

Newspaper in Education Presents

# inquizi

# Kidz

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MANATEE COUNTY'S MAGNET SCHOOLS & ADULT CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

What do you know about boats?

## Discover the Future

Careers:

- Boat Builder**
- Boat Repair**
- Boat Manufacturing**

For more career information see your school counselor and get information on-line at:

<http://www.khake.com/page42.html>

OR

<http://www.princetonol.com/groups/iad/lessons/middle/careers.htm>



### Skills and Trades

#### Boat and Yacht Repair/Refinishing in Manatee County

This year **Manatee Technical Institute** prepared for a new and exciting program in Boat and Yacht Repair/Refinishing. The curriculum, consisting of both classroom and hands-on instruction, is a full time program for both adult and high school students. All students complete the program in about one and one-quarter years. While enrolled they learn about boat building, fiberglass repair, and boat painting through relevant hands-on instruction using donated, damaged boats. Course content includes fiberglass lamination, gel coat refinishing, paint application, and epoxy repair techniques on power, sail and wood boats. In addition to learning boat repair skills, students learn necessary employability skills, safe work place practices and OSHA standards, basic marine rigging, and the basics of marine plumbing and electrical systems. The program adheres to a strict schedule, safety standards and work atmosphere simulating real world experiences the students will encounter in their chosen profession. The Boat and Yacht Repair/Refinishing program is a gateway for students seeking career opportunities as boat builders or repair technicians in a variety of venues. After graduation students are prepared to work professionally on today's vessels and adapt to changing industry trends.

Students are trained for employment in marine manufacturing plants, new and used boat dealerships and marinas. Manatee County is home to numerous

marinas and boat manufacturing businesses including Wellcraft, Chris Craft and Donzi all of which are members of the program's School Advisory Committee.



### explore it

#### Discover boating for yourself.

Visit <http://www.nauticexpo.com> a virtual boat show web site. Take the virtual tour. Find your ideal boat. When you finish your virtual tour, visit <http://www.discoverboating.com> a web site providing prospective boaters with an environment to learn about the vast number of boating options available. To help decide what's unique about boating and the find the boat that is exactly right for you, and take the quiz: *Which Boat is Best for You?* Happy and safe boating on Florida's waterways.

On last weeks Inquizikidz page, credit should have gone to Tania Pluta for the kidzbiz article "Enjoying Art Class" at Daughtrey Preparatory School.

### kidzbiz

#### Back on the water

Ricky Hernandez graduated from Palmetto High School in 2004. Throughout his high school years he had a keen interest in repairing cars. As an entrepreneurial adult he transferred this interest to boat repair.

Ricky is a full time student in the Boat and Yacht Repair/Refinishing Program at Manatee Technical Institute and will complete the program after more than a year of instruction. Ricky particularly likes the hands-on application of what he learns in the classroom. According to Ricky, the

"program is fun, hands-on, and no homework."

His class work is important and includes extensive instruction in math including ratios and measurement. For Ricky, math is quite important. "If I mix a gel coat using the wrong measurements, a chemical reaction will result and the



Ricky Hernandez

mixture will catch on fire. Because I know how to figure ratios and proportions I haven't made a mistake."

Ricky has learned how to prepare boats for painting and detailing and how to apply fiberglass and gel coatings. His favorite part of the process is the finishing work and "seeing the job completed."

Ricky has his own boat and does part time boat repair in his free time earning "good money." He is confident he will have his own boat repair shop fixing damaged boats putting them back on the water.

### School biz

#### A boating instructor

Ricky is a successful boat repair student because he was "taught right." As the instructor of the Boat and Yacht Repair/Refinishing Program Mike Hirshberg is responsible for all aspects of the program including the curriculum and student safety. Two thirds of the students enrolled the Mike's program are high school students and one-third are adults. Students in the program adhere to all OSHA standards as

well as all safety standards and product manufacturer guidelines for the materials used in the program.

The damaged boats students repair are only those that are relevant to real-life

hands-on application of the knowledge learned in the classroom. For Mike, "a lot is to be said for hands-on experiences. Students can make a career and a good living in the boat building business in Florida." Students repair a variety of different types of power and sail boats, including boats that were extremely damaged in Hurricane Charley.

Each year more and more boats populate Florida's waterways. Boat sales are increasing and boat ramps are crowded. More boats translate to a greater need for individuals skilled in boat repair. With the huge employment demands for skilled crafts people in the boat repair and building business, Mike's program will continue to grow. "A well maintained boat increases the boats resale value", according to Instructor Hirshberg.



Mike Hirshberg

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#### Manatee Technical Institute

- Sugg Middle School
- Ballard Elementary Magnet
- Daughtrey Preparatory Magnet
- Harilee Middle Magnet
- Johnson Middle Magnet
- Lee Middle Magnet



- Haile Middle School
- Lincoln Middle Magnet
- Manatee Elementary Magnet
- Rowlett Elementary Magnet
- Tillman Elementary Magnet
- Wakeland Elementary Magnet

Schools listed in red offer instruction in the subject area featured in today's InquiziKIDz



- <http://www.abycinc.org>
- <http://www.proboat.com>
- <http://www.by-the-sea.com>
- <http://www.nauticexpo.com>
- <http://www.mmtaonline.com>
- <http://www.boatinglinks.com>
- <http://www.discoverboating.com>

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