

Heavy Equipment Rodeo

by Ben Patterson, Union Springs CSD



HERO Student - Joe Contini (Jordan-Elbridge)

On Sunday, October 24, 2010 the Heavy Equipment class from Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES attended a Heavy Equipment Rodeo/Open House at Penn College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Students had to sign a contest procedure and safety agreement before participating in seven different events. Most events had a two minute time limit:

Event #1 - Rubber Tired Backhoe Egg Drop
The objective of this event was to pick up an egg from the sand with a tablespoon that was taped to a bucket tooth, boom out and place the egg into a foam cup in the top of the 4" pipe without dropping it on the rocks.

Event #2 - Excavator Soccer Ball
The objective was to remove soccer balls from highway cones and place them into a garbage can. The hydraulic excavator lifted the bucket from a resting position on the ground; the timer started. The excavator swung around and lifted the soccer balls off

highway cones set at various distances and put them in a rubber garbage can.

Event #3 - Skid Steer Basketball
The objective of this event was to pick up basketballs using pallet forks on the front of a skid steer and raise the balls off the highway cones. Once all of the balls were on the forks the operator had to maneuver the skid steer to a basket and dump all the balls in it.

Event #4 - Rubber Tired Wheel Loader Softball
The objective was to set two softballs in a PVC pipe without dislodging either one once the ball had been set. The operator had to set the longest string first, then carefully move the boom and set the 2nd ball without dislodging the first ball.

Event #5 - Skid Steer / Pipe Pick
The objective of this event was to pick up different sizes of pipes using a hook on the bucket. The operator had to pick up the pipes from a stand and move them individually and

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BOCES Summer School

By Kim Campagnola, Special Education

Cayuga Onondaga BOCES hosted another fantastic summer school session for students with disabilities from July 6th to August 13th 2010. In addition to their traditional school work, students engaged in a variety of weekly community trips which included swimming at Casey Park pool. Students also enjoyed playing on the playground, participating in games set up in the gym, cooking snacks and meals and taking trips to local stores. These activities provided students with a fun and meaningful way to practice and generalize their social and daily living skills. We hope to have another great summer school experience in 2011!



Having some 'girl time' on the swings!



Good friends and good times at summer school!



Students enjoy listening to a story.



Justin Gorton from Jordan -Elbridge gets ready to ride!



Mike Fischer of Auburn checks his grocery list.



Adriana Glave from Port Byron works hard in reading group!

Summer Campers Build Unique Structure

By Ray Ludemann & Tracy Musso



When one thinks of summer camp, the word “yurt” typically does not surface. Many people have never *heard* of the word, yet *building* a yurt was the focus for the Building Concepts Summer Career Connections Camp this past July. A great deal of excitement was evident when students from nine component districts gathered around a heap of materials, on a mission to construct a yurt. The students were intrigued by the design of it.

A yurt was originally used in Central Asia by nomads who needed a structure to sleep in. Contemporary uses for a yurt are for camping, temporary housing, or even vacation homes. The yurt built by the summer camp attendees was a round structure (16 feet across and 12 feet high) with a wooden frame that is durable in many types of weather as well as environmentally friendly.

As the summer camp attendees were ready to take on a unique project, they quickly realized how a number of skills were going to be put to the test. Under the direction of Mr. Ray Ludemann and his assistant, A.J. Eastman, the students learned about safety, operating power tools, reading blueprints, and working cooperatively in teams.

The first step was to build a deck. Students applied math applications such as measuring walls and calculating area. Additionally, students used technical reading skills to navigate through the manual. Once the deck was completed, the yurt was constructed. Everyone in the program was impressed with the final product, but more importantly they were impressed by the hard work and cooperation displayed by the students.

The nomads in Central Asia appreciated the fact that a yurt was portable and adaptable. Mr. Ludemann shares a similar appreciation: “The yurt may be used for many years to come. Future students will have the opportunity to build upon what the students started in July. There are so many additional features and components to include in what we have created.”

