley Zirbel

Just for completing a short survey on the BRTC website, Charley Zirbel, a business major, won \$50 from the BRTC Bookstore after taking the National Association of College Stores survey.

She will be entered with other college winners in a national drawing for \$1,000. This is BRTC's 6th year to offer the survey.

Mentor Program Helps BRTC Students

The BRTC Mentoring Program, created by Neal Harwell, helps students transition into college life, gain support during difficult times, receive guidance and advice, and make their college experience successful and satisfying.

Faculty and staff volunteer to spend time weekly with students. Harwell is excited about the extra support this program will bring to students.



Free Thanksgiving Meal for 200 Students

On Wednesday, November 16, the first 200 students from both campuses in line at the BRTC cafeteria received a free Thanksgiving lunch. This is just another way BRTC is able to say "thank you" to our students!



ENTER A STATE POETRY CONTEST!

Contact a BRTC English instructor to learn how you can enter a state-wide poetry contest for college students!

Paragould:

- Elizabeth Collins
- Ashley Hall

Pocahontas:

- Courtney Clements
- Laddie Hunter
- Lisa Inman

Who Do I Contact?

To help you prepare for your semester, below are contacts to make your BRTC experience simpler and smoother!

Paragould	Amanda Dobbs
TRIO EOC	Linda Lee
Recruitment	Angie French
Admissions	Mary Anderson
Admissions	Bridget Guess
Tuition and Fees	Beverly Edington
Concurrent	Sarah Waltermier
Financial Aid	Brandi Chester
Tutoring	Donna Foster
Distance Education	Regina Moore

Important Dates!

1/1	Financial aid deadline
1/9	Spring semester begins
1/11	Last day to add a class
2/1	Single Parent Scholarship deadline

the 411

THEIR MARK

MAKING



Kimbrough Choir Has a Busy Fall

The BRTC Kimbrough Choir, under the direction of Joniece Trammel, has been very busy this fall! On November 7, 5 members sang with the ASU choir at the Arkansas State University Fowler Center. On December 6, the full choir held their annual Christmas concert. On December 13, they will sing for the Pocahontas Rotary Club.

During Spring Break 2017, several Kimbrough Choir members will sing in Ireland with the ASU choir. For more information about their trip or to help them, contact Joniece Trammel.

BRTC's 5th Annual Got Talent

For the 5th year in a row, BRTC's English instructors Lisa Inman, Elizabeth Collins, and Ashely Hall organized BRTC's Got Talent, a talent show featuring 25 BRTC students from both the Pocahontas and Paragould campuses.

As pictured from left to right, 1st place went to Linda Bland, Max Vandergriff, and Haley Peoples with Braden McKinney, Marilyn Hogan, and Bryer Moore; 2nd place went to Betty Woodard and Kimberly Castelan; 3rd place was awarded to Jacob Tippitt; 4th place went to Laurel Gaither; 5th place was to Kimberly Castelan; and Audience Choice was awarded to Paige Davis and Disa Tierce.



"If you have much, give of your wealth; if you have little, give of your heart.." ~Arabian Proverb

GCITC, BRTC Host Business & Industry Luncheon

On November 4, BRTC Paragould and Greene County Industrial Training Council (GCITC) hosted a Business and Industry Appreciation Luncheon attended by GCITC consortium members, BRTC Board of Trustees, and Paragould area business and industry leaders.

Dean Inman, Ray Noel, and Ed Tolleson were awarded the Visionary Award. Pictured are GCITC member representatives:

- Allen Engineering
- American Railcar Industries
- Anchor Packaging
- Axis
- BRTC
- City of Paragould
- Greene County
- Greene County Tech
- GRT
- LA Darling
- Marmaduke Schools
- Nidak
- Paragould Chamber of Commerce
- Paragould Schools
- Southworth
- Tenneco

New Employee



Matthew Wilson

Position: Instructional Technology Specialist
Hometown: Strawberry
Campus: Pocahontas
Education: Sloan-Hendrix HS, 2004
 Arkansas Tech University, 2008, BS
 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity

CAMPUS
CLOSEUP



THANK YOU for Supporting BRTC Students!

The BRTC Foundation mission is to locate and gain support for the college, students, and programs. Although BRTC is a state-funded institution, state money makes up only 45% of the budget; tuition and fees make up 13%. The remaining 42% must be made up in ways such as grants and Growing Strong campaign.

Through their support, the following individuals and businesses make it possible for students to achieve an education! We thank them for the generosity and invite you to join them in Growing Strong in 2016-2017!



