

OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL TECH TALK



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OCVTS BRINGS HOME 59 MEDALS

147 Ocean County Vocational Technical School students recently traveled to Somerset, New Jersey to take part in the New Jersey SkillsUSA Competition. These students had earned top honors in regional competitions held earlier this year and qualified to represent OCVTS at the state level. Departing at 4:30AM on a Saturday, the students, their advisors and a group of dedicated volunteers headed to several locations in the Somerset area.

They competed in trade areas such as Welding, Automotive Technology, Computer Programming, Web Design, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Marine Service, HVACR, Residential Wiring, Drafting, Plumbing and Culinary Arts as well as related academic contests such as Extemporaneous Speaking, Job Skills Demonstration and Related Mathematics.

At the end of the day OCVTS students earned 18 bronze medals, 17 silver medals and 24 gold medals -an outstanding achievement!



OCVTS student competes in Residential Wiring competition in Somerset.

*~Photo Courtesy of Tom Pernal, Electrical Trades/
Integrated Cabling Instructor*

OCVTS CEREMONY CAPS OFF NURSING MILESTONE

Seventy-five Practical Nursing students at Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) reached a milestone this past week. The students received the traditional nurse's cap at a ceremony which recognized the achievements and accomplishments in completing the first half of the intense and comprehensive nursing program.

The OCVTS Practical Nursing Program was the first program offered at OCVTS and began in 1959. It is approved by the New Jersey Board of Nursing and the Department of Education. The program, located at the OCVTS Toms River Center, has a very competitive admissions process and class sizes are limited. It is the largest vocational technical-based nursing program in New Jersey.

Graduation is scheduled for July. At that time students will be prepared to take the New Jersey Board of Licensing Exam for qualification as a Licensed Practical Nurse. A practical nurse is trained to care for acute, subacute, convalescent and chronically ill patients under the direction of a registered nurse and/or licensed physician.

Last year, OCVTS nursing graduates attained a 97.14% pass rate for the NJ Board of Nursing Licensure Exam, surpassing both the state and national average pass rate.



OCVTS HOLDS 8th ANNUAL CAR & TRUCK SHOW

OCVTS will host the Eighth Annual Car and Truck Show, May 1, at the OCVTS Waretown Center, 423 Wells Mills Road. All proceeds will benefit the Ocean County Vocational Technical Education Association (OCVTEA) Philanthropic Scholarship Fund.

Vehicle registration is between 8-10AM, \$15.00 per entry. Awards presented in over 40 categories including, Best Sound System, Hopper Contest, Flame Shooting, Superintendent's & OCVTEA President's Choice.

Vendor and flea market space is available. There will be door prizes and great food, so bring the whole family for a day of fun. No admission fee for visitors. Rain date is May 15, 2011. For more information please call 732.286.5660.



*Tell me and I'll forget. Show me,
and I may not remember. Involve me,
and I'll understand.*

~Native American Saying

MARCH 2011

OCVTS HOSTS STATE WELDING FABRICATION COMPETITION

OCVTS hosted the New Jersey SkillsUSA competition for Welding Fabrication on March 19. While SkillsUSA has held welding competitions for individuals for years, this is only the second year for team competition in the state of New Jersey.



Three-person teams from ten county vocational school districts including Cumberland, Essex (Bloomfield and Newark Campuses), Gloucester, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Somerset and Sussex counties were represented at the competition. Two teams from OCVTS participated.

Dan Roskiewich, SkillsUSA Welding Competition New Jersey Tech Chair was pleased with the growth of the competition. "Last year was the first year we held this event as a competition and we had six counties participate. This year we have ten. I knew once we started that the interest and participation would grow." He added, "Here we have 30 proud tradesmen using the skills they have learned; working hard to make their schools and instructors proud and be the best in the state. That is what SkillsUSA is all about."

Each team was supplied with blueprints for the fabrication project ahead of time. The students had time to review the plans and develop their strategy for time management and construction techniques, although they were not apprised of the types of welding required for each phase of the project. Ultimately, contestants had to demonstrate oxy-fuel cutting, shielded metal arc, tungsten arc and gas metal arc welding for the competition.

Each student who competed received a \$1,500 scholarship to continue their training at Ohio Technical College in Cleveland. The

top three teams who place at the state-level competition will be eligible for up to \$12,000 in scholarships for the college's one-year Master Welding Technology Program.

The contest was planned and organized by OCVTS Welding Instructor Jim Mansfield and OCVTS SkillsUSA Advisor Robert Berenwick. The competition was made possible by the generous donations of equipment and materials from Lincoln Electric, Northeast Regional Office located in Exton, Pennsylvania and by the volunteer judges from the welding industry who were on hand to evaluate the quality of workmanship and adherence to rules and safety standards.

