Nursing and Allied Health Interdisciplinary Simulation

On November 9, for the first time BRTC nursing and allied health departments simulated an emergency in which all departments had to work together just as they would in a real life situation. Students in practical and registered nursing, respiratory, paramedic, phlebotomy, and dietetics all participated in order to understand interdisciplinary teamwork.

The event was a huge success. Not only did students learn, as one student said, “I now understand how and why we work with other departments in emergencies,” students have a better appreciation of what their peers in other nursing and allied health programs do as well as the importance of working together in a crisis.

TRIO EOC Program Helps Students Enroll in GED, College

A 5-year, $1.17 million grant will help Clay, Green, Lawrence, and Randolph county residents attain a GED, if necessary, and enroll in the college of their choice. This program provides one-on-one support to students interested in attending college.

Individuals over age 19 may visit with EOC staff to begin their journey. The program specifically targets low-income, first generation individuals as well as military-connected individuals, veterans, and ex-offenders. For more information or to participate, call (870) 248-4000 ext. 4056 or email TrioEOC@blackrivertech.edu

BRTC Recognized for Top Paramedic Program

BRTC is excited to announce its paramedic program is recognized as one of the nation’s best by The Community for Accredited Online Schools.

BRTC’s program is led by Joseph Chappell and offers both paramedic and an EMT instruction.

For more information, visit our website!
**AROUND CAMPUS**  
**Fall Science Symposium**

The Fall Science Symposium on December 5 was held in the BRTC Pocahontas Health Science Building. Students in physical science, chemistry, and anatomy and physiology created and presented poster projects to the campus.

**Student Wins $50 Bookstore Drawing**

Just for completing a short survey on the BRTC website, Charley Zirbel, a business major, won $50 from the BRTC Bookstore after taking the National Association of College Stores survey.

She will be entered with other college winners in a national drawing for $1,000. This is BRTC's 6th year to offer the survey.

**Mentor Program Helps BRTC Students**

The BRTC Mentoring Program, created by Neal Harwell, helps students transition into college life, gain support during difficult times, receive guidance and advice, and make their college experience successful and satisfying.

Faculty and staff volunteer to spend time weekly with students. Harwell is excited about the extra support this program will bring to students.

**Free Thanksgiving Meal for 200 Students**

On Wednesday, November 16, the first 200 students from both campuses in line at the BRTC cafeteria received a free Thanksgiving lunch. This is just another way BRTC is able to say “thank you” to our students!
**GCITC, BRTC Host Business & Industry Luncheon**

On November 4, BRTC Paragould and Greene County Industrial Training Council (GCITC) hosted a Business and Industry Appreciation Luncheon attended by GCITC consortium members, BRTC Board of Trustees, and Paragould area business and industry leaders.

Dean Inman, Ray Noel, and Ed Tolleson were awarded the Visionary Award. Pictured are GCITC member representatives:

- Allen Engineering
- American Railcar Industries
- Anchor Packaging
- Axis
- BRTC
- City of Paragould
- Greene County
- Greene County Tech
- GRT
- LA Darling
- Marmaduke Schools
- Nidak
- Paragould Chamber of Commerce
- Paragould Schools
- Southworth
- Tenneco

"If you have much, give of your wealth; if you have little, give of your heart.” ~Arabian Proverb

**Kimbrough Choir Has a Busy Fall**

The BRTC Kimbrough Choir, under the direction of Joniece Trammel, has been very busy this fall! On November 7, 5 members sang with the ASU choir at the Arkansas State University Fowler Center. On December 6, the full choir held their annual Christmas concert. On December 13, they will sing for the Pocahontas Rotary Club.

During Spring Break 2017, several Kimbrough Choir members will sing in Ireland with the ASU choir. For more information about their trip or to help them, contact Joniece Trammel.

**BRTC’s 5th Annual Got Talent**

For the 5th year in a row, BRTC’s English instructors Lisa Inman, Elizabeth Collins, and Ashely Hall organized BRTC’s Got Talent, a talent show featuring 25 BRTC students from both the Pocahontas and Paragould campuses.

As pictured from left to right, 1st place went to Linda Bland, Max Vandergriff, and Haley Peoples with Braden McKinney, Marilyn Hogan, and Bryer Moore; 2nd place went to Betty Woodard and Kimberly Castelan; 3rd place was awarded to Jacob Tippitt; 4th place went to Laurel Gaither; 5th place was to Kimberly Castelan; and Audience Choice was awarded to Paige Davis and Disa Tierce.

