

## Saints Hall student apartments

Through the efforts of the LBWCC Foundation, Saints Hall apartments are under construction adjacent to the Andalusia campus and are expected to be ready for occupancy beginning Fall Semester 2013.

The Foundation purchased a three-acre parcel where 24 units will accommodate 96 students in two three-story buildings. Each building will contain 12 apartments, housing four students each.

The historic decision by the Foundation came at the right time, said Jennifer Curry, LBWCC Foundation immediate past president.

“The timing was perfect for the Foundation with the maturing of three federal grants and release of those funds by the U.S. Department of Education,” she said.

The property was purchased from John and Evelyn Anderson, longtime supporters of LBWCC and the Foundation.

“The Foundation Board is excited about this new type of investment in property and student housing. It is another way of investing in the success of LBWCC students.”

The construction is made possible through a USDA loan, with future



profits from apartment rentals resulting in additional funds for student scholarships, she added.

LBWCC President Dr. Herbert Riedel said he is proud of the efforts of the Foundation to create new services for students that will allow for growth of College programs, while representing a sound financial investment of Foundation assets.

“In the past, the Foundation invested in assets exclusively in stocks and bonds, although income producing real estate is allowed by the by-laws,” he said. “In this case, the investment not only promises good returns, which will fund additional student scholarships every

year, but it also advances the College’s strategic goals.”

Kent Campbell with Cubed, LLC in Birmingham is serving as the project developer and apartment manager. Students interested in living in the new Saints Hall apartment complex can now apply online at <http://www.saints-hall.com>.

Click on “How to Apply” for application instructions, links to the application page, and important documents regarding the application and leasing process.

For more information, contact Campbell by email at [kent@cubedllc.com](mailto:kent@cubedllc.com), or call 334-343-8150 during regular business hours.



Andalusia Campus



MacArthur Campus



Greenville Campus



Luverne Center

### In this Issue:

- ▶ Saints Hall Construction
- ▶ Culinary Arts Moving
- ▶ President’s Message
- ▶ All-Alabama Students
- ▶ Scholarships Matter
- ▶ ARGO Mastermind
- ▶ Major Contributors
- ▶ Outstanding Alumna
- ▶ Innovations Champion
- ▶ LBW Book, Museum

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P.O. Drawer 1418  
Andalusia, AL 36420



Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts

## Culinary Arts lab moving to campus

Culinary Arts, LBWCC’s newest technical program, will soon have a new kitchen within the Jeff Bishop Student Center on the Andalusia campus.

“We are working with Chef Michael Whelan in developing an expanded area to accommodate the needs of the program,” said LBWCC President Dr. Herbert Riedel.

During the program’s first year, the labs were conducted at Springdale Estate in

Andalusia.

“We certainly appreciate the City of Andalusia’s support and allowing us to rent the space, but the program is growing and students need a larger space in which to conduct the hands-on labs.”

The new kitchen area will be located next to the bookstore and activity area of the Student Center, and is expected to be ready by the beginning of Fall Semester.



Building Brighter Futures

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There are so many exciting things happening on all of LBWCC's campuses!

In Andalusia, we are in the midst of what is truly a transformation with the addition of Foundation-owned student housing, the move of the Culinary Arts program to campus, and further enhancements of our physical facilities, including park benches and tables and a new entrance connecting the Jeff Bishop Student Center with the patio.

The streetscape with over 40 newly-planted trees, attractive street lighting, and the beautiful brick paver crosswalk, all add to a student and pedestrian-friendly environment that the College and community can be very proud of.

At MacArthur, the bookstore was enlarged and moved to the Student Center, newly renovated offices and lab space was completed for the Student Support Services program, and a series of additional renovations is underway.

In Greenville, which has two of our newest instructional buildings, the original building has recently undergone several renovations for an enhanced student lounge area, tutoring center, and bookstore.

Our campuses are thriving. You—LBWCC's alumni and friends—can be proud of the progress of your College, and in many instances you were instrumental in making these improvements possible.

