

# THE RIVER'S EDGE



Black River Technical College

Pocahontas · Paragould

## You're Helping Adult Education Students Improve Their Lives!

Thank you for supporting GED and other institutional scholarships which help adult education students earn a degree they can use!



Maynard resident Lisa Barber became a dislocated worker at 50, but when her husband Dennis enrolled in BRTC, she enrolled and began earning her GED. Today, she is in the BRTC dietetics program and couldn't be happier!



Walnut Ridge's Faith Hufstedler says, "When entering GED classes, I was very nervous...I was introduced to the Work Force program to become a full time employee at the Lawrence County Library — I absolutely love it!"



When high school junior DeShale Shocklee realized she was expecting a baby, she immediately enrolled in GED classes. Since then she has gotten her driver's license, worked part-time at BRTC, and will begin CNA classes next spring!



Walnut Ridge's Clay Wilson says, "GED gave me a life beyond...drugs and jail cells... Without my GED I would never have gotten into the Army... 'The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.'"

## Law Enforcement Graduates Are Prepared to Protect Your Community

Forty-nine law enforcement officers graduated and pledged to protect our local communities on Friday, November 17. BRTC's Law Enforcement Training Academy follows state requirements in which officers must core at least 70% on each exam while also consistently achieving a score of 80% on firearms training.

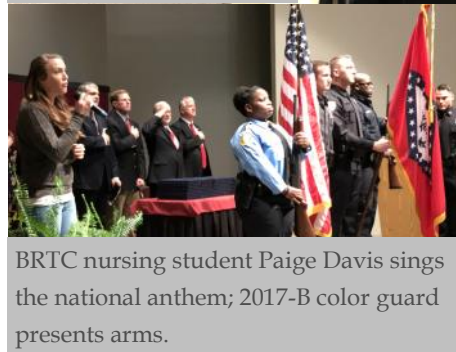
LETA instructor Chris Hankins said the academy expects excellence; it is common that only a tenth or a hundredth of a point separates first place from no place when deciding academic and tactical awards.

For example, Batesville Police Department's Nate Simmons, Sherwood Police Department's Quinton Reinhardt, and Stone County Sheriff Office's Sean Hickman all scored 100% on their firearms test. A shoot-off to break the tie for the firearm's award resulted in two winners, both scoring 94%: Nate Simmons scored 94.6% while Sherwood Police Department's Quinton Reinhardt scored 94.4%!

BRTC LETA graduates insure that your homes, businesses, and families are all very well protected! We are proud that they serve your communities! Good luck, officers!



BRTC Law Enforcement Class 2017-B at LETA Graduation



BRTC nursing student Paige Davis sings the national anthem; 2017-B color guard presents arms.

**JOY IT DOWN**

- December 22-January 1  
Campus Closed
- January 2  
BRTC Office Open
- January 8  
Faculty Report Back
- January 15  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 16  
Spring Classes Begin

## CAMPUS Practical Nursing Students Help Raise Money for Alzheimer's Research

AROUND

Twenty practical nursing students, led by nursing instructor Nancy Felts, participated in the 2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's at ASU. The event raised \$43,000 to further care, support, and research of the Alzheimer's Association.



## BRTC Paramedic Students Participate in Training with Working Paramedics

During a recent training held on the BRTC campus, paramedic students had the opportunity to attend training with working paramedics. This side-by-side opportunity gave students a rare glimpse into how they will continue to learn even after they become working professionals.



Tim Stallings, Instructor John Burdue, Amber McNatt, Ben Myer, Kirby Curtis, Tim Rutledge (working paramedic)

## Trammel Conducts Last Choir Concert

On November 30, the BRTC Kimbrough Concert Choir and Singers had their last concert under the direction of Mrs. Joniece Trammel. Trammel organized and became director of the choir in 2004, thanks to the generous donation from the late Dexter Kimbrough. We wish Mrs. Trammel the best of luck and enjoyment in her retirement!

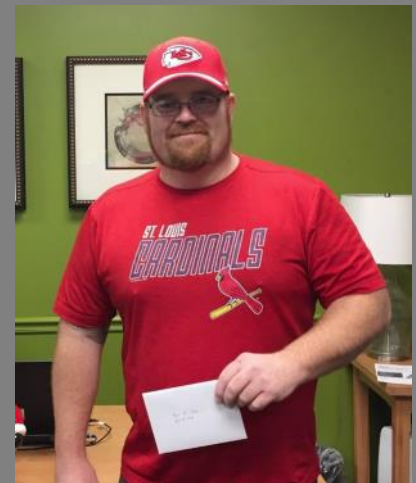


## Important

### Class Dates!

- 1/1 Spring 2018 financial aid final deadline
- 1/2 BRTC campus opens
- 1/8 Faculty return to BRTC
- 1/15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 1/16 BRTC Spring 2018 begins
- 1/18 Last day to add a class
- 3/19-23 Spring Break

the 411



## Your Voice Matters!

Paragould EMT student Ben Gore won a \$250 Walmart gift card for completing BRTC's annual survey!

