Black River Technical College

Pocahontas • Paragould

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Important Dates

October 28

Dietetics Club "Fight for the Cure" Fundraiser

October 29-10 Holocaust Survivor Series November 1 Flu Vaccines, 8:30-4:00, RCDC November 6-7 PTK Blood Drive November 12 PN Meet & Greet November 13 **Business Etiquette** Luncheon November 15 LETA Graduation November 21 BRTC's Got Talent November 26 **Country Feast**

THE RIVER'S EDGE

Holocaust Survivor Presentations to be Held October 29-30 at BRTC



(USHMM) will host Holocaust survivor Martin Weiss for three presentations October 29-30. Weiss will be speaking at 9:30 a.m. both Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and 7:00 p.m. Tuesday evening. All presentations will be held in the

Memorial Museum

Black River Technical

College in collaboration with

the United States Holocaust

Martin Weiss

Randolph County Development Center auditorium on the BRTC-Pocahontas campus.

According to the USHMM website, Martin (Marty) Weiss was born January 28, 1929, in Polana, Czechoslavakia, to Jacob and Golda Weiss. In May 1944, at the age of 15, Marty and his family, including eight siblings, were deported from Hungary to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

His presentation will include the tragic story of what happened to him and his family at the hands of the Nazis. His experiences included not only the time at AuschwitzBirkenau, but also his time at Mauthausen Concentration Camp where they were forced to carve tunnels into the sides of mountains and where Marty's father died from exhaustion and starvation. As the Allies advanced into Germany in the spring of 1945, Marty and other inmates went on a forced march to Gunskirchen, another sub-camp of Mauthausen, from where he was liberated by the United States Army on May 5th, 1945.

After liberation, Marty eventually immigrated to the United States where he served in the Army during the Korean War. Marty has been a volunteer at USHMM since 1998.

"This will be the ninth Holocaust survivor to speak at BRTC as part of the Remembering the Holocaust - Survivor Series, which began in April 2006 when we partnered with USHMM," noted Dina Hufstedler, Director of Community Development and event coordinator. "The series started with one presentation, but quickly grew to three to accommodate all of the area school groups that want to attend. We currently have over 1800 students from around the area scheduled to attend next week's presentations."

(Continued on pg. 4)

BRTC Loan for Science Complex Approved

Officials at Black River Technical College received approval last week of a low-interest \$9.5 million loan from the USDA's Office of Rural Development to fund construction of a major new Health Science Complex on the Pocahontas campus. The new facility will house the college's Nursing, Phlebotomy, and Science programs, offering additional space for expansion of these highdemand areas of study, according to BRTC President Dr. Wayne Hatcher.

Several BRTC representatives were on hand to formalize the project with the signing of loan documents.

BRTC began the formal process of applying for the loan from the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Direct Loan Program earlier this year, following approval from the BRTC Board of Trustees. A new Health/Science complex to allow for program expansion

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BRTC Board of Trustees Doug Cox and Dr. Paul Baltz (seated, from left) sign loan documents presented by Justin Ladd with USDA. Other BRTC representatives present for the signing were (back row, left to right): Angie Caldwell, VP for Technical Education; Dr. Roger Johnson, VP for General Education; Carolyn Collins, Interim VP for Student Affairs; Brenda Gilloghy, VP for Administration; and Dr. Wayne Hatcher, BRTC President.

Dietetics Club to Host "Fight for the Cure" Fundraiser

The Dietetics Club at BRTC will be hosting a drop-in event to raise money for the American Cancer Society. "Fight for the Cure" will be held today, October 28, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Randolph County Development Center Banquet Room.

"Each semester, students in the Dietetics Club participate in a 'Give Back Project' – some type of community service project of their choice," explained Kathy Murdock, Dietetics instructor. "Last semester, the students



Jerrica Gray showing items donated for Dietetics fundraiser.

held a fundraiser for the Mary Sallee Single Parent Scholarship (MSSPS) fund, which they plan to do again in the spring."

According to Murdock, the "Fight for the Cure" event was the idea of Dietetics student and club member Jerrica Gray with full support of the entire Club. All proceeds from the event will go the American Cancer Society in support of the fight against all types of cancer.

Refreshments will be provided and tickets will be sold for \$1 each for a chance to win a large assortment of prizes generously donated by area businesses and individuals. Tina Roberts and Jamie Mulligan, both breast cancer survivors from Pocahontas, will be speaking beginning at 4:30.

Loan

had been identified as the institution's top building priority more than two years ago, and the Board and Administration had considered various funding options before learning of the USDA option.

The Financial Feasibility study indicates the remainder of the cost of construction and furnishings will be funded by BRTC. The project is expected to commence this fall, with a projected completion date of July 31, 2015.

