

# STUDENT NEWSLETTER



**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**OCTOBER 2019**



# MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

## Mission Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides our diverse student population with life-changing education, training, and services that drive economic development within the communities we serve.

## Our Vision

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is the first choice for higher education that drives career growth and economic development in our region and surrounding communities.



*Just like every piece is  
important to make a puzzle  
complete, every person  
is important to the mission!*

## Core Values

Stewardship:

- Put student access, learning, and success first
- Support a safe, collaborating, and engaging environment for employees and students
- Provide an optimum learning environment for students
- Use College resources responsibly
- Demonstrate care for facilities

Civility:

- Communicate with respect, trust, and care
- Respect differences
- Listen actively
- Be aware of your impact on others
- Discuss differences and resolve conflicts

Integrity:

- Engage and actively contribute to the overall success of the College
- Think creatively and develop solutions
- Act honestly and ethically
- Provide accurate and thorough information
- Be courageous to be even better

Entrepreneurship:

- Embrace our business partners
- Think proactively and innovatively
- Be adaptable and flexible for shifting priorities
- Identify areas for continuous improvement
- OWN enrollment
- Take calculated risks wisely

# GENERAL BRCTC INFORMATION

## **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. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo)

### **On the Cover:**

*Nurses White Coat Ceremony*

*Coffee and Crafting*

*Open House - Summer 2019*

*Tech Day - 2019*

## **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



# NOW HIRING: CULINARY POSITIONS



**\$500 SIGN-ON BONUS**

**WE ARE HIRING  
CULINARY POSITIONS • ALL SKILL LEVELS**

**HOLLYWOOD**  
*Casino*  
AT CHARLES TOWN RACES

APPLY ONLINE TODAY AT [WWW.PNGAMING.COM/CAREERS](http://WWW.PNGAMING.COM/CAREERS)  
Equal Opportunity Employer. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-522-4700 for help.

## **Hollywood Casino is hiring and offers multiple benefits.**

Hollywood Casino is currently offering a \$500 sign-on bonus. In addition, after 90 days, Hollywood Casino employees are eligible for \$2,000 per year in tuition reimbursement and part time employees are eligible for \$1,000 in tuition reimbursement. Positions are flexible so that students can take classes.

This is a wonderful opportunity for BRCTC students to gain hands-on experience while completing a culinary degree. In addition, a position at Hollywood Casino is an excellent placement to fulfill the culinary field experience class.

Current positions include baker, certified cook, cook, master cook, specialty certified cook, and specialty certified wok cook. If you have any questions, call **Kevin Grove at 304-724-0602**.



**October 16**

## **Lunch and Learn: IT in Healthcare**

Speaker Donna Buhrts, from WVU Medicine, will discuss the IT world from the Healthcare perspective. Lunch will be provided. To register to attend go to this address: [www.blueridgectc.edu/lunchandlearn](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/lunchandlearn)



**October 22**

## **Walking Tacos**

What's a walking taco? It's a taco in a bag! Pick your chips, meat, and other fixins' and a spoon or fork and away you go! Now you've made a walking taco! Stop by the main campus or Tech Center starting at 1:00pm until supplies last to get a walking taco before or after your class.



**October 24**

## **Mac and Cheese Cook Off**

Does your mac and cheese have what it takes to be the best at Blue Ridge? Why not put it to the test? We will be holding a Mac and Cheese Cook Off starting at 3:30pm at the main campus. To register to enter, please go to this address: [www.blueridgectc.edu/eventsvp](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/eventsvp)



**October 29**

## **Talent Show**

Do you dance, sing or juggle? Are you able to pull a rabbit out of a hat or have another special talent? If so register at this address to enter BRCTC's Talent show: [www.blueridgectc.edu/eventsvp](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/eventsvp)

This event will begin at 5:00pm at the main campus.

# CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOPS

## FALL 2019

Join Career Services for an interactive, educational workshop geared specifically toward helping Blue Ridge CTC students attain the skills and information needed to move forward with a career.



## Are you Career Ready?

**Thursday, October 17, 2019**

**1pm - 2pm**

**Main Campus, Room 2107**

Attend this one-hour workshop and learn more about the career readiness competencies or skills that employers rank the highest and most important in candidates. Understanding career readiness competencies will help candidates stand out and be more competitive for employment.

## Ace the Interview!

**Thursday, November 14, 2019**

**1pm - 2pm**

**Main Campus, Room 2107**

Visit this one-hour workshop and learn more about the psychology behind the interviewer and the best way to answer different forms of interview questions. Learn the skills you need to *Ace the Interview!*

**REGISTER ONLINE:**

**[www.blueridgectc.edu/careerservices](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/careerservices)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**please contact Career Services at [CareerServices@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:CareerServices@blueridgectc.edu)**



**Main Campus**

13650 Apple Harvest Drive  
Martinsburg, WV 25403

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. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo).