All contestants were also required to take a written test to evaluate their knowledge of welding techniques and safety procedures. The test was administered at the New Jersey Skills USA Competition on April 2 in Somerset, New Jersey. The results of the written test combined with the fabrication judging determined the New Jersey State champions in Welding Fabrication. One of the OCVTS Welding Fabrication teams took home the Bronze medal.



BRIGHT IDEAS SHINE NEW LIGHT ON INVENTIONS

OCVTS students were asked to challenge their imaginations and test their skills during the Wearable Electronics Challenge 2011. The contest, sponsored by the Ocean County College Tech Prep Consortium, proposed the task to design and create a new, innovative use of electronic technology incorporated into wearable garments. Participants had to produce a working prototype, create a display board and a detailed presentation before a panel of judges. Judging involved creativity, originality of design, programming, quality of storyboard, narrative presentation and demonstration of product. Three OCVTS teams presented their ideas at the competition at Ocean County College, Friday March 25.

Taking First Place in the competition was a team comprised of students from the Computer Science, A+ Certification and the Health and Fitness Programs from the OCVTS Toms River Center. Together they designed the "Interactive Bicycle Safety Jacket." The nylon jacket incorporated a pattern of LED lights on the back which could be activated by small touch button controls sewn into the sleeve cuffs. When a bicyclist, riding at night, wanted to make a right or left turn, they could squeeze the cuff of the corresponding sleeve and a pattern of lights, similar to a turn signal would

light up on the back of the jacket, clearly signaling others of the cyclist's intentions.

Second Place went to the "Interactive Atmospheric Hydration Detector," with team members also from the Computer Science, A+ Certification and the Health and Fitness Programs, as well as Cosmetology, from the OCVTS Toms River Center. This device also incorporated into a jacket, utilizes a person's level of perspiration to activate an LED strip which would alert the wearer of an elevated level of hydration loss.

Team 3 incorporated electronic technology into wearable art. Students from the Fashion Merchandising/Design and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning programs from the OCVTS Brick Center constructed an elaborate mermaid dress using conductive thread which created a circuit for blinking lights throughout the garment. While the lights on the upper bodice could be turned on by a switch, special flickering lights in the tulle skirt could be activated by sensors in specialized gloves coming in contact with moisture. Of course a mermaid dress would not be complete without accessories which included a handbag fashioned to look like a small octopus. The bag was equipped with a camera and microphone.



From left to right, students from Teams 1, 2, and 3 make final adjustments to their Wearable Electronic entries before the judging begins.

OCVTS BAKERY STUDENTS LEARN USE OF INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS

Students in the OCVTS Culinary Arts – Baking program spent a day with representatives from Dawn Food Products, Inc. National Bakery Technicians, Hugh Goettner and Kate O'Brien, demonstrated baking techniques and commercial applications for some of Dawn Foods' frozen doughs and pre-formed puff pastry products. According to OCVTS Baking Instructor Chef Dennis Melia, "Although we strive to teach our students to make everything from scratch, we know that in the real-world work environment they will need to be innovative and improvise in order to meet the demands of their employer. They will not always have the time or facilities to bake everything from scratch. It is important for them to know that quality products are available to them, and the proper ways to use them."

The bakery technicians demonstrated the use of tools and techniques to use the products to their fullest potential. Students, working in teams used a variety of ready-made puff pastry products as well as icings and fillings to create turnovers, tarts, cinnamon crisps and twist rolls.

Joe Soboti, Sales Manager for Dawn Food Products, Inc. began the morning with a discussion regarding career opportunities in the baking field. According to Mr. Soboti, "there is a great need for young people in the baking industry. Many retail bakers are looking

for younger, responsible individuals to step in and carry on their businesses and there is a need to fill that demand."

Dawn Food Products, Inc. has been a longtime supporter of education and the mentoring of students in the culinary arts fields. The company provides materials and all food supplies used during the New Jersey State SkillsUSA Culinary Arts competitions, as well as transportation of equipment whenever necessary.



National Bakery Technician Hugh Goettner demonstrates the use of Dawn Foods' pastry products. Students practice techniques.

OCVTS STUDENTS STRIVE FOR SUCCESS AT HOSA COMPETITION



OCVTS Medical Assisting, Medical Skills and Related Health Careers, and Dental Assisting students participated in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) New Jersey State Competition in Gloucester County on March 19th and 20th .

