

Alumni & Friends NEWS

Fall 2012



Andalusia Campus



MacArthur Campus



Greenville Campus



Luverne Center

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Alumni & Friends NEWS is a semiannual publication of LBW Community College P.O. Drawer 1418 Andalusia, AL 36420



Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts



Culinary Arts now offered at LBWCC

Fall semester 2012 saw the start of a new culinary arts program at LBWCC in Andalusia.

Through a partnership with the City of Andalusia, lab classes are held in the carriage house of Springdale Estate located downtown. Instructional classes are conducted in the Jeff Bishop Student Center classroom.

Chef Michael Whelan of Arizona is instructing the class.

"I am very excited about bringing on board a professional with his level of training and experi-



ence. I believe that he will become a great asset to LBWCC and the community," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

Whelan completed studies at The Culinary Arts Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, Calif.

His culinary experience spans more than 25 years in all facets of gourmet cuisine, including preparation, kitchen operations and staff training. In addition, Whelan has more than 11 years full-time experience teaching at community colleges in Arizona and received the 2012 Mentorship Award from Phi Theta Kappa national honor society.

He also has a certification with the American Culinary Federation, is a member of the American Association of University Professors, was selected as Outstanding Faculty at Mesa Community College, and is listed in "Who's Who" of American Colleges and Universities.

LBWCC in consortium

Awarded \$1.7M for workforce development

LBW Community College is one of five colleges in a consortium that was awarded a multimillion dollar federal grant for a mobile welding and manufacturing technology project.

Of the \$10,083,236 U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant awarded, LBWCC's portion for the three-year project totals more than \$1.7 million.

The grant was approved for the project "Alabama/Florida Technical Employment Network (AF-TEN)" to develop a future workforce and to meet emerging technical needs. Other colleges in the consortium are Chipola College, Northwest Florida State College, Pensacola State College, and Wallace Community College in Dothan.

AF-TEN identified the growing disconnect between the skills of available workers and the regional demand for employees with skills for advanced manufacturing jobs. Each school will share a portion of the award to implement the mobile welding technology program.

"We are proud to partner in the consortium and grateful for the federal grant funding," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel. "Our goal is to produce a highly-skilled workforce to meet the needs of business and industry."

LBWCC's portion will be used to purchase equipment and fund personnel.

Building Brighter Futures

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President's Message

On October 30, I had the opportunity to join in a celebration of Dr. Rex Butler's 30th year in medical practice.

This was truly a community celebration, organized by his lovely and dynamic mother, Mrs. Irene Butler, whose activity level as a "retired" person would put to shame many who are still employed.

Among her many other endeavors, she serves in Montgomery as a member of the "Silver-Haired Legislature." As you can see from the nearby Alumni Spotlight, Dr. Butler is a graduate of LBWCC, where he was president of the Student Government Association (SGA), among other honors

I frequently mention Dr. Butler when I talk to incoming freshmen and high school seniors. I tell them that there is no limit to what you can do by starting at LBW.

We have graduates who have gone on to become successful doctors, pharmacists, scientists, engineers,



Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel LBWCC President

teachers, lawyers, and other professionals – not to mention graduates who chose to follow a business career or are successful in one of the valuable health-care or technical careers offered by the College. We even have our state representative, the Honorable Mike Jones, as one of our own—also a former SGA president.

One of the things I am most proud of for LBWCC is the support of the community. We truly could not do what we are doing for students without the support of many generous donors, some of whom are alumni or had a child begin his or her higher education at LBWCC while living at home.

As my two boys approach college age, the prospect of keeping them closer to home a little longer does have a strong appeal to me – and this is one of the benefits of LBWCC.

I wish all our Friends and Alumni a wonderful healthy and spiritually edifying Holiday Season, and please stay in touch!

Alumni Spotlight



Rex A. Butler, M.D. LBWCC 1973

Dr. Rex A.
Butler of
Andalusia started
the journey
toward a long
medical career
by taking his
first educational
steps at LBW.