Less visible, but equally important, is the fact that our programs are also thriving. The new Culinary Arts program, spearheaded by Chef Michael Whelan, just completed its first year and not only provides a great career option for students, but is also a valuable addition to our community.

Welding and Industrial Electronics have benefited from the \$1.7 million federal TAACCCT grant. The Honors program is entering its third year and the first class of honors students distin-



**Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel**  
LBWCC President

guished itself by publishing a book (along with their instructor and mentor, Kristy White) on Gov. Lurleen Burns Wallace and the College named after her. The Mathematics Emporium helps students develop their math skills and was designed by our very

competent and creative mathematics faculty. Math and Science Division Chair Mary Ann Hudson received a national award for her leadership of this program and she was recognized as the College's first Innovation Champion.

Our faculty have so many good ideas that are being implemented in the classrooms, that they decided to develop a way to share these innovations amongst themselves. Under the leadership of Dean Peggy Linton and a faculty committee chaired by English faculty member Shannon Lee, they created an online resource called Faculty Innovation 101, utilizing the College's Canvas online platform.

None of our advances and innovations would have been possible without the best, most dedicated, and most innovative group of faculty and staff any College could ask for. I attribute these characteristics to a sense of pride and a realization that their efforts contribute to making the dreams of our students become a reality.

Finally, we all feel a sense of pride and accomplishment when our students are successful. Our students have distinguished themselves in many ways. They have gone on to gainful employment with career/technical certificates and degrees earned from LBWCC, they have transferred to universities, and they have become leaders in professions and in the community.

I look forward to continuing the positive momentum of the College and thank you for your investment in this valuable resource for the future of our community.

## 2013 All-Alabama Academic Team

LBW Community College students Jessica Williamson and Ethan Powell were named 2013 All-Alabama

Academic Team members with the Alabama Community College System for exceptional academic achievement, distin-

guished leadership, and community service.

"These students represent the highest achievers of our college," said Dr. Herbert Riedel, LBWCC president.

"We are extremely proud of what they have accomplished both in and out of the classroom and this is well-deserved recognition for them both."

All-Alabama Academic Team students are nominated by their respective colleges and must possess a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.25, be involved in campus activities, and have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours at the institution.

Williamson, a non-traditional student and mother of three, said she is seeing her dream become a reality after first obtaining a GED and completing an Associate's Degree in May.

"For a non-traditional student, going back to college can be overwhelming. I never thought I would have achieved this much," she said.

She is in the first graduating class of LBWCC's Honors Program and maintained a 4.0 GPA. She received the 2012 Outstanding Freshman award and was recognized last year by the Association of College English Teachers of Alabama

with the Mary Evelyn McMillan Undergraduate Writing Award.

She is also a member of



**Ethan Powell, Jessica Williamson**

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and serves the Alpha Beta Eta chapter as publicity officer. In addition, she works as a tutor in

Student Support Services on the Andalusia campus.

"I could not have been this successful without the support of the concerned faculty at LBWCC," she said.

Her plans include attending Troy University to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing with a minor in American Sign Language, then pursuing a Master's Degree and ultimately teaching.

Powell is a graduate of Straughn High School and maintained a 3.96 GPA while at LBWCC. During his two years on the Andalusia campus, he served as an Ambassador, president of the Student Government Association, treasurer and publicity officer with Campus Citivan, and vice president of service of the Alpha Beta Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. He also serves as tutor with Student Support Services.

He plans to transfer to the University of South Alabama to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Radiologic Sciences. His goal is to become a radiation therapist to help people fight cancer.

"LBWCC is a great transitional phase from high school to a four-year university," he said. "I enjoyed all the opportunities available to students here through clubs and organizations."

**BECKY JACKSON** of Florala was awarded the **Mary Joyce Taylor Beasley Memorial Scholarship**



through the MacArthur Foundation to complete LBWCC's Practical Nursing program in Opp.

