

## A Message From Your President, Rex Buckhaults



Hello again to my fellow MS ACTE members. This year is flying by fast! As it is already February, I would like to remind everyone that it is National CTE Month. This is a great time to share the good things going on in your programs and with your students. Sharing these stories with parents, business and industry representatives, and the community leaders will let them know the many career opportunities that are available to your students. Our students are proud to be Career and Technical Students. So let's work hard to help them tell their stories. Our students who are enrolled in Career and Technical programs are intelligent, well rounded individuals who are learning much needed skills as they further their education and pursue their careers.

As President of MS ACTE, I hope that each of you is excited about what the future holds for Career and Technical Education. Sometimes, as Career and Technical Educators, we must show strength in numbers and support each other as we work together to gain support for CTE. It takes continuous visibility and constant reminders that Career and Technical Education is important to our students, communities, and the future of our GREAT Nation.

### **“Let's put pride back into Career and Technical Education”**

Our MS ACTE/MDE Summer Conference will be held July 24-26, 2019, at Jackson Convention Center. The planning processes have begun, and we are looking forward to a great Summer Conference.

I would like to challenge all Administrators to encourage your faculty and staff to attend this year's Summer Conference as well as become members of MS ACTE. Let's all come together and recruit new members during the month of February. February is Career and Technical Education Month, and it is important to bring value as well as recognition to Career and Technical Education.

I am a proud CTE Educator and it is my privilege as well as my honor to be serving as your MS ACTE President. Please feel free to contact me at any time if I can be of any help or assistance to you.

**“CTE Proud!!!”**

## Greetings From the MS ACTE Office

*Submitted by: Linda Bath*

On behalf of the MS ACTE office and board, I want to thank you for being a member of ACTE!

I hope you will be able to attend the ACTE Region IV Conference April 16-18 in Oklahoma City. Registration is now open. The link is available on the Oklahoma website at [www.okacte.org/registration-test-page](http://www.okacte.org/registration-test-page). The conference will be held at The Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center located at 1 North Broadway in downtown Oklahoma City. You can call the hotel at 405.235.2780 to make your reservation. Use the code “2019 Region IV ACTE Conference” to get the conference rate.

Be sure to mark your calendar to attend our MS ACTE Conference July 24-26. The conference will be at the Jackson Convention Complex. The Mississippi Department of Education and the RCU are planning a conference that will be beneficial to all attendees.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you or your center.

## Greetings From the Office of Career and Technical Education and the Mississippi Department of Education!



I am Dr. Tom Wallace your Bureau Director for Career and Technical Education. Since beginning my tenure in this position, I want to thank you for the outpouring of support you have given me from all corners of Mississippi. It has truly been humbling to know that there are so many of you that are in the trenches that have expressed support for me in this position. It is my hope that the Office of Career and Technical Education can continue moving forward and meet the expectations of ACTE members and business and industry leaders.

I began my career as an Agriculture teacher in 1998 and became the CTE Director at Greene County Vo-Tech in January 2006, serving in that capacity for eleven and a half years. Having an opportunity to transfer to A.P. Fatheree Career Technical Center in 2017, I served the Jones County School District for one and a half years as the District CTE director.

Now, I have the challenge of directing Career and Technical Education from the state level and it is an exciting time. Many of our state leaders are beginning to acknowledge the importance of CTE for students in our state. We have always maintained the status as the “best kept secret” in the education realm within our state. We no longer need to be the secret! We need to be in the forefront and telling our story, showing the value CTE brings to educating our students and providing quality skilled workforce training in our respective communities.

I challenge each of you to continue working to make your program the best it can be. Make the connection with your program between student skills and the workforce, develop meaningful relationships with industry in your area, and focus on preparing students to be successful no matter if they plan to go directly in the workforce or move on to a Post-Secondary opportunity. Increase involvement in your Student Organizations events. Meet the challenge by telling “our secret” through OUR STUDENTS. They are the reason we do the things we do, and their success makes our ability to share the value we provide extremely easy.

Finally, we at MDE are here to support you. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to communicate with us.

### MS ACTE Brings Home the Award

For the twelfth year in a row, MS ACTE has been recognized as a Quality Association Standards recipient. This is the highest honor the association can achieve. Twenty-seven states were presented this award.



### RoboJackets Are Ranked #3 in the Nation!

*Submitted by: Denise Adair*

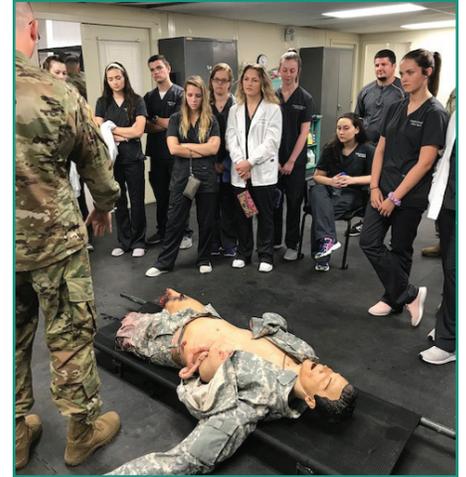
Starkville High School RoboJackets meet at Millsaps Career and Technology Center on the SHS campus after school during the fall semester. The RoboJackets placed 2nd in regional action at Auburn University in December. BEST nationals started a new ranking system this year. The SHS RoboJackets are ranked #3 in the nation out of over 900 BEST teams and 18,000 students. Thanks Millsaps CTC, Coaches Denise Adair, Ty Adair, and Morgan Bishop. Congratulations RoboJackets!



