

A Message From Your President, Tony Holder



Greetings MS-ACTE members! This year is flying by fast! We now find ourselves in National CTE Month. I know this is a busy time of year with student organization competitions and different things going on in your districts, but please take the time to share the good things going on with your programs and students. There is no better time to share these stories with parents, business and industry representatives and the community than now. It is very important, especially this day and time, for students to have an understanding of the many career opportunities that are available to them in our ever-changing world and there is no better way for them to be exposed to these opportunities than through CTE.

We are currently in the planning stages for our 2016 Summer Conference which will, once again, be held at the Jackson Convention Center July 27th- 29th, 2016. We will be reserving the entire center this year and we are looking forward to building on the success we experienced at the 2015 conference. With that being said, if you have something you are doing that is successful in your program, let me encourage you to consider being a presenter at this year's conference and share those good ideas with other instructors across the state. And, as always, if you have any thoughts or suggestions for topics, please contact your affiliate president and/or your state supervisor and let them know what you would be interested in seeing at the conference. After all, we want the conference to be beneficial to everyone in every area.

Now from the heart, our association (MSACTE) is only as strong as our members. I urge you to make every effort to attend your Affiliate Business Meeting and your ACTE Regional Business Meeting at the 2016 Summer Conference. Also, as I mentioned at 2015 Summer Conference, step out of your "comfort zone" and serve on your affiliate boards when the opportunity arises. What we reap from our professional organization will always be directly proportionate to what we put into it. I think I speak for us all when I say I want to see MS-ACTE continue to grow stronger each year.

In closing, I want to encourage you to take the time to nominate your students and coworkers for the various scholarships and awards that are offered through ACTE. You can find the information concerning the nomination process and deadlines on our state website (www.mississippiacte.com). Also, if you have coworkers who aren't members of MSACTE, encourage them to become members. Remember, there is strength in numbers! It has been a great honor serving as your president this year and I look forward to seeing you this summer!

Hello From the Mississippi ACTE Office

Submitted by: Linda Bath

Greetings on behalf of the MS ACTE office. I hope all of you had a great holiday season!

I would like to encourage you to visit our website: mississippiacte.com to see upcoming events planned for the next few months. Please take advantage of the District Dinner Meetings scheduled during the spring. Your district presidents work hard to provide an informative meeting for you. These meetings are also a great way to encourage professional development with others in your district. The date, time, and location of these meetings will be posted on the website as they are available.

The ACTE Region IV Conference will be in San Antonio April 8-10. You can find the link for the tentative agenda as well as registration and hotel information on our website by clicking on the Conferences button. Mississippi will be the host state in 2017. The dates are April 6-8, 2017. I know that sounds like a long time away. If you would like to serve on a planning committee, please let me know. The Conference will be at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi. Put it on your calendar!!!!!!

Mississippi was well represented at the VISION 15 Conference held in New Orleans last November. We had 70 people from Mississippi attend. VISION 16 will be in Las Vegas November 30-December 3.

I'm excited about our 2016 Summer Conference. The RCU and MDE staff are working to provide you with a conference that will give you ideas to take back to your classroom next fall. There are exciting new things being planned that I think you will appreciate. One is a new way for you to enter your attendance at the sessions to obtain CEU and SEMI credits. It will eliminate a lot of the hassle you may have experienced in the past. If you attend all sessions, 1.4 CEU and 10 SEMI credits will be given at no extra charge. The cost of registration is \$75. Registration is handled by the RCU. The directions for registering for the conference are as follows:

How do I login?

- Go to <https://rcu.gosignmeup.com>, click login and choose student or instructor.
- Your username should be your first initial, lastname, and last 4 of your SSN (ex. jdoe1234). Your password should be changeme2015. You will have the opportunity to change your password once logged in.
- If you have any problems logging in, please choose "forgot username" or "forgot password" and follow the instructions. If you need more help, email helpdesk@rcu.msstate.edu with details about your problem.
- The first time you login you will be required to update your personal information. Upon each login, the system will display your current profile. PLEASE keep your profile up to date.

How do I update my profile?

What if I do not have an account?

- Go to <https://rcu.gosignmeup.com> and click on "create account" in the top right corner and follow the instructions.

How do I register for a course?