Several students took home top honors in their contests and are eligible to compete at the HOSA National Leadership Convention in Anaheim, California in June. Winners include: Ken Hickey, of Manchester, First Place and Jessica Dippilito, of Toms River, Second Place in Post-Secondary (after high school) Dental Spelling; Jasmine Heacock, Tuckerton, First Place in Post-Secondary Dental Assisting. Loure Morgado, of Jackson, earned Second Place in Secondary (high school) Medical Assisting and Angie Rivera, of Brick, Third Place in the same event.

"HOSA: The Hearts that Believe and the Hands that Achieve!"

~2010-2011 National Theme

NEW JERSEY TRANSIT POLICE K9 HANDLERS VISIT OCVTS LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

When does a backpack left on a bench become a suspicious package or a commuter become a person of interest? These were just a few topics which were addressed when members of the New Jersey Transit Police K9 Unit visited students from the OCVTS Law & Public Safety program in Waretown.

This presentation, along with countless other demonstrations and field trips are all part of a comprehensive training program for area high school students with a serious interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement.

This particular presentation focused on the use of canines as invaluable tools in the ongoing efforts to stem terroristic threats on American soil. New Jersey Transit Police are responsible for safety on mass transit, particularly busses and commuter trains. NJ Transit Officer Sgt. Michael Clarkson explained the difficulties in monitoring safety in what he described as "rolling communities of people; one bus can carry over 100 people while a train can carry about 1200 people. We are constantly assessing current conditions and current threats. In any given situation we create a baseline of what would be considered normal behavior and then assess what we feel is out of place."

Officer Jerome Morse and his 3-year old dog Buddy proceeded with a methodical search around the confines of the garage area at the Fire and First Aid Training Center in Waretown, where the Law & Public Safety Program is housed. Sgt. Clarkson explained that the dogs are trained to detect the individual chemical elements



Law & Public Safety students look on as NJ Transit Officer Jerome Morse rewards his canine partner Buddy for his successful detection during demonstration.

that make up explosive devices. This training is called imprinting. As soon as Buddy detected a scent he alerted his handler with a change in behavior. Immediately the dog was rewarded.

The dogs and their handlers must complete a ten-week course which involves dog obedience training as well as fostering a relationship between dog and handler to learn behaviors, body language and bonding. A canine and his handler are together 24 hours a day; working together as well assimilating into the off-duty lifestyle of the officer.

OCVTS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS LES MISÉRABLES



The Ocean County Vocational Technical School's Performing Arts Academy (PAA) presentation of *Les Misérables* at the historic Strand Theater in Lakewood was a historic success!

A special Senior Citizen Dress Rehearsal Matinee which included a box lunch, served prior to the show, prepared by OCVTS Culinary Arts students was well attended.

The Friday evening performance began with a Red Carpet Reception, which featured cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment and a silent auction. The Saturday evening performance made Strand history as ticket sales topped 900 - quite an extraordinary feat for a high school production.

Les Misérables School Edition is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019.



OCVTS Adult Culinary Arts students served lunch to over 500 senior citizens prior to the *Les Misérables* Dress rehearsal matinee.

OCVTS TO HOLD SUMMER CAMPS

OCVTS is holding career-related summer camps. Register now for summer fun. **Registration forms can be found at www.ocvts.org**

The **Culinary Arts Camp**, July 18-21, 8AM- 12 Noon, at the OCVTS Brick Center, will focus on methods and techniques of meal planning, food preparation, cooking and safe knife handling.

The **Aviation Aerospace Camp**, July 11-14, 8AM-12 Noon, at the OCVTS Lakehurst Center, will feature model aircraft and rocket building, concepts of flight and use of flight simulators. .

The **Performing Arts Workshop** is a two week session (July 11-14, 18-21), 10AM-3PM, held at the OCVTS Lakehurst Center. The workshop provides an opportunity for aspiring young artists to strengthen their skills in dance, voice or acting.

This competitive program offers Level 1 (for 6-8 grades) and Level 2 (for 9-12 grades).

The **Marine Science Summer Experience** is held at the MATES facility, Manahawkin, 7:45AM-2:45PM, is offered July 18-21, July 25-28, August 1-4 or August 8-11. Students will be exposed to laboratory and research techniques, ecology, marine and environmental science. Daily field visits will focus on hands-on research.. This competitive program is limited to 25 students per week. **Call 732.473.3100 x3196 for more information.**

ACKNOWLEDGING EXCELLENCE 2011

The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational and Technical Education honored the 2011 recipients of the Acknowledging Excellence Awards at the annual dinner ceremony. Each year the Foundation honors an outstanding community partnership, a retired educator and three Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) graduates.

