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Volume 3, Issue 6



# The River's Edge

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## Wells Scholarship Awarded



Bryan Austin has been awarded the R. L. Wells Scholarship at BRTC-Paragould. The \$250 award

was established last year in honor of Wells, who was instrumental in establishing the Greene County Industrial Training Center.

Pictured with Austin (center) is Vicki Kuykendall, Director of BRTC-Paragould and the Greene County Industrial Training Center, and (right) Josh Kisse, Technology Coordinator for the Paragould campus of BRTC.

South Race Cars, is completing an Associate of Arts degree, and plans to transfer to ASU-Jonesboro to pursue a baccalaureate degree in Computer Technology. He is a 1996 Paragould High School graduate.

The scholarship is awarded annually to a BRTC student who is a graduate of Paragould, Greene County Tech, Crowley's Ridge Academy, or Marmaduke, who is employed, and who is attending classes on the BRTC-Paragould campus.

Austin, who is employed at Mid-

### Important Dates

April 7

- ASSET Test

April 8

- Law Enforcement Graduation

April 11

- Holocaust Exhibit

April 21

- Scholarship Recipient-Donor Luncheon

May 1

- Student Art Showcase

May 3

- Fun Before Finals

May 11

- Nursing Banquet

May 12

- BRTC Graduation

## Holocaust Exhibit Begins April 11

The public is invited to view a traveling exhibit from Hebrew Union College depicting aspects of the Holocaust on the campus of BRTC-Pocahontas from April 11 through April 27, and at BRTC-Paragould from April 28-May 6. The exhibit, suitable for viewing for middle school through adult viewers, is sponsored jointly by the college and Cam-

era Corner Studios of Pocahontas.

Titled "Her Story Must Be Told: Women's Voices from the Holocaust," the exhibit uniquely presents the memories, photos and stories of fifteen Jewish women

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## Quartet Performs for Rotary

Five members of the BRTC Kimbrough Chorus, comprising a quartet and flutist, performed at the March Rotary Club meeting held recently at Bonanza. The group, accompanied by Glenda Blasini on the keyboard, performed three songs for approximately 35 Rotarians.

Shannon Jones, Adam Miles, Bri Baker, and David Wessell, along with Maggie Doles, flutist, performed "Can't Help Falling in Love," "Riversong," and "Fly Me to the Moon" under the direction of Joniece Trammel.

The chorus consists of approximately twenty members and was formed in the Fall 2004 semester with a monetary gift from retired Pocahontas businessman and Rotarian Dexter Kimbrough.



Left to Right: Maggie Doles, Shannon Jones, Adam Miles, Bri Baker, David Wessell



## BRTC Group Tours in Europe

A group of eighteen BRTC students, staff, and community members has just returned from a spring break trip to Spain, France, and Italy. The educational tour is the college's tenth international travel venture, and included visits to Madrid, Barcelona, the French Mediterranean, Pisa, Florence, Rome and Pompeii.

Group leader Dr. Jan Ziegler said she considered this fourteen-day trip "one of the best" so far, filled with stops in "incredible places of great historical importance."

Landmarks visited included the Prado in Madrid, works of Gaudi in Barcelona, and the 2,000-year-old Pont du Gard aqueduct in southern France. Other highlights were the Popes' Palace in Avignon, the Duomo and many art museums in Florence. The trip drew to a close with visits to Rome's

Colosseum, the Forum, and on Easter Sunday to Vatican City and St. Peter's Basilica, and to the ruins of Pompeii and to the beautiful shoreline of Capri on the final day.

On tap for spring break of 2006 is a tour to Germany, featuring a visit to Dresden and a Rhine River cruise. The trip is open to students and to members of the community. Students may opt to complete an independent study and receive credits for the trip.

BRTC makes the travel available as a part of the college's commitment to providing opportunities for global perspectives and greater awareness of the individual and his or her place in the wider world. For more information, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 870-248-4000.

### 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

## Holocaust Exhibit

who survived the genocide known as the Holocaust. The sixteen panels and fifteen companion pieces represent a mosaic of ages and backgrounds from all corners of Europe. Each panel reflects a different life experience and illuminates a different human attribute that is part of survival and human triumph.

