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The River's Edge

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Class of 50 Completes Police Training



Training Academy in Pocahontas. The officers graduated in ceremonies held April 7 in Randolph County Development Center. Rick Dickinson of the Arkansas State Police was the guest speaker.

The next Basic Police Training Course scheduled to begin August 22 is already full with an extensive waiting list, according to Tim Daley, Director of the program.

A total of 47 officers and three elected Constables successfully completed Basic Police Training Course 2005-A at the Black River Technical College Law Enforcement

The thirteen-week, 591-hour course which began

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Important Dates

April 21

- Scholarship Recipient-Donor Luncheon

May 1

- Student Art Showcase

May 3

- Fun Before Finals

May 4 - 10

- Final Exams

May 11

- Nursing Banquet
- Faculty/Staff Potluck

May 12

- BRTC Graduation

May 16

- Intersession Begins

May 31

- Summer Session I Begins

Daley Recognized by Peers

Tim Daley, Director of the Law Enforcement program at BRTC, was honored by his peers during the recent graduation ceremony for Basic Police Officers. The Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) was developed largely by Daley, who came to BRTC six years ago. Also on hand for the presentation was his wife Bettye. Staff members who honored Daley (center) with a special plaque included (from left) Judy Ballard, J. P. French, Steve Hudleston, Mike Doyle, David Grant and Victoria Barkley-Robinett.



Tuition Will Not Increase

The tuition level at BRTC will not increase for the 2005-06 academic year, following a vote by the BRTC Board of Trustees April 7 to hold the level steady for the third straight year. At \$52 per credit hour for in-district students and \$66 per credit hour for in-state out of district (and adjacent Missouri counties), the rate at BRTC is in the mid-range of tuition levels at Arkansas' other two-year colleges, according to VP for Finance Loretta Williams.

Both Williams and President Richard Gaines indicated that the current financial picture, as well as anticipated funding for the next academic year, do not require a boost in fees, though historically the college has faced small increased every two

years.

"Current tuition at BRTC remains considerably less than the \$134.50 per credit hour rate at ASU-Jonesboro and \$137.15 per credit hour at UA-Fayetteville," President Gaines noted. "We may not be able to do this next year," he added, "but I'm pleased that for now, we can maintain with our present fee structure, and still not have to go into our reserves for next year."



Richard Gaines and Loretta Williams review financial data.

Holocaust Exhibit Draws Visitors

A number of people have already viewed and/or scheduled visits to the Holocaust exhibit, "Her Story Must Be Told: Women's Voices and the Holocaust," currently on display in the Administration Building at BRTC. The exhibit, on loan from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio, is a joint project of BRTC and Camera Corner Studios of Pocahontas.

Several groups of high school, junior high and middle school students have scheduled times to

view the panels which depict the varied experiences of women who endured and survived this watershed event in the world's history, according to Holocaust instructor Dr. Jan Ziegler.

The exhibit will remain on the Pocahontas campus through April 27, and will be displayed on the BRTC-Paragould campus April 28-May 6.

For more information, contact Dr. Ziegler at 870-248-4000, ext. 4185.



Leslie Rutledge & BRTC student ambassador Alvin Lewis view story of "Lusia."

Teleflora Donates to BRTC-Paragould



Hal Wyatt and Josh Kisse

Teleflora, Inc. recently donated \$1,500 to the Black River Technical College-Paragould Campus and the Greene County Industrial Training Center. The donation will be used toward wireless technology improvements. A new wireless network is in place at BRTC-Paragould and the donation will support networking cards that will be made available to laptop carrying individuals on campus, said Josh Kisse, Technology Coordinator at BRTC-Paragould.

Teleflora is committed to providing opportunities to BRTC-Paragould, Greene County Tech H.S., Paragould

H.S., and Marmaduke H.S. In the coming months, students from each educational campus will be given the opportunity to tour the Teleflora facility and learn of their technology implementations.

During the Spring 2005 semester, Hal Wyatt, Director of Human Resources at Teleflora, has made employment opportunities available to computer-oriented students and is committed to promoting technology education in the area. Mr. Wyatt is also committed to speaking at various events for students regarding the use of technology.

