Tuition Hikes for the Fall to be Expected

By Jim Potts
Kaleidoscope Staff

Bossier Parish Community College will raise tuition by five percent, and students will feel the effect next school year. The tuition hikes will increase tuition five percent for each credit hour and take effect this summer and continue through the spring and fall semesters.

"[Raising tuition] is not a great thing. It is not something you do without considerable thought and consideration," said Jim Henderson, chancellor of BPCC.

In 2008 the Louisiana State Legislature passed House Bill 734 that allows college systems such as the Louisiana Community and Technical College System the ability to raise tuition annually until 2012. The tuition hikes could not exceed five percent and the college system administration had to approve it by a two-thirds vote.

“We cannot go in and decide that we arbitrarily need to raise tuition,” said Stan Wilkins, vice chancellor of academic affairs. “If we raise tuition five percent, that will pay for one-half of what we pay for teacher retirement this year. It does not do anything for the operation of the college.”

BPCC’s mandated cost for teacher retirement went up from 15 percent to 20 percent, approximately $600,000. The increase in tuition will amount to about $300,000, leaving a deficit of $300,000 before the increase starts.

While college administrators feel compelled to raise tuition, students feel the impact.

“Because of school, I can only work a part-time job. My entire paycheck goes towards tuition,” said Stephen Howell, a freshmen at BPCC. “As a student paying his own tuition out of his own pocket, I hope they keep in mind to give more grants and scholarships and make them more available.”

Although the five percent tuition hike may seem like a large amount to BPCC students, some states would love to raise tuition by only five percent. For instance, the California Board of Regents decided to raise tuition 32 percent — a hike that has sparked protests and demonstrations throughout the state. College students in Florida, Illinois and Washington will face tuition raises that double and triple the raises imposed by the LCTCS.

Howell feels grants and scholarships would offset the raise in tuition but believes BPCC could do more to inform students about what is available.

Students Give Back

By Jim Potts
Kaleidoscope Staff

Students from Bossier Parish Community College’s Student Associated General Contractors Chapter joined with the Northwest Louisiana Fuller Center for Housing to build two houses in two weeks.

Throughout the semester, students in the Construction Technology and Management program learned the principles of construction. However, this was the first time they got to take what they learned in the classroom and apply it to the real world. In two weeks the students plan on building two houses as part of what Linda Sonnier, program director for the CTM program, calls a house blitz.

"In our methods class we are learning about wood frame. [Students] learn more today about what wood frame is than I could teach in two weeks worth of classes. You have to do it to be able to learn it," said Sonnier.

Lee Jeter, executive director of the Fuller Center, agrees. “It’s a win-win for us and the [college]. The students get the hands on experience, and we get the volunteer labor we need to facilitate our ministry as far as building houses for those in need,” said Jeter.

The BPCC students not only worked on two houses, but they also worked alongside the future occupants.

“It’s a lot of fun because you get to work side by side with them, and they Continued on Page 8
On a recent Saturday morning, enjoying my ritual of blueberry muffins and “The Cost of Freedom” lineup of business programs on Fox News, I was struck by a comment from Steve Forbes. He was complaining about the whining from higher education across the nation regarding budget cuts. He claimed that during recent years of increases in funding, colleges and universities dumped money into useless research activities and obsolete programs.

Not long afterwards, I was listening to the Moon Griffon radio show. He was railing against the bloat in higher education as well. He echoed the (misguided in my opinion) sentiments of Dan Juneau (Louisiana Association of Business and Industry) and the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana against utilizing state trust funds to mitigate cuts to higher education. I was about to pick up the phone to call when he stated emphatically that if higher education institutions do not watch it, all of their students are going to flock to community colleges. I chilled and switched over to the iPod (gratuitous attempt to engage the millennials…).

Part of the challenge with the policy discussions related to higher education these days is that the parties in the conversation are using similar terms, but with vastly different understanding of the terms. Community Colleges are part of the higher education world, of course, but many of these colleges belong in this neat little sector of innovative, entrepreneurial organizations that defy widely accepted stereotypes of higher education that pundits exploit for political purposes.