While a student at LBW, he served as president of the Student Government Association and freshman class,

received a number of Collegiate Civitan honors, was selected as Mr. LBW, was a Distinguished Honor Student, and selected for *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Upon completion of an Associate of Science Degree in 1973, he transferred to the University of Alabama and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1975 and a Medical Degree in 1979 from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham.

He served both his internship and residency in Pensacola, Fla., before returning to his hometown of Andalusia and establishing the South Central Medical Center.

In October 2012, Dr. Butler celebrated 30 years as a physician. He practices internal medicine and has had three articles published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Dr. Butler has given back to his community through various types of service work, including serving as President of the LBWCC Foundation in 1985-86.

He has also served as President of the Covington County Heart Association, as a member of the Medical Education and Foundation Board, and as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors at Andalusia Hospital.

He is a member of the American Medical Association, Medical Association of Alabama, Covington County Medical Society, and Covington County Historical Society.

Wallace visits Andalusia campus



George Wallace Jr., left, was a guest speaker at LBWCC in October as part of the College's lecture series. While on the Andalusia Campus, he joined LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel, right, for a campus tour, including the Memorial Room in the Learning Resource Center where the College plans to house the Lurleen B. Wallace Museum in honor of Wallace's mother, Alabama's first and only female governor.

Tell Us Your News!

LBWCC alumni are encouraged to submit information for accomplishment recognition.

Contact the *Alumni & Friends Newsletter* Editor by calling (334)881-2320 or send an email to rlemaire@lbwcc.edu

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Andalusia campus enhancement project complete

A pedestrian safety and campus enhancement project is now complete at LBWCC in Andalusia, celebrated with a recent ribbon cutting ceremony.

"This project was funded through donations from the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation and PowerSouth, with street work services by the City of Andalusia," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

The improvements include angled parking along Dannelly Boulevard through the heart of campus, a raised brick paver crosswalk, additional lighting, and a divider island between the road and main parking lot.

"These changes have greatly improved pedestrian safety. The angled parking makes it easier for drivers to make a safe exit, the crosswalk provides a wide crossing area for students and faculty while also slowing traffic, and the parking lot now has designated areas of entrance and exit," said Riedel.

In addition, walking areas are wider; an irrigation system is in place for new landscaping



elements, including several types of shrubs, trees and other plants; and a new patio offers students an outdoor space in front of the student center. "We also now have a designated drop-off area for patrons of the Dixon Center for the Performing Arts, which helps those with limited mobility."

Major Contributors

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The 'College that Cares'



LBWCC's recent internal scholarship drive resulted in 97 percent of all full-time employees participating, raising funds for both the LBWCC Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation. Success was celebrated with a breakfast at LBWCC in Opp, sponsored by CCB Community Bank, Covington Electric Cooperative, and Southeast Alabama Gas District. Pictured are, from left, LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel; MacArthur Foundation Board Member Scotty Short; and LBWCC Foundation President Jennifer Curry and Vice President Kim Carter.

LBWCC is 'military friendly'

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College is among the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools to be named in the 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools[®].

The list recognizes educational institutions doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

The list was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 12,000 VA-approved schools nationwide, with the methodology independently verified. The 1,739 educational institutions on this year's list exhibit leading practices in the recruitment and retention of students with military experience.

LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel said the distinction is important to the College.

"We are very pleased to be included in this list. It reflects the importance we place on helping veterans, military personnel and their families as they pursue their educational goals," he said. "Whether they plan to pursue an academic degree or are interested in one of our technical programs, we are here to help them be successful."



Donor appreciation reception

Sponsored by Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, an appreciation reception for major donors was held in November at Springdale Estate in Andalusia, featuring Chef Michael Whelan and LBWCC's culinary arts program students.



Bob Carter of Goodwin, Mills & Cawood (event sponsor) and Lisa and Dr. Herb Riedel, LBWCC President.



Tambry Gadd, Frank Henderson, Gloria and Ed Short, and Jimmy and Becky Barton.