

As a reminder, please  
wear your student ID  
when you are on cam-  
pus!



## Bruin Bulletin

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Friday, March 31:** FASFA Fridays! @ HQ room 2108  
Finally Friday! Movie night: Me Before You

**April 4-7:** Diversity Week

**Wednesday, April 5:** Lunch and Learn: Networking and Branding  
Yourself @ HQ room  
Tie Dye Event @ HQ

**Thursday, April 6:** Open Mic

**Friday, April 7:** FASFA Friday! @ TC room T25

**Monday, April 10:** Shoe Display @ HQ

**Friday, April 14:** FASFA Fridays! @HQ room 2108  
Finally Friday! Movie night: Pixels

**Friday, April 28:** FASFA Fridays! @ TC room 2108

### IMPORTANT DATES

**April 8:** Open House @ TC

**April 17-21:** Spring Recess– have fun and be safe!

**April 21:** College closes at 12PM

**April 28:** Last day to apply for a certificate for May

**May 5:** Last day to withdraw from full semester, last day of classes

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

E-Learning Giveaway ....	2
BRCTC Spirit Week.....	2
Free Lunch!.....	2
Career Services .....	3
Recycling on Campus ....	3
Free Tax Prep.....	4
Attire for Hire Drive.....	4
Earth Day Events.....	5
Free Movie Night.....	5
The Lab Next Door .....	5
Backpack Berkeley.....	6
English Tutoring.....	7
NYC Trip .....	8

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Networking can help you land a job sooner. But do you know how to effectively network? See page 2 for more.
- Are you prepared for life after graduation? Tips from employers are on page 3!
- Not quite a tax expert? Find out about FREE tax prep from BRCTC on page 4.
- Five plastic bottles (PET) recycled provides enough fiber to create one square feet of carpet or enough fiber fill to fill one ski jacket. Learn more about BRCTC's efforts to recycle on Page 3!
- Not sure how to spend your spring break? Information about our NYC trip is on page 8!

## E-LEARNING DEPARTMENT'S SPRING GIVE-AWAY

The E-Learning Department would like to congratulate Mikayla Riff for winning the spring semester technology drawing. Students participated in a drawing for a chance to win a Kindle Whitepaper e-reader. The e-reader can be used to access electronic textbooks, creating fewer costs for students who use the product and is one of many ways to promote paperless living. We hope you enjoy your prize, Mikayla!



Brett Gallagher presents Mikayla Reiff with a Kindle Whitepaper e-reader.

## BRCTC (SNOW DELAYED) SPIRIT DAY

The BBQ Cook-Off was held on Tuesday, March 21, at the Main Campus. Students, Faculty and Staff were given the opportunity to enter BBQ of any kind to be judged by a panel of judges and by the people. Our Contestants this year were Nick Flowers and John Lane. Nick Flowers is the new reigning BRCTC BBQ Champion. Thank you for those of you who attend the BBQ Cook-Off and voted for their favorite. Thank you to our judges: Christa Banks, Britney Norris and Ryan Ballenger. Thank you to the Bruin Café and the Barnes and Nobel Bookstore for donating prizes for the winners.

A Sundae Bar was also held on Tuesday, March 21st at both the Main Campus and the Tech Center. Eighteen gallons of ice cream were served. Thank you to those that volunteered to scoop ice cream and to those who stopped by to grab a sundae.



Above: Contestants John Lane (left) and Nick Flowers (right). Below: Judges (from left to right) Ryan, Britney, and Christa performing the taste test



## BRCTC LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

With April comes another chance to partake in Blue Ridge's Lunch and Learn Series. Haven't attended a Lunch and Learn yet? You're missing out on a free lunch and learning about a new topic each month!

This month's L&L features a guest speaker, Kimberley Foore, talking about Networking and Branding Yourself. As graduation approaches, do you know how to best market yourself to employers? Do you know how to create your own brand? Sit down with us on April 5th, grab a lunch, and learn more about this topic!

***“At least 70%, if not 80% of jobs are not published, yet most people are spending 70 or 80% of their time surfing the net versus getting out there, talking to employers.”***

*-Matt Youngquist, President of Career Horizons*

Date: Wednesday, April 5th

Time: 11-12

Location: 2101

Topic: Networking and Branding Yourself with Kimberley Foore



## TIPS FROM EMPLOYEERS THAT ARE HIRING

(Adapted from the National Association of College and Employers)

The best job-search advice comes from the employers that are hiring. If you take the time to follow this advice, you'll be better prepared than your competition for your application and interview.