Nursing fits Jackson's natural desire to help people, evidenced by her volunteer services with

the City of Florala, Ala., as reserve officer with the police department, volunteer fire fighter, and volunteer work in the municipal court.

A mother of two, Jackson decided to pursue a postsecondary education after completing a GED, and said the scholarship made a large difference for her family.

"The scholarship helped cut down the financial burden my family experienced in the past while I attended college," she said. "It helped me cover expenses at college, allowing me to keep more of the household income for necessities."

After working the required 500 hours as an LPN, she plans to return to LBWCC to pursue the RN mobility program.

"I want to have a stable career to support my family," said Jackson. "Receiving the scholarship was a tremendous help in accomplishing my goal."

As **TAWONA GRANDISON** escorts her young daughter to kindergarten this fall, she will begin her last semester at LBWCC in Andalusia where she is majoring in elementary education.

Grandison, who holds a 3.4 GPA, received the **Grace Briggs Memorial Scholarship** through the Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Foundation.

"Receiving this scholarship allowed me to save money in order to attend classes this summer," she said. "Without it, I would have had to delay completing my coursework toward an Associate Degree."

As a single mother in the workforce, she learned the value of education when she could not find employment with wages sufficient to support her family, she said.

"I am grateful for the generosity of others in establishing scholarships and allowing people like me to pursue our educational dreams."

After graduating from LBWCC, she plans to transfer to Troy University to complete bachelor and master degree programs, she said.

"Ultimately, I want to get my doctorate degree and eventually become a principal," she said.



# Scholarships can make such a difference!



**BRETT TAYLOR** is well on his way to fulfilling his dream of being an attorney. He has a 4.0 GPA after his first year at LBWCC in Greenville.

He is pursuing an Associate in Arts Degree before transferring to Auburn University in Montgomery, where he

plans to major in English. Upon completion of a Bachelor's Degree, he plans to attend the University of Alabama School of Law.

Taylor received the **Gordon S. Jones Memorial Scholarship** through the LBWCC Foundation for the current academic year.

"This scholarship is an assurance that no incidental or unseen event will keep me from reaching my goals," he said.

"The scholarship in itself is helping my commitment to complete!"

A member of the Beta Pi Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Taylor said he has the skills necessary for a successful attorney.

"I love to argue and question people, ideas, and ideologies. I also have a good work ethic and strong moral standards."

## Donation Form

Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

062013



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to remain anonymous.

**Yes,** I/we would like to make a gift to help the college and students. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to: (please mark the appropriate box below)

LBWCC Foundation [501(c)(3) nonprofit]

MacArthur Foundation [501(c)(3) nonprofit]

Please cut on the dotted line above and send this form with your gift to: LBWCC Foundation Specialist, P.O. Drawer 1418, Andalusia, AL 36420

# ARGO mastermind coming to Andalusia

Tony Mendez, retired Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operative and mastermind behind "Argo," one of the most creative and daring rescue operations in history and the basis for the award-winning movie, will be in Andalusia on June 20, 2013, for the LBW Community College Foundation annual scholarship benefit dinner.

"The movie depicts his heroic efforts to develop an elaborate rescue plan in a hostile country," said LBWCC Foundation President Kim Carter. "On June 20th in Andalusia, Mendez will share his own, personal insights of the operation that successfully saved six American lives."

Since Andalusia is within driving distance of several military installations, the Foundation is offering a military discount.

"We are in a very patriotic area of Alabama and the country. Because of his personal connection to this courageous rescue and his 25 years working around the world to keep America safe, we feel many people will want to hear his remarks."

Mendez was recruited by the CIA's Technical Services Division in 1965, and from then until retirement, he lived two lives. For 25 years, he worked under cover, often overseas, par-

ticipating in some of the most important operations of the Cold War.

To his friends, he was a quiet bureaucrat working for the U.S. military. To the CIA, he was their disguise master. From Wild West adventures in East Asia to Cold War intrigue in Moscow, he was there.

