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Ellis Appointed by Beebe to BOT

Ruth Ann Ellis of Pocahontas has been appointed by Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe to a seven-year term on the Board of Trustees at Black River Technical College. She and husband, Danny, together have three children and two grandchildren. They have been long time farmers in both Lawrence County and Randolph County.



Ruth Ann Ellis

"I am very honored to accept this appointment, and I'm looking forward to serving with the other members of the Board of Trustees," Ellis said. "I have great respect for Black River Technical College and have enjoyed serving on the Foundation Board for several years. BRTC is such a tremendous asset to Randolph County and the surrounding Counties"

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20th Golf Tournament Set for Sept. 27

The 20th Annual IBERIABANK/ BRTC Foundation Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 27, at Rolling Hills Country club in Pocahontas. This two-person scramble, underwritten by IBERIABANK, is a major fund-raising event for the college to provide scholarships for BRTC students.



BRTC Foundation Board members and BRTC staff pictured, left to right, are: Mike Montgomery, Kelly Rose, Scott Trammel, Ruth Ann Ellis, Dr. Wayne Hatcher, Sandra Tweedy, Jeremy Baltz, John Jackson, Dr. Jan Ziegler and Dina Hufstедler.

There are two separate rounds that each stand alone. Tee-off times are 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., with announcements beginning 15 minutes before each. Cash prizes are awarded to the top three teams in each of the Championship, A and B flights of each round, as well as for closest to the pin on par 3s in each round.

Team entry fee is \$125 with the Advantage Package or \$100 without the Advantage Package. The Advantage Package includes: three mulligans per

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Important Dates

- August 10**
REACH Sites Open
9am-12pm
- August 16**
Foundation Board Meeting
- August 19**
Fall Classes Begin
- September 4 & 5**
PTK Blood Drive
- September 14**
REACH Sites Open
9am-12pm
- September 27**
Annual IBERIABANK / BRTC Foundation Golf Tournament

BRTC Bookstore to Offer Book Rental

Effective August 15, the bookstore at Black River Technical College will offer an in-house book rental program, according to Janice Harvey, Bookstore Director. "Students will be able to rent text books and pay, on average, about half the cost of purchasing," said Harvey.

"The rental program will help keep the cost of books as low as possible for students," Harvey explained. "Under this program, the student will have the use of the textbook from the day of rental until on or before the last book return date. This date will be posted in the bookstore and on the BRTC website throughout the semester. Any late returns will be charged a late fee."

Harvey noted that not all books will be available for rental. Rentals must be secured with a credit card, and the student must have a student ID and email address. Students will also be required to sign a rental agreement. In addition to cash, check and credit card transactions, students will be allowed to rent books using their financial aid. For additional information on the book rental program, contact Harvey at 870-248-4040.



Employees Trisha Aube, Carmen Cummings, and Janice Harvey look over books in the bookstore.

Personnel Changes and Additions Announced at BRTC

The Department of Human Resources at Black River Technical College has announced several personnel changes and additions for the Pocahontas and Paragould campus.



Jessica Alphin of Pocahontas has been hired as Respiratory Care Instructor. She graduated in 2003 from BRTC's Respiratory Care program and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Grand Canyon University in 2010. She has been serving as an adjunct instructor at BRTC for the past five years and previously worked at Ripley County Memorial Hospital in Doniphan, MO.

Tom Bailey of Pocahontas is a new Public Safety Officer for the Pocahontas campus. He is a graduate of Pocahontas High School and began his law enforcement career as a jailer for the Randolph County Sheriff's Department in 1999.



In 2000 he began working as a patrolman for the city of Pocahontas where he worked for 11 1/2 years. He has worked for the past year and a half at Mid-South Health Services.

Jack DeLoach of Harrisburg has been named as Industrial Electricity/Electronics Instructor. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology degree from ASU and is a Master Electrician. He has been an instructor of technical



courses at East Arkansas Community College for the past seven years, and before that was involved in manufacturing and engineering for 25 years.

Gail Dodd of Pocahontas has accepted the Administrative Specialist I position in the Department of Adult Education. She has been working part-time in the position for the past three years and worked full-time in the position from 1991-2010. She earned an Associate of Applied Science certificate in Secretarial Science from Williams Baptist College in 1991.



Christina Derbes of Pocahontas is a new Dietetics Instructor. She is originally from Rockford, IL, but has lived in Pocahontas for the past 20 years. She received her GED from

Black River Technical College and went on to earn an Associate of Applied Science in Dietetics degree from BRTC this past May. She previously worked 18 years for KFC working her way up from cook to District Manager, responsible for stores all over Northeast Arkansas.