## FCAHS Health Science Field Trip

Submitted by: *Melissa Graham*

Forrest County Agricultural High School Health Science students recently took a field trip to Camp Shelby to see the Medical Battalion Training Unit. Students had hands on experience with life like mannequins exhibiting injuries such as bleeding, lacerations, amputations and shock. Students were taught how to apply tourniquets and other first aid measures. They were also given information regarding requirements for joining the medical battalion units. A tour was provided of the battlefield simulator lab in which the medics practiced medical skills in a real life setting.



## Hands-On Design

Submitted by: *Kristy Brannon*

Vicksburg Warren School District Engineering students take their ideas to the next level by crafting and printing designs they first engineered in CAD programs. First year engineering students from River City Early College, Vicksburg High School, and Warren Central High School have been designing and modeling a hand-crank automaton project similar to a jack in the box. Students got down and dirty in the woodworking lab to make their box a reality, and many students dabbled in 3D printing or working with the laser engraver to make their figurines. It has been a flurry of activity in the engineering lab, as second year engineering students are also creating their proof-of-concept prototypes for their school safety projects. Second year students were tasked with targeting a school safety challenge that our community faces and designing an engineering solution to address that challenge. Many students are working on designs to reinforce doors and cover windows or skylights in the event of an active shooter situation.



*RCEC Students Neil Sanipara and Edward Jones using a miter saw with Mrs. Beth Krapac to cut out the sides of the automaton box.*



*WCHS student Kaliah O'Neal drilling pilot holes for the mechanical components of her box.*



*WCHS students Michael DeJesus, Landon Kramer, and Dennis Walker using a table saw to strip wood for the automaton box.*

# Jr. Chef Competition at Oak Grove High School

*Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer*

Oak Grove High School recently hosted one of Mississippi’s three regional “Savor the Flavor of Mississippi” Jr. Chef Competitions sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Education’s Office of Child Nutrition. The Central Mississippi regional competition consisted of culinary teams from six different

school districts—Hattiesburg Public School District, Jones County School District, Lamar County School District, Rankin County School District, Vicksburg Warren School District, and Wayne County School District.

“Smokin’ Hot,” the Lamar County School District culinary team from Oak Grove High School, won First Place in the regional competition and will compete against other regional winners in the state competition on January 23-24, 2019. The dishes prepared by culinary teams had to meet National School Lunch Program menu guidelines and had to contain at least two “Mississippi Goods” from Mississippi farmers. The Oak Grove team used chicken donated by Sanderson Farms in Laurel, honey donated by Dixie Bee Honey Bee Farm in Hattiesburg,

and peppers grown by Oak Grove High School’s Culinary Arts students. The “Smokin’ Hot” team members from Oak Grove High school were: Aleiya Luenig-McGee, Vikayla Oatis, Bethanie Pheal, Donovan Reid, and Bria Hargrove (Alternate).



*(left to right) Debbie Miller (Instructor), Bethanie Pheal, Donovan Reid, Vikayla Oatis, Aleiyah Luenig-McGee, Bria Hargrove*



*(left to right) Tess Smith (LCSD Superintendent), Tricia Griffin (Sumrall High School Culinary Arts Instructor), Debbie Miller (Oak Grove High School Culinary Arts Instructor), and Larry Ainsworth (Oak Grove High School Assistant Principal)*



# FBLA Sock Drive Info for Newsletter

*Submitted by: Monica Mitchell*

The members of FBLA at Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center hosted SOCKtober, a sock drive, for the month of October. All socks were donated to the residents of Cleveland Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Cleveland, MS.



*Pictured with FBLA members: Donna Lucas-Business Teacher, Larissa King-Activity Assistant, Crystal Bradley-Activity Director.*

# Holiday Village Gingerbread Exhibit

Submitted by: Susan Chaney

On December 6th, the Amory Career & Technical Center’s Culinary I and II classes and the Tourism & Hospitality class traveled to the Gertrude Ford Center located at the University of Mississippi, to view the Holiday Village Gingerbread exhibit. While the classes were waiting to begin their tour, Mrs. Mary Haskell, star of many Hallmark movies and married to Amory native Sam Haskell, arrived to read Christmas books to children. She graciously agreed to a picture with the classes. After touring the exhibit, the group traveled to a local candy shop, Holli’s Sweet Tooth. The Culinary classes had just completed and exhibited their Gingerbread creations at the Amory Municipal Museum, a 10 year tradition for the Culinary program. The Tourism class is taught by Coach Chris Pace and the Culinary classes are taught by Mrs. Dianne Young.

(1st row--Left to right) Destoni Fields, Matthew Buckingham, Kaylee Adams, Mary Haskell (chair), Marcia Miller, April Williams. (2nd row) Mrs. Dianne Young, Chris Satterwhite, KeKe Weatherspoon, Li’Metris Vasser, Jamaya Baker, Yaiza Smit, Madison Bell, Will Buskirk, J.D. Baker, Conner Stevens, Jonathan Daniels, Lily Surette, Alisea Edwards, Alysea Fears, Coach Chris Pace



## Madison Career and Technical Center

Submitted by: Sandra Hutchinson



Mary Slaughter, Health Sciences instructor at Madison Career and Technical Center, recently mentored Susan Payne, from Pearl/Rankin Career and Technical Center

## Petal High School CTE: ‘Twas the Night Before Mock Interviews

Submitted by: Brooke Walter

- ‘Twas the night before mock interviews, when all through the halls,
- Not a creature was stirring, not one at all;
- The resumes were drafted by students with care,
- In hopes that business and community members soon would be there;
- The interviewees were nestled all snug in their beds,
- While visions of firm handshakes danced in their heads;
- And he in his suit, and I in my dress,
- Had just settled down with hopes to impress,
- But I heard them exclaim, as I walked out of sight,
- HAPPY MOCK INTERVIEWS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD-NIGHT!

