



Andalusia Campus



MacArthur Campus



Greenville Campus



Luverne Center

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



Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts



Governor visits Andalusia campus

LBWCC President Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel, left, welcomes Alabama Governor Dr. Robert Bentley to the Andalusia campus in August. While touring the campus, he learned about various projects completed through public/private partnerships, including Dream Park, Dixon Center for the Performing Arts, and recent landscaping improvements. Gov. Bentley visited the Child Development Center, Emergency Medical Services Program, and Saints Hall student apartments adjacent to campus.

LBW ranks high among peers

LBW Community College has several distinct high-ranking institutional strengths, according to a report by the National Community College Benchmark Project (NCCBP).

Established in 2004 to standardize a nation-wide benchmark reporting process, NCCBP issues annual reports highlighting benchmarks for which the institution ranks above the 85th percentile of all participating colleges nationwide.

LBWCC's strengths include areas of academic success and faculty accessibility.

"This institutional strengths report shows us that we ranked high, in the 85th percentile, for students who successfully complete their first college-level composition course after having taken a developmental writing course at LBW," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

"In core academic skills, LBW has a 95 percent pass rate among students who complete pre-calculus algebra, placing us in the 99th percentile among peer institutions participating in the benchmark project."

The ranking for LBWCC was in the 98th percentile for instructional faculty load, which shows a very high

percentage of credit hours and sections are taught by full-time faculty, said Riedel.

"Full-time faculty members are able to offer office hours, making them more available to students outside of class. They also provide additional service to the College by serving on committees and providing leadership for students through club sponsorships and advising."

The report also shows that LBWCC ranks strong for a low student-faculty ratio.

"We have a smaller student-faculty ratio than 87 percent of other participating colleges," said Riedel. "This is advantageous because it means students get more individualized instruction from the faculty," said Riedel.

LBWCC chose to participate in the volunteer benchmarking study because it is becoming more important to demonstrate effectiveness to federal, state, and accrediting agencies, he said.

"By participating in this project, we now have comparisons with other community colleges across the country on effectiveness and outcome measures."



Emily Driggers prepares model Lakeyendal Taylor for the SkillsUSA "Wizard of Oz" fantasy competition.

Esthetics wins national "Gold"

After winning the state award, Emily Driggers of Elba, a May 2013 graduate, put LBWCC back on the national map this year by winning a gold medal at the SkillsUSA Leadership Conference held in Kansas City, Mo., the second esthetics national win in LBWCC's history.

"I am very excited," she said. "I was not expecting to win first place. My goal was to at least place, but I am very pleased. There was a lot of tough competition."

LBWCC's esthetics program now claims national gold medalists in 2009 and 2013, and a silver medalist in 2011.

For three days, Driggers competed against 18 other postsecondary state winners and was evaluated on her techniques and professionalism in the field of skin care. She competed in four different areas, including an oral skin consultation, a written exam covering the fundamentals of skin care, sanitation, skin analysis, a hands-on basic facial demonstration, and a day time and fantasy make-up application with a "Wizard of Oz" theme.

Driggers now has a chance to be invited to compete with the SkillsUSA World Team in Brazil in 2015 and become the second LBWCC esthetics graduate to compete globally.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is clear from the articles in this newsletter that LBW is making a difference — and has been a leading force for economic development and quality of life in our community since 1965.

State and federal leaders agree that the kind of education provided by LBW is what our state and country need to move us forward, create jobs, and grow our economy.

We can educate students at a fraction of the cost of a university, because we focus on our core mission of teaching students, provide quality, and do so very efficiently.

Unfortunately, state education funding is not distributed equitably between the various branches of education to match the important role our two-year colleges play: The public schools (K–12) receive \$5,418 per student; universities receive \$7,660 per student; but community colleges receive only \$2,709 per student.

We are now at a critical junction and I urge you to tell your elected leaders how much this college means to you and how important it is to fund us adequately.



Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel
LBWCC President

LBW's state allocation for this year is 27 percent below our allocation for 2007. Our highly qualified, dedicated and hard-working faculty and staff have not had a cost of living increase in seven years. In fact, take home pay has

gone down, due to the increased cost of benefits — and that does not take into account inflation. Without additional state funding, valuable student services and instructional programs are at risk.

Our Chancellor's legislative priorities for the 2014 session include a much-needed pay raise, a bond issue to improve facilities for training and upgrade our aging buildings, funding for dual enrollment, funding for business and industry training, and restoration of funding for adult education.

Thanks to our generous friends in the community, and to creative, innovative efforts on the part of my colleagues, we have been able to move ahead and provide unsurpassed opportunities for students.

My best wishes for a wonderful, spiritually edifying holiday season!



