

# ACT Adult, Career & Technical Education UPDATE

**OPEN THE FUTURE** Manatee County School District

## MANATEE COUNTY IS HOME TO WORLD CHAMPIONS!

*Southeast High Technology students win F1 in Schools World Championship in Singapore; Braden River High in the top ten!*

Five students from Southeast High School (SEHS) and a student from James Madison Middle School in Roanoke, Virginia captured the coveted F1 In Schools World Championship after three days of intense competition at the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Institute in Singapore. The teams had to design, manufacture, and race identical CO2 powered balsa-wood race cars, give an eight-minute verbal presentation, defend the manufacture of their cars in front of two engineers, pass technical inspection, design a pit display, and prepare a 20-page portfolio detailing their work. There were more than 25 judges who concurred that the Southeast team, Unitus Racing, had the most consistent presentation in all areas.

Unitus Racing was one of 25 teams from 18 different countries competing for the World Title. The Unitus team included Yatrik Solanki, Tony Griffin, Mark Nanney, Brandon Miranda, Niemann Pest and Amanda Clark. Unitus Racing also won the award for “Best Team Identity” and was nominated for “Best Portfolio,” and “Best Sponsorship & Marketing.”

Braden River High School’s (BRHS) Jeremy Petty and Brandon Demers joined 2010 BRHS graduate Ahmed Hares on the German/American BayWa F1 In Schools Racing team for the Singapore Worlds effort. The team had a strong finish in the top eight for the racing portion of the event. They also had an excellent technical score for their cars.

One of the Manatee School District’s EdVantage strategic objectives is for students to actively engage in global outreach. Both teams stood shoulder-to-shoulder with students from 18 countries while competing in Singapore. Engineering teacher Mr. Platt and the team from Braden River combined with six students from an academic high school in Munich. Last summer, Mr. Platt and the team spent eleven days in Munich working on the F1 in Schools project before heading to Singapore.

“We attended the German school for nine days to prepare for this,” said Platt. “We went to class every day; I even helped

*Continued on Page 2*



*Top: Unitus Racing team members on stage at the Singapore Conrad Centennial Hotel after winning the Bernie Ecclestone F1 In Schools World Championship Trophy. L-R: Yatrik Solanki, Tony Griffin, Mark Nanney, Brandon Miranda, Niemann Pest and Amanda Clark (with the 14 pound trophy!)*

*Bottom right: The American-German BayWa F1 team last summer in Munich. Left to right: Nicolas Beneš, Brandon Demers, Adrian Candussio, Maximilian Gawlik, Ahmad Hares, Stefan Matl, Daisuke Spielvogel, Jeremy Petty, and Markus Müller. Brandon, Ahmad, and Jeremy are from Braden River High School in Manatee County. Left: a graphic of the BaWay F1 car.*

## ACT Grant Money Continues To Grow

The following is a summary of grant monies applied for and received over the past eight years from the Adult, Career and Technical Education Department, including those areas who make up ACT such as MTI, Take Stock, Transitions, Tech Prep, SLCs, secondary CTE, Manatee Stars, and others. Grant monies are essential to enhancing quality education and moving the District forward in its quest to provide excellent education and opportunities to all of our students.

Grants and dollar value	Totals
Number of grants applied for:	317
Number of grants approved:	260
Number of grants pending approval:	2
Dollars applied for:	\$67,945,173
Dollars approved:	\$53,601,225
Dollars pending approval:	\$637,971

teach a class! When we left, students from both countries nearly cried, we bonded so much.”

It doesn't get any more global than this!

It is unprecedented that two Manatee County schools were both invited to represent the USA at the Worlds event.

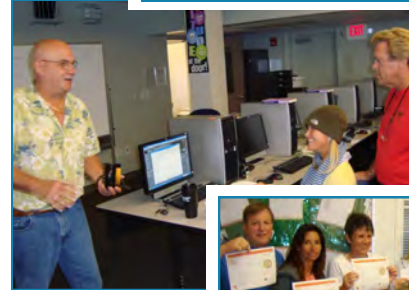
“This is the result of four long years of hard work and goal setting that really paid off,” stated Mark Nanney, Unitus Racing Manufacturing Engineer and 2010 Southeast graduate.

By virtue of the win Unitus Racing's team was invited to visit the Formula One Singapore Grand Prix race paddocks to meet the Formula One drivers and teams.

Unitus Racing is sponsored by Lockheed Martin, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County, Advance Auto Parts, Manatee Adult, Career and Technical Education Department, City of Roanoke Schools, Rapid Prototyping Systems, BASF Chemicals, JBTN Plastics, Trimbach Artistry, Bay Tool, Royal Tee's, Bradenton Press and Signs by Tomorrow as well as many in-kind donations.

Well done, Manatee County technology students, teachers, and supporters!

Right: podcasting participants received portable MP3 recorders.



Left: teachers master the art of video editing.

Right: teachers display Microsoft certifications.



---

## ACT Department News

---

### No Teacher Left Behind

---

For the ninth consecutive summer, the Manatee County School District Adult, Career and Technical Education Department offered a series of workshops called No Teacher Left Behind (NTLB). This year's NTLB program offered career and technical education teachers a selection of five different workshops including Adobe Premier Pro, SolidWorks, Microsoft Word 2007, Podcasting, and Veterinarian Assisting.

Elementary teachers were also invited to participate. Cheryl McGrew, McNeal Elementary Engineering by Design teacher, presented a workshop called the EbD/I<sup>3</sup> Project. The I<sup>3</sup> Project, which stands for Invention, Innovation and Inquiry, was created to support elementary teachers interested in technological literacy. Each participant received the I<sup>3</sup> curriculum, a straw rocket launcher, and had three days to collaborate with fellow teachers.

Right: participants from across the state learned to implement a Veterinary Assisting program.



Left: the I<sup>3</sup> Engineering by Design group.

These teachers will continue meeting throughout the year to increase their skills in integrating science, technology, engineering, and math in the classroom.

The Adobe Premier Pro workshop was held at Southeast High School and taught by technical education teacher Mr. Bob Burwell. The remaining four workshops were held at Braden River High School (BRHS) over a period of three days. BRHS business teachers Dan Crumpler and Mary Thompson taught the Podcasting workshop. The 14 participants received a Roland Edirol portable MP3 recorder to take back to their classrooms.

BRHS business teacher Bill Gaynor taught Microsoft Office 2007. Each participant received new Office 2007 software for their classroom. SolidWorks, a workshop dedicated to teaching a 3-D Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) program, was also well attended with a total of 18 participants. The Veterinary Assisting workshop was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the 16 teachers attending. This workshop featured two representatives from Animal Care Technologies (ACT), a leading provider in veterinary staff training resources.

NTLB participants invested time and efforts to hone their skills on behalf of their students. By gaining industry certification and expertise in the use of new technology, our teachers are ensuring that Manatee County continues to be a leader in career and technical education in Florida and in the nation.

### New Professionals Join the ACT Family

---

The 2010-11 school year makes its mark by adding new faces and a renewed rejuvenation to our exciting ACT family. We welcome the following secondary teachers:

- **Brett Wheeler**—Braden River High, Agriculture
- **Steve Parisian**—Manatee High, Business Education

- **Ashley Lockhart**—Palmetto High, Health Education
- **Jason Giacomel**—Manatee High, TV Production
- **Jimm Allen**—Palmetto High, Business Education
- **Christopher Peters**—Manatee High, Technology Education
- **Katherine Knoche-Olipra**—Horizons Academy Business Education
- **David Sheppard**—Harlee Middle, Technology Education
- **Elvita Phelan**—Abel Elementary, Engineering By Design
- **Dave VanEtten**—Central High, On-the-Job Training
- **Jim Duffy**—Lincoln Middle, Technology Education

Many of our new teachers attended the District New Teacher Orientation and ACT Update #75 Back-to-School meeting while others were not hired until after the events. Trish Litton has been able to meet individually with all new teachers to make certain that they feel welcomed and understand what the ACT Department has to offer them this school year as well as for years to come. We wish for all of our teachers only the best for an exciting year full of fun, learning and professional satisfaction.

## WELCOME

**Brett Wheeler**, a native Floridian, returns to his home state after spending his first year of teaching in Georgia. Brett will be teaching Agriscience Foundations and Vet Tech 3 and 4 at Braden River High School. His hobbies include raising livestock, fishing, and watching sporting events. Brett holds a Masters degree in agriculture. Brett has already taken the needed steps in planning and preparing to take his students on many trips associated with FFA.

**James Duffy** has joined forces at Lincoln Middle where he will be experiencing his first year of teaching Technology Education. Mr. Duffy brings twelve years of engineering experience in manufacturing to his classroom. Jim has been working hard to familiarize himself with all of the equipment and modules found in his lab. Principal Curtis Davis has high hopes for this program for 2010–11. Mr. Duffy enjoys playing and coaching basketball, baseball, and football.

