

OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL TECH TALK

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

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Mary Hough



Bruce VanSickle



Gert Silsby

The new year started for OCVTS faculty and staff with a two-day orientation program which included presentations about school safety by Training Specialist Norm Palloto, from the Office of Homeland Security; Recognizing Gang Activity by San Hart, from EIRC; and Millennial's Go to College, by Don Duran, VP of Student Affairs from Ocean County College. Day two also included world-renowned motivational speaker Walter Bonds, a former NBA basketball player.

Recognized during the orientation were OCVTS teachers who had been honored at the annual Ocean County Teachers' Governor's Recognition ceremony held earlier this year. They were: Gary Lesniak, Culinary Arts Instructor from the Brick Center; Frank Mastroianni, English Instructor from the Lakehurst Center; Dayna Caswell, Life Skills Instructor at the Waretown Center; Keith Pobuta, Intro to Computer Hardware Instructor at the Toms River Center; and Kim Szulecki, Agricultural and Environmental Science Instructor from the Jackson Center.

Also recognized was OCVTS District Teacher of the Year Mary Hough. Mary has been with the district for seven years and teaches Applied Academics in Toms River. Bruce VanSickle was recognized as OCVTS New Teacher of the Year. Bruce graduated from the OCVTS Culinary Arts program in 2000. He came to work with the district in 2004 as an Instructional Aide and now as a Culinary Arts Instructor. Gert Silsby was recognized as the OCVTS Non-Certified Staff Member of the Year. Ms. Silsby has worked in the district for 25 years. She retired in June from her position as Student Services Aide.



Recognized as outstanding educators for this year are: Gary Lesniak, Keith Pobuta, Mary Hough, Bruce VanSickle, Frank Mastroianni, Dayna Caswell, and Kim Szulecki.

*Nothing great was ever achieved
without enthusiasm.
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

OCTOBER 2010

CABINETMAKING STUDENTS CONSTRUCT DISPLAY FOR UNITED WATER

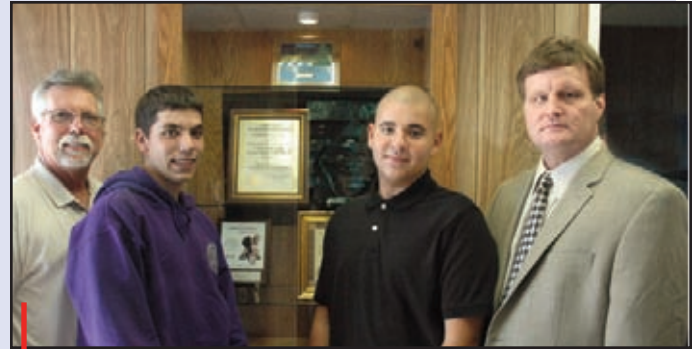
Students from the Custom Cabinetmaking Program at the OCVTS Jackson Center were recognized recently for the handcrafted display case they designed and built for United Water, in downtown Toms River.

Jane Kunka, Public Affairs Manager for United Water had contacted OCVTS near the end of last school year. "We had received several awards for community service projects and we really wanted a nice way to display them. It is important for the community to know that we are much more than a utility company; we are an active participant in community affairs," she explained.

Although there wasn't much time left in the school year, two students from the Custom Cabinetmaking class who volunteered to create the display case were confident they could complete the project. Under the direction of Instructor Rob Gonsalves, students Nick Passarelli and Jared Coreti, both of Toms River, worked diligently to make the deadline.

United Water Director of Operations Dan Pfeleiderer commended the students, "we appreciate your efforts, you did a wonderful job." Mr. Pfeleiderer also presented OCVTS with a generous donation of \$200.

OCVTS Assistant Superintendent Nancy Weber-Loeffert added, "OCVTS is involved with many community service projects. These projects create great opportunities for our students to reach out to our communities as well as build strong partnerships with area businesses and organizations."



United Water Director of Operations Dan Pfeleiderer, far right, stands with OCVTS Instructor Rob Gonsalves, and his students in front of award display case in the foyer of the United Water building.

ONE-NIGHT COOKING SEMINARS ARE A HIT WITH ADULT ED STUDENTS



The OCVTS Adult Education Division is offering a series of one-night cooking seminars as part of the Fall course schedule. All eleven classes, which range from Safe Knife Handling to Chowders, Pasta and even Mediterranean Specialties, are filled with waiting lists.

The 'Party Starting Hors D'oeuvres' class which was offered on Tuesday September 21, offered instructions on preparing eight delicious appetizers as well as unique and dazzling presentation ideas to impress any guest. Students were divided into small groups and each group prepared one of the recipes. At the end of the evening the class discussed their appetizer and how it was displayed on the buffet table.

OCVTS Culinary Arts Instructor Chef Jason Crispin, pictured above with student, was very pleased with the response to the new seminars. "People can sign up for just the topics that really interest them. It is an easy way to learn different cooking techniques. You don't have to commit to a twelve-week course and the low cost makes it available to a lot of people," he said.



OCVTS STUDENTS PREPARE FOR LACEY APPLE FESTIVAL

Students from the Hospitality/Basic Food Services Program at the OCVTS Waretown Center once again lent a helping hand to the Lacey Apple Festival. Working alongside members of the Lacey Historical Society who run the Apple Festival, the culinary students washed, peeled and cut several bushels of apples which they used to make trays of apple crisp. The baked goods were sold at the festival both as individual servings and as two-pound pans to be enjoyed at home.

OCVTS Culinary Arts Instructor Donna Squillaro was extremely impressed with her students. She explained, since the beginning of the school year "we have been learning all about kitchen safety and sanitation practices. We have only just begun lessons on basic food preparation so the students are doing a fantastic job. They are working well as a team and they are learning not only about preparing apples but the ladies from the Historical Society are sharing a bit of history about Lacey as they work. This is a great way to start off the school year."

Also helping in the kitchen was an OCVTS graduate Drew Dries, of Lacey, who had completed the Hospitality/Basic Foods program. After the Basic Foods class, Drew also completed the Culinary Arts Baking and Pastry Arts program at the OCVTS Brick Center.

This past summer Drew was presented with a scholarship from the Lacey Historical Society. He is the first recipient of the scholarship and as Historical Society member Eleanor Ditton explains, "We have been working with the OCVTS program and Chef Joe Jakositz, who had been the instructor here, for the past several years. It has been a wonderful partnership and we had wanted to do something to give back to the school. We appropriated funds for a scholarship and we were so happy to present Drew with the Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York later this month.

OCVTS students work alongside ladies from the Lacey Historical Society and OCVTS graduate Drew Dries, far right, to prepare apple crisp for the festival.

THE PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY Presents 'COCKTAILS WITH MIMI'

The Performing Arts Academy invites you to a special performance of "Cocktails with Mimi." *Mistaken identities and confusion abound in this comical farce about love, pranks, and the relationships between parents and children.*

**Friday November 12, 2010 at 10:00AM or
Saturday November 13, 2010 at 7:00PM
at the Historic Strand Theater, Lakewood, NJ
General Admission. Tickets are \$10.
Call 732.286.5678 ext 4155**

This performance is a wonderful opportunity to experience the talents of American playwright Mary Chase. Ms. Chase was an American journalist, playwright and screenwriter, known primarily for writing the Broadway smash hit play Harvey, for which she won a Pulitzer Prize in Drama.

We look forward to seeing you at the theater!

MATES SCHEDULES WINTER OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES) will offer After School Outreach Programs in January, February and March. Each session consists of three meetings during the month on Wednesday. The Outreach Program is designed for upper elementary and middle school students (grades 5-8). Topics to be covered in each session are: Fish and Fisheries, Sustainable Oceans; Water Pollution and Oil, the Filter Challenge!; and Terrapin Time! Terrapin Activities. Go to www.ocvts.org for more information and to download an application.

OCVTS CAREER ACADEMIES HOST ADMISSION INFORMATION SESSIONS

Ocean County Vocational Technical School is now hosting admission information sessions for the 2011-2012 school year for the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES) and the Performing Arts Academy (PAA).

The Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science or MATES is a specialized high school designed to give students a rigorous academic curriculum with concentration in the areas of science, math, and technology. Additional focus is provided in marine and environmental science. Students have unique opportunities to participate in fieldwork, independent research, and internships throughout Ocean County.

The Performing Arts Academy is designed to provide performing arts curriculum focused in dance, vocal music, and acting, along with a rigorous college preparatory academic program. The school exists to provide a unique, nurturing, and challenging learning environment for students living in Ocean County who are gifted in the performing arts.

Students are selected from applications through a competitive process and enter at the ninth grade level. Applicants must reside in Ocean County to be eligible for admission. Application deadline is December 10, 2010.

Middle school students who are planning a future in math/science related fields or the performing arts, and their parents, are encouraged to attend an admissions information session.

MATES will hold admission information sessions: Saturday, October 23 at 10AM; Saturday, November 13 at 10AM; and Thursday, November 18 at 7PM. The sessions will be held at OCVTS MATES, 195 Cedar Bridge Road, Manahawkin, NJ. No pre-registration required.

PAA will hold admission information sessions on Saturday, October 23 at 10AM; Thursday, November 11 at 7PM; and Saturday, November 20 at 10AM. The sessions will be held at the OCVTS Lakehurst campus.

Pre-registration is required to attend a session at the Lakehurst campus. Please call 732-286.5678 x4100 to register.

For more information about the OCVTS high school academies or the admission information sessions call go to www.ocvts.org.

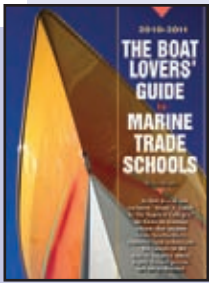
WWW.OCVTS.ORG

TWO OCVTS GRADUATES ENTER THE YOUTH TRANSITION TO WORK APPRENTICE PROGRAM

Two OCVTS graduates were selected to participate in the Youth Transition to Work Apprenticeship Program through the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Robert Alterisio graduated from the Motorsports Technology Program and Angelica Diaz graduated from the Automotive Technology Program, both from the OCVTS Jackson Center. According to an article in the Toms River Times (August 18, 2010) NJ Department of labor Commissioner Harold Wirths stated, "In challenging economic times employers are more judicious in hiring and apprenticeships offers employers confidence that apprentices have demonstrated a work ethic, have knowledge of the job and have a willingness to learn new skills."

According to OCVTS Apprenticeship Coordinator Frank Morelli, who oversees the YTTW grant program for the district, "there were initially over 400 students throughout the state who were eligible for the program. Of those, 287 high school seniors initiated the application process. Those applicants then had to go through an extensive 5-step process, including a written pre-test, workshops and interviews. Twenty-eight students made it to the final interview with the NJ State YTTW Coordinator and from there 10 recipients were chosen. It is exciting to have two OCVTS graduates chosen to enter the program. Angelica Diaz (left) is the first female recipient of the grant program."





Ocean County Vocational Technical School is featured in an article in the October 2010 issue of BoatUS Magazine. The article focuses on colleges and trade schools throughout the United States which offer superior career-training in the marine trades. Go to www.boatus.com/colleges to read related articles.

SKILLSUSA PLANNED FOR DECEMBER 11

OCVTS will host the Regional SkillsUSA Competition at the Brick Center, 350 Chambers Bridge Road, on Saturday, December 11, from 9AM to 1PM.

Students from throughout the OCVTS district will compete using the skills of their trades for regional honors and the opportunity to advance to state competition in April.

Areas of competition include Automotive/Motorcycle Service Technology, Culinary Arts, Construction Trades, Residential Wiring, Cosmetology, Photography, Marine Service, Electrical Trades and Web Design.

In addition to the competition, it is a wonderful opportunity to learn about all of the program and services available at OCVTS. There will be program displays, activities and refreshments.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to promote the growth and development of a skilled workforce in America.

For more information call 732.244.1122



OCEAN COUNTY FOUNDATION FOR VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 7, 2011

The Foundation will host
The 15th Annual International Chef's Night Out
at the Ritacco Center, Toms River, NJ
DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON!
www.ocvts.org/foundation

OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

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This e-newsletter is published monthly by the Ocean County Vocational Technical School District. Comments and/or suggestions may be sent to Jean Sullivan, editor, at jsullivan@mail.ocvts.org.



ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

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