

A Message From Your President, Mary Taylor



I hope everyone is as excited as I am about summer conference! (I know what most of you thought I was going to say!)

I want each of you to know that we have worked hard to make this year's summer conference all about you. We received feedback through surveys, a lot of emails, phone calls, and personal contacts. With this year's agendas, we feel that you will go home with the information you requested and the motivation to help us prepare for an even longer and better conference next year. The OVAE/MDE has been extremely helpful and considerate of the needs of our members, especially those of you in the classroom. Without the teachers and programs, CTE would be non-existent.

Your affiliate presidents and program directors created the agendas based on your specific needs.

Please support them in your attendance. In addition there will be sessions regarding career clusters, pathways, academies, and a special session for first time teachers. I am especially proud of that one! We need to support our new teachers and better prepare them for their first teaching experience. There will also be a breakout session regarding the benefits of ACTE membership and exactly what ACTE does for its membership. It will really open your eyes!

As the school year comes to an end, I am still working hard for ACTE. Please continue to contact me with your concerns, suggestions, or comments. At this year's summer membership meeting, we will present awards to the deserving members and students of our organization. We will also vote on changes to our bylaws and constitution. There will be some changes on the web site and the awards program will be updated. Please review these and let me know if it is more helpful. Please volunteer to serve on our committees. We need dedicated individuals to serve as chairs and carry out the duties of each committee. Our organization is only as strong as its members. I encourage you to continue talking to your legislators and senators about changes in Perkins and gain their support of CTE. Funding is available, but how it will be distributed may change. Make them aware of your needs in each of your school districts.

I hope each of you has a restful summer and come prepared and motivated to start the next school year with excitement and enthusiasm. We want to help you be prepared to succeed. My thanks to everyone who has made this a successful and pleasant term of service to MS ACTE.

Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

Congratulations on completing another school year. Thanks to you, teachers, counselors, and administrators, many of Mississippi's young people will have successful careers in the future!

Mississippi had a good representation at the ACTE Region IV Conference in New Mexico in April. We had 34 members in attendance. The conference next year will be held in Oklahoma City.

The revised national conference, CareerTech VISION

2012, will be held in Atlanta November 29—December 1. It is no longer called a Conference; now it is billed as a Summit. There will be lots of business and industry interaction. Atlanta is a drivable distance, therefore I hope many of you will plan to attend. Early-bird registration ends July 13, so make your plans early.

The MDE/ MS ACTE Summer Conference is scheduled for July 17-19 at the Muse Center on the Hinds Community College Rankin Campus. To register, go to

Governor Phil Bryant Signs Proclamation “Career and Technical Education Month” Declared

Submitted by Tammie Brewer

Governor Phil Bryant recently proclaimed the month of February as “Career and Technical Education Month.” Career and Technical Education gives students a “head start” in preparation of students for college and employment. Representative Kevin Magee, from Rankin County and Representative Larry Byrd, from Lamar County recognized the Student Organization Officers from the House floor. Students represented the following organizations: DECA: an association of Marketing Students, HOSA: Health Occupations Students of America, SkillsUSA: Formally VICA,

FBLA: Future Business Leaders of America, FFA: Future Farmers of America, TSA: Technology Student Association, FCCLA: Family, Career & community Leaders of America, FEA: Future Educators Association and NTHS: National Technical Honor Society. Also pictured are Tammie Brewer, Marketing instructor and DECA Advisor of the Pearl/Rankin Career and Technical Center and Mary Taylor, Health Sciences



instructor at Lamar County Center for Technical Education. After picking up the proclamation from the Governor’s office, the students toured the capitol building. The event began as a day to pick up the proclamation and ended up being an eye-opening experience for the students as to what congress does on a day-to-day basis.

Lamar Technical Center’s Bruce Lampé Recognized



Mr. Bruce Lampé, Renewable Energy Technology instructor at Lamar Technical Center, recently won the Leo W. Seal Teacher Recognition Award. Hancock Bank established an endowment fund with the Gulf Coast Community Foundation to provide annual awards for teachers who

best apply their teaching and leadership skills in the classroom. To further the educator's effectiveness in the community, each recipient receives \$1,500 to sponsor classroom projects. Mr. Lampé plans to order supplies for his students to build projects, such as solar panels, to take into classrooms in Lamar County and educate students about emerging energy sources.

Lamar Technical Center SKILLS USA



The Construction Technology class at Lamar Technical Center designed and built a playhouse to be sold as a fundraiser for SKILLS USA. The SKILLS USA club is a student organization that promotes skills competition and leadership among students enrolled in programs such as Construction Technology. Pictured in photo are: (L-R) Jorge Evans, Anton Espenschied Arnold, Erica Housley, Ken McCoy (Instructor), Carley Murphy, Wade Nelson and Josh Saucier. (Not pictured: Wylie Anderson).



