

Porter County Career and Technical Education News

April 7, 2014

Career and Technical Education

Volume 20, Issue 11



"Our job includes making a profound difference in the lives of our students!"
"Working Together for Every Student, Every Day"



Moving the Old Depot

Moving Day is now scheduled for July 7. Mark your calendar to join us for the excitement as we move the old Grand Trunk Railway station from its present (pictured) location to a new spot further down the tracks on the Porter County Career and Tech Center's property. The arrow points to its future site. A community work day is being planned for a Saturday in May to help stack and preserve some of the original bricks from around the station. However, plan to be here for the move day as it will be a



once in a lifetime event.

Indiana Award for Excellence Winners



Pictured above are (l-r) Kate Sorensen, Paige Smith, and Kelli Ellis at the Indiana Government Center where they were recognized as Indiana Award for Excellence winners. Paige is a VHS senior studying Health Occupations, she was recognized as an Outstanding CTE Student. Mrs. Sorensen and Mrs. Ellis were recognized for developing an Outstanding Guidance Service called the Student Ambassador program which teaches additional leadership skills to our students, provides a mentoring program, and student welcoming program for visitors and guests.

Pictured at right is Paige along with Indiana Superintendent of Instruction, Glenda Ritz, who attended to congratulate the award recipients.



Jon Nugent, Riley Childrens Hospital 2013 Champion



Jon Nugent and his mother Jo Nugent were the featured presenters at this week's Valparaiso Noon Kiwanis Club meeting. Jon just celebrated the 5th anniversary of his diagnosis for a cancerous brain tumor. He is a junior at Washington Twp High School and enrolled in Health Careers class at the Porter County Career and Tech Center. Jon talked about how he stayed positive to keep battling through days of recovery from surgery and from chemotherapy. Jon was diagnosed at Porter Hospital and treated at Riley's Children's Hospital where his Mom said they were always treated personally and considerately. Jon has also battled strokes and migraines since his treatment. Jon said, "I don't want other kids to go through what I went through." Jon was named a 2013 Riley Champion, partially for his efforts to raise money to help other kids with brain tumors. His webpage is http://www.rileykids.org/stories/archives/jonathan_nugent/. Jon's story was inspirational and emotional and the Kiwanis audience rewarded him with a standing ovation.

Show Future Employers Your Enthusiasm:

- Enthusiasm will take you further than title, talent, or skill. – Robin Crow
- Enthusiasm is at the bottom of all progress. With it there is accomplishment. Without it there are only excuses. – Henry Ford
- If you're *not* fired with enthusiasm, you *will be* fired with enthusiasm. – Vince Lombardi

SkillsUSA Champions

Pictured below are Kristen Buth, Boone Grove High School (seated). Standing (l-r): Hayden Radigan, Valparaiso High School; Nicholas Keleman, Washington Township High School; and Tate Kwiecinski, Chesterton High School.



Porter County Career and Tech students brought home the gold—and silver—from the Mar. 15 state SkillsUSA competition in Indianapolis. Hayden Radigan, senior at Valparaiso High School, placed first in the Electronics Technology competition, while Tate Kwiecinski, senior at Chesterton High School, nabbed the silver medal for second place. In the Architectural Drafting competition, Kristen Buth, senior at Boone Grove High School, took home the silver medal.

The electronics competitors had to show their skills through both written and hands-on work. They took the Student Electronics Technician (SET) proficiency exam. They also had to work through a debugging situation, build a circuit, and show their soldering techniques.

Hayden qualified for the national Electronics Technology competition in Kansas City, MO, in June. After high school, he wants to attend Purdue North Central to study electrical engineering. His CHS activities have included band and games club. While at SkillsUSA, Hayden earned the SET certification, as did Nicholas Keleman, junior at Washington Township High School. Tate plans to study web development and software development at Purdue University Calumet. All three young men study Electronics & Computer Technology with instructor Dave Kenning at the Porter County Career and Technical Center.

At SkillsUSA, Buth had four hours to design an environmentally friendly home to match certain specifications. Using Revit software, she got the requirements just before the competition started. She will study interior architecture and construction management at Indiana State University. Her other activities have included tennis team and technical direction of plays at Boone Grove. She is also active at her church. Kristen studies CAD & Animation II with teacher Bill Guinee at the Career Center.

The purpose of the SkillsUSA content, Kenning said, “is to evaluate each contestant’s preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism.”