Here are some things you can do to aid in your job-search success:

**Research the Company:** Learn something about the company with which you want to interview. Read its website and its annual report. Search for news stories mentioning the company. Use this information to customize your resume and cover letter for the position you want. Impress the interviewer by knowing something about the company.

**Get Experience:** Year after year, the majority of employers taking part in a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) say they prefer to hire job candidates who have pertinent experience. For college students, typically, relevant experience is gained through an internship. In fact, an internship can be the "foot in the door" to a job with many employers: NACE surveys show that newly hired employees often come from the organization's own internship program.

**Make Career Services Your BFF:** What is it worth to have someone who is in daily contact with potential employers show you how to write a winning cover letter, critique your resume, practice interviewing with you, connect you with people who are working in your field, and give you access to thousands of job opportunities?

Contact the Office of Career Services at [careerservices@blueridgetc.edu](mailto:careerservices@blueridgetc.edu) for more information about career exploration, resume and interviewing assistance, and connecting with employers. This service is free to current Blue Ridge CTC students.

**Save the date:**

### **Annual Career Fair**

[www.blueridgetc.edu/careerfair](http://www.blueridgetc.edu/careerfair)

Network with approximately 50 Regional employers.

Friday, April 28th from 3p – 6p @ HQ

## RECYCLING ON CAMPUS

Did you know that according to a recent study from Yale University and the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. recycles less than 22% of its discarded materials? Even though the United States accounts for only 5% of the world's population, we produce more waste than any other country.



Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), Blue Ridge's Academic Honors Society, is already working with the college and we need *your* help to change that! Last semester, PTK placed recycling bins on the Tech Campus. Students and staff can deposit recyclables, including cans, paper, or plastics 1-7. Please be respectful of this program, and do not deposit half full containers or garbage!



**PHI THETA KAPPA**  
HONOR SOCIETY

## FREE TAX PREP

April 15th means the end of tax season. Have you delayed doing your taxes because you need help completing them? Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. We file both federal and state taxes. Blue Ridge offers appointments for free tax preparation on Fridays leading up to April 15th.

To make an appointment, please call Susan Richman at 304-260-4380 ext. 2110.



## ATTIRE FOR HIRE DRIVE A SUCCESS

Rotaract and Phi Beta Lambda clubs, along with the Student Activities Board and Office of Career Services successfully collaborated and hosted its very first Attire for Hire Clothing Drive from February 13th through 17th, 2017. The event was created to assist students in search of employment opportunities by providing professional clothing essentials. Blue Ridge CTC students accomplished this goal with the help of numerous donations from the local community, merchants, and organizations. Approximately 1,000 items were collected and included professional apparel, shoes, and accessories for men and women.

The clothing distribution occurred on February 20th and 21st, 2017 at Headquarters campus. Overall, 116 individuals were able to walk away with clothing and nearly half of the donated items found new homes. Eileen Kusnirak, VP of Phi Beta Lambda and President of Rotaract said, "We had a remarkable number of students who volunteered their time and effort to make this an extraordinary experience for all involved. I could not be happier with what we achieved during this drive"

The remaining clothing items have found a new home at the Martinsburg VA Center to assist the community in obtaining clothing for interviews and employment. In addition, 150 pieces of everyday wear will be donated to local clothing closets in need.

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College and the clubs involved would like to give a special thanks to anyone who brought in donations!



Students Pictured from Left to Right: Alexis Byers, Logan Jay, Sabrina Carney, Eileen Kusnirak, Ashley Arriaga, Ryan Ballenger, and Melissa Jiannotti

Did you know? Blue Ridge's mascot is a Bruin, which is a bear!



## E-LEARNING DEPARTMENT: EARTH DAY EVENTS

Earth day is Saturday April 22nd and, to celebrate, the E-learning Department would like you to participate in a campaign for sustainable living!

On Thursday April 13th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, the E-learning department will have a table set up in the Café area at Headquarters. E-Learning Team Members will be educating students about the importance of conserving water. Be sure to participate in a fun and interactive water-themed experiment when you stop by!



