



BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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News Digest for July 2016 (Click on each link to open)

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The BSCC News Digest is a sampling of news articles and information regarding Bevill State Community College that appears in local media. If there is an article that you see that is not listed, please send to Chris Franklin at cfranklin@bscc.edu

3M makes donation to Bevill State students

3M Guin recently presented Rebekah Blackstock, a Florence native and a third semester associate degree nursing student, and Emelio Madero, a Guin native and recent welding graduate, a 3M Littman Stethoscope and 3M Speedglas Welding Shield. The two students, who have attended Bevill State Community College-Hamilton, were selected by college faculty members in their respective departments. Interim Associate Dean Dr. Russell Howton of

the Hamilton Campus said Bevill State “is appreciative of the support that 3M has given to us over the last several years. They have been very instrumental in the success of the C3/BSCC Career Fair which targets local high school students and now they have gone a step further by providing deserving students with essential items that can be used in their respective career fields. The partnership between 3M and Bevill State exemplifies local industry and education working together for the good of the community.” Shown are (from left) Dr. Dale Alexander, nursing division chair; Blackstock; Matt Collins, human resources manager for 3M Guin; Madero; and Mike Reed, welding instructor at Bevill State-Hamilton.



Bevill State hosting robotics camp this week

Special to the Eagle

Bevill State Community College's Sumiton Campus will be transformed into a "battle-ground for bots" this week, while the College hosts a robotics camp as part of its Career Pathways Academy.

Students from Walker and Fayette counties who are participating in the Career Pathways Academy Robotics Camp will learn how to build and program robots during the week. The week concludes on Saturday with a robotics competition and a chance for camp participants to challenge each other in an exciting way that shows off what they have learned by competing against other students using the robots they build and program.

The Bevill State Career

Pathways Academy was announced earlier this year. It allows currently enrolled high school sophomores in Walker, Fayette and north Tuscaloosa counties to encounter new career pathways through experiences in career fairs, exploration camps, internships and industry relevant training.

In addition to the robotics competition on Saturday, a special ceremony is also scheduled as part of the day's activities.

Immediately following the robotics competition, participants and their families will attend a scholarship signing ceremony where each student will sign a Career Pathways Academy Scholarship charter to officially recognize the scholarship offered by Bevill State

Community College for the Academy and the acceptance of the scholarship by the student.

Alabama Sen. Greg Reed is expected to attend the ceremony. Sen. Reed was instrumental in securing funding to start the Career Pathways Academy at Bevill State.

"The Robotics Camp and competition should prove to be a great piece of the overall experience that participation in the Career Pathways Academy will have for these students. I am excited and looking forward to seeing the results of the students' hard work," said Bevill State President Dr. Larry Ferguson.

To learn more information about the BSCC Career Pathways Academy, call (205) 397-0511, ext. 5710.

BSCC-SUMITON HOSTS ROBOTICS COMPETITION



Daily Mountain Eagle - Nicole Smith

A robotics competition was held at Beville State Community College-Sumiton on Saturday. Students from Oakman, Walker, Dora, Curry and Cordova High schools competed, along with other students from central Alabama. The students participated in a week-long robotics camp as part of the Career Pathways Academy for sophomores. Winners of the competition are as follows: 1st place, John Pons of Walker High and Dustin Sherrill of Fayette County High; 2nd place, Ethan Franklin of Berry High and Tanner Hester of Dora High; and 3rd place, Alex Moore of Fayette County High and Cody Robertson of Northside High. A scholarship signing ceremony was held after the competition, and Sen. Greg Reed commended the students for their hard work.

Bevill State hosts robotics camp

SUMITON - Bevill State Community College's Sumiton Campus was transformed into a "battleground for bots" the week of July 5 as the College hosted a Robotics Camp as part of its Career Pathways Academy.

Students from Fayette, Walker and Winston Counties who participated in the Career Pathways Academy Robotics Camp spent the week learning how to build and program robots. Then, on July 9, a robotics competition was held. It was a chance for camp participants to challenge each other in an exciting way that showed off what they have learned by competing against other students using the robots they built and programed.

The Bevill State Career Pathways Academy was announced earlier this year. It allows currently enrolled high school sophomores in Fayette, Walker, Winston, and north Tuscaloosa Counties to encounter new career pathways through experiences in career fairs, exploration camps, internships, and industry relevant training.

In addition to the robotics competition on July 9, a special ceremony was also held as part of the day's activities. Immediately following the Robotics Competition, participants and their families attended a scholarship signing ceremony where each student signed a Career Pathways Academy Scholarship charter to officially recognize the scholarship offered by Bevill State Community College for the Academy and the acceptance of the scholarship by the student.

Alabama Senate Majority Leader Greg Reed attended the ceremony and congratulated the students for their involvement. Senator Reed was instrumental in securing funding to start the Career Pathways Academy at Bevill State.

