

shaping the *future* through adult, career and technical education

## Manatee County Students are National Leaders

**F**our students from three Manatee County Schools have returned from competition where they captured the USA Society for Automotive Engineers F1 in Schools National Championship. The award came after two days of tough competition against teams from across the nation at The International Speedway in Brooklyn, Michigan. Manatee County's own Phoenix Racing team also won the "Best Engineered Car" award for ingenuity shown in their F1 car design.



Champion Team members: (Left to Right) Merritt Kendzior, Sheel Patel, Joseph Komor, and Aly Cote



**B**raden River High freshman Cory Bolles was selected as one of the top six finalists in the nation at the 2013 Microsoft Office Specialist U.S. National Championships held June 12-13, in Park City, Utah. As a finalist, Bolles won the right to represent the U.S. in Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 at the Microsoft Office Specialist Worldwide Competition in Washington, D.C., from July 31 – August 3, 2013.



Cory Bolles

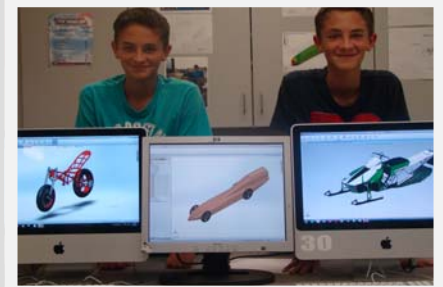


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Bolles

### Haile Twins Make SolidWorks History

**B**raxton and Colton Cox (twin brothers) – 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Haile Middle School, passed their SolidWorks CSWA exam – the youngest in the world to ever do so! They are also designing a Ducati Super Bike Evo 848 Motorcycle, and a 2013 M 1100 HCR Snowmobile in SolidWorks from looking at specification drawings. They both are well on their way to becoming excellent Mechanical Engineers.

Braxton  
and  
Colton Cox



### ACT Grants and Funding Continues To Grow

The following is a summary of grant and funding monies applied for and received over the past 12 years from the Adult, Career and Technical Education Department, including areas such as MTI, Take Stock, Transitions, Career Pathways, SLCs, Secondary CTE, Manatee Stars, and others. Grant monies are essential to enhancing quality education and moving the District forward in its quest to provide excellent education and opportunities to all of our students.

Grants and dollar value	Totals
Number of grants applied for:	405
Number of grants approved:	303
Number of grants pending approval:	4
Dollars applied for:	\$119,168,793
Dollars approved:	\$66,829,573
Dollars pending approval:	\$1,060,346

## Bolles, continued

From August 2012 to May 2013, more than 140,000 students in the United States entered to demonstrate their level of proficiency in utilizing the world's foremost desktop computing applications. At the U.S. National Championship, 28 finalists participated in timed exams and interviews to demonstrate their expertise in Microsoft Office programs.

“At Braden River High School we have seen certifications build confidence and increase the real-world technology skills of our students,” said Christy Goehring, Business Instructor at Braden River High School. “Cory has already bolstered his resume with Microsoft certifications, and we are thrilled he now has the opportunity to use that knowledge to compete on a worldwide stage.”

Bolles won an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. along with a chaperone.



## United Kingdom Visits Manatee Public Schools!

Last semester, Manatee County was given the unique opportunity to collaborate with the University of South Florida and host a group of 14 teachers, coordinators, and administrators from the United Kingdom. The larger group divided into a morning and afternoon group, focusing on high school transition services during one session and elementary solutions during the other.

During the high school transition session, our guests toured some of the great programs at both Bayshore and Manatee High Schools, visited two separate job sites, and had the opportunity to take part in a question and answer session about Manatee County public schools.

The visitors were highly impressed with all of the programs in Denise McLellan and Kathleen Hamilton's classrooms at Bayshore High School, and in Tracey Swart's room at Manatee High School. Employment Specialist, Stephen Van Cott brought one group to Westminster Manor to speak with some of the employers about their experiences working with Bayshore High School's Career Experience classes, taught by Bonnie Condor. Employment Specialist, Sandy Craig arranged a tour of Blake Medical Center, another Career Experience business partner for Manatee High School, taught by Peter Eged.

The high school teachers presented to the group what happens in their classes during the school day and how they support what is happening on the job site in the Career Experience classes. Congratulations to Sara Gaines and her col-

leagues for creating a student-centered program that is getting international attention.



