

## LBWCC is Bellwether Award Finalist



Andalusia Campus



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P.O. Drawer 1418  
Andalusia, AL 36420



Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College gained national recognition as a Bellwether Award Finalist by the Community College Futures Assembly (CCFA) in Orlando, Fla.

Competition for the prestigious Bellwether Award is among all community colleges in the nation, with 10 finalists selected in each of the three categories of instructional programs and services; planning, governance and finance; and workforce development. The awards are given annually to colleges with outstanding and innovative programs or practices.

Alabama Community College System Chancellor Dr. Mark Heinrich said the finalist designation is an honor.

"LBW's recognition as a Bellwether Finalist is a monumental accomplishment and a tribute to your leadership," said Heinrich as he congratulated LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel. "This honor underscores the work ethic and commitment of your entire campus community. I am very proud for you and your college."

LBWCC's application titled "Transforming Campus Culture through Student Housing at a Rural Community College" resulted in the finalist designation in the planning, governance and finance category.

"As a finalist, we had the opportunity to make a presentation at the Futures Assembly in January, highlighting our project, the College, and our state for a national audience," said Riedel.

"We applied in this category because of the strong collaboration in bringing the new Saints Hall student housing to reality, located adjacent to the Andalusia campus. In addition, it is a strategy that can be replicated by other colleges that wish to experience the benefits."

The College worked closely with the LBWCC Foundation through the idea development phase and obtaining a suitable lot through a partial donation. Other collaborative efforts



Pictured are LBWCC Vice President Dr. Jim Krudop; Renée LeMaire, public information officer and director of marketing and development; LBWCC Foundation Past President Kim Carter, vice president of accounting and finance at Covington Electric Cooperative Inc.; LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel; and O. Morton Congleton, president of Council for Resource Development, event co-sponsor.

involved city, state and federal leaders with obtaining building permits, tax-exempt status through the legislature, and funding through the Community Facilities Loan Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Office.

The CCFA is sponsored by the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Florida and focuses on cutting-edge, trendsetting programs that other colleges might find worthy of replicating.

"Just to be included in the top 10 in the nation is great

recognition for the College, the Foundation, the State of Alabama, and all those involved in the development of Saints Hall student housing," said Riedel.

"This project resulted in a win-win situation for LBW and our students. It benefits our students not once, but twice. It provides much-needed housing, and the profits earned return directly to the LBWCC Foundation for use in funding scholarships and other College projects. We are thrilled to have shared this successful endeavor with our colleagues across the nation."



### Grant funds mobile welding lab

A new mobile welding lab now makes it possible for LBWCC to take training where it is needed.

LBW is one of five colleges in a consortium receiving a federal grant for a mobile welding and manufacturing technology project.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT)

grant was approved for the project "Alabama/Florida Technical Employment Network (AF-TEN)" to develop a future workforce and to meet emerging technical needs.

The mobile lab houses six traditional welding stations and two virtual welding simulators.

*Building Brighter Futures*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year, your local community college — LBWCC — was recognized nationally as a prestigious Bellwether Finalist Award winner (see front page article).

I cannot tell you how proud I am of the LBW team that put together a powerful application and presentation for this award. And of course, the Saints Hall project, which formed the basis for the award is remarkable for the way it brought together the College, the LBWCC Foundation, state and federal resources, and our local community.

We made innovation one of the key priorities in our 2009–2014 strategic plan. LBW joined the League for Innovation in the Community College, sent administrators and faculty to conferences and workshops focused on innovation, instituted an Innovation Champion Award, and with the help and funding of our two foundations, created an annual mini-grant program to spur innovative thinking.

Examples of specific innovations include:

- Creation of an Honors Program
- Textbook committee and textbook rental program
- Two-minute videos of each instructional program posted on website using YouTube

- Developmental Math course redesign and implementation of Math Emporium
  - Faculty online sharing platform “Innovation 101” using Canvas
  - Bookstore redesign and enhancements
  - Automated micro-mart to replace vending machines on MacArthur campus
  - New technologies in facilities, such as trowel-on epoxy wall and floor covering and roof reconditioning
  - The Governor Lurleen B. Wallace Museum
  - Foundation owned and operated student housing (Bellwether Finalist)
  - VOIP telephony, including video phones and voice-mail to e-mail
  - Success=D2n2y Evening program for working adults
  - International student recruitment
  - Adoption of Nelnet payment plan option for students
- We are currently engaged in strategic planning for 2014–2019.



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

We have solicited input from all stakeholders, have reviewed the mission and vision statements, and are now in the process of identifying and compiling specific goals and sub-goals for the next five years. This plan will come into effect in August of this year and will chart the direction

of the College, form the basis for annual objectives of all departments and functional areas of the College, and inform budget priorities.

Our alumni and friends are indispensable for the future success of LBW, primarily through the work of our two foundations. Both of these exist to support the mission and activities of LBWCC and to provide a margin of excellence above what can be provided through institutional funds alone.

In many cases, scholarship support provides the direct assistance our students need. In other instances, private support can bring inspiration and beauty to our campus, such as the wonderful Renaissance Focusing Sundial on the Andalusia campus.

Your gifts and your support always make a huge difference to our students!



## Comedian Keith Alberstadt performing in Andalusia June 19

Stand-up comic Keith Alberstadt has appeared on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, NBC's *Last Comic Standing*, CMT's *Funniest Video Countdown* and *Greatest Redneck Moments*, CNN's *Not Just Another Cable News Show*, and Fox News' *Red Eye*. He's also performed on nationally syndicated radio shows, including "Bob and Tom," "Rick and Bubba," and "John Boy and Billy."

