



# The River's Edge

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## FCB, Foundation Partner in Golf Event

First Community Bank and BRTC Foundation announce the upcoming 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, to be held this year on Saturday, October 14, at Rolling Hills Country Club. The tournament, a major fundraising event for the Foundation, is supported by a major contribution of \$10,000 annually from First Community Bank.

The event is a two-person scramble. Entry fee per two-person team is \$80. The number of flights and prizes are determined by the number of entries. As in the past, a grand prize hole-in-one on # 15 is a new pick-up donated by Baltz Chevrolet-Olds, and drives by Ron Mangold are available on hole # 4, according to tournament coordinators Mike Miller, BRTC Foundation Chairman, and Jim Ulmer, BRTC Counselor.

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*Pictured announcing the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual First Community Bank/BRTC Foundation Golf Tournament are, from left, Jim Ulmer, Director of Admissions and Counseling; BRTC President Richard Gaines; Robert Sorg, Executive Vice President of FCB; and BRTC Foundation Chair Mike Miller.*

### Important Dates

- August 1**  
*ASSET Test*
- August 2**  
*Counselors' Day*
- August 3**  
*Board of Trustees Meeting*
- August 14 - 19**  
*BRTC In-Service*
- August 15**  
*ASSET Test*
- August 21**  
*Classes Begin*
- November 16**  
*PN Meet and Greet*

## BRTC Offers Digital Photography



*Business Instructor Kellee Hardage prepares for new photography class.*

inquiring about a digital photography course. "The calls were being transferred to me," said Prichard, "and people wanted to know if we offered any type of digital photography class."

"We didn't," she said, "but because of the increasing interest and with a bit of research, the department decided to offer such a class." The result is a new three-hour Digital Photography course being offered this fall to be taught by business instructor Kellee Hardage. Prichard said the class is scheduled as an evening class to accommodate members of the community who work during the day and just wish to take the course for enrichment purposes. The class, being held on Tuesday evenings from 5:00-7:45, will also qualify as a business elective for any of the current two-year business degree programs at BRTC.

"In the first half of the course students will begin by learning about the different types of digital cameras and some of the terminology that goes along with them," ex-

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# BRTC Welcomes New Student Ambassadors

Jana Griffin, Ben Johnson, and Kathy Murdock were recently chosen to serve as Ambassadors at Black River Technical College. A fourth Ambassador, Amanda Matthews, has been in the program for a year now. The student ambassador program provides a tuition waiver to students in exchange for ten-twelve hours of service to the school each week assisting with various BRTC events and working in a variety of office settings.

To be selected as an Ambassador, a student is first nominated by faculty or staff and then an application is submitted. Students are chosen based on the submitted information and an extensive interview process. Once selected, an Ambassador continues to serve in that capacity until the completion of his or her degree at BRTC.

Griffin is a graduate of Pocahontas High School and is working towards an Associate of Arts degree. She then plans to transfer to Williams Baptist College where she will pursue a degree in Elementary Education.

Johnson, a Sloan-Hendrix High School graduate and resident of Walnut Ridge, is also seeking



Jana Griffin



Amanda Matthews



Ben Johnson



Kathy Murdock

an Associate of Arts degree from BRTC.

A Pocahontas resident, Murdock is pursuing a degree in Dietetics and works part-time at Grider Law firm.

Matthews is working towards an AA degree and plans to transfer to WBC. She is a graduate of Williford High School.

# Photography

Continued from page 1

plained Hardage. "Then they will learn about their individual camera features, parts, and accessories."

Hardage also mentioned that field days will be taken in areas of Pocahontas to give students the opportunity to use their camera effectively and compare different shots. "Students will be able to learn effective ways to photograph people, landscapes, cityscapes, sports events, nature, and moving subjects, in different types of light."

"In the second half of the course," Hardage continued, "the 'Digital Darkroom' will be covered. We will use Photoshop and Bridge software programs to edit and organize images, and gain experience with tone and color correcting, image retouching and repairing, scanning and printing."

According to Prichard, over half of the class slots have already been filled, but anyone still interested may contact Hardage at 870-248-4000, ext. 4133, for more information.

**BRTC Counselors' Day**  
August 2, 2006

# Sesquicentennial Music Supported by BRTC Kimbrough Choir



Joniece Trammel

BRTC Kimbrough Choir Director Joniece Trammel is preparing for the choir's role in the upcoming Sesquicentennial celebration. Several choir members will sing period songs in the

play, *No History Happened Here*, to be performed on two Friday evenings of the three-weekend event. Though the choir is not officially in session yet, Trammel has been working this summer to secure the music and assign parts.

"This project is quite a challenge," she explained, "because the music in the play runs the gamut from Negro Spiritual to Civil War era and World War II era, on up to modern times. It also includes a few original pieces."

Trammel said her personal favorites are the World War II era songs, "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree," "White Cliffs of Dover," and "I'll Be

Seeing You." These songs will be performed by Debbye Jarrett and Teresa Ward, by Lisa Ahia, and by Shannon Jones, respectively.

"I also am excited about the other pieces," she said. "Kevin Thomas, who is such a super performer, will be doing an original piece, and a men's quartet will also sing a fun original song, 'Men Like Us'."

Trammel said she is also working with John Dalton and Cindy Barr on several pieces, including an original piece, "The Ballad of Randolph County," written by Wanda Lee Vaughn and set to music by Chris Thompson.

The production, *No History Hap-*

*pened Here*, will be directed by PHS Drama teacher Jon Crabbe, with Trammel serving as music director. The play is an original script written by Dr. Jan Fielder Ziegler, based "loosely" on actual historical events.