Two achieve 35 years of service

The year 2013 marks a career milestone for two familiar faces at LBWCC. Both Diaon Cook, center, and Dr. Jim Krudop, right, celebrate 35 years of service. College President Dr. Herbert H.J. Riedel, left, congratulates them both. Cook currently serves as director of student activities and cultural diversity, as well as English and reading instructor. Dr. Jim Krudop is LBWCC vice president and director of the Greenville campus.



Saints Hall apartments complete

The LBWCC Foundation's Saints Hall student apartments were opened in August, just in time for students to move in for fall semester. The complex is located adjacent to the Andalusia campus and includes two three-story apartment buildings housing up to 96 students, an on-site storm shelter, and a common patio area for socializing. To see more pictures, the website address is www.saints-hall.com.

Student veterans, military start campus organization

For the first time, LBWCC now offers an organization on campus for students who are current military, veterans or dependents.

The LBWCC Student Veterans and Military Association (SVMA) was established to provide this group of students an opportunity to meet and discuss issues relevant to them, said Donna Bass, who serves as co-sponsor with Chuck White, a veteran of

both the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy.

"Veterans and their families face issues that other students may not understand," said Bass, LBWCC's financial aid director and veterans certifying official. "This gives them the opportunity to meet each other, come together to talk about issues, and establish a camaraderie similar to what they enjoyed in the military."

Kelley Averill of Andalusia,

U.S. Army veteran, is serving as president of the organization. Linda Tillis of Kinston, whose husband is retired from the National Guard, serves as vice president. Elected as resource officer is Patricia Daniels of Andalusia, whose husband is a disabled Vietnam War veteran. Cori Kelley of Andalusia, currently serving with the Alabama Army National Guard, is SVMA secretary.

"A lot of time people don't realize the stress families go through and it is good to have others to talk to about things," said Tillis. "We appreciate LBW thinking about the need for this organization."

Currently, the organization is only offered on the Andalusia campus, but hopes are to expand to other campus locations in the future. For more information on SVMA, call Bass at 334-881-2272.

Newton speaks out about her LBW experience

Sonja Newton of Greenville is a 2012 *summa cum laude* graduate with an Associate in Science Degree from LBWCC.

She recently expressed her gratitude for a quality education and caring faculty who helped her succeed.

"I just wanted to take a moment to tell you what a wonderful experience attending LBW was for me. I previously attended Troy State years ago, and I decided to go back to col-



Sonja Newton
LBWCC Graduate

lege at 38 years of age."

She said her age in returning to college proved challenging.

"It was really hard making that first step to go back to school. The technology had changed. However, the teachers and staff at LBW went over and beyond to help. It was such a positive experience.

"I was amazed at watching the younger students being guided academically, too. I can really tell

the staff cares that the students succeed."

She further stated her intention to continue her educational pursuits to become a nurse practitioner.

Her praise of LBWCC is "because I see how this institution helps students in all ages and walks of life. I just could not look ahead without speaking up on what a great job LBW is doing."

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 remaire@lbwcc.edu

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

(May 1, 2012 – October 1, 2013)

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Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Mail your check before Dec. 31 to be eligible for the tax deduction on the 2013 tax return.



122013

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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

I wish to remain anonymous.



Employees celebrate 'College that Cares' campaign

In a room awash with red shirts, LBWCC employees from all locations gathered in October to celebrate a successful third annual "College that Cares" internal scholarship fundraising campaign.

Payroll deduction was the main thrust of this year's campaign, with employees choosing to donate to the LBWCC Foundation or MacArthur Foundation, or both, through payroll deduction.

The catered breakfast celebration was held in the Jeff Bishop Student Center in Andalusia, sponsored by CCB Community Bank, Covington Electric Cooperative, and Southeast Alabama Gas District.

Funds donated by the three organizations also included bright red t-shirts for all employee participants with the campaign logo proudly displayed on the back.

"We truly appreciate how the faculty and staff are supporting this internal campaign to build scholarships for students," said LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel.

Dr. Jim Krudop, director of LBWCC's Institutional Advancement department, said he is thrilled at the employee participation this year.

"Because of their generous efforts, the program was a complete success," he said.

"The number of payroll deduction contributors increased 20 percent. The amount of money given through payroll deduction rose 13 percent, and now

totals \$11,964 per year to our foundations. This does not include fine donations by individuals not on payroll deduction."



The 'College that Cares' celebratory breakfast and t-shirts were sponsored this year by CCB Community Bank, Covington Electric Cooperative, and Southeast Alabama Gas District. Pictured are, from left, LBWCC President Dr. Herb Riedel and Vice President Dr. Jim Krudop; MacArthur Foundation Board Member Allen Thrash; and LBWCC Foundation Board Members Shannon Jackson and Jennifer Curry.