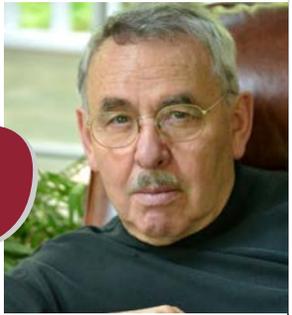
He moved into the CIA's executive rank over the course of his career. Mendez and his subordinates were responsible for changing the identity and appearance of thousands of clandestine operatives, allowing them to move securely around the world.

In January 1980, he was awarded the Intelligence Star for Valor for engineering and conducting the rescue of six U.S. diplomats from Iran during the hostage crisis. This rescue operation involved creating a fake Hollywood film production company, complete with personnel, scripts, publicity and real estate in Los Angeles.

When Mendez retired in November 1990, he had earned the CIA's Intelligence Medal of Merit and two Certificates of Distinction. Seven years later, in September 1997 on the 50th anniversary of the CIA, he was one of 50 officers chosen from

## TONY MENDEZ

*the*  
**Mastermind**  
*of*  
**ARGO**



Coming to Andalusia, Alabama

**June 20, 2013**

Kiwanis Community Center  
Silent Auction, 5:45 p.m.  
Dinner, 7:00 p.m.  
*Book signing to follow*

**Tickets on Sale Now!**

\$50 each or  
\$45 with valid military ID

**334.881.2306**

All proceeds to benefit scholarships and other programs of the Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, P.O. Box 1311, Andalusia, AL 36420

tens of thousands to be awarded the Trailblazer Medallion. This honor recognized him as an "officer who by his actions, example, or initiative... helped shape the history of the CIA."

He published his first book, *The Master of Disguise*, in November 1999. Since then, Mendez has appeared in various national media to include 22 documentaries. He published his

second book in September 2002 with his wife Jonna entitled "Spy Dust."

Warner Brothers made a feature film based on the rescue of hostages out of the Canadian embassy in Tehran. The film "Argo" stars and was directed by Ben Affleck and opened nationally in October 2012. It since won three Academy awards including Best Picture.

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

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Estate of Wendy M. Wood

# Russell is Outstanding Alumna 2013

Cara Beste Rusell of Andalusia is LBW Community College's 2013 Outstanding Alumna.

During her tenure at LBW, she served as an officer of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, and was a member of Mu Alpha Theta mathematics honor society and the Collegiate Civitan Club.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude in 1987, and because of her excellent academic record and enthusiastic involvement in student activities, she was selected as the Most Outstanding Student that year.

Russell attended Troy University where she graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1989, with a major in mathematics and minor in economics/business.

After earning a MBA Degree from Troy University



**Cara Beste Russell  
LBWCC 1987**

*Photo courtesy of  
Robert Evers, RE Productions*

in Montgomery in 1991, she returned to her hometown of Andalusia where she became active in career, family, and community. She currently

serves as the vice president of Walker Electric, Inc.

Russell continues to be a major supporter of LBW. Through the years, she served three terms on the Board of Directors of the LBWCC Foundation, including serving as president. Under her leadership, the board raised more than \$25,000 for scholarships at an annual fundraising event. She was also a driving force in raising funds for Dream Park, which was built on the LBWCC Andalusia campus and has proven beneficial to the College and the community.

Russell has invested her life in the community. In addition to being a devoted wife to Monty Russell and mother to Carter and Michaelyn, she served several years as treasurer of the Andalusia Elementary School Parent Teacher

Organization and president of the Andalusia Middle School Parent Teacher Organization. She also served as president of the Andalusia Junior Woman's Club where she has been a member for 15 years.

She also served two terms on the Andalusia Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and several years on the scholarship committee of the Andalusia Health Services, Inc., which has awarded thousands of dollars to Covington County residents going into health-related fields, including scholarships to many students in LBW's nursing program in Opp.