*Educators from the United Kingdom, hosted by both Manatee and Bayshore High Schools*

## Technical Education in High Gear at the Port!

Things are changing out at the port – welcome to the new education team: Major Williams, Captain Kogel, Lieutenant Jones, Sergeant Elms, and Sergeant Everett. The group is ready to support a big boost to their programs and already have new ideas to rally round taxpayer savings. Their shared belief is that there should be a culture that not only nurtures and supports each program, but that all programs should support the other.

Welding, Nursery Management, Hydroponics and Heavy Duty Truck and Bus programs continue to be offered through Manatee Technical Institute, and the new team is looking to rebuild the Carpentry Program soon. M.S.O.'s other programs include: Paint and Body Shop, Aquaculture, Sewing and Embroidery, Pork Production, Egg Production, Meat Processing, and Grits Mill, all which have a strong employment outlook for our inmates who are learning a trade.

As inmates learn a trade, it is more likely that they will acquire real employment and NOT return to the port, which is a benefit to the individual and the community.



*Education Team at Port Manatee*



*Entrance to the greenhouse landscaped by students*





## Haile and Harlee Declare Academy Success!

Two schools planned last year and are implementing their first year of a middle school Academy in Manatee County under the ACT Department. Haile Middle and Harlee Middle worked hard setting the groundwork to establish their academies that opened this school year. Much research was completed and site visits taken to enable teachers to get a picture of what would help make their students thrive not only in middle school but also in the years following. Teachers met with their high school counterparts in order for there to be a seamless flow of instruction between the two levels. Middle school administrators were also key in making this program happen.

Nathaniel Bostic has worked at **Harlee** to implement the **Communication Technology and Leadership Academy (CTLA)**. He is offering high school course #8601010, or entitled Communications Technology. Students are fine-tuning their skills as they prepare to take the Photoshop industry certification test.



Harlee Students Achieve Photoshop Industry Certification

Justin Erickson and Pam Platt have created the **Haile Middle Career Academy of Technology (CAT)**. Mr. Erickson teaches the high school course #8600570, Engineering Technology while Ms. Platt teaches course #8207310, Introduction to Information Technology. SolidWorks, Dreamweaver, Flash, and Photoshop are the offered industry certification tests. Haile students have also been successful at earning industry certifications!

Teachers have gone through an evaluation process during this second semester looking at data collected this year and comparing accomplishments to the 10 point rubric of the Standards of Practice (POS) found within the *Standards and Guidelines for Middle School Career Academy Development and Implementation in the School District of Manatee County*. The 10 practices are:

- Mission & Goals
- Academy Structure
- Host District and Secondary School
- Faculty & Staff
- Professional Development
- Governance
- Curriculum & Instruction
- Employer, Higher Education, & Community Support
- Student Assessment
- Cycle of Improvement

Offering middle school students academy opportunities is a way to send them off to high school with a higher level of skill. It is our hope that middle school academy students will enroll in one of our existing high school CAPE academies and further their skill level in their continued coursework and achieve a greater number of industry certifications to better prepare them for post-secondary education and the workforce.

## CTLA's First Year

The Communications Technology and Leadership Academy (CTLA) at Harlee Middle School is off to a great beginning. The new program has started small in size, but that has not kept the students from doing big things. The CTLA program is one of the first of its kind in the state and allows middle school students to gain industry certification in Photoshop CS5. To date, Harlee's CTLA program boasts 4 students who have gained their certification—no small feat for these middle schoolers who now are qualified for a chance to represent our country at the Adobe Certified Associate World Championships in Washington, D.C. this summer.

All of the students in the CTLA program are preparing themselves for entry level positions in the Entertainment and Advertising industries by creating things like personal and corporate logos, flyers, and brochures. They are also working with industry standard software to create short films and movies that include custom visual effects and will be getting introduced to designing video games.

**Completers Save Time & Tuition Dollars**

Career Pathways ends the 2012-13 school year with an updated articulation agreement between Manatee County Schools, Sarasota County Schools, and State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota (SCF). The 703 seniors who received certificates as program completers now have the option of continuing their post-secondary education at MTI, Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI), or SCF, and are eligible to receive anywhere from 3-21 credit hours depending on the technical or AS degree program they choose. In real dollars that amounts to almost \$400,000 in possible savings—not to mention the time saved by not having to take those core classes!