I could not be prouder of the way the BPCC team has responded to an almost unfathomable challenge this year. The commitment to bettering the lives of students could not be more evident. We will soon celebrate a milestone for several hundred BPCC students at Spring Commencement. Each student is a success story in which we should take immense pride. Each student has a brighter future because of her or his experience at BPCC. Each student should be a reminder that, in spite of what occurs in Baton Rouge, we have made a difference. Each student should compel us to do all that we can to ensure access to the dream of a higher education to every student that seeks it.

In the last year or two, BPCC has launched cutting edge programs in cyber technology, desperately needed programs in healthcare (most recently occupational therapy assistant and registered nursing), and regional economy focused programs in construction technology and oil & gas technology. The college has been a leader in improving first-year student success by developing and employing intervention strategies for developmental math students. The innovations in accelerated programs, adult education programs, distance education, and blended instruction have been remarkable. Our performing arts programs are the envy of peer colleges throughout the south, and our programs in liberal arts, business, and behavioral science are delivered by faculty that are devotees to quality teaching as a first priority.

The conversation desperately needs to disaggregate so that discrete components of the higher education enterprise are measured by the relative importance of their role, scope, and mission. I do not mean to diminish other segments of higher ed, but when the opportunities and challenges facing our populace are examined, one can arrive at no other conclusion than community colleges must grow and grow dramatically. The decisions of our policymakers should reflect that reality.

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Career Services Center Will be Revamped

By Jim Potts
Kaleidoscope Staff

Bossier Parish Community College will revamp its career services center next fall and in the process eliminate psychological counseling for students.

“We are going to mesh and work in conjunction with the Academic Advising Center so that a student can take a career assessment find out his or her interests and then send that person from Career Services Center to the Advising Center to find the best courses to take,” said Karen Recchia, vice chancellor of student services. “In the long run we are going to be saving some time and money for the student by getting him or her in the right place much earlier.”

The restructuring of the CSC will streamline what Recchia called a disjointed system. The new system allows students unsure of their future career the opportunity to take evaluations and find out if their current career path is right for them. New BPCC enrollees can take their initial assessment, go to career services and take their career assessment then go to the AAC to build a class schedule.

“I love my job; I love what I do. Had I had the opportunity to walk onto a college campus take a career test, have someone evaluate it for me and have someone sit down and talk to me, I might have taken a different career path,” said Recchia.

Along with developing a game plan for the students’ education, the CSC will also teach students career skills for the current job market.

“Students can learn interview skills, how to build an incredible resume, and finding internships and externships. It’s about getting them out in the workforce and giving them the skill and preparedness they need so that they can be successful,” said Nathalie Lamarand, director of student services. “While they are still here getting their degree, they can prepare themselves to be an integral part of the workforce as well.”

As a student progresses through his or her perspective program, the CSC will also link students to employers matching the student’s career interests through job placement division.

“[Employers] are hollering for our students. They are calling all the time asking for our students,” said Lamarand.

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The restructuring will provide students a new service that Recchia claims BPCC has lacked. However, as part of the CSC restructuring, students receiving on campus psychological counseling will have to seek help elsewhere.

“We do not have a counseling entity anymore. It is totally career services. If there is a student that needs crisis intervention, we will have a crisis intervention plan,” said Recchia. “There is a staff member in the career services center that is a licensed counselor. We also have several people on this campus who have degrees in counseling. They will assess and help the students.”

Recchia claims after the crisis has subsided, the CSC will refer the...
The Hidden Dangers of Social Networking
By John Mazur
Guest Columnist from LSUS

Everyone has heard of Facebook. Everyone has heard of Twitter and Myspace. In fact, Pew Research reports 99% of Generation Y (ages 18-24) have a social networking site. The "profiles" are used to connect with friends, keep up to date, and share photos. There is a lot of good that comes out of these websites, but if people are not careful, they can do more harm than good. Surprisingly, everything from your safety, to your health, and even your ability to communicate (which is the purpose of Facebook) can be severely harmed.

One of the largest concerns for any computer owner is security. There are entire industries that are completely dedicated to protecting PCs, but still there are loopholes. Anything and everything can be accessed–anytime. Surprisingly, there are some websites devoted to allowing "customers" to view private profiles without "friending" the unsuspecting users. That is frightening. This is scarier: Facebook's user agreement states that they can retain all information posted to your profile. Sadly, that is not the only security threat.