Growing Strong

1st Choice Healthcare, Inc.	Dana Clay	Haley's Lumber and Metal
Above & Beyond Home Care	Danny and Ruth Ann Ellis	Harps Food Stores, Inc.
AgHeritage Farm Credit Services	Danny and Sue Gibson	Harps Grocery of Corning
Air Evac LifeTeam	Daphne Perkins	Hays of Paragould
Al Dixon	Darenda Kersey	Hays of Walnut Ridge
All Clean USA of Jonesboro	Darling Ingredients, Inc.	Hydro-Temp Corporation
Allison and Partners	Darragh Company	Integrity First Bank
Angela Loveless	Darren Plaster	J.R. Cox
Angie Caldwell	David Jansen	Jack McCord
Angie French	Dawson Furniture	Jake Foster
Archer Realty	Days Inn	James Ratliff
Arkansas Bearings, Inc.	DeClerk LP Gas	Jana Caldwell
Auto EfX	DeClerk-Throesch Engineering	Janna Guthrey
Baltz Feed Company	Donna Statler	Jennifer Hibbard
Barry Ford	Don and Ruth Ann Cox	Joan Linnstaedter
BASF Corporation	Don's Steakhouse	Joe Grider
Beth Davis	Doug Cox	John and Mary Helen Jackson
Beverly's Downtown Catering	Dr. Hal and Bootsie Barre'	John Bland
Bill Gay	Dr. Jan and Ken Ziegler	Joniece Trammel
Blake Johnson	Dr. Joe and Pat Jones	Joycelyn Thielemier
Bridgette Kasinger	Dr. Pat Carroll	Kara Malin
Brown's Graduation Supply & Awards	Dr. Paul Baltz	Karen Powers Liebhaber
BRTC Auto Collision	Dr. Roger Johnson	Karla Baltz, DDS
BRTC Student Government Assoc.	E.C. Barton Company of Pocahontas	Keith and Stephanie Sutton
Burch Food Services, Inc.	E.C. Barton Company of Walnut Ridge	Keith DeClerk Insurance Agency
Burger King of Pocahontas	East Arkansas Broadcaster	Kelly and Bridgette Rose
Capital Quarries Company	Eddie Mae Herron Center	Kelly Grooms
Carol Belford Lewallen	Edward Jones	Kelsie Jones Cagle
Carolyn Collins	Families, Inc.	KFC of Pocahontas
Carter Cox Seeds	Farm Service, Inc.	Larry's Pizza of Pocahontas
Cavanaugh Auto Group	Fears Family Funeral Home	Lawrence County Seed Co.
Centennial Bank	First National Bank of Paragould	Lawrence Memorial Hospital
Charlotte Power	First National Bank of Walnut Ridge,	LT Nails
Cindy Robinett	Hoxie, and Pocahontas	Margaret Baltz
City Pharmacy	Five Rivers Medical Center	Marlene Cox
Clark General Contractors	Flash Market of Corning	Martha Nelson
Clay County Electric Cooperative	Fran Wells Cavanaugh	Martin Agency
Coker Insurance	Frank and Kaye Bigger	Mary Tweedy
Combined Media Group KPOC, KRLW	George Kell Motors	McNabb Funeral Home
Custom-Pak	Georgia Berry	Melissa Wright- Davis
Dana Bradford	Glen Sain Ford	Michael and Amy Smith

Celebrating Student Success

BRTC exists to help students make a better life for themselves and their families. We are delighted to showcase our commencement ceremonies! Congratulations to BRTC students! Your hard work has paid off!



Fall Commencement

December 15

380+ degrees and certificates awarded

Guest Speaker: Tonya Hutsell

Student Speaker: Officer Dane Dillion



Respiratory Graduation

December 12

12 graduates

Guest Speaker: Rena Blakely

Student Speaker: Vanna Early

Law Enforcement Training Academy Graduation

November 18

42 graduates from across the state

Guest Speaker: Senator Blake Johnson

Anthem: Joshua Titsworth, Dover Marshall's Office

Class Spokesman: Gunner Fultz, Paragould PD



Registered, Practical Nursing Graduation

December 13

40 RN and 18 PN students

Guest Speaker: Carmen Jacobson

RN class speaker: Stoney Cook, Susan Glasgow, Jana Morris

PN class speaker: Shane Barrow



Mike and Barbara Dunn
 Mike Miller
 Milton Smith
 Nancy Felts
 Nathan Camp
 O'Reilly Auto Parts of Pocahontas
 Orschelns Farm & Home, Pocahontas
 Overman Buildings, Inc.
 Paslode
 Patti Blaxton
 Peak Physical Therapy
 Peco Foods, Inc.
 Phillip Dickson
 Pinnacle Frames and Accents
 Plaza Tire Service
 Pocahontas Aluminum Co., Inc.
 Pocahontas Healthcare & Rehab
 Pocahontas Smiles
 Priscilla Stillwell
 ProMed Ambulance, Inc.
 QualChoice
 Quality Floors and More, Inc.
 Ramonda Housh
 Randolph Co. Chamber of Commerce

Randolph County Abstract Co., Inc.
 Randolph County Farm Bureau
 Ray and Kay Noel
 RCP Express Mart
 Redskin C Store
 Regina Moore
 Regions Bank
 Rene Tyler, CPA
 Rex Flagg
 Rhonda Stone
 Rick Hagood
 River Bank Savings and Loan
 Riverside Express
 Rob Olvey
 Rock and Roll Highway 67 Inn
 Sandhill Dentistry
 Sandra Green
 Sandra Tweedy
 Sandra Williams
 Scentations International, LLC
 Scott Baltz
 Sears of Pocahontas
 Service Abstract and Title, Inc.
 Shannon Ogden