"I had a fabulous time attending BSCC's robotics camp - what an inspiring group of students! Expanding job opportunities for young people through technical training is a passion of mine. I had the idea for some sort of high-skilled technical training program for local students, and pitched it to BSCC's administrators. They have done a phenomenal job turning the idea into a reality. I worked hard to have funds included in this year's state budget for the Career Pathways Academy. I am excited to see the positive results for our area students going forward from this innovative program," said Senator Reed.

Dr. Larry Ferguson, president of Bevill State also attended the event and praised the students for their work and commitment to the Camp and the Career Pathways Academy. "Your involvement in this Robotics Camp should prove to be a great piece of the overall experience



Students from high schools in Fayette County were among those participating in the recent Career Pathways Academy Robotics Camp

your participation in the Career Pathways Academy will have. I am excited, and looking forward to seeing the results of your hard work and what your commitment to this program will bring," said Ferguson.

To learn more information about the BSCC Career Pathways Academy, call 205-397-0511, ext. 5710.

Bevill State to return Women's Volleyball to Fayette Campus

Special to the Eagle

Bevill State Community College administrators announced today that women's volleyball would be added to the reinstated athletics program at the College.

The College announced in May that athletics would be returning after a five-year absence.

The volleyball program joins the previously announced men's baseball on the Fayette Campus, men's basketball on the Jasper Campus and women's softball on the Sumiton Campus.

Play in all four sports is expected to begin in Fall 2017.

"When we originally made the announcement to return sports to many of our campuses, we described it as a 'prototype' model. This model would allow us to evaluate which sports we could support and on which campuses we could locate them. In an early evaluation of this prototype model, we feel we



can support the addition of volleyball to the Fayette Campus," said Dr. Larry Ferguson, president of Bevill State.

Before all athletics were discontinued at the College, Women's Volleyball was one of the sports played at Bevill State.

The volleyball program won three State Championships during its history.

"Returning volleyball to the Fayette Campus, and expanding the sports offered by the College, is just another example how we are dedicated to enhancing the student experience at Bevill State," explained Dr. Ferguson.

"I am excited about all the possibilities and involvement this addition will bring."

Attention now turns to the process of hiring a coach for the volleyball team.

Last month, the College announced the appointment of Joey May as the head baseball coach.

It was also stated that the selection of both a head basketball and head softball coach was being conducted.

An anticipated start date for all the new coaches is August.

Bevill State to set up nature trail

■ **Path will go along
Andrew Jackson's
Military Road**

By **ED HOWELL**
Assistant News Editor

HAMILTON - Bevill State Community College-Hamilton is installing a long-awaited nature trail to the rear of its campus that it hopes to use for student learning, public wellness, historical preservation and community development.

The college said in a press release on Wednesday, July 27, that the Butta-hatchee River Nature Trail will be developed as a three-tier project.

The path of the new trail will be a rectangular path, college spokesman Chris Franklin said, although the distance of the new trail has not been determined.

When completed, the trail will offer students and the Hamilton community a multi-purpose natural area, the college said.

“For students, the nature trail offers an outdoor learning laboratory that can be utilized to expand the study of the natural ecosystem offered by the area,” the college said in the release. “Students will also be able to take advantage of recreational and entertainment activities planned for the trail.

“The entire Hamilton community can also enjoy the recreational benefits of the project. Community residents will be able to take part in the wellness benefits of the nature trail.”

Another part of the nature trail will

deal with the historical legacy of the area. The nature trail is located on Andrew Jackson's Military Road. Franklin said it will be along the river behind the college, on the east side of National Avenue. It will run about the length of the college.

“Built near the end of the War of 1812, the Military Road was a route from Nashville to New Orleans. Because of the proximity to the historic road, the nature trail provides a great opportunity to bring awareness to the area's historical contributions,” the college said in the release.

Officials hope the trail enhances the

See **NATURE** on page 3.

Nature

continued from front page.

community.

“Projects like the Butta-hatchee River Nature Trail at Bevill State contribute to the mission of our college in so many different ways,” said Dr. Larry Ferguson, president of Bevill State. “Not only is this another way to provide a great experience to our students, but it is also a way to make a lasting impact on one community that we serve.

“The positive effects this project will have on the area is something that we can hold up as an example of contributing back to those we serve.”

Franklin said the trail has been in development for the college for a while, including the past two years he has been employed there.

“We’ve appointed task forces for it,” but the changing of leadership in the college delayed the project until those changes could be implemented, he said, noting the nature trail has always been a priority for the college.

Ferguson echoed that, noting that support from college personnel also helped to keep the project alive, including Dr. Greg Taylor, division chair and biology instructor at the Hamilton Campus, and Rebecca Whitten, librarian for the Jasper Campus.