**New Employee**

**Position:** Instructional Technology Specialist

**Hometown:** Strawberry

**Campus:** Pocahontas

**Education:**
- Sloan-Hendrix HS, 2004
- Arkansas Tech University, 2008, BS
- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity

**Matthew Wilson**
THANK YOU for Supporting BRTC Students!

The BRTC Foundation mission is to locate and gain support for the college, students, and programs. Although BRTC is a state-funded institution, state money makes up only 45% of the budget; tuition and fees make up 13%. The remaining 42% must be made up in ways such as grants and Growing Strong campaign.

Through their support, the following individuals and businesses make it possible for students to achieve an education! We thank them for the generosity and invite you to join them in Growing Strong in 2016-2017!

1st Choice Healthcare, Inc.  Dana Clay
Above & Beyond Home Care  Danny and Ruth Ann Ellis
AgHeritage Farm Credit Services  Danny and Sue Gibson
Air Evac LifeTeam  Daphne Perkins
Al Dixon  Darenada Kersey
All Clean USA of Jonesboro  Darling Ingredients, Inc.
Allison and Partners  Darragh Company
Angela Loveless  Darren Plaster
Angie Caldwell  David Jansen
Angie French  Dawson Furniture
Archer Realty  Days Inn
Arkansas Bearings, Inc.  DeClerk LP Gas
Auto EfX  DeClerk-Throsch Engineering
Baltz Feed Company  Donna Statler
Barry Ford  Don and Ruth Ann Cox
BASF Corporation  Don's Steakhouse
Beth Davis  Doug Cox
Beverly's Downtown Catering  Dr. Hal and Bootsie Barre'
Bill Gay  Dr. Jan and Ken Ziegler
Blake Johnson  Dr. Joe and Pat Jones
Bridgeet Kasinger  Dr. Pat Carroll
Brown's Graduation Supply & Awards  Dr. Paul Baltz
BRTC Auto Collision  Dr. Roger Johnson
BRTC Student Government Assoc.  E.C. Barton Company of Pocahontas
Burch Food Services, Inc.  E.C. Barton Company of Walnut Ridge
Burger King of Pocahontas  East Arkansas Broadcaster
Capital Quarries Company  Eddie Mae Herron Center
Carol Belford Lewallen  Edward Jones
Carolyn Collins  Families, Inc.
Carter Cox Seeds  Farm Service, Inc.
Cavenaugh Auto Group  Fears Family Funeral Home
Centennial Bank  First National Bank of Paragould
Charlotte Power  First National Bank of Walnut Ridge, Hoxie, and Pocahontas
Cindy Robinett  Five Rivers Medical Center
City Pharmacy  Flash Market of Corning
Clark General Contractors  Fran Wells Cavenaugh
Clay County Electric Cooperative  Frank and Kaye Bigger
Coker Insurance  George Kell Motors
Combined Media Group KPOC, KRLW  Georgia Berry
Custom-Pak  Glen Sain Ford
Dana Bradford  Haley's Lumber and Metal
Harps Food Stores, Inc.
Harps Grocery of Corning
Hays of Paragould
Hays of Walnut Ridge
Hydro-Temp Corporation
Integrity First Bank
J.R. Cox
Jack McCord
Jake Foster
James Ratliff
Jana Caldwell
Janna Guthrey
Jennifer Hibbard
Joan Linnstaedter
Joe Grider
John and Mary Helen Jackson
John Bland
Joniece Trammel
Joycelyn Thielemier
Kara Malin
Karen Powers Liebhaber
Karla Baltz, DDS
Keith and Stephanie Sutton
Keith DeClerk Insurance Agency
Kelly and Bridgette Rose
Kelly Grooms
Kelsie Jones Cagle
KFC of Pocahontas
Larry's Pizza of Pocahontas
Lawrence County Seed Co.
Lawrence Memorial Hospital
LT Nails
Margaret Baltz
Marlene Cox
Martha Nelson
Martin Agency
Mary Tweedy
McNabb Funeral Home
Melissa Wright-Davis
Michael and Amy Smith
Celebrating Student Success

BRTC exists to help students make a better life for themselves and their families. We are delighted to showcase our commencement ceremonies! Congratulations to BRTC students! Your hard work has paid off!

**Fall Commencement**

- **December 15**
- 380+ degrees and certificates awarded
- **Guest Speaker:** Tonya Hutsell
- **Student Speaker:** Officer Dane Dillon

**Respiratory Graduation**

- **December 12**
- 12 graduates
- **Guest Speaker:** Rena Blakely
- **Student Speaker:** Vanna Early

**Law Enforcement Training Academy Graduation**

- **November 18**
- 42 graduates from across the state
- **Guest Speaker:** Senator Blake Johnson
- **Anthem:** Joshua Titsworth, Dover Marshall’s Office
- **Class Spokesman:** Gunner Fultz, Paragould PD

**Registered, Practical Nursing Graduation**

- **December 13**
- 40 RN and 18 PN students
- **Guest Speaker:** Carmen Jacobson
- **RN class speaker:** Stoney Cook, Susan Glasgow, Jana Morris
- **PN class speaker:** Shane Barrow

Other sponsors and supporters are also acknowledged, including Mike and Barbara Dunn, Mike Miller, Milton Smith, Nancy Felts, Nathan Camp, and many more, each contributing to the success of the students and the BRTC community.
Student’s Generosity Wins an iPad Mini

The generosity of student Erica Johnson paid off on November 16 after donating to the BRTC Food Pantry. Her name drawn in the iPad Mini drawing, compliments of Foundation board member Jana Caldwell.