Sharp Recycling
 Shipleys Donuts
 St. Charles Properties
 Stanley Camp
 Star Herald Publishing Company
 StoneBridge of Pocahontas
 Subway of Pocahontas
 Suzette Hicks
 Taco Bell of Pocahontas
 Tahnee Green
 Tammie Lemmons
 The Candy Emporium
 Tina Stroud
 TLC Health Care
 Tom and Debbie Foster
 Tonya Hankins
 T-Ricks of Pocahontas-CITGO
 VALIC
 Walmart of Corning
 Walmart of Paragould
 Walmart of Walnut Ridge
 Wendy's of Pocahontas



Project REACH Hosts 130 Pocahontas 5th Graders

Approximately 130 Pocahontas 5th graders, their teachers, and guests visited the REACH sites, the Rice-Upshaw House and Looney Tavern, for an educational tour. Three cousins, Brenna Baltz and Brooke and Natalie Toney who are 6x great-granddaughters of Reuben Rice, assisted as tour guides. They portrayed Elizabeth Rice Stubblefield, Cynthia Rice Tweedy, and Lydia Rice Upshaw circa 1860, cousins who are all granddaughters of Reuben Rice.

Human Anatomy and Physiology II Takes Field Trip to ASU Lab



Eight students in Lynda Griffin's Human A&P II class visited ASU's gross anatomy lab on November 3. Students were able to handle 5 different dissected cadavers and view human internal organs including hearts and lungs. They also watched a muscle and bone demonstration.

The trip helped students better understand information they have learned in Human A&P I and II.

Lunch was provided by funds from the BRTC Foundation SEAS program.

Student's Generosity Wins an iPad Mini

The generosity of student Erica Johnson paid off on November 16 after donating to the BRTC Food Pantry. Her name drawn in the iPad Mini drawing, compliments of Foundation board member Jana Caldwell.

Food pantry donors during the campaign were eligible for the drawing. For each item donated, donors received a chance in the drawing. Monetary and food donations filled BRTC Food Pantry shelves on both the Pocahontas and Paragould campuses.

Jana Caldwell with Carter Realty offered to donate the iPad to encourage donations to the pantry. Thank you, Jana!



Christina Derbes, Laura Luster, Jana Caldwell, winner Erica Johnson

spotlight

SPRING 2017 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Many generous individuals and businesses give their own money to help BRTC students be successful. The following Foundation scholarships are offered this Spring.

- Above & Beyond
- Culver
- Distance Education
- Florence Nightingale
- Legacy Scholarship
- Mary Sallee Single Parent
- Sylvia Cagle Single Parent

Contact Financial Aid to learn more!



River Bank Scholarship for a High School Student in Memory of Patsy Baltz

Recipient: Lauren Rose
Hometown: Pocahontas
High School: Pocahontas, 2015
Parents: Eddie and Christy Rose
Major: AA in General Education
College Attending: BRTC
Award Amount: \$500



BRTC Hosts 3rd Annual NEA Co-Op

The NEA Educational Cooperative advisory committee meeting, organized by Rhonda Fowler, held their annual meeting at BRTC in Pocahontas for the first time on November 11. Attendees include teachers and administrators from Lawrence and Randolph county high schools who also toured BRTC.

AEDs Purchased Through SGA/BRTC Foundation Partnership

Thanks to a partnership between BRTC's Student Government Association and Foundation, 4 new AEDs were purchased for the Pocahontas campus to save employee, student, and community member lives. On their own, BRTC Foundation board members elected to purchase a 5th AED.

Originally, Pocahontas had only 1 AED, located in LETA. However, LETA's AED was too far to be of use in an emergency. A student and faculty proposal resulted in AEDs for each of the following buildings: Adult/Continuing Education, Auto Service/ Auto Body, Administration, Health/Science, RCDC.



Faculty and staff receiving AED training from respiratory instructor Jessica Alphin

Currently, Paragould's 1 AED is central and adequate for the campus.

Dr. Jan Ziegler Presents About REACH

Project REACH was the topic of the Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series at the Old State House Museum in Little Rock November 17. Dr. Jan Ziegler presented Project REACH's history and importance to Arkansas history.



BRTC strives to be active in the community, respond to business and industry needs, and support the local workforce. However, with state focus shifting from 4-year college education to work readiness, we must continue to recognize that skills students learn from general education and liberal arts courses are essential to improving their future career advancement and personal fulfillment.

Studies show that liberal arts courses such as theater, music, literature, art, mathematics, and social sciences help students gain essential communication and people skills employers look for in job promotion. These courses help students communicate in writing and verbally, analyze and solve problems, think critically, and have exposure to the entire range of human knowledge beyond their current job.

Not only does BRTC offer a strong portfolio of liberal arts courses, faculty and staff work hard to provide opportunities for students to hone their skills while creating partnerships in the arts. For example, BRTC's choir program has joined forces with the Downtown Playhouse in Pocahontas. English faculty offer both a talent contest and a poetry contest.

At BRTC, we take both the current – and future – success of our students seriously.



Dr. Roger Johnson

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