**Katherine Olipra** is teaching business at Horizons Academy. She has spent the past several years in the workforce in the area of insurance and brings three years of teaching experience from DeSota High School. She plans to begin a web design program using CS5 software at the school during the second semester. Katherine and Principal Jeffrey Harris have worked hard to set up computers in her lab, secure a satisfactory text for her classes, and set up computer software. Katherine has set high goals for her students and begins this year with great enthusiasm.

**Jason Giacomel** finds himself at Manatee High School in the TV Production lab this year. Jason moved from Lincoln Middle to MHS and has plans to not only produce the morning announcements but also feature various departments and individuals at the school. SkillsUSA will also become viable at the

school where Mr. Giacomel will help students strive to become world-class workers and responsible citizens.

**Jimm Allen** joins the Palmetto Tigers this year in the Business Education department as well as spending some of his time in the math department. Jimm taught math at the school last year and will be teaching Digital Design. He is excited about the opportunity to share his knowledge and experience with students, and hopes to demonstrate the importance of technology in art and design.

**Ashley Lockhart** is the new Health Science teacher and HOSA sponsor for a new chapter at Palmetto High School. She holds a B.S. degree in Athletic Training from Florida Southern College and a temporary certificate as a Vocational Physical Therapy Tech. Lockhart started as the PHS certified athletic trainer in 2004, and enjoyed it so much that she decided to become an educator. She is now the Physical Education Department Chair, and has been teaching PE/Health since 2005. In her spare time, she loves to be outdoors camping, hiking, biking, fishing, kayaking, and horseback riding, and one day hopes to hike the entire Appalachian Trail.

**Chris Peters**, Med, ATC, LAT, joins his alma mater Manatee High School teaching Materials & Processes classes and remaining as the school's full time athletic trainer. This is his seventh year of teaching and his first in the ACT Department. Chris spent two years teaching PE at SEHS prior to returning to MHS. His wife Danette teaches Spanish at the Pendleton School at IMG. When not working Chris enjoys camping, canoeing, being dad for his boys, and endurance sports training (triathlons and half marathons).

**Elvita Phelan** will be teaching Engineering by Design (EbD) at Abel Elementary. A product of Manatee County, she attended Moody Elementary, Sugg Middle and Manatee High Schools. At just 17 she attended Florida State University. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education, and then obtained a Master's in Elementary Education with a concentration in Science Education. Her fourth year at Abel Elementary, she is excited about this new venture. Elvita has been busy purchasing equipment associated with the program and meeting with fellow district EbD teachers. Elvita was a star pupil in our summer NTLB Engineering By Design training offered at NcNeal Elementary this past summer.

**Dave Van Etten** joins the Central High School faculty teaching their On-the-Job Training program. Dave relocated from Buffalo NY in 1999 and lives in Sarasota. Before entering the classroom, Dave worked in insurance and banking and owned his own company for several years. While working in banking, he knew that he always wanted to "get into the teaching field to make a real difference in the lives of young people." Along with OJT, Dave also teaches social studies where he loves to challenge his students. He enjoys the excitement of career training and the important principles of economics and government.

**David Sheppard** joins the Harlee family this year teaching Exploring Technology. This is David's fifth year of teaching Technology Education and he loves it. He is already making plans to compete with his students this year in TSA at Harlee. David is

married to wife Korri who works as a registered nurse at Blake Hospital. Mr. Sheppard's hobbies include watching as much baseball as possible, running with his dogs, and watching movies.

Teachers who have changed teaching positions this year include:

- **Bonnie Condor**—from BHS Business Education to BHS OJT
- **Patty Harris**—from Lincoln Science to MHS Technology Education
- **Mike Ingram**—added Agriscience to his teaching assignment at PHS
- **Bob Jenkins**—from LRHS DCT/Marketing to SEHS DCT/Marketing
- **Quintin Jones**—from Harlee Middle Technology to LRHS Technology Education

## Welcome Aboard New MTI Instructors

The ACT Department would like to extend a warm welcome to our new MTI instructors.

**Joel Hall** is MTP's new Network Support Services instructor. Before coming to MTI, he was a production manager for Precision Systems, Inc. in St. Petersburg, FL, for ten years. His work included installing, maintaining and configuring voice response systems for telephone companies. Other related work includes radar technician and troubleshooting telephone equipment. He has a B.S. degree from University of South Florida in Information Systems Decision Sciences, and he holds certifications in A+, Net+, and Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA).

**Sheila Lankford** is MTI East's newest nurse instructor. She holds a B.S. in Nursing from the University of South Florida and is currently working on her MSN. She worked at Manatee Memorial Hospital from 1988 to 2010. She started as an LPN, worked as an RN staff nurse in ICU and Open Heart Recovery for five years, and worked in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit since 1993, the last two years as clinical manager. She is certified in ACLS, BLS, and PALS.

## Department Chairs Selected

Ms. MaryAnn Kauffman will assume the role of CTE department chair for the BHS teachers this year. MaryAnn tells ACT, "I was pleasantly surprised to be offered the position of department chair at Bayshore High School. I will diligently work to have our programs recognized as necessities in the education of all students. Not only does our community need skilled workers but the survival of our country is dependent upon skilled workers. All education is vocational education."

Mr. Greg McGrew will assume the leadership role for his department at LRHS. Greg tells us, "I am honored to be selected as the department chair at LRHS".

Mr. Bob Burwell has been appointed by new principal Catherine Smith to head up the CTE department at SEHS. Bob shares



Department Chairs MaryAnn Kauffman, Bob Burwell, and Greg McGrew

his goal for the year by saying, "My goal is to make sure that all teachers of career and technical education have the equipment and software to prepare students for the jobs five years in the future. Anything less is unacceptable."

The ACT Department fully appreciates the role of department chair at the schools and the added responsibilities involved. It is our expectation that these leaders attend department chair meetings and take important information back to their CTE teachers. If a teacher should ever have a question about any of the many initiatives that the ACT Department is involved in, they should never hesitate to reach out for guidance and assistance by contacting the ACT office.

Be sure to check the [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com) for meeting times, dates and locations. Remember, everyone is welcomed to attend. See your department chair for the agendas the week prior to meetings or simply email Trish Litton on FirstClass.

## Programs in Practice: Local Learning

The ACT Department is pleased to offer each secondary Career and Technical Education teacher the opportunity to spend two days visiting other programs or businesses in your content area. The ACT Department will provide the funds for substitute teachers and travel expenses. All you have to do is be willing to go and learn!

Chuck Routhier, Technology Instructor at Sugg Middle School, recently participated in Programs in Practice, and sent in this report.

*I spent my PIP day in excellent company. I first visited Robert Burwell at SEHS. I was completely in awe as his kids worked in a computer program called LightWave. This is the program used by companies like Industrial Light & Magic and Pixar to create 3D animations that look real. His students were extremely focused as they created a wiffle ball and then a car using the software.*

*I spent period two with Michael Sanders at Southeast as well. He was teaching a class on how to properly frame shots with the TV cameras. The first half of the class he taught the whole group proper shooting methods. The second half the students divided into their teams and practiced behind the big cameras, taking turns at being director, cameraman and model. Both teachers have an unusual in-your-face teaching style which involves humor, discipline, fear and trust. They both have instilled in their students a strong sense of self-motivation as well as self-expression. I was very inspired to see one of the places my students could land when they graduate from Sugg.*

*The second part of my day was spent at Haile Middle School where I*



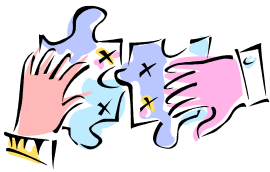
*Pamela Platt teaches Adobe Illustrator to Haile Middle students.*

*sat in on some of Pamela Platt's classes. Mrs. Platt has a decidedly different style, but, as you shall see, is no less effective. Mrs. Platt was teaching Adobe Illustrator. She began with students following instructions verbally. Then she had the students move away from the computers (a very clever idea) and she did a brief presentation on what she wanted done. Finally she let the students loose to perform the task. If any stray pins had been dropped while she was talking, I would have heard them. I was inspired to see how well her students didn't talk while she did. It was amazing.*

*My final class was in Justin Erickson's room. He was teaching Solid-works (3D CAD software) to his students. It was very cool to see 12 year olds using software that engineers use to create solid models of a model car. A few of the students were designing business cards for the laser engraver. One of Mr. Erickson's favorite teaching methods seems to be the throwing down of the gauntlet. He challenges his students to perform difficult tasks and they rise to his expectations.*

*Thanks to both schools for allowing me to visit!*

## Make the Industry Connection



For those CTE teachers who are looking to partner with community business leaders and wanting to develop advisory councils, there is no better time than now. Strong partnerships are key to helping our students become workforce-ready.

It is never too early to develop these relationships, so middle school teachers—hop onboard. Please don't think this initiative is strictly for high school. If you need assistance with first steps in this process, you could contact Carol Lewis or Angie Grasberger. For our high school teachers this could be a rewarding first step in helping teachers understand the industry as it exists in today's workplace (vastly different from years ago) and to becoming industry certified.

Our focus this year is to help any/all CTE teachers who wish to become industry certified accomplish their goal. First visit [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com) and investigate the list of appropriate certifications. Next identify the one (or more) certifications associated with your discipline. Any questions after this point should be directed to Trish Litton.