Pictured in photo (L-R) Mitch Strider, Ryan Seay and Drake Broome. Lamar Technical Center's SKILLS USA chapter had three students place at the state level in the SKILLS USA Student Competition in Jackson, MS. Mitch Strider placed 3rd in Residential Wiring, Ryan Seay placed second in Motorcycle Repair Technology and Drake Broome placed first in Sheet Metal. Drake will compete at the National SKILLS USA competition in June. The competition will be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

ACTE National Policy Seminar

Submitted by Jill Wagner

Over and over this year I've heard how important it is for us, as career and technical educators, to contact our elected officials. Being humble by nature, this is not the easiest thing for us to do. The most immediate questions in my mind were, "What do I say? What words do I use? Won't I sound...well, uninformed?"

I had already been encouraged to attend ACTE's National Policy Seminar held each March in Washington, DC. I felt a mix of nervousness and apprehension when I decided to register and attend. However, I was determined that if I was going to spend the remainder of my teaching career as an advocate for agricultural education, I was going to be prepared. Policy seminar not only prepared me for this challenge, but also prepared me to speak to other educators and education professionals, parents, students, and the public about what I do and the importance of it.

Three days of policy workshops cannot be summed up in a few paragraphs. Policy seminar is intense and strenuous, but also interesting. These are the most important points I want to share:

- One person won't make the difference. It will take ALL of us working together to keep our elected officials informed of legislation affecting us and our views on that particular legislation. Many times our legislators do not know that a certain word means that it affects you or me. Does your legislator realize that you are a career and technical educator? Does your legislator understand that FFA or DECA is an important part of career and technical education? Get those around you involved in promoting career and technical education in addition to agricultural education or business education. Teach your students and their parents how to promote your program as well.
- Be a little annoying. You've heard about the squeaky wheel? It gets the grease. Career and technical educations cannot be afraid to be the squeaky wheel. Looking back, it seems that we are so well greased sometimes that legislators forget we are there. When we coast along with no noise is when funding or laws change that in turn bring negative changes to our programs. We must continually seek to promote our programs and share how important our programs are. As a career and technical educator, each of us should be contacting our legislator often with a brief and tactful message. Ask them for their support with certain legislation and thank them when they do.
- Be prepared. Know the terminology used in the legislation, understand it, and use it. Tell how the particular legislation will affect you, your students, your program, and your community. Go into a visit with notes and stick to them. Have data and numbers available in a printed form that you can leave with the legislator. Don't be afraid to talk about "Little Joey" and how his life was affected by your program, but numbers and data tell their own story.
- Use a year-round presence at the Capitol. The Congressmen shouldn't think you look familiar. Those from your home district should know your name. When you visit the Capitol, promote your program with everything you've got. It's easy to identify FFA members in the Capitol because of their official dress. It isn't easy, however, for legislators to know who the advisors are. Make it a point to speak to people and tell them why you are there with students and what they are doing. When you are not able to visit the Capitol, use email and correspond with legislators and their assistants. Send clippings of what your students are doing when their picture is in the local newspaper. Make it a point for students to invite your Congressmen to local and/or state-wide career and technical events. Take advantage of their social media. Many Congressmen use these tools to better serve their constituents. That's you. That's the parents of your students.

Our funding situation is not likely to improve in the next few years. It is more important than ever as we move into another year of school to take our job of advocating seriously. No one is a better advocate for your program than you are. If you won't stand up for what you do, who will?

Millsaps Career & Technology Center Teams to Represent Mississippi at the National FFA Convention

Submitted by Jamie Stidham

The Millsaps Career & Technology Center from Starkville sent four teams to the Mississippi State FFA Competition on Friday, April 13. Three of these teams placed first in the state and earned the privilege of representing Mississippi at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 26-29, 2012. FFA Advisor, Rusty Coats, who teaches Horticulture, coaches the Floriculture and Nursery/Landscape Teams. Floriculture team members are Britton Walker, Savannah Hobart, Mitchell Linley, and Ethan Musser. Britton Walker was the highest scoring individual in the Floriculture Contest. Contestants in this contest designed a floral arrangement, constructed a corsage, and identified flowers used in the floral industry. Members of Nursery/Landscape team are Jack Bryan, Duncan Watson, Garrison Arinder, and Grant Woomer. Jack Bryan was the highest scoring individual in the Nursery competition. This contest included a general knowledge test and the identification of landscape plants, weeds, plant diseases, and landscape tools. Linda Jack, Agriscience teacher at Millsaps, coached the Veterinary Science Career Development Event Team (CDE), a new event held for the first time at both the state and national levels this year. Team