Food pantry donors during the campaign were eligible for the drawing. For each item donated, donors received a chance in the drawing. Monetary and food donations filled BRTC Food Pantry shelves on both the Pocahontas and Paragould campuses.

Jana Caldwell with Carter Realty offered to donate the iPad to encourage donations to the pantry. Thank you, Jana!

Project REACH Hosts 130 Pocahontas 5th Graders

Approximately 130 Pocahontas 5th graders, their teachers, and guests visited the REACH sites, the Rice-Upshaw House and Looney Tavern, for an educational tour. Three cousins, Brenna Baltz and Brooke and Natalie Toney who are 6x great-granddaughters of Reuben Rice, assisted as tour guides. They portrayed Elizabeth Rice Stubblefield, Cynthia Rice Tweedy, and Lydia Rice Upshaw circa 1860, cousins who are all granddaughters of Reuben Rice.

Human Anatomy and Physiology II Takes Field Trip to ASU Lab

Eight students in Lynda Griffin’s Human A&P II class visited ASU’s gross anatomy lab on November 3. Students were able to handle 5 different dissected cadavers and view human internal organs including hearts and lungs. They also watched a muscle and bone demonstration.

The trip helped students better understand information they have learned in Human A&P I and II.

Lunch was provided by funds from the BRTC Foundation SEAS program.

SNAPSHOTS
SPRING 2017
FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE

Many generous individuals and businesses give their own money to help BRTC students be successful. The following Foundation scholarships are offered this Spring.

- Above & Beyond
- Culver
- Distance Education
- Florence Nightingale
- Legacy Scholarship
- Mary Sallee Single Parent
- Sylvia Cagle Single Parent

Contact Financial Aid to learn more!

River Bank Scholarship for a High School Student in Memory of Patsy Baltz

Recipient: Lauren Rose
Hometown: Pocahontas
High School: Pocahontas, 2015
Parents: Eddie and Christy Rose
Major: AA in General Education
College Attending: BRTC
Award Amount: $500

BRTC Hosts 3rd Annual NEA Co-Op

The NEA Educational Cooperative advisory committee meeting, organized by Rhonda Fowler, held their annual meeting at BRTC in Pocahontas for the first time on November 11. Attendees include teachers and administrators from Lawrence and Randolph county high schools who also toured BRTC.

AEDs Purchased Through SGA/BRTC Foundation Partnership

Thanks to a partnership between BRTC’s Student Government Association and Foundation, 4 new AEDs were purchased for the Pocahontas campus to save employee, student, and community member lives. On their own, BRTC Foundation board members elected to purchase a 5th AED.

Originally, Pocahontas had only 1 AED, located in LETA. However, LETA’s AED was too far to be of use in an emergency. A student and faculty proposal resulted in AEDs for each of the following buildings: Adult/Continuing Education, Auto Service/Auto Body, Administration, Health/Science, RCDC.

Currently, Paragould’s 1 AED is central and adequate for the campus.

Dr. Jan Ziegler Presents About REACH

Project REACH was the topic of the Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series at the Old State House Museum in Little Rock November 17. Dr. Jan Ziegler presented Project REACH’s history and importance to Arkansas history.
BRTC strives to be active in the community, respond to business and industry needs, and support the local workforce. However, with state focus shifting from 4-year college education to work readiness, we must continue to recognize that skills students learn from general education and liberal arts courses are essential to improving their future career advancement and personal fulfillment.

Studies show that liberal arts courses such as theater, music, literature, art, mathematics, and social sciences help students gain essential communication and people skills employers look for in job promotion. These courses help students communicate in writing and verbally, analyze and solve problems, think critically, and have exposure to the entire range of human knowledge beyond their current job.

Not only does BRTC offer a strong portfolio of liberal arts courses, faculty and staff work hard to provide opportunities for students to hone their skills while creating partnerships in the arts. For example, BRTC’s choir program has joined forces with the Downtown Playhouse in Pocahontas. English faculty offer both a talent contest and a poetry contest.

At BRTC, we take both the current—and future—success of our students seriously.