- Once you login and update your profile, if needed, then choose HOME at the top right of the screen.
- Once logged in, you can use different ways to search for courses.
 - You can search for specific courses using the search bar
 - You can search for courses by searching through the categories on the left hand side
 - You can use the sort filter to search for courses
 - You can switch the way the courses are displayed by switching between tile view and grid view.
- Once you find the course you are looking for you can click on the Course Name for more information, such as course description, instructor, registration deadline, etc...
- To register for the course simply click "Add to cart". You can continue to add courses to your cart, or click on the cart to see what is in it and the total price. You can delete the items by clicking the "x" or "Empty Cart".

How do I pay for a course?

- Once you have added your course(s) to the cart, click "Checkout" where you will be taken to the payment screen and simply follow directions.
- You have two payment options: Credit Card or Purchase Order.
 - If paying by credit card, please follow the credit card payment instructions.
 - If paying with a Purchase Order, **you MUST have your PO number ready at time of checkout.**

If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me.

First Annual PRCC Career Technical Education Day

Submitted by Melissa Graham

Students at Forrest County Agricultural High School attended the first annual Pearl River Community College Day on September 30. Over fifteen PRCC instructors and recruiters gathered in the FCAHS auditorium for a morning of presentations, serving more than 250 students. The entire senior class gathered for a thirty minute presentation on enrolling at PRCC, scholarships, financial aid, campus housing and other topics related to postsecondary education. Each senior left the session with a folder containing handouts/applications



(L-R) Eric McCoy, HVACR instructor at PRCC and Christian Rushing, Architecture and Drafting student at FCAHS.



and a PRCC mini backpack full of goodies. All students were allowed to peruse the displays outlining career/technical programs offered at PRCC and speak individually with instructors. Overall, this activity was deemed a success by students and faculty alike. When

asked to comment on the PRCC Day at FCAHS, Career Technical Director, Mary Taylor replied, "It's a great preparation for students after graduation to let them know the opportunities that are out there."

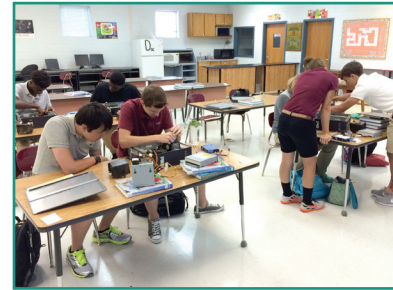
Information Technology Class At Forrest County Agricultural High School

Submitted by Melissa Graham

Forrest County Agricultural High School students enrolled in Information Technology I (IT), taught by Misti Dean, are learning to disassemble computers to analyze hardware components in the system. The IT curriculum encompasses basic computer repairs, troubleshooting computer problems and understanding how computers work. Students enrolled in IT must be able to complete written assignments as well as hands-on activities.



(L-R) Savannah Williams, Megan England and Bryce Bass.



(L-R – back) T.J. Barnes, Patrick Anderson; (L-R – front) Matthew Perret, Ray Lott, Savannah Williams, Bryce Bass and Megan England

Literacy Night, Amory Career and Technical Center

Submitted by Susan Chaney

Amory School District hosted a Literacy Night for students, parents, and the community. Miss Mississippi, Hannah Roberts, spoke on the importance of literacy and participated in collaborative reading activities with students. Also, Miss Mississippi State University, Randi Harmon, promoted her children's book and involved students in physical education activities to get students excited about reading. Parents were invited to interactive break-out sessions with teachers to learn more about how to help their children with reading at home.

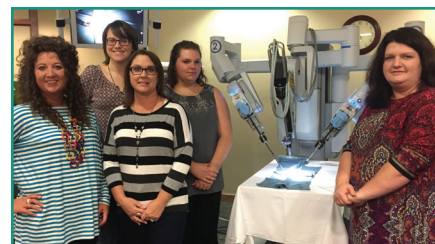


Left to right: Brynna Moore, Tori Parish, Hannah Roberts, Miss Mississippi, Caitlin Hidalgo, Desiree Dilworth

Professional Development Activity Partnering FCAHS Teachers & the ADP

Submitted by *Melissa Graham*

Forrest County Agricultural High School participated in a recent professional development opportunity sponsored by the Area Development Partnership: Teachers in the Workplace. Five instructors, one counselor and one administrator spent a day visiting business and industry and communicating with leaders at these facilities to learn more about what the current workforce needs in areas such as health care and manufacturing. Educators will take the knowledge they gained and use it to better prepare their students for 21st century careers.



(L-R): Taylor Meyers, Cannie McLemore, Lisa Randall, Cherish McGee and Thelma Keith. Educators in this photo are learning about the Davinci Robot used at Merit Health Wesley for surgical procedures.

