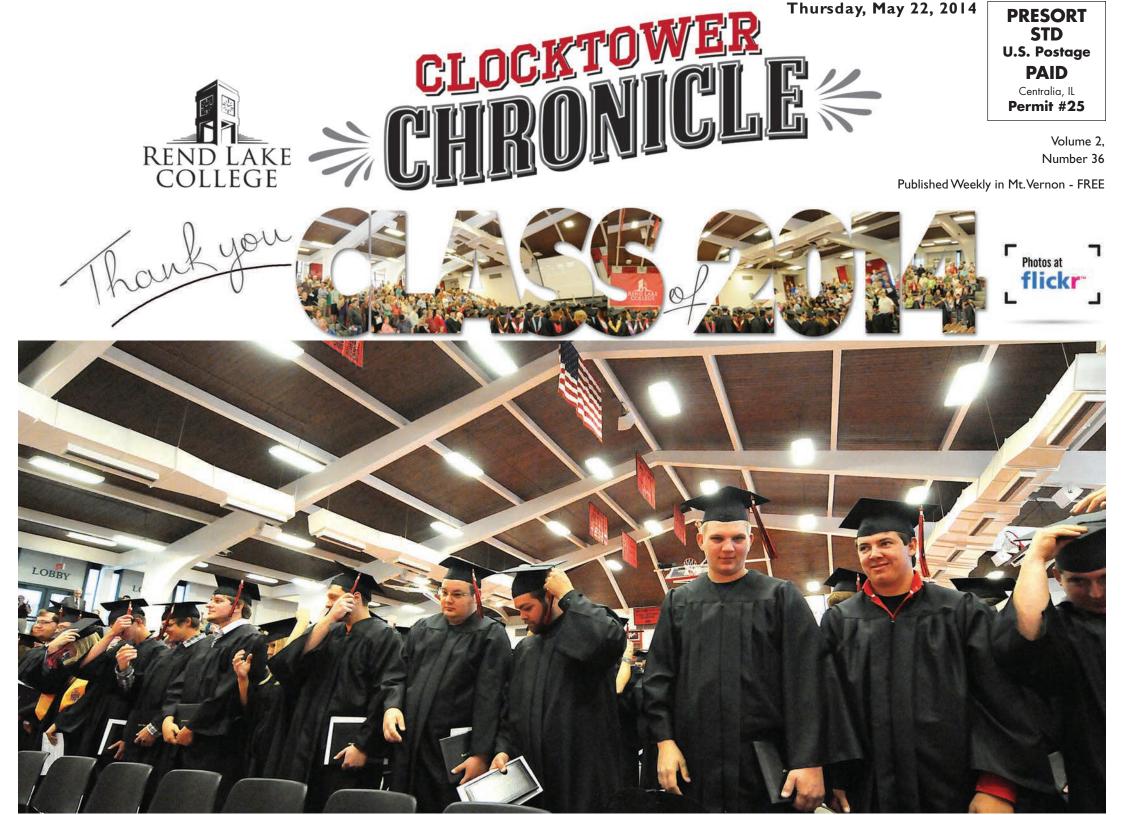
Thursday, May 22, 2014

PRESORT STD



The Class of 2014 turns tassels Saturday at Rend Lake College's 47th Annual Commencement. In all, 1,158 Associate Degrees and Occupational Certificates were awarded to 670 students. (Nathan Wheeler/RLC Public Information)

RLC Class of '14 crosses stage at 47th commencement

end Lake College officials want to congratulate the Class of 2014 for another successful year. The 47th Annual RLC Commencement was held May 17 in James Waugh Gymnasium. Andrea Beaty, a New York Times best-selling author and 1981 RLC graduate, was the keynote speaker. A total of 670 graduates were conferred 679 Associate Degrees and 479 Occupational Certificates for a total of 1,158 degrees and certificates.

The Rend Lake College Class of 2014 is:

(All hometowns are in Illinois unless noted otherwise.) **AKIN** — Matthew Scott Summers

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Scenes from Rend Lake College 2014 Commencement



2014 Commencement Speaker Andrea Beaty, a New York Times Best-selling author and 1981 RLC graduate.





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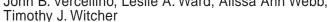
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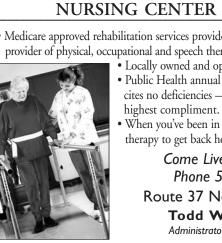
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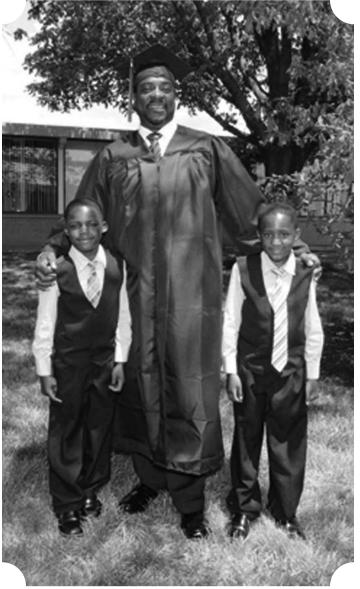
REND LAKE COLLEGE

