

### Automotive Technology Program Reviewed by NATEF

On December 2, the Automotive Technology program was evaluated by a three-member team to validate that it met industry-recognized standards, as determined by National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF). This on-site process was conducted over a five-hour span of time and involved an evaluation team leader and two local business representatives who examined the classroom, curriculum, and lab to make certain that the curriculum was aligned to industry standards and that the classroom and lab were optimum and safe for quality instruction and learning. This review process takes place every five years with the ultimate objective that a quality, relevant, and safe program of study is provided. According to the team who performed the on-site evaluation, it was difficult for it to find anything that could be cited as a deficiency and all members agreed that the program was top-notch. Congratulations to Jim Wrede, program instructor, and Mike Williams, paraprofessional, for their efforts in meeting these standards!



Evaluators and Jim Wrede

### CTC Students Encouraged to Read, Read, Read!

Realizing that students aren't reading enough and that colleges and universities estimate that the average college student will need to read 200 – 800 pages per week, Jennifer Stairs, CTC English teacher, had an idea! She began by cleaning off her bookshelves at home, asking for book donations, and enlisting an unused rolling book cart to create a lending library for the students in the programs in which she provides English Language Arts (ELA) instruction. Due in large part to her attendance at a Penny Kittle literacy workshop, she recognized the need for students to be able to self-select high-interest books and then immerse themselves in the wonders of reading. She allows the students to bring their own books, if they choose, or she provides her lending library from which students can choose books that spark their interest. Students then have 10 – 15 minutes of beginning class time to read their chosen books. Not only do the students read at this time, but the program instructors, paraprofessionals, and Jennifer read too! She began this experiment in the Auto Body program and has extended it to the Web Programming, Information Technology, and Automotive Technology programs as well. The books are flying off the shelves and she is having trouble keeping a full supply of high-interest books available. As she has exclaimed, "The success so far has been unbelievable!" Students are not only reading during the time allotted during class, but at home as well. One student, who hadn't read an entire book since elementary school, has finished all three books in a trilogy series. The only downside of this is that she doesn't always have enough books to satisfy the need. Several CTC staff members have purchased books for her cart or donated books of their own, and she would welcome future donations should anyone wish to do so. For more information about her efforts, she can be contacted at [jstairs@tbaisd.org](mailto:jstairs@tbaisd.org).



Jennifer Stairs

### Film and New Media Students Experience Work on Short Film

In November, Film and New Media (FNM) students had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be involved in a small feature film, using various set locations throughout Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties. Under the direction of Suttons Bay High School graduate, Sara Liza Bauman, they were involved in all aspects of the film, serving as production assistants, fashion designers, artists, camera crew members, grips, gaffers, and even actors. For the past three years, Sara has been living and working in Bangladesh and India on world health issues, through her feature and commercial film company. She co-wrote and directed the student-crew production of "The Frayed Ends," a short film that will be submitted to film festivals world-wide and has a premiere planned in the spring for northern Michigan. Bauman, a University of Michigan graduate and Fulbright Scholar, teamed with Indian colleague, Merhan "MK" Khan, who attended the University of Southern California's film school and served as the director of photography on the project.



In addition to the skills of the FNM students, other individuals volunteered their time and talents – James Pena, a Glen Lake High School graduate served as the Costume Designer; Dan Overton from Grand Rapids provided the art direction; Dianne Murray, a production coordinator from Chicago, fulfilled that role; and Catherine Paolacci was in charge of the sound. Many of the actresses involved were current University of Michigan theater students; a singer/songwriter, Jetty Rae, with local roots, created the music score; and local photographer and Suttons Bay graduate, Dan Stewart, provided additional photography and video skills. To help with equipment needs vital to the filming, the Up North Media Center loaned several pieces of equipment for use in the production.

FNM students filled a variety of vital roles in "The Frayed Ends" - sound engineering, boom operating, original soundtrack music (Luke Kelly, Benzie); assistant directors to Sara Bauman (Naomi Javor, Kingsley and Tyler Griffin, Suttons Bay). Naomi also acted in the production, served as the Script Supervisor, and is currently editing a movie trailer for "The Frayed Ends." Assisting Merhan Khan as assistant cameramen, dolly grips, grips, and gaffers were Micah Oelze, TC Central, Jake Lewis, Glen Lake, and Curtis Pickford, Kalkaska. Nick Brink, Suttons Bay, and Amanda Banton, TC Central, worked with the Art Department, under the supervision of Dan Overton. Another FNM student, Tasha Downey, TC Central, not only acted in the production but also had to "step in" and provide production assistant duties as well! Scott Tompkins, the FNM instructor, helped in the pre-production, acted, and served as the Assistant Producer. Pre-production efforts consumed a week of the students' class time and then the actual filming took five consecutive days on locations throughout the two different counties. Students were excused from their home high schools to complete the production and film work, spending long



Film students at work with Sara Liza Bauman

hours experiencing the reality of a film set and the time-consuming production duties. A special thanks goes to Suttons Bay Schools, Leelanau Montessori, and TBAISD whose support was critical for the success of the project. Readers are encouraged to check out "The Frayed Ends" page on Facebook.

