

★ F O R R E S T C O U N T Y ★



Despite Hurricane Katrina's interruption, construction continues on the new building at the Forreest County Center in Hattiesburg. The 12,000 square-foot building across the front of the campus on U.S. 49 South will provide a new academic image to the school. New spaces include five classrooms, a

learning center with 30-35 computers, new library space with two study rooms and administrative space, two new academic offices and new restrooms. Completion of the project is expected to be sometime in late spring, 2006.



The students in the Dental Hygiene program recently held a table clinic at the Forreest County Center in the Allied Health Center on "Smoking Cessation." The Dental Hygiene Program offers PRCC students free nicotine replacement therapy in the form of patches, gum, or lozenges. For more information, phone 601-554-5509. Students participating in the clinic were from left: First row - Angie Horton of Moss Point, Wendy

Monroe of Biloxi, Elisha Prisk of Columbia, Christa Ellzey of Ellisville, Cristal Bean of Bay St. Louis. Back row - Emily Lochner of Biloxi, Carol Leigh Dossett of McNeill, Ashlie Smith of Picayune, Andrea Dedeaux of Pass Christian, Jennifer Self of Saucier, Jaclyn Goar of Hattiesburg, Cynthia Latham of Carriere, Norma Allen of Long Beach, Stacy Mathews of Petal, and Katie Bringedahl of Gulfport.

PRCC assistant librarian doing military service in Kuwait

Pearl River Community College assistant librarian Billy Landrigan has left behind the stacks of books at the Forreest County Center to fulfill a more crucial mission — that is serving his country.

In August, Landrigan left for Kuwait to carry out his Naval Reserve position as a First Class Petty Officer Storekeeper (SK1) with Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 13 (NCHB-13).

"I'm excited," said Landrigan. "I'm ready to go. I'm ready to see Kuwait, and I don't expect any problems. I'll be able to keep in touch with my family through the internet, and my co-workers at PRCC gave me a digital camera as a going away present, so I'll be able to send pictures home."

Headquartered at the Gulfport Seabee Base, NCHB 13 spent several weeks in Virginia learning small arms training and hand-to-hand combat before arriving at the Kuwait this September.

The reservists will provide combat service support through logistics operations, which include cargo handling support and port operations. The NCHB loads and unloads cargo of all types (if it is in Kuwait or Iraq we can and will unload it.), which will then be used to support American troops.

Landrigan has worked at the PRCC Forreest County Center library for three years. He has a certificate of proficiency in licensed practical nursing from PRCC and an Associates degree from PRCC, which has made him a valuable asset to the library, which is housed in the Allied Health Center.

He spent 11 years as an active duty sailor stationed in Scotland, Iceland, Okinawa, and then Japan before becoming a Naval Reservist.

Landrigan lives in Sumrall with his wife, Cathy, and his two children, Josh, 11, and Sarah, 14.

When Landrigan returns, the Forreest County Center should have a new, expanded library, as part of the addition to the facility currently being built on U.S. 49 South.

The battalion is scheduled to return in May of 2006.



Billy Landrigan visits the FCC Library before leaving for Kuwait.

Frankie Lee is PRCC's new WIA coordinator for district

Frankie Lee of Hattiesburg is the new Pearl River Community College Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Coordinator of the PRCC six-county district.

Previously, Lee worked in mortgage banking and then at Jones County Junior College as an instructor in the Adult Basic Education Department. Lee has a bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Lincoln University in Missouri and a master's degree in Education Administration from William Carey College.

WIA provides new job skills or improves on existing skills through approved training programs at the college. WIA helps to pay for the tuition and books that students will need to complete a one or two-year program, such as Surgical

Technology, Dental Hygiene, Practical Nursing, Welding, Heating and Air Conditioning, Barbering, Computer Networking, Drafting, Respiratory Care Technology, and Electrical Technology.

Lee began at PRCC this June and is excited about working here. "I really like it here. This job has a lot of variety, and I think my background in teaching and business are a perfect combination for this job. I was thrilled to see forty-six students who received assistance from the WIA office graduate this summer."

According to Miriam Manaway, a widow with four grown children and five grandchildren, WIA enabled her to begin a new career. "I completed the Licensed Practical Nurse program at the

Pearl River Community College Hattiesburg and graduated this summer," said Manaway. "I had worked at the public schools as an assistant and then as a secretary for 10 years, but that wasn't what I wanted to do. I wanted to work where I could really help people."

"I had to quit my job to go back to school, and I knew juggling home and school would be a financial burden, so WIA was a tremendous help."

"People who are interested in returning to school can contact me," said Lee. "I'll tell them what they need to do to get the process started."

To participate in WIA, participants must be accepted into the school before their application will be considered.

Participants must also report their progress to the PRCC WIA coordinator.

For more information, contact Lee at 601-554-5531.



Lee

Teacher Profile

NAME: Michele Giles

RESIDENCE: Hattiesburg

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Waynesboro Central High School, Meridian Community College - AAS degree in Dental Hygiene, University of Southern Mississippi - BS degree in Speech Communication, University of Louisville - currently working on MA in Higher Education Administration

PRESENTLY TEACHES: Dental Hygiene


TEACHING EXPERIENCE: Just started my 8th year

FAVORITE BOOK: I like reading mysteries but not a particular "favorite" one.

FAVORITE FOOD: Banana pudding

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING: In the Dental Hygiene program, it is especially gratifying seeing students being able to pass their national and state boards. It makes me feel good knowing I helped them reach these goals.

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS: You can accomplish most anything if you have a strong enough desire.



Giles



HATTIESBURG - Pearl River Community College's Dental Hygiene program recently was recognized for hosting the national "Give Kids a Smile Day" at the Forreest County Center. Children from low income families received free dental services ranging from oral screenings to cleanings, fillings and crowns. Pictured in the photo, from left, are Richton Dentist Roddy Scarbrough, president elect of the Mississippi Dental Association, Dr. Stan Hill, Chair of the PRCC Dental Hygiene Department, and Hattiesburg Dentist Erik Graham, president of the South Mississippi Dental Society. PRCC received its award at the MDA 130th annual session this year.



HATTIESBURG - Pearl River Community College's School of Practical Nursing program at the Forreest County Center recently inducted its 2005-06 HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) officers. They include from left: Seated - Debbie Hebert, chaplain, Quiana Hinton, president, Brandon Doby, vice president, and Elizabeth Hall, all of Hattiesburg, secretary, and Instructor

Donna Simpson. Standing - Instructor Susan Bedwell, Delia Mackabee of Columbia, chaplain, Patsy Hanberry of Runnelstown, Tommie Jean Hinton of Walnut Grove, parliamentarian, Mandy Lewis of Sumrall, treasurer, Chris Clinton of Petal, chaplain, Erica Woods of Hattiesburg, chaplain, Instructor Cindy Boutwell, and Valerie McDougale of Hattiesburg, parliamentarian.