Hour of Code Activities With CTE Students

Submitted by *Rhonda Brewer*

Computer Science Education Week was December 7 – 13 and many schools across the world celebrated by having students participate in Hour of Code. According to Code.org, the “Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics.” In Lamar County, many of



our students participated through various computer education activities in Career and Technical Education classes such as STEM and ICT (Information and Communication Technology).



HOSA Club Donates Food

Submitted by *Marybeth Lowrey, The TECH*



Oxford-Lafayette HOSA Club donated food to Baptist Home Health and Hospice Patients for Thanksgiving 2015.

Global Cuisine Week In Culinary Arts

Submitted by *Rhonda Brewer*

Agustina Gomez visited Oak Grove High School Culinary Arts Program during Global Cuisine week. Agustina taught the students how to make tortillas from scratch, then used the tortillas to make chicken enchiladas. Agustina also made a Caramel Flan. The Culinary Arts teacher, Mrs. Debbie Miller, reported that the students really enjoyed the presentation as well as the delicious food. Mrs. Gomez is pictured with her daughter, Laura Gomez, who is a student in the Culinary Arts program.



Tupelo Career and Technical Center DJI Phantom Drone Presentation

Submitted by Amanda Wood and Amanda Walker

Digital Media Technology and Engineering students at Tupelo Career and Technical Center were given a DJI Phantom Drone presentation on November 20, 2015. Daron Pitts, Director of Technology at Community Development Foundation, instructed students on the industry usage, industry standards, and federal regulation for drones. He took questions from students and allowed students to fly the DJI Phantom in the school courtyard.



FFA Contest Winners

Submitted by Melissa Graham

The Forrest County Agricultural High School chapter of FFA recently participated in a local competition in Lamar County. The following students competed and placed second in Opening/Closing Ceremonies: Hunter Jerome, Thomas Davis, Ethan Clark, Josh Dye, Camryn Castle and Tammron Costilow. Kloey Bullock competed in Extemporaneous Speaking and placed second. All students will advance to district competition this spring at Jones County Junior College.



(L-R) Hunter Jerome, Thomas Davis, Ethan Clark, Josh Dye, Camryn Castle and Tammron Costilow.



Kloey Bullock

New Horse Barn at FCAHS

Submitted by Melissa Graham

There's a new addition at FCAHS! A brand new horse barn complete with foaling stall, tack room and washing pad. This new facility was paid for by the Agriculture Department from funds raised by selling FCAHS livestock. The barn was started in late November and completed in early January. The frame and walls were hired out but the inside work, such as building stalls, gates, tack room and feed room, were all completed by Agriculture and Horticulture students at the school. Mr. Mike Dale's Agriculture and Natural Resources students also welded hitching posts in the barn.

With this new barn come additional benefits to students at FCAHS. Mary Helen Lett, Ag Instructor, stated "We hope to start breeding horses this spring. This will enhance our FFA horse judging program. We won second place last year and are going for first place this year! We also plan to offer horseback riding lessons to students enrolled in Agriculture classes at FCAHS. We hope this new addition to our unique program will further encourage students to learn about the agricultural industry as a whole and how it impacts their daily lives."



District Meetings



National Technical Honor Society Induction 2016

Submitted by: Marybeth Lowrey

Oxford-Lafayette School of Applied Technology
Mrs. Ina Linzy, NTHS Advisor
Mrs. Marybeth Lowrey, TECH Director
Photograph by: Joey Brent



Tupelo Career and Technical Center Engineering Team 9837

Submitted by April Cardenas and Amanda Wood

On December 3, 2015, Tupelo Career and Technical Center's first year and second year Engineering students competed at Itawamba Community College's VEX competition. Ten teams competed, while Team 9837 made up of Reed McNeal, Alex Hart, and Alex Drumm, qualified for state competition in Vicksburg, MS on February 23-24, 2016. These students started their robot design back in August 2015 under the tutelage of instructor, Amanda Wood. During their spare time, students use engineering design process, technical writing, and programming to construct a well-designed robot for competition. If Team 9837 wins at state, they will qualify for VEX WORLD competition in Louisville, Kentucky on April 20-23, 2016.

Pictured Team 9837 - Reed McNeal, Alex Hart, Alex Drumm (L to R)



Kosciusko-Attala Career Technical Center Provides Scholarship

Submitted by: Tracy Burnley



The Kosciusko-Attala Career Technical Center is pleased to provide a \$350 scholarship to a non-traditional senior. Eligible students had the opportunity to submit a short written essay titled "Why I Chose a Nontraditional Program of Study." Essays were reviewed by selected teachers, administrators, and local industry leaders. After careful review, this year's nontraditional scholarship recipient is Addy Garrett. Addy plans to attend Holmes Community College in the fall of 2016 and then complete her education at Mississippi State University with a degree in Beef Science.

