

A Message From Your President, Tony Holder



Hello, MS ACTE! While we put a “wrap” on the 2015-2016 school year, let me thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Mississippi ACTE State President. I certainly hope that you have had a successful school year. I know you are all ready to get some much needed relaxation time, but let me remind you to register for the upcoming MSACTE Summer Conference if you have not yet done so. We are looking forward to returning to the Jackson Convention Center once again for this year’s conference. In light of last year’s outstanding attendance, we will be booking the entire complex for the conference this year. While there will still be some affiliate sessions at alternate locations due to specialized equipment needs, everyone will need to report to the Convention Center to check in and pick up your conference materials.

Based on sessions and speakers that are scheduled, this conference promises to be better than ever. With that being said, let me urge you to attend the committee meetings that will be taking place Wednesday if you are currently serving on a committee. Also, make it a priority to attend your MSACTE District meeting, as well. As you will notice when you see the conference agenda, the scheduled time for the District Meetings has been changed to make them more accommodating. While on the subject of meetings, your affiliate meetings are very important, also. Please make every effort to attend your affiliate business meeting and, if you are not already doing so, take the opportunity to serve on the board of your affiliate. As I have said before, our members are the people who make our organization strong and I know we have a lot of members out there who would be great serving in the various positions within MS ACTE and its affiliates. If you are currently serving MS ACTE in a leadership capacity, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your service and for the opportunity to serve with you this past year.

It has truly been my pleasure to meet many great CTE educators as I have traveled around the state to the various district meetings and to national conferences this year. I know that our numbers at the various district meetings are not yet where we would like them to eventually be, but we are currently working on making modifications geographically that will make attending the meetings more accommodating for everyone. With that being said, let me encourage you to attend your fall and/or spring district meetings during the upcoming school year. Not only will you get the opportunity to hear from many great business and industry leaders, but it is also a great opportunity to network with other CTE educators from your area, as well.

In closing, let me urge you to nominate your students and fellow educators for the various ACTE awards that are presented each year. Our great state of Mississippi has many great students and educators who deserve to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments and leadership. As a great friend of mine, and all of CTE for that matter, Rex Buckhaults says, “It’s a sorry dog that won’t bark in his own yard!” With that being said, spread the word of all the good that is going on in your “back yard”! I hope to see all of you at the Jackson Convention Center in July for Summer Conference this year!

Hello From the Mississippi ACTE Office

Submitted by: Linda Bath

Hello from the MS ACTE office! From all accounts, the 2015-16 school year was a huge success for you as career/technical teachers, administrators, counselors and most importantly for your students.

The Mississippi Department of Education and the RCU staff have worked hard to make this year's summer conference an informative and beneficial professional development event for you. I encourage everyone to attend and take advantage of this opportunity. Not only will you get new ideas, you will also visit with vendors, hear interesting presentations and speakers, and network with others in your area. In addition, you will receive CEU and SEMI credits at no extra charge. The number of credits you receive will depend on how many sessions you attend. You will be happy to know that the RCU has developed a new system of tracking your hours that will make it much easier for you. This year we are hosting a Breakfast Brunch on Wednesday morning prior to the opening session. This will be in the vendor hall so you can visit the vendors while enjoying light refreshments.

Robert Barnard, your 1st Vice President, has developed a recruitment plan that

will give you a chance to win \$250. For every **NEW MEMBER** you recruit, your name will be placed in a drawing. In this issue you will find the form necessary to participate, so make several copies. You will need to fill in the name and contact information of the person you recruited along with your name and send it to the MS ACTE office (P. O. Box 85, Raymond, MS 39154) by September 30. You can go to the national website: acteonline.org to see all the advantages of being a member. Use this as a tool to encourage others to join. Payment by the new member must also be received in the MS ACTE office by September 30. We can accept checks, MasterCard, VISA, and purchase orders. For every new member you recruit, you will receive a chance in the drawing (i.e. if you recruit 10 new members, you will have 10 changes to win). The drawing will be held at the MS ACTE Fall Board Meeting in October. Each new member's name will also be placed in a drawing; the winner will receive \$100. This can be used by you as an incentive to get new members.

If your school received the Achieve 100 Percent Award this year, please have one representative sit at the reserved tables

at the opening session so you can pick up your certificate. Thanks to all schools who won this award!