"The viewer will gain an appre-

ciation of women's unique ways of surviving, including fighting in the resistance, escaping, hiding, and even enduring concentration camps," said Dr. Jan Ziegler, who teaches a class on the Holocaust. "Viewers will be moved, but most of all, challenged to transform themselves and become empowered," she added. "I hope interested individuals, as well

Continued from page 1

as groups of students, will come by to view the powerful display."

The display has been developed by the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education of Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Educators may obtain a companion guide for the exhibit by phoning 870-248-4000.

## LETA Welcomes Home David Grant



(L to R) Victoria Barkley-Robinette, Micah Grant holding son Jake, David Grant, Director Tim Daley, and Judy Ballard.

David Grant, Criminal Justice instructor at the BRTC Law Enforcement

Training Academy, returned home last week from Iraq where he

has been stationed for the past 19 months. A Captain in the U.S. Army, Grant visited the campus on Tuesday and was given a warm welcome by LETA co-workers and other BRTC faculty and staff. A banner was displayed on the grounds in front of the LETA building in his honor.

Grant also made a trip to the Fire Training Center in Walnut Ridge where several LETA instructors were with the current law enforcement class.

After wrapping up his current obligations with the Army, Grant



will return to work at LETA. In addition to Criminal Justice, Grant also teaches Basic Police Training classes.

With Grant for the visit were his wife, Micah, and two-year-old son, Jake, who was just a few months old at the time of Grant's departure. He expressed how thankful he is to be back at home with his family.

"We are so glad to have him home again," said Tim Daley, Law Enforcement Director.

# BRTC Awareness Built Through ECHO



Kim Bigger, ECHO coordinator, and Machine Shop student, Britt Whitlow discuss how ECHO influenced his decision to attend BRTC.

Technical College for area high school seniors as a way of showcasing all the college has to offer. Almost 200 students from eight area schools attended this year's event, held March 16 in the Randolph County Development Center, according to Kimberly Bigger, BRTC Recruiter, and ECHO coordinator.

Each department of the college had a display with information about their program and instructors and staff were available to answer questions from the students. Several representatives from area businesses were also on hand to talk with students about the education and training needed for different

Britt Whitlow, a 2004 Black Rock High School graduate, attended last year's ECHO and was introduced to the Machine Shop program offered at BRTC. As a result of the information he received and the interest that was sparked during his visit to the campus during ECHO 2004, Whitlow is currently enrolled at BRTC as a freshman seeking his Machine Shop certificate.

"This event gives high school seniors an opportunity to see everything the college has to offer as well as speak with instructors of the programs in which they are interested," said Biggers. "Thanks to the faculty, staff and ambassadors at BRTC, ECHO continues to be a valuable marketing tool for the college," she added.

ECHO (Education Career Heightening Opportunity) is an annual event presented by Black River jobs within their companies.

# Perfect Attendance Shows Nursing Assistants' Commitment



Front row, from left, Hank Edwards, Earlene Morris, Lisa Eubanks, Brittany Neece and Nathan Baltz. Back row, from left, Jamie Hall, Brooke Steimel, Amber Jones, Anna Vandergriff, Misty Brewer, Cheryl Onley and Patty Greer.

The dedication of her recent Nursing Assistant class has impressed BRTC instructor Judy Forrester, RN. The students posted a record of perfect attendance in the classroom during the four-week program, a "first" for Forrester in her more than sixteen years of training nursing assistants.

These students also had other obligations during the class, which met from 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. four days weekly. "Some of them traveled from outside the Pocahontas area," Forrester pointed out. "Others worked a full-time day job and at least one student left class to work a full-time night job."

Forrester said she appreciated the dedication and attention of the class, who worked well together, helping each other in the lab and during clinicals at the nursing home.

"They have made my job much easier," she added.

# Academic Scholarships Announced

Several area high school seniors have accepted Academic Distinction Scholarships to attend Black River Technical College in the Fall 2005 semester, according to the Office of Financial Aid. They are Nicholas Alphin, Kevin Williams, Jamie Gibson and Jason Mullen.

