



# the BLUEPRINT

February 2005

Construction Careers Center Charter High School

## From the Administrator

As we proceed in the last half of the school year, your student will be taking some tests that are important to them individually, and to the school in general.

All high school students in the State of Missouri will be taking the MAP test sometime in March or April. Sophomores will be taking the Math Assessment and Juniors will be taking the Communications (English) test. How you as a parent can help is to encourage your student to do their best. It is important to know how your student is achieving, and it is important for us as a school to know how we are doing. We will use these results to look at our curriculum and make changes to benefit your children. It is also important because our charter says our students will score higher than other students from St. Louis Public Schools. We think this program has a lot to offer to our students and as we analyze the results, we need to know our students did their best.

In May, every student at CCC will take the WorkKeys Assessment. The Board of Education chose this test because it is used by some of the apprenticeship programs. Every student takes three tests (Applied Math, Reading for Information, and Locating Information). In order to graduate from the Carpenters' Apprenticeship Program to Journeyman status, a candidate must score a six on the Applied Math test. Again, it is important for students to do their best as we use these scores to assess our curriculum and how much our students are improving. Please find out your student's scores and please talk to him/her about improving and doing their best.

We have had an extremely busy February as our Black History Month Committee has provided lots of opportunities for our students. I hope you have heard about some of our activities. We have posted various articles and pictures in this newsletter. Please ask your student about what activities they participated in.

As we are nearing our first graduation on Tuesday, June 28, 2005, I am attending meetings about making sure our graduates are connected with the industry. Whether it is a summer internship before they go to college, or entrance to an apprenticeship program I see a tremendous commitment by the AGC of St. Louis. I also see tremendous opportunities for our students who take care of business (earn credits, attend school, and work hard). As we talk to employers, they want students who don't miss work, can take direction, are prompt and who don't require constant supervision. These "soft skills" are what we call the work ethic grade and their importance can't be underestimated.

As always if there is anything we can do to assist your student at CCC, please feel free to contact us.

## Black History Month at Construction Careers Center

The staff and students at CCC are observing Black History Month (BMH) with a collection of academic and artistic activities. The month of February began with a school-wide Poster Project. Using their talent and creativity, students illustrated



Alen Makic, 1st Place - Most Creative for CCC Black History Month Poster Contest

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In February CCC students earned a "Dress Down Day" for good attendance and good behavior. This picture shows students from Ms. Crumrin's Social Studies class.

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## Black History Month at Construction Careers Center

what the two phrases: *“To be young, gifted and black”* or *“What are you doing with your freedom?”* meant to them. While many students created posters with highly personal meanings, others paid tribute to notable African-Americans in history. Each class selected a top poster and submitted it for judging. Art Instructor, Mr. Biere selected four outstanding posters from this group. Selected posters received a certificate and a small prize.

The beginning of the second week of Black History Month debuted with a school wide Essay Project. The theme of the Project was *“What Would Dr. King Do?”* Students were given the task of coming up with ways to best deal with potential violence using the philosophy and techniques of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s non-violent movement. Student essays were graded and judged by English Instructor, Ms. Hirsch. She selected the top 25 essayists who were rewarded by spending an afternoon learning the art and technique of a local “Slam” poet. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> week, a large group of students made a trip to the St. Louis Black History Museum.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Black History Month, CCC students made wearable art at “The CCC T-Shirt Factory”. Students were able to decorate a t-shirt with iron-on letters, iron-on symbols and paint. Students were able to pick from a variety of African and Americana themed fabrics and create t-shirts that celebrated their heritage and individuality.

Also in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week, English Instructors, Ms. Hirsch and Mr. McAfee held a combined art and literature lesson on African-Americans throughout history that had inspired us to always keep trying. One of Ms. Crumrin's classes



Hand cutouts are made from student hand outlines, the posters are from Poster Project

*read more on page 6*

## ACE Mentoring Program visits Modjeski and Masters

The ACE Mentoring Program is geared for those students interested in architecture, construction management and engineering. However, it also includes urban planning, interior design and environmental science. Each mentor offers a different area of expertise and experience.

The primary purpose of the group is to provide student exposure to the professional side of construction by inviting these people to share their time with us.



**Modjeski & Masters  
Structural Engineer Office Visit  
January 12, 2005**



In January, the group went to Modjeski & Masters engineering firm for a presentation on bridge design and engineering given by Dr. Nick Marianos the manager of the St. Louis office. The firm specializes in bridge design dating back locally to the Eads Bridge and they designed the proposed \$1.6 billion bridge located just north of downtown.

The visit and lecture is tied in with the bridge design contest sponsored by the U.S. Military Academy. Students design, test and submit their bridge all via the internet. The winning design is one that can support itself and a vehicle traveling across it at the lowest price. The winners advance to the next round and a chance to win \$10,000 in scholarship money.

## Black History Month Creative Communications Contest Winners

The following poems and essays have been accepted for publication. Congratulations!