Next summer, as many families think about camping or vacationing, consider researching the yurt. We know many of our summer camp students will enjoy seeing one.



Building Concepts Career Connections Students

The Big Picture Project

By Crystal Ponto, AMS II, Center For Learning

The Big Picture Project is a new endeavor being tackled by the students and teachers at the AMS II and Alternative Level III programs located at the Center For Learning. To promote intrinsic and life long learning, students were asked in the beginning of the marking period to come up with a project outside of the standard curriculum that they were interested in exploring. Students spend a block of time each week researching, reading and immersing themselves in their chosen project.



Sarah Pascal of Skaneateles decided she wanted to learn how to sew, and with the help of Math/Science teacher Amy Senn, she is doing just that! "It's so cool! It's something I've always wanted to learn but

never really had the opportunity." Incorporating academics is a part of the Big



Picture Project as well. Sarah is learning some math regarding patterns, special awareness and perspective.

Kori Towsley of Moravia is taking her love of photography to a whole new level by designing a portfolio to showcase her work. Her knack for beautiful black and white photos led her to discover Ansel Adams, incorporating his biography and artistry into her portfolio presentation. At the end of the marking period students will present their materials to a panel of supporters. Students will discuss their individual projects and share the process and progress they have made over the last six weeks.

Photos by Kori Towsley of Moravia

Fulbright Scholar Visits BOCES

By Ngaire Lovenduski

We strive to introduce our students to best practices and innovative thinking at the BOCES Regional Education Center. This month we had the privilege of welcoming Fulbright scholar, Mark Harris, of Australia, to the Regional Education Center for an opportunity to interact with students and faculty as he toured our LEED certified facility.

Mr. Harris is a Senior Strategy Officer with the Queensland Development of Education and Training in Australia. He came to Central New York to study the SUNY system and to work on research for his Fulbright project, "Benchmarking Workforce Development in Vocational Education and Training Organizations: A Strategic Approach for a Sustainable VET Workforce." In an interview with *The Citizen*, Mr. Harris



(L-R) Tiarra Funk (Moravia), Mark Harris, Steve Woodard

stated, "I am very impressed by the standard of teaching practice and the passion demonstrated by the staff [and] the leadership and the partnerships you establish through your communities." This unique experience provided an opportunity for cultural exchange as well as a sharing of educational practices and perspectives.

Mr. Harris was able to garner pertinent data to include in his project, while students and staff at the BOCES Regional Education Center were able to appreciate a different perspective on Career and Technical Education.

Regional Education Center Faculty Present Nationally at the 8th Annual NACCE Conference

By Renee Hoey, Tracy Musso & Steve Woodard

The National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) “fosters economic development by serving as the hub for the dissemination and integration of knowledge and successful practices regarding entrepreneurship education and student business incubation” (NACCE, 2010).

Cayuga–Onondaga BOCES has collaborated extensively with Cayuga Community College in order to expose high school students to entrepreneurship. BOCES and CCC hope to continue their efforts with component school districts in order to emphasize the need for entrepreneurship education throughout our region, as educators and administrators are introduced to 21st century learning standards and initiatives.

In October 2010, Renee Hoey, Tracy Musso, and Steve Woodard traveled to Orlando, Florida to attend and present at the 8th Annual NACCE Conference. Our title, “Connecting the High School Community to the Community College,” focused on professional development opportunities, the development of curriculum, the implementation of curriculum, and the culmination that was our First Annual Business Plan Competition. The breakout session was very well received by an audience filled with students, community college professors and administrators.

The vision of the NACCE organization is to “create economic vitality through entrepreneurship” (NACCE, 2010). This vision is one that we have adopted as our Business Plan Competition grows and the economic vitality, of our *own* communities, thrives.



