CVCC Auto Students Gain Skills through Rebuilding Custom Truck

CVCC’s high school Auto Service Technology program, instructed by Mr. Joe Lamatrice, and Auto Body Repair and Refinishing program, instructed by Mr. Efrain Soto, are taking their skills to the next level! Both former and current students of these two CVCC high school programs have been actively involved in fabricating a custom truck by combining elements of two trucks, a 1995 Chevrolet S10, and a 1959 Chevrolet Apache. Modifications are numerous and include the adding of an air-ride suspension, modifying the truck’s new V-8 engine, and preparing it for its new electrical and cooling system. The crew has shortened the truck’s bed, and altered its stance while preparing the body for paint, which the students will apply. This project, which has spanned over a 3-5 year period, has gotten a fresh burst of energy. Both CVCC students and staff members stay after school to work on the truck, giving their time and working full throttle to complete it.

Much is being taught through this project, including fabrication, welding, measuring, and painting. The learning goes beyond the mechanics though, through the use of team analytic skills, building, working with others, and collaborating amongst programs. It is clear that both hard and soft skills are being taught. Real, hands-on work and life skills are being gained by all involved! Though this project has been in the works for quite some time, the hope is for it to be completed by the end of the current school year. The goal is for the truck to be finished in time to be displayed at the Piston Power Show, which is held in March at the IX Center. The ultimate endgame of this project is of course for students to learn, but also to resell the vehicle there to raise scholarship money for students.

CVCC students and staff are not the only ones involved in this project, as they are in collaboration with the Career and Technical School Foundation, a foundation that has given an incredible $150,000 in scholarships to CVCC students over the years. CVCC staff members donate both time and money to this foundation, which Gerry Gonda explains is a, “blue-collar, self-funded foundation, whose objective is to help students learn career and life skills.” Gerry is one of the founders of the Career
and Technical School Foundation, and is a frequent substitute teacher at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. The ultimate goal through the Career and Technical School Foundation is to give back to society. Through much group effort, the Career and Technical School Foundation sponsors events like the Motor Sports and More auction, which raises scholarship money for many CVCC students, and Wheels to Prosper, an effort that CVCC’s Auto programs were also involved with which helped a person in need gain use of a car. This foundation could not be possible without the great efforts that its members, which includes CVCC staff, put forward. CVCC is abundantly grateful for all the good the Career and Technical School Foundation brings our students and community.

The projects and efforts of rebuilding a truck, as well as the many other projects that CVCC Auto students get to be a part of, would not be possible without the help of local business partners and sponsorships. CVCC’s Auto Service Technology and Auto Body Repair and Refinishing programs thank Rural Trucking, D&S Color Supply, Summit Racing Equipment, Flaming River, Parma Transmission, and Arendas Insurance. These businesses do everything from supplying resources, to employing CVCC students and alumni. What incredible work by CVCC students, staff, as well as local foundations, businesses, and community members! This teamwork is what fuels the great learning that makes CVCC the place it is today!

**CVCC Congratulates Mr. Michael Douglas!**

CVCC sends a very big congratulations to Mr. Michael Douglas, Chief Diversity Officer at Walsh University on being a winner of the state MLK Community Building Award. Mr. Douglas was recognized for his efforts to advance nonviolent social change at the 34th annual Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration which will be held at noon Thursday, Jan. 17 at Trinity Episcopal Church. The Community Building Award calls for the recipient to have made significant contributions toward building a sense of unity among Ohio citizens, demonstrated the ability to build safer communities through various activities and programs that help to revitalize areas, and make communities a more wholesome and desirable place for living, learning and loving. Mr. Michael Douglas, founded Diversity Initiatives, Inc. in 1998 to help public and private organizations advance positive interaction and communication across racial, cultural, socio-economic and gender-based boundaries. He has consulted with many companies and school districts, including Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, as well as serves as chief diversity officer for Walsh University. CVCC congratulates Mr. Douglas and is honored he is a part of the CVCC community!