## CATER Pilot Supports Literacy

Mary Thompson, BRHS Marketing Education teacher attended the first Career and Technical Education in Reading (CATER) pilot program this summer in Tampa. The *Just*

*Read, Florida!* 2010 CATER pilot expansion summer professional development was conducted in regions across Florida for qualifying CTE teachers. The funding for this effort was provided by the Division of Career and Adult Education. Up to 250 teachers statewide in five venues were served for three full days of professional development. Participants were required to have a state issued certificate and needed to have completed CAR-PD, including the practicum. Participants received up to \$300 in classroom materials to support literacy.



*Mary Thompson*

Trish Litton is the district support coach for the project. She will provide follow up support and collect evidence of teacher fulfillment of CATER requirements.

Congratulations, Mary on your continued efforts in support of reading for secondary CTE students. The ACT Department looks forward to your continued support in providing professional development to our district teachers as reading is critical to the success of CTE students.

## Timely, Accurate Submission

What sometimes seems unimportant and additional “busywork” to some affects the work productivity of others. When submitting the required forms associated with being out of the classroom, it is critically important to submit complete and accurate documentation. When this is not done it requires additional time in contacting the individual (by phone or email) or sending the documentation back to the teacher. This sometimes makes it impossible for deadlines to be met to take a trip altogether. Often, an additional charge is incurred for registrations which do not meet the designated deadlines set by the conference coordinator.

Remember too, that the district will not reimburse you for taxes which appear on receipts submitted for reimbursement following a trip.

Please refer back to the ACT Travel Checklist on [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com) for reminders of the documentation required for trips taken by ACT teachers. No ATD should ever be sent to the ACT Department for approval without an ACT Estimated In/Out of State ATD Expense Form attached. This form lets us know what you are requesting the ACT Department to financially support. Let's all work together in making all travel enjoyable and educational for students and teachers.

## Mentors Wanted: Wakeland

*An invitation from Wakeland Principal Chuck Fradley.*

The staff and students at Wakeland would like to invite the teachers and staff of the ACT Department to serve as mentors to some of our children. These are identified 4th and 5th graders needing a little boost in self esteem and encouragement with his or her academics. We have had great district support in the past.

We have found that employees that serve our School District in departments outside of schools benefit just as much from being in the schools and seeing the children as the children do from the extra attention. All we ask is that the mentor meets on a consistent basis with the student one day a week during the student's lunch.

Thank you for your time and support. Please let me know if you are interested.

Chuck Fradley, Ed.D., Principal  
Wakeland Elementary School of International Studies  
Office 941-741-3358 ext. 2001

## In the News—Careers in Action



Our weekly print publication, *Careers in Action*, features ACT teachers, students, and small learning communities and appears on Wednesdays in the Bradenton Herald. August issues included the BRHS Engineering, Design, and Leadership Academy; the Haile Middle School CTE in-service; the No Teacher Left Behind program; and the TSA Nationals success story. September issues included the SEHS Electronic Communications Center (ECC) Academy; the SEHS Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) Academy; the

Smaller Learning Communities throughout the District; the MTI Major Appliance and Refrigeration Repair program; and Haile Middle business technology.

## We Have a Winner!

The winner for the ACT Update #74 Where's Waldo or the ACT logo is ... drum roll, please, Marley Henderson from MTI. Congratulations Marley!



## Smaller Learning Communities

### Integrated Lessons Enhance Learning

Chef Mike Niewodowski and agriscience teacher Mike Buckley are planning collaborative lessons and making real world connections from the farm to the table in Southeast High School's Agriscience, Business, and Consumer Sciences Academy.

Mike Buckley and his agriscience students are teaching the culinary students how to grow tomatoes, peppers, onions, herbs, etc. Chef Mike and his culinary students are teaching the agriscience students how to make salsa from the ingredients they have grown and harvested. Now that's a win-win-win!

In another example of integrated learning, academic and ACT teachers from Braden River High School are collaborating on a multi-academy themed unit called Gulf Zero. Gulf Zero encompasses each of the smaller learning communities who will participate from their own perspective.



The Gulf Zero project will use lab modeling, simulations, extensive research, and many of the core academics to explore proactive solutions to this crisis. For a more detailed look at some of the integrated subject areas and projects, read the October issue of the Smaller Learning Communities Spotlight on Success, available from [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com).

### In the News: SLC Spotlight on Success

The Smaller Learning Communities *Spotlight on Success* features the latest and greatest in our academies and centers. All past issues may be found on [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com); click *News*. Each issue will feature the SLCs in one school. The October issue featured academies and projects from Braden River High School, including the Arts and Communication Academy, the Business and International Studies Academy, the Engineering, Design and Leadership Academy, and the Science Technology and Health Academy.



## Transitions

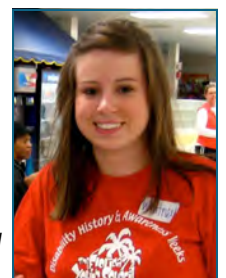
### Success: BLN Kick-Off

The recently held Business Leadership Network (BLN) September Kick-Off Breakfast was a huge success. Keynote speaker Whitney Harris was an inspiration to everyone and a terrific model for the BLN "Look at My Abilities" campaign.

Whitney is 19 years old and was born without her right arm and leg. She has played soccer and learned karate, ballet, and tap dancing. She was in the drum line in high school and played for the basketball team for three years. Whitney became a member of the Florida Youth Council (FYC) in 2008. Through the FYC, Whitney helped pass a bill through Florida legislation, co-authored a book, and helped lead a summit for youth with disabilities. She lives in Clearwater and is now attending St. Petersburg College for their Orthotics and Prosthetics program.



BLN keynote speaker Whitney Harris wowed the crowd.



### Are You on the Calendar?

Middle school teachers: Career Pathways (CP) leader Carol Lewis is scheduling visits to all middle school CTE teachers to briefly review the Career Pathways/Tech Prep program. In the spring, all Manatee County eighth graders will attend a CP presentation which may bring up some questions in your classroom. If you are not already scheduled for a visit, please email Carol Lewis with dates and times of your planning period.

High school teachers: email Carol if you would like her to visit your classroom and talk to students about smooth transitioning from secondary to postsecondary education by the articulation available in their CTE program.



Carol Lewis represents Career Pathways.



### EdVantage Ambassadors: Food, Fun, and Fashion

Career Pathways Coordinator Carol Lewis serves as the Chair for the EdVantage Trust Subcommittee. She and her team recently got the EdVantage Ambassadors off to a great start with a training/breakfast. Ambassadors gathered at MTP's main campus for a hot breakfast prepared by MTI Chef Garry Colpitts and his culinary students. The primary purpose of the training was to revisit the roles and responsibilities of being a site EdVantage Ambassador, introduce the upcoming Making and Managing Promises on MOODLE online, and—of course—to network with other ambassadors. The group had a little fun with a tongue-in-cheek fashion show highlighting how to “style” the ambassadors’ signature red shirts. Even the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Jim Drake joined the effort by allowing the crowd to laugh with them as they graced the runway.



Assistant Superintendent Jim Drake and Superintendent McGonegal preparing for fun in their roles as “Money Man” and “Ambassador Incognito.”

### Simple Payroll Deduction: Give a Dollar, Launch a Scholar Campaign

The Take Stock in Children (TSIC) of Manatee County program is proud to announce the *Give a Dollar, Launch a Scholar* fundraising campaign. This simple payroll deduction opportunity may open doors for more deserving students to participate in the Take Stock in Children college scholarship and mentor program. If every district employee gave one or more dollars each pay period, we can accept more students into this program.

As early as the sixth grade, students may be selected for the Take Stock in Children program. Once selected, students, along with their parent or guardian sign an agreement to remain drug-free, crime-free, maintain good grades and behavior and meet with a mentor on a weekly basis, on the school campus, during the school day. Take Stock in Children has a 96% success rate of keeping students in school, graduating high school, attending college and entering the workforce.

Each year hundreds of students apply to participate in the Take Stock in Children program, unfortunately, because of limited scholarship dollars, only 20% are selected. The Give a Dollar, Launch a Scholar campaign will increase scholarship dollars that will be matched, dollar for dollar by the Florida Pre-paid College Foundation, allowing us to double the impact and serve more students in Manatee County.

To participate, download the payroll deduction form found on [www.TakeStockManatee.com](http://www.TakeStockManatee.com), fill it out, and return it to the Payroll Department.



**Give a Dollar. Launch a Scholar.**

**I can make a difference, one graduate at a time.**

Count me in for Take Stock in Children!

Please complete this form and send it to the Payroll Department of the School Support Center no later than next week.

**School District Of Manatee County  
Take Stock In Children  
Payroll Deduction Authorization**

I hereby authorize the School District of Manatee County to deduct the indicated amount below from each of my paychecks for the Take Stock in Children Program to support scholarships and mentoring programs in Manatee County. This agreement will remain in effect until I cancel in writing to the Payroll Department.