# What's new at the

## BRUIN Café



### Jump Start Your Day!

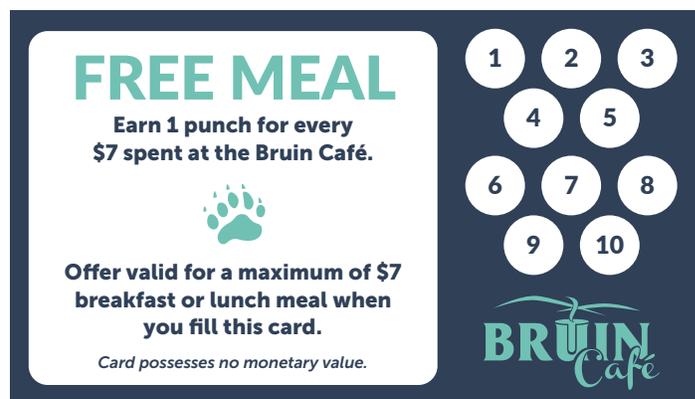
We are pleased to announce our new 'Jump Start' menu at each of the Bruin Café locations. Available every morning from 7:30am – 10:30am we will be offering an additional low cost menu item as well as our already affordable daily breakfast special. The menu has been inspired by our Jump Start students featuring a grab-and-go type specialty item daily. Menu items vary daily and by campus. Crunch wraps, sausage biscuit sandwich, tater tots, french fries, donuts, cheese sticks, chicken strips, and breakfast sandwiches are a few of the specialty items. These exciting new menu options are available to everyone. We look forward to serving you.

### Eggs Your Way

'Eggs Your Way' is now available at both Bruin Café locations. Fried, over easy, or scrambled, it's your choice. Prepared fresh to order daily from 7:30am – 10:30am. Have them as an entrée or added a la carte to our breakfast special.

### Meal Card & Coffee Cards

Want a FREE MEAL? The Bruin Café is excited to announce a new punch card reward system for meal purchases. Beginning October 1st you will receive one punch for every \$7.00 spent in the Bruin Cafés. After 10 punches your card is redeemable for a meal purchase up to \$7.00 in value. In addition to the meal card, we currently offer a coffee 'punch card'. Receive one punch with every coffee purchase and after 10 punches, the next coffee is free.



## What is Karst?

Since last fall, we have been managing a large sinkhole and the development of a few smaller ones at the College's headquarter campus. The development of sinkholes is a common occurrence in the Eastern Panhandle.

We care very much about the safety of our students, staff and faculty. Blue Ridge CTC continues to work closely with staff members of the WV Community and Technical College System, the architectural firm who designed the HQ building, Bastian & Harris, and the general and subcontractors who were involved in the building's construction.

In addition, the College has contracted with karst experts, DiGioia Gray & Associates.

## So, what is karst? DiGioia Gray & Associates offers the following explanation:

The term "karst" dates back to the late 19th century from the German form of the Slovenian word kras, which means 'a bleak waterless place' and was used to describe a region situated in what is present-day west Slovenia near the Adriatic Sea. Today, karst is used to describe a type of topography that can be formed over soluble rocks, such as limestone.

The College is underlain by limestone associated with a geologic formation known as the Conococheague Formation, which dates back to the Cambrian geologic age (about 500 million years ago).



*“Today, karst is used to describe a type of topography that can be formed over soluble rocks, such as limestone.”*



# CAMPUS SINKHOLE UPDATE

The development of karst is a natural process driven by water over geologic time. This dissolution process that develops over millions of years can create an irregular top of rock surface along with a complex and highly developed network of solution conduits, voids, caves, and underground drainage within the rock; water drives everything in karst. Perhaps the most notorious of all karst expressions are sinkholes, and many of the College staff and students are undoubtedly familiar with the sinkhole located in the parking lot.

Sinkholes generally result from the transport soil downward into and along solution-enlarged channels within the rock (channels form over geologic time while soil erosion into the channels can be relatively quick). It is important to note that sinkholes do not occur randomly; they occur only where geologic conditions have created solution pathways in the soluble rock. Although the karst hydro-geologic regime is extremely complex, sinkhole formation is relatively straightforward and is driven by water that erodes cover sediment into deeper dissolved voids that can ultimately create a sinkhole.

Within the coming weeks, you will see various construction activities around campus that are intended to address our karst issues. The safety and security of our College community is of utmost importance, and we have engaged the professional services of DiGioia Gray & Associates to guide these karst efforts. DiGioia Gray personnel have significant regional karst experience with nationally recognized karst expertise. Although karst is an extremely complex engineering undertaking, please take comfort in knowing that we are proactively addressing our karst issues.