For more information about participating in this or other events involving the BRTC Kimbrough Choir, contact Trammel at 870-248-4000, ext. 4157, or email at [joniece.trammel@blackrivertech.org](mailto:joniece.trammel@blackrivertech.org)

# BRTC Says Farewell to Three Staff



*Ken Doles*



*Margaret Snapp*



*Verna Smith*

Black River Technical College says farewell to three staff members who recently retired after a cumulative 21 years of service with the college.

Ken Doles left BRTC at the end of the spring semester after having served eight years as Aviation Maintenance Technician Instructor. His future plans are uncertain, but he is strongly pursuing the idea of attend-

ing medical school in continuation of the pre-med degree he earned years earlier. Prior to joining the BRTC staff, he worked as an Agricultural Aviator as well as a flight instructor. He had also served as a Medivac pilot with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Margaret Snapp was hired as Registrar in 1997 and held that position for the past nine years before

retiring in June. She had owned a bookstore, "Curiosity Book Shop," in Rogers, Arkansas for twelve years prior to her position at BRTC. In retirement, she plans to travel, spend more time with family and friends, and continue pursuing different interests such as playing Bridge. She also is enjoying her new aquarium.

Verna Smith also retired at the end of the spring semester after serving four years as Nursing Instructor. She is now devoting her time to a family business she and her daughter, Robin, recently opened in Pocahontas. "Rae & Rob Unique Nursery" offers a wide variety of items for sale from aluminum outdoor furniture, gift items, jewelry and accessories, to shrubbery.

## Sesquicentennial Lecture Series

**Friday, August 18**  
**RCDC - 7:00 p.m.**

### Local Historians

- Cindy Robinett*
- Harmon Seawel*
- Kirby Riffel*
- Gary Gazaway*

# MSSPS Scholarships Awarded

Two BRTC students, Judy Jenkins and Julie Perkins, have been awarded scholarships through the Mary Salee Single Parent Scholarship Fund for the 2006 summer term.

According to Brandi Chester, Financial Aid Officer, to qualify individuals must be single parents with custody of minor children, be enrolled in a program of higher education, meet certain income guidelines, and be residents of Randolph County. The scholarships are awarded each semester in an amount up to \$500 each.



*Judy Jenkins*

from BRTC in May 2005 and plans

to graduate in December with a Registered Nursing degree. She is a graduate of Maynard High School and has one child.



*Julie Perkins*

is working towards an Associate of Arts degree at BRTC and expects to graduate in December. She then plans to pursue a bachelor's degree from Arkansas State University or University of Arkansas.

Applications are still being accepted for the Fall 2006 semester. For more information or to pick up an application, contact Chester at 248-4000, ext. 4021, or go to [www.blackrivertech.org](http://www.blackrivertech.org).

A graduate of Pocahontas High School and mother of one, Perkins



*Left to right: Carolyn Jones, Adult Ed. Instructor (Piggott & Rector); Monica Moore, GED graduate (Piggott); Bellys Cox, ESL/GED student (Rector)*

# 107 Students Complete GED Program

The Black River Technical College G.E.D graduation ceremony was held Thursday, July 20, in the Randolph County Development Center. According to Director of Adult Education Peggy Weir, 107 students from Clay, Lawrence, and Randolph Counties completed the G.E.D. program this year.

Adult Education Instructor Carolyn Jones was the guest speaker, and George French, Deputy Director of Adult Education with Arkansas Department of Workforce Education, was in attendance. Jones, who herself is a GED graduate, began working as an instructor in the BRTC Adult Education program in 1991.

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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 Development.*

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### On-line Application address:

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

## From the President's Desk



The Southern Regional Education Board has approved a set of twelve ambitious goals that could help the SREB states, which include Arkansas, to lead the nation in educational improvements. The first eleven goals and our efforts as a region show progress in many areas, including more pre-K enrollments, higher college admission test results, gains in Advanced Placement, greater percentage of recent high school grads going to college, and improvements in college graduation rates.

The twelfth goal calls for every

state in the SREB to place "a high priority on an education system of schools, colleges, and universities that is accountable." This means that SREB states should encourage early childhood programs, K-12 schools, community colleges, universities and adult education to work together. In addition, this goal includes these areas of emphasis and recommendation:

- State budgets for education show real-dollar growth per student. Budgets are aimed at quality and productivity;
- An aligned education system is in place and enables students to make smooth transitions from pre-K through college;
- Effectiveness of school and college programs at critical transition points for students is evaluated. Funding decisions are linked to preparing all groups

## Golf Event

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Foundation members will contact area businesses and individuals to offer various levels of sponsorships.

Proceeds from the tournament provide funding support for the Foundation, and specifically fund student scholarships. "We are hoping for a record amount from this year's tournament," said Ulmer. "We recently increased the number of scholarships this tournament funds to eight, and we hope to move that up to ten after this fall's proceeds come in."

The slightly later date was se-

- of students to move to the next levels;
- Schools, community colleges, and four-year colleges and universities have clearly aligned course content and assessments for students;
- Data systems—on students and

lected so as to avoid a conflict with Pocahontas Sesquicentennial activities. "We know that in a community like ours, we need full support without the problem of conflicting obligations, so the October 14 date allows us to avoid that situation," said Miller. "We appreciate all the support this college receives in putting on this tournament, and we especially appreciate the funding support from First Community Bank."

For sponsorship or other information, contact Jim Ulmer, Vickie French or Ann French at BRTC, 870-248-4000.

teachers, on schools and colleges—are linked throughout the education system.

These are important and valuable goals which challenge all of us in education, pre-K-12, community colleges, and four-year institutions, to work together for the good of all.