Academic Scholarships Given

Two who are graduating in May have accepted Academic Scholarship Scholarships to attend BRTC in the Fall 2005 semester. They are PHS student Rebekah Colvin and Hillcrest (formerly Lynn and River Valley Schools) student Lana Richey. They join the four Academic Distinction Scholarship awardees announced previously.

Richey, daughter of Alan and Debbie Richey of Powhatan, plans to complete college basics at BRTC and then transfer to a university where she will major in physical therapy. She is active in various school clubs and activities, including Stu-

dent Council, Beta Club, and participated in sports.

The daughter of Edward and Carrie Colvin, Rebekah Colvin plans to major in Literature and Computer Science after completing basic course requirements at BRTC. While attending high school at Gosnell, she received the President's Academic Award and participated for six years in Jazz Band.

The Academic Distinction Scholarship is available to students who earn 24 on their ACT or rank



Lana Richey



Rebekah Colvin

in the top ten percent of their graduating class. The renewable award covers the cost of tuition at BRTC, and may follow the student to the transfer university as a transfer scholarship if GPA standards are met.

Crockett Named to Position



Rick Crockett

Rick Crockett of Paragould has been hired as Building and Equipment Maintenance Repairman at BRTC-Paragould. Crockett previously was employed as Maintenance Supervisor at Cardwell (Missouri) Housing Authority.

"We look forward to working with Rick," said Vickie Kuykendall, Director of the Greene County Industrial Training Center at BRTC-Paragould. "I know he will be an asset to our staff."

**Intersession
Begins May 16**

**Summer Session I
Begins May 31**

**Summer Session II
Begins July 5**

Student Art Showcase is May 1



Joniece Trammel and Angie Caldwell, standing, from left; Debbie Prichard and Rhonda Stone holding Showcase fliers.

The public is invited to experience a panorama of BRTC student “art” in the first annual Student Art Showcase on Sunday, May 1, from 1- 4 p.m. in Randolph County Development Center on the campus of BRTC in Pocahontas.

In a concept developed by BRTC Art instructor

Sandy Davis-Baltz, the event is set to coincide with the spring performance of the BRTC Kimbrough Choir from 2-3 that afternoon in the RCDC Auditorium.

Guests will have opportunity to hear the concert, but also to browse and purchase items from three other departments prior to and after the concert: the Art, Dietary and Business Departments.

The “Starving Artist” sale includes oil paintings, pastels, charcoal, pencil, paper collage and acrylic works by current and past art students of Davis-Baltz. “These original creations will be on display and available for purchase,” she explained.

Guests may also choose business and gift cards created on-site by students in the Business Department. Cards will be printed on business card stock, and custom orders will be taken, according to Business Department Head Debbie Prichard.

Also on sale (by the piece or the entire product) will be a variety of baked goods—cakes, cookies, fried pies, brownies, breads—as well as fruit baskets, jar treats, and other items. Sugar-free items

will be included as well, according to Dietetics instructor Tina Harris.

“The concert will feature jazz, classical, folk and spiritual selections in music depicting different cultures,” said Joniece Trammel, director of the Kimbrough Choir. The choir is accompanied by Glenda Blasini on keyboard. Additionally, the choir will be joined by Michael Guthrey on percussion, and will feature Gary Gazaway on trumpet and a guest performance by Lisa Ahia.

The performance is open to the public at no charge, but donations for future travel opportunities for the Kimbrough Choir will be accepted, Trammel noted.

Proceeds from all the groups’ sales will also be used to help defray travel and field trip opportunities.

“We are all very excited about this opportunity to spotlight our many talented students and the great work they do,” said Davis-Baltz. “We hope the public will support this event—it will be well worth the time spent.”

Nursing Students Compete, Win Awards



Students and Instructors of BRTC’s Practical Nursing Program

Some 36 students from BRTC’s Practical Nursing Program competed and received several honors in the Arkansas Licensed Practical Nursing Association’s (ALPNA) annual Spring Conference in Batesville April 7-8. They were accompanied at the event by their instructors.