**Congratulations to CVCC’s Graphic Imaging Technology Program**

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center is proud to announce the Graphic Imaging Technology program, instructed by Mr. Patrick Ruesbensaal, was recently awarded six 2019 Print Excellence Awards from the Printing Industries of Ohio/N.Kentucky. Each year, Printing Industries of Ohio/N.Kentucky holds its Print Excellence Awards Competition to recognize Ohio and northern Kentucky printers who have demonstrated excellence in 35 categories and two out-of-state expert judges ranked them in a regional competition. CVCC’s Graphic Imaging Technology Program won six Silver Awards, excellent job!
CVCC’s Digital Design Students Spread Holiday Cheer

CVCC’s Digital Design students, instructed by Mrs. Melissa Munro, spread some Holiday cheer by creating luminaries from recycled jars. Approximately 50 luminaries made by the students went to three different Assisted Living or Nursing Homes; including, the Oakes of Brecksville, Berea Alzheimer Care Center, and Sunrise Assisted Living. This project was a joint effort thanks to CVCC staff members who donated jars, as well as Health Careers instructor, Patty Valukievic and Media Center Specialist, Connie Mangan for assisting with deliveries.

Food Drive at CVCC

Throughout the holiday season, CVCC held its annual Food Drive. A total of 4,706.5 pounds of food was collected. CVCC’s Hotels and Resorts Program, instructed by Mrs. April Mone and Educational Aide Mrs. Kim Schoeffer, won 3 of the 4 weeks of the food drive, bringing in the most food. The Hotels and Resorts Program also won the Overall Grand Turkey Award, bringing in the overall most food with 998 pounds. They celebrated with a pizza party. A very big thank you to CVCC’s Sales and Service instructor Mrs. Mindy Wrcher and Educational Aide Mrs. Kristin Brauer for facilitating the food drive. Thank you as well to CVCC’s HVAC instructor Mr. Matt Schoeffer and Building and Property Maintenance instructor Mr. Jason Hance, along with some of their students for delivering the food to the Emergency Assistance Center and the Brooklyn Heights Food Pantry. What a great way to give back!

SCRUBS

On Tuesday, December 18, 51 7th and 8th grade boys from our eight associate districts spent the day at CVCC exploring Health Care careers. In the morning, with the help of CVCC’s instructors and students, boys participated in a variety of activities designed to provide them with information and encouragement to pursue their interests in math and science, and continue with challenging coursework in high school. In the afternoon, students rotated through six “stations”, presented by professionals from local hospitals and universities, each representing a different Health Care career field. In addition, the boys enjoyed lunch, prepared by our Culinary Arts students, in the Valley Inn Restaurant where they networked with Health Care professionals, asked questions and got advice. Participants also received an event T-shirt that was printed by CVCC’s Graphic Imaging Technology program. The SCRUBS event is developed by CVCC Community Liaisons Mrs. Darden Blake and Mrs. Marie Elias.
**Laying of Wreaths**

On Saturday, December 15, CVCC’s Power Equipment program instructed, by Mr. Gerry Koenig, and CVCC’s Construction Trades program, instructed by Mr. Paul Yuravak, spent the morning at the Ohio Western Reverse National Cemetery (OWRNC) placing wreaths on the graves of our fallen soldiers. CVCC’s students were humbled and witnessed what it meant to the family and friends for all those interned at OWRNC to have wreaths at each grave marker. Thank you for the continued support of the Wreaths Across America campaign. The programs were successful in meeting their goal of 800 wreath sponsorships, actually exceeded the goal by an additional 53. Wonderful work!

**Holiday Luncheon Buffet**

On Wednesday, December 14, CVCC’s Culinary Arts program hosted a Holiday Luncheon Buffet in the Valley Inn for other students, staff and community members to enjoy. CVCC was joined by many, including a 99 year old community member named Ruth Johnson. The menu consisted of a Garden Salad with Soft Dinner Rolls, Pan Seared Chicken Marsala, Chef Carved Top Round with Whipped Horseradish, Chef Carved Glazed Ham, Parmesan Crusted Tilapia, Creamy Mashed Potatoes, Lemon Risotto with Peas, Green Beans with Mushrooms and Bacon, Coffee, Tea, Decaffeinated Coffee or Iced Tea, Assorted Pies, Cakes and Cookies. The buffet was a great way for the culinary students to practice and expand on their skills and knowledge. The event was also a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays and support the Culinary Arts program.