Exciting news!!!! Mississippi will be the host state for the Region IV Conference in 2017. The dates are April 6-8. The conference will be held at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi. This conference rotates through our state every seven years, so please plan to take advantage of this great event next year. We will be accepting Call for Presentations and hope that you will send in your presentation information to be considered. If chosen, your registration fee will be waived. The form will be posted on our website in the fall. I know we have excellent teachers with great ideas that need to be shared!

Thanks to all of you who submitted articles for this edition of *The Reporter*. Because of space limitations in the printed edition, not all articles were included. However, every article submitted is in the digital issue which is posted on our website. You can go to mississippiacte.com and click on the downloads button to pull it up.

Enjoy your summer vacation. I hope to see all of you in July!

Tupelo Career-Technical Center Hosts CPAS Kick-off

Submitted by April Cardenas

On April 15, 2016, Tupelo Career-Technical Center hosted a CPAS Kick-off event for year one and year two students. All students participated by wearing a "Keep Calm, It's CPAS Kickoff Time" t-shirt. Each class was encouraged to come up with a chant, skit, and/or song to motivate students to try their best to pass the CPAS test. When roll was called by program, the students were allowed to show others what they came up with. There was a plethora of creative ideas from a guitar solo to a skit about fishing for a 80% or above score on the CPAS. Even teachers got involved. Collision Repair teacher, Derek Bradley, was dressed in his professional paint jumpsuit along with his 3rd block students. They performed a dialogue about all students are important including nontraditional students and how they can achieve success on the CPAS. The fun day ended with the "Most School Spirit" Award for each class period.



DECA District II Advisor of the Year and Mississippi ACTE Teacher of the Year, Beverly Brent

Beverly Brent has taught Career Pathway Experience at the School of Applied Technology in Oxford, MS for the past four years. Before teaching CPE, Mrs. Brent was a Student Services Coordinator for 21 years. Mrs. Brent received her BAE and MS degrees from the University of Mississippi. She is also National Board Certified with her teamwork portfolio recently published in Atlas. This year she was the recipient of DECA District II Advisor of the Year and Mississippi ACTE Teacher of the Year. She is married to Joey Brent and they have two children and a grandson.



Teacher of the Year

Submitted by: Melissa Graham



Forrest County Agricultural High School is pleased to announce the 2015-16 Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Mary Helen Lett. Mrs. Lett is in her second year of teaching Introduction to Agriscience at FCAHS. She is originally from Wetumtka, Alabama, moving to Mississippi in 2010. She graduated from Mississippi State University in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Information Science and a minor in Animal/Dairy Science. She is an advisor to the very active Brooklyn FFA chapter on the FCAHS campus. She is also on the board for

Forrest County Farm Bureau and chairs the Farm Bureau Women's Committee. She married her husband, John Lett, in June 2015. In addition to teaching, she enjoys fishing, hunting and horseback riding. She has proven to be an essential part of the agriculture program at FCAHS and contributes greatly to the future of its students.



Submitted by: Marybeth lowrey

Mrs. Sandi Allen, R.N., Health Sciences, Oxford-Lafayette School of Applied Technology, 2015-16 Teacher of the Year

To SkillsUSA Championship and Beyond

Submitted by Derek Bradley

On March 1-2, 2016, SkillsUSA students from Tupelo Career-Technical Center competed at the state level in Jackson, MS. Two students, Caleb Simpkins and Jordan Ivey, placed 1st in their respective categories. Caleb Simpkins placed first in Collision Repair Technology, and he received \$15,000 in scholarships. Jordan Ivey placed 1st in Automotive Refinishing Technology, and he also received \$15,000 in scholarships. Both students were first time, first place winners in their categories for Collision Repair. They were also offered jobs at the body shop where they competed at. Both students will travel with instructor, Derek Bradley, to national SkillsUSA Championship competition in Louisville, Kentucky on June 18-24, 2016.



Pictured from Left to Right: Jordan Ivey, Derek Bradley, and Caleb Simpkins

Choctaw County Career & Technology Center's Agricultural Power Machinery Operations Students Resuscitate an Antique Tractor

Submitted by: Sandi Muirhead

Many old tractors were great in their day, but as with everything, have been replaced by new and improved models. In most cases, the old trusted tractor just sets up and rusts with the passing of time; as it was with an old Ford 8N tractor that was brought into the Ag shop looking rundown and not cranking. Mr. Dudley Vance and his students overhauled the engine and brought new life into this old tractor. Students were pleased when the tractor fired up for the first time. In the end, the job turned out to be almost a complete restoration. During the restoration process, students learned skills from compression systems of the engine, to electrical systems and hydraulic systems, as well as preparation and painting.

(l to r) Dudley Vance – Instructor, Bradley Boykin, Braden McDaniel, Josh Nance



Reed McDaniel



(l to r) Jerry Lee Fountain, Christian Pruitt, Justice Gitchell



Local Educators Advocate For Career and Technical Education on Capitol Hill

Submitted by: Rex Buckhaults

Six members of the Mississippi ACTE, joined more than 400 career and technical education (CTE) professionals at the Association for Career and Technical Education's (ACTE) National Policy Seminar from February 29-March 2 in Arlington, VA. During this critical advocacy event, Rex Buckhaults, Mike Mulvihill, Tammy Brewer, Tina Byrd, Deanna Dunaway and Teresa Sappington attended briefing sessions on the latest news in education policy and met with policymakers on Capitol Hill to educate them about the value of CTE.

While attending ACTE's three-day event, our Mississippi ACTE group consulted with Mississippi Senators, Representatives and Staffers to encourage more support for CTE and other education and workforce development programs. We were able to meet with Senator Thad Cochran, Senator Roger Wicker, Representative Gregg Harper, Representative Benny Thompson, Representative Steve Palazzo, and Representative Trent Kelly.

A highlight of this year's National Policy Seminar was a reception held on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, March 1, titled "I Am CTE: STEM-Savvy and Career-Ready." The event gave students from across the country a chance to share their work and plans for their careers with congressional staff and Members of Congress.

CTE delivers real-world training and skills development to more than 94 percent of America's secondary school students and over 8 million postsecondary students. Now, more than ever, the nation must build an investment in CTE to prepare our nation's workforce for 21st century careers. CTE programs are expanding and changing across the country to meet the needs of employers, students and communities, and teachers and administrators are challenged to effectively advocate for resources and support on the local, state and federal levels.

Healthcare and Clinical Services Students Participate in MyPI Program

Submitted by: Tony Holder

Larisa Ziegelmann's Healthcare and Clinical Services class participated in the MyPI program through the MSU Extension Service this semester. These students are CPR and CERT certified. This program prepares them for disaster situations. We held a "graduation" ceremony for these students on May 12. They received certificates and backpacks with a \$65 emergency kit.

Natalie Ray - MSU Extension Agent, Sarah Scott, BJ McLenton - MSU Extension Agent, Hayley Busbin, Malacca Townsend, Helen Leonard, Presley Wilkerson, Caitlyn Dora, Isabel Facella, Morgan Galloway, Casi Coleman, Alexia Ewing, Francis Caskey, Daija Foster, Ashley Weedon, Larisa Ziegelmann - teacher.



Tupelo Career-Technical Center Celebrates CTE Month

Submitted by April Cardenas

During the first week of February 2016, Tupelo Career-Technical Center celebrated national CTE month by holding a week's worth of events that promoted awareness and recruitment for our twelve CTE programs. 9th and 10th graders watched a promotional video created by the 2nd year Digital Media Technology class to kick-off the event. In addition, Tupelo Career-Technical Center hosted 9th and 10th grade recruitment tours as well as a community College and Career Fair. Students were able to walk the halls and meet with CTE teachers to discuss interest in taking a CTE class for the 2016-2017 school year. 2nd year students were on hand to discuss what went on in the class. Interested students were asked to sign-up for a career-technical class. Area businesses such as Cooper Tire and Toyota were present to discuss future plans after students finished taking CTE classes. Lastly, Itawamba Community College brought representatives from their career-technical programs to discuss the advantages of attending ICC after high school graduation. The event was a huge success, and the Tupelo Career-Technical Centers hopes to make this a yearly event.



State Champs! Back To Back!

Submitted by: Billy J. Carroll



The Moss Point STEM Team competed in the Transportation and Civil Engineering (TRAC) Bridge Building Competition at Hinds Community College in Pearl, MS. Moss Point Career Technical Center students that competed in this event were: Jackson Callahan, Patriona Cannon, Ny'Kqwria Crear, Jerrick Dubose, Kennadi Johnson, Mark Lewis, James Poindexter, TyAnna Randle, Alysia Rester, Courtney Sellers, and DeVonta Watson.

Team members applied math and science concepts to real life problems engineer's face in the transportation system as they designed a 3D model bridge in CAD,

tested their 3D model bridge using a simulation program, and constructed a model bridge out of balsa wood. The competition consisted of three categories: Design Portfolio, PowerPoint Presentation, and Bridge Design Efficiency. Points were awarded in each category.

Initially, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) provided middle and high school students across the state with a TRAC Challenge Entry Kit, bridge building materials, and guidelines to construct a bridge. Each participating team was required to submit a portfolio with their final bridge design. Based on their Design Portfolio, qualifying teams were then selected to compete in the state finals. During the state finals, teams presented their PowerPoint presentations and tested their bridge for the highest strength to weight ratio. Prizes were given to the top three teams. The Moss Point STEM Team won first place in the 11th/12th grade division and were Back to Back State Champs in the 9th/10th grade division! Mr. Billy Carroll is the coach and founder of the Moss Point STEM Team. Dr. Durand Payton is the director of the Moss Point Career Technical Center.

Purvis FFA Tool Identification Team Wins State Competition

Submitted by: Adam Courtney

Across the state each year, hundreds of FFA members learn the names and uses of nearly 200 tools. They include: Masonry tools, Carpentry tools, Automotive tools, Electrical tools, Horticulture tools, Veterinary tools, and many others. These students compete at the Local, Federation, District, and State levels to see who can correctly identify, name the correct use of, spell, and even punctuate these tools. The Purvis Jr. FFA team placed First at the Federation, District, and State level.



From Left: Taylor Toland, Baylee Gray (Highest individual score), Baleigh Belk, and Tyler Phillippi won 1st place at the South Mississippi District Contest at Jones County Junior College.



From Left: Baylee Gray (Highest Individual Score), Tyler Phillippi, Baleigh Belk, Taylor Toland won 1st place at the State FFA Contest at Mississippi State University.



MSACTE is hosting a recruitment campaign to reach **1,000 members by September 30**. For each **NEW MEMBER** you recruit, your name will go into a drawing for \$**250**. The person you recruit must not be a lapsed member; they must be new to ACTE. Their payment must be received in the MS ACTE office no later than September 30 in order for you to qualify. Each new member will also be entered into a drawing for a cash prize. We can accept checks, credit cards or PO's. The drawing will be held at the MS ACTE Fall Board Meeting October 20.



MS ACTE "Drive to 1,000"

To Be Completed and Returned to the MS ACTE office by the recruiter no later than September 30.

Name of Recruiter _____

Recruiter's School _____

Name of New Member _____

New Member's School _____

New Member's Phone _____ New Member's E-mail _____

Moss Point Instructor Tapped for Leo Seal Award

Submitted by: Billy J. Carroll

Twelve outstanding South Mississippi teachers were honored recently at the Great Southern Club in Gulfport, MS. for using innovation in the classroom. Moss Point Career Technical Center's very own, Mr. Billy Carroll, the Robotics Engineering instructor and STEM Team Coach was one of the twelve recipients. Mr. Billy Carroll received the prestigious Leo W. Seal Innovative Teacher Award from Hancock Bank for teaching excellence in South Mississippi and earned \$2,000.00 from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation to help pay for projects that will bring school subjects to life in the Robotics Engineering program and mold students into well-rounded adults.



Established in 1994 and paid for by Hancock Bank, the Leo W. Seal Innovative Teacher awards program recognizes and encourages educational excellence by underwriting original classroom teaching initiatives developed by teachers in Forrest, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, and Pearl River counties.

The awards also commemorate the leadership of Leo W. Seal, Sr.—Hancock Bank president from 1932 until his death in 1963—and his son, the late Leo W. Seal, Jr., Hancock's chief executive for 45 years. Both Seals facilitated countless economic and educational opportunities throughout South Mississippi and the Gulf South. Dr. Durand Payton is the director of the Moss Point Career Technical Center.



Lamar County Automotive Technology Students Win at State Competition

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

Three Automotive Service Technology students from Lamar County Center for Technical Education placed first in separate categories at the SkillsUSA state competition in Jackson this week. Chelsey Burge (Oak Grove High School) placed First in Automotive Service Technology, Daniel Rush (Purvis High School) placed First in Marine Service Technology, and Jamahl Groves (Oak Grove High School) placed First in Motorcycle Service Technology.

The SkillsUSA competition involves written tests as well as skill workstations that require students to demonstrate repair and troubleshooting. Contestants are judged on technical competency, accuracy, quality, safety, and ability to follow directions.

Chelsey, Daniel, and Jamahl won a total of \$35,000 in scholarships and will go on to compete at the national SkillsUSA competition this summer.

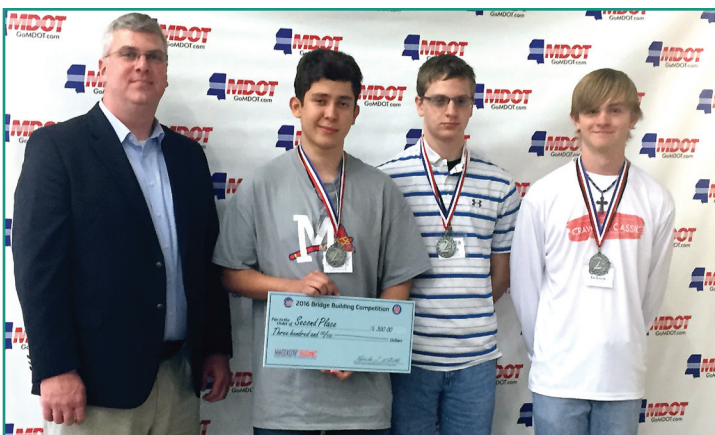
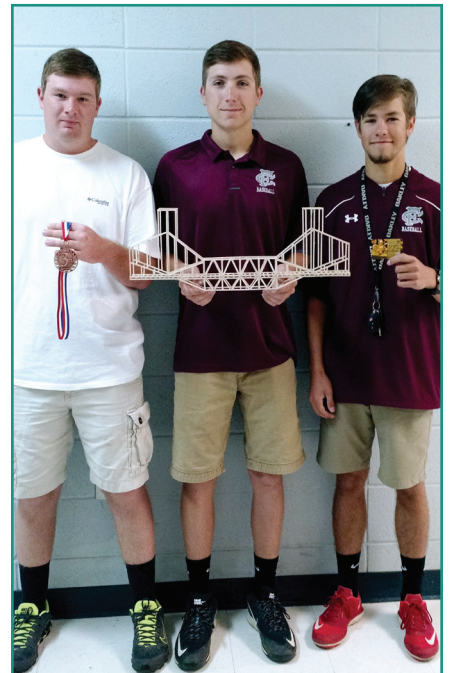


Forrest County Agricultural High School Architecture & Drafting Competition

Submitted by: Melissa Graham

Six Architecture & Drafting students from Forrest County Agricultural High School competed in the MDOT 2016 Bridge Building Competition and won second and third place. Cherish McGee, FCAHS Architecture & Drafting instructor, prepared two teams of three students each, to enter the competition in Jackson, MS on April 25. The FCAHS teams competed against fifteen other teams, many of which had competed in this competition years prior, and took both second and third places overall. The second place team members were Tanner Dean, Jackson Mapp and Emilio Pitti and each won \$100. Third place team members were Alex

Burt, Kyle Farmer and Matt Mordica, each winning \$50. The teams completed five phases of competition: bridge design, bridge building, assembling a portfolio, conducting a presentation in front of a panel of judges and bridge testing for strength-to-weight ratio. In addition to the cash prizes students win, this competition enhances math and science instruction and introduces students to engineering through hands-on, real world applications.



Lamar County Engineering Students Win at District Competition

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

The Technology Student Association (TSA) held district competitions at Pearl River Community College's Woodall Center on February 12. Several Engineering students from the Lamar County Center for Technical Education received First Place in their respective events and will go on to compete at the state competition in Jackson March 29-31.



Parker Giron, Mariano Arellano, and Mason Starns (all from Oak Grove High School) placed First in a Manufacturing Prototype team event in which participants design and manufacture a prototype of a product and provide a description of how the product could be manufactured in a state-of-the-art American manufacturing facility. Cameron Johnson (Purvis High School) placed First Place in 3D-Computer Aided Design (CAD) event in which participants create 3D computer model(s) of an engineering or machine object, such as a machine part, tool, device, or manufactured product.

At the state competition in March, Lamar County students will also compete in Animatronics and Flight Endurance events. In the Animatronics event, participants must demonstrate knowledge of mechanical and control systems by designing, fabricating, and controlling an animatronics device that will communicate, entertain, inform, dem-

onstrate and/or illustrate a topic, idea, subject or concept. Sound, lights and a surrounding environment must accompany the device. In the Flight Endurance event, participants analyze flight principles with a rubber band-powered model aircraft.

The Lamar County students attend a Career & Technical Education (CTE) program in Engineering at the Lamar County Center for Technical Education in Purvis which provides CTE programs for students from Lumberton High School, Oak Grove High School, Purvis High School, and Sumrall High School.

Lamar County Students Compete in State Health Science Conference

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

Several Health Science students from the Lamar County Center for Technical Education competed in a state competition for HOSA – Future Health Professionals. The students initially competed at the district level and qualified to progress to the state level. The state competition was held at HOSA's State Leadership Conference held March 21-23 in Jackson, MS. Clara Ellis (Oak Grove High School), Samantha Graves (Purvis High School), Christy Pheal (Oak Grove High School), and Taylor Ramsey (Oak Grove High School) all competed in the Healthcare Issues Exam event which is a 50-item test that measures a HOSA member's knowledge of current health issues. In addition to the Healthcare Issues Exam event, each student participated in a second event. Clara Ellis competed in the Medical Spelling event and Samantha Graves competed in the Clinical Nursing Exam event. Christy Pheal and Taylor Ramsey competed as a team in the Health Career Display event. Clara Ellis's score on the Healthcare Issues Exam qualifies her to advance to the HOSA National Leadership Conference which will be held June 21-26 in Nashville, TN.



left to right: Clara Ellis, Samantha Graves, Taylor Ramsey, Christy Pheal

Lamar County Engineering Students Win at State Competition

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

The annual state conference of Mississippi's Technology Student Association (TSA) held state competitions at the Jackson Marriot in Jackson, Mississippi, on March 29-31. Several Engineering students from the Lamar County Center for Technical Education competed and won awards.

Cameron Johnson (Purvis High School) received Second Place in 3D-Computer Aided Design (CAD) event in which participants create 3D computer model(s) of an engineering or machine object, such as a machine part, tool, device, or manufactured product.

Barrett Beightol (Oak Grove High School), Michael Evans (Purvis High School), and Caleb Stanford (Purvis High School) won Second Place in Animatronics, a team event in which participants must demonstrate knowledge of mechanical and control systems by designing, fabricating, and controlling an animatronics device that will communicate, entertain, inform, demonstrate and/or illustrate a topic, idea, subject or concept. Sound, lights and a surrounding environment must accompany the device.

Parker Giron, Mariano Arellano, and Mason Starns (all from Oak Grove High School) placed Second in a Manufactur-



Left to Right: Parker Giron, Cameron Johnson, Mason Starns, Mariano Arellano, Barrett Beightol, Michael Evans, Caleb Stanford

ing Prototype team event in which participants design and manufacture a prototype of a product and provide a description of how the product could be manufactured in a state-of-the-art American manufacturing facility.

The Lamar County students attend a Career & Technical Education (CTE) program in Engineering at the Lamar County Center for Technical Education in Purvis which provides CTE programs for students from Lumberton High School, Oak Grove High School, Purvis High School, and Sumrall High School.

Educators Advocate for Career & Technical Education in Washington

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) officials and Pine Belt area Career & Technical Education (CTE) educators recently visited Washington, DC and met with Congressman Trent Kelly, U.S. Representative for Mississippi's 1st Congressional District. The purpose of the visit was to advocate for re-authorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career & Technical Education Act which benefits and promotes secondary and post-secondary Career & Technical Education.



(Pictured - left to right : Tammie Brewer, MS DECA/Collegiate DECA state advisor; Mike Mulvihill, MDE Director of Career & Technical Education; Rep. Trent Kelly; Deanna Dunaway, Health Science Instructor, Lamar County Technical Center; Teresa Sappington, Engineering Instructor, Lamar County Technical Center; Tina Byrd, CTE Director, Lamar County School District; and Rex Buckhaults, CTE Director, Wayne County School District)

Forrest County Agricultural High School HOSA

Submitted by: Melissa Graham

Several members of HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) participated in the State Leadership Conference in April located in Jackson, MS. Under the guidance of Health Science Instructor, Judy Grice, many of the students placed and will be continuing to the National Leadership Conference this summer in Nashville, Tennessee. The following students competed and placed as follows:



1st place – Health Career Display –

Meghan McMurry and Brady Bass

1st place – HOSA Bowl – Laural Ryals, Clark Castle, Logan Pierce

2nd place – Medical Innovation – Haidyn Lee and Haley Rogers

2nd place – Health Education – Nikki Easterling, Cayla McClelland, Kaitlyn Henry

3rd place – Dental Terminology – Kaylin Hickman

3rd place – Physical Therapy Skills – Ashton Skelton

3rd place – CPR/First Aid Skills – Logan Ryals and Jacob Smith

4th place – Creative Problem Solving – Will Mallette, Conner Goff, Tyler Austin & Tanner Lott

Top 25 % - Health Care Issues Exam – Juliann Aultman

Forrest County Agricultural High School FFA

Submitted by: Melissa Graham

Forrest County Agricultural High School's FFA had three teams compete on April 8 at Mississippi State: floriculture, nursery/landscape and dairy judging. Dairy Judging won third place while Nursery/Landscape brought home the first place trophy and they advance to national competition which will be held this October in Indianapolis. Nicholas Ladner was the high-scoring individual for Nursery and Keda Harrison was the high-scoring individual for floriculture.

The FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) club, sponsored by Misti Dean, Family and Consumer Science instructor, sent two students to state competition in Jackson. Ashton McNair and Kaitlyn Banks competed in Interior Design and placed



first in the state.

They will be competing nationally in San Diego, California in June.



The students involved in these clubs represent FCAHS and Career Technical Education in a wonderful way! They work hard, in and out of the classroom, and put forth extensive effort to be the best in their categories of competition. Many of the Career Technical student organizations provide scholarships to students winning at the national level, as well as opportunities to meet individuals who could assist these students with career paths for the future.

Little Free Library

Submitted by: Jennifer Koon

Alcorn Career and Technology Center's Teacher Academy Instructor, Nan Nethery, discovered the Little Free Library program the summer of 2015. "I knew this was the perfect service learning project for my Teacher Academy students. Being the Pinterest fanatic that I am, I immediately began my research project. I found so many ideas and examples of the little houses. I started collecting children's books, as well as, pre-teen and adult selections. I found myself frequenting local consignment shops, Goodwill, and yard sales in search of books for our library," said Mrs. Nethery. "In August, when school began, I decided to seek the assistance of Mr. Tim Bradley, Construction instructor, to see if this would be a project his students could help us with. I love collaborating with the other programs at ACTC. I think the students gain so much from working together. Mr. Bradley told me to bring him a picture of what we wanted built. A few weeks later, when I saw the completed library, I couldn't believe it – it looked just like the picture. Mr. Bradley and his students really stepped up to the plate on this project. It looks amazing," said Mrs. Nethery.

Mr. Tim Bradley and Building Trades students installing the pole for the Little Free Library.



Little Free Libraries are everywhere. Whether you encounter one on your neighbor's front lawn or at the edge of a cornfield, it is likely that you have seen one of the nearly 36,000 Little Free Libraries that are in place worldwide.

In 2009 creator Todd Bol, having recently lost his mother, set out in his van to work through his grief. When he came home to Hudson, Wisconsin, he decided to honor his mother – a former teacher who loved books – by making a box to house books to share with others. He mounted the birdhouse-like box on a post on his front lawn and the rest, as they say, is history.

Little Free Libraries are no longer just personal, individual undertakings; they are now part of large-scale, planned projects that are effective tools for community engagement in cities and towns all across the country, with powerful stories of collaboration and success. These large undertakings address head-on the issues of low literacy, lack of access to reading materials, and neighborhood unity. They bring together public libraries, school districts, businesses, individuals, and anyone else who wants to jump on board. And they are effective – change is happening in communities that are using this tool to bring literacy materials to every block in town.



The national goal, as well as, the Teacher Academy program's goal is to promote literacy and the love for reading by building free book exchanges and to build a sense of community as we share skills, creativity, and wisdom across generations. Mrs. Nethery said, "I have been so excited to see others in our community that has discovered the Free Little Library program. We decided to place our library on the front lawn at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center. There are many nearby subdivisions that we are in hopes will utilize the library. The initiative is to "take a book or return a book to share with others. No rules, no late fees and everyone can take part. We would love to see our community take advantage of our library."

If individuals and/or businesses would like to donate books or magazines, please contact Mrs. Nan Nethery at 662-286-7727.

Purvis FFA Excels in Natural Resource Competitions

Submitted by: Adam Courtney

Students enrolled in Agricultural Classes at Purvis High School have the opportunity to learn with hands on lessons in many areas. They learn about Forestry, Soils, Aquatics, Wildlife, and how these areas are impacted by our daily lives. They also became very knowledgeable about how we depend on these resources every day. Students used what they learned to compete against other schools from throughout the state in several contests held in different parts of Mississippi.



From the left, Hunter Mitchell, Dale Moore, Thomas Beall. Students placed 2nd in the State Land Judging Contest in Grenada, MS.



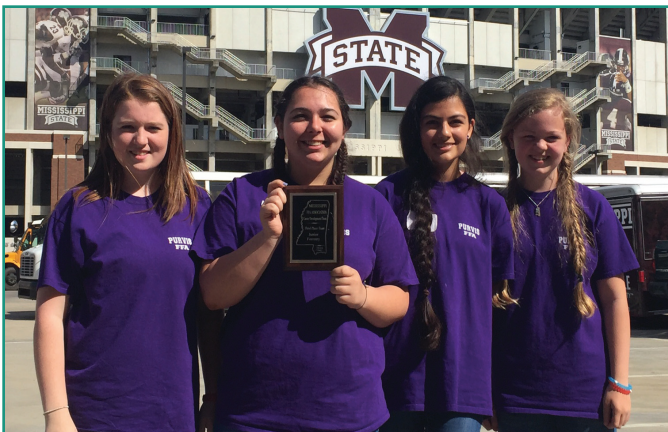
From the left, Dale Moore, Austin Lee, Hunter Mitchell, Erin Booth, Thomas Beall. Students competed in the Central Area Envirothon Contest in Crystal Springs and placed 1st in the FFA division. They also scored highest in the Current Issue and Soil/land use Areas.



From the Left, Erin Booth, Austin Lee, Hunter Mitchell, Dale Moore, Thomas Beall. Students competed at the State Envirothon in Raymond, MS and placed 2nd in the State.



From the Left, John Perry, Dale Moore, Thomas Beall, Hunter Mitchell, Baleigh Ladner, Lizbeth Miranda, Tori Hagan, Makaleigh Martin. Students competed in the state Forestry Contest held at Mississippi State University.



From the Left, Makaleigh Martin, Baleigh Ladner, Lizbeth Miranda, Tori Hagan. These 8th graders placed 3rd in the state Forestry contest in the Jr. FFA division.



From the Left, Hunter Mitchell, John Perry, Dale Moore, Thomas Beall. These Students placed 3rd in the state Forestry contest in the Sr. FFA division.

HOSA Students Headed to International Conference

Students in the DWJCTC Health Sciences program competed in healthcare events at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Northern District Leadership Conference, which was held at Delta State University in February. The following students advanced to compete at the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Jackson, Mississippi, which was held in March: Miracle Proctor, Shannon Debose, Tyunna Logan, Ambernaisha Jackson, Tiera Lewis, Fredreon Steele, Jashaun Wilkins, A'Marionte' McCrary, Myeshia Johnson, Jernay Partee, Qwanterrious Kitchen, J'Miyah Stevenson, and Renilia Williams. The Biomedical Debate Team placed 1st at the HOSA State Leadership Conference and will compete in June at the HOSA International Leadership Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The members of the Biomedical Debate Team are Tiera Lewis, Fredreon Steele, A'Marionte McCrary, and Jashaun Wilkins. Advisers are: Anessa Morrow, Instructor, Dianne Daley, CTE Director and Shirley Harris, Counselor.