Kosciusko-Attala Career Technical Center Virtual Reality Welder

Submitted by: Tracy Burnley

Welding students at the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center now have the opportunity to increase their welding skills using a Virtual Reality Welder. The virtual welder provides an educational experience that helps students to learn proper body positions, gun angles, travel speeds, gun positions, and various welding techniques. The virtual welder



also measures and records real-time results which allows the students to adjust and correct improper tech-

niques. The virtual welder along with traditional welding training will allow students to receive the most advanced and accurate welding skills needed in today's workforce. Pictured are Mr. Trey Culpepper, welding instructor, along with students Tommy Dees, Savannah Frazier, and Rebecca Stander, who are learning how to use the new virtual welder.

Oxford-Lafayette TECH, Winners At District Competition At Delta State University

Submitted by: Marybeth Lowrey

February 5, 2016, these two students from the Oxford-Lafayette TECH won first and third place at district competition at Delta State University. Pictured with the two student winners is their health science instructor, Mrs. Sandi Allen, R.N.



1st place in district competition in knowledge nutrition-
Anna Grace Allen 3rd place in extemporaneous health
poster- Anna Hays

CTE Month

Submitted by: Jennifer Koon



Mr. Greg Younger, Alcorn County Chancery Clerk, and Mr. Jimmy Tate Waldon, President of the Board of Supervisors, visited the Alcorn Career and Technology Center campus on February 2, 2016, to sign a proclamation declaring February as Career and Technical Education Month in Alcorn County. Pictured front row (l-r) Greg Younger, Jimmy Tate Walden, and Rodney Hopper, Alcorn Career and Technology School Director. Back row (l-r) Brittany Butler, Digital Media Technology Student and TSA Member; Anna Robertson, Marketing student and DECA Member; Kaitlyn Box, Polymer Science student; Terry Ray Michaels; Career Pathway Experience student and DECA member; Bryan Smith, Ag Power and Machinery student and FFA Member; Cameron Pace, Construction student; Reese Wilbanks, Law and Public Safety student; Justin Cornelius, Health Sciences student and HOSA member; Blake Butler, Metal Fabrication student and SkillsUSA member; Grant Headrick; Automotive Service Technology student; Madison Jacobs, Ag and Natural Resources student and FFA member; and Gracie Hinton, Teacher Academy student and Educators Rising member.

Office of the Alcorn County Board of Supervisors, Corinth, MS

Proclamation

WHEREAS: February 1-29, 2016, has been designated Career and Technical Education Month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

WHEREAS: career and technical education offers students the opportunity to gain the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for true career readiness

WHEREAS: students in career and technical education programs participate in authentic, meaningful experiences that improve the quality of their education and increase student engagement and achievement; and

WHEREAS: career and technical education provides students with career exploration opportunities earlier in their educational experience, which enables them to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic coursework as well as pursuit of established programs of study and career pathways; and

WHEREAS: leaders from business and industry nationwide report increasing challenges related to the skills gap and connecting qualified professionals with available careers in critical and growing CTE-related fields, including healthcare, energy, advanced manufacturing and information technology; and

WHEREAS: career and technical education prepares students for these and other fulfilling careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education and lead to the attainment of industry-recognized credentials; and

WHEREAS: ensuring that employers have access to a qualified workforce is a crucial step in ensuring productivity among the business and industry communities as well as continued American economic growth and global competitiveness;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jimmy Tate Waldon, President of the Alcorn County Board of Supervisors, Corinth, MS, do hereby proclaim February 1-29, 2016, as

Career and Technical Education Month

in Alcorn County and urge all citizens to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the career and technical education programs in this community and to support and participate in these programs to enhance their individual skills and productivity.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the County of Alcorn this 2nd day of February, 2016.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALCORN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Jimmy Tate Waldon
Jimmy Tate Waldon, President

ATTEST: *Greg Younger*
Greg Younger
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Tupelo Career-Technical Center - Culinary Arts Guest Speaker

Submitted by Marion Henson

On January 21, 2016, Tylar Setser, FOOD CORPS representative, spoke to Tupelo Career-Technical Center's Culinary Arts classes about sustainability and farm-to-table food service. She stressed avoiding food waste and using fresh food as much as possible. In addition, she discussed using organic foods and staying away from genetically modified foods (GMOs). In the spring, Tylar will return, to the Culinary Arts food lab, with ingredients for sweet and savory dips for fruits and vegetables. The Culinary Art students will prepare two dips for fruit and two dips for vegetables. Students will select two of the four dips to serve to local elementary school students, at a later date. Elementary students will taste-test the dips and vote on their favorites. If the elementary students like the dips they sampled, they may be added to the school menus to be use for dip for fruits and or vegetable.