“The college’s administration appreciates the enthusiasm and leadership of Dr. Taylor and Ms. Whitten on this project. Both have been very tenacious in their leadership and vision. Through their work with other employees of the college and business and community

leaders, we are going to make this project a reality,” Ferguson said.

Taylor said, “I want to thank members of our project committee, including Tony Avery of the Alabama Forestry Commission, Mrs. Kacy Cobb of Hamilton High School, Mike Duke of the Hamilton Area Boy Scouts, Dr. Russell Howton of Bevill State, Mary Hyche of the Kemp Foundation, Paul Kennedy of the Walker Area Community Foundation, Julie Kladke of Bevill State, Britton Lightsey of Alabama Power, Rodney Tice of Bevill State” and Hamilton Mayor Wade Williams.

The first tier of the project has been completed. It included clearing a path on the military trail on the campus using tread light techniques, providing Wi-Fi access throughout the trail, and

“keying,” or identifying, 20 different trees along the trail.

Plans to implement the phases of the next two tiers of the project are set to begin this fall.

Franklin said the completion date “is a little bit up in the air.” He expects the trail will probably be completed in less than a year, maybe sooner.

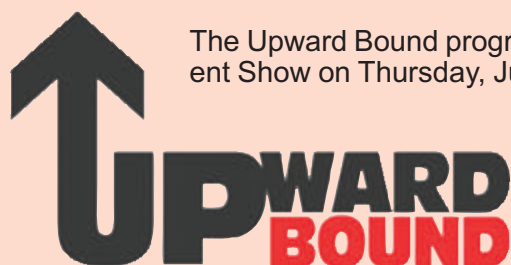
No budget has been determined yet for the next two phases, Franklin said.

“Some of the things we want to be able to do, we feel we have the money in our budget to accomplish what we need to do” for the three tiers. However, other opportunities for the site might could be funded with grants.

“We are actively looking at grant funding for some of the other additional things we would like to do,” he said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Summer fun with Upward Bound



The Upward Bound program at Bevell State Community College-Hamilton held its annual Talent Show on Thursday, June 30, at the Bevell Center with a total of 30 students participating. The next weekend, July 6-7, 35 students and staff members took a Summer Educational/Cultural Trip to Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, Tenn., chaperoned by project coordinator Katelin Bell and her husband, Chad, and program director Donna Swinney. Shown are photos from the talent show and summer trip, with high schools of participating students shown in parenthesis.



Upward Bound students pose in front of "The Rock" at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.



Component Class (college prep) students perform at the Talent Show (from left) Gracie Collier (Hackleburg), Emely Blanco (Phillips), Megan Britnell (Haleyville), Metty Wilson (Haleyville), Rachel Lowery (Winston County), Collin Evans (Hamilton), Stephanie Acevedo (Haleyville), Rhiannon Seaman (Marion County), Kimberly Cisneros (Lynn) and Vivian Marquez (Hackleburg).



Abigail Mederos (Haleyville) and Nicole Franks (Hackleburg) on top of the mountain at Ober Gatlinburg.



Alicynn Jennings (Hackleburg) checks out the Pearl Harbor exhibit at Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies in Gatlinburg.

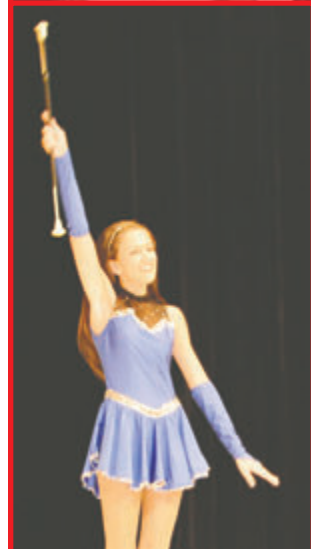
(From left) Alexia Dukes (Lynn), Ashley Blanco (Phillips), Emely Blanco (Phillips), Abigail Mederos (Haleyville), and Rosa Blanco (Haleyville) touch the jellyfish at Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies in Gatlinburg.



Desiree Wallace (Marion County), Rhiannon Seaman (Marion County), Hannah Barnes (Marion County), and Alexia Dukes (Lynn) wait to watch Dolly Parton's Lumberjack Adventure Dinner and Show.



Upward Bound students pose for a photo before attending Dolly Parton's Lumberjack Adventure Dinner and Show in Pigeon Forge.



(Above, left photo) Sarah Outz (Hackleburg) performs *Jolly Sailor Bold*. (Above, middle photo) Alexia Dukes (Lynn) presents her artwork during the Talent Show. (Above, right photo) Collin Evans (Hamilton) participates in *The Dr. Robin Goodfellow Show*. (Bottom, right photo) Shay Price (Sulligent) performs a baton routine during the Talent Show. (Bottom, left photo) Sarah Chambless (Winston County) performs a guitar solo.