members of the Veterinary Science Team are Hannah Miller, Austin Harris, Staphanie Aultman, and Cherie Halsey. Hannah Miller was the high scoring individual in this CDE. In this contest, members had to identify veterinary tools, take a general knowledge exam, and perform veterinary math calculations. At the National FFA Contest these students will have to calculate medical dosages, properly restrain animals, describe aseptic techniques, and other activities that are common to the veterinarian field. Mrs. Jack is also coaching the schools Environmental and Natural Resource Team that won first place at the North State Envirothon Contest. This team will be competing on May 10 at the Mississippi Envirothon Contest at Roosevelt State Park, in Morton, Mississippi. Members of this team are Kieran Davis, Justin Gandy, Jeremy Burt, Andrew Rogers, and Jareth Murrell. This contest requires the contestants to possess knowledge in forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatics, and current environmental topics. Hannah Miller also placed second in the Extemporaneous Speaking Contest at the North District FFA Contest. She will be competing at the State FFA Convention in June. These students are hoping to place first and join the others as Mississippi's representatives at the National FFA Convention.

Mrs. Jack also has an open Envirothon Team which qualified to compete at the State Envirothon Contest. Members of this team are Hannah Miller, Sander Dibble, Ashley Albritton, Rob Wilbourn, and Nathan Gaudin.

GREETINGS

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www.rcu.msstate.edu and click on the conference logo to obtain the registration form and tentative agenda. This agenda will include break-out session information for each affiliate. I think all of you will benefit from our conference. The MDE and RCU have worked closely with us to make this a conference that will be of value to all. Jim Comer, ACTE National President, will be with us and will give remarks at the Opening Session. Jan Bray, National CEO, will also be in attendance. She will give remarks at the Closing Session. Both will give presentations at the break-out sessions.

I encourage you to become more active in MS ACTE by serving on the various committees. If you are interested, please contact your affiliate president and indicate which committee you would like to serve on. They will then make recommendations to our upcoming president, Rex Buckhaults, for appointments.

I hope you all have a wonderful break, and I look forward to seeing you in July.

Wayne County Vo-Tech News

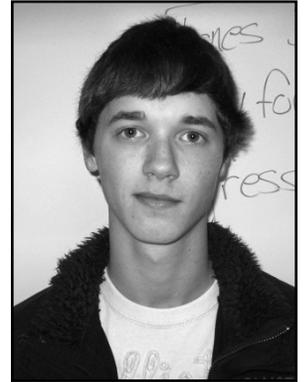


Devon Johnston

Skills USA Winner - Devon Johnston placed first in the Construction/Residential Wiring competition at the Skills USA State Competition in March at Jackson.

FFA District Winner - Devin Manseill won a \$250 scholarship as the Top Welder in the FFA District competition held in March.

HOSA District Winners - Andrew Porter and Kristen Rials won first place in the EMT competition at the District HOSA competition held at South Jones High School in March.

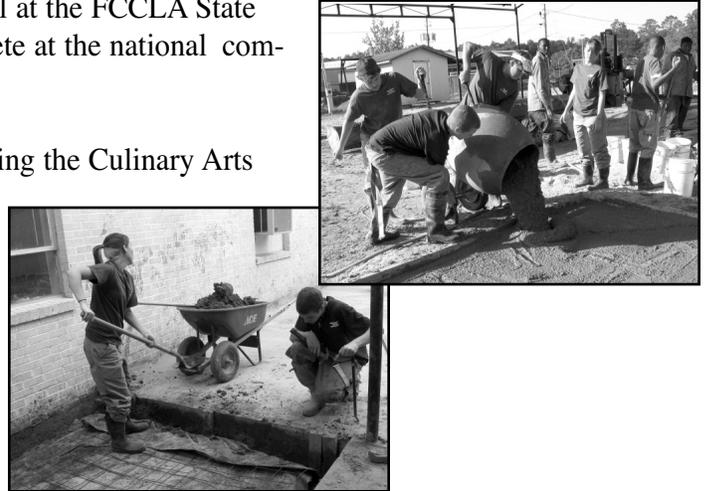


Devin Manseill

FCCLA State Conference Winner - Ciera McLendon placed first in Fashion Construction, Occupational at the FCCLA State Conference. She qualifies to compete at the national competition in June.



The Construction program is updating the Culinary Arts classroom inside and outside. They have built walls, poured concrete, painted, installed wiring and lighting, and many other tasks to completely remodel this space into a commercial grade kitchen and serving area.



District 5 Spring Dinner Meeting



District 4 Spring Dinner Meeting

Alcorn Teacher Academy Students Assist at the Mississippi Area 11 Special Olympics

Submitted by: Nan Nethery, Alcorn Teacher Academy Instructor



Career and technical education serves the purpose of providing learning experiences which aid students in exploring career areas and preparing

for employment and independent living. At the Alcorn Career and Technology Center in Corinth, MS, the Teacher Academy program is a new high school course designed to attract students to the field of education, to provide information and field experiences relevant to pursuing a degree in education, and to prepare students for the rigors of a career in education so they will remain long-term educators. The Teacher Academy program includes classroom and hands-on experiences which will prepare students for employment or continuing education in the education field.