Fronius Donates Inverters to Electronics Program

The Fronius Corporation have become key partners for our Electronics program. They have offered us tours, expertise on our solar project, and they have hired some of our graduates. One of the entrance exams is to disassemble and reassemble and inverter. Now, thanks to the donation of a Fronius inverter (pictured at right), we will be able to enhance student preparation in the future. Fronius is an international firm who specialize in “perfect welding, solar energy, and perfect charging”. Pictured are Martin Beran, Solar Division Product Manager, in the light colored shirt and Thomas Enzendorfer, Solar Energy Director, in the black sport coat. Mr. Kenning says the inverter donation will help him better prepare future Fronius workers and more students with knowledge about the conversion of solar power into electricity.



A Health Occupations student is shown (below left) preparing for her Certified Nursing Assistant exam. At right, students are interacting with Mr. Randy Ellis, a guest speaker and emergency room nurse.



2014 Porter County Career and Technical Center's State DECA Winners

The following students placed at the State DECA Career Development Conference this week.

Student	Event	Placed	Home school
John Loosemore	Food Marketing	3 rd place in Market Planning and 6 th place overall	Hebron
Carson Schwartz	Restaurant & Food Services	3 rd place in Marketing Concepts	Valparaiso
Logon Donovan & Ryan Simpson	Buying & Merchandising Team	Finalist	Washington Township

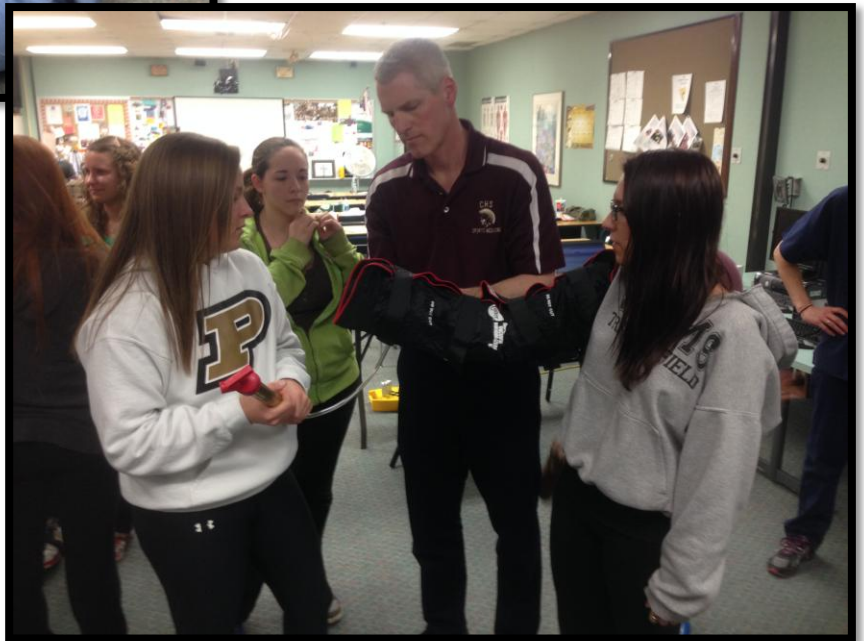


Pictured above: Ashton Crawford (Attica HS 2013 grad), Rachel Stover (Rachel was 2013 Washington Township grad), Vanessa Whistler (Attica HS 2013 grad)

Mrs. Tripp's Early Childhood Education class was visited by three Indiana State University students who talked about post-secondary options with our students. Rachel was one of our graduates, while the other young women attended high school in Attica. They spoke to both classes about what college is REALLY like!