BRTC nursing students brought home the following awards: Medical Spelling Bee, Trina Swift, 3rd place; Quiz Bowl, 3rd place, Sr. team members Kim Collier, Rebecca Collins, Heather Johnson, and Emily Carter; and Talent Show (skit), 3rd place with *Thursday Night Live* cast members Shannon Nichols, Heather Johnson, Mable Barnett, Kim Matthews, Magen Paulkner, Amanda Kent, Peggy Doll, Rebecca Collins and Trina Swift.

The competition was hosted by University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville (UACCB).

Mrs. Ramonda Housh, Director of Nursing,

stated she is very proud of the students’ performance and participation in the competition. She also wants to offer a special thanks to all the instructors, full-time and adjunct, for helping prepare the students for the competition, and to Dana Clay for all her help in the registration process.



Clements and Doles Speak to History Classes

Derek Clements and Ken Doles were guest speakers in two separate classes of BRTC History Instructor Charlotte Powers at the Pocahontas campus on April 13. Clements, instructor at Pocahontas High School and adjunct instructor at BRTC talked to Powers’ Arkansas History Class about Arkansas during the Civil War. He specifically discussed guerilla warfare that Arkansas endured. Doles, a Vietnam Veteran and instructor of Aviation at BRTC, spoke to Powers’ Vietnam Class. He showed home made movies taking during his time in Vietnam and he shared his wartime experiences.

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Mission Statement

Black River Technical College is an institution of higher learning committed to a partnership with the individual and the global community to provide lifelong learning experiences, seeking always to empower those it serves to achieve their academic, vocational, and personal development goals.

The River's Edge is produced by the Office of Institutional Advancement.

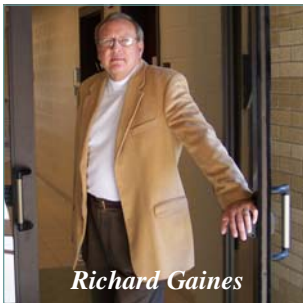
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From the President's Desk



Richard Gaines

The recent decision of BRTC's Board of Trustees and Administration to hold tuition levels steady here for the next academic year is a good one, and I feel very fortunate we were able to hold the line on the price of an education for at least one more year. As I have often noted in this column, colleges and universities which were in the past considered to be "state supported" institutions are increasingly considered "state-assisted" as the cost of operations has been shifted more toward those who actually enroll. This trend has resulted a general upswing statewide and nationwide in tuition levels, and

has affected BRTC along with everyone else.

We have always tried to hold the tuition level as low as possible without jeopardizing the college, but from time to time increases are unavoidable. That, happily was not the case this year, and so our tuition level will remain unchanged for the third consecutive year, \$52 per credit hour for in-district students, \$66 for out-of-district (including several Missouri counties), and \$178 for out-of-state students.

The cost of funding an education can be a burden, even with the financial aid the majority of our students receive, prompting many to have to work part-time or full-time to supplement those costs. So last week's decision should be welcome news for our current and prospective students. Considering the benefits an education brings, we truly believe it when we say that education at BRTC is a bargain.

Class of 50

January 10, included instruction in standard police tactics, firearms, legal, educational, technical skills, and practical exercises. In each course, emphasis is placed upon the officers achieving excellence in both academic subjects and firearms training. An officer must maintain an academic score of at least 70% on each examination, and consistently fire at least 80% during firearms training exercises to successfully complete all phases of the course. Failure to complete these requirements results in dismissal from the Academy. The class academic average for class 05-A was 93.5% and the average firearms score was 91.9%.

Matt Roberson, Cross County Sheriff's Office, was selected by his classmates as class spokesman. Roberson recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq. Jared Bingham, Fort Smith Police Department, was awarded the Top Academic Award

Continued from page 1

and the Top Firearms Award. The Top Physical Fitness Award was presented to Kevin Burns, Fulton County Sheriff's Office and Tommy Shahan Jr., North Little Rock Police Department, was awarded the Top Overall Student Award. The Top Overall Student Award is an average of firearms, academics, and physical fitness scores.

Student Art Showcase Sunday, May 1 RCDC 1-4 p.m.

*"Starving Artist" Sale
Art Department*

*Kimbrough Chorus (2-3 p.m.)
Gary Gazaway
PHS Percussionist*

*Baked Goods Sale
Dietetics Department*

*Business Cards-Gift Cards
Business Department*