On Friday, April 13, 2012, Nan Nethery's Teacher Academy students enjoyed assisting the athletes which participated in the Mississippi Area 11 Special Olympics. There were approximately 300 athletes at the Pontotoc City Track and Field. Area 11 includes Pontotoc, Lee, Union, Prentiss, Alcorn, Tishomingo, Itawamba, and Tippah counties. We considered it a great honor to

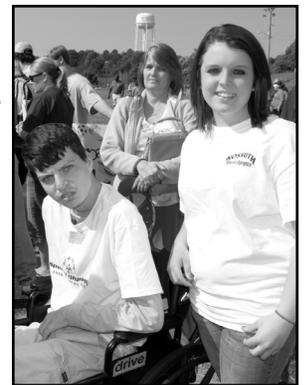
be asked to assist with this event. Mrs. Stephanie Clausel, Special Education Coordinator for Alcorn County, asked if I would consider letting my students help with the athletes. My students and I didn't really know what to expect. We were told that each athlete would need 1 – 2 assistants. Students were assigned an athlete, assisted them in getting from one event to the other, encouraged them to do their best, and congratulated them on a job well done. The day turned out to be a true blessing for myself as well as the Teacher Academy students. This was an excellent opportunity for my students to explore a different avenue to the world of education.

In addition to last week's events, Teacher Academy students have attended a local school board meeting, where they had the opportunity to meet the superintendent and board members. Students also helped celebrate the March birthday of Dr. Seuss at local elementary schools, where they read various book selections

to host classrooms. Earlier in the school year, Teacher Academy students helped bring the



Mississippi Body Walk Exhibit to Alcorn County elementary aged students, where they taught healthy lessons about staying active and eating right. On a weekly basis, Teacher Academy students are assigned a host classroom at an elementary school in Alcorn County. They visit that class once a week to participate in the daily routines of a traditional classroom. All of these activities have given the students an awesome opportunity to discover exactly what the world of an educator is all about.



Oxford-Lafayette TECH Award Winners



Friday, April 13, 2012, Rachel Bayles from Oxford-Lafayette TECH scored perfect 200/200 on her welding to help lead her team to second place in the state competition held at Mississippi State University.



Aaron Watkins- Oxford-Lafayette TECH First place FFA STATE AG Mechanics and instructor, Mr. Terry James, Oxford, Mississippi



Left to right: Aaron Tatum, Mac Quarles and Mr. Terry James, TECH AG Teacher/Advisor
Photograph: MB Lowrey, TECH Director



Alex Onsby, John Carpenter and Austin Avent- First Place AG Mechanics- FFA Starkville, MS April 13, 2012

Perry County Vo-Tech Student Wins At State FBLA Competition

Kristin Pipkin represented Perry County Vocational-Technical Center at the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Competition in Jackson, MS on April 13, 2012. Kristin placed 1st in the State in the Electronic Career Portfolio Event. She will now advance to the National FBLA Competition in San Antonio, Texas in June. Rex Buckhaults, Vocational Director says he is very proud of Kristin and Ms. Pearce for the great job they did in this competition.

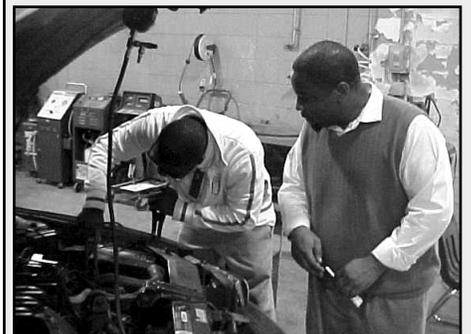


L to R: Kandi Pearce, FBLA Advisor, Kristin Pipkin and Rex Buckhaults, Vocational Director

Leland Vocational Center SKILLS USA



Business Computer Technology students integrated a lesson with Building Construction students in the shop area. BCT students learned about wood cutting techniques to create designs on the computer. Building Construction students later went to the computer classroom to create new designs taught by the BCT students. Pictured in the photo are BCT instructor Mrs. Kavarica O'Neal, BCT student KaBreisha Esters, Building Construction student Derinekia Haggard, and Building Construction instructor Mr. Clarence Ross. Each nine-weeks vocational teachers and academic teachers in the Leland School District meet to plan integrated instruction to enhance student learning.



Paying attention to detail is a vital skill in performing automotive service. Automotive Service Technology instructor, Mr. Otis White observes student Kelvin Gordon as he tests a battery in the shop.



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