**IT’s for Girls**

On Friday, December 7, CVCC hosted IT’s for Girls. Fifty-five 7th and 8th grade girls from our eight associate districts spent the day exploring careers in the Information Technology field. The girls participated in activities with CVCC instructors and students from Digital Design, Computer Networking Academy and Programming and Software Development programs. Through a group networking activity and luncheon (in the Valley Inn, prepared by the Culinary Arts program) the girls had the opportunity to meet twenty-two professionals, ask questions, get advice and learn about many different types of Information Technology careers. The students received an event T-shirt that was printed by CVCC’s Graphic Imaging Technology program. IT’s for Girls is developed by CVCC Community Liaisons Mrs. Darden Blake and Mrs. Marie Elias.
**Nordonia Career Showcase**

On Tuesday, December 4, Nordonia High School hosted a Career Showcase for all 10th grade students. Mrs. Debbie Monaco, CVCC's Nordonia Career Specialist and Mrs. Emily Rion, Nordonia's Guidance Counselor, coordinated the event. Students listened to a question and answer session from a panel of community professionals and then had an opportunity to meet with them in small groups for more information on careers. The students engaged in various hands-on activities and enjoyed learning about future job opportunities within different career fields. The Showcase participants included: The Cleveland Clinic; Respiratory Program and Diagnostic Imaging, Xellia Pharmaceuticals, Paul Mitchell, Penske Truck Leasing, City Tire, Crown Lift Trucks, Affiliated Construction Trades of Ohio, Ohio CAT, Drayer Physical Therapy, US Army, Macedonia Fire, University of Akron, FBI and Cleveland State University School of Engineering. The day concluded with students getting a tour of CVCC's programs. What a great day of learning!

**“Consider This” with BBHHS**

On Monday, December 3, the Broadview Heights Chamber of Commerce partnered with Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School to host a forum entitled, “Consider This.” The purpose of the forum was to bring the business community and parents together to learn how to best prepare students for the future. Four speakers gave short presentations to get the attendees thinking about how they can help prepare today’s students. The speakers were: Mr. John Klipfell, Executive Director, Entrepreneurial Engagement Ohio and Co-Director, Believe in Ohio Program, Dr. Steve Gratz, Executive Director of the Center for Student Support and Education Options at the Ohio Department of Education, Mr. Steven Ast, Principal of Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School and Mr. Seth Zaremba, founder and owner of Zinc Insurance Agency. Ms. Gina Mutch, CVCC’s Career Specialist at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, was also involved with the implementation of this event. Admissions Counselor Ms. Kelli Buccini, and Community Liaison Mrs. Darden Blake were at the event to answer questions about CVCC programs, accompanied by a table of CVCC literature for attendees. To watch video footage of the speakers from the “Consider This” forum, please visit: [http://www.eeohio.org/eeohio_site/considerthis](http://www.eeohio.org/eeohio_site/considerthis).

**Health Careers Sponsored Blood Drive**

On Friday, December 7, CVCC’s Health Careers class hosted a blood drive to collect contributions to be donated to the American Red Cross. The blood drive had a festive holiday theme that added a lot of excitement to the day. What an awesome job well done!
Education Professions and Graphic Imaging Technology Hold a Pickle Power Event

On Thursday, December 6, CVCC’s Education Professions program, instructed by Mrs. Josephine Everhart, and CVCC’s Graphic Imaging Technology program, instructed by Mr. Patrick Ruebensaal, hosted a Pickle Power learning event for Nordonia’s Rushwood Elementary students. In the morning, students were in the Education Professions classroom engaging in developmentally appropriate practices such as reading, painting, role-playing, and singing. After lunch, the children went to the Graphic Imaging Technology program where they worked with the printing of Pickle Power promotional items—shirts, books, stickers, and silkscreen shirts. Though this event is an annual occurrence, a new feature this year was the creation of a mini Pickle Power journal that can be used as an activity for students to record their Pickle Worthy actions for the day. Kudos to Mr. Ruebensaal for his vision of a Pickle Powerful journal. “Pickle Power” is an initiative to increase civility. Students learn to interact with and treat people with common courtesy, kindness, empathy, understanding, friendliness, compassion, thoughtfulness, acceptance, empathy, etc. The premise is that Pickle Powerful words and actions will result in Pickle Powerful results, which will lead to an improvement in how we act towards each other. What an exceptional event, great job by all!