### *Poems Selected for Publishing:*

“This Ain’t No Life!” by Beonee Ali, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Just Because I’m Black” by Bubble Allen, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Just Because I’m Quiet” by Lamont Anderson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Believe” by Dillon Billings, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Ashley Carson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Just Because I’m a Girl” by Stephanie Cheeks, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Read” by Kamaria Currie, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Devin Dale, 10<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Changing for the Good” by Aisha DeBose, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Dream” by Barry Finger, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Brittany Fletcher, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “My Emotions” by Jennie Frazier, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Little by Little” by Daniel Furman, 10<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Why” by Ashley Gandy, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am (Version 2)” by Cherise Gilmore, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “When I First” by Brittani Harris, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Jahmad Harris, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Love of My Life” by Laura Haywood, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Senses” by Juzzton A. Hill, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Love” by Frank Howard, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Winter” by Shawn Hunter, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Martoneice Hutt, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Don’t Understand” by Mallory Jackson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Rain” by Marcus Johnson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “How Come” by Danyella Lewis, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Christmas” by Shawn Like, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “My Neighborhood” by Trevor Logan, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Just Because” by Enston Mallet, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Life” by Jamario McGee, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I See” by Jerome McHenerre, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “The Way I Feel” by Cassi Mitchell, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Don’t Understand” by Kevin Morgan, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Antoinette Oden, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “I Am” by Corey Odom, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Hurts” by Courtney Parker, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Why I Do/Don’t Understand” by Joshua Phelvs, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Mom” by Keinishia Rhodes, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
 “Gift of Light” by Anthony Richie, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.

### *Essays Selected for Publishing:*

Nephews and Nieces by Bobbie Allen, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Family by Kiara Bennett, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Goals in Life by Lorenzo Bledsoe, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Life by Dorrance Bryant, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Family by Deloris Cairo, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Grandma by Ashley Carson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Education by Louis Chatman, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Things That Are Important to Me Most by  
 Daniel Cobbs, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Aunt by Kamaria Currie, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
God, My Family, and Life by Devin Dale, 10<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Life by Aisha Denise De-Bose, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
The Most Important Things to Me Are by Ricky Duvall, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Future, Freedom, Family and Education by  
 Gabrielle Fields, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
I Like Jobs by Brandan Foster, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Family by Jamie Frazier, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Jesus is the Most Important Topic by Ashley Gandy, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Family by Daniel Glenn, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Mamma and Daddy by Jahmad Harris, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
What’s More Important to Me by Shawntay Hawkins, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Sports by George Hicks, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Boxing-The World’s Greatest by Juzzton Hill, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Education by Shawn Hunter, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Family by Martoneice Hutt, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Vital Role by Marcus Johnson, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Future is Important to Me by Danielle Lewis, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Life in Egypt by Yassir Mohamed, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Future, My Education, and My Family by  
 Jeffrey Moore, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Freedom by Courtney Parker, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
My Parents by Jasmine Powell, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Movies by Anthony Richie, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Freedom by Bradd Stewart, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Respect by Kevin Strayhorn, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Why I Consider Myself Important by Jesmine Taylor, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.  
Special Family and Friends by David Zackary, 9<sup>th</sup> Gr.

## Construction Careers Center Calendar of Events

### MARCH

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	<b>18</b>	19	20
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	26	27
<b>28</b>	29	30	31			

March 18 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Term (43 days)  
 March 21-25 Spring Break-No School  
 March 28 Begin 4<sup>th</sup> Term

### APRIL

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	<b>27</b>	28	29	30	

April 27 Mid-Term 4<sup>th</sup> Term

### MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	<b>27</b>	28	29
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

May 27 End 4<sup>th</sup> Term (45 days)  
 End 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester (88 days)  
 May 30 Memorial Day, NO SCHOOL  
 May 31 Teacher Work Day, NO SCHOOL

### JUNE

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		<b>1</b>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June 1 Begin Term 5

### JULY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				<b>1</b>	2	3
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July 1 End 5<sup>th</sup> Term (23 days)  
 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL  
 July 4 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday, NO SCHOOL  
 July 5-19 Teacher Workdays, NO SCHOOL



### 2004-2005 Yearbooks on Sale Now!

Construction Careers Center's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Yearbook is now on sale. The cost is \$40 and may be bought from Ms. Snelson. The yearbooks have a hardback binding and are printed in color. The yearbook staff consists of students and staff from CCC. For questions or to make payment arrangements, see Ms. Snelson.



**Basketball  
News**



The Bobcats' last game against the Principia Panthers was at Principia and dominated by the Panthers in the beginning of the game. Their more seasoned cats were quick at solving our defensive alignments, and took a 12-point lead to the locker at halftime. CCC came back in the second half with a vengeance, virtually shutting down the Panther offense in the third quarter holding them to just 1 point! The Bobcats kept playing with heart and pride the rest of the game and ended up winning by 6.