Russell is a successful career woman, committed mother, and active community member. She is a long-standing and excellent ambassador of LBWCC.

# Hudson named first LBWCC Innovation Champion

Mary Ann Hudson is the first recipient of LBWCC's newly-established Innovation Champions Award.

This new employee recognition program provides an opportunity to showcase innovations employees have successfully designed and implemented which positively impact the College.

The award recognizes Hudson, chair of the LBWCC's mathematics/science division, coordinator of distance education faculty development, and AF-TEN grant curriculum development specialist, for her role in the creation of a new program for math students.

By way of this recognition, Hudson is also named LBWCC's choice for the John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award, established by the national League for Innovation to recognize faculty, staff, and administration for excellence in leadership and innovation in

higher education.

Hudson attended the League for Innovation's national conference in Dallas, Texas, where she participated in a recognition ceremony.

"We are very proud of the leadership provided by Ms. Hudson in the creation of the math emporium, which has now been implemented at all our campus locations," said LBWCC President Dr. Herbert Riedel. "Students completing these courses are showing remarkable improvement in comprehension and higher success rates in subsequent math courses."

Selection for the award was based on the criteria of quality, efficiency, cost effectiveness, creativity, timeliness, learning, and collaboration.

"I am deeply honored," said Hudson. "The success of the math emporium is due to the hard work, dedication and teamwork of our math instructors



Mary Ann Hudson, center, is pictured with Drs. John and Suanne Roueche at the League for Innovation's national conference in Texas.

and the support of administration in getting the program started and building it to where it is today."

The math emporium allows students to progress at their own speed through each component within a course. This provides an opportunity for some students to complete multiple math courses within a semester and pay only one fee for more than

one course. It also allows students to start at the point they left if carrying a course from one semester to the next, eliminating the need to repeat portions already mastered.

"This concept is already implemented at some four-year institutions in math and other disciplines, and gives our students a base for success in mathematics," Riedel said.



Seated are honors program students Emily Townson, Jessica Williamson, Kelsey Chestnut, Alma Caffey, and Paige O'Mara. Standing are LBWCC Vice President Dr. Jim Krudop; Jean Gantt, niece of Lurleen B. Wallace and LBWCC business/economics instructor; Kristy White, English and speech instructor; Katie Hannah, custom editor at Norton; Roger Powell, cover artist; and honors program students Tori Whitehurst and Nick Nolan.

## Honors Program students write book chapters

### LBW Museum on horizon

The first graduating class of LBWCC's Honors Program is setting a high bar for those who follow.

Each of the seven students contributed a chapter to a new book about Alabama's only female governor, Lurleen Burns Wallace, for whom the College is named.

The students, along with

their honors program instructors, researched and wrote the history of LBWCC and the governor.

Those involved include Jessica Williamson of Andalusia; Emily Townson, Andalusia; Kelsey Chestnut, McKenzie; Alma Caffey, Florida; Nick Nolan, Red Level; Tori Whitehurst, Brantley; Paige O'Mara, Montgomery; Kristy White, English and speech instructor; and Dr. Arlene Davis, history and psychology instructor.

W.W. Norton, Inc., is publishing the 80-page book, titled "Nurturing Spirits: History of Lurleen Burns Wallace and LBW Community College."

Andalusia's Roger Powell is collaborating with cover art.

The book will be sold as an insert for English 101 textbooks used at LBWCC and will also be available to the public.

LBWCC is also planning to create a museum to be located in the Dr. William H. McWhorter Learning Resource

Center's Memorial Room on the Andalusia campus.

Davis is working with the Alabama Department of Archives and History, which has agreed to loan many items to LBWCC for the museum.

Anticipated for the museum are two mannequins made to look like Gov. Wallace, as well as her inaugural gown and her famous turkey hunting outfit.

The Archives are also giving the College cabinets, valued at approximately \$100,000, and loaning many paper documents.