To be located northeast of the existing science building, the new 44,000 sq. ft. facility will almost double the current capacity of the science labs. It will allow for an additional ten students annually in the RN program, an additional eight students in PN (Nursing I, II, and II) classes, or 24 additional students annually, and an additional eight students in the Nursing Assistant class, representing a potential annual increase of forty CNA students. The RN and PN class expansions are contingent upon approval from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, and the CNA program expansion must be approved by the state's Office of Long Term Care, according to BRTC's VP for Technical Education Angela Caldwell. The ASBN expressed its endorsement of BRTC's planned expansion in a letter of support, citing a critical need for trained health care workers in the state and nation.

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"We are very excited about this project," Caldwell said. "Currently, for every available nursing slots, we have an average of three qualified applicants seeking admission."

Because Nursing is a science-intensive program of study, the need is apparent also in the demand for science classes, notes VP for General Education Dr. Roger Johnson. "Not only will this facility help us to serve the number of students who need science classes either as prerequisites for Health Science programs or for Gen Ed requirements," he explained, "but it also means all our science students will greatly benefit from modern new classrooms and equipment."

Possibilities for renovation and re-use of the current science building are under review, and include new programs of study in other areas of Allied Health, in Agricultural Science, or in Pre-Engineering or other STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs, according to President Hatcher.

"We appreciate the assistance from the USDA's Rural Development staff, the support of our Board, and especially the immense effort from our own staff," he added. "This much-needed project represents a major step forward for our students, college and our community."

ASU Choral Music Director Visits BRTC Choral Dept.

Dr. Dale Miller, Director of Choral Music at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, was a recent guest of BRTC's Choral Department, according to BRTC Choral Director Joniece Trammel.



Dr. Dale Miller of ASU (center) visits with members of BRTC's Choral Music Department.

"Dr. Miller came to

BRTC to show support for the BRTC Choral Department and to recruit students for the ASU choral program," Trammel explained. "His visit included directing the BRTC choir rehearsal while encouraging the students in their pursuit of a degree in music."

"Collaboration between a four-year college and a two-year college is very important to students that are planning on continuing their education," said Trammel. "It not only encourages students to continue their education, but also connects them with an instructor in their field of interest."

Dr. Miller invited any interested choir students to sing with his choir in Spain in March of 2014.

1Randolph HomeImage: Scholarship Awarded

Jordan Whitted has been named recipient of the Randolph Home Healthcare Scholarship at Black River Technical College. She is the daughter of Virginia and Kris Roberts of Maynard and a graduate of Maynard High School. She studying to become a nurse with



to become a nurse with *Jordan Whitted* a desire to work as a Labor and Delivery Nurse.

The Randolph Home Healthcare Scholarship is \$1000 per semester and it is awarded to a student who is pursuing a healthcare related certificate or degree. The scholarship is awarded for both the Fall and the Spring semesters, provided that the recipient maintains a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5. The application process includes submission of the scholarship application, a transcript, and a 100-200 word self-descriptive essay.

For more information about scholarships available at BRTC, contact the Office of Financial Aid at (870) 248-4000.

MSSPS Awarded to 16 Students for Fall 2013 Semester

A total of \$7,800 in scholarships has been

awarded to 16 students through the Mary Sallee

Single Parent Scholarship (MSSPS) fund for the

Fall 2013 semester. Valorie Anderson and Leah

Bailey, Brandi Beckman, Angela Emmitt, Verran-

dah Flanigan, Brittany Madden, Mary Richardson,

Stephanie Searcy, Amy Thielemier, Megan Walls,

Michele Davis and Kendreia Prater of Ravenden,

Amanda Rowe of Maynard received \$300 as a part

Valerie Anderson, Miller, Davis and Emmett

Valerie Anderson is a graduate of Oak Ridge

Miller of Imboden, Emily Anderson, Melaina

and Lacy Wheeless, all of Pocahontas; and

each received \$500 as full-time students; and

-time student. This brings to date a total of

\$161,448.00 awarded through the MSSPS fund.

have been designated as United Way recipients

Central High School and has worked at Sonic

since 2009. She earned a certificate from BRTC

earlier this year and is now in the nursing program at ASU-Newport and plans to become an RN.

Miller is a 2009 graduate of Sloan-Hendrix High

School and is working towards an AA degree at

to pursue a teaching degree in hopes of one day

High School in 1990 and BRTC with an AA de-

gree in 1998. She plans to graduate in December

BRTC and expects to graduate in May. She plans

teaching art. Davis graduated from Sloan-Hendrix

through MSSPS.



