

# STUDENT NEWSLETTER



  
**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**MARCH 2019**





## Mission Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is dedicated to providing a diverse student population with collaborative programs and support services to improve the quality of life and promote economic development in its service area. Its quality academic programs are learner-centered and focus on career entry, university transfer, developmental education, and workforce development.

## Nondiscrimination Statement

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. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Printed and/or electronic documents produced by the College do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between an applicant or student.

## Locations

Main Campus

13650 Apple Harvest Dr.  
Martinsburg, WV 25403

Technology Center

5550 Winchester Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405

Morgan County Center

Located at the Pines Opportunity Center  
109 War Memorial Dr.  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

## Contact Information

[www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu](http://www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu)  
304.260.4380

**Cover Photos:** Berkeley Co. Backpack Program Volunteering,  
Jay Wyatt Presentation, Lunch & Learn with Ken Spedden, Ox Famine Dinner





## **Kelsey Dawn Kesecker**

Outreach and Placement Specialist, Siona Escoto (right), was excited to run into BRCTC graduate, Kelsey Dawn Kesecker (left), at the Berkeley Springs Chamber of Commerce Job Fair. Kelsey had previously worked with Siona to polish her resume and learn tips and tricks about the job market today.

Visit with the Office of Career Services to receive Resume Writing support and learn how to best market yourself to employers during the job search process!

Siona Escoto, Outreach & Placement Specialist

Office of Career Services

304-260-4380 x3335

[sescoto@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sescoto@blueridgectc.edu)



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## BRCTC RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

**Wednesday, March 13, 2019**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2019**

**All are welcome to join any of the above support group  
sessions from 4:30pm-6:00pm, located in room 2101.**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Lisha Burks:** [lburks@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:lburks@blueridgectc.edu)

**Sara Gordon:** [sgordon@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sgordon@blueridgectc.edu)

**Alexis Dixon:** [adixon@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:adixon@blueridgectc.edu)

**Main Campus: 13650 Apple Harvest Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25403**

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IRS Certified Volunteers Providing  
**FREE TAX PREPARATION**

## **Schedule a 1-hour Appointment**

**Fridays: 10am – 3pm**

**March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 • April 5**

**Contact Susan Richman: 304-260-4380 ext. 2110**

*The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$66,000 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.*

## **Blue Ridge CTC will again be offering free electronic tax preparation to students and the community at Main Campus.**

IRS-certified volunteers will provide free basic income tax return preparation to individuals and families whose income is \$66,000 or less. This initiative is sponsored by the Eastern Panhandle EITC Coalition and the IRS VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. For personal tax preparation one-on-one, Blue Ridge will be taking appointments for Fridays, beginning with February 1 through April 5, 2019. The hours of operation will be appointments on the hour beginning at 10am through 3pm. To make an appointment, please call 304-260-4380 extension 2110 and speak with Susan Richman. Blue Ridge will also sponsor assistance to those who may feel a little intimidated with electronic personal filing but wish to try filing taxes on the computer using the MyFreeTaxes website at the school. Tax preparers will be able to assist those persons filing on their own.

## **What to Bring:**

- For Married filing joint, both spouses must be present
- All Forms W-2 and 1099
- Information for other income
- Information for all deductions/credits
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Proof of account for direct deposit of refund
- Social Security cards or individual Taxpayer Identification notices/cards for you, your spouse, and/or dependents
- Proof of identification for yourself and/or your spouse
- Total paid to day care provider and their tax ID number
- Birth dates for you, your spouse, and/or dependents on the return
- Proof of foreign status if applying for ITIN
- Forms 1095-A, B, or C (ACA Statements)
- For prior year returns, copies of income transcripts from IRS (and State, if applicable)

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# FOOD DRIVE

JANUARY 23 *through* MAY 9, 2019



**BRCTC is collecting non-perishable food items for the May 9, 2019 Resource Fair. Donations can be dropped off at the Main Campus front lobby.**

**For more information:**

Sara Gordon  
[sgordon@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sgordon@blueridgectc.edu)

**Main Campus  
13650 Apple Harvest Dr.  
Martinsburg, WV 25403**

**[www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu](http://www.BlueRidgeCTC.edu) | 304.260.4380**

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# 35 Folds to the **MOON**



Blue Ridge CTC Drama Club  
presents ***“35 Folds to the Moon”***  
by James Ralston, a play about  
a mature romance

Mark your calendars, and come to the play at the Apollo Civic Theatre at 128 East Martin Street, Martinsburg, showing on the evenings of March 14, 15, and 16, and on the afternoon of March 17.