\$1  \$3  \$5  Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Amount to be deducted each pay period

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employee ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the simple payroll deduction form at [www.TakeStockManatee.com](http://www.TakeStockManatee.com).

## Multiply Your Donations!



**T**ake Stock in Children is proud to announce that a current, long-time mentor is providing a matching campaign funding opportunity to increase the donations given to Take Stock in Children. The matching campaign comes from a mentor who knows and understands the benefits of mentors in the life of a child. He was an abandoned teen who went to college and graduate school through a scholarship for needy kids. He recognizes this matching challenge as an opportunity through TSIC to “pay it forward,” and is offering all of us the chance to come along and pay it forward with him.

Through his personal foundation, “The Five Talents,” this generous mentor will match up to \$10,000 all funds donated to Take Stock in Children between now and December 31st. Every dollar counts, so we are asking all of our District friends and our Take Stock Mentors to join in this effort.

We are honored that a mentor would donate personal time, as well as his financial resources, to ensure that the Take Stock in Children scholarship and mentor opportunity is provided for deserving students in the Manatee County School District.

Please help us maximize this wonderful scholarship opportunity for Manatee students by making your donation today. Let’s not let this funding slip through our hands. The students of Manatee County need all of us now.



*The 2010 TSIC Leadership Council Members. Front row: Elaine Graham, Mentor Ambassador; Sandra Haas-Martens, Holmes Beach Deputy Mayor; Patricia Ramirez, State College of Florida; Lori Mirandilla, Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union; Brenda Harvey, Retired Educator; Diana Dill, Executive Director; Kristen Kennedy, Manatee County Sheriff’s Office; Back Row: Karen Carpenter, Americorp Vista Volunteer; Kelly Gettel, Community Leader; Walter Miller TSIC Chairman and Manatee County School Board Member; Alex Chavez, Community Leader; Dr. Steve Tinsworth, Tinsworth Orthodontics; Andrew Reddish, Bank of America; Doug Wagner, ACT Director; Michael Corley, Mentor & Community Leader.*

## Agriscience

### Agricultural Leadership Team

*A note from Sheryl Wingard, LRHS Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor*

**E**ach year the Florida DOE teams up with the Florida Department of Agriculture and our state Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson to provide an outstanding educational opportunity for agriculture teachers throughout the state. This year I was selected to be a part of the 2010 Florida State Agriculture Education Leadership Team. Every other month I travel with my team, (members stretching from as far south as

Key West and as far north as the western panhandle), to different parts of the state to tour the many entities of Florida agriculture.

The fun began this summer when the team traveled to Tallahassee to tour the Department of Agriculture. We participated in a variety of division tours including the Division of Dairy, the Division of the Animal Industry, and the Division of Aquiculture, and we even had a meeting with our Commissioner Charles Bronson.

We wrapped up our time by visiting Shenandoah Dairy in Live Oak. This state-of-the-art dairy farm houses approximately 4000 dairy cattle, milking about half of their stock three times a day. Shenandoah is a self-sufficient dairy farm that has the acreage to grow their own crops for feeding their dairy animals, a milking parlor, and holding tanks for milk production.

Our first trip ended with new friendships, informative contacts, memories to last a lifetime and knowledge that we could take back to our classroom and share with our students. I look forward to gaining knowledge about the Florida Agriculture industry, sharing ideas, lesson plans, and classroom management practices with my teammates, and applying all of this knowledge to my classroom and agriculture program at Lakewood Ranch High School!



*Florida State Agriculture Education Leadership Team with Manatee’s own Cheryl Wingard.*

### Putting the Spin on Speech

**P**almetto High School (PHS) FFA students took first and second places at the Farm Bureau Speech Contest. Congratulations to Eddie Mercurio, first, and Haley Pressley, second place.



### PHS Student Elected State Officer

**J**ulie Tillett, PHS Agriculture teacher and FFA Advisor, is pleased to announce the election of student Nicole Liles to the 2010–2011 State Officer Team as Palmetto FFA Area V Vice President. State officers serve the Florida FFA Association, agricultural education, and agriculture as an ambassador in local, state, and national activities. Congratulations to Nicole!

Nicole has spent her middle and high school years actively involved in FFA while learning skills such as leadership, public speaking, and networking. As a state officer, she will spend the next 365 days facilitating leadership conferences, traveling, and advocating for FFA and Florida agriculture.

“We are very proud of Nicole and look forward to her returning to Manatee County to share her amazing year with us,” said Julie.



*FFA Palmetto Area V Vice President, Nicole Liles.*

## Aqua Tanks Arrive at PHS

Cattle, swine, vegetables, and fish, oh my! That's right—aquaculture is being added as the newest food being grown by Palmetto High School agriculture students. The food is tilapia and, with the help of agriculture students, they will develop and grow in two 400-gallon tanks at the school.

Agricultural students are anxious to learn how to grow these fish that have risen in popularity over recent years. The heated tanks are located in the greenhouse at the school. Agriculture teacher Julie Tillett will provide a learning experience designed to help students develop a greater understanding of the importance of keeping water sources safe. Students will learn how to test water quality and measure the growth of the fish along with a vast array of other learning experiences. They will also experience firsthand the satisfaction of responsibilities associated with raising this wonderful food source.

Like the steer, swine, and vegetables, the fish will be used as a means of raising funds for the FFA and agriculture program at the school. The first fish fry is scheduled for early spring.



PHS Agriculture teacher Julie Tillett gives Buddy Parks (L), and Ron Gardener (R), from the Manatee County Sheriff's Department, a tour of the new aqua tanks. The fish were donated by the Sheriff's Department.

## Nolan FFA: Teambuilding

Before school even began, Nolan's 2010–2011 FFA officers, under the leadership of Stefani Heidenthal, FFA Advisor and teacher, gathered early on a Saturday morning to take part in a photo scavenger hunt. FFA officers had a chance to get to know each other better, to thank all of the businesses and individuals who have helped the chapter, and to start the year with community service and some friendly competition.

Stops included the fire department, where a blood drive was taking place. Students had to gather photos of members behind a relative donating blood, holding thumbs up. Students worked side-by-side with firefighters to wash fire trucks at the station. Stops also included Mariposa Nursery and Wal-Mart, where students delivered cold drinks, donuts, and thank you cards to employees. Additional stops included Tractor Supply, where students donned work vests and assisted customers with their purchases; the State Park where they had to find a Ranger and look for a Pan Fish display while making a fish face; and finally H & H Nursery, where students pretended to hold up their business sign.

Scenes from a service-oriented scavenger hunt.



Other photos included in the hunt were an American flag blowing in the wind, a cow and calf, all officers on a slide, and a picture of officers in front of their school. Students returned to Hydro-Taste to spell out NOLAN FFA with produce, which they had to identify and then enjoyed.

## Rare Fruit Club Thanks PHS FFA

Manatee County Rare Fruit Club invited Palmetto FFA to their June picnic at the Palma Sola Park as a gesture of thanks for having students volunteer at the Rare Fruit Tree Sale in May. Nicole Liles was recognized as the recipient of the Rare Fruit Club Scholarship for \$500. Students enjoyed fellowship and then were given a tour of the facility. Mr. Pete Ray gave a demonstration on the technique of air laying (wrapping stripped branches in sphagnum moss and sealing with foil), and Wayne Clifton gave a demonstration on grafting. The students are looking forward to practicing these skills back at Palmetto High.

## 2010 Farm City Week Events Scheduled



This year's Farm City Week will be celebrated November 12–20, 2010. Students have already begun researching this year's essay topic, "The Role of Agriculture in the Development of the Manatee County Fair." Essays are due October 29, 2010. This year's events include the following activities:

- November 8—FCW Proclamation to School Board; MRSWCD Speech Contest
- November 11—Jr. Leadership Manatee
- November 12—Farm City Agricultural Tour
- November 13—4-H Rabbit Show
- November 16—Kiwani's Luncheon

- November 17—Leadership Manatee Tour
- November 18—Historical Luncheon-Essay winners, parents and teachers are invited
- November 19—AgVenture
- November 20—Prospect Show; Cortez Folk Festival

BRHS FFA, PHS FFA, and ACT volunteers will be working at AgVenture this year as 1,000 third graders travel through various workshops in the Arena learning first-hand about agriculture.

---

## Business

---

### Industry Certifications: Awesome Job!

**B**RHS is on the map because of its progress in earning industry certifications. The school not only serves as a Certiport Testing Center, but as one of Certiport's largest success stories in the country. Dan Crumpler, Bill Gaynor, John Frank, Richard Platt, Gil Burlew, Christy Goehring, Mary Thompson, Abby Toole, Bill Ferrell, and others have all contributed to this achievement.



Bill Gaynor and Dan Crumpler showed FACTE colleagues across the state how they certified more ACA-Adobe Certified Associates and MOS2007-Microsoft Office Specialists...by walking softly and carrying a big stick!

**C**ongratulations also to Lakewood Ranch High School's business teachers Kari Reddish, Judy Bodmer, and Bobbi Colson! Together they have certified over 100 students in Microsoft Word, Photoshop, and Dreamweaver.