Many viruses find their way through social networking sites onto computers. According to the New York Times, malicious programs are finding their way onto these sites. Some of these viruses take over entire accounts and send messages out to friends, infecting their accounts and computers. Also, one in 500 links on Twitter are dangerous. If any user of Facebook, Myspace, or Twitter is not very careful, they could find themselves investing in anything from a new account to a new computer.

Social networking sites such as MySpace, Facebook, and Twitter can be addictive to an extent; however, those with addictive personalities can find other outlets, such as video games, television, and even become shut-ins with something as simple as reading. Social isolationism does not occur largely because of social network sites.

There are facilities to use such as Ming.com that allows users to create and control a specific social network, limiting it to one specific topic, idea, or location. This facility provides groundwork to connect people who otherwise might not meet, for example HighlandGardenClub.ming.com connects people from the Highland area in Shreveport who are specifically interested in gardening. One might not know that their neighbor has such interests or would like to share their information. Having a site like this allows these people to come together faster than word of mouth or fliers could do. Facebook "groups" also serve a similar function. There are groups that also form for people with addictions such as alcoholism or health concerns such as diabetes.

Social networking sites reportedly affect your health. Facebook and other sites often negatively affect our ability to communicate. As reported by Dr. Aric Sigman, in the Journal of the Institute of Biology, this could have some serious consequences. Artery function, immune response, and mental performance all can be impaired by social networking. Chances of getting cancer could also be increased.

Probably the most devastating thing about social networking is the effect on communication. Because every word is said through a computer screen, the communicators lose all forms of non-verbal communication.

Any sense of sarcasm is lost. Any subtle facial expression is gone. All we have is the words on the page. As a Southern Cross University website points out, "Non-verbal aspects of communication are important." When we lose this aspect of communication, we lose some, if not all, of the meaning of the words on the screen. Numerous times comments are taken out of context on a social networking site. The consequences have sometimes been devastating.

There are some great things that come from Facebook, Myspace, and Twitter, but unfortunately, there are many negative effects. While they may not have been intended, they are still harmful. Your security, your health and even your ability to communicate can all be hindered. How are these avoidable? Simple--be careful. Watch what you put online, watch how much time you spend online, and never neglect face-to-face communication.

These smaller scale social networking sites facilitate social interaction for the purpose of support through these addictions. This is a good alternative to something like an AA meeting because the social interactions are smaller scale and therefore less intimidating.

The anonymity of the internet allows social networks to be a forum for social change that is needed in places that control all other forms of media. For example in June 2009, during the Iranian election protests, Twitter was a main agent for the people’s voice. The Iranian government controlled mediums such as phone and television to suppress such protests. The U.S. State Department found Twitter so important that it requested Twitter to delay their server upgrade to a later time so that the site would not be closed during prime posting time in Tehran.

Social networking sites can be valuable tools for connecting with others, but beyond simple means for keeping up with acquaintances, these sites can also provide valuable mechanisms for support groups for individuals who may otherwise not participate in this type of grouping. Furthermore, at the point that we have a government recognizing the power of free speech in social networking sites, we must agree that the sites do more good than harm.

For more on BPCC Debate, contact Bob Alexander: balexander@bpcc.edu.
Comedy at the BPCC Film Institute

By Molly Ward
Kaleidoscope Staff

“It’s our first comedy ever,” says Mrs. Kaszuba, Producer of “College-Documentary Kind Of” and Professor of Telecommunications.

The comedy script was written by Jonathan Posey, Production Coordinator in the Telecommunications Division. Posey is not only the script writer, he is also the Director, as well the lead role, Benjamin Dover, in the movie.

“The script itself took two years to complete, but the idea came to me when I was a student in at BPCC,” Posey answered. “I actually wrote the script two years ago when I was a student at BPCC,” he explained.

Just under a hundred people showed up for the first audition. Approximately twenty people have already been cast, but only twelve were called back to read for parts on April 6.

When pushed for a final decision for which parts have been cast, however, “There has been no official announcement on who will be cast for this year’s movie,” Posey pointed out.

“Much of the people working as extras are students here at BPCC.”

Working on zero budget, pre-production began in January with students from Mrs. Kaszuba’s script writing class pumping out every minuscule detail before the actual film begins production in June. This will mark Kaszuba’s eighth year as Producer of BPCC’s movies and with no end in sight as a Producer at BPCC’s Film Institute.