**COLLEGE CREDITS AVAILABLE TO  
CAREER PATHWAY  
PROGRAM COMPLETERS**

School	Total Credits	Total Value
Bayshore H.S.	174	\$ 17,748.00
Braden River H.S.	1,440	\$ 146,880.00
Lakewood Ranch H.S.	420	\$ 42,840.00
Manatee H.S.	1,032	\$ 105,264.00
Palmetto H.S.	768	\$ 78,336.00
Southeast H.S.	324	\$ 3,048.00
<b>Total Manatee County</b>	<b>4,158</b>	<b>\$ 394,116.00</b>

Take Stock in Children (TSIC) recently celebrated their high school graduates. Congratulations to this group of exceptional seniors who will have the opportunity to pursue postsecondary education through the TSIC program and the invaluable support of their mentors!



*Pictures include: TSIC graduates, mentors, representatives from TSIC Leadership Council, School Board Chair, Karen Carpenter, Mr. Rick Mills, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Diana Greene, Deputy Superintendent, and Diana Dill, Executive Director.*



## Nolans Honored at HOSA Banquet

Dr. Dan and Marilyn Nolan were honored guests at Nolan Middle School's HOSA End of Year Banquet. Also in attendance were Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Specialist and Tamara Cornwell, Assistant Principal. The group was treated to a slideshow outlining the year's activities and awards. There was also a final tribute to outgoing 8<sup>th</sup> graders.



*Dr. Dan Nolan and wife Marilyn at Nolan Middle School HOSA Banquet 2013*

## Chapters Attend Florida State Leadership

Over 2,600 HOSA members from all over attended the State Leadership Conference. Students experienced competitive events, motivational speakers, networking with health professionals, and visiting with college recruiters. As a bonus, they also had a few chances to enjoy the beautiful pool at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort.

Nolan Middle School celebrated 8 winners in several areas of competition. Mrs. Rahn states, "We are very proud of our students' efforts this year. We would also like to thank Lisa Brown, who spent countless hours helping us train these students in skills, character building, and being our parental support!"

The well-prepared Nolan students reflected Ms. Rahn and Ms. Boculac's excellent teaching, and the results were students placing in Extemporaneous Writing, Medical Spelling, Career Health Display, Extemporaneous Health Poster, Creed Contest, and Prepared Speaking.

The teachers and students appreciate everyone's support this year in all of the events from the Penny Wars, Nolan's Got Talent (Marilyn Branning, Chris Robinson, Alisha Homan, Bob Medlin), HOSA week, Tropical Storm Sandy (Debbie Wilbanks) Career field trips, Regional and

State competitions (The Adult, Career and Technical Education Department), MDA Shamrocks, Stuck for a Buck (Lisa McGovern, Chris Robinson, Nicole Pringle), the cafeteria mural and taste tests (Wade Smith and MaryJane Carderelle-Hermans), to our Lee Roy Selmon's Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fundraiser (especially Bob Medlin, Wade Smith, and Nancy McGinnis). Angela Inderwiesen and Gale Lee were also a huge help toward HOSA's goals!



*Some Manatee County Students Competing at the HOSA State Conference*



*Manatee County's Middle and High School HOSA Advisors*

At King Middle School, the same group of students who "stuffed the bus" back in November at the Holmes Beach Publix got a chance to showcase their skills in events such as medical terminology, first aid, and career health displays at the state conference. These future health professionals came back with gold medals in 2 events, one bronze, and several 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes.



*Advisor Jon Syre with King Middle School HOSA at State*

**Manatee High School**, under the leadership of Laura Sollenberger and Chris Peters, brought home medals as well. They placed in Job Seeking Skills, Sports Medicine, EMT, Nutrition, Massage Therapy, and Forensic Medicine. Way to Go Canes!



*Manatee High School's HOSA Students*

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**Manatee Technical Institute won more medals and contests than any other postsecondary school in the state.** Thirty MTI students won medals in 19 contests, and two students won service medals and will be recognized at the National Conference for the President's Volunteer Service Award. The MTI Chapter was also recognized with a plaque for having the largest postsecondary chapter in the state and received the HOSA Centum Award for having over 100 members. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place winners will now advance to the HOSA National Leadership Conference to be held in Nashville this summer.



*MTI HOSA Team at State Conference*



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**Lincoln FBLA Shows up at State Conference**  
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**C**ongratulations to 17 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members from **Lincoln Middle School** and first year teacher Teresa Cook who attended. The students participated in leadership workshops as well as competed in various business related competitions. Each student that attended the state conference had already placed 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> in their event at the district level. Special congratulations to Mandi Lacanic,

Isabella Colosia, and Courtney Williams for taking 5<sup>th</sup> place at states in their Community Service Project Event.



