

## SENIORS SPEAK

At the age of six, every child seems to choose their future career. Although most of the time, he/she doesn't actually stick with this choice and make it his/her career. I had friends who wanted to be doctors, some friends wanted to be veterinarians, and even some friends who wanted to simply be moms. At the age of six, I announced that I wanted to be a teacher. Ten years later, I was forced to start thinking about this choice again. However, this time it wasn't quite so easy. There were eight different career paths in which I was interested and the thought of making this decision was almost overwhelming. Nonetheless, I couldn't get the idea of being a teacher out of my head. This was where CTC came into play! As a sophomore in high school, I had the opportunity to tour CTC, found it to be a "neat" place, and decided that if I was going to "try out" this career, attending the Teacher Academy (TA) at CTC would be the place to do it. The following year I completed an application and was accepted into the TA where I fell in love with teaching. The excitement and fun of creating a lesson plan, the joy of seeing a light bulb go on in a student's head, and the feeling of making a difference are what I experienced during my time at TA. As a graduating senior at Elk Rapids, I will attend Hope College next fall with the expectation of receiving a teaching degree in health and math.

What can I say to students who are thinking about attending CTC? To be completely honest, I would simply say, "Just try it." As a sophomore or junior who is still looking for a future career, jump in and experience a CTC program in which you are interested. If you don't like the program or career area, then maybe you have saved yourself a little bit of time and money. I was lucky; I found my career path and it just so happened to be the same path I chose as a six year old. Maybe with the help of CTC, you can find yours too.

-- Emily Costa, Elk Rapids



Hello! My name is Lucas Mitchell and I am a student in CTC's Public Safety/Protective Services (PSPS) program as well as a student at Traverse City Central High School. I knew I wanted to get started in the right direction in order to receive training to be a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician. This career has been a personal dream I've had ever since I was in preschool when we began to learn about different types of careers. I learned about the PSPS program at CTC when I was a freshman in high school and thought that attending this program could become one of my first steps toward reaching my professional career goals. So, when I was able to enroll at CTC in my junior year, I did! As I attended CTC, I quickly learned that my instructors there would give me the edge I needed to receive a good foundation of knowledge in this career area, so I applied myself to giving no less than my best with diligence and heart. One highlight of my second year in the program was my volunteer participation in the Northwestern Michigan College (NMC) State Practical Test for their Police Academy. I competed with a partner who happened to be another CTC PSPS student, Micah Foust, against the NMC students. I am proud to say that we not only won all the events, but I shattered the standing push-up record for the Police Academy. The old record was 82 push-ups for one minute; I did 88 push-ups in that same time frame!

Next year, I hope to have a part-time, paid position at METRO Fire Department, with the eventual aim of it becoming a full-time job. It has always been a personal goal of mine to protect and serve my community. My advice to future students is for them to strongly consider attending CTC and to know, too, that if they are serious about their career goals and put their whole heart into achieving them, they just might find themselves further along toward reaching them that they would have expected. On a final note, I want to thank CTC, METRO, and all who have made it possible for me to be where I am today!

-- Lucas Mitchell, Traverse City Central



### Breaking Traditions Awards Presented to CTC Students

On May 12, two CTC students, Haley Morris, Public Safety/Protective Services (PSPS) and Buckley senior and Jamie Schopieray, Auto Body Repair and Traverse City Central senior, both were recognized at Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) Breaking Traditions 2011 Awards Presentation. This award provides an opportunity to recognize and highlight the achievements of students who are enrolled in nontraditional career training for their gender. These two students were nominated by their instructors for their accomplishments in their technical studies and for their outstanding work ethic. Jamie was one of ten students throughout the state who was presented with a Breaking Traditions Award Certificate. Haley received the top Breaking Traditions Award in the state – the Recognition Award – given to only one student in the state! Congratulations to these young women for their outstanding efforts in pursuing studies in nontraditional areas for their gender.



Haley Morris

### CTC Participates in Festival of Tables

On May 13 -14, CTC students and staff members were showcased by their entry for the Festival of Tables event that was held to raise funds for Child and Family Services Agency (CFS). With an Alice in Wonderland theme, the table (made from a recycled old door) itself sported a Cheshire Cat cake, cupcakes, and cookies (created and baked by the Culinary Arts students), potted tea cups and tea pots and hanging baskets (courtesy of Agriscience/Natural Resources program), and a brass letter opener (created in the Precision Machining Technology program). Surrounding the table were a rose lamp with "Alice" touches (fabricated by second-year Welding students and wired by the Electrical Occupations students), a stand-up Mad Hatter and rabbit and four "Alice" framed art pieces (designed and created by Visual Imaging Technology students), and donated items such as the checkerboard floor cloth (Britten, Inc.), a natural wooden chair (Ross Carey), a Mische handbag (Joanie Carpenter) and various crystal pieces (Beverly Mills). In addition, Construction Trades students created a child's playhouse and wine cabinet and the Skilled Trades students produced a slate-top table – all items that were part of the raffle. Other CTC programs (Accounting/Office Technology, Allied Health, Auto Body, Auto Technology, Career Preparation Services, Information Technology, and Power Equipment Technology) donated items to be raffled. CTC's table was among the favorite tables in the event and won the "Spirit of Child and Family Services First Place Award." Thanks to CTC staff and students, more than \$3000 was raised for CFS. A special thanks is given to Dottie Bejesky, one of CTC's Special Education Consultants, who served as the "coach, cheerleader, and general manager" for this team effort!



Samantha Knudson as "Alice"

### VIT Students Continue NCF Poster Competition Tradition

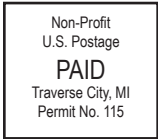
National Cherry Festival (NCF) officials unveiled the winning artwork from its 2011 Student Art Competition in mid-May and, for the second year in a row, CTC Visual Imaging Technology students won the top honors. The 2011 NCF Commemorative poster winner was Alexandra Arens, Leland. As the winner, Alex will sign 100 posters of her design and have the opportunity to ride in the Junior Cherry Royale parade in July. Other winners who were honored at the event were: Fine Art (Niaomi Thompson, TC High-first place; Ellie Walters, TC Central-second place; Samantha Kaufman, TC Central-third place); Graphic Design (Patricia Schaub, Benzie Central-first place; Alexandra Arens, Leland-second and third place); and People's Choice (Kameron Kelley, TC Central-first place; Reese Sivek, Grand Traverse Academy-second place).





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



## CURRENT RESIDENT OR

### CTC Offers a New Film Program!

TBAISD Career-Tech Center announces the opening of a new pilot program, beginning in July 2011, for students interested in **Film, Video, and New Media**. Students, entering the 11th or 12th grades this coming school year, are eligible to enroll in this exciting new offering. This unique program will feature summer programming over two summers, with practical, experientially-based internships during the school year. Details concerning this program are outlined below:

- The program begins Summer 2011 for 5 weeks (all day - month of July and first week of August), is a scheduled afternoon half-day CTC program in the 2011-2012 school year, and then finishes Summer 2012 after 5 weeks (all day - month of July and first week of August).
- It is considered a CTC offering and is offered at no cost to 11th and 12th grade students.
- During the 2011-2012 school year, students will be involved in six 6-week field placements for three days/week. Two days/week will involve instruction either face-to-face or through on-line work.
- Field placements will be in television stations/studios; film and video production studios; web design studios; sound mixing/production facilities; non-profit organizations; and screenwriter apprenticeships.
- In order to participate, students who are interested in pursuing this groundbreaking effort should possess:
  - A strong interest in pursuing a career in the film industry
  - Transportation to summer school and field experience sites.
  - A willingness to commit five-weeks of summer time to this experience



The course is limited to 20 students. If a student is interested in enrolling, he or she will need to contact either the high school counselor, Kris Wendland (Counselor, TBAISD Career-Tech Center at kwendland@tbaisd.k12.mi.us 231-922-6278), or Scott Tompkins, Film and New Media Instructor at scott\_tompkins@charter.net 231-883-5770).

### Agriscience/Natural Resources Program Follows Environmental Best Practices

Anna Blight, Agriscience/Natural Resources (AGNR) program instructor, announced recently that the program's greenhouse has received state certification from the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) and follows comprehensive, pro-active, and voluntary agricultural pollution prevention procedures. As in other agricultural enterprises, floriculture involves a number of processes that can potentially affect Michigan's surface and ground water. She has worked with her students to make certain that safety standards are met in regards to the proper use and disposal of pesticides, making certain that there is the necessary equipment in place to prevent spills or contaminates from getting into drains and out into the water supply. Dan Busby of the Grand Traverse Conservation District provided valuable assistance in the greenhouse certification process, and students have gained valuable knowledge from the partnership that developed with this agency.

As she explained, teaching students to be aware of and advocate for a healthy environment helps to develop valuable stewards of the agricultural community. She makes it a priority to teach students about the importance of environmental issues and she is pleased to see her students take pride in knowing that they are helping to protect our lakes and waterways - our most precious natural resources.



### NEWS AND NOTES

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

Wow, it is hard to believe the 2010-11 school year has come and gone. As I reflect back on the year, I can't help but feel a sense of pride and honor to serve as the principal of the TBAISD Career-Tech Center. This issue of the CTC Times highlights many of the success stories that our students and school shared in this year. As you peruse this issue and read about this year's tributes, please understand that behind your students' successes are dedicated teachers who pride themselves in preparing your sons and daughters for the real world challenges they are about to face. The success and recognition our students and school received this year are direct results of the outstanding staff that work at the Career-Tech Center. Looking back and being recognized for excellence by the Michigan Department of Education, being invited to speak at the Governor's Education Summit, student recognition at the state level through clubs and competitions, the number of students receiving academic credit, the construction of an alternate energy park on site, participation in the Festival of Tables, the creation of a new Film Program - the list is virtually endless. I would like to take this time to thank all of those involved in this special year. I can hardly wait for September and the start of a new school year!!!!



Patrick Lamb,  
Principal, TBAISD CTC

### SKILLED TRADES PROJECT INSPIRED BY JUNKYARD WARS TV SERIES

As noted in an earlier issue of CTC Times, Skilled Trades students tackled a very unusual project this year, and their efforts in building a fully-functional hovercraft vehicle led them to first place honors in both regional and state competitions through the **Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society (MITES)** conference showcase. Randy Kitzman, Skilled Trades instructor, was inspired while watching an episode of Junkyard Wars, a Learning Channel television series that gives meaning to the old saying that "one man's trash is another man's treasure." He decided to incorporate that similar trash-to-treasure experience in his Skilled Trades program and used a variety of recycled and donated materials to construct the hovercraft. This project provided his students with an opportunity to enhance not only their hands-on learning in a variety of areas, such as welding, electrical, and painting, but also to foster some creativity.



### CTC Invited to Present at Governor's Education Summit

In late April, six CTC staff members traveled down to Kellogg Center on Michigan State University's campus to present, upon request, at the **Governor's Education Summit**. These staff members shared CTC's success in delivering integrated academic instruction that meets the Michigan Merit Curriculum guidelines as well as providing an opportunity for students attending CTC to receive academic credit necessary for graduation. CTC is known throughout the state for its innovative efforts in this area.

**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.