Join the Drama Club by contacting Dr. Kathy Cox at [kcox@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:kcox@blueridgectc.edu). Find out the nuts and bolts of producing a play. Walk behind the scenes and talk to the playwright and directors.

  
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*“ Its drama lies in the real life dialog  
between wife and husband, which  
instills in the audience a wiser sense  
of what love is all about. ”*



# HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT

MARCH 6, 2019  
3PM - 6PM  
TECH CENTER



- ENJOY GREAT FOOD
- LEARN ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
- LEARN ABOUT TAKING CLASSES WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL
- APPLY FOR ADMISSION

REGISTER ONLINE  
TO ATTEND:  
[www.blueridgectc.edu/highschoolnight](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/highschoolnight)

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# HIGH SCHOOL *Night*

March 21, 2019 • 4pm to 7pm

*Join us and...*

- Enjoy great food
- Learn about career opportunities
- Learn about taking classes while in high school
- Apply for admission

*Register Online:*  
[www.blueridgectc.edu/highschoolnight](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/highschoolnight)

MORGAN COUNTY LOCATION



## Sports Club

The Sports and Rec Club was formed in October of 2018 with the primary goals of fostering a community of students and promoting a healthy lifestyle focusing on enjoyable, purposeful and sometimes competitive sporting activities.

Throughout the fall 2018 semester, the Sports and Rec Club engaged in kickball, football, basketball, and other recreational activities.

There have been over twenty-five unique participants in Sports and Rec this semester as well, and the club hopes to grow even larger in the spring. Students, staff, and faculty are all encouraged to join. See you out on the lawn!



***JOIN SPORTS CLUB TODAY!***

***Contact Steve Wolfe:***

***swolfe@blueridgectc.edu***



# TRANSFER EXPO *Spring 2019*



## **PARTICIPATING 4-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:**

American Public University  
American Sentinel University  
Frostburg State University  
Grand Canyon University  
Potomac State College of WVU  
Purdue University Global  
Regent University  
Rennes School  
Shenandoah University  
Shepherd University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
Stevenson University  
University of Charleston  
University of Maryland Univ. College  
West Virginia State University  
West Virginia University  
WVU – Nursing and WVU Online  
WVU – Parkersburg

## **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR TRANSCRIPTS!**

*Discuss opportunities available  
to you after graduation!*

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2019  
9AM-3:30PM**

**Headquarters (HQ) Main Campus  
13650 Apple Harvest Drive  
Martinsburg, WV 25403**

Looking to continue your education after Blue Ridge CTC?  
Grab your transcript and join us for the Spring 2019 Transfer Expo! Learn about and discuss opportunities for transferring to a four-year university after graduation!

**A Q&A breakout session** is scheduled at 1pm in room 2107. During this time, Transfer Expo participants are introduced to students and graduates in a smaller setting. This time has been established for colleges and universities to present additional institutional information to interested transfer students. Refreshments will be provided during the 1pm Q&A breakout session.

This event takes place on the first and second floors of the Headquarters (HQ) Main Campus.