Using Skills to Help Those in Need

CVCC is so proud of its Building and Property Maintenance class, instructed by Mr. Jason Hance, and its Heating and Air conditioning class, instructed by Mr. Matt Schoeffler. These students and staff members were a part of a project with New Horizons Housing Collaborative, in partnership with AXA Advisors and the City Mission, helping renovate houses for victims of domestic violence. This project allowed CVCC’s students to gain hands-on job site training, as well as contribute to a wonderful cause! Great work! For more coverage of this amazing work, visit: https://vimeo.com/306420499.

Adult Education LPN Students Candle Lighting Ceremony

On Thursday, December 6, CVCC hosted the Candle Lighting Ceremony for the Adult Education Licensed Practical Nursing students. The Candle Lighting Ceremony marks the finishing of the Basic Nursing Program for the students. The ceremony also marks the halfway point of the program and is celebrated in honor of Florence Nightingale. Ms. Nightingale was a nurse who started the first nursing program. Students attended the event and celebrated with family and friends. What a wonderful celebration, keep up the great work!
Adult Diploma Graduates
CVCC congratulates Kira Stepro and Jasmine Smith for gaining their High School Diplomas with State Tested Nurse Aide Certificate from CVCC’s Adult Education Adult Diploma Program. CVCC’s also congratulates Jonathan Mulero (pictured) who has received his High School Diploma through the Adult Diploma Program for STNA! He is already employed, having several job offers since finishing the program. Jonathan plans to continue his education with CVCC in the Practical Nursing Program next year. Keep up the exceptional work! CVCC is thrilled to be apart of your success!

CVCC Adult Education Cosmetology Special
CVCC’s Adult Education Evening Cosmetology Program is running a Winter Salon Special, $5.00 off any coloring service. Coloring services include: Semi/Demi Permanent Hair Color, Single Process Hair Color, Retouch, Hi-Lights (foil)/Low Lights, Glazing, and Balayage/Ombre. The salon hours are Tuesday through Thursday 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Call (440) 746-8145 to schedule your appointment today.

Adult Education EMT Graduation
On Thursday, December 20, CVCC hosted the Graduation Ceremony for the Adult Education EMT program, instructed by Dan Zezena. Students and staff attended the event and celebrated with family and friends. A special thank you to the following clinical agencies and individuals for supporting CVCC’s EMS Education: Marymount Hospital Emergency Department, Brecksville Fire Department, Broadview Heights Fire Department, Garfield Heights Fire Department, Copley Fire Department, Solon Fire Department, Northfield Village Fire Department, Twinsburg Fire Department, and Physicians Medical Transport. CVCC is so proud of these individuals and wishes them best of luck in all their future endeavors!

Upcoming Events
◆ Thursday, January 17 • 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. • Student/Parent Information Night
◆ Friday, January 18 • Staff In-Service
◆ Monday, January 21 • Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observed
◆ Friday, January 25 • BPA Regional Competition
◆ Saturday, January 26 • Pioneer Career Center – Shelby, OH • HOSA Regional Competition
◆ Friday, February 1 • BPA Awards Ceremony
◆ Monday, February 4 – Friday, February 8 • Career Tech Education Week
◆ Tuesday, February 5 • AM Classes Only • Bring Your Parent to School
Wednesday, February 6 • 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. • College/Military Day
Saturday, February 9 • 9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. • STEM Career Showcase
Wednesday, February 13 and Thursday, February 14 • 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. • Tenth Grade Visitations
Monday, February 18 • President’s Day
Thursday, February 21 and Friday, February 22 • Columbus, OH • Educator’s Rising State Conference
Thursday, February 28 • 6:30 p.m. • Board of Education Meeting