Now see one of the “final four” in CMT's national search for *Last Comic Standing* as the LBWCC Foundation brings Alberstadt to Andalusia on June 19 at 7 p.m. in the Dixon Center for the Performing Arts. A silent art auction in the theater lobby begins at 6 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now! Proceeds to support scholarships and other programs of the Foundation.

For more information or credit card purchases, call 334-881-2306

## 2014 All-Alabama Academic Team

Thomas Hale of the Straughn community and Nathan Smith of Florida are 2014 All-Alabama Academic Team members with the Alabama Community College System.

“These students represent the highest achievers of our college,” said Dr. Herb 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 aver-



**Thomas Hale and Nathan Smith**

age (GPA) of 3.25, be involved in campus activities, and have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours at the institution.

Hale holds a 4.0 GPA and begins studies at Auburn University majoring in materials engineering, “a specialty of mechanical engineering,” he said.

“As a child, I created and built things. All my toys had to deal with creativity, so I've always been interested in how I can make things differently and what I can do with different materials in the things around me.”

Smith is transferring to Troy University majoring in computer science.

“It is an honor, a privilege and a sign of how great this college is that I was able to achieve the All-Alabama Academic Team,” said Smith, who holds a 3.88 grade point average. “I did not have to go to a four-year institution to achieve the same quality education.”

# Diesel 'gold' for two at Alabama SkillsUSA

Two teenage students at LBWCC in Opp proved they have the knowledge and skills to take the top spots in diesel and heavy equipment mechanics during the 2014 SkillsUSA state competition.

Now heading to national competition are Ben Cote of Daphne, 18, and Andrew Driver of Rose Hill, 16, after winning the gold award in post-secondary and high school competitions, respectively. Each scored the highest in their division on the three components of competition: a written test, hands-on demonstration, and job interview.

SkillsUSA is a national non-



LBWCC's Eddie Spann, left, congratulates Andrew Driver of Rose Hill, center, a dual enrollment student, and Ben Cote of Daphne, for both winning the "gold" in state competition.

profit organization serving teachers and students in high school and college who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service

occupations.

"This year's event had the most competitors ever for the diesel skills competition," said Eddie Spann, LBWCC pro-

gram instructor.

Spann said Driver, a dual enrollment student, faced 19 competitors in the high school competition, including last year's gold medal winner.

"He beat the gold medal and the one who placed fourteenth in the nation last year," he said, adding that Driver will complete LBWCC's program before graduating from high school.

"Ben is in his second semester in the program and beat one of the most outstanding diesel students in the state who had actually worked in the career field for more than three years," said Spann.

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

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Both foundations listed below are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.

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- Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Foundation
- Douglas MacArthur State Technical College Foundation

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



LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel, left, is joined at a dedication ceremony by sundial benefactor Renis O. Jones Jr. of Montgomery, center, and Bill Gottesman of Burlington, Vt., sundial designer and maker.

## Renaissance sundial combines science, mathematics and art

During a well-attended dedication ceremony on a sunny Sunday afternoon in April, a newly-installed Renaissance Focusing Sundial was unveiled on the Andalusia campus of LBWCC, a creation of Bill Gottesman of Burlington, Vt., and purchased by Renis O. Jones Jr. of Montgomery, Ala.

Gottesman said his interest in sundials comes from a love of science, mathematics, and craftsmanship. His inspiration for the Renaissance sundial came from the sunbeam scene in the 1981 movie "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

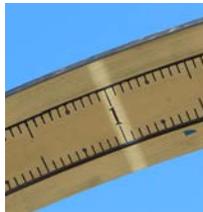
LBWCC President Herb Riedel said most sundials show "solar" time, not accounting for time zones, but he had something more accurate in mind.

"This particular sun dial accurately shows the time up to the minute," he said. "It even has an adjustment that allows us to read the actual clock time, even during daylight savings. It's a precise scientific instrument."

It is also a focusing sundial, he said.

"Instead of shadow, it focuses the sun's light into a beam and onto a brass scale that has the minute lines engraved on it," he said.

The sundial was dedicated to current and future LBWCC students and the community at large.



## 2014 Outstanding Alumna

Jennifer Carroll Curry of Andalusia is LBWCC's 2014 Outstanding Alumna.

She completed an Associate Degree in 1997 and transferred to Auburn University where she completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance in 1999. In addition, she received a Master of Science Degree in Management from Faulkner University in 2001, and a banking degree from the University of South Alabama in 2004. She currently serves as vice-president of lending at CCB Community Bank in Andalusia.

"I feel extremely honored to be nominated and selected for this award," said Curry. "I have lived in Andalusia all my life and know several outstanding individuals that have had the same privilege to attend LBWCC. I truly believe in its value and will continue to support and promote LBW to the best of my ability."

Her commitment to the College was evident in the years she served on the LBWCC Foundation as a board member and past-president. The



Jennifer Curry is pictured with Saints Hall in the background, a project she helped complete through her service with the LBWCC Foundation.

Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the College through scholarships and other projects.

"When I was approached about serving on the LBWCC Foundation, I didn't even have to think about it. I've always thought highly of the College's faculty, administration, and its programs. It set the foundation for my career and prepared me to further my education."

As president of the Foundation, she led the board in planning, financing, and constructing Saints Hall student apartments adjacent to the Andalusia campus.

Her volunteer work extends into the community through involvement in various civic activities.

"I know I may only be one person, but I believe every person counts and can make a difference."