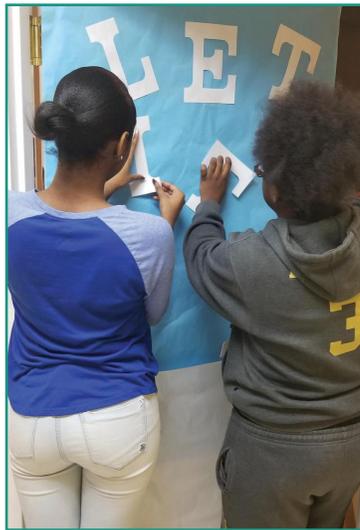


## Fall of Services

Submitted by: Equonda Jackson

Students from the Cleveland Career Development and Technology Center truly have been in a Fall of Services – in and out of the classroom. Programs have been working hard at providing services to the community.

The members of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center hosted SOCKtober, a sock drive, during the month of October. Students collected and donated socks to the residents of Cleveland Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Pictured with the FBLA members are Ms. Donna Lucas-Business Teacher, Ms. Larissa King-Activity Assistant, and Ms. Crystal Bradley-Activity Director.



Students from Educators Rising, FBLA, and TSA are creating holiday cheer for the residents of Providence Assisted Living. Students created designs for the doors and then put them up for the residents for Christmas. The students ended the project by caroling throughout the facility. The residents truly enjoy having the students there and comment about how festive the decorations make the facility look and feel. The instructors are Jennifer Williams - Teacher Academy, Donna Lucas-Business Fundamentals, and Patrice Artis - Information Technology.



Student Services Coordinator Mrs. Equonda Jackson and the nontraditional students of the Cleveland Career Development and Technology Center completed their annual Thanksgiving in a Box service project. The students provided a box with all the contents for a Thanksgiving dinner for 14 families. It's our way of saying thank you to the men and women that provide some of the vital services to our beloved CCDTC. Students donated their own money, created a menu, and then shopped at the local markets to for their items while staying within a tight budget. Students got a chance to speak with different people from butchers to produce workers to find the best product for the best price. It also provided our students with the ability to learn a wealth of life skills from how to budget and to how to work as a team. The boxes containing everything from turkeys

to sweet potatoes, were given to our unsung heroes-- bus drivers, custodial, maintenance and technology personnel. This is the 12th year students have completed this project. Mrs. Monica Mitchell is the Director.



## PRCC CTE Day

Submitted by: Melissa Graham

Students at Forrest County Agricultural High School had a wonderful opportunity to speak with over twenty career-technical instructors and recruitment specialists from Pearl River Community College, and didn't even have to leave their high school campus to do so. As a part of preparing students for college and career planning, Melissa Graham,



FCAHS CTE Counselor, planned a "PRCC CTE Day" held on November 14, 2018. The event was conducted on the campus of Forrest County AHS and involved a large number of career technical instructors from Pearl River Community College bringing interactive displays, brochures, program applications and complimentary PRCC items such as pens, pop sockets, key chains, etc. The entire senior class gathered in the FCAHS auditorium for a group presentation from Dakota Dale, Assistant Director of Recruitment for PRCC. He reminded students of upcoming college/dormitory deadlines and scholarship opportunities, as well as, answered any questions students asked. After the presentation, seniors were allowed to peruse the displays and speak with individual instructors regarding their programs and the job opportunities available in those



career fields. In addition to seniors, all students enrolled in a two year career technical program at FCAHS were allowed to meet with the PRCC instructors and discuss program requirements and possible career opportunities related to the high school classes they are taking now. Overall, FCAHS students enjoyed the opportunity to explore many of the post-secondary programs available at Pearl River Community College and to learn how those programs lead to high demand, high paying jobs available in Mississippi and the rest of the nation.

## Mr. and Miss CTE for Vicksburg High School and Warren Central High School

Submitted by: Melissa Smith

Vicksburg Warren School District Career and Technical Center at Vicksburg Warren Campus of Hinds Community College proudly announces their Mr. and Miss CTE for Vicksburg High School and Warren Central High School for the 2018-2019 school year. To qualify for Mr. and Miss CTE, the student must be a second or third year CTE student. Other qualifications for this honor include submitting a recommendation from their CTE instructor, have an overall grade point of 2.5, submit a petition of signatures from fifty peers, and possess an exemplary discipline record. The second and third year students vote on the candidates based on the high school they attend. Mr. CTE 2018-2019 for Vicksburg High School is Reginald Johnson, and he is a senior in Health Science II. Miss CTE 2018-2019 for Vicksburg High School is Kayla Burnham, and she is a junior in Health Science II. Mr. CTE for Warren Central High School is Ke'Darious Jackson, and he is a senior in Engineering II. Miss CTE for Warren Central High School is Antonica Jefferies, and she is a junior in Health Science II. The students represented CTE in their respective high school homecoming parade. Each one of these students will serve as an ambassador for the Vicksburg Warren School District Career and Technical Center for the 2018-2019 school year.

# Forrest County AHS FFA 2018 National Competition

Submitted by: *Melissa Graham*

The following FFA members participated in the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, the last week of October 2018. All students participating in team events won bronze medals.