The last game of the year was Thursday at Epstein Academy. With a winning streak of 3 on the line, and hoping to gain a little respect by improving their record to close to 500, the Bobcats did not disappoint. *Eleven* different players contributed to the 83-61 victory over the Blockbusters. CCC was led again by freshman Barry Robinson with 21 points. Sequella Williams, Brandon Williams, and sophomore Justin Stokes all scored in double figures and Quaran Nelson contributed with 13 rebounds. Congratulations to everyone on the team, who finished the year with a 6-7 record!

Next year, Construction Careers Center will field three basketball teams; boys Varsity and Junior Varsity, and girls Junior Varsity. To date, 18 games have been scheduled at the Varsity level. Two more games and possibly a tournament are expected to be added.

**2005-2006 Construction Careers Center Varsity Schedule**

Tue. Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<u>Grandview</u>	@ Salvation Army 6:30
Mon. Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Ft. Bowman</u>	@ Cahokia, IL 4:00
Thur. Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<u>Logos</u>	@ Salvation Army 3:30
Tue. Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Central V&amp;P</u>	@ Salv. Army 6:00
Thur. Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Lincoln Charter</u>	@ Venice, IL 6:00
Tue. Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>	<u>North Tech</u>	there 4:00
Fri. Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<u>South Tech</u>	there 5:30
Tue. Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Gov. French</u>	@ Salv. Army 4:00
Thur. Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup>	<u>North Tech</u>	@ Salv. Army 4:00
Fri. Jan. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<u>South Tech</u>	@ Salv. Army 5:30
Mon. Jan. 9 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Metro</u>	TBA 6:00
Sat. Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Yeshiva</u>	there 7:00
Thur. Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Logos</u>	@ Salv. Army 3:30
Mon. Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<u>Gateway Ac.</u>	there 5:30
Tue. Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	<u>Gov. French</u>	@ Belleville, IL 4:00
Thur. Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<u>Lincoln Charter</u>	@ Salv. Army 6:00
Wed. Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Yeshiva</u>	there 7:00
Thur. Feb. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Gateway Ac.</u>	there 5:30

**Note:** Beginning in April, anyone interested can join with Mr. Meehan at the 12<sup>th</sup> & Park Rec. Center for weight training.

October 31<sup>st</sup> is the first official day of organized practice in accordance with Missouri State High School laws.

All students, faculty and Board members are encouraged to recruit in-coming freshmen who are interested in the construction trades, a quality education, and just happen to be very tall!



## Black History Month (continued from page 2)

presented a Reader's Theater, "Wiley and the Hairy Man: an African-American Folktale".

In the 4<sup>th</sup> week all students were invited to attend a Black History Celebration in the cafeteria. Over 25 activities and exhibits were presented, including an African dance and drum troupe, motivational speakers from Habitat for Humanity, African clothing, a bead workshop, a Historic Black College and University exhibit and a presentation on life in Ghana by a native of the country. The Drama Club presented a "Living Library". Also in the 4<sup>th</sup> week, Ms. Tolman presented a special Black History Month Choir who performed a "Retrospective on African-American Music". A final event called "Total Recall" took place on the last day of Black History Month. This special event was kept under wraps; all that



Ms. Crumrin's Class rehearses for Reader's Theater

our students knew prior to the event, was that each teacher would pick five to eight students to participate and those chosen could look forward to a lot of fun.

### BHM Poster Contest Winners

The following students were the winners of the poster contest:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place-best visualization - Calvin Miller
- 1<sup>st</sup> place- most creative - Alen Makic
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Aisha Cannon
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place- Deloris Cairo

Individual Class Poster Contest Winners included all of the following:

- Vernon Lloyd
- Giovanni Stokes
- Frank Howard
- Jonathan Edwards
- Devin Dale
- Chrystal Goddard
- Wayne Washington



Deloris Cairo posing with another winning entry in the BHM poster contest.

Thanks to everyone who participated. All posters will be on exhibit in the cafeteria, annex, and the hall outside the cafeteria by the resource room.



### Coro Fellow Works With CCC Students



Mo Mullen, our Coro Fellow did her project on Hip-Hop Music and asked our students to design a rap song describing their thoughts and goals for the future. Pictured above are Alicia Moore, Kenny Simpson, Porchae Gillespie, Lazaro Silva and Dominic Gardner.

### Upcoming Dates at CCC

**End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Term**  
Friday, March 18, 2005

**Spring Break**  
March 21 – 25, 2005

**Begin 4<sup>th</sup> Term**  
Monday, March 28, 2005

**Mid-Term 4<sup>th</sup> Term**  
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

**End 4<sup>th</sup> Term**  
Friday May 27, 2005

**Memorial Day Holiday**  
Monday, May 30, 2005

**NO SCHOOL-Teacher Work Day**  
Tuesday, May 31, 2005

**Begin 5<sup>th</sup> Term**  
Wednesday, June 1, 2005

**Last Day of School**  
Friday, July 1, 2005