*Mandi Lacanic, Isabella Colosia, and Courtney Williams*



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**Big Winners at District Conference**  
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Fifteen Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members from **Bayshore High School** headed to states as they placed in various competitive events at the District Leadership Conference held at State College of Florida earlier this year. According to FBLA Advisor, Bonnie Condor, "This is the largest percentage of FBLA students from BHS qualifying for states that we have seen for quite some time." Congratulations to these students for a job well done and we wish them well as they compete with students from across the state.



*Bayshore High School's FBLA Students*

**Southeast High School's** Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students won over 30 awards at the district conference, including: twelve 1<sup>st</sup> place, nine 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and six 3<sup>rd</sup> place medals. Cesar Guerrero and Huy Vu were elected as FBLA District 18 officers for the 2013-2014 school year. Twenty-five qualified to compete at the state level events.



*Southeast High School's FBLA Students*

## TOUCHDOWN — Southeast Scores Big

Southeast High School's Accounting 2 students were co-winners of this year's Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union's Financial Football Challenge. This is an intense competition in which teams of students throughout the Suncoast area compete in answering from a pool of 1,000 questions, with each winning team advancing to the next round.

The ABC Academy team members: Isabella Fernandez, Cameron Locke, Jennifer Caba, and Bryan Hernandez competed against 13 other schools located from Naples to Pinellas County by answering personal finance questions. The final round ended in a draw after an **additional 28 rounds in overtime**.

Each first place student was awarded \$500.00 and a desktop computer—all courtesy of the Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union Foundation.

Cindy Rees, an accounting, web design, and computer technology teacher at Southeast, said that the computer actually broke down by the end of the 28<sup>th</sup> overtime, apparently unable to keep up with the intense competition. When it was declared a draw and the teams were announced as co-champions, the Suncoast Board generously decided to award the grand prizes to both teams.

Rees said that each of the winning students has expressed an interest in pursuing a career in the accounting/finance fields and said that the competition and its preparations gave them a unique opportunity to gather real world-like experience in an academic setting. She explained that Southeast even has a Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union branch on campus, run by students who get hands on experience with deposit banking, while still in high school.



## Haile FBLA Develops Leadership

Haile Middle School FBLA students enjoyed the Fall Leadership Conference in Melbourne, Florida. Haile was recognized in the closing ceremony for having the highest number of middle school students attending. Way to go, Haile FBLA, for showing your commitment to future business leadership.



FBLA and Computer Applications in Business 2 students took a field trip to the Bealls distribution center, gaining exposure to this local retail employer. FBLA students also worked hard preparing for competitions and for the District Leadership Conference.

## Manatee County Hosts FBLA District Events

More than 500 middle and high school students representing five counties converged on the State College of Florida (SCF) on a recent Saturday in February, when SCF and the Manatee County School District hosted the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) District 18 Leadership Conference. Students competed in a wide variety of business-related contests including: Impromptu Speaking, Entrepreneurship, Digital Video, Job Interview, Management Decision Making, and more. Students who won competitions at the district level will advance to compete at the FBLA State Conference.

Lakewood Ranch High School business technology teacher Bobbi Colson, Ed.D., serves as District 18 Director, while Southeast High School's business technology teacher Cindy Rees serves as Co-Director. Four of the seven student FBLA officers are from Manatee County.



L-R FBLA District 18 Director Bobbi Colson; the FBLA contingent from Bayshore High School; business technology teacher Laura Gonzalez, District 18 Co-Director Cindy Rees, and retired business technology teacher Gayle Twitty

On Left (L-R): Cindy Rees (Advisor), Isabella Fernandez, Cameron Locke, Jennifer Caba, Bryan Hernandez, and Scott Callison (Suncoast Schools Credit Union Manager)



## FCCLA State Leadership Conference



Mickey's House, or Orlando was the venue for conferences this summer, including the State Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Conference.

Sugg Middle School FCCLA was there and not only did they show strong and bring home six medals, but they learned that FCCLA was full of opportunities for developing leadership and life skills. They heard about school initiatives started by students who first recognized a



Sugg Middle School Winners!

need in their community and organized solutions to make it better.

Much energy and many ideas were brought home and shared with the other club members. One fundraiser that was generated was a fundraiser that would benefit the Culinary program. The students baked ketchup cup cupcakes (mini cupcakes baked in a ketchup cup) and sold them for a \$76.00 profit. While considered a success, the students are already planning the next sale with hopes of doubling their profits!

A recent topic of discussion in the Culinary department at the school was the "incredible, edible egg." Students learned the benefits of eating eggs and how the addition of eggs to anything, even Ramen Noodles, can create a healthy and delicious meal as evidenced in their creation of Ramen Noodle Frittatas.