In addition to bronze medals, the following students won Silver medals for exceptional individual performance in their respective areas of competition: Hayley Hines, William Ladner, Ana McConnell and Mike Lomas.



*Pictured in Agronomy photo (L-R): Lane Edwards, Bryce Patrick, Kristin Caraway, Cody Simon*



*Pictured in Envirothon photo (L-R): Tyson Morris, William Ladner, Marley Ladner, Hayley Hines*



*Pictured in Floriculture photo (L-R): Brody Martin, Brianna Allen, Tristan Cooper, Ana McConnell*



*Pictured in Nursery Landscape photo (L-R): Mike Loman, Julius Williams, Katie Byrd, Tucker Morris*



*Pictured in Conduct of Chapter Meetings photo (L-R): Suzanne Kelly (FCAHS CTE Director), Mary Helen Lett (FCAHS Agriculture Science Instructor), Joe Miller, Kaitlyn Dearman, Genesis Williams, Camille Clark, Arryn Pope, Justin Cromwell, Rachel Smith, Roxann Webb.*

## Tech Center Tours Metal Coaters

Submitted by: *Joe Ann Floyd*

Simpson County Tech Center students in Metal Fabrication, Carpentry and Polymer Science tour Metal Coaters, located in Byram, Mississippi, on 11/13/18. Metal Coaters is one of the largest coil coating lines in the Southern United States and specializes in toll processing of customer owned steel coils. Metal Coaters Mississippi operates twenty-four hours a day, five to seven days a week.

The facility covers over 360,000 square feet of climate controlled manufacturing and warehouse space. The coating line is three stories tall and requires over 3,500 lineal feet of coil to reach from entry to exit.

The facility includes a rail spur dock that allows for the unloading of up to 10 rail cars inside the building. There is similar space for the unloading/loading of trucks inside the building. Students were informed of salaries, benefits, and work performance expectations.



*Students pictured left to right: Corbin Hosey, Hooks Harvey, Ryan Welch, Brandon Lewis and Vance Smith.*



*Pictured left to right: Myesha Harris, and Shannon Avis.*

## Simpson County Tech Health Care Students Tour Apex Physical Therapy

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

Brenda White's Health Care & Clinical Services students visited Apex Physical Therapy on December 3. Dr. Josh Ducksworth and experienced therapists who have advanced capabilities in orthopedic therapy, strength and conditioning, and rehabilitation presented students with an informative tour of the facility. Apex also treats a wide range of clinical diagnoses affecting the back, neck, shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle, and foot. In addition to physical therapy, pain management treatment, dry needling and sports performance programs services are offered. Students learned physical therapy services are available for issues like post-surgery rehabilitation, injury, orthopedic and pain management. Whatever the unique need, Dr. Ducksworth explained their goal was to provide the most sophisticated, individualized treatment and rehabilitation in an upscale environment to enable patients to get back to everyday living as safely and quickly as possible.

*Pictured (left to right): LaKayla Anderson, Melody Pittman, Khalia Lindsey, Cameron Magee, Laney Crawford, Chelsia Smith, Kaylin Easterling and Dr. Josh Ducksworth.*



## Law and Public Safety

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

Simpson County Technical Center is featuring its Law and Public Safety Program. This program focuses on the history of law and legal systems. Students learn the importance of personal health and safety in the work environments associated with law and public safety. Students are introduced to the emergency services found in local communities. Additionally, students focus on corrections in the state of Mississippi, studying specifically how jails and prisons function.

Students learn the specialized areas and topics within the law and public safety arena by examining the daily tasks and responsibilities of the professional in the

field. Also, students are offered the opportunity to examine all areas of the military and the professions associated with each branch. Students in the Law and Public Safety Program have the option of joining SkillsUSA, the student organization for students enrolled in this program. Jesse Gonzales, Program Instructor, is the SkillsUSA advisor for this area.

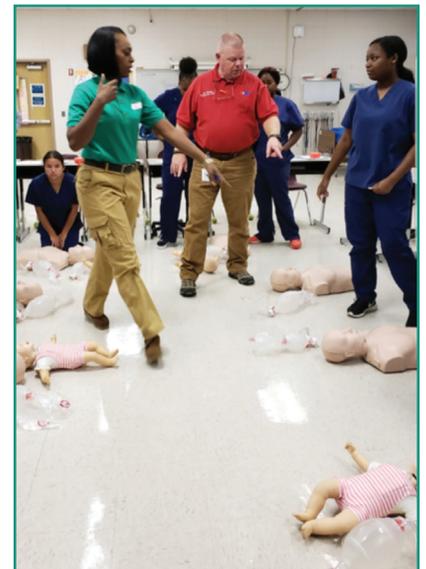


*Pictured: Treston Kemp spots Wesley McCollum in a physical training exercise under the supervision of Instructor, Jesse Gonzales.*

## Health Science Students Receive Training In CPR

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

American Heart Association representatives, Lisa King and Jim Brown, are pictured providing CPR training for Health Science students, at the Simpson County Technical Center, on Tuesday, October 23.