The survey helps BRTC faculty, staff, and administration assess the effectiveness of services and programs for students.

Your input is important to us!

# THEIR MARK

MAKING

BRTC wishes the following faculty and staff well as they continue the next phase of their journey!



**Chris Lynch**  
Science Instructor  
5 years, 3 months

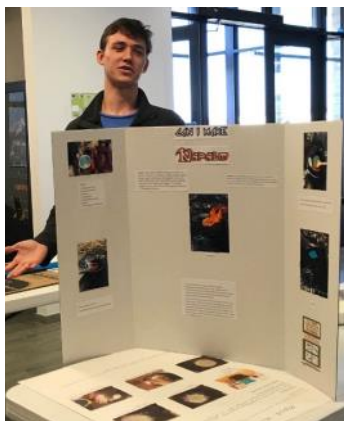


**Joniece Trammel**  
Music & Choir Director  
14 years, 2 months

## BRTC Science Symposium

Each year, students in BRTC's science classes research and present poster sessions and experiments within a theme. This year's theme was anatomy, so science students chose topics related to that field. Students in chemistry, human anatomy and physiology, and physical science all participated.

Also participating were BRTC art students. Student artists incorporated the theme into their works. During the symposium and until the spring, their artwork is displayed in the Health-Science Complex.



## New Employees Here for You!

**Position:** Admissions Counselor  
**Hometown:** Walnut Ridge  
**Location:** Pocahontas  
**Education:** Black River Technical College, Arkansas State University, BS Marketing, minor in Management



Jacquelynn Reeves

**Position:** Computer Support Technician  
**Hometown:** Corning  
**Location:** Pocahontas  
**Education:** Black River Technical College, TC Auto Collision and Repair, AAS in Computer Information Technology



Jonathan Checkett

**Position:** Nursing Clinical Site Coordinator  
**Hometown:** Imboden  
**Location:** Pocahontas  
**Education:** Black River Technical College, TC Practical Nursing, AAS Registered Nursing



Kara Malin



## Students' Artwork Supports Science

BRTC art students created artwork to display aspects of this year's Science Symposium's theme, anatomy. Fine arts instructor Dr. Sandy Baltz said, "Combining art and science is a rewarding endeavor for both the instructors and students."



Lynda Griffin's Anatomy & Physiology II class: Brandy Terrell, Sarah Cullum, Penny McCluskey, Charlie Potter, Rebecca Ferguson, Cheyenne Hill, Serena Ray, Grason Reyes, Teryn Gray, Kathryn Ball, Amanda Lowhorn, Allie Foster, Kaylee Smith, Emma Rice, Kala Wells, Jeremy Mesey, Sunnie Cunningham. Instructor Griffin is positioned front center

## Art Students Give Back to the Community

Many students do not have the resources to support others, but one way art students give back to the local community is through their artwork. BRTC painting students Hannah Weick, Amy Morris, Autumn Dildine, Julie Gates, Madison Crawley, and Abigail Owens each created pieces to help fill the vacant walls of the newly renovated Dalton Street Housing Authority in Pocahontas.

The students liked being able to create something and give it away. "I'd rather people receive something from me than give me something," said Hannah Weick. Madison Crawley felt like giving the painting was like giving a part of herself as a gift, something from herself which "people could enjoy."

Both Hannah and Madison have painted at home since before high school, but Dr. Baltz's painting class enabled them to do more with their skills. They also learned about different types of paints. Before class, both girls had painted with acrylic paints, but Painting 1 introduced them to oils. "It's more buttery," Madison explained. "And we can change the thickness of the paint," Hannah said.

Autumn Dildine has also painted since she was young and prefers oils. Autumn is a graphic design major and chose the deer painting because "it was the most challenging." Even though she knew she would donate it, she wanted others to enjoy it.



Amy Morris



Hannah Weick



Julie Gates



Autumn Dildine



Madison Crawley

## Thank you, Integrity 1st Bank, for Encouraging BRTC Artists!

For the past 18 years, Pocahontas banks have honored BRTC students by displaying students' artwork in local bank lobbies. During Thanksgiving week, Integrity 1st Bank provided space for BRTC art students to showcase their talents.

"Integrity 1st Bank is thrilled to provide a location to showcase BRTC students' artistic talent," said Carol Belford-Lewallen, vice president of marketing and business development at Integrity 1st Bank in Pocahontas. "The art facilitates such good conversation among customers, employees, and the public – and it really brightens the lobby."

"It is such a pleasure to work with local banks," said fine arts instructor Dr. Sandy Baltz. "Each semester we display students' work and this provides a window into the college's art department." Thank you, Integrity 1st, for continuing to support BRTC students and academic programs!



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Help Provide Art Supplies

Because supplies are costly, you can help students by donating funds for art supplies. With your help, art students will be able to improve their talent!



Left: Graphite pencil drawing by Autumn Dildine for the fall Science Symposium

# Your Support of Project REACH Enables Students to Experience the 1800s

Thanks to your support of Project REACH, child laughs and giggles could be heard throughout the Rice-Upshaw site on Friday, November 3 as the Arkansas Virtual Academy gathered students from around Northeast Arkansas for a day of learning about life in the 1800's. The trip is one of their many hands-on interactive learning opportunities.