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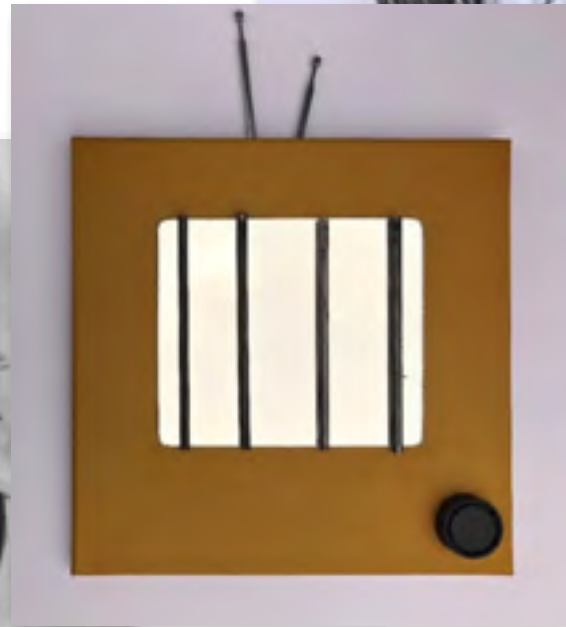
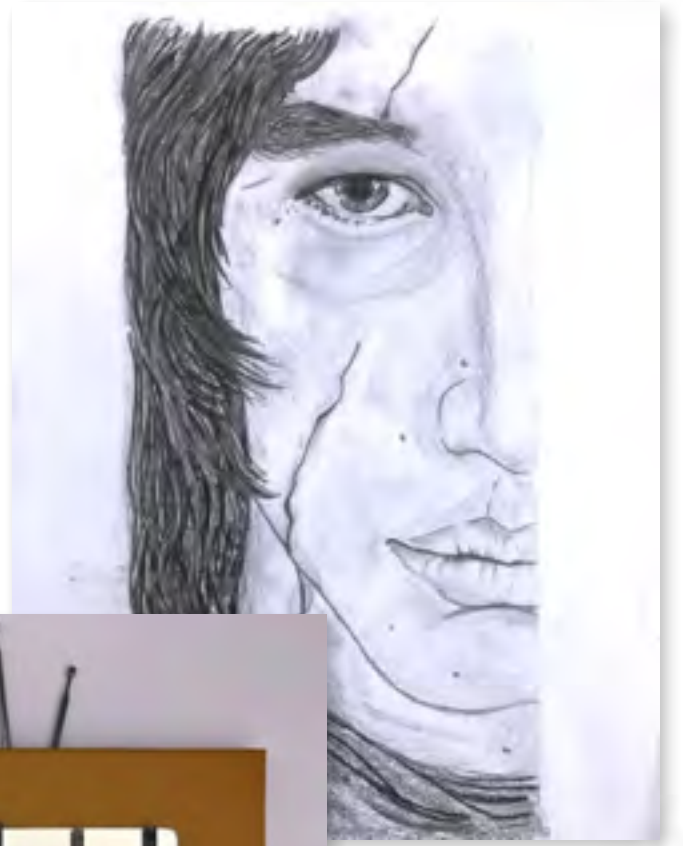
Contact Jackie Griggs for more information: [jgriggs@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:jgriggs@blueridgectc.edu)



# OUTLET ART ON EXHIBIT AT TECH CENTER

## **Artworks featured in *The Outlet* are now on exhibit at the Technology Center art space.**

The creations from the art award winners and a selection of drawings, paintings, photographs and digital art from the 2018 Blue Ridge CTC literary journal, *The Outlet: Bloom Where You are Planted – Arts and Letters*, are on display in the T41 Art Space at the Blue Ridge Technical Center, 5550 Winchester Avenue, Martinsburg, WV. Visit, enjoy, and let these works by Blue Ridge CTC students, faculty and staff inspire you to create and enter our 2019 arts and literature competition. The call to writers, poets, artists, and other ‘makers’ will go out soon.



*Details on how to submit your  
artwork and writings to the  
2019 edition to The Outlet will  
be emailed out soon!*



Jacquie Proctor

## POWER OF SERVICE DOGS

*with Jacquie Proctor*

**MARCH 14, 2019**

**11:30AM-12:30PM**

**Main Campus, Room 2107**

**Jacquie Proctor** is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified Clinical Trauma Professional. She has an MA in Counseling from West Virginia University and a BA in psychology from Shepherd College. She has been a clinical supervisor for Lutheran Family Services, where she supervised the therapeutic day treatment staff and helped to create their outpatient therapy program. She has been a therapist working with children, adolescents, and young adults at Grafton Integrated Health Network and Children's Resources for 21 years. Jacquie has been fortunate and blessed to have had a guide dog by her side for going on 30 years this year.