*According to BottledWater.Org, Americans use 2.5 million water bottles every hour. Receive a complimentary reusable water bottle when you participate and you can help produce less waste by using the reusable bottle!*

The E-Learning team celebrates earth day and educates students about sustainability every year as a way to promote e-learning as a sustainable alternative to learning in the classroom. As always, we will be giving away a piece of technology in honor of the event. Be sure to stop by our table and sign up for a chance to win a free Kindle Whitepaper E-Reader to save paper and money when buying textbooks this fall. As always, if you have any items you would like to recycle, there will be a recycling station at the Earth Day exhibit table.

## THE LAB NEXT DOOR



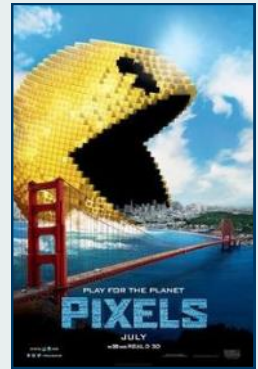
The laboratory for our Applied Lab Technician Program

Olay Body Wash, a product made by P&G, is clinically proven to slow the skin aging process. It does so through its top five ingredients: retinyl propionate (vitamin A derivative), glycerin, niacinamide (vitamin B3), broad spectrum sunscreen, and amino peptides. Retinyl Propionate is considered the go-to ingredient for reducing the appearance of lines and wrinkles as well as for preserving collagen. Glycerin hydrates lines and wrinkles. Niacinamide reduces the appearance of lines and wrinkles by increasing skin cell renewal as well as helps to strengthen the skin's moisture barrier. Broad Spectrum Sunscreen helps prevent UV skin damage that results in lines and wrinkles.

P&G is locating a manufacturing center in the Martinsburg area. Olay Body Wash is one of many products P&G will produce at the Martinsburg facility. Quality control testing will be a key factor in the manufacturing of Olay Body Wash. Quality Control is a process that ensures quality in manufactured products through a series of tests; this is done by multiple tests like pH, percentage of solids, foam formation, foam quality, viscosity, and dirt dispersion. Does this type of work sound like something that would interest you? Check out the Applied Laboratory Technician certificate program here at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. This program trains its students to work in quality control within a manufacturing setting. If you want more information about this program, contact the Program Coordinator, Paul Emanuel at 304-260-4380 ext. 3420 or [pemanuel@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:pemanuel@blueridgectc.edu).

## FINALLY FRI-DAY! FREE MOVIE NIGHT

Have you missed out on our Finally Friday! Free Movie Nights so far this semester? There's still a chance to take advantage of the fun! In April, we're showing the comedy Pixels (PG-13)!



This 2015 release, starring comedy big names including Adam Sandler, and Kevin James among others, is sure to keep you laughing. When aliens misinterpret video games sent by NASA as declarations of war, they attack earth— in the form of those video games! It's up to Sam (Sandler) and other top gamers to save the world.

So bring your friends, grab some of our free snacks, and check out Pixels with us! We'll see you on Friday, April 14th at 6pm at HQ!



## BOOKSTORE GRADUATION FAIR

Are you graduating this May? If so, congratulations on all your hard work paying off! In order to help you prepare for graduation, the Bookstore at our Headquarters location will be having a Graduation Fair on Monday, April 10th. Stop by from 9AM- 4:30 PM to take part! During this event you can order your cap and gown, sign the class of 2017 poster, and receive discounts on apparel and more! You can even get your formal picture taken while wearing your graduation regalia.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity from the Bookstore, and hope to see you on April 10th! Congratulations again, 2017 graduates!



## EDUCATION MAJORS ASSIST BERKELEY COUNTY BACKPACK PROGRAM

Education Program Coordinator, Page Moore, arranged a visit to the Berkeley County Backpack Program on Tuesday, March 7th for students enrolled in Education 200. The mission of Berkeley County Backpack is “helping to end hunger in our county, one bag of food at a time.” The program was implemented to meet the needs of children whose primary food source is school meals. Berkeley County Backpack provides children with healthy and easy-to-consume foods that can be taken home on weekends.

Education 200, Foundations of Education, focuses on factors which greatly influence the world of education, such as food insecurity. Moore stated, “The Berkeley County Backpack Program visit was a valuable and eye-opening experience for all who attended.” In addition to Education majors, Brett Gallagher (Dean of PSUT) and Amanda Carrell (E-Learning Support Specialist) attended with students from Carrell’s Teamwork & Managing Teams class. All attendees enjoyed working together to sort and pack bags full of food. Additionally, students learned how the program currently serves 25 of the 32 schools in Berkeley County, providing food for more than 600 students in all grade levels.