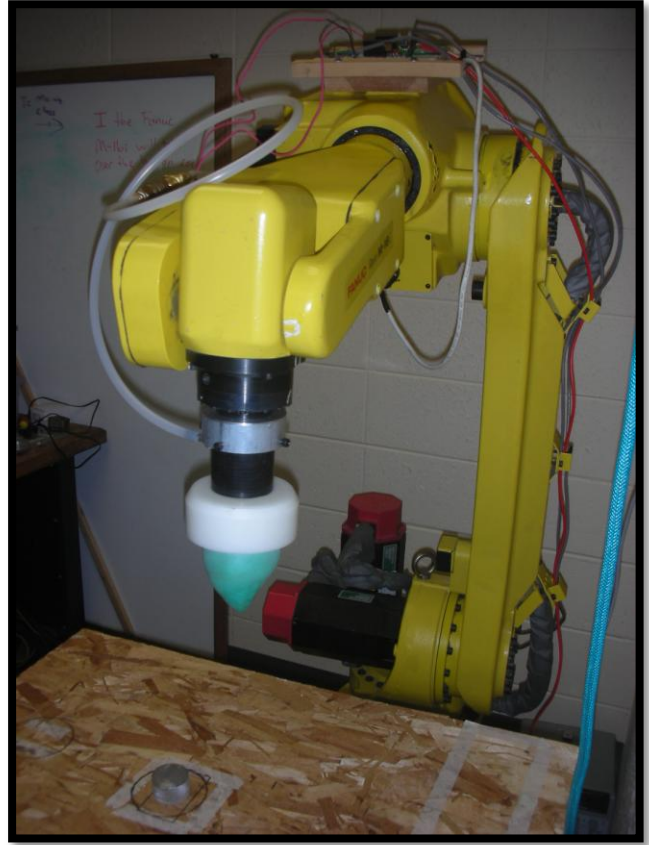
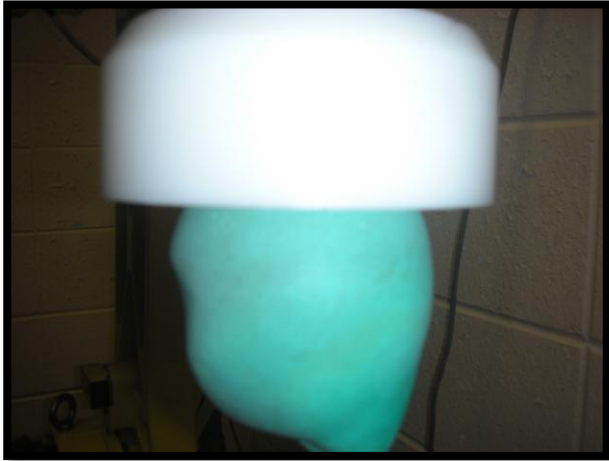
Health Careers Students Enjoy Visit from a Professional Athletic Trainer

Chesterton High School Athletic Trainer, Mr. Stento, is always a popular guest speaker as he comes and shares his vast knowledge about athletic injuries and how to treat and prevent reoccurrences. Mrs. Marcus says, “We have several students interested in pursuing careers in athletic training or physical therapy and they enjoy Mr. Stento’s career advice.”



Modern Machining Highlights

Check out the device built by our Modern Machining class (pictured below left). This is a party balloon filled with coffee grounds and powered by an air nozzle that can inflate the balloon and deflate the balloon as it is positioned over a part. When deflated it grips the part, regardless of shape or fragility, and it is used to pick up parts using our Fanuc 16i robot (pictured at right and donated by Urschel Labs).



Electronic Grads (2009)

Pictured (at right) are two Electronics graduates who were back to tell us of their successful careers. Matt (right) has already completed his BS in Engineering and Vince is only a class away from completion. Both have good jobs, no debt, and wonderful futures ahead.



Pictured are Matt Barney (right), WT '09 grad, Paul Wurth electrical engineer, and Vince Carullo (left), CHS '09 grad, NLMK Indiana electrical engineering planner.

NWI Workforce and Labor Market Highlights

- Indiana ended 2013 with a total of 42,600 private sector jobs added for the year.
- Indiana's labor force growth of 33,000 in 2013 was the 6th highest in the nation.
- The decrease in Indiana's unemployment rate in December (-0.4%) was the 6th largest drop in the U.S.
- Over the past year, Indiana's unemployment rate declined 1.4%, which is the 7th largest decrease in the nation.
- The Hoosier State continues to have the highest percentage of manufacturing jobs as a portion of the private sector in the United States.
- Over the past year, Indiana's growth in the Professional & Business Services sector (4.6%) ranks 6th in the U.S.

(Source: NWIWB Briefs, Issue 43, February/March 2014)

Calendar

- April 10, Spring Advisory Board Meeting, 3:30, Porter County Career and Tech Center
- April 11, Rep. Visclosky visit at 745 am
- April 25, Josh Bleill, speaking at Career and Tech Center, 830 am
- May 6, Technical Honor Society Induction, Wheeler HS Auditorium, 7 pm
- May 9, Final Blood Drive of the Year
- May 23, Student Reward Trip to Railcat Game

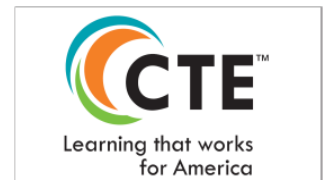
Our Newsletter

Porter County Career and Technical Education News is a newsletter for promoting the high achievement of our staff and students. Written contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. Most articles should be written in 100 words or less. Please fax (531-3173), call (531-3170), or email (jgroth@valpo.k12.in.us) with news to be published about you and your students.

It is the policy of the Porter County Career and Technical Education Program to comply with all state and federal regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in enrollment procedures or access to programs.



www.pccte.org



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