If you have questions about our sinkholes and would like to know what actions we are taking, feel free to email **Joe Bickett at [lbickett@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:lbickett@blueridgectc.edu)**.

Authors: DiGioia Gray & Associates and Joe Bickett, Facilities Director

# Master Chef *EXPRESS*

**FALL 2019**

All courses are \$29.99 per person or parent/child unless otherwise stated.

Technology Center: 5550 Winchester Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405

## **Master Chef Parent/Child Cupcakes with Chef Samantha & Chef Jenn**

**Saturday, October 19th • 10am - 12pm**

Create fanciful cupcakes and classic butter cream.

9 Spots available.

## **Master Chef with Chef Miriam: Japan, so much more than sushi**

**Saturday, October 26th • 10am - 12pm**

Ramen, Chicken Yakitori, Chakin Tofu, and Sukiyaki Hot Pot: learn to make Ramen noodles and Dashi and have a Soy Sauce Tasting/ Presentation.

12 Spots available .

## **Master Chef with Chef Steve: Taste of Italy from Rome to Milan**

**Tuesday, November 5th • 5pm - 7pm**

Ride the rails to experience one iconic dish from each. From Roma – Pasta Arrabiata and From Milano - Risotto Milanese. 12 Spots available.

## **Master Chef Diner Cake Series with Chef Lara: Carrot Cake**

**Tuesday, November 19th • 5pm - 7pm**

Create a delicious spiced carrot cake along with a luscious cream cheese icing. 12 Spots available.

## **Master Chef Parent/Child Gingerbread House**

**Tuesday, December 10th • 5pm - 7pm**

Create a gingerbread house and learn how to make royal icing. 14 Spots available.



*Featuring Chef Steve Weiss*

Have you ever wanted to be a part of a live cooking show? Learn the culinary techniques of Master Chefs at Blue Ridge CTC with Chef Steve Weiss.

Chef Steve Weiss brings to life the Culinary experience offered only at Blue Ridge CTC's Academy of Hospitality and Culinary Arts. Chef Steve has trained chefs at the White House and has competed on numerous television shows.



Be a part of an interactive  
culinary experience!

**REGISTER TODAY!**

<http://blueridgectc.augusoft.net>  
304.260.4380 ext. 2411



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. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo)

# AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL AID

## It's That Time Again Already?!

I know... school just started, right? But you can already fill out the 2020-2021 FAFSA to see how much money you qualify for in grants, loans, and federal work study.

If you want state grants (including WV Invests) and many scholarships, you will have to do the FAFSA as your first step.

It is important to get a head start on applying for the FAFSA and applying early if you want to be eligible for certain types of financial aid. It is also helpful if you are selected to turn in paperwork so we can get that taken care of well before the next school year starts.

The 2020-2021 FAFSA will be for NEXT school year (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and Summer 2021). It will collect tax information from 2018, and the best way to do this is to use the Data Retrieval Tool included in the FAFSA. This imports your tax information directly from the IRS into the FAFSA so there is no need to dig out those tax forms and enter line by line information (in most cases).

If you need help filling out your FAFSA, please text us at **304-470-4588** or email us at **finaid@blueridgectc.edu**. We will be available during regular business hours to help students as well as the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9am-12pm. This includes Oct. 12, 2019. Contact us to let us know you would like to meet with us now!

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and can be completed online at **www.fafsa.gov**. You can also download the myStudentAid app for free (iOS & Android) and fill it out on your mobile device.



*The FAFSA can be completed online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).*

# STUDENTS, YOU HAVE AN ACADEMIC ADVISOR!

## How can your academic advisor help you?

Did you know that you were assigned a faculty academic advisor as soon as you were admitted as a new student? Each degree program at Blue Ridge CTC is unique, and your faculty advisor is the expert in your program of study. Your advisor knows exactly when certain classes which count toward your degree will be offered each semester. S/he will help you create error-free class schedules until your graduation day. Your advisor is also a mentor who will discuss your future career or transfer goals with you.

Advisors often have real-life work experience in your chosen field of study. For example, Challice LaRose (Human Services Program Coordinator) has worked as a social worker at an emergency children's shelter. Craig Smith (Criminal Justice Program Coordinator) worked for the Winchester Police Department for 26 years. Joshua Rider (Education Program Coordinator) was an elementary school teacher and library media specialist for 8 years prior to coming to Blue Ridge CTC.



## Who is my academic advisor? When can I sign up for an appointment?

All Blue Ridge CTC divisions (Professional Studies and University Transfer, Nursing, Allied Health, and Workforce and Engineering Technologies) pair students with a faculty advisor and offer advisement options. To find out who your advisor is, first log on to BRIDGE, then click "Student Services", "Student Records", and "DegreeWorks".