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
[www.blueridgectc.edu/lunchandlearn](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/lunchandlearn)



## Where are BRCTC students enjoying this kind of hands-on experience? In the field experience class!

**Ryan Stark**, who enjoyed a virtual internship with a company in California, said the coolest thing about an internship is “that the work matters in a way it doesn’t at school.” He researched and wrote proposals about what technology the company should use. He was amazed that the CEO was going to read his work. His supervisor told him:

*“If you make mistakes, it’s no big deal – that’s what internships are for.”*

**Moriah Ferguson** completed an internship at The Village Square LLC, a local day care. She said, “It is OK if you don’t know something right away; you can ask for help.” She also learned better communication skills and learned how to talk effectively with parents. In addition, Moriah used her skills to design new forms for the company, collect information to be shared on a new APP, developed a regulations binder, and learned new software programs. Students participating in internships are learning new skills and enhancing skills learned in the classroom. But that’s not all – internships offer the opportunity to network with business people, build their resume, learn what it’s like to work in the real world, and often walk away with a job after graduation.

**Matthew Heath** recently accepted an internship with ACEInfo Solutions. His goal after graduation is to secure a job at the company, so he secured an internship position. The company often hires interns as full-time employees, so this internship is the first step in meeting his goal.

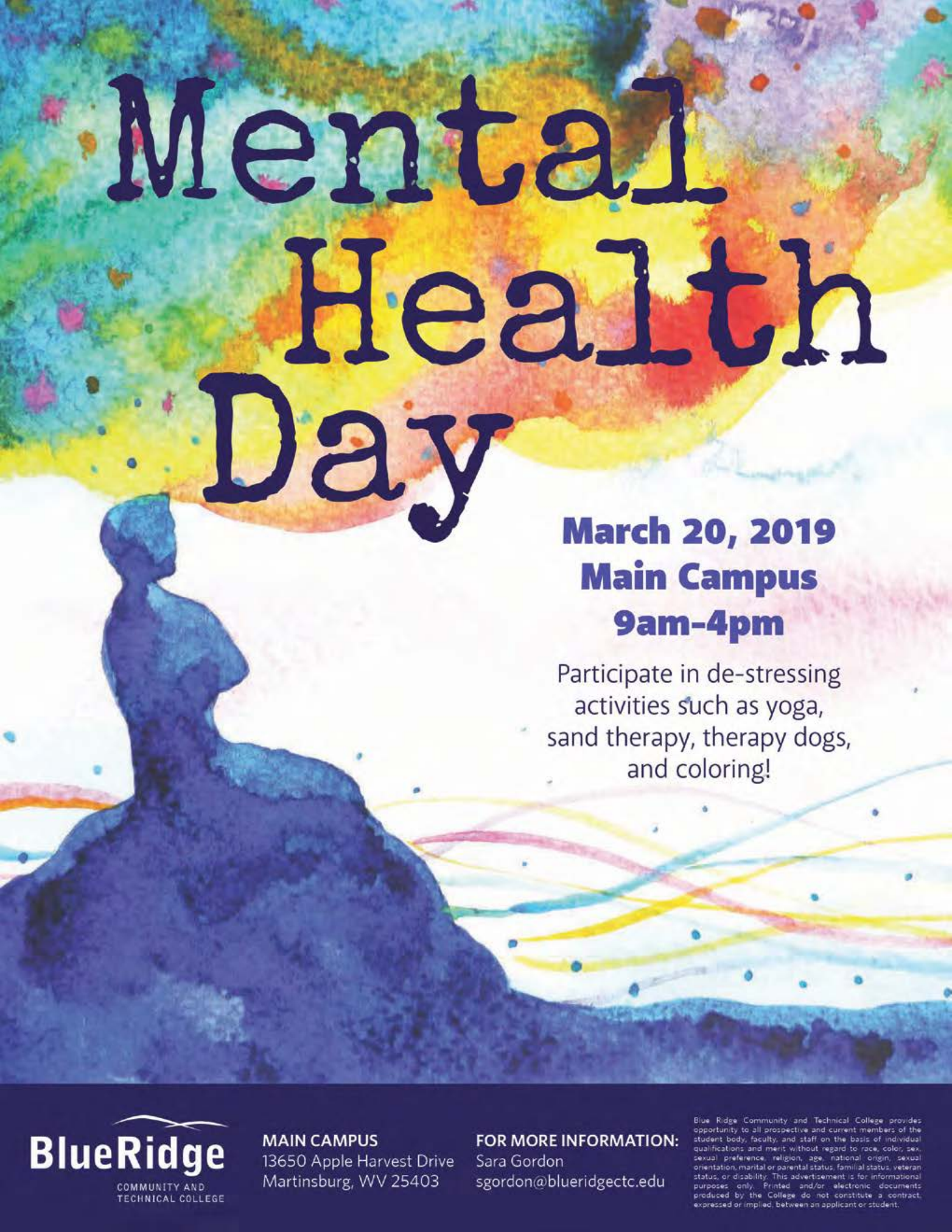
Students taking the field experience class are encouraged to polish their resume and begin applying for internships a few months before the class starts. Students beginning the internship search early are more likely to find productive internships that meet their personal goals.