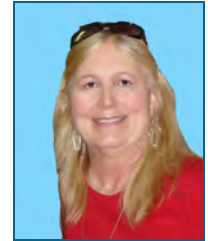
### Project InVEST—a Success

**G**ayle Twitty, PHS business teacher and FBLA advisor, was proud to announce that the Project InVEST Awards Breakfast was a very profitable event for 27 PHS competitors. The Manatee county Independent Insurance Agents awarded almost \$1,000 in cash for events such as Best Portfolio, Best Advertising, and Best Dressed. Guest speaker was Sheriff Brad Steube.

Project InVEST provided students with opportunities to learn about careers in insurance, internships, job shadowing, and networking. Students in Gayle's Business and Entrepreneurial

Principles class, along with several Business Directed Study students, participated in the 10–12 week long project. The project also required a written essay, and student feedback included:

- “Participating in the InVEST project has given me the skills I will need to be successful in life and in my career.”
- “I have been given the opportunity to get a grasp on how it feels to be able to manage my own business.”
- “Project InVEST was a fun activity...thanks to all the volunteers...never experienced a project like this in school...taught me how to be a team player...taught me how to work in a business environment.”
- “I gained valuable business skills such as communication, marketing, leadership, and organizational skills...we get to see how our education is applied in the real world.”



Gayle Twitty

### Accounting Career Connections



**B**ayshore High School junior Iranda Livingston attended the James L. Wilcox Minority Summer Residency Program this past summer. She was chosen from 80-plus outstanding applicants from throughout the state. Iranda was given the chance to see accounting in a new way and learned about many jobs that can be obtained with an accounting degree. She thoroughly enjoyed this five-day, four-night college program hosted by USF and sponsored by the Florida Institute of CPA's.

---

## Marketing

---

### OJT News and Tips

**O**n-the-Job coordinators met to discuss successful program implementation for 2010–2011. Topics of discussion were:

- FTE Weeks and Compliance Issues
- OJT Work Schedules for Students
- OJT FTE Box
- Forms and Paperwork
- Best Practices
- Industry Certifications

Once again, it is critically important for OJT teachers to focus on recordkeeping and proper documentation for each OJT student. Each coordinator must visit face-to-face with employers at least once per grading period. Due to budget cuts, the ACT Department will not be able to reimburse teachers for their mileage this year. This responsibility will be that of the principals.

Times are tough and it is becoming increasingly difficult for students to secure employment when going head-to-head with grown adults vying for the same jobs. Please network with one another and share any job leads you may come across.

## Manatee County—Four-Time National Champs at TSA Nationals!

For the fourth straight year, Manatee County students won more medals (100) than any other school in the nation! Over 120 Manatee County students competed to win top honors at the 2010 National Technology Student Association (TSA) Conference held this summer in Baltimore. This year’s theme was “TSA: Tomorrow’s Leaders,” and our TSA students did not disappoint! Through tears, tense moments, high fives, and plenty of nail biting, this year’s competitors brought their A-game and went head-to-head against 4,000 competitors. Manatee students brought home 58 firsts, 26 seconds, and 16 third-place trophies! Two Manatee County advisors received Florida’s Advisor of the Year award: Nolan Middle School’s Justin Devine and Margi Nanney of Southeast High.

Southeast High School TSA members, guided by advisors Bob Burwell and Margi Nanney, earned a total of 23 top-ten wins—the most high school top-ten event wins in the nation. Wow! The students won first place in F1 in Schools; Fashion Design; Future Technology Teacher; Radio Controlled Transportation; and Scientific Visualization; second place in Technology Dare, and third place in Architectural Modeling and Technical Sketching and Application. Outstanding!

Braden River High School TSA members, with advisors Gil Burlew, John Frank, and Richard Platt, produced a total of 13 top-ten event wins. Students won first place for Chapter Team Written; Structural Engineering; Technology Dare; and Transportation Modeling; second place for Dragster Design, and third place in F1 in Schools to round out their top-three wins. Fabulous!

Lakewood Ranch High School TSA members, guided by advisors Greg McGrew and Steve Harvey, generated a total of six top-ten event wins. Students returned home with first and third places in Dragster Design and second place in Structural Engineering. Amazing!

Competitors at the middle school level were just as intense. Nolan Middle School, under the leadership of advisor Justin Devine, was ranked nationally as the number one middle school TSA chapter! The dedicated and talented students earned a total of 22

Place	Name	School	State
1	Lakewood Ranch High School	FL	
2	...	...	...
3	...	...	...
4	...	...	...
5	...	...	...
6	...	...	...

Place	Name	School	State
1	Nolan Middle School	FL	
2	...	...	...
3	...	...	...
4	...	...	...
5	...	...	...
6	...	...	...



The TSA Dragster event winners’ rankings for middle and high school students—just a sample of how Manatee County TSA shines! Congratulations to the Florida TSA Advisors of the Year: Justin Devine, Nolan Middle School, and Margi Nanney, Southeast High School.

top-ten event wins which included first place wins in Agriculture and Biotechnology Issues; Electronic Gaming; Flight; Go Green Manufacturing; Prepared Speech; and Technical Drawing. Students won second place in Dragster; Engineering Structure; Global Manufacturing; and TSA Cup: Marine Design and third place for Dragster. Awesome!

Haile Middle School ranked third in the nation with a total of 13 top-ten event wins. Under the direction of advisors Justin Erickson and Pamela Platt, Haile students won first place in Dragster; Inventions and Innovations; Lights, Camera, Action; TSA Cup: Marine Design; and Website Design. Students earned second place in Prepared Speech, and third place in Global Manufacturing. Kudos!

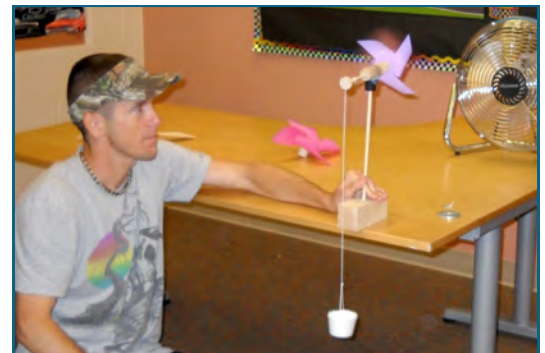
Harlee Middle School, with advisors Ryan Bremner and Quintin Jones, earned seven top-ten event wins. Students won second place in Global Manufacturing, Graphic Design, and Robot Tobor and third place in Communication Challenge.

Lincoln Middle School, with advisor Bill Kebler, won five top-ten event awards with a first place in Transportation Challenge and second places in Global Manufacturing and Transportation Challenge. Buffalo Creek Middle School had two top-ten event wins and Braden River Middle School had one top-ten event win.

Congratulations to all of the students and advisors, as well as to the proud parents of these hard-working competitors. Your accomplishments have helped put Manatee County technology education on the national map. Well done!

## The I3 Project Debuts

Elementary teachers from schools all over the county explored invention, innovation, and inquiry this summer under the leadership of McNeal Elementary Engineering By Design teacher Cheryl McGrew. The I3 Project was created to provide professional support for teachers interested in technological literacy. Each participant received the I3 curriculum, a straw rocket launcher and three days to collaborate with fellow county teachers. The teachers represented Ballard, Daughtery, Abel, Witt, Gullett, Williams, Palm View, McNeal, and Miller Elementary schools. These teachers will continue meeting in a STEM cadre throughout this coming school year to increase their skills in integrating science, math, technology, and engineering in the classroom.



Project I3 teachers explored technology with a windmill challenge.

## Teacher Quest 2010

Charles Routhier, Sugg Middle School, and Greg McGrew, Lakewood Ranch High School, were honored recently at the Teacher Quest Tampa Bay—Summer 2010 Business Partner and Teacher Recognition Luncheon. The event was sponsored by the Technological Research and Development Authority and the Helios Education Foundation to recognize teachers and business partners who participated in this year's program.

The Teacher Quest program is designed to offer a six-week professional development experience for secondary teachers resulting in energized teachers who can better equip students for continuing their education and working in careers related to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

Greg's six-week summer job was at Engraving Systems Support in Dade City as a 3-D Project Marketing Assistant. Charles was employed as a Database Technology Advisor at Custom Manufacturing and Engineering Company in St. Petersburg. Both teachers were engaged in hands-on learning that will bring innovative ways to spark student interest. They were able to gain knowledge in STEM-related fields and career pathways that can be translated to the classroom, and all teacher participants were eligible to complete for mini-grants and receive in-service credit.

Both Greg and Chuck presented a summary of their summer work experience and an action plan on incorporating what they learned into their curriculum. Participating business partners are afforded motivated, temporary employees who bring their diverse teacher experiences to the workplace. It is a win-win situation. Congratulations Greg and Charles!



Technology education teachers Greg McGrew (right) and Charles Routhier (above) accept their Teacher Quest 2010 recognition plaques.

