OCVTTS STUDENTS PREPARE THANKSGIVING MEALS FOR OCEAN COUNTY FAMILIES IN NEED

Students and staff at the Ocean County Vocational Technical School’s Brick Center partnered this year with the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties to take on the unprecedented task of preparing 3,000 Thanksgiving meals to be distributed through local social service agencies.

Fundraising efforts by Brick Center students, faculty and staff to collect food items and cash donations fund this annual community service project which began about 16 years ago. Donations through the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties and OCVTS vendors as well as a grant awarded to the project from the Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education helps purchase additional supplies.

This week Culinary Arts students from the Brick Center, under the direction of their Culinary Arts instructors, prepared and roasted over 250 turkeys, as well as preparing traditional side dishes including: mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, stuffing, gravy and of course holiday pies. Massive assembly lines of students packaged the meals and prepared them to be distributed today local social service such as the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), Preferred Behavioral Health, the Toms River People’s Pantry and Hunger Relief.

When this community service project began about 38 meals were distributed. Over the years the demand has grown and with it the determination of the students and staff to help as many people as possible.

What does it take to prepare 3,000 Thanksgiving meals?

**BY THE NUMBERS…**

- Over 3000 lbs. of turkeys
- 1500 lbs. of potatoes
- 1200 lbs. of sweet potatoes
- 850 lbs. of stuffing
- 450 lbs. of green beans
- 90 gallons of gravy
- 1000 holiday pies
Harvesting Sweet Potatoes at Hallock’s Farm

Mashed Potato Production

Turkeys, turkeys, turkeys!

Mmmmm... Stuffing!
Students weigh and portion all items for the dinners

Lots of delicious pies!

Students package up 3,000 delicious holiday meals and prepare them for distribution
The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education will host the 19th Annual International Chef’s Night Out on Monday, March 2nd at the Pine Belt Arena, Toms River from 6:00-9:00PM. Over 70 area restaurants, caterers, bakeries, specialty stores and beverage distributors are expected to participate. For the $50 admission fee attendees may sample an extensive variety of sweet and savory delicacies as well as some of the area’s fine wines and beverages.

Chef’s Night Out is the largest fundraising event of the year for the Foundation. In addition to the magnificent food and beverage offerings there will be a 50/50 raffle, themed-gift basket raffles and door prizes.

Tickets are $50 in advance and $60 at the door. Support a great cause by becoming an event sponsor or advertise in the virtual event journal.

Call now for tickets and more information!

All proceeds benefit the Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education. The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education was established in 1994 to help ensure a quality education for the students of Ocean County Vocational Technical School. It was formed by a group of corporate and community leaders in Ocean County. The Foundation provides funding through scholarships for OCVTS students and grants which allows OCVTS instructors and staff to purchase equipment and materials to enhance their training curriculum.

OCVTS CUISINE ON THE GREEN AT ATLANTIS HOLDS NOVEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONY

Fourteen students were recognized at the November Graduation Ceremony for Cuisine on the Green, the Ocean County Center for Culinary Arts. The students completed the 900-hour, ten-month intensive culinary arts curriculum includes classroom instruction, culinary skills training and working internships.

Located at the Atlantis Golf Course in Little Egg Harbor, the beautifully renovated restaurant facilities offer an exciting new dining experience as students train for exciting careers in the culinary arts. The use of locally-sourced foods, responsibly-caught seafood and environmentally-conscious practices are essentials elements at Cuisine on the Green.
Ocean County Vocational Technical School invites you to discover WHAT’S NEXT!

Come to the OCVTS Career Discovery Day to learn about the many opportunities available to high school students and adults.

OCVTS shared-time career and technical education programs offer college-bound students opportunities to earn college credits that will transfer to our partnered colleges and universities.

For high school graduates who are not college bound OCVTS offers accelerated training programs which provide skills and real-world experience to launch a new career.

Don’t settle for a job, discover your passion and build a career doing something you love!

The OCVTS Career Discovery Day lets you explore a multitude of career program options.

- The OCVTS Career Passport is the ticket to fun activities, career exploration and the chance to win prizes!

- Interactive Program Demonstrations let you experience real skills

- Academic Advisors can help you plan a pathway to success

- Food, fun and prizes
District Open House

Thursday, February 5
6:30-8:30PM

Brick-Jackson-Lakehurst-Little Egg Harbor
Toms River-Waretown

Ocean County Vocational Technical School invites you to

Open House!

It is the perfect opportunity to check out the career and technical education programs available at OCVTS.

Go to www.ocvts.org to learn about all of the programs offered at OCVTS.

Check the Program Locator Guide to see which programs are offered at each of the six OCVTS locations. Then come and visit!

Our Doors Are Open! Talk with instructors and current students. Tour the classrooms, workshops and lab settings.

Meet with admission representatives who can answer your questions and help you choose a path to success.

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Questions? Call 732.244.1122

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OCVTS students once again had a strong presence at the annual Tech Prep Robotics Competition held at Ocean County College.

High school and middle school students from throughout the county designed robotic vehicles using materials from standard kits and adhering to competition guidelines.

For the Design Challenge, prior to the competition, each team designs, builds and programs a vehicle to accomplish an assigned task in the fastest period of time. Once activated, the robotic vehicle in this Pre-Built Division must be able to accomplish the task without any remote operation from team members.

OCVTS Teams placed xxxxxxx for the Design Challenge. Each team member received an individual $500 OCC scholarship.

The second challenge of the competition required the teams to brainstorm, build and program a new vehicle on-site which had to travel along a curving black line from one end of the mat to the other. In order to succeed, the teams had to program sensors which would detect the black path. The fastest vehicles took the prizes.

xxxxxxx for Robotics race earned each team member an individual $125 OCC scholarship.

**REGISTER NOW FOR OCVTS ADULT EDUCATION EVENING CLASSES**

The Adult Education Division of Ocean County Vocational Technical School is accepting registrations for Spring 2015 classes. Whether you are looking to train for a new career, learn new skills or just something fun to do, there is something exciting for everyone! Evening classes are a great way to beat the winter blues! Get out and have some fun!

Programs of interest include: Cake Decorating; Guitar; Fitness and Fitness Certifications; Ballroom and Tap Dancing; Acrylic Painting; Woodworking; Computer Skills; Marine Outboard Repair; Boatong Certification programs; Medical Administrative Assistant and a variety of one-night cooking seminars including the new theme-inspired Cooking Dinner Demonstrations.

The easiest way to register is online at www.ocvts.org beginning January 7, 2015. You can also register by mail or by phone. The 40-page course listing was recently mailed to all homes in Ocean County. Course descriptions, class schedules and fees are also available on the OCVTS website, www.ocvts.org, or call the OCVTS Adult Education Office at 732.473.3100 x1000. Don't delay! Classes begin soon!
UPCOMING EVENTS

January 24 ...... OCVTS Career Discovery Day
February 5 .......... Accelerated Training Info Session
February 5 ................. OCVTS Open House
March 2 ................................ Chef’s Night Out
March 5-7 ............ PAA Presents ‘Sweet Charity’

The OCVTS Performing Arts Academy will present ‘Sweet Charity’ at the historic Strand Theater in Lakewood NJ.

On Thursday March 5th at 4PM there will be a Special Senior Citizen Matinee. Tickets are only $13. and the ticket price includes a delicious box lunch, prepared by OCVTS Culinary Arts students, served prior to the show. Doors open at 1PM.

Friday, March 6th the performance is at 7PM. Tickets are $19. On Saturday, March 7th there are two performances, 2PM and 7PM. Tickets are $19.

To purchase tickets call 732.730.5925 or go to the box office at www.strand.org

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