**To learn more about technology internships, contact Amber Butcher, Internship Coordinator: [abutcher@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:abutcher@blueridgectc.edu).**

## Technology Internship Examples:

- Developing an APP seen on Shark Tank
- Designing a website
- Writing reports for a CEO
- Preparing a laptop for foreign travel
- Creating new documents for a company
- Researching and ordering computer equipment for five locations
- Building a new network in a school



# Mental Health Day

**March 20, 2019**  
**Main Campus**  
**9am-4pm**

Participate in de-stressing activities such as yoga, sand therapy, therapy dogs, and coloring!



## Check out these new COMM classes on the Class Schedule!



### **Social Media Communication (COMM 206\*)**

This course examines social media in the interpersonal, mass-mediated, educational, organizational, and political settings. Students will explore different forms of social media technologies in communication; including social networking sites, image sharing and messaging sites, social community and discussion sites, and social bookmarking sites. The course disassembles application of social media in a variety of settings to understand who is using social media, how they develop meaningful relationships, and how they use social media during major events.

### **Interpersonal Communication in the Workplace (COMM 207)**

This course creates a thoughtful look at the key skills necessary for personal and managerial success today. The student will discover interpersonal communications using three frames: under yourself, understanding and working with others, and understanding and working in teams. The course takes an experiential approach to exercises, cases, and other activities.

### **Intercultural Communication (COMM 220\*)**

Introduction to Intercultural Communications examines the practical application of theory and research in the area of intercultural communications. The course topics, activities, theory, and research are designed to develop skills and strategies needed to deal effectively with challenges in a broad variety of interaction contexts. The course will cover topics including perception, convergence, communication and culture, linguistic and technology differences, ecological influences on culture, dimensions of cultural difference, stereotyping, intercultural challenges, adaptation and culture shock, and diversity management.

### **Communicating Culture in Film (COMM 221\*)**

This course explores the stereotypes communicated in film that help shape and perpetuate cultural biases communicated in society.

### **The Art and Science of Persuasion (COMM 230\*)**

This course addresses the principles, techniques, and ethics of persuasion as producers and consumers of information in both personal and professional contexts. Topics include the use of ethos, pathos, and logos; the importance of audience, purpose, and situational analysis; and the impact of language and listening skills in developing and responding to persuasive messages. Students will apply theories of persuasion and influence to real-world situations including interpersonal relationships, advertising campaigns, news media, television programs, film, and mediated communication and become effective, ethical communicators as well as informed, analytical consumers.

***\*Offered Online***

# KARAOKE

## Contest



**March 26, 2019  
12pm – 1pm  
Main Campus Cafe**

Do you have what it takes  
to become Blue Ridge CTC's  
next Karaoke Champion?

**Sign Up to Participate:**  
[www.blueridgectc.edu/eventrsvp](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/eventrsvp)

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**MAIN CAMPUS CAFE**  
13650 Apple Harvest Drive  
Martinsburg, WV 25403

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Sara Gordon  
[sgordon@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:sgordon@blueridgectc.edu)

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