### *Advisement and Registration period for continuing students begins on Monday, October 14th!*

The School of Professional Studies and University Transfer (PSUT) offers advisement appointments for four full weeks: Monday, October 14th – Friday, November 8th. (PSUT degree programs: Accounting, Business Administration, Business Operations, Criminal Justice, Education, Human Services, Liberal Arts, Social Sciences, Paralegal Studies). During this time frame, you can sign up for an appointment outside of PSUT's office, located on the second floor of HQ Campus, Suite 2200. During your appointment, you will plan your Spring semester class schedule.

Your advisor is available to help you throughout the school year, not only during Advisement and Registration period. Advisors offer 10 open office hours per week.

**For more information, contact  
Kelly Shurnitski, PSUT Program Assistant:  
kshurnit@blueridgectc.edu.**

**save  
the date**



Valley Health and Blue Ridge Community  
and Technical College invite you to the

## **PANHANDLE Health & Wellness Festival**

**October 5, 2019 • 8 A.M.–12 noon**  
**Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Main Campus**

13650 Apple Harvest Dr., Martinsburg, WV

Stop in for free health screenings, discounted lab work, demonstrations, and healthy culinary delights for all ages.

**For more information, visit [valleyhealthlink.com/panhandlewellnessfestival](http://valleyhealthlink.com/panhandlewellnessfestival)**

**BlueRidge**  
COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**ValleyHealth**  
Winchester Medical Center



# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Join SGA today!

Develop strong leadership and team building skills to add to your resume, as well as have the wonderful opportunity to meet new people and make long lasting relationships with a diverse group of fellow students.



### For More Information, Contact:

Jared Kuse

SGA & Student Body President:  
[jkuse01@my.blueridgectc.edu](mailto:jkuse01@my.blueridgectc.edu)

## Town Hall Meetings

**3rd Wednesday of every month, 2pm - 3:15pm**

**Main Campus, Room 2105**

Blue Ridge CTC Student Government Association will host a Town Hall meeting on the **3rd Wednesday of every month**. Any and all Blue Ridge CTC students are welcome to join to discuss emerging topics, voice concerns and requests, express ideas and advocate for topics on campus. As a Blue Ridge CTC student, you have a voice and we want to hear your thoughts!

**“Through the Viewfinder”  
Tech Center Campus**

Blue Ridge CTC alumnus Omar Williams is exhibiting a suite of 14 digital photographs, *Through the Viewfinder*, in the T41 art space located in the BRCTC Tech Center’s East Annex. The exhibit will remain on view during BRCTC operating hours through December. Williams says he discovered that “art is in me” while taking the Art 103 Introduction to Visual Art course at BRCTC. While concentrating on photography as a “way of translating what is seen,” Omar Williams is also creating 3D mixed media constructions and works in acrylic and watercolor. He is presently taking studio art and other courses at Shepherd University.



**“Outlet Art”  
Morgan County Campus**

The exhibit of *Outlet Art* that was on exhibit in the T41 art space is now on exhibit through December at the BRCTC Morgan County Campus. It includes the BR Outlet Art award winners Cayla Clark, Christopher Houck, and Emily Marion.



*Top Left: Self Portrait, Omar Williams  
Bottom Left: Fire Escapes, Omar Williams  
Right: Hawk Eye drawing, Cayla Clark*

# TRANSFER

# EXPO

*Fall  
2019*

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

American Sentinel University  
Grand Canyon University  
Mount St. Mary's University  
National University  
Purdue University Global  
Regent University  
Salem University  
Shenandoah University  
Shepherd University  
Stevenson University Online  
University of Maryland University College  
West Liberty University  
WVU Admissions and Recruitment  
WVU College of Education  
and Human Services  
WVU Potomac State College

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

***Discuss opportunities available  
to you after graduation!***

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019 • 1PM - 6:30PM**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019 • 9AM - 1PM**

**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 Fall 2019 Transfer Expo!  
Learn about and discuss opportunities for transferring to a four-year university after graduation!

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.

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

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Contact Jackie Griggs at [jgriggs@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:jgriggs@blueridgectc.edu)

  
**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEInfo)



# OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 • 3pm-6pm

Advisor Meet and Greet  
Campus Tours  
FAFSA Assistance

JOIN US AT THE

→ **TECH** ←  
**CENTER  
LOCATION**

5550 Winchester Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405

Join us anytime **between 3pm-6pm**  
to learn more about our **60 degree**  
and certificate programs.

Business	Liberal Arts
Criminal Justice	Mechatronics
Culinary	Medical Assisting
Education	Nursing
Electric Distribution	Paralegal
EMS	Physical Therapy
Information Technology	Assisting

**And More!**

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



# BlueRidge

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## BRCTC RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

All are welcome to join any of the above support group sessions from 4:30pm – 6:00pm, located in room 2104

OCTOBER 9, 2019

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

DECEMBER 11, 2019

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

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. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo)

**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)**