Alphin is the son of James D (Billy) and Dena Alphin, and is a 2005 Pocahontas High School graduate. He plans to major in Agribusiness after completing basics at BRTC.

Graduating in 2005 from Brookland High School, Wil-

liams plans to pursue basics at BRTC before transferring to a four-year college to study Electrical Engineering. He is the son of Kenneth Williams of Brookland and Roger and Becky Honey of Poca-

hontas. His grandparents are Mary Passmore of Brookland and Glenn and Fern Bibb of Pocahontas.

Gibson, a 2005 Biggers-Reyno graduate, is the daughter of James and Linda Gibson of Reyno.

She will complete basics at BRTC before transferring to a university to pursue a career in the medical field of Pediatrics.

A 2005 Lynn High School graduate, Mullen plans to take college transfer courses at BRTC, and then to pursue a degree in Engineering. He is the son of Audrey Mullen and Jackie Mullen.



Nicholas Alphin



Kevin Williams



Jamie Gibson



Jason Mullen

# Black River Technical College

P.O. Box 468  
1410 Hwy 304 East  
Pocahontas, AR 72455

Phone: 870-248-4000  
Fax: 870-248-4100

Website: [www.blackrivertech.org](http://www.blackrivertech.org)

P.O. Box 1565  
2402 North 12th Avenue  
Paragould, AR 72450

Phone: 870-239-0969  
Fax: 870-239-2050

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

[janz@blackrivertech.org](mailto:janz@blackrivertech.org)  
[annd@blackrivertech.org](mailto:annd@blackrivertech.org)  
[dina.hufstedler@blackrivertech.org](mailto:dina.hufstedler@blackrivertech.org)

## Mission Statement

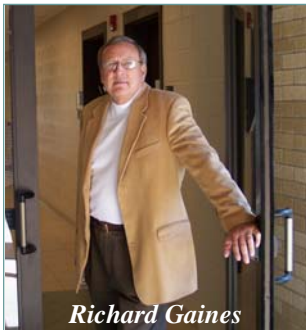
*Black River Technical College is an institution of higher learning committed to a partnership with the individual and the global community to provide lifelong learning experiences, seeking always to empower those it serves to achieve their academic, vocational, and personal development goals.*

**On-line Application address:**

<http://connect.blackrivertech.org/nappadm.html>



## From the President's Desk



*Richard Gaines*

Most people appropriately associate this college with Pocahontas and the surrounding communities. In fact, the college's designated "service area" includes Clay, Lawrence, Randolph and Greene counties. About ten years ago, by invitation from civic and business leaders in Greene County, BRTC established a physical presence also in Paragould. In conjunction with the Greene County Industrial Training Center there, BRTC-Paragould is a growing and progressive site where a wide range of college transfer classes, along with a wide array of

business and industry training programs, are offered. BRTC-Paragould was formally approved as an off-campus site three years ago at our most recent North Central accreditation visit. Our enrollment has climbed steadily.

We like to think that our college's relationship with the Paragould community is a strong and healthy one, good for the people of the region and good for the entire institution. Paragould has experienced economic growth and expansion, and training and educational options help to fuel this growth.

Continued technological advances in distance education enable us to more easily integrate educational opportunities for those attending classes at either Pocahontas or Paragould, or in some instances, at both locations. Reaching even more students and providing convenient registration and enrollment services continues to be a major focus for this

## Jaques Joins BRTC Staff

Theresa Jaques of Marmaduke is the new Early Childhood/Business Outreach Instructor at the BRTC Paragould campus. She brings with her 18 years of experience teaching kindergarten at Greene County Tech as well as serving as adjunct instructor for BRTC for the past three years.

Jaques holds a BSE in Early Childhood Education plus 22 graduate hours from Arkansas State University. She is currently pursuing an MSE in Vocational Administration.

She and her husband, SFC Paul W. Jaques, have four children and

one grandchild.



*Theresa Jaques*

college. The modern and attractive BRTC-Paragould campus, located in north Paragould, Hwy 49 north, in the industrial park near Anchor Packaging, continues to serve the demand for the present, but we are exploring options for further growth as the Paragould community continues to look to BRTC as an educational partner.

**Register Now  
in Student Services  
for  
Summer Classes**