ABAC Opens Veteran Success Center on Campus

Faculty, staff, students and administrators from ABAC honored one of their own Friday during the opening of the new Veteran Success Center in J. Lamar Branch Hall.

ABAC alumnus Harold Bascom “Pinky” Durham, Jr., was awarded the Purple Heart and Medal of Honor posthumously for his bravery on Oct. 17, 1967 during the Vietnam conflict when he gave his life for his country. In an announcement on April 23, ABAC President David Bridges said ABAC will develop an area on campus to showcase memorabilia from Durham, Tifton’s only Medal of Honor winner, as well as creating a Veteran Success Center.

“By opening this Veteran Success Center, we hope to honor the memory of courageous soldiers like Pinky Durham and to help students who have been in the military transition to college and civilian life,” Bridges said. “Members of our armed forces make a tremendous sacrifice to represent this country. We can never thank them enough for what they do.”

Bridges said the mission of the Veteran Success Center is to provide services and support to the veterans, military family members, and those currently in service to our country’s armed forces in educational pursuits during the transition from military service through college to becoming vital community members. This is done through veteran-to-veteran, individual service branch, and community connections.

As a part of the ceremony, ABAC became a Purple Heart College of the United States of America with a Purple Heart Proclamation.

The Purple Heart is the oldest decoration in present use and was initially created as a Badge of Military Merit by George Washington in 1782. It was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States.

Other speakers at the event included Dr. David Snow, Director of Military Affairs at the University System of Georgia; ABAC student Matthew Bridges, a retired corporal from the U.S. Marine Corps; and Amanda Flener, Region IV President from the Military Order

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Academic Achievement Center Makes Improvements for Fall Semester

The Academic Achievement Center (AAC) has made many improvements for the fall semester. All 29 tutors are certified through the College Reading and Learning Association and are prepared to help with both content in most classes and other skills, such as studying, note taking, etc. Tutors assist students with many core subjects and other classes such as music, agriculture and nursing. Feel free to direct all students to the AAC for help in both lower level and upper level courses. The AAC has also extended its hours and will remain open until 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. Tutoring ends at 8 p.m. on those days, but the AAC will remain open for studying, printing and use. For more information on the AAC, contact Rebecca Cofer at rcofer@abac.edu.
of the Purple Heart Ladies Auxiliary. Also assisting were Joseph Weatherford, retired staff sergeant from the U.S. Army; Luke Rabun, senior airman in the U.S. Air Force, and Spencer Wilbanks, specialist in the U.S. Army National Guard. Weatherford is an ABAC police officer, and Rabun and Wilbanks are ABAC students.

“The Center will serve not only as a place where students can study, read, write, and congregate; but also a place where they can relax, find camaraderie, support, and access to resources and information to further support their academic endeavors,” Snow said. “This Center serves as a visible testament of ABAC’s dedication to its military students, veterans, and their families.”

Matthew Bridges thanked ABAC for making veterans a priority.

“In the military there is a saying ‘leave no man behind’ and with your continued help we can help the students who are veterans now and in the future,” he said. “I know I owe my own success both personally and academically to the staff here at ABAC, and that is greatly appreciated.”

Those persons who wish to contribute to the Veteran Success Center can do so by making checks payable to the ABAC Foundation and sending them to the ABAC Foundation, 2802 Moore Hwy., ABAC 13, Tifton, Ga., 31793. All gifts to the ABAC Veteran Success Center fund are tax deductible. For more information, interested persons can contact Director of Advancement Deidre Martin at 229.391.4907 or via e-mail at dmartin@abac.edu.

Changes Made to TechSupport Processes
ABAC TechSupport is undergoing changes to better accommodate the campus. TechSupport is now located on the 2nd floor of J. Lamar Branch Hall, across from the elevator.
To submit a workorder, visit: https://iweb.abac.edu/workorders/. To submit issues or if you have questions, please contact techsupport@abac.edu or 229.391.5400.
The HelpDesk handles calls about:
- AD Password (Domain) (Computer Login)
- Computer Issues
- Password Resets (Banner Web, ABAC Email, Student Email, Voicemail)
- Telephone Issues
- Classroom Technical Issues
- Printer Issues (Office and Labs)
- Setting-up ABAC Email on your Smartphone
- D2L

For resetting Banner INB passwords, call Allen Saylor at 229.391.4914.