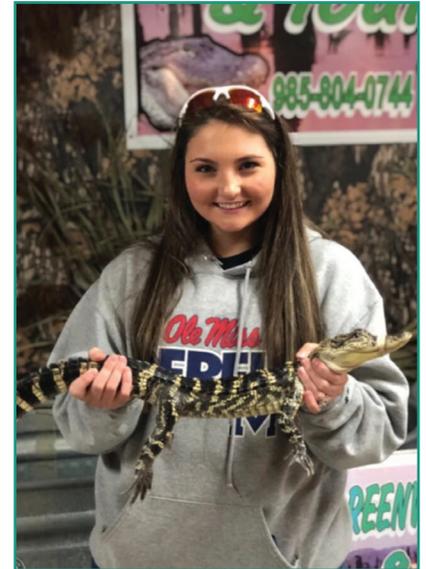
## Gator Farm Tour

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

Patricia Braddock, FHA advisor at Simpson County Technical Center takes students on an education land based alligator tour that took them from the egg to the finished product on Greenwood Gator Farm. This farm is one of 12 gator farms in Louisiana and the only place where people can tour a working gator farm. The specific purpose is to raise and farm gators, to sell the meat and hides. Students enjoyed a trip through the back swamps of Houma with Tim “The Gator Man” Domangue. Students began with The Egg to Wallet Tour. They watched a film about gator farming and then walked through displays of the various phases. They could actually see an actual gator nest, hold gator eggs, feel gator hides (skin), and then take a photo holding a gator. For most of the year, 12,000 gators reside in the various pens on the Greenwood grounds. All gators are born in August, 4-6 inches long. At 4.5 feet long, farmers release 12% of the gators to the wild—50,000 total from the 12 farms. The release program is so successful that the state will soon cut back the release percentage to 10%. Eggs hatch in August so it is a busy and critical time at Greenwood. When the incubator is over 90 degrees, then the hatchlings are 95% male. Males grow faster but females sustain population better. Overall, statewide, about 20% of farmed eggs do not survive. After processing, gator hides go to vendors in France, Singapore, and Italy while the meat goes to local restaurants.



*Pictured (left to right-front): Tim Domangue, (Owner) of Greenwood Gator Farm, Victor Teater, Gracie Ellzy, Lauren Sullivan, Brittney Bairfield, Robert 'Frenchy' Crochet (cast member of The Swamp People), Zoie Baeurle, Courtney Whipple & Asysen Smith. (left to right-back): Logan Bridges, Dawson Little, Brodie Hill, Brendon Morgan, and Michael Gill.*



*Zoie Baeurele displaying the baby gator she held.*

## Healthy Teens for a Better Mississippi

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

Simpson County Technical Center Public Law & Safety and Health Informatics students attended the Healthy Teens Rally at USM on October 18th. Students were engaged in educational and innovative programs on healthy choices. The Healthy Teens Program, sponsored by Families First is working diligently to promote healthy choices amongst teens, which impacts many of the leading challenges within the state of Mississippi. The vision of the partnership between Families First and Healthy Teens for a Better Mississippi is to promote healthy choices across a variety of areas that highly impact the health and future success of youth by providing parents with education and training, motivating teens to set goals and teach teens to choose responsible choices in their everyday lives.



## Simpson County Technical Center – The Best Of The Best!

Submitted by: Joe Ann Floyd

National FFA annually recognizes FFA members who rise to the top with the American Star Awards. These members have gone above and beyond in their attitude, involvement, community service and supervised agricultural experience. Finalists for these awards have mastered skills in production, finance, management and/or research.

Josie Russell, President of Simpson County Technical Center's FFA (Future Farmers of America- sponsored by Patricia Braddock), received awards for the District and State Star in Agri-Business. Star awards are given at the district and state levels. Applicants must have been selected as a star winner from the previous level in order to advance to the next level. The member must demonstrate outstanding achievement, active FFA participation and an exemplary scholastic record. They must also show outstanding achievement in an entrepreneurial production agriculture SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) and active participation in the FFA. Josie is well deserving to obtain the Star in Agri-Business for her outstanding achievement in entrepreneurial agribusiness.

*Josie displays her Children's Barnyard Exhibit for the District & State Star at the Mississippi State Fair.*



## VWSD CTE Center Recruiting Early for the 2019-2020 School Year

Submitted by: Kayla Kivett

As the end of December quickly approaches, the Vicksburg Warren Career and Technical Center has gotten a jump start on recruiting for their CTE programs. All ninth grade Introduction to Academy classes have come to the center to tour the programs. The students receive a tour of the programs and are able to ask questions from the instructor as well as the CTE students.

The CTE Center understands the importance of recruitment for its classes since students in the Vicksburg Warren school district will register for the next school year, 2019-2020, starting in January of 2019. It was imperative that students come out to see the programs, so they can put the classes they want on their schedule. Also, the student service coordinators with the CTE Center will go into ninth grade classes to go back over the CTE classes they visited to refresh their memories. Vicksburg Warren Career and Technical Center is working hard to make the school year of 2019-2020 the best yet!

*Mrs. Melissa Smith, VWSD CTE student services coordinator, counts off students to go on a guided group tour of the VWSD CTE Center.*



## #It'sWorthIt

Submitted by: Tracy Burnley

Second and third year students from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center completed a seven week curriculum from the Mississippi Aspire program #It'sWorthIt. The program focused on soft skills that employers are looking for in employees. Business representatives from the Kosciusko Attala Partnership, Ivey's, Entergy, Wal-Mart, Renasant Bank, Kosciusko School District, City of Kosciusko Mayor's Office, and MSU Extension Service presented information concerning communication, attitude, teamwork, networking, critical thinking, problem solving, and professionalism. On the last week, students celebrated the completion of the program with a graduation party.