(L-R) Tracy Musso - ELA Teacher,
Renee Hoey - ELA Teacher, and
Steve Woodard, Dir. Career & Technical Education

A Culture of Belonging

By Claire Colella, Director of Special Education

Over the past few years, the Department of Special Education has embraced the Circle of Courage philosophy in their classrooms. This philosophy emphasizes the importance of addressing the basic human needs of each student which includes the desire to learn and be capable, experience a sense of belonging, show caring and concern for others, and be able to make decisions independently.



(L-R) Annette Koziol, Special Ed. Teacher, and Mr. Sean Gleason, Cato-Meridian Middle School Principal

During a faculty meeting last spring, BOCES teachers presented PowerPoint and a variety of visuals and student work that highlighted how the Circle of Courage is embedded into their classroom culture. Annette Koziol, BOCES Special Education teacher at Cato-Meridian Middle School, included the following letter from Principal Sean Gleason. The letter is testimony to the power of collaboration between educators and a principal who believes all children belong.



Cato-Meridian Middle School

The BOCES 8:1:1 program has been a part of **Cato-Meridian Middle School for well over two decades**. The program has consistently added to the positive climate found in the building. Many high needs students have thrived both behaviorally and academically as a result of the work of the BOCES staff in collaboration with the Cato-Meridian educators. Our general education teachers welcome these students into their classrooms and enjoy working with the BOCES staff to help them to be successful. I have many fond memories of 8:1+1 students who have gone through the program at the middle school. **It is an educational victory when I see students with so many challenges in their lives be able to become well adjusted socially and academically in their middle school years.** The 8:1+1 program is an integral part of the building and the staff should be proud of the accomplishments it has made throughout the many years at Cato-Meridian.

~ Mr. Sean Gleason, Cato-Meridian Middle School Principal

Richard Markham Visits

By Rick Estes, Auto Body Instructor

On Wednesday, September 15, 2010 the Auto Body and Auto Tech Programs at Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES hosted a custom paint seminar. This seminar was presented by Richard Markham of Ohio Technical College. Richard is a nationally known custom-paint artist who has been featured in several nationally published car and motorcycle magazines. He has also painted custom vehicles for celebrities such as Arnold Schwarzenegger and Lou Ferrigno. Richard started out as a not-so-motivated high school kid who just wanted “out of school.” He was working mowing lawns and pumping gas until he saw someone airbrushing tee shirts at a mall. He decided that if *that* person could do it, so could he. Richard Markham has now been airbrushing for more than 20 years. Completely self-taught, Richard started off with a pencil sketching, cartooning, and eventually working up to portraits and paintings. At 19 years old, Richard discovered the airbrush and has never turned back. His ability to produce high quality, detailed work in a limited amount of time has evolved into a desire to teach others. Richard has created his own systems and techniques to teach airbrushing to those who claim they “can’t even draw a stick figure.”

Richard Markham has always explored his options as an airbrush artist throughout his career. Some of his accomplishments include subcontracting for Six Flags New England, owning and operating his own chain of mall airbrush stores, and winning dozens of awards at car and truck shows. In



recent years, Richard has been gaining recognition for his live airbrush demonstrations that he performs at car shows and high schools across the United States. Markham’s work can be seen on his website at <http://www.richardmarkham.com/> and his products can be purchased at <http://www.ultima-airproducts.com/>.

The demonstration was set up by Mike Ambrose from Ohio Technical College where Mr. Markham now teaches an airbrush program. Richard brought his hand-built semi-trailer that he uses for mobile presentations and training. He also brought two of the cars which he custom-painted for display. He spent the entire day talking to students, showing them video presentations, letting students tour his mobile training trailer, displaying his sample custom cars and demonstrating airbrush techniques. Richard is a master at marketing himself and his skills. He spends a lot of time explaining to students the importance of self-marketing in this business in order to be successful. He has a great rapport with the students and leaves them with a great deal to think about. We look forward to his visit next year.