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Valorie Anderson



Leah Miller



Michele Davis



Angela Emmett



Emily Anderson



Verrnadah Flannigan

from the respiratory program at BRTC. Emmett earned a GED from Ogechee Tech and is working towards an AA at BRTC then plans to pursue a degree in radiology. Emily Anderson is a 2000 graduate of Granite City High School and attended Southwestern Illinois College. She has been a CAN for 13 years and is pursuing a degree in nursing. Bailey also plans to pursue a degree in nursing. She attended Pocahontas High School and earned a GED earlier this year and is currently taking courses at BRTC. Beckman graduated from Maynard High

School in 2012 and is working towards an AA degree at BRTC, where she is a member of the President's Leadership Council. She plans to

graduate in May then transfer to Williams Baptist College or Arkansas State University to pursue a degree in psychology and become a counselor. She works for Above and Beyond Home Care as a personal care aid and also as a waitress in Hoxie.

Flanigan graduated from Pocahontas High School in 2012 and is working towards an AA degree at BRTC. She plans to graduate Fall 2014 and then begin working on an RN degree. Madden attended Hoxie High School and earned a GED from BRTC in 2008. She is taking general education courses at BRTC. Prater is a graduate of Pocahontas High School and is seeking a degree in psychology from WBC. Richardson graduated from Couch High School in 2012 and has been attending BRTC with plans to pursue a degree in nursing. Searcy graduated high school in Kentucky in 2001 and has been a CNA for over ten years. She is taking general education courses at BRTC with hopes of completing the LPN and RN programs.

Thielemier is a 1996 graduate of Pocahontas High School. She is working on an AA degree at BRTC with a goal of becoming a Pharmacist. Walls graduated from Pocahontas High School in 2010 and is currently a student in the LPN program at BRTC. She plans to become an RN and later earn a Bachelor of Science in nursing degree.

Wheeless graduated Maynard High School in 2009 and Blackwood Beauty School in 2010. She is a student in the Dietetics program at BRTC. Rowe is a 2010 graduate of Maynard High School and is currently taking general education courses at BRTC with plans to pursue a degree in nursing.

According to MSSPS Chair Janna Guthrey, to qualify for the single parent scholarship, 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.

For more information about MSSPS, contact Guthrey at 870-248-4092, or Natasha Rush, Financial Aid Officer, at 870-248-4019.



Amanda Rowe



Lacy Wheeless



Megan Walls



Amy Thielemier



Stephanie Searcy









Brandi Beckman

Malaina Bailey

Brittany Madden

Kendreia Prater

Mary Richardson



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BRTC Mission Statement

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

Campus Commentary...



Dr. Jan Ziegler VP for Development

It would be easy in some ways not to talk or teach about the watershed event in human history known as the Holocaust. After all, nearly 70 years have passed since the end of World War II and the liberation of the last of the concentration and extermination camps scattered across the map of Europe in countries under Nazi control. It would be easy. But it would be wrong.

The lessons of the Holocaust are too important

not to learn by those too young to have personal remembrance. They are lessons too important not to remember by those for whom the WWII era is now just a distant memory. They are lessons about the dangers of prejudice, racism, stereotyping, dehumanization and blind adherence to authority. They are lessons about the responsibilities of individuals, of organizations, of states and nations. They are lessons about what can happen in the face of apathy, silence, indifference.

They are lessons we have opportunity to consider, share, discuss and hopefully take to heart on October 29-30 as we listen to the first-hand account of the experiences of Holocaust survivor Martin Weiss on the campus of BRTC in Pocahontas. Weiss will be speaking to student and community audiences Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 9:30, and Tuesday evening at 7 in the Randolph County Development Center.

A former prisoner in the infamous Auschwitz camp, and now a representative from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., he will challenge listeners to reflect on what happened and why, and he will inspire us to understand and believe that our actions can and will make a difference in keeping our world—the small

Online River's Edge Address: http://www.blackrivertech.org/rivers_edge/

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Holocaust Cont'd from page 1

The presentations are free and open to the public. Sponsors of the event are: SEAS Project of the BRTC Foundation; Mike and Barbara Dunn; First National Bank of Walnut Ridge, Hoxie, Pocahontas and Bono; Dean and Brenda Gillogly; and Integrity 1st Bank.

For more information or to schedule a group, contact Dina Hufstedler at 870-248-4187 or Jessica McFadden at 870-248-4189..

one where we physically live and the greater one we share with all mankind—free from such events ever occurring again.

This opportunity is rare, and will not be available much longer, which makes this opportunity all the more important. We hope you will take advantage of this unique time—to learn, to remember.

I am grateful to be a part of a college and a community that understands the importance of Holocaust education. We are all enriched, young and old. We will be better citizens, and our Democracy will be strengthened by our presence at this event.