“They’ll have to drag me out of here,” Kaszuba chuckled.

Even the most laid-back individuals would have a hard time walking away after winning four consecutive prestigious awards. Since the creation of BPCC Film Institute, it has won four awards at the International Houston Film Festival. “From The Heart” in 2005, “Jeremiah’s Secret” in 2006, “Brothers Two” in 2007, and finally “A Ray Of Sunshine” in 2008, are all a part of BPCC’s growing library of films. Watching any of the division’s movies is a matter of simply going down to the library in Building D and checking them out.

The quality of films coming out of the film division comes to no surprise to long time resident of Shreveport Dusty Brown.

“I was very impressed with the group of students,” she muttered. “I thought the kids were remarkable.”

Production for the film begins in June, with post production two months later. The premier will not be until April of 2011. For Posey, the future of BPCC’s Film Institute has only begun to scratch the surface.

“I think we may look into the future with doing more C.G. (computer graphics) stuff,” Posey summed up.

Callbox 24 Security System: One More Step to Securing the Campus

By Molly Ward
Kaleidoscope Staff

“This is a great system and will be a great asset for our campus and every student or faculty that needs assistance,” Mike May, director of campus security, wrote in an e-mail to Marjoree Harper.

As Director of Student Affairs, Harper was responsible for the purchase order for the new security towers on campus. “I believe this will not only protect the students and faculty, but everyone who takes a community education class.”

“This proposal will affect anyone who steps foot on the BPCC campus,” Sarah Rains and author of the new Callbox 24 security towers wrote in her proposal to the Student Technology Fee Committee.

Paid for with technology fees, four, two-way, wireless security towers will be mounted and installed throughout BPCC’s parking lot by the fall of ‘2010,’ Marjoree Harper, Director of Student Life reported in an interview.

According to Rain’s proposal, the total cost of the towers was expected to be $17, 45.00, but the actual cost of the four towers was $16, 520.00, while installation for them cost the school an additional $2, 195.00. The additional cost, however, doesn’t seem to bother Majoree Harper: “I think it’s great that the campus will be getting the towers, especially for those students attending night classes.”

The fact that the towers are recharged by solar powered panel, operating on any AC voltage will reduce the cost of having to run landlines that can cost up to $30 per foot for each line run, according to a salesman at the Callbox 24 web site. The towers will operate dusk to dawn with AC solar powered panels and be mounted to designated light poles or other qualified mounting locations. Each callbox comes with rechargeable batteries. The voice alarm system will not only allow callers to be instantly dispatched to on duty police officers with a touch of a button, they will also be tamper free with their aluminum and stainless enclosures.

“The emergency towers will assist anyone who feels they are in trouble while in the parking lot,” Rains wrote in her proposal.

While campus security records indicate that only two reports were made in ‘2009,’ feelings about campus security received mixed reviews by students who attend night classes.

“Sometimes we don’t get out of class until nine thirty at night,” Ashley Mayes, a General Studies student said. “I’ve never seen campus security around when we finally do get out of night class,” Mayes went on to report.

Others, such as Mrs. Sandy Todaro, teacher of Psychology disagrees and believes that campus security is doing a good job and that students just are not aware of their presence when they do finally get of class.

The majority of the night students interviewed, however, agreed that not only were they unaware of campus security, the parking lots were inadequately lit. Even Rains agrees with Todaro in her written proposal, however, that campus security cannot be everywhere at one time. The College makes every effort to provide such an environment but stresses that campus safety is the responsibility of the entire campus community, according to the BPCC web site.
“Kat” Arnold Passionate About Two Kinds of Fishing

By Nathan Sheehan
Kaleidoscope Staff

Kat Arnold has a very unlikely story for a pro in the Women’s Bassmasters’ Tournament. Born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, she did not become a pro until she was fifty years old. She and I had a chance to speak about her unique story.

Nathan Sheehan: Tell me how you came to love fishing.

Kat Arnold: I started going fishing with my father when I was two or three years old. By the time I was four, I was pushing off the bank on my own. Throughout my life, the water was a peaceful place for me. I was safe out there. No one could get to me there. But the more I did it, the more I fell in love with the serenity of the woods and the water. I certainly never dreamed that God would use my love of fishing as a platform to speak to others for Him.

