



# The River's Edge

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## Holocaust Survivor Events Expanded

Due to an overwhelming response from area educators and students who have already made reservations to attend a morning presentation, an additional public evening presentation by Holocaust survivor Manya Friedman has been added to next week's events on the BRTC campus, announced Project Coordinator Dina Hufstедler.

The public may hear Friedman's presentation and survivor testimony on either Tuesday evening, April 8, at 7:30 p.m., or Wednesday morning at 9 a.m., in the auditorium of Randolph County Development Center. A large number of public school students - more than 800 - have made plans to attend the Wednesday morning session, so public seating, while still available, will be limited for this session. However, school groups not already registered, as well as members of the public, are urged to attend the Tuesday evening session when possible.

Registration for the evening presentation is not required.



Manya Friedman lived in Poland at the time of the Nazi invasion of her country in 1939. She will share with audiences her experiences, and those of her family, during the years to follow, including her time in a concentration camp and her experiences on the "Death March" as the war drew to a close.

The Holocaust events are sponsored by the BRTC Foundation's SEAS (Special Events and Activities Support), the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Northeast Arkansas Educational Cooperative, and special funding support from Mike and Barbara

Dunn. This marks the third year BRTC has hosted a

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Important Dates

April 8 - 9

*Holocaust Presentation*

April 8

*PTK Induction*

April 11

*LETA Graduation*

April 16

*Dietary Managers Conf.*

April 24

*Scholarship Luncheon*

April 25

*Paragould - Orientation*

April 29

*Fun Before Finals*

April 30

*Pocahontas - Orientation*

## Kimbrough Choir to Perform April 20



*Choir members rehearse*

The public is invited to a Sunday afternoon performance by the Kimbrough Choir and Kimbrough Singers, announced BRTC Choral Director Joniece Trammel. The

event will be held at 2 p.m. in Randolph County Development Center.

Selections to be performed by the Kimbrough Singers include "Blue Skies," "Season of Love," "Joyful, Joyful," "Embrace the Music" and "Mack the Knife." This special ensemble of singers features Jake Cooper, J.R. Briggs, Shannon Jones, Sandy Hudson, Howard Dunn, Lee Pulliam, and Joniece Trammel.

The entire Kimbrough Choir will be performing "My Heart's in the Highlands," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Memory," "Love Me Tender," "On Eagle's Wings" and

"Measure Me Sky." In addition to the Kimbrough Singers, the full choir includes Lynn Ables, Dexter Kimbrough, Pearlene Hacker, Fred Hunter, Patty Riffel, Tiffany Rodgers, Tiffany Flippo, Tigarre King, Rebecca Overstreet, Priscilla Rapert, Joyce Rose, Mary Blankenship, and Jennifer Rainwater.

Choir members will be accompanied by pianist Glenda Blasini and percussionist Alex Hogan.

The Kimbrough Choir was established at BRTC through the generous donation of Dexter Kimbrough for whom music has been of great importance in his life.

# Single Parent Scholarships Awarded



Cathy Blevins



Carrie Haugh



Brandy Jones



Melanie Morin



Rita Neeley



Lawana Watson



Melissa Wilson



Jennifer Adams



Lindsey Kerley



Emily Cook



Tonya Garza



Monica Alphin

Twelve students have been awarded Mary Sallee Single Parent Scholarships for the Spring 2008 semester, according to the Office of Financial Aid at BRTC. The awards include two awards for \$375 each, and ten awards for \$500 each. The total single parent scholarships awarded this semester comes to \$5,750, bringing the total since the program began to more than \$90,000.

Many of the recipients have also been past recipients of this scholarship, which may be re-awarded throughout the students' programs of study to eligible applicants.

Awardees include Jennifer Adams, Tonya Garza, Monica Alphin, Emily Cook, Carrie Haugh, Brandy Jones, Melanie Morin, Lawana Watson and Melissa Wilson, all of Pocahontas, and Cathy Blevins, Lindsey Kerley and Rita Michele Neeley, all of Maynard.

Adams is working toward a Certificate in Medical Lab Assisting. She previously completed the Phlebotomy program at BRTC, and plans to continue her studies in pursuit of a Medical Lab Tech degree at ASU. Garza is completing pre-requisites for the Nursing program for which she plans to apply in the fall. Alphin, who has completed the Phlebotomy program, is also taking pre-

requisites for the Nursing program.

