

The JAG Career Association held its first monthly meeting September 28, 2007. Students had campaigned prior to the meeting for offices. The election was held and senior Hardin Brooks Ingram, III was elected as president.

The Urban League, sponsor of the St. Louis JAG Programs, sponsored the St. Louis area Career Association Induction and Installation Program at St. Louis Community College at the Florissant Valley Campus on October 9, 2007. The theme was "My Future Is Now Making Tracks To Success." Mrs. Pat Thompson-McBride from the Division of Workforce Development of Jefferson City, Missouri, gave the opening remarks. Ms. Olivia Rose read the Proclamation for Jobs For Missouri Graduates issued by Mr. Charley Dooley, St. Louis County Executive. Mrs. Gina Washington, CCC Principal, honored the Vice Presidents with remarks about their responsibilities. A reception followed the ceremony. The following students were also installed at the meeting:

VP for Career Development	Demetron Brent	VP for Community Service	Jerome McLemore
VP for Leadership Development	Giovanni Stokes	VP for Social Awareness	Shawn Hunter
Secretary	Jabir Ziyad, II	Treasurer	Kris Wells
Historian	LeMarco Harris	Fundraising	Amber Pritchard
Historian	Eboneé Ali		



Installation of JAG officers at SLCC-Florissant Valley.



L-R: Giovanni Stokes and Demetron Brent.

On October 12, 2007 the Career Association held an activities planning meeting. Rachel Parrent from Vantage Credit Union spoke about budgeting, and students were very interested in establishing credit. Also at the meeting, LaMarco Harris shared some of his ideas for JAG polo shirts for all members and the group discussed fundraising ideas. The group has been given permission to sell Krispy Kreme Doughnuts. Kris Wells suggested selling Papa John's Pizza one day a week at lunch and the organization received approval to sell the pizzas. The students will have the opportunity to learn marketing strategies and customer service. A roundtable discussion was held with members planning activities for the year.

The Association held its first Social Awareness event December 21, 2007. Shawn Hunter, VP for Social Awareness, organized the event. The students were great role models for the event. VP for Community Service, Jerome McLemore, suggested that the Association should undertake a campus beautification project at CCC. The group works on the project on a regular basis and feels it demonstrates pride in CCC.

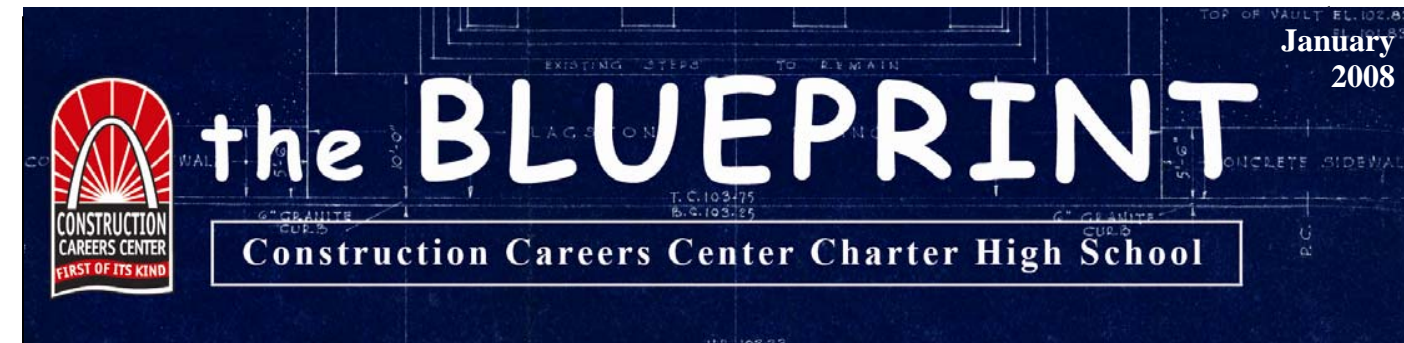
Upcoming JAG events include the Red Cross at the monthly meetings January 23 and February 20 and the JAG Regional Contest February 27 at the Met Center in St. Louis. Contestants from the seven area sites will compete in Job Interviewing, Public Speaking and a Yearbook event. There is also a school banner competition. The winner of the Regional Contest will compete in the state competition in Jefferson City, Missouri on April 4, 2008.

Last school year the Association decided to contribute funds to "Support Our Troops" sponsored by Schnucks Supermarkets and KMOX. In August, we received a letter from a soldier. The students wrote letters and sent pictures to Captain Danica Mottola, USMC last fall.

Gina Washington speaking to the new Vice Presidents at the St. Louis areas Career Association Induction and Installation Program.



Far Right Standing: Amber Pritchard and Demetron Brent at the JAG Induction and Installation Program.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Pride in education equals success!



Gina Washington

I am very pleased with the first semester and truly believe we have an environment that is conducive to learning! The school-wide grade point average has increased. The before- and after-school academic programs are still available Monday thru Thursday, and I encourage all students to take advantage of this unique opportunity. We continue to need parental support by making sure students are at school on time. If your student is going to be absent and/or you need to update your students' contact information, please contact the main office at 314-588-9991.