NS: It seems that for most of your life you considered fishing to be more of a hobby than something you would do professionally. Talk about how that changed.

KA: From the beginning, it was clear that God has the plan in motion, and I am just along for the ride. I was just another fan at the 2009 Shreveport Bassmaster Classic. But over the course of the day, I had three pros ask me if I was going to fish the WBT. Near the end of the day, a man asked me “What would your pro colors be?” And, to my own astonishment, I said without hesitation, “Black, red, and white.” He asked me why I would choose those colors, and I responded, “Well, because I’m bought, caught, and released! I’m bought by the blood of Jesus Christ, I bit the golden hook of salvation, and I’m set free to spread the good news of the Gospel!” That conversation wound up getting me my first sponsor. Within a week, I was on the Reeves Marine Team. I never expected to be doing this. I am totally honored by God to do this.

NS: What was that first tournament like?

KA: I had never gone 70 mph in a boat before. Long-time major pro Lucy Mize took me out on a stormy day. She opened it up, and I was holding on for dear life. I looked over at Lucy, and she was perfectly calm and at peace. It was a major turning point for me. I had to realize that what I considered “normal” was about to change completely. It was then that I began to realize that my purpose in this position was to “stir the water and kick the ashes.”

NS: What do you mean by “stir the water, and kick the ashes”?

KA: First, I want to “stir the water.” I hope that some of my words will knock people from their complacency; that I will be able to get them to start thinking about what they hear. Second, I need to “kick the ashes.” Spiritual fires are going out, and it is my purpose, my desire, to save that spark, to open up the last dying embers to the rejuvenating wind of the Holy Spirit. If I can do these things, God’s Word will have been passed through me to a dying world.

NS: What would you say to a young woman who might want to get involved in professional fishing?

KA: First off, daddies need to take their little girl fishing and hunting. I was fortunate that my daddy took me hunting and took me fishing. The fish and the deer don’t care who is holding the rod and reel or who is holding the gun. Secondly, young women often overlook the peace that can come out on the water or on the woods, the serenity that is always available to us if we just go out and enjoy God’s creation.

For more information on Kat Arnold’s ministry, go to www.boughtcaughtreleased.com.
And the Winner Is...
Louisiana Film Festival Held at Robinson Film Center

By Molly Ward
Kaleidoscope Staff

Now in its fifth year, the Louisiana Film Festival, Student Division, was held at the Robinson Film Center. This year’s judging has become more defined.

Alexander Kent, director of the community outreach program explained just exactly how the judging selection for the festival was done.

“This year [is] a little bit leaner and meaner than last year. The submission process was a little different,” he paused for a second and thought. “We were fortunate enough to be able to define some really nice categories this year.”

Kent received between 30 and 40 submissions from all over the country. “Out of the thirty-five submissions, we’re going to showcase thirty-two of them on Saturday,” Kent explained.

A total of twenty schools from all over the country, K-12 entered the competition. Out of the 20, 50 of them came from the Shreveport, Bossier area, including one from the Robinson Film Center camp. The festival’s concept was founded on the idea of offering students the opportunity to learn the art of filmmaking and showcase their work to the public, while introducing them to industry professionals. The free two day event kicked off on Friday, showcasing the work of Animator and Documentary filmmaker, Sean Donnelly.

“I studied both animation and live action at NYU,” Donnelly explained.

Donnelly not only provided all the animation for the new Davis Guggenheim film Waiting for Superman that won an award at the 2010 at the Sundance Festival, but also worked on animation on a film that was shown at the Cannes film festival in France. Slouched down in an easy chair, Donnelly spoke casually about the advantages that today’s young filmmakers have, verses when he was he was just starting out.

“Today’s kids have a lot more tools to work than I had when I first started—they have a lot more to work with.”

After a twenty-four minute program, showcasing K-12 mini films, Donnelly took questions from the audience, but also indulged the inspiring young filmmakers with a mini workshop on animation. The last part of the festival was reserved for high school narrative films and awards.