## Reach for the Stars

Joey Dailey, an eighth grade student at Sugg Middle School, was one of four national winners in the "Reach for the Stars" contest. Joey participated during his technology class at Sugg. The contest involved building and launching a solid-fuel rocket and landing the closest to a marker. As a winner of the contest, he and his family won a trip to Kennedy Space Center for a weekend in August. While there, Joey was able to fire



Sugg student Joey Dailey and technology education teacher Chuck Routhier at the Kennedy Space Center.

a rocket at the Astronaut Hall of Fame. He also received a trophy presented by Jack Colpas, director of "Reach for the Stars," and a Christa McAuliffe commemorative coin. Joey was accompanied by his technology teacher, Chuck Routhier. More information about the Reach for the Stars contest can be found at [www.therocketman.net](http://www.therocketman.net).

## Abel Welcomes Engineering by Design

Abel Elementary is excited to welcome the Engineering by Design program! Elvita Phelan, Abel's science representative, is pioneering the project and taking on the opportunity of teaching the program.

Elvita states, "Engineering by Design is built on the belief that the ingenuity of children is untapped, unrealized potential that, when properly motivated, will lead to the next generation of technologists, innovators, designers, and engineers. The program is designed to teach children how to utilize the Engineering Design Process, which includes a seven-step method from finding the problem, exploring ideas, blueprinting, building, testing, retesting, to sharing the solution. We emphasize the use of problem solving skills that trigger math concept application. Our goal is to give Abel students the opportunity to apply and supplement math and science skills through hands-on engineering."

Elvita's students will build projects relating to structures, simple machines, and transportation. For more information, visit Abel's EbD website at:

[www.schools.manatee.k12.fl.us/621EPHELAN/621ephelan1](http://www.schools.manatee.k12.fl.us/621EPHELAN/621ephelan1)

For more information on EbD, visit:

[www.iteea.org/EbD/ebd.htm](http://www.iteea.org/EbD/ebd.htm)



Elvita and her elementary engineers.

---

## Television Production

---

### SETV Captures National Title!

---



The television production program of Southeast High School is sitting on top of the national high school broadcasting world. At the SkillsUSA national championships in June, the team of Ben Robinson, Sarah Smith, Blair Milko, and Max Staebler competed against 20 state champions in the Broadcast News Program event and won the gold medal.

Broadcast News Programming is a three minute newscast. The students are given “raw” wire copy and videotape of footage for each story. They are given only three hours to write a three minute script, practice, and shoot the newscast. The crew positions used in this intense production are two on-camera talents, a director/technical director, and a floor director. Not only did this talented group win the gold, they were the only one of five schools in the competition that scored high enough to be awarded a national certificate of recognition for industry standards as set by the SkillsUSA education committee. Judges for the event are professionals from throughout the United States.

In addition to the excellence demonstrated by Southeast students with SkillsUSA, SETV has won two consecutive national titles in video production with TSA. Not only did the team win the title and the gold medals, they also won a \$15,000 news script writing program that will be installed in the SETV studios in the fall. This program is used throughout the broadcasting industry and will continue to keep SETV on the cutting edge of real world experiences for the television production students of Southeast.

The television production program of Southeast is headed by Mike Sanders, director of television operations for SETV, and Bob Burwell, supervisor of field production and 3D simulation design. Congratulations to all!

The television production program of Southeast is headed by Mike Sanders, director of television operations for SETV, and Bob Burwell, supervisor of field production and 3D simulation design. Congratulations to all!



SETV champions (L-R): Ben Robinson, Sarah Smith, Max Staebler, and Blair Milko

### Mastering Technology

---

Congratulations to BRHS Television Production teacher Abby Toole. Abby’s journey began in a classroom this summer where she worked diligently to master new television technology in Bob Burwell’s *No Teacher Left Behind* Adobe Premier

Pro workshop. Abby pursued many more hours of study and practice after the intense workshop held in Bob’s SEHS classroom and has passed the Premiere Pro CS4 Ace Exam. Way to go, Abby!

---

## Health Science

---

### MTI Dental Student: Top Honors

---

Courtney Harrison, an MTI first-level dental assisting student, won first place in the 20th annual Florida Dental Assisting Student Table Clinic Competition with her clinic “The Business of Dentistry.” She brought home a \$200 cash prize and the traveling plaque that will hang in the MTI Dental Assisting department for the next year. The competition is open to all dental assisting students in Florida. This is MTI’s sixth win in the 20 year history of this competition. Congratulations to Courtney!



First-place winner Cortney Harrison (holding award) with Florida Dental Assistants Association President, Brenda Ware (left), FDAA Treasurer, Kathy Matthews (right), and Dental Assisting instructor, Holly Floyd (far right).

### HOSA Students: Record-Setting Skills

---

The MTI East Campus had the honor of sending 23 postsecondary state champions to the 2010 Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Orlando in June. This conference was the largest HOSA NLC on record with approximately 7,000 attendees. Accompanying the students were MTI HOSA Advisors Kimberly Bland, Ronai Krugh, and Diane Mathe. Each of the students competed in various health-related or leadership events to showcase their skills and talents developed during their health-career preparation programs at MTI. On June 26, ten of them earned first, second, or third place national postsecondary medals while eight more were recognized as among the top ten in the nation.

The students began their week with an energy-charged and inspirational opening session filled with the guidance of the HOSA National Leadership Team, the magic of Disney, and the laughter and wisdom of Mark Scharenbroich. Florida HOSA members were easy to recognize during opening session as the entire state delegation sported “flashing flamingo” sunglasses!

While the members were there to compete with hopes of winning a medal, all came away realizing that it is the process, rather than the final result, that is the most important part of the experience.

Congratulations to gold medal winners Heather Allen, Tiffany Gardner, and Angela Pierce: Medical Reading (Surgical Technology Program); silver medal winners Lindsay Willey, Dental Assisting (Dental Assisting Program), Ashleigh Franklin, Dental Spelling (Dental Assisting Program), Kellie Kilppel, Dental Terminology (Dental Assisting Program), Harley Kroll and Darius Maboudi , Creative Problem Solving (Massage Therapy Program), and Jonathan Robinson, Creative Problem Solving (Paramedic Program); and bronze medal winner Rachel Flenniken, Dental Spelling (Dental Assisting Program).

Top ten national finalists included Teresa Ryan, Clinical Nursing (Practical Nursing Program), Courtney Cournan, Dental Assisting (Dental Assisting Program), Erica Ayala, Extemporaneous Health Poster (Dental Assisting Program), Angela Balam, Jennifer Budreau, and Amy Diaz, HOSA Bowl (Practical Nursing Program), Nicole Miller, HOSA Bowl (Dental Assisting Program), and Michael Bolotin, Medical Math (Practical Nursing Program).



HOSA students (standing L-R): Courtney Cournan, Rachel Flenniken, Marly Arias, Lindsay Willey, Michael Bolotin, Brittany Eason, Tiffany Gardner, Harley Kroll, Angela Pierce, Heather Allen, Jorge Arroyo, Kellie Kilppel. (Kneeling L-R): Jonathan Robinson and Darius Maboudi. HOSA Advisors putting on a little Florida style (L-R): Diane Mathe, Ronai Krugh, Kimberly Bland.

## Kudos for Cathy Whetsel

The Print Shop recognized Cathy Whetsel from MTT's Nursing Program as an EdVantage "Star" Award recipient. "Cathy is a Star example to everyone in the print shop and throughout the district," wrote the Print Shop's Terri Tilley. "She inspires nursing students to embrace their chosen profession with dedication, strength and passion. In Cathy's career, she has given attention and care to many people, even if it is just a smile and

hello. Nursing and teaching take strong commitment . . . Cathy successfully achieves both with constant enthusiasm."

Dr. Cantrell added, "Cathy is all of the above and more. She is a STAR that shares her light with everyone. MTT is most fortunate to have her as a part of our family."

## Nolan HOSA Honored

Nolan Middle School was honored by Shelley Coleman of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for becoming a "Champion for Change" school in their first year running the Pasta for Pennies campaign. HOSA was the overseeing organization and not only managed the campaign, but also held fundraisers during HOSA week and "Stuck for a Buck" last December. Total funds raised through HOSA's efforts were \$3,113.39. Advisors Michelle Bocolac and Pam Rahn and Assistant Principal Nancy Swanson were guest speakers recently at Bradenton Olive Garden in an effort to help enlist more schools from Manatee County to join the campaign. The three were also recognized with a special dinner in Tampa.



L-R: HOSA Advisors Michelle Bouclas, Shelley Coleman, and Pam Rahn

## Construction Technology

### CTC Sets New Record

Construction Technology Careers (CTC) hosted its seventh annual Completer's Ceremony in May at the State College of Florida, Sarasota/Manatee (SCF) campus in



2010 Construction Technology Careers program completers.

Lakewood Ranch. A record 53 Manatee and Sarasota youth were recognized for completing the rigorous construction pre-apprenticeship program requiring more than 700 training hours. Completion of the training required several supplemental certifications, stringent attendance, and grade point average requirements. CTC is an award-winning, best-practice model available at PHS, SEHS, MHS, and MTI. The program is under the leadership of our construction teachers with a foundation based on a partnership between the regional construction industry, Suncoast Workforce Board, Manatee and Sarasota County School Districts, and the Gulf Coast Builders Exchange.