**SNOW DAYS! When TCAPS is closed  
due to weather, CTC is also closed.**





880 Parsons Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686

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



## CURRENT RESIDENT OR

### Reaching Out to the Community

#### Students Take to the Rails

The **Skilled Trades** students are using their skills to help out the community. In an on-going effort, they are helping to refurbish the Leelanau Trail's caboose located on Carter Road in Traverse City. The 15.5 mile Leelanau Trail, as part of the **Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation (TART) Trails**, is a non-motorized pathway connecting Traverse City at its southern end point with Suttons Bay at its northern end point.



Skilled Trades Staff and Students

According to Leelanau Trails supporter, Tom Phillips, the caboose originally came from the gulf area in the southern United States where it was used back in 1930's. He had noticed the caboose falling into disrepair and then organized work crews, gathered materials, and poured sweat into getting the job done. Tom researched the history of the caboose and envisioned it as a space for all to relax, learn about the history of the railroad, and encourage others to get involved in TART.

The students are currently rebuilding an eating table, removing an old oil furnace, installing a new chimney for a future heating source, constructing a ceramic tile hearth, painting, performing repairs on the steel caboose superstructure, and a number of other needed items. On this project, they are gaining practical experience in carpentry, sheet metal fabrication, welding, painting, ceramic tile installation, and basic mechanical repairs – along with many others. "Getting students out of a classroom setting where the quality of their work will be judged by others and the time frame for completion is limited is a real-life experience for them. Providing this and benefiting the community at the same time is a win/win type of situation," states instructor Randy Kitzman. More projects are currently being planned with the TART Trails organization for later this school year and for future years.

#### Kindergarten Students Receive Cubbies for Storage

When Silver Lake Elementary School pre-kindergarten teacher, Paula Sandtveit, realized that her young students needed storage cubbies to help organize their belongings, she knew she didn't have the money in her school budget to purchase them. However, she had a wonderful resource for obtaining them – her father, **Bill Sandtveit**, the paraprofessional in the **Skilled Trades** program. With the guidance of the Skilled Trades instructor, **Randy Kitzman** and Bill Sandtveit, Alex Hawkins and John Lanham, Glen Lake juniors, and Joe Dunaske and Cedric Gutschke, TC West juniors, constructed the cubbies and then delivered them to the classroom. The pre-kindergarteners were thrilled with the new addition to their classroom and personally wrote a thank you note to the four students who were responsible for helping them keep track of their belongings.



### NEWS AND NOTES

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



Patrick Lamb,  
Principal, TBAISD CTC

As the New Year starts and I look back on the year 2011, I can't help but be thankful for my position as principal of the TBAISD Career-Tech Center. What an incredible place to come and work each and every day! I am so proud of the great accomplishments that our Career-Tech Center students and staff have achieved throughout the past year. I know that our dedicated staff will continue to push themselves, as well as their students, to be the best they can be. Please take the time to read this issue and note the outstanding initiatives going on within our technical programs and the Center as a whole.

Additionally, there are other outstanding initiatives and events that are not mentioned in our newsletter. Our Web Programming & Design program is beginning a project to rebuild and refurbish outdated computers and then donate them to the elderly and low-income families in our region. Our Power Equipment Technology program is planning on rebuilding donated lawnmowers this spring and then will develop a process by which it gives these mowers back to needy families in the area. The CTC is very active in the Regional Poverty Reduction Initiative and will be hosting, on February 4, 2012, its 14th "Saturday Special Event." In collaboration with personnel from several area service agencies, CTC staff and students will offer many vital services to our regional population of residents who fall below the poverty line. Without a doubt, our staff and students are continually looking for creative ways to utilize their talents and give back to the communities in which they live. How fortunate I feel to be at the helm of such a great educational institution!

#### CTC Students Visit TC Central and TC West

In late November and early December, CTC students from a variety of programs visited both TC Central and West High Schools to speak with the 10th grade students about how their attendance at CTC has provided so many exciting and rewarding experiences and opportunities. The presentations lasted approximately 30 minutes and were scheduled prior to the TC Central and West students themselves visiting the Career-Tech Center (CTC) for a half-day visitation of three programs of their choice. This was the first time that these presentations by CTC students to TC Central and West have taken place prior to the visitation day. Both counselors and students felt that these presentations by CTC students were very valuable ones that helped students become aware of the many program offerings at CTC. It is planned for these presentations to be an annually-scheduled event prior to the 10th grade students' visits to CTC.



**Nondiscrimination Policy:** It is the policy of the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed or ancestry, political belief, sex, disability, handicap, religion, age, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity or employment.