Purchase Tickets for ABAC Baseball Boat Raffle
The Stallions Baseball team at ABAC will sell tickets from now until Nov. 21 for the ABAC Baseball Boat Raffle to raise funds for the baseball program.
The winner of the raffle will win a new X-Treme 1442 River Boat on a custom aluminum trailer at the drawing on Nov. 21. Tickets are $10 each and this year’s proceeds will be going to the purchase of a new scoreboard.
The raffle is open to ABAC faculty, staff, students, and the community. Anyone interested in participating in the raffle can contact Brandon Reeder, head baseball coach and academic support counselor via e-mail at breeder@abac.edu.
Hundreds of Students Attend Ag Club Picnic

Despite the rain, hundreds of students filled the Ag Science Building last week for the Ag Club Picnic. These students enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs and visited with other students and faculty to learn more about the many clubs in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sigma Alpha Awarded During National Convention

At the beginning of August, several members of Sigma Alpha attended National Convention in St. Louis, Mo. The girls had the opportunity to attend leadership seminars and to meet with industry professionals. While at national convention the Beta Nu chapter at ABAC won third place for the Jennifer McMillan Community Cooperation in Agriculture award. This award recognizes chapters for positive influence, service contributions, and increase of agricultural knowledge within the community. Pictured (l-r) Kayla Alexander, President of Sigma Alpha Amanda Stitt, Bryanna Cash, and Rachel Nance.

ABAC Goes Three Dimensional in Science and Mathematics

Students in the School of Science and Mathematics at ABAC are stepping into the future through a new dimension. Three dimensional printing has arrived at ABAC.

A new tool to benefit students, faculty and staff at ABAC, three-dimensional (3-D) printing or additive printing is a process of making 3-D solid objects from a digital file using additive processes. In an additive process the object is created by laying down successive layers of material until the entire object is created.

“Purchasing this 3-D printer gives us that cutting edge and puts us ahead of the game,” said Administrative Apprentice Sarah Rooks. “It opens up opportunities for new labs and visual learning because students will be able to hold the tools in their hands.”

The printer has already been used to construct a number of models connecting C1 and C2 vertebrae for science labs and as a model for deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Having the printer is a more cost effective way to assist students in visual learning.

“If an instructor ordered models of a C1 vertebrae of the spine for each student in one class the cost would be about $200,” Rooks said. “With the 3-D printer, the cost is drastically decreased to fifty cents per student to print. And although we have only worked with traditional plastic thus far, there are additional plastic filaments available that have the appearance of wood, limestone, bronze, or iron to create 3D models.”

Dr. Johnny Evans, Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics, said faculty can make requests as to what models are needed in their labs, and the printer will do the rest. The process does take some time based on the size and volume of the model but there is an array of models available through software, online, and through the 3-D models search engine yeggi.com. The School will also be receiving different colors of plastic filament to aid in the production of models.

“A 3-D model of deoxyribonucleic acid from the new three-dimensional printer in the School of Science and Mathematics.

“While there are seven different methods to print in a 3-D form, the printer uses material extrusion,” Rooks said. “The most commonly used technology in this process is fused deposition modeling (FDM), which works using a polylactic acid (PLA) filament that is unwound from a coil and supplies material to an extrusion nozzle that can turn the flow on and off.

“The nozzle is heated to melt the material and can be moved both horizontally and vertically by a numerically controlled mechanism controlled directly by a computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) software package. The object is then produced by extruding melted material to form layers as the material hardens after extrusion from the nozzle. The software automatically generates support structures for the model that can be discarded once the model is completed.”

Evans said the printer is available for use across the ABAC campus.

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Auditions for ‘The Skin of Our Teeth’ Tues. and Wed.

Auditions for the Baldwin Players fall production of “The Skin of Our Teeth” by Thornton Wilder will be Tuesday and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in Howard Auditorium at ABAC.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy takes a long look at just what it means to be a human being. Mankind has spent all of history surviving climate change, natural disasters, and war. Auditions are open to ABAC faculty, staff, and students, as well as the local community. No advanced preparation is needed. Auditions will be conducted by reading short passages from the play. There are five major roles available consisting of the Antrobus family - father, mother, daughter, and son - along with the maid/housekeeper. There are several roles that are also available that can be played by either men or women.

Performances of “The Skin of Our Teeth” will take place Oct. 29-31 at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. For more information about auditions, interested persons can contact Dr. Brian Ray, Director of the Baldwin Players, at bray@abac.edu.