As students return from winter break I encourage ALL students to strive toward continued excellence during 2nd semester. The CCC Activities Committee has many educational activities planned for 2nd semester.

They include:

- 1st semester honor roll recognition on January 31, 2008
- 6th Annual Black History Month Celebration
- Field trip to the Black Repertory Theater
- The Sweet Heart Dance sponsored by Student Government

Please be reminded that 5th term is mandatory and is scheduled for June 3, 2008 –July 7, 2008. As always, thanks parents for your continued support!

CCC Robotics Team

By C. Casals

The robotics competition at Florissant Valley Community College was a wonderful learning experience for all involved. Mr. Owulette, Ms. Casals, and one parent accompanied The Royals (Jerome Sims, Jean-Paul Soucy, Brianne Bush, Damien Thomas, Keith Thomas, Travez Ming and Keith Baker) to the event on December 2nd.

There were 27 teams from six states with about 200+ students participating. At the event, The Royals, Team 287, had some shining moments. The robot, Deuce, passed inspection on the first try and the team had zero breakdowns or "duh" moments due to Brianne's and Jerome's diligent pit work and Jean-Paul's focused driving. In addition, the team was tied for the most points scored after the eight qualifying rounds. This brought us to the attention of three of the top seeded teams to have us join them in an alliance even though The Royals were ranked #20 because of their win/loss ratio. The Royals joined with Carnahan High School, ranked #5, and Hazelwood East High School, ranked #17, in the first elimination round pitted against two of Gateway High School's robots, ranked #4 and #9. Gateway won the FIRST National Championship last year. It was hard fought, but we lost in the 1st round of the elimination matches, one game to two. At the end of the match, the team was told by the coaches and referees that they were rooting for Deuce because of his robotic high-jinks. Much to the crowd's delight, during the autonomous mode, Deuce would buck his way across the field after doing his job and entering his home zone. His antics came in handy when dislodging rings from his wheels.

The event was a grueling 12 hours long, but I think we would all agree it was a wonderful day. The Royals started planning for next season while in the car ride home.



Front L-R: Travez Ming, Keith Baker, Jean-Paul Soucy, Mr. Soucy. Back L-R: Keith Thomas, Jerome Sims, Brianne Bush, Damien Thomas, Mr. Owulette.



L-R: Brianne Bush, Jean-Paul Soucy, and Jerome Sims with Deuce in the pit area getting ready for the next match.

Women in Construction (WIC)

By N. Remaklus

The following female students have been invited to join The Women in Construction (WIC) committee to plan the March activities for celebrating “Women in Construction Week”; Jada Burks, Deloris Cairo, Stephanie Cheeks, Raven Davis, Gabrielle Fields, Ashley Hogan, Kayla Hudson, Antoinette Oden, Amanda Reed, and Linda Steppes.

The WIC planning committee is under the direction of Teresa Willis from the Women in the Trades (WIT) organization. Nancy Remaklus is the liaison from CCC that assists with coordinating meeting dates, etc. Teresa met with the committee in October for a brainstorming session from which several activities were chosen. This was a great process for the students as they discussed possibilities and at the same time had to think finances, logistics, and time. At the second meeting in November, the committee worked on just one of the activities: a survey of the females attending CCC in order to develop a “Speed Networking in Construction” activity. The student committee planned and developed a survey sheet and decided when to survey and have calculated the top areas of interest for the female students at CCC. The committee was surprised to find that a large number of the CCC ladies are interested in the painting trade and also computer related jobs.

During the December meeting the committee began to contact women in each of the interest areas and invite them to attend the “Speed Networking in Construction” on Monday, March 3, 2008 at the Construction Careers Center. The committee will also be involved with the “Can-struction” activity that is scheduled on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at the St. Louis Mills Mall. Several of the young ladies on the committee assisted last year and are excited to be able to participate again.

Please contact Teresa Willis at teresa@mowit.org if you are interested in volunteering in the Speed Networking activity.

CCC Spirit Team

By S. Morgan



We have eleven ladies on the CCC Spirit Team. Two of them are freshmen (Crystal Edwards and Regina Smith), eight are sophomores (Chloé Anderson, Jada Burks, Raven Davis, Cherrah Dodds, Maya Evans, Antionette Holloman, Ariane Moore, and Captain Larreisha Hill), and one is a junior (Felena King-Cooley). The average GPA for the team for first quarter is 2.85. Not only are academics a priority to these ladies, but also promoting school spirit and pride. Some of these ladies are members of ACE and one is the sophomore class president. Each one as an individual is an example of what we pride at CCC and together they are supportive of each other and work together as teammates. They look forward to cheering on the boys at Varsity and Junior Varsity basketball games during the next several weeks.

Front L-R: Captain Larreisha Hill, Ariane Moore, Jada Burks, Maya Evans, Regina Smith. Back L-R: Raven Davis, Crystal Edwards, Felena King-Cooley, Cherrah Dodds, Chloé Anderson, Kaneshia Clifton (assistant). Not pictured: Antionette Holloman.