Nancy Felts of Jonesboro has been hired as a Nursing Instructor. The Pocahontas native received a Registered Nursing diploma in 1986 from Methodist School of Nursing in Memphis; a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 2003 from Arkansas State University; and a Master's degree in Nursing this year from Capella University. She has worked for the past nine years at Cottage Grove Community Hospital in Oregon, three of which were in the in the ER and six as manager of the medical unit.



Donna Foster of Pocahontas has accepted the position of Learning Center Coordinator. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education degree from Arkansas State University, and she has been an elementary teacher with the Pocahontas Public Schools for the past 25 years.



Jay Gipson of Paragould has been hired as Public Safety Officer for the Paragould campus. He is a graduate of Rec-tor High School and earned an Associate of Applied Science in Mortuary Science degree in 2003 from Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia, MS. He has worked the past four years for the Walnut Ridge Police Department and for three years prior to that with the Greene County Sheriff's Department. He has also worked part-time since 2011 for House-Gregg Funeral Home in Walnut Ridge.



Rickie Gunn of Paragould is the new Welding Instructor. He has been head of the welding program at ASU-Mountain home for the past two years. Prior to that he taught welding at the ASU technical center for 10 years, and taught High School Ag for three years at Marvell High School and Mt. Judea High School. He is a graduate of Greene County Tech High School and holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Ag Education from Arkansas State University.



Morgan Hill of Paragould has been named Academic Advisor for the Paragould campus. She is a 2009 graduate of Greene County Tech High School and a graduate of Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge where she earned a Bachelor of Science in History degree with a Minor in Psychology. She has worked for the past four year as manager of White Columns in Paragould, specializing in wedding planning.



Tammie Lemmons of Walnut Ridge has accepted the position of Director of Adult Education. Originally from Monette, Lemmons began at BRTC in 1992 as Adult Education Coordinator and became an instructor of Adult Education in 1998 and a GED examiner and assessment coordinator in 1999. She previously worked as JTPA recruiter at Delta Technical Institute in Marked Tree and also worked for five years as a beautician. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing degree in 1987 and Master of Science in Vocational Technical Administration degree in 2004, both from Arkansas State University.



Kathy Murdock of Stokes has accepted the position of full-time Dietetics Instructor. She graduated from Pocahontas High School and earned a Dietary Manager certificate in 2007 and an Associate of Applied Science in Dietetics degree in 2008, both from

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Personnel

BRTC, and a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics degree with Health Science emphasis in 2012 from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. She is a Registered Licensed Dietitian in Arkansas and Missouri. She began teaching for the Dietary Manager program in January 2011 as an adjunct instructor. She previously worked for ten years as a legal secretary, a dietitian for Baptist Health, a consultant dietitian for a nursing home in Poplar Bluff, MO, and PRN dietitian at Health-South Rehabilitation Hospital in Jonesboro.



Aja Osler of Jonesboro has been hired as Chemistry Instructor for the Para-

gould campus. Originally from Conway, Osler is a graduate of Conway High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree and a Master of Science in Chemistry Education degree, both from ASU. She previously taught science and reading at Kipp Delta Collegiate Preparatory School in Helena.

Susan Shanlever of Jonesboro has been hired as Business Technology Networking Instructor. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama, and Master of Science in Information Systems degree from ASU. She has



worked the past eight years at ASU as Technical Director of Compressed Video.

Rhonda Stone of Pocahontas has been named Business Department Head. She is a graduate of Pocahontas High School and has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree, a Master of Science in Vocational and Technical Administration degree, and a SCCT – Administration Option, all from ASU. She has been a business instructor at BRTC since January 2001. She is also a CPA and has several years' experience in banking in the areas of finance, operations, and auditing.



Golf

team; an advantage shot on hole 4, par 5, where each player plays their second shot from 100 yards out; and one team blast off shot used on any par 4 or par 5 hole, where men can make one tee shot from the ladies tee marker and ladies can make one tee shot from 150 yards out.

The Grand Prize for a hole-in-one on #15 is a 2014 Chevrolet truck, compliments of Baltz Chevrolet-Olds.

Entry fee includes a free BBQ lunch and eligibility for drawings for prizes. Golf cart rental is \$25.

Four-star, three-star, two-star and one-star sponsorships with signage are available at \$1,000, \$500, \$250, and \$125. Four-star and three-star sponsorships include one team entry fee and golf cart as well as the option of having a promotional tent along the fairway.

The new four-star, \$1,000 sponsorship includes a scholarship naming opportunity. The sponsor at this level will be able to name a scholarship to be awarded to a BRTC student for the 2014-2015 academic year, and the scholarship will actually be in the amount of \$2,000, awarded \$1,000 each semester, fall and spring. Both donor and recipient will be introduced, along with all sponsors of the event, at the Annual Scholarship/Donor Luncheon to be held April 24.