## To Launch: U.S. Construction Challenge



**B**ob Lounds and Jim Kapper, lead teachers of the Palmetto High School (PHS) Academy for Construction Design, are looking forward to hosting the inaugural U.S. Construction Challenge event at PHS on October 28. Together

with construction teachers Ray Weiland of Southeast High School Jeff Sharp of Manatee High School, and Barry King of MTI, the five Future Builders of America (FBA) advisors have created an exciting and challenging all day event that will showcase their student's construction technology knowledge and skills. Sponsors of the event include the Manatee County chapters of FBA, the Home Builders Association of Manatee/Sarasota (HBA), Construction Technology Careers (CTC), Zirkelbach Construction, and the ACT Department.

## Family and Consumer Science

### Culinary Certifications

**T**his past summer, Chef Suzette Marquette of Manatee High School and Chef Mike Niewodowski of Southeast High School both earned the Certified Professional Food Manager (CPFM) certification through the ServSafe organization. By earning this certification, both chefs have the opportunity to provide SafeStaff® Foodhandler Training Certification to their students. Chef Mike has already trained all of the Culinary Arts students at Southeast High School; more than 250 SEHS students have received their SafeStaff® Foodhandler Certification. Chef Marquette plans to offer this training and certification to MHS Culinary Arts students.

This is not the only industry certification the chefs offer their students. Last year Chef Marquette provided International Foodservice Executive Association's (IFSEA) Certified Food Manager (CFM) test to 27 advanced students; Chef Niewodowski provided this certification to eight advanced students. Both chefs earned the CFM certification in 2009; in 2010, Chef Niewodowski earned IFSEA's Master Certified Food Executive (MCFE) title.

In 2008, Chef Marquette earned American Culinary

Federation's (ACF) Certified Executive Chef (CEC) title; in 2009, Chef Niewodowski earned ACF's Certified Culinarian (CC) title.

Both chefs hope to offer more students the CFM training this year, and both are looking into ways to offer the CPFM certification to advanced culinary students. With these rigorous industry certifications and the working renovations to both MHS and SEHS Culinary Arts laboratories, the future of the culinary programs at our high schools looks very bright!



*Chef Mike (SEHS) and Chef Suzette (MHS).*

---

## MTI

---

### Seven Years Running: MTI Wins Most National SkillsUSA Medals

**F**or the seventh straight year, MTI students won more medals than any other school in the nation. Of the 942 medal awarded at the 46th Annual SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City in June, MTI students alone won 61, bringing home 25 gold, 23 silver and 13 bronze medals. "Everyone's a winner!" exclaimed MTI director Mary Cantrell, PhD. "They didn't get there unless they were already a winner. (They had to have won first in the state to qualify.) Only two percent of SkillsUSA members make it to nationals."

The SkillsUSA Championships are a showcase for the best career and technical education students in the nation where contest competencies are set by industry. The theme for this year's contests was "Champions at Work, Connecting the Opportunities." Over 5,600 students competed in 96 different skill, technical and leadership fields where they worked against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations like air conditioning, entrepreneurship, criminal justice, and web design. According to students who compete, the SkillsUSA Championships are like the Olympics for career and technical education. Nearly 1,500 judges and contest organizers from labor and management make the national contests possible. This year, seven of MTI's faculty and staff served on the National Education Team, and Cantrell served on the National Technical Team.

About 40 MTI students volunteered for the SkillsUSA community service event hosted by Timberland PRO on the last day of the conference, June 25. Community service is highly valued by SkillsUSA. This year, students worked on several projects including building a bicycle trail, constructing a bridge, putting up

siding, and creating a new community garden.

Another highlight of this year's Championships was a \$10,000,000 donation by Lowe's.

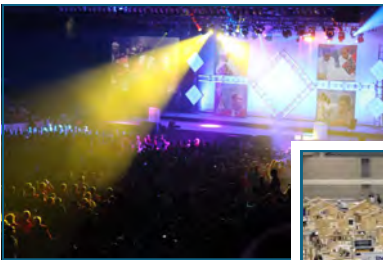
Congratulations to all of the SkillsUSA participants and advisors for once again emerging as the most highly skilled students in the country!



Left: Occupational Health & Safety GOLD—MTI students Arika McCormack, Sonia Molina, Christopher Ryan, and Jose Rodriguez.



Right: Entrepreneurship SILVER—MTI students Ricardo Fontanez, Cedanio Bacon, Jason Hrnak, and Joshua Barber.



Left: Annual SkillsUSA Opening Ceremony in Kemper Arena, Kansas City, Missouri.



Right: Bird's eye view of competitions.



Left: MTI student Joshua Sosa competing in Automotive Technology

## Women Welders: Creativity and Talent

MTI's welding students Heide Parson and Brenda Cook are doing amazing work in rebar and metal that has not gone unnoticed. Not only did they win the gold medal at SkillsUSA States but they are embracing the opportunity to display their ornamental artwork in a local gallery.

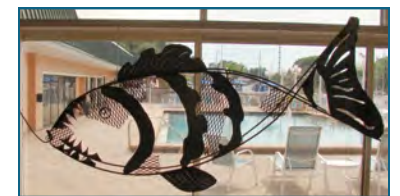
Americorps\* VISTA member Karen Carpenter works to promote the MTI Foundation and develop career links for students. Karen connected the two award winning female welders with The VISTA Gallery, a newly opened gallery in Sarasota featuring emerging artists and perhaps even launching new careers. The exhibit is titled Women Welders Working Wonders and features nautical and other decorative sculptures. The largest piece is a seven foot fish; smaller ones feature blue crabs and is on display through September.

Parson and Cook are both natives of Manatee County, having recently returned from Kentucky. They lost their jobs at a

wire and cable factory there when 52 jobs went overseas. Returning home, their interest in metal work and decorative arts and in learning a new trade and career drew them to MTI.



MTI students Brenda Cook and Heide Parson, welder artists.



This seven foot fish is made out of rebar; just one of the many pieces of Cook and Parson's art.

## Welding Students Earn Certification

Congratulations to MTI students Bradley Clarkson and Aron A. Wernet. Bradley and Aron both earned American Welder Society Entry Welder Level I certification.



Welders are certified through the American Welding Society's (AWS) School Excelling through National Skill Standards Education (SENSE) certification.

## MTI Graduated Over 1,500 Students

The packed Civic Center was electric as over 1,500 adults graduated from MTI at the end of June. The career and technical education program graduates numbered 983—the largest group of CTE graduates in the history of the school. The school also graduated 496 GED graduates and 37 students who completed the highest level of English as a second language. In addition, 448 completed one or more occupational completion points in a career or technical education program.

Superintendent Tim McGonegal led the completely full house in applauding the school for all the 61 national medals they won at SkillsUSA and 10 Health Occupations Students of America and for making history by leading the nation for the seventh year in a row for the most medals won at the SkillsUSA Championships.

Emotions swelled as three graduates spoke of their lives and what led them each to MTI. The first graduation speaker, Dennis Cameron, had dropped out of school when he was 17 and got married at 18. He spoke of his struggles and the emotional support he received to pass the GED so he could advance in his job. He plans to enroll in MTI's Law Enforcement Academy.

Kathy Kahn, a medical administration specialist graduate, spoke of moving forward in faith with her six daughters after the

sudden death of her husband in 2006. The loss left her reeling facing a world of unknowns. She was hired full-time by the medical office where she did her externship.

The final speaker, Gabriela Lozano, spoke of her gratitude to MTI for giving her a chance to pursue her dreams in culinary arts when no other school would take her because of her visual impairment. She surprised the audience with her sense of humor when she responded to the fears expressed by the risk management department that she would hurt herself: "Two years and not one burn or one cut!" Gabriela expressed her hope that she could be an inspiration to others to pursue their dreams whether or not they are disabled or blind.



Top: MTI grads stand for the national anthem, sung by one of their fellow graduates, Gary Masengale. Center: Culinary Arts graduate Gabriela Lozano sharing words of wisdom. Bottom: Graduates Shaakiera Lovette, Cosmetology; Celia Schewe, Facials; and Deborah Morresy, Nails & Facials.

## Classes Offer Enrichment and Fun

All enrichment classes began in September at MTI. Classes are offered at a nominal fee to encourage participation. They are open to all adult residents regardless of educational background. New classes this year are Automotive Literacy and a financial workshop entitled Your Source for Financial Education. Back by popular demand are Basic and Intermediate Computer classes, Creative Photography, Sewing, Basic Spanish, Stained Glass, Floral Design, Weight Lifting for Seniors, and Basic Marine Mechanics.

MTI also offers close to a 1,000 online classes, which

include both enrichment and career track classes. To see the full line-up, go to TechTimesOnline.org. Classes are a great way to learn something new, make new friends, and have some fun. For more information, contact Tim Arb at arb@manateeschools.net or 751-7900, ext 2043.