## Vicksburg-Warren Chapter of NTHS Inductions

*Submitted by: Melissa W. Smith*

On November 8, 2018 the Vicksburg-Warren Chapter of National Technical Honor Society inducted 64 members. The Vicksburg-Warren Chapter of National Technical Honor Society is composed of students from River City Early College, Vicksburg High School, and Warren Central High School who are enrolled in a Vicksburg-Warren Career and Technical Course. Students are selected for membership based on a recommendation by their CTE instructor, obtaining a 3.0 GPA, and exhibiting good behavior. The Vicksburg-Warren Chapter of National Technical Honor Society officers for the 2018-2019 school year are President Tamykal Jackson, Vice-President for WCHS Carley Smith, Vice-President for VHS-Jordan Davis, Secretary Machia Lumpkin, Treasurer Jayla Jackson, Parliamentarian Janeisha Black, and Historian Keanna Abraham. Members will attend the Mississippi NTHS leadership conference at the Hancock Building in Gulfport, MS on January 17-18, 2018.



## Former Engineering Student Returns

*Submitted by: Kristy Brannon*

Former Warren Central Viking, Blake Wilson (c/o '17) visited the Vicksburg Warren School District engineering classroom to help current students with their tiny house projects on December 14, 2018. Engineering students were tasked with designing a tiny house to be deployed in the event of a natural disaster. Students have been researching how tiny homes are designed, built, and transported.

After completing the engineering program at the Career Tech Center on Hinds Community College Vicksburg Campus, Blake continued his education at Mississippi State University's Building Construction Science program where his tiny house design was chosen and constructed by his classmates last year. That tiny home recently sold at auction and will be part of a tiny house community. Blake was able to bring his own tiny house model and speak with students about his own experiences building and designing a tiny home.



## Various Teaching Methods

*Submitted by: Debra Baird*

The one-room schoolhouse is not the educational experience of most modern students; however, such schools still exist in very rural, remote areas.

Students from Teacher Academy II met with Lauren Leggett who began her teaching career in a two-room school in Montana in 2011. Mrs. Leggett now owns The County Schoolhouse which is an educational resource for homeschoolers, educators, and parents.

Students from Teacher Academy explored the different types of educational facilities and academic structures to meet the needs of varying grade levels at one time. They also assisted with a STEAM lesson for a group of students ranging in ages from K-4 to 9. The TA students explained a project and oversaw the children working on the project. Through this experience, the TA students learned how to present the information for various age groups and abilities all at the same time and how to adjust the instruction for the different needs of individuals in the group.



## Health Science-Community Service Project

*Submitted by: Amy Price*

Health Science students, Mackenzie Bradberry and Laken Milner, visited Kosciusko Upper Elementary and Greenlee Elementary on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, to teach students about being prepared during emergencies. Students were encouraged to “Be Prepared...Not Scared” in the case that an emergency might arise at their home or school. Also, Deputy Matt Steed joined the students at Greenlee Elementary to elaborate on the topic. He taught the students about how and when to properly make a 911 call. A mock 911 call was carried out by Deputy Steed during the Program.



## Campus Visits

Submitted by: Debra Baird

This fall at Lamar County Center for Technical Education second-year students from each program visited various campuses of institutions for higher learning in the area. Students toured the campuses of Pearl River Community College in Poplarville as well as in Hattiesburg, University of Southern Mississippi, and William Carey University. During these visits, students explored many fields of study ranging from the 4-year bachelor's degree to 40-hour certificate programs. Admissions counselors met with each group to explain the application process and scholarship opportunities. The Automotive Technician Services, Construction Technology, Engineering, and Metal Fabrication students compared the technical and academic programs offered in their fields of study. Health Science students participated in Allied Health Day and toured 10 different medical programs offered at PRCC. The students in Teacher Academy compared the education programs at three different campuses to find the right fit for each student. Culinary Arts considered various plans of study as well as the benefits of living on campus. The campus visits encouraged the students to consider all of their options and to pursue various scholarship opportunities. Many students completed admissions applications as well as requests for financial aid as part of the campus visit.



## Students Create Automaton

Submitted by: Beth Krapac

The two students pictured are holding the Automaton boxes that they created in the Project Lead the Way Introduction to Engineering Design class at the Career and Technical Center of the Vicksburg Warren School District. Students used CAD software to create Automaton with cams and working parts.



Rachel Shelby, 10th grader at Vicksburg High School (9912)



Jazzmin Ross, 10th grader at Vicksburg High School (9910)

## Career Poster Contest Kickoff

Submitted by: Sylvia Lamb

At Vicksburg Warren School District Career and Technical Center, sophomores Jane Hopson (left) and Kennedi Fitzgerald (right) show off the supplies provided by an In-District Mini Grant. Students in Project Lead the Way: Principles of Biomedical Science classes received supplies to create Career Posters to showcase various careers in Biomedicine. Students received project boards, border, markers, and glue sticks as well as access to a color printer for photos. A panel of judges will narrow the field to about the top 25%. These top contenders will be presented to 9th graders exploring careers. The 9th graders will vote to determine the winning posters. Senior Laura-Reagan Logue (far right) is getting down to work on her poster title. After the contest ends, posters will be given to Warren Central and Vicksburg High for display.



## Students Attended Statewide Leadership and Activism Symposium

Submitted by: Jennifer Williams

Students of the Teacher Academy class from the Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center attended FREE FEST sponsored by Generation FREE on October 25, 2018, in Jackson, MS at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. FREE FEST is a regional, youth-led, youth tobacco prevention conference designed to educate, empower, and develop youth leaders and advocates helping to combat the dangers of tobacco and nicotine. A partnership between the Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center and the Delta Health Alliance allows the students the opportunity to experience such an empowering event.