The South/West County School-Business Partnership

By G. Crimm

The South/West County School-Business Partnership hosted the annual Leadership Academy-Six Flags at the Six Flags Training Center November 14, 2007. This event is sponsored by BJC and Six Flags. Construction Careers Center participated in this event with seven other area high schools. Our students participated in icebreakers, team building table projects and an obstacle course conducted by the Missouri National Guard. As participants built trust and leadership skills, our host Grant Thompson, Director of Human Resources at Six Flags, invited participants to consider summer employment at the amusement park. Our students had the opportunity to complete pre-employment forms before departing back to school.

Title I

By E. Snelson

Title I will start back up on Monday, January 7, 2008. We are now recruiting students for 2nd semester. They will meet Monday thru Thursday from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Title I students work on academic skills that will help improve their standardized test scores, along with district-wide assessments. If you’re interested in placing your student in a Title I class, please contact Ms. Snelson at 314-588-9991 ext. 106.

ACE Mentoring Program Corner

By G. Crimm

St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley School of Engineering

The ACE Mentoring Program participants were hosted by St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley. The School of Engineering staff Dr. Richard Unger, Joanne Cubb and Dr. Terrence Freeman made great presentations. The community college staff provided a “nacho bar” for snack, which was delicious.

CCC’s participants were encouraged to pursue careers in engineering and consider attending one of the community colleges. Dr. Freeman presented to the students how technology and engineering has changed through the decades. He also gave participants great advice on taking care of their academics, choosing good friends and being financially wise. He said this combination will bring success in achieving their career goals.

Participants were given surveys to complete to allow St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley to evaluate their programs geared toward high school students.

CCC Curriculum

By A. Butler, Ph.D

The staff at the Construction Careers Center began the process of evaluating and updating the school curriculum during the 2007-2008 school year. Working in conjunction with Paul Mackay and Cathy Barr of the University of Central Missouri, the CCC staff is using the *Understanding by Design* framework to guide the development of individual instructional units. Although the time-frame for rewriting a school curriculum can sometimes take up to five years, the staff at CCC is already ahead of the curve. During the December 14th professional development day each faculty member had the opportunity to present his or her first instructional unit and the results were very exciting. All of the units attempted to incorporate both academic and soft skills that will be necessary for CCC graduates to be successful in the construction industry or college. Several of the units included performance assessments that require the students to design or build a house, a new entrance for the school, or write research papers that could be published in a local or school paper. Another positive benefit of the curriculum writing process was the opportunity for staff members to meet in small peer review groups to discuss their units. These groups provided the staff with much needed time to collaborate and allowed them to offer excellent feedback that made each unit more effective. Now that the first set of instructional units is complete, the staff will begin teaching and refining them during the second semester. Also during the second semester, the staff will work to create a comprehensive curriculum map for each subject as well as additional instructional units for implementation during the summer and next school year.

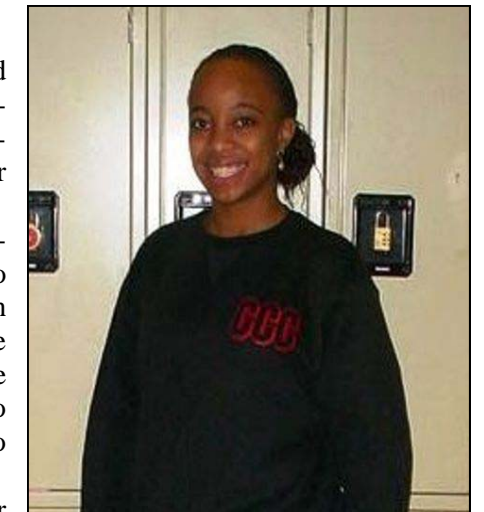
CCC Students Receive Early Holiday Gift

By N. Remaklus

Thanks to the generosity of CCC supporters, over 425 sweatshirts were distributed to CCC students on Friday, December 21, 2007. The plain black crewneck sweatshirts were screen printed with CCC in red across the left chest area. These sweatshirts can be worn as part of the school uniform so students can have an extra layer of clothing on cold days.

Mrs. Washington, CCC Principal, was instrumental in the process of getting contributions and then using the contributions in such a generous way. CCC would also like to recognize Southside Outlet located at 2720 Cherokee Street for finding an economical source for the sweatshirts. Parents are encouraged to shop at Southside Outlet for all uniform needs. Pam Jacobson, owner of Southside, also sends a rebate to the local schools based on the money spent on uniform parts. Just remember to mention CCC when you shop at Southside Outlet. In addition, CCC would like to thank Downtown Imprints, 706 N. Tucker, for the great screen print of CCC.

Seniors, Thomas Keys, Amber Pritchard, and Antoinette Oden, assembled over 425 goodie bags for their fellow students. Ms. Snelson supervised the distribution process of both the sweatshirts and goodie bags.



Jada Burks models CCC sweatshirt.

CCC Students Receive Hats and Gloves

By N. Remaklus

Thanks to the generosity of Associated General Contractors (AGC) members and other CCC supporters, several contributions have been received to purchase hats, scarves, and gloves for CCC students needing winter accessories. CCC students will have these items available within a few days.