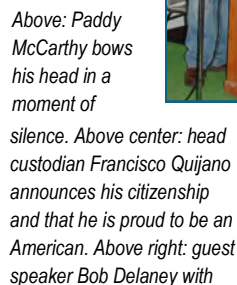
## MTI Remembers 9/11

Both MTI campuses held ceremonies commemorating 9/11 as community projects by the MTI chapter of SkillsUSA. MTP's East campus hosted keynote speaker Bob Delaney. Mr. Delaney is a current NBA referee, a former New Jersey State Trooper and a principal undercover operative in the landmark investigation Project Alpha. Mr. Delaney addressed law enforcement, emergency services and military groups leadership, motivation, and patriotism; as well as having recently co-authored the book *Covert, My Years Infiltrating the Mob*.

The ceremony included participation from East Manatee Fire Rescue, Manatee County EMS, Manatee County Sheriff's Office Color Guard, and Florida Highway Patrol and was capped off by a U.S. Coast Guard military flyover.

The Main Campus observance was held in Leatherman Auditorium. The ceremony began with Taps and a moment of silence. Students presented a PowerPoint presentation that included photos of students and families serving in the military, law enforcement, fire fighting, and as medical responders.

"Our commemoration has evolved from a remembrance of 9/11 events to include remembering and honoring all those who are serving our country, many times in harm's way," said Paddy McCarthy, Major Appliance Repair instructor.



Above: Paddy McCarthy bows his head in a moment of silence. Above center: head custodian Francisco Quijano announces his citizenship and that he is proud to be an American. Above right: guest speaker Bob Delaney with Capt. Tim Hyden of East Manatee Fire Rescue, in background. The honor guard (left to right): Lt. Charles Reid, East Manatee Fire Rescue; Tim Kelly, Paramedic, Manatee County EMS; Mark Marcus, Trooper, Florida Highway Patrol; Sgt. Mike Kenyan, Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

## New MTI Program Helps Adults

Its autumn, the traditional time most people think of going back to school. For adults who did not graduate from high school, there is a new program at MTI to help them with the entrance process and prepare them for success in post-secondary education. The program is known as the Transitions program, as it helps to transition students from adult education classes, such as GED, adult basic education, and English as a second language, to technical school or college.

With support from grant funding, two instructors and one counselor at MTI will provide eligible students with coaching, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, guidance, and support to enroll at MTI or State College of Florida.

“This program will afford adult students who may not have had the opportunity until now to realize their potential,” said Linda Agresta, assistant director at MTI. “Transitions will be that bridge that will help them cross from earning a GED to getting an education that will prepare them for a career.”

Transitions counselor Thomas Bellantonio will personally walk students through the steps. “More opportunities lie ahead for someone with a postsecondary education,” said Bellantonio. According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, by 2016, 85 percent of all jobs will require some type of postsecondary education.

Across the state, on average only about five percent of adult education graduates enroll in postsecondary education immediately upon completion of their adult education programs. The Florida Department of Education is seeking to change those statistics with these funds. Manatee was one of only seven school districts and four colleges throughout the state to be awarded this competitive grant.

“No matter what age, background or experience someone has, there is always room for higher education and self growth,” Bellantonio said. He has already begun working with about 15 students. He hopes to serve 50 or more.

An orientation session is held every week for new students. For more information, contact Thomas Bellantonio at 751-7900, ext. 2191, or email at bellantoniot@manateeschools.net.

## Hispanic Heritage Celebration

The MTI Farmworker Education and Services Program and the Adelante Club of Tropicana proudly presented the Second Annual Back to School Celebration which took place at the migrant camps of Falkner Farms located in Myakka City.

The celebration offered a unique opportunity for farm workers and their families to enjoy a showcase of our Hispanic culture and receive school supplies for school-aged children donated by the Adelante Club of Tropicana.

The purpose of the activity is to celebrate the Hispanic heritage of our community and to raise money for the Farmworker Emergency Fund. This fund is used to support farmworker families in crisis situations to provide them with food, shelter, and health services.

*The 2nd Annual Back-to-School celebration at the migrant camp at Faulkner Farms.*



The event was open to all of the farm worker families of the six migrant camps at Falkner Farms. A dance group performed and refreshments were provided by Tropicana.

If any business or private donor would like to donate school supplies or money for the Farmworker Emergency Fund, please contact the Farmworker Education and Services Program for more information at 751-7947 or 751-7900 ext. 2165.

## In Case You Missed it at the ACT Update Back-to-School Meeting

*Doug Wagner shared this at the Back-to-School ACT Update meeting.*

Here's something to think about. Washington, DC Metro Station on a cold January morning. A man with a violin plays six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time approx. 2 thousand people passed through the station, most of them on their way to work. After 3 minutes a middle-aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.

Four minutes later: The violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

Six minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

Ten minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced their children to move on quickly.

45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

One hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin valued at \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold out a theatre in Boston where the price of seats averaged \$100.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities. The questions raised: in a commonplace environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to

one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made... what else are we missing?

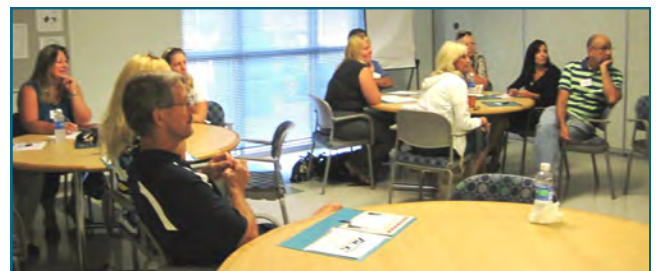
When you think about Career and Technical Education, remember that the skills and knowledge we provide are similar to the appreciation of music. Many times it goes unnoticed but it is necessary to provide lifelong success.

## **ACT Update #75—Back to School Meeting Started Things Off Right!**



*Above and left: we're a BIG group!*

*Below: subject area teachers convene.*



*Various departments met together to plan the year. These represent some of the greatest minds in career and technical education!*

*Right: his and her logo shirts were handed out to attendees.*



**Prohibition of Discrimination.** Any person who believes he/she has been discriminated against or has been harassed by an employee, student, or other third party who is subject to control of the Manatee County School Board is encouraged to use the appropriate grievance procedures set forth in policy. Complaints should be forwarded to Darcy Hopko, Equity Coordinator; P.O. Box 9069, Bradenton, FL 34206; 941-708-8770 ext. 2236.

## CTSO and Student-Centered Events

The ACT Department is here to support you in any way we can to help you achieve a successful chapter. Attending conferences with students is one of the most exciting and demanding aspects of being a CTSO advisor, while providing student-centered educational opportunities that last a lifetime.



**CECF/BPA** [www.cecf.org](http://www.cecf.org) or [www.bpa.org](http://www.bpa.org)  
November 3–5, Competitive Events & Leadership Training Workshop, High Springs.



**FPSA** [www.fpsainc.org](http://www.fpsainc.org)  
April 26–29, 2011, Annual Conference, Daytona Beach



**DECA** [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org)  
November 12–14, Ultimate DECA Power Trip, Washington, D.C.



**HOSA** [www.flhosa.org](http://www.flhosa.org)  
November 7–13, HOSA Week. November 19–21, Leadership Development Conference, High Springs.



**FBIA/PBL** [www.floridafbpa-pbl.com](http://www.floridafbpa-pbl.com)  
November 19–21 Fall Leadership Conference, Palm Beach County.



**SkillsUSA** [www.skillsusa.info](http://www.skillsusa.info)  
October 27–30, Chapter Management Institute and State Leadership Training Workshop, Haines City.



**FCCLA** [www.flfccla.org](http://www.flfccla.org)  
November 19–21, National Cluster Meeting, Charlotte.



**TSA** [www.floridatsa.com](http://www.floridatsa.com)  
November 3–6, Leadership Training Conference & Competitions, Orlando.



**FFA** [www.flaffa.org](http://www.flaffa.org)  
October 19–22, National FFA Convention, Indianapolis.



**FBA** [www.futurebuildersofamerica.org](http://www.futurebuildersofamerica.org)  
October 18–22, NCCER Careers in Construction Week. October 28, U.S. Construction Challenge, Palmetto.

## ACT UPDATE

Adult, Career & Technical Education

**School District of Manatee County**  
215 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941) 708-8770 x2227  
fax (941) 708-8686  
[www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com)



**EdVantage**  
Inspiring Our Students to Learn, Dream and Achieve.

**Adult, Career and Technical Education** is the branch of academics that links the world of education to the world of work. The **ACT UPDATE** delivers the department's latest news, events, and "shining stars"—accolades of achievement in career and technical education. Got news, events, or comments to include in the next **ACT UPDATE**? Send your articles to:

**Doug Wagner, Director ACT**  
[wagnerd@manateeschools.net](mailto:wagnerd@manateeschools.net)

or

**Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Specialist**  
[littont@manateeschools.net](mailto:littont@manateeschools.net)

### Around the District

Watch for all of the publications keeping you informed about what's happening around the District in the Adult, Career & Technical Education Department.



*Transition Times, ACT Update, Spotlight on Success, Take Stock In Children, Career Pathways Careers in Action, Education Today/Career Tomorrow, Technical Education Today*