This year the Foundation recognized Perlmart ShopRite of Ocean County as their community partnership. Owner Joel Perlmutter and Director of Human Resources Jennifer McMahon were recognized for the company's commitment to OCVTS students through mentoring, job shadowing, facility tours, employment opportunities, as well as scholarships.

Peg Roma of Toms River, was recognized as a retired OCVTS educator. Peg Roma dedicated 37 years to her career in education. She began her teaching career in Jersey City and also taught in the Jackson and the Toms River school districts. Peg came to OCVTS in 2006, serving as vice principal at the OCVTS Lakehurst Center, vice principal of both the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES) and the Performing Arts Academy, and then as principal for MATES in its inaugural year at the new facility in Manahawkin.

Three successful graduates were also recognized. Patrick Erbe, a lifelong resident of Toms River, graduated from the OCVTS Construction Technology Program in 1987. Patrick has been in the construction field for over 20 years and owns Erbe Builders, Inc. as well as several other construction-related businesses in Ocean County.

Vincent Giglio, of Farmingdale, graduated from the OCVTS Aviation Airframe and Powerplant Program in 1990. He continued his training in the aviation field achieving several specialized certifications. Vincent opened his own aircraft maintenance business, *First in Flight*, in 2003. Mr. Giglio sits on the NJ Aviation Education Council and the OCVTS Aviation Advisory Committee.

Zack Slater, of Toms River, graduated from the OCVTS Audio for Electronic Media Program in 2007. According to instructor Dennis Bourke, "Zack's rapid advancement in the corporate world of professional audio for MTV Productions, as head touring engineer for a major artist, is testament to his outstanding skills." Zack is currently enrolled at Ocean County College and he sits on the OCVTS Audio for Electronic Media Advisory Committee.

The honorees were recognized at a dinner ceremony held at the Quality Inn, Toms River and entertainment was provided by OCVTS Performing Arts Academy students.



The 2011 Acknowledging Excellence recipients were honored for their outstanding accomplishments. Shown here left to right are: Vincent Giglio, Zack Slater, Peg Roma, Jennifer McMahon, Joel Perlmutter, and Patrick Erbe.

GREEN INITIATIVES UPDATE

The Green Initiatives Committee, part of the district's ongoing commitment to reduce, recycle and re-use reports that the district-wide bottle cap recycling program is going strong!

The AVEDA bottle cap recycling project is a competitive effort. OCVTS centers are collecting screw-type bottle caps of all shapes and sizes. At the end of each month each center weighs the collected caps and submits a final tally to the committee. The caps are then sent to a central collection point and shipped to AVEDA who recycles the caps into plastic containers. The center with the highest total of caps at the end of the program will earn a prize for all students.

So far, as a district, OCVTS has collected over 2,100 pounds of caps and counting!



Students at the Brick Center weigh the caps collected throughout the month.

OCVTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring RecessApril 18-25
Car & Truck ShowMay 1
Performing Arts ShowcasesMay 6, May 13

THE OCEAN COUNTY FOUNDATION FOR VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION

will host a night of comedy at Hemingway's in Seaside Heights Friday, May 13 at 8:00PM.

"Sing Along and laugh with the amazing Las Vegas based DUELING PIANO PLAYERS"

Contact Angela Castaldo for ticket information
 732.240.6414 x3327 or acastaldo@mail.ocvts.org

OCVTS ADULT EDUCATION HOLDS INTERSESSION CLASSES - REGISTER NOW!

The Adult Education Division of the Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) is now accepting registration for Intersession classes. Intersession will begin May 16 and run through June. Most classes meet two nights per week; length of courses vary.

Programs offered are: Electrical License Exam Preparation; EPA Review; OSHA10 Certification; Advanced Welding and Vocational Instructor Training.

Whether you're interested in personal development or career training, OCVTS Intersession classes are convenient and very affordable!

For course descriptions and schedules, visit www.ocvts.org. For more information or to register by phone, call 732.473.3100 extension 1000.

You may register in-person at the OCVTS Adult Education Office, 1299 Old Freehold Road, Toms River NJ 08753. Registration hours are: Monday through Friday 9AM to 3PM.

Please note that Ocean County Vocational Technical School will be closed from April 18 through April 25.

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

Adult Education Office732.473.3100 x1000
 CNA Information732.473.3100 x3135
 High School Admissions732.473.3100 x3122
 After High School Admissions ..732.473.3100 x3144
 Academy Admissions732.473.3100 x3065
 Practical Nursing Admissions ..732.473.3100 x3145
 Cosmetology732.473.3100 x3128
 Financial Aid732.473.3100 x3139

WWW.OCVTS.ORG

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