This group joined more than 200 students who came together to learn how they can create change in their communities through becoming leaders and activists by addressing the public health needs of their community. The students participated in engaging breakout sessions and activities to further develop skills that will help them combat youth tobacco use and influence positive health decisions for their communities.



## Amory Career and Technical Center Faculty With Santa

Submitted by: Susan Chaney

This picture is of all of our faculty.

Santa (Marlana Samples);  
Second row: Sara Pearson,  
Jennifer Hood; Third row: Brian  
Pearson, Misty Adams, Susan  
Chaney, Chad Cooper, Dianne  
Young, Chris Pace; Back row:  
David Millender, Director of Amory  
Career and Technical Center



## Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Instructor Receives State's Best Recognition

*Submitted by: Tracy Burnley*

The Mississippi Construction Education Foundation is celebrating the state's top-performing craft instructors and school for hard work and dedication to vocational education.

Recognized at the recent Mississippi Associated Builders & Contractor's Merit Awards Banquet in Jackson was Mr. Trey Culpepper from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center was honored as Mississippi's top high school craft instructor of the year for his innovative teaching style.

"If Mississippi is going to have the skilled workforce that's needed for tomorrow, we must encourage and train those workers today," said Mike Barkett, MCEF President. "We congratulate our winners for going above and beyond to prepare our students for career and technical professions and for ensuring that Mississippi has the resources required to support its growing construction and manufacturing industries."

The mission of the non-profit MCEF is to promote careers, recruit capable individuals and train a quality workforce for the construction industry in Mississippi. MCEF also offers workforce training and credentialing in construction, industrial maintenance and manufacturing trades.

*Pictured are (l to r) Mr. Mike Barkett-MCEF President, and Mr. Trey Culpepper-CTC Welding Instructor.*



## Teacher Academy - Itawamba Career and Technical Center

*Submitted by: Deana Patterson*

On December 7, 2018, Itawamba Career and Technical Center Teacher Academy and Educators Rising collaborated with the Mississippi State Extension Service and Itawamba County Homemakers to create Christmas presents for their field experience mentor teachers. These volunteer teachers represent Itawamba Attendance Center, Mantachie Elementary School, and Tremont Attendance Center.



## News From Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center

Submitted by: Monica Mitchell

Students in the Teacher Academy, Business, and Information Technology class from the Cleveland Career Development & Technology center decided to spread some Christmas cheer with the residents of Providence Assisted Living of Cleveland. The students decorated the residents' doors with different Christmas themes to get everyone excited about the holidays. The classes also donated gifts to the facility's angel tree program.



## Dimes for Desks

Submitted by: Susan Chaney

Every year, during the month of December, the Amory Career and Technical Center tries to get students focused on giving rather than receiving. This year, a special drive was held to raise awareness and funds for a school and home for orphans and other vulnerable children in Mbarara, Uganda. The orphanage, which is set to open in February 2019, will be called the House of Hope and the money raised will be used to pur-

chase furniture for classrooms. For just \$13.50, a desk can be built out of wood in Uganda that can seat three children and give them a space to put their books. The Amory Career and Technical Center students loved this fundraising opportunity. They quickly jumped on board and began filling up buckets with coins and dollar bills. As extra initiative, the teacher that whose bucket contained the most amount of money at the end of the

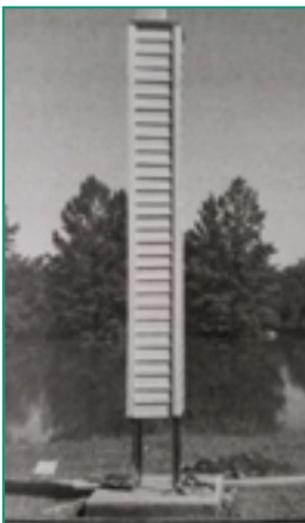
drive, had to wear a Santa Clause suit for an entire school day. At the end of the drive, the ACTC students and staff had raised \$337.60, which will allow 25 desks to be constructed, giving 75 students a place to sit comfortably in their classrooms! As an added bonus, the faculty at the ACTC got to see the school's secretary dressed as jolly old St. Nick.

**For more information or to donate to House of Hope Orphanage, visit**

**<http://www.shoalcreekbaptist.org/house-of-hope>**

## Chimney Swifts Being Installed by Millsaps ANR Students

Submitted by: Linda Jack



Millsaps Career and Technology Center Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) classes have partnered with the Friends of the Noxubee Refuge and the Oktibeha Audubon Society to build two Chimney Swift towers. A third tower is being considered for the local park. The idea originated in the classroom while talking about duck nest boxes. This led to contact with the Noxubee Wildlife Refuge and their idea of a Swift tower. Students approved the idea and with funding available the project will soon be underway. Experts from Strawberry Plains Audubon Center will be offering support and advice.

*Margaret Copeland representing Oktibeha Audubon Society, Jawan Gibson, Zach Lofing*



## Golden Apple Recipient

Submitted by: Tracy Dearing

Caring, compassionate, intuitive, professional, humble—all words used to describe Julie Owen, RN, and the Golden Apple Award winner for November. She teaches Health Science Core and Healthcare and Clinical Services to high school students at the Clarke County Career and Technology Center.

Julie was inspired to go into healthcare by her mom, an RN. Julie came to teaching after 20 years of experience in medical and surgical settings. She began her healthcare career at Watkins Hospital, taking a job there just out of high school as she attended nursing school. She spent many years as Dr. Zamora's nurse and clinic manager at the Medical Group in Quitman. After a brief time working in home health, Julie heard of an opening for an Allied Health instructor at the (then) vo-tech, and applied for the job. She was hired in the middle of a school year, and though the job was initially challenging, she soon found it to be just the right fit for her. She has taught at the Clarke County Career and Technology Center for ten years.