The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

Submitted by: Rhonda M. Coleman

On February 8, 2016, Jay Colby Robinson, a Senior at Holly Springs High School participated in The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship, A Constitutional Speech Contest at the Hugh Dancy Post 134 in Horn Lake, MS. He won 2nd Place and a Silver Medal, after receiving the 1st Place Post Level Scholarship. On Saturday, February, 27, 2016, he will be traveling to Itawamba County Post 51 located in Fulton, MS to participate in the Northern Area Contest. The 1st and 2nd Place winners of that competition will compete in the State Final Contest.

CONGRATULATIONS JAY COLBY, JOB WELL DONE!!!



Chelsey Burge Wins Regional SkillsUSA Competition

Submitted by: Rhonda Brewer

Chelsey Burge, a senior at Oak Grove High School in Hattiesburg, received First Place in SkillsUSA Region V Competition for Automotive Service Technology held at Pearl River Community College on Thursday, February 11.



(Pictured left to right: Leslie Brown, Chelsey Burge, Robert Burge)

As a Region V winner, Chelsey will compete in the SkillsUSA Mississippi State Championship on February 16 in Jackson, Mississippi. The competition involves workstations that include on-vehicle, simulations, bench and component testing, and a written test. Contestants are

judged on technical competency, accuracy, quality, safety, and ability to follow directions.

Chelsey completed the two-year Automotive Service Technology program at Lamar County Center for Technical Education while attending high school at Oak Grove. The Lamar County Center for Technical Education (in Purvis, Mississippi) provides technical and career programs for students from Lumberton High School, Oak Grove High School, Purvis High School, and Sumrall High School.

Military Recruiters visit the Alcorn Career and Technology Center

Submitted by: Jennifer Koon

Military Recruiters frequently visit the Alcorn Career and Technology Center and speak to students concerning career opportunities in the military. We have had three branches of the military to visit since school began. Recruiters serving as guest speakers were: Sergeant Bradley Lorenz of the U.S. Army, Sergeant Scotty Slagle of the U.S. Marine Corps and Sergeant Justin Speck of the Mississippi National Guard.



Congratulations to Jennifer Koon

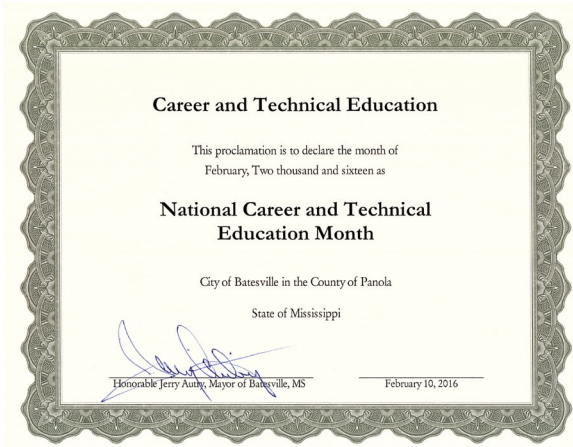
Jennifer Koon, Guidance Counselor at Alcorn Career Technical Center, was named the recipient of Mississippi's Guidance Award. She represented



Mississippi and Region IV at the VISION 16 Conference in New Orleans.

Batesville Mayor Signs Proclamation

Submitted by: Robert Barnard



Front Row L to R Amber Hyde, DECA and SP CPE; Shaniyah Moore, FCCLA/Family and Consumer Science; Jessica Simmerman, TSA; Mayor Autry; Myahiyah Wright, FCCLA Childcare ; Keliyah Grover, FCCLA Culinary Arts ; Alexis Webb, NTHS.



Back Row L to R Leslie Busby, SP Career and Technical Education Director; Logan Potts, Skills USA and Welding; Hunter Cook, Construction Technology/Skills USA; Abby Still, FFA; Diana Murillo, Horticulture ; Chassidy Brooks, Health Sciences and HOSA; Michael Sharp, Automotive Services/Skills USA.