Scratch off cards will also be sold again this year. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place (lowest scores) as well as a prize for the highest score. Cards will be sold throughout the community and at RHCC beginning next week.

The 19th Hole After Party at the conclusion of the tournament will feature music by Zach DeClerk and Emily Copeland, and Rolling Hills Country Club will be sponsoring a special on drinks.

"I greatly appreciate the continued generosity of our sponsors, especially IBERIABANK," said BRTC President Dr. Wayne Hatcher, "as well as the support of the community, the Foundation, the faculty and staff, and the golfers. This tournament is an important source of scholarship funding, and it's also a lot of fun."

For more information on the tournament or sponsorships, contact Dina Hufstедler at 870-248-4187 or Kelly Rose at 870-248-6432.



Cont'd. from pg. 1

MSSPS Awarded to Three

Three students attending BRTC were awarded the Mary Sallee Single Parent Scholarship for the 2013 summer terms. Brandi Beckman of Pocahontas and Michelle Davis of Ravenden each received scholarships for both Summer I and Summer II sessions, while Leah Miller of Imboden received a scholarship for Summer II. Summer awards of MSSPS are in the amount of \$125 for part time students and \$250 for full time students.

Beckman and Davis have also been designated as Entergy Scholars through a donation made by Entergy to the MSSPS Fund as part of a matching grant.

A 2012 graduate of Maynard High School, Beckman is working towards an Associate of Arts degree at BRTC where she is a member of the English Club and President's Leadership Council. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a master's degree in psychology at Williams Baptist College, then become a counselor.

Davis is a 1990 graduate of Sloan-Hendrix High School and has earned an Associate of Arts degree from BRTC. She is currently in BRTC's Respiratory program.

A 2009 graduate of Sloan-Hendrix High School, Leah Miller plans to graduate in December with an Associate of Arts degree. Future plans include pursuing a teaching degree and becoming an art teacher.

To date, a total of \$153,648 has been awarded to single parents through the MSSPS Fund since its inception in 1992. For more information on MSSPS, contact Financial Aid Specialist Natasha Rush at 870-248-4019.



Brandi Beckman



Michelle Davis



Leah Miller



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BRTC Mission Statement

*Blending tradition, technology and innovation
to educate today's diverse students
for tomorrow's changing world.*

Ellis Cont'd from pg. 1

Ellis is the daughter of the late Cris and Lucille Reithemeyer of Lawrence County. She is a graduate of Hoxie High School and holds a Certificate of Banking from Arkansas State University. She worked in banking for ten years before becoming partner and manager of Twin City Truck Broker and Rice Marketing. She has also owned and managed two gift shops, worked as manager of Precision Ag, and is presently employed by Arkansas State Plant Board. She is a past board member of the Randolph County Chamber of Commerce, a member of Beta Sigma Phi, incoming President of Xi Gamma Pi, and a graduating member of Class 14 of LeadAR, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service.

"As Chair of the BRTC Foundation Board, Ruth Ann Ellis led us through a record breaking year of fundraising for our students," noted BRTC President Dr. Wayne Hatcher. "She is a proven problem solver, and her skills and expertise will add to an already strong Board."

Gibson Named BOT Chair/Dunn Retires



Sue Gibson

Sue Gibson of Walnut Ridge was named Chair of BRTC's Board of Trustees during their June 7 meeting. Her two-year term as Chair became effective July 1 when she assumed the role held by her brother, John Jackson of Pocahontas, for the previous two years. Also at the meeting, it was announced that Mike Dunn would retire from the BOT when his second term expired at the end of June.

A Pocahontas native, Gibson and her husband, Danny, are owners and agents of Gibson Insurance Agency in Walnut Ridge. Gibson was first appointed to the Board by Governor Mike Beebe in 2009 to serve a seven-year term, and she was named Vice Chair in 2011.

"BRTC continues to be very fortunate in its quality of board members, as symbolized by its leadership," said BRTC President Dr. Wayne Hatcher. "With Sue Gibson moving from Vice Chair to Chair, I know BRTC will continue to be guided by individuals who are dedicated to the success of our students."

Dunn was presented a plaque by Jackson recognizing his 14 years of service as a member of the BOT, six of those years as Chair. Dunn has been retired from John Deere for 19 years after working 33 years for the company. He and his wife, Barbara, both graduated from Pocahontas High School in 1956. After some time away from the area, they moved back in 1994 to look after aging parents.

"Much of what has been accomplished during Mike Dunn's tenure on the Board speaks to his legacy," said Hatcher. "His leadership and vision have helped guide BRTC to its current role of prominence in the region. BRTC is fortunate that he has agreed to remain on our Foundation Board, which reflects his continued commitment to the college and the region."



Mike Dunn (left) is presented a plaque by John Jackson for his years of service on BRTC's Board of Trustees.