"Cayuga Reads" Essay and Poetry Winners

By Ann Voorhees, School Library System

Auburn High School students were among those who participated in the 2010 "Cayuga Reads" program by reading either "A Northern Light" by Jennifer Donnelly or "Murder in the Adirondacks. An American Tragedy Revisited" by Craig Brandon. Many also submitted entries to the essay and poetry writing contest. Seymour Public Library hosted a reception for the contest winners on October 27, 2010. Students read their submissions and received recognition for their efforts. 9th grader, Bridgid Sabine, received second place for her essay. Third place was awarded to Erin Gordon for her essay. The first place essay and the top three poems follow:

*Ashley Evans, Grade 12
Auburn High School
1st Place-Essay Contest*

Everything around you affects the way you think. The environment that surrounds you, the society that you live in, and the economy that you are part of plays a part in your ability to make a decision. However, there is a difference between these outside forces influencing your decision, and actually making the decision. The choices you make are a direct result of your own free will.

Not everyone grows up the same way. Some people grow up with everything they could ever ask for, while some grow up having to work for everything they have. Not everyone necessarily grows up in the same environment. All of these factors may, or may not influence how you make decisions in your life. However, these factors do not decide for you. Everyone is their own person and capable of making their own decisions. These decisions may not always be the smartest, but when something goes wrong, you only have yourself to blame. You are the deciding factor in everything that comes across your table. No one is over your shoulder telling you what you should do and what you should not do.

In the book Murder in the Adirondacks: An American Tragedy Revisited by Craig Brandon, Chester Gillette murders a woman named Grace Brown. After the murder, his mother attempts to stand up for him to fight for his life. She blames herself and "prenatal influences" for his bad decision-making. I disagree with this. Chester was an adult who made an adult decision and he was completely at fault in this situation. Although he may have had an abnormal childhood that did not affect the way he made his decisions. Chester was his own person, and even if his childhood was rocky, his childhood did not make the decision.

Many people may fall victim to the world's influences, but in the end you have the final say. Some people might follow society's ways, or react in an inhumane manner because of outside influences, but that is because they made the decision to listen to someone other than themselves. No matter what happens, you make a decision along the way that leads you to a result. When the result is not pretty, people begin to blame the others around them for "forcing" them to do something that turns out bad.

In the end, people's choices are a direct result of their own free will. We all have the ability to stand up for ourselves and make our own decisions. People such as Chester Gillette and his mother tended to blindly fall victim to their own free will. Everybody makes mistakes, but not everyone or everything can take the blame.

"Cayuga Reads" con't

Coming of Age

Age always comes.
 It may wait but it is inevitable.
 With age comes stress,
 The stress of the death on its way.
 A train on its way to the next station.
 Wrinkles and grey hair come,
 With age.
 The loved lives of everyone,
 Will come to an end,
 With Age.
 The tiresome tasks,
 Become harder,
 Like working in the fields as Pa did,
 With age.
 After years, years, years,
 Go by like a car on the highway,
 People can only say "I'm going to live my way"
 For so long.
 It is coming,
 The coming of Age.

**Brendan Entenmann, Grade 9 - Auburn High School
 1st Place-Poetry Contest**

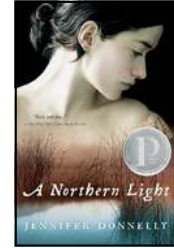
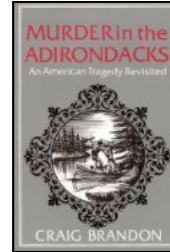
Mattie was at the age of great decisions and choice,
 She had high goals and dreams,
 But with that came restrictions and limited voice.

Mattie was at the age of responsibility,
 Her motherless family to help care for,
 She needed enormous courage and ability.

Mattie was at the age of relationship and romance,
 Spending time with her beau Royal
 He had knocked her form her concentrated stance.

Mattie was at the age of settle down or set out,
 Did she want normality or to excel?
 To realize her dreams she needed to pick one
 route.