The festival categories were the Jefferson Hendricks Achievement Award, the Special Jury Award, the Best Narrative Award, (the high school division) Best Actress and Best Actor Award. The top prize, the Jefferson Hendricks Award, went to “Sparks in the Night” by Ben Kadie, who took home a prize of $500. The Special Jury Award went to “ADHD: A Documentary,” directed by Nora Klein of New York who took home a prize of $200. In the high-school divisions, “The Complex,” directed by Alex Fjellberg Swerdlowe won Best Narrative Award, Jade Genga won Best Actress in a Narrative Film, and Best Actor went to Russell “Landon” Skipper.

“Each year I’m so impressed with the films that get submitted. One of the benefits I have is seeing how much the quality of the films have improved each year—it’s really quite stunning,” says Glaros.

Those young, inspiring, filmmakers, wanting to learn more can sign up for a weeklong camp. The camp is $100 for members and $80 for non-members. The camp is open for kids 10-18 and runs for a week. For more information about the camp or about submitting work for the Louisiana Film Festival, visit www.robinsonfilmcenter.org. For more information about Sean Donnelly, visit www.awesomeandmodest.com. The Robinson Film Center is open 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Film screenings begin around 5:00pm weekdays.

Trends and Traditions: Tips for Spring Fashion

By Anna Kaye Nelson Dickson
English Instructor

After traveling from the East coast to the West coast over Spring Break, I observed many new trends for spring 2010. My first stop was Gainesville, Florida, home of the University of Florida. While visiting, I attended a free concert on UF’s campus, and I spent many hours simply observing students and what they were wearing. Overall, the vibe I seemed to constantly observe? Everyone had an extremely laid back, effortless approach to his or her style: lots of tie dye, braids, Birkenstock sandals, throw back Wayfarer sunglasses, cotton sundresses, bright nail polish, floral prints, minimal accessories—almost like a clean, modern version of the 1970’s “hippie” image. I returned to Shreveport rejuvenated and relaxed—new sunglasses and summer scarves in hand. However, my newfound “relaxed” clothes purchased in Florida, (though practical and comfortable) did not make the cut when I began to pack for my next destination: Vegas. Because I had previously visited Sin City, I knew my slouchy cargo pants and layered t-shirts purchased in Florida would be too subdued and understated in “flashy” Vegas. So, back to the drawing board—What to pack? From what I observed—sequins, fake tanning lotion, large accessories, bold colored clothing, and tons of eye shadow. This list seems a bit like what not to wear, right? Wrong. When dressing for a night out in Viva Las Vegas, over the top is the only option. The more sparkle and glitter, the better! After coming home and perusing my purchases, I made a list of how to incorporate the looks into my everyday life. I really loved the “relaxed” feel of the Floridian approach to spring for day; I also realized Vegas taught me that sometimes stepping up an evening outfit is necessary! What I concluded? I now have a “chill” Florida day look, and I have a perfect “vivacious” Vegas night out look!

“Chill” Florida Look: Perfect for a spring daytime adventure…

Large sunglasses (cheap or expensive does not matter)
Boyfriend jeans (oversized, slouchy pants)
Fitted tee
Hair in a loose braid
Sandals (no specific brand—but flats are preferred)
Leather/Cloth “messeenger style” satchel
Homemade friendship bracelets out of hemp, yarn, or thread (like you made when you were in third grade)
Glass beaded necklace
Sunscreen (a must have)

“Vivacious” Vegas Look: Focus on two outrageous, over the top accessories…

Cocktail dress (needs to be one solid, bold color—you do not want the dress competing with the accessories)
Flashy, costume rhinestone earrings
Bangle bracelets
High heels
Solid leather clutch
BPCC Jazz Ensemble Presented Spring 2010 Concert

The BPCC Jazz Ensemble presented its Spring concert on Saturday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. The concert took place in the Performing Arts Theatre and was free and open to the public.

The concert included a variety of jazz related styles including swing, blues, ballads, and jazz standards. Their performance included “Bye, Bye, Blackbird,” arranged by Kris Berg; Quincy Jones’s “For Lena and Lennie”; Georgia On My Mind,” arranged by Mark Taylor; “Things Ain’t What They Used to Be,” by Duke Ellington; “Say What You Mean,” by Mike Tomaro; and “On Green Dolphin Street,” arranged by Frank Mantooth. “The BPCC Jazz Ensemble has been very active in the community this year,” said Dr. Michael Hart, the ensemble’s director. “On April 8th we performed for a convention of the Good Samaritan RV club at the Louisiana State Fair Grounds and on May 13, the band will be the featured jazz group at the Barnwell Center’s Red Hot and Jazzed Summer Concert Series.”