Cook will graduate in May with an AAS in Business Administration, and plans to then complete an AAS in Accounting degree. She plans to eventually transfer to a four-year institution. Haugh is currently in her fourth semester at BRTC. She is seeking a degree in Respiratory Care, and hopes to become a Respiratory Therapist. Jones is working on an AAS degree in Business Administration.

Morin, who will graduate in May, is working on her AAS degree in Accounting. Watson, whose ultimate goal is to become a school counselor, is completing an AA degree at BRTC, but plans to transfer to WBC and major in education. Wilson is also completing college basics, and plans to major in Graphic Design and Business Marketing.

Blevins is working on college basics, with plans to major in Biology/Pre-med at UALR. Kerley's career plans are to become a Nurse Practitioner, and she hopes to be accepted into BRTC's Nursing program. Neeley is also taking pre-requisites in order to qualify for the Nursing program at BRTC, where she hopes to complete the PN to RN transition.

Five of the recipients have been designated "Entergy Scholars," in

recognition of their achievements and of the support of the Entergy Corporation in funding assistance to the state Single Parent Scholarship fund. The five are Adams, Blevins, Cook, Morin and Watson.

A recently issued report by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation indicates the statewide Single Parent Scholarship fund has been highly successful in helping to break the poverty cycle. The Randolph

County Affiliate chapter of the state organization was named in honor of longtime Pocahontas educator, Mary Sallee, who particularly championed education for girls. The program is funded largely through payroll deductions and other contributions of BRTC employees, through community donations and an annual BRTC employee auction, and through matching funds from the Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship program.

## Three Accept Academic Distinction Scholarships

Three area high school seniors have accepted Academic distinction scholarships to attend BRTC in the Fall 2008 semester. They are Christopher Williams of Cherokee Village, Joshua Leach of Corning, and Corey Bryant of Marmaduke. The awards provide full tuition for the fall semester, and are renewable with maintenance of required GPAs. A Highland High School senior, Williams plans to major in Criminal Justice. His parents are Herbert Williams of Highland and Peggy Williams of Cherokee Village. Leach, son of Brad Leach and Toshya Lane, is a senior at Corning. He will major in Industrial Electricity/Electronics at BRTC. A Marmaduke High School senior, Bryant plans to major in Automotive Services. His parents are Ronald and Joy Bryant. The scholarship is based on a student's ACT scores and/or ranking in the top ten percent of the class.



Williams



Leach



Bryant

# Randolph Home Scholarship Established



*Randolph Home Director of Nursing Jennifer Kaczmarski (standing) with R. H. Administrator Paula Swift.*

Students at BRTC seeking degrees in the health professions will have a new scholarship opportunity, beginning with the 2008-09 academic year, thanks to a new award announced recently by Randolph Home. The scholarship, \$2,000 for the academic year, will be given through an open application process to a resident of Randolph County who is majoring in the field of Allied Health professions (Nursing, Respiratory Care, Lab

Assisting, Dietetics) at BRTC.

Making announcement of the award, which was approved by the Board of Randolph Home, were Jennifer Kaczmarski, Director of Nursing, and Paula Swift, Administrator. Board members are Don Brown, Don Wilson, Nanette Carter, Bret Robinette and Mike Davis.

The application process will include the standard BRTC scholar-

ship application form found on the college website ([www.blackrivertech.edu](http://www.blackrivertech.edu)), as well as a self-descriptive typed essay. The student selected for the award will receive \$1,000 for the fall semester, and the second \$1,000 for the spring semester, pending academic eligibility.

Application deadline is June 1. For more information, contact Brandi Chesler in the Office of Financial Aid at BRTC at 870-248-4000, EXT 4021.

## Holocaust Events

survivor, but this year's events have been expanded to include a daylong Educators' Workshop featuring Friedman and Holocaust educators. All events are offered without charge, thanks to the support of the sponsors.

Approximately 30 educators have registered for the workshop, which begins at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8, in the Community Conference Center in the Business Technology building. Those who will attend include teachers from Cave City, Doniphan, Missouri, Nettleton, Paragould, Pocahontas, Rector, Sloan-Hendrix, Swifton, Walnut Ridge, Westside and Williams Baptist College.

Workshop presenters, in addition to the survivor, include Lolle Boettcher of St. Louis, Regional Museum Educator; Patricia Hesse of Weiner, Museum Teacher Fellow, and Dr. Jan Ziegler of BRTC, Holocaust Instructor.