Scenes from Rend Lake College 2014 Commencement



















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REND LAKE COLLEGE

Students helping students



One class of students in Rend Lake College's new orientation program First Year Experience raised \$201 for the Student Emergency Fund through an electronics drive last month. The students earned 9 cents for each pound of electronics collected from Moyer's Recycling Co. in Mt. Vernon, totaling \$101. Business owner Ron Moyer then donated another \$100 to the fund. Pictured are, FROM LEFT, RLC Adult Education and Family Literacy Coordinator Vickie Golliher, RLC First Year Experience Coordinator Hilary Halsey, Stewart Phyfiher (Mt. Vernon), Cassidy Reno (Carterville), Allen Evans (Pinckneyville), Nora Evans (Pinckneyville), Michael Hetisimer (Belleville), Michelle Choinski (Christopher), and RLC President Terry Wilkerson. (ReAnne Palmer / **RLC Public Information**)

Get a wardrobe and get a real job

BILLY MCPHERSON AND SHELBY PATTERSON CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFFWRITERS

Editor's Note: You did it! Graduating from college is a huge milestone. For those of you foregoing the four-year university and ready to hit the job market, or those clocking in tomorrow with updated credentials, take a look at this article on fashion in the workforce.

had on work-stained jeans, grass-stained sneakers, and (this was shortly after lunch) orange Cheetos stains on my right hand and a portion of my chin. I completed this ensemble with a flannel I've been wearing since the end of the first Bush administration. Yet, as a diligent reporter, I was determined to cover the "Dress for Success" Lunch 'N' Learn lecture being given in the Pat

Kern Private Dining Room here at Rend Lake College.

Sneaking in as under the radar as I could manage, I sat down to observe a fairly packed house with people from all walks of life. Some dressed professionally, others were clad in pajama bottoms and flip flops. But everyone was there in the spirit of learning and appreciation. Daphne Mitchell, director of RLC's Studio RLC Cosmetology Program, was the keynote speaker of the afternoon and her speech centered on how to dress to impress while on the job hunt and in the workplace. After the event, I was able to catch up with her for a few words about the day's activities.

BM: Overall, how did you feel the event went, and what were your per-



Daphne Mitchell, director of Rend Lake College's Studio RLC Cosmetology Program, speaks to soonto-be graduates about dressing for success when it comes to interviews and work. Mitchell's was the final presentation in a series of Lunch 'N' Learn workshops hosted by RLC's Student Transfer and Retention Support (STARS) program and the South Central Illinois Area Health Education Center (SCI-AHEC). (Nathan Wheeler / RLC Public Information)

sonal goals going in to the speech? DM: I feel the event,

Dress for Success, went very well and was fun! My personal goal was to give future graduates ideas on how to organize and use their current wardrobe to dress for future jobs, plus, ideas for places to shop.

are some of your biggest
 pet peeves and/or most
 outrageous clothing decisions you've seen people
 make during interview or
 other professional set-

vided some thoughts of her own on the subject of dressing to impress:

"Like Daphne said, looking good doesn't have to cost a fortune," added Patterson. "In our fastpaced society, a lot of people order and shop

online. Signing up for

Internet coupons or store



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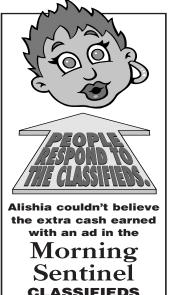
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BM: I noticed a lot of back and forth discussion with you and the people in attendance. What was some of the best audience feedback/fashion advice you recall?

DM: I really enjoyed the audience interaction and thought the best feedback was people sharing ideas for places to shop without spending a lot of money!

BM: For those who couldn't make it, what is your general (short version anyway) philosophy on fashion as it relates to the workplace/job hunt?

DM: Always find out about the company you're working for and their dress agreement. Organize your current wardrobe and plan your outfits, shop discount stores, look for sale items and try to purchase clothing that can be work to achieve different looks. Looking good does not have to cost a fortune. BM: Finally, over the



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years (without naming

names or throwing any-

one under the bus) what

DM: I shared a true story with them: A manager from the local mall was interviewing people for a manager assistant position and two people being interviewed showed up in pajama bottoms! Like I stated at the event, you put on your dress pants/jeans the way you put on your pajama bottoms ... one leg at a time! Choose to look professional and it will show that you care about the job you are interviewing for or the company you're working for!

BM: What were some of the stores/web sites that you mentioned as good choices for people looking to professionalize their wardrobe?

DM: My personal favorite, as well as others in attendance, is New York & Co., Penny's, Cato, Kohl's, Target, Maurice's, Macy's, Talbots, Ann Taylor, and Express. (Mitchell also stated that her favorite online sources include RealSimple, What I Wore 2Today, The Right Clothes for Your Body Type, and Pinterest.)

The Chronicle's own resident fashionista, Shelby Patterson, proe-newsletters can end up saving you a lot of money in the long run. Most companies send special coupons out in emails or e-newsletters. Stores also offer special promotions or discounts through Birthday Clubs, or other points systems." According to Patterson,
when out shopping for deals, try to plan trips

deals, try to plan trips between seasons, when new things are arriving. The clearance racks will be packed with the previous season's merchandise, since they're trying to make room for the new items.

"If you're lucky, you can hit up the clearance racks when they have additional discounts. Goodwill and other discount or thrift stores often have undiscovered gems hidden within them. You just have to take the time to look!"

"Dress for Success" was one in a three-part Lunch 'N' Learn series co-sponsored by the South Central Illinois Area Health Education Center here at RLC and the college's Student Transfer and Retention Support (STARS) program.