The BPCC Jazz Ensemble is comprised of both music and non-music majors. Many students in the ensemble are on full-tuition music scholarships. For more information about music scholarships at BPCC, please call 678-6146 or e-mail mhart@bpcc.edu.
Students Give Back
Continued From Page 1

are just happy to be here to help and so are we,” said Lisa Dumas, president of the AGC student chapter.

Although working alongside those in need of housing, Sonnier does not believe the students understand the gravity of their charitable work.

“[Students] do not even realize yet how important what they are doing is. It will hit them over time as they talk about it with people that they know. Right now they are having fun and that’s great too,” said Sonnier.

However, one thing the students clearly understand is their effort.

“Everyone needs a place to live. Knowing you built something and can drive by and say you built that, you put that together, and it makes not only that person feel good but yourself feel good; it’s indescribable,” said Ernest Blackstone, a student at BPCC.

Yolonda Braziel, the future homeowner, was amazed at the selflessness of the students.

“It’s amazing because (these people) I don’t know just gave their time to a stranger. The reality of it has not set in yet. It’s an extraordinary experience to be a first time homeowner. That is something I never thought I would achieve in this lifetime as a single parent of seven,” said Braziel.

Counseling Restructured
Continued From Page 2

distraught student to another mental health provider if needed. Under the current system, students receive counseling free of charge. Under the new system, students may have to pay for the mental health services.

“We are not necessarily taking away a service to the students. We are restructuring the area and still providing the same service that the students need. It was free; I don’t know if it will be free if it is outsourced. There are many functions out in the community that are free to people,” said Recchia.

Although Recchia does not look forward to the prospect of outsourcing psychological counseling, they do believe the new changes are essential to the education of students at BPCC.

“We want to give students the best education possible. In order to do that, we need to make sure that the day the student arrives at the college, he or she has everything that the student needs to make a good decision about career choices in his or her future,” said Recchia. “The restructuring began so that we can make that a possibility so we can better serve the student. We are very excited about this. This is going to be a critical component of education that our students have been missing. Now we are going to be able to provide it.”

Camp Cavs
Camp Cavs, BPCC’s summer program for kids, will be held in the months of June and July 2010. Camps will be held from 8:00am-midnight or 1:00-5:00pm on a week-long basis. Camps are available for ages 5-18 and will include camps in: softball, basketball for boys, cheer, dance, art, cyber, theatre/drama, music, painting, drawing, mixed media, and ACT prep to name a few.

All campers will receive camp t-shirts. Registration for Camp Cavs began April 1, 2010. Camps will be held at Bossier Parish Community College campus UNLESS otherwise noted.

For more information, contact BPCC’s Workforce and Continuing Education Department at (318) 678-6015.

Listed below are the CAMP CAVS camps to choose from:

CAVALIER Cheer
CAVALIER Dance
CAVALIER Softball
CAVALIER Basketball
Art Series I: Painting
Art Series II: Drawing
Art Series III: Mixed Media
ALICE: Create Your Own Wonderland!
(Game Programming)
Design IT! Basic Web Design for Teens
LEGO® Robotics
CAVALIER Drama Fest
CAVALIER Acting and Auditioning Workshop
CAVALIER Musical Theatre Workshop for Teens
Music Explorations (Piano, Theory & Singing)
CAVALIER Spanish Camp
CAVALIER/HOLIDAY LANES Youth Bowling Camp

Additional Summer Kid Programs:

CAVALIER Baseball Showcase
ACT Prep Class
Zumba Kids
Beginning Bows for Kids
Hair Ribbons and Bows for Kids
American Red Cross Babysitter’s Training
It All Adds Up!: Finances for Teens & Young Adults
Career Development Institute
Creative Writing for Teens and Tweens
Journaling for Teen and Tweens
Cavalier Kids (and Parents) in the Kitchen
(sponsored by The Dinner Station)

For specific camp dates, times and prices, visit the website: http://www.bpcc.edu/continuingeducation/documents/campcavs2010.pdf

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