Friedman will also be the special guest at a dinner meeting of the BRTC Serendipity group

prior to Tuesday evening's presentation.

"We are so pleased with the response," said Hufstедler. "We also appreciate the partnership with the sponsors who are helping to make possible this important event. We look forward to welcoming Many and Ellen Blalock, who directs the Speaker's Bureau for the USHMM, to Pocahontas. The time is approaching when there will be no more living survivors, and it is important that we

## Continued From Page 1

take advantage of this sort of presentation while it is still possible to do so."

Friedman and Blalock plan to visit local museums and sites of interest while in Pocahontas.

For further information, contact Hufstедler at 870-248-4000, EXT 4187, or register for the workshop through the NEARK Co-op Website at <http://thor.nesc.k12.ar.us>.

## Remodeled Automotive Complex Open House Held April 1



*Pictured from left, Dr. Martie Shull, Travis DeClerk, Butch Dail, Scott Trammel, Jack McCord, Mike Dunn, Ruth Ann Ellis, Angie Caldwell and Richard Gaines take part in the ribbon cutting ceremony.*

A large number of individuals attended the Open House for BRTC's Automotive programs in their newly remodeled facility on Tuesday, April 1. The building, located on the northwest corner of the campus, houses Automotive Services and Auto Collision Repair.

Instructors of the programs, respectively Travis DeClerk

and Butch Dail, were on hand along with their students to demonstrate the many technological enhancements of the new facility. The building formerly housed BRTC's maintenance department, but was deemed most suitable for the Automotive programs which have been operating at or over capacity and had outgrown their previous spaces. Maintenance has been relocated to a facility more central to the academic buildings on campus.

"We are very proud of this facility," said Academic VP Jack McCord. "When you look through the windows into the training areas to observe the students and instructors, you could be looking into any high-tech training room anywhere."

Following the Open House, BRTC's Advisory Committees representing all technical programs met with technical instructors and college administration for a dinner meeting and program reviews.



### PTK Blood Drive

*BRTC student and Phi Theta Kappa member Heather Dickson of Pocahontas gives blood with the assistance of nurse Mary Ferguson of the American Red Cross. PTK sponsored a two-day blood drive last week in the Randolph County Development Center and a total of 63 pints of blood was collected, according to PTK Advisor Dr. Linda Moss.*

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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  
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## From the President's Desk



*Richard Gaines*

The celebration of the opening of our new space for the Automotive programs is yet another milestone for our campus, our students, and our community. Many community members as well as staff and students attended the Open House held this week to showcase the remodeling and technological upgrades we have put into place for the Auto Collision Repair and Automotive Services programs. From all indications, everyone was impressed and pleased with what they saw. This was especially gratifying because these are

two of the college's oldest and continuously viable technical programs of study. Both programs date to the college's opening in 1973.

We were able to convert what had previously served our Maintenance Department into what can rightfully be considered a first-class, high-tech Automotive Complex, where instructors and students can work and train according to the latest industry standards in their programs of study. The programs have proven through the years to be in high demand, and we see no signs this trend will not continue for many more years to come.

Job placement as well as salary and benefits for graduates of these programs continue to be high, and judging from the interest of prospective students who visit our campus through recruitment efforts, it appears careers in the Automotive field will continue to appeal to large numbers of students. As a result of this newly remodeled facility, we should be able to meet that demand well into the future.

## Etiquette Luncheon Held for Business Technology Students



*Etiquette "expert" Dr. Martie Shull receives appreciation gift from Kay Ellis, Business Instructor.*

Students enrolled in business classes at BRTC participated in a Business Etiquette Luncheon March 13 in the Randolph Country Development Center, with Dr. Martie Shull of BRTC presiding.

According to Debbie Prichard, Business Technology Department Head, the luncheon serves as an

educational tool for the students who will likely face many opportunities for attending business luncheons and dinners, and even possibly be the setting for an interview with a future employer. "This experience will help prepare them for such an occasion," said Prichard.

Shull led 39 students, nine business instructors and seven special guests through the event beginning with an explanation of each piece in the table setting. She shared tips and suggestions on proper dining etiquette throughout the full-course meal, which was prepared and served by BRTC's Dietetics students under the direction of Tina Harris, Dietary Instructor.

This year's luncheon was funded by the BRTC Foundation's SEAS (Special Events and Activities Support) program.