As well as an accomplished medical professional, Julie is a natural teacher. She has said that so much of nursing is about taking the time to educate the patient. Julie has a love for people that shone through to her patients, and a love for the medical profession that can be seen in her interactions with her students. In her classroom, she introduces her Year 1 students to basic anatomy and physiology, basic patient care skills, and various health occupations and careers. Her Year 2 students focus on more specific health care careers and advanced patient care skills. Her students participate in job-shadowing experiences in healthcare facilities throughout the community. Julie also serves as sponsor of HOSA (Health Occupations Students

of America) and works tirelessly to give her students opportunities for leadership and to compete for scholarships through the student organization.

Tracy Dearing, Director of the Clarke County Career and Technology Center has this to say about her award-winning teacher, "Sometimes the best teachers are those that get a chance to teach our children about the career they have had. CTE teachers are those types of teachers who typically come from the workforce and are specialized in a content area. Julie Owen is no exception to this. She came to the Career Center from a career in the health care industry. Mrs. Owen is an exceptional teacher. She provides students with real-world experiences and job shadowing opportunities when students attend clinical hours. She stays late several days a week to allow her students time to prepare for state competition. She is the definition of what a teacher should be. We are honored to have her as part of the CCCTC family."

Though Julie teaches a rigorous curriculum to her students, what may have the most impact is what she teaches them that isn't in the textbook. She demonstrates compassion to her students by caring about them as individuals. She is aware of their strengths and their struggles. She encourages them to work hard and holds them to a high professional standard, one that she models for them both inside and outside of the classroom. As many of her students have gone on to health related college programs and careers, Julie has continued to be a mentor and a source of encouragement. She keeps up with them and celebrates their victories, just as so many of her past students have celebrated her recent recognition. Her students and her colleagues agree on this, Julie Owen is an outstanding medical professional and an outstanding teacher.

*Julie receiving the Golden Apple Award. Photo cred Shea Goff*



On Tuesday, November 14, at Quitman High School, Julie Owen was surprised to hear her name called as the Golden Apple Award Winner. Her students and colleagues weren't surprised, and neither were her family members who had sneaked into the back of the auditorium to see her take the stage. As Julie stood behind the podium, she said, "This award is for my students, and my past students, and my future students." Her students and colleagues cheered as she humbly accepted this award for her extraordinary service to the students of our school and community.

Julie's daughter Emily Owen Mercer, a first-year teacher at Quitman Lower Elementary, had this to say about her mother, "Mom is the most genuine person that I know. She was a successful nurse and now a successful teacher, and I believe that her successes came from her genuine love for people. I wouldn't necessarily say that I am a teacher just because she is a teacher, but I would say that she showed me how to love and care for people. She passed down a passion for trying to make the world a better place to me. I believe that she accomplishes that each day as a teacher, and now I can strive to do that as well. I am so proud of her and thankful that she is being recognized for the impact that she is making."

Julie Owen is married to Richie Owen. They live in Quitman and have three children and five grandchildren.

## Millsaps' Teacher Academy Students Provide "Helping Hands" During Teacher Staff Development Delayed Start Days

*Submitted by: Patty Newsom*

Students in Patty Newsom's Teacher Academy class at Millsaps CTC in Starkville, MS are providing childcare services to over 90 children in grades K-8 on four designated Staff Development days this school year.

Dr. Eddie Peasant, Superintendent, approached Millsaps' Director Dr. Lenora Hogan to ask if our Teacher Academy students could help supervise teachers' children during the newly implemented delayed start days. Dr. Peasant stressed that it is important for educators to step beyond our comfort zones to explore new methods of operation (i.e.-delayed start days for staff development).

On the delayed start days, teachers are expected to be at school at their regular times for morning meetings, which is earlier than the actual "delayed start" school day begins for students. Many teachers did not have a place for their children to go between the hours of 7:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. while they attended meetings. So "Helping Hands" came into play, with twenty-one Teacher Academy students volunteering to

serve. The Millsaps' Teacher Academy students initially provided care and learning activities for approximately 40 students on the first delayed start day on Sept. 11. The enrollment grew exponentially to approximately 100 students on Oct. 8 and Nov. 6 Staff Development Days. Teacher Academy students planned age-appropriate learning activities, gathered favorite board games, created educational worksheets for remediation, and provided child care in five schools throughout the District.

Ms. Newsom states, "Providing this service is a great way for my students to gain experience in the field of teaching. They come back to my

classroom with all sorts of stories (and questions) about the younger students. My students are making real-world connections about human growth and development as well as understanding classroom management skills needed when working with young children."

The childcare service was aptly named "Helping Hands" when it began last Sept. The next late start Staff Development day will be Feb. 7, which could lead to the Teacher Academy Helping Hands providing supervision and activities for over 100 young elementary/middle school students.

It is a win-win for all involved!



## Educators Rising Mississippi T-shirt Design Winner

*Submitted by: Jennifer Williams*

The Cleveland Career Development & Technology Center is pleased to announce that Mikayla Sterling's design was selected as the winner of the Educators Rising Mississippi 2018-2019 t-shirt design contest. Mikayla is a student in the Teacher Academy I class and a member of the Cleveland chapter of Educators Rising. Her design will appear on the cover of the Educators Rising Mississippi State Leadership Conference program booklet and conference shirt.