Blue Ridge CTC is listed as a donation site on the Berkeley County Backpack website. The School of Professional Studies and University Transfer, HQ Suite 2200, has a donation box to collect non-perishable food items. To learn more and to view a list of food suggestions, visit the website, <http://feedbcwvkids.org/get-involved>.



Left: Blue Ridge CTC students and staff packing food for local schools in need.

Right: Jay Minnick, Diona Murphy, and Natasha Clendenin (Education Majors) help to sort and pack food.

# WALK-IN TUTORING

EVERY FRIDAY

11:30 AM-6:15 PM

MAIN CAMPUS, ROOM 2104

OFFERING ASSISTANCE IN...

- STUDY SKILLS & NOTE-TAKING
- READING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
- WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM
- MLA & APA STYLES
- HELP FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS



FOR ON-CAMPUS  
TUTORING AT OTHER  
DAYS AND TIMES OR  
IN OTHER SUBJECTS,  
REQUEST A PEER  
TUTOR ONLINE AT

[WWW.BLUERIDGECTC.EDU/TUTOR-REQUEST](http://WWW.BLUERIDGECTC.EDU/TUTOR-REQUEST)

**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Book soon— only **FOUR**  
seats remain! This trip, over  
the BRCTC Spring Break, is  
sure to be a good time!

# NEW YORK CITY WEEKEND

# BUS TRIP

April 21 – 23, 2017

*Do you love New York City?* Join your friends on this perfect spring get away! “Start spreading the news” about this great new trip sponsored by the Blue Ridge CTC Foundation. Enjoy your stay at **Novotel Times Square**, located in Times Square. Call your friends and sign up soon! We look forward to hearing from you!

- |          |   |                     |
|----------|---|---------------------|
| ② Double | 1 King bed <i>or</i> 2 full/double beds ..... | \$499.00 per person |
| ③ Triple | 2 full/double beds .....                      | \$425.00 per person |
| ④ Quad   | 2 full/double beds .....                      | \$373.00 per person |

\*Payable in three installments.  
\*Single room rate available upon request.

**Novotel Times Square | 226 West 52nd Street on Broadway, New York, NY**

**Can be viewed online: [www.novotel-newyork-timessquare.com](http://www.novotel-newyork-timessquare.com)**


The 2017 Package includes transportation by Schrock, 2 nights lodging, all luggage handling delivery, and taxes.  
\*\*Additional activities, attractions, tours, admissions, meals, & shows can be added at additional cost per request.\*\*

**For More  
Information:**

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Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides opportunity to all prospective and current members of the student body, faculty, and staff on the basis of individual qualifications and merit without regard to race, color, sex, sexual preference, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, familial status, veteran status, or disability.





**BE A HERO!  
FIGHT PLAGIARISM  
WITH  
ACADEMIC HONESTY!**

HQ RM 1105  
12:30-1:00PM  
THURSDAY 4/6/17

LEARN HOW TO...

Define Academic  
Honesty and Plagiarism

Identify the 10 types of  
Plagiarism

Cite your sources  
within  
the text and on your  
reference page

Presented by the E-Learning Department

## BLUE RIDGE CTC

In an environment focused on affordability and achievement, Blue Ridge offers associate degrees, certificates, and certification training in liberal arts, business administration, and allied health fields. Our programs are learner-centered and essential to the needs of a fast-paced, global economy. Take possibility to new heights—ascend the Ridge today.

## THE LOW DOWN: GRADUATION INFORMATION

Are you graduating this spring? Do you have friends or family members that are? Here's the run down on graduation at BRCTC.

**WHO:** Anyone who earned their degree in Summer 2016, December 2016, or May 2016. A precise number of tickets will be issued for family and friends!

**WHAT:** Commencement Ceremony to confer your degree

**WHERE:** Martinsburg High School

**WHEN:** May 26th; Graduates arrive at 5:45; ceremony begins at 7, and seating for guests will begin at 5:45

**WHY:** Because you've worked hard for your degree! It's time to walk across the stage and celebrate!



**BLUE RIDGE  
COMMUNITY AND  
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Newsletter questions or  
articles for our next edition?  
Email Ashley Sturm at  
asturm@blueridgectc.edu



**Do you have a story about your club, organization, or event that you would like featured in next month's edition of the Bruin Bulletin? Email Ashley Sturm at asturm@blueridgectc.edu on how to get your article featured!**