

# Blue Ridge Community College

# Times-News Column

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Lee Anna Haney, Director of Public Relations

March 28, 2010

Blue Ridge Community College is currently recruiting prospective students for the next Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program slated to begin May. This is a four-month program that meets Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Some Saturday classes are required. Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) is designed to give students the essential skills required for entry-level employment as law enforcement officers with the state, county, or municipal governments, or private enterprise. Successful graduates are qualified to take the certification examination as mandated by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training and Standards Commission and or North Carolina Sheriff's Education and Training and Standards Commission. It is a prerequisite for to be a sworn law enforcement officer in the state. All students entering the BLET program must meet the special requirements as indicated by the NC Criminal Justice Standards and the NC Sheriff's Standards Divisions of the NC Department of Justice. They must also be 20 years old; in good physical condition; be able to participate in strenuous physical activities; and be a high school graduate or equivalent from an approved accredited high school or GED program. For more information, contact David McMurray at (828) 694-1762.

'Photographing People: Capture the Moment' will be offered on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm beginning this week. This six-session course will be taught by Nicholas. Students will explore natural portraiture as well as action photography and event coverage. Topics discussed include the use of composition, perspective, lens choice, the effective use of depth of field, techniques to control motion and the use of lighting (both natural and artificial/flash). The registration fee is \$61.30. 'Capture the Light' will be offered on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm starting April 15. Also taught by Nicholas Gillespie, this four session course explores the use of natural light as well as on-camera and off-camera flash. The registration fee is \$50. For more information or to register, contact Martha Howell at 694-1743 or at marthah@blueridge.edu.

On Monday, April 12, Blue Ridge Community College will host its annual Kehr Lecture Series. This year's presenter Michael Squires works at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Climatic Data Center in Asheville where he develops new products that quantify the impact of climate on society. His past experience includes working as a weather observer and forecaster while in the Navy, producing the weather segment and forecasting for the CBS affiliate in St Louis, MO, and analyzing air pollution data for an electric utility company. He spent 15 years in technique development and applied climatology at the Air Force Combat Climatology Center. In 2003, he moved to NCDC. Mr. Squires also teaches statistics at the University of North Carolina at Asheville and has an M.S. in Atmospheric Science from St. Louis University. He will present the science of climate change and the impacts of climate change on the United States now and in the future. Climate-related impacts for various societal and environmental sectors and regions across the nation will also be discussed. The information is presented in plain language, with the goal of better informed public and private decision making at all levels. A reception and an opportunity to meet the presenter will begin at 6 p.m. with the presentation at 7 p.m. in the Thomas Auditorium. The event is free and is underwritten by the Kehr Lecture Series Endowment in Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation.