

PARENTS, SHARE THIS ISSUE WITH YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER!

New Faces Are Part of the CTC Family Portrait

CTC welcomed four new individuals to its instructional staff this fall - **Cynthia Blattenberger, Laura Bogen, Rick Diebold, and Jennifer Stairs.**

A graduate of TC Central, **Cynthia Blattenberger** is the new para-professional in Early Childhood Education. Earning both her nursing degree and certification in early childhood education, Cyndi has worked as a kindergarten and preschool teacher. She has two sons, two stepdaughters, and eight grandchildren. An avid hunter and fisherwoman, she loves to entertain with her husband Porter. Warmly welcomed into the CTC family, she hopes to show "each ECE student that his/her uniqueness is celebrated and that this uniqueness can be taken into the classroom and passed on to the children with whom he/she works."



Cynthia Blattenberger

Originally from Brooklyn, New York, **Laura Bogen**, the new math instructor for Culinary Arts, Math Essentials, and Visual Imaging Technology, moved to Traverse City this past summer after teaching high school math in Arizona for 16 years. She and her husband, Brian, are parents of three children, Erin, Sara, and Max. The family also has two canine members - Scottish Terriers Ralphie and Jane. In her spare time, she enjoys working on projects involved with "fixing up" an 1886 house in Traverse City, biking, and walking. She has been amazed by the variety of program offerings for students and she hopes to help students be much more comfortable with the math concepts that are a natural part of their CTC programs.



Laura Bogen

Rick Diebold, the new paraprofessional in Visual Imaging Technology, grew up in Ellsworth and, upon high school graduation, attended Northern Michigan University where he received his B.F.A. in Art and Design with a concentration in graphic communications. He worked for a short while for an insurance company before joining CTC. Loving the outdoors, he enjoys fishing, downhill skiing, and road biking. So far, he has experienced a lot of satisfaction working with the students and hopes that he will play a role in preparing them for the workplace or post-secondary training.



Rick Diebold

Jennifer Stairs is the new English/Language Arts instructor who is working with students in Agriscience/Natural Resources, Automotive Technology, and Health Science Technology programs. A native of Detroit, Jennifer worked in the mortgage industry before teaching. Jennifer has taught at the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills, Clarkston High School, and, most recently before coming to CTC, at Benzie Central High School. Married to Charlie, she has two daughters, Seneca and Sonja, along with a menagerie of animals. She enjoys sewing, quilting, yoga, and reading, and feels fortunate to be at CTC which she feels is a very friendly and positive place. She is gratified when students remark to her that "they have really learned a lot from her classes."



Jennifer Stairs

CTC Hosts Poverty Reduction Initiative Day-Long Event

On October 4, approximately 95 adults and 55 children attended the **Poverty Reduction Initiative (PRI)** from 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM. With a staff of 40+ volunteers, including 10 CTC students, this day-long session focused on housing issues. Sixteen area agencies "manned" booths and provided information on such issues as tenant/landlord relationships, foreclosure prevention, purchasing a home, and credit repair. The next PRI event is scheduled for February 7, 2009 at CTC and will focus on tax preparation and health care issues. For more information, please contact Brent Boerema at 922.6369.

Health Occupations Students Honor Teacher and Help American Cancer Society

Quietly working "behind the scenes," students in **Health Science Technology (HST), Therapeutic Careers in Medicine (TCM), and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)** programs raised \$191 for the American Cancer Society (ACS) in honor of Mrs. Kelley Tolle, the paraprofessional in HST and TCM, who was diagnosed with breast cancer last winter. The money raised was forwarded to ACS's Strides and will be used for breast cancer research. Working with the idea proposed by a handful of CNA students, Dave Basey, a HST senior from Benzie Central, served as the money collection agent for this "surprise" fundraiser. On October 7, the students from all three programs met in the CTC Commons Area for a group picture and to present the money raised to Mrs. Tolle.



CTC Accounting Teacher Receives State Honor

On October 2, **Julie Gauthier**, the Accounting/Office Technology instructor, received the **Emerging Professional Business Education Award**. A graduate of Oakland University and Ferris State University, Julie demonstrates excellence both inside and outside the classroom. She has served on CTC committees and is very aware of the need to keep her curriculum current so graduating students have the necessary skills to enter the workforce or post-secondary training. In addition, she has been innovative in her delivery of academic content to meet the new Michigan high school graduation requirements and has "teamed up" with a highly qualified English teacher to integrate the new Michigan English standards into her program. Her integrated curriculum was the subject of a presentation at the Michigan Career Education Conference in Detroit in February, 2008. As the advisor for CTC's Business Professionals of America (BPA) chapter, she has worked with this student organization to develop and foster business and leadership skills within its members. As advisor, she has solicited financial and clothing donations for students to use during regional and state competitions. Her creativity, empathy, enthusiasm, and technical expertise were qualities that resulted in her being recognized for this award. Congratulations, Julie Gauthier, our "Emerging Professional Business Educator" recipient!



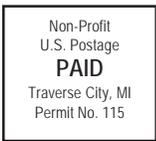
Boy Scouts Receive Tech Skills for Merit Badges

On Saturday, November 1, over 100 Boy Scouts from thirteen Michigan counties participated in a one-day event at CTC in which they learned technical skills as part of their Merit Badge requirements. Approximately ten CTC instructors volunteered their time to teach meaningful technical skills in such areas as architecture and drafting, auto maintenance, computer technology, culinary arts, electrical, engineering, fire safety, first aid, and metal working. The second year for this event, it also provided the opportunity for the parents to take classes, offered by the Scenic Trails Council staff, on a variety of Boy Scout issues.





880 Parsons Road
Traverse City, MI 49686



Our mission is to prepare students with skills and learning experiences for employment and life-long learning.

Agriscience Students Participate in Pilot Youth Entrepreneur Project

This past summer, Molly Fish and Carmen Ortiz, TC Central and Chris Steffes, TC West, helped grow garlic, onions, broccoli, Swiss chard, kale, and other vegetables and fruits in 16 garden beds, covering approximately 1,500 square feet, at a community garden located on the grounds



Carmen Ortiz

of the closed Traverse City Regional Psychiatric Hospital. They sold this produce at a farmers' market and to a local restaurant, both located on the redeveloping property, known as Grand Traverse Commons. Additionally, they sold the food to low income families who received discount coupons through local human service agencies. This program was sponsored by two nonprofit organizations based in the Grand Traverse area – Little Artshram and the Michigan Land Use Institute in coordination with CTC. These three students are part of a growing trend both here and across the country: Agriculturally-oriented youth programs are cultivating a new generation interested in farming at a time when the average age of farmers is 55. Not only did this pilot program grow local food, it possibly grew new farmers!



Academic Options Abound for CTC Students

Recognizing that the Class of 2011 will be held accountable to the new Michigan Merit Curriculum, CTC has begun to provide academic instruction, aligned to the new academic content expectations, within the technical programs. Placing either highly qualified English Language Arts (ELA) or highly qualified math instructors in selected technical programs, CTC is providing the students with content that meshes these academic standards with the technical curriculum. ELA instruction in various programs is focused on the 12th grade ELA requirements; math instruction in other programs is focused on the math content standards in Geometry, Algebra II, or fulfills the fourth year math requirement. For a list of possible academic credit options for CTC students, please visit: <http://www.tbactc.org/general-info/index.asp> and click on the "Credit Certification and Articulation Chart."

NEWS AND NOTES

Career-Tech Center, "A Great Place to Learn"

Student achievement continues to be the primary focus at our Career-Tech Center. Recently, staff members selected the following measurable goals for the 2008-09 school year:

Goal 1: 95% of the students within the Career-Tech Center's math focused programs will increase achievement in Work Keys Applied Math from fall of their junior year to spring of their senior year.

Goal 2: 95% of the students within the Career-Tech Center's English Language Arts focused programs will increase achievement in Work Keys Reading for Information from fall of their junior year to spring of their senior year.



Jason M. Jeffrey, Ed.D.
Principal, CTC

These goals were selected for student success and to support the rigorous changes in high school graduation requirements that are commonly known as the Michigan Merit Curriculum. In addition, we will continue to support program specific technical skill attainment and workplace readiness for all students. Best wishes for a pleasant fall season.

VIT Students Use Their Skills and Creativity for Local Posters

Competing in the **National Cherry Festival Poster Contest – Student Division**, CTC students swept the field. The results were:

- Grace Reinhold, TC Central, First Place
- Nate Springstead, TC High School, Second Place
- Brad Frostic, Benzie Central, Third Place

These designs appeared on posters and were also placed on wine labels and notecards. In December 2007, the students' designs were evaluated by a panel of professional judges and then the winners' names were announced in the spring.



The League of Women Voters (LOWV) also used the talents of one of the VIT students – Arielle Davey, TC Central, who designed the poster that promoted the film, "**Iron Jawed Angels**," sponsored by LOWV for both Grand Traverse and Manistee counties, which was shown at the State Theatre in August.



For Sale - Custom Made Tables and Birdhouses!

Skilled Trades students have built solid mahogany tables and decorative birdhouses that are for sale to the general public. The tables can be custom stained and inlaid with tile, slate, or another material that the buyer would choose. The tables are selling for \$100 and were part of a class project that has earned the student first place in a MITES (Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society) competition last May. The birdhouses have been hand-crafted and are selling for \$10 each. For more information, please contact Randy Kitzman at 922.7820.