Despite the chill, students enjoyed touring the sites. They were most amazed to see that the marriage marks of Rueben Rice or one of his family members on the roof beams are still visible today. Students also enjoyed laying on the authentic rope bed.

One new feature of the REACH sites is the creation of a custom scavenger hunt. These students were the first group to complete



Students, teachers, and parents on the front porch of the Rice-Upshaw House.

the site's scavenger hunt by using the interpretive signs to find the answers. They also enjoyed playing games from the time period such as drop the clothespin and ring toss.

The Arkansas Virtual Academy is a public charter school which follows state curriculum through flexible, online instruction at students' own pace.

Tours and maintenance of the REACH sites would not be possible without your generous support! Thank you for helping give students and adults the opportunity to learn about our local history!



BRTC's Jessica Bailey, left, guides the tour for guests.

## Dog Days

Thank you to Integrated Therapy Services for bringing in their therapy dogs for a little TLC with students the day before final exams began! Your furry friends were a hit!



## Student Wins \$50

Sue Masterson won a \$50 BRTC bookstore certificate for completing the National Association of College Stores survey in November. She will be entered in a national drawing for \$1,000. This is BRTC's 7th year to offer the survey.



Bookstore director Janice Harvey and winner Sue Masterson

## Your Support Helps PN Students Learn About Opioid Addiction

Thanks to your support of the BRTC Foundation Special Event and Activity Support (SEAS) program and support from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, practical nursing (PN) students attended the annual Arkansas Prescription Drug Abuse Summit at Hot Springs. Students learned about the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and how it works in Arkansas and the United States.



# SNAPSHOTS YOU Make The Difference in Students' Lives!

FOUNDATION

Many BRTC students are the first in their family to attend college.

To those familiar with it, attending college may not seem like a big deal, but students whose parents never attended are often uncomfortable and intimidated by higher education.

That's why **you** are so important!

Your support of BRTC scholarships, academic programs, and SEAS—which funds classroom activities and trips like the nursing trip on page 5—removes barriers which prevent students from improving their lives.

- Your support enables students to go to college without having to choose between education and providing food for their families.
- Your support tells them someone they don't even know is behind them.
- YOU are why BRTC students succeed.

**Thank you** for making all the difference in a student's life!

The following selfless donors have made a difference in student's lives and the lives of their families.

Above & Beyond Home Care  
 Kim Adams  
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 Greene County Industrial Training Center (GCITC)  
 Greenway Equipment  
 Joe Grider  
 Donny and Sherry Griggs  
 Bridget Guess  
 Shannon Haff

# spotlight

**MADISON HUSKEY**

Thanks to a science project in Mr. Chris Lynch's class, Madison Huskey's love of astronomy and talent with a camera were exposed!



Madison, a 2015 Hillcrest graduate, submitted her photos to class. "My boyfriend and I took these in Wal-Mart's parking lot," she said laughing. "I attached a camera to a telescope" to get the shots.



Despite her obvious talent with a camera, Madison hopes to be a psychiatrist in the future, but her science knack is obvious. "I love space," she said. "To me, it's the future."



## DIFFERENCE MAKING A

## Allied Health Students Practice Saving Your Life!

Because most students are confined to working in their own programs, working as a team with other departments seems foreign, even once a student graduates – which could one day be a problem for you! To address this issue, BRTC's practical and registered nursing, respiratory, paramedic/EMT, phlebotomy, and dietetics programs simulated an emergency in which all departments worked together just like they would in a real life situation.

Dr. Don Howard, medial director for BRTC's respiratory (RT) program, said, "In school, students tend to be siloed," so getting these programs together is "very important." Dr. Scott Lewis, medial director for BRTC's paramedic program, agreed: "[The simulation will] promote interdisciplinary collaboration" and was beneficial because it was "low stakes where no lives were really involved."



Dr. Howard directs RT and EMT students

Students also began to appreciate the work of other departments. A practical nursing (PN) student said, "The roll of respiratory therapy is very important and paramedics do way more than I thought." "Respiratory therapists are SO involved," a registered nursing student said. "I feel kind of bad that I didn't know they did so much." "EMS does more than just transport," said a second PN student.

Jessica Alphin, respiratory instructor and co-coordinator of the simulation, thinks it is "really, really important that students are building professional relationship now because that is what promotes the best patient care." BRTC is excited students practice these skills because doing so may save your life!



EMT, Respiratory, and Nursing students work on a SimMan who exhibits stroke conditions.



Rex Flagg, BRTC science department head, acts as a stroke patient. EMT/Paramedic students transport Flagg through a variety of maneuvers. EMT/Paramedic director Matt Smith (far right), directs students in proper transport techniques.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Sponsor a Student's Professional Licensure

Allied health students have expensive licensure fees. A monthly gift of \$15 will sponsor a student's testing fee.

Haley's Lumber  
Chris and Tonya Hankins  
Harms Food Stores, Inc.  
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Hays of Walnut Ridge  
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makes a difference!**