**Jennifer Currier, Grade 9 Auburn High School
 3rd Place-Poetry Contest**



A Northern Light

Mattie was sixteen
 Her dream is to go to college
 Her dad says it's too expensive
 It is for the rich
 Most people believed that
 But not Mattie
 Poverty doesn't get in her way
 She goes to college anyway
 Weaver is the only black boy
 He wants to be a lawyer
 Many people don't support him
 Rich people call him names
 They boss him around
 But racism will never bring him down

Mattie does farm work
 Maybe not as good as a man
 She is better at other things
 It doesn't mean men are better
 Men and women should be treated equally
 Feminism doesn't stop Mattie, you'll see

**Jessica Bolak, Grade 9 - Auburn High School
 2nd Place-Poetry Contest**

Career Tech Students Meet with SED Officials

By Ngaire Lovendusky



(L-R) Erik Clarke, HERO student (Cato-Meridian), Associate Commissioner, Ken Slentz, Megan Osterhoudt, CatWeb student (S. Cayuga), Dr. John King, Sr. Deputy Commissioner, Corey Soules, Building Trades student (Auburn)

Area school officials had the opportunity to meet with Dr. John King, Senior Deputy Commissioner and Ken Slentz, Associate Commissioner on Wednesday October 27, 2010 at the Regional Education Center. Dr. King and Mr. Slentz have been traveling throughout New York presenting on the state's education reform. Their visit to Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES included discussions with area principals, superintendents and school board members. Three of our CTE students, Erik Clarke (Cato-Meridian HS), Corey Soules (Auburn HS), and Megan Osterhoudt (Southern Cayuga HS) had the privilege of dining with Dr. King and Mr. Slentz. The trio was originally set to give Dr. King a tour of the Regional Education Center, however due to time constraints, the tour had to be cancelled. Instead they were provided the opportunity to join Dr. King for dinner and engage in a discussion about our Career and Technical Education programs. All involved report that a very rich and meaningful dialogue took place. Dr. King indicated that he thoroughly enjoyed the conversation with the students and also revealed that they convinced him to return to our campus this spring to tour the facility to visit with other students as well.

CONGRATULATIONS ALL TO OUR CTE
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

September 2010



Shannon Heffernan (Auburn)
Graphic Design & New Media



Jessica Massi (Port Byron)
Culinary Arts

October 2010



Tallie VanNorstrand (Cato-Meridian)
Health Occupations Program



Dylan Cooper (Jordan-Elbridge)
Computer Systems &
Network Administration

Heavy Equipment Rodeo, con't

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place them inside larger pipes.

Event # 6 - Rubber Tired Backhoe / Garbage Can Pick - The objective for this event was to lift a garbage can from over a soccer ball sitting on a highway cone, by lifting two separate rods which were attached to the can through a rope, without knocking the ball off the cone and setting the garbage can over the top of a five-gallon bucket.

Event # 7-Event with Hydraulic Thumb/Block Pick - The objective was to stack the blocks in order by size, longest to shortest, one on top of the other, keeping them evenly spaced.

Penalties were added to each operator's time, for each event, if the operator bumped, dropped, or knocked over a cone. Some

penalties were as small as five seconds; others were as high as 20 seconds.

Representatives from Penn College gave us a tour of their facility and all of the programs that they offer. The programs that relate to our Heavy Equipment Certification are as follows: Diesel Technology/Electric Power Generation, Heavy Construction Equipment Technology and Caterpillar Equipment/ Operator/Technician.

After the competition, we celebrated with a cookout and an awards ceremony:

Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES took 2nd place overall in the Heavy Equipment Rodeo!

Jordon Feocco - 1st place – Pipe Pick
Jesse Schreiber- 2nd place- Egg Pick
Austin Moore - 3rd place- Pipe Pick

Visit us at our Web site
www.cayboces.org

Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES

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