Students got to know eggs inside and out as they dissolved the shell in vinegar and exposed a naked egg! Discovering that acid from vinegar ate away the calcium citrate of the eggshell was miraculous. Making the connection between their teeth and the eggshell was higher order thinking at work. Many students eat lemons, oranges, and drink a lot of colas. These behaviors cause damage to the enamel on teeth. These are great connections that may save a tooth!



Sugg Middle School FCCLA Heads to Nashville

Lakewood Ranch High School senior Micaela Figueroa, this year's State President, led the general session. Other state officers from Lakewood include Briana Nelson-Canty and Miranda Lim.

Overall, Manatee County FCCLA students competed in various categories, bringing home three gold, 13 silver, and 10 bronze medals. Twenty-two students earning top honors will attend the National Leadership Conference in Nashville.



Micaela Figueroa, State President

## Food and Wine on Pine

Southeast High's culinary students participated and had a great evening at *Food and Wine on Pine* on Anna Maria Island. The event was a hit! Students were pushed to the max to perform, and also were able to advertise and enhance the beach community's knowledge of Southeast High School. SEHS Chef Allen had the students come in after school to prepare for this event. By offering advisory and guidance only, this experience has opened the students eyes into a baker's real life and how the students would be expected to perform on the job on a daily basis.

Students were able to showcase their baking expertise while practicing other skills such as time management, leadership, and advertising.



Southeast Culinary Students at Wine on Pine



## Acton Fills Mentorship Role Naturally

When Manatee High's Nancy Acton attended the FACTE Conference in Jacksonville she agreed, as part of a new state-wide initiative, to provide mentoring to teachers in low-performing schools. Acton was assigned a mentee based upon subject area and locale.

Her mentee is from Gibbs High School, a Title I school in St. Petersburg. Acton traveled to Gibbs High School for a day of observation and was able to provide valuable curriculum assistance, as this brand new program had very limited materials. The positive effect of FCCLA



*Nancy Acton* teacher in building a program that I love so much. There will always be a need for great teachers, especially in the formative years!"

was discussed and Gibbs High School may start a chapter in the near future. Debbie (the mentee) had the opportunity to observe Manatee High's ECE program. Acton shares, "I have really enjoyed being part of this initiative. As I approach the end of my teaching career, it has been rewarding to share with and assist a fellow

## Aspiring Artists at Kiddie College

Art Appreciation was a recent theme at Kiddie College, the Manatee High School VPK program. The children studied a variety of artists and then created their own art projects based upon the design techniques they observed. Little artists studied more famous artists Michelangelo, Warhol, Monet, Matisse,



*Future Artists From Manatee High's Kiddie College try painting on a "ceiling"*

Van Gogh, Picasso, Pollock, and Seurat. Pictured are several children working on their version of the Sistine Chapel.

## Mini Mustang Adventures

The children and the student-teachers at Lakewood Ranch High School Mini Mustang Preschool are having a lot of fun this spring. The three-year-olds and VPK children were invited to an Easter Egg Hunt by Quill and Scroll, an academic club at LRHS.

Klumpy, the school mascot, invited the Easter Bunny to join in all the excitement.

The VPK children have been traveling around the world. Their journey began in France and continued to Hawaii, China, and now they are in Australia. While studying about China, they had a guest speaker from China, Linfei Yi, a teacher at Braden River High came with several of her students to share about the Festival of Lights, Chinese culture, and language. It is exciting for them to do art projects, prepare foods and learn how to say "hello" in all of these countries.

In March, they went to the art room to see how pottery is made. They were each given their own piece of clay to create a masterpiece. Also they replanted the earth boxes from the Agriculture Department with cantaloupe and watermelon seeds. They can't wait for them to grow so they can eat them!



*Mini Mustangs learn about agriculture by planting the Earthboxes*



## Elementary Water Tower Competition

More than 150 enterprising elementary school engineers tested their skills against each other when the Manatee District hosted the "Elementary TSA Water Tower Competition" at Freedom Elementary School. The competition was centered on elementary-aged students having fun creating and building a functional water tower. The purpose was to teach the importance of engineering and its role in helping to provide communities with reliable drinking water.



*Elementary Students at the Water Tower Competition*

## Manatee County Sweeps TSA State Event



The Technology Student Association (TSA) State Conference, held recently in Orlando, welcomed over 300 Manatee County middle and high school students (out of the over 20,000 Florida TSA Members) who competed in almost 70 events. Upholding a long-standing reputation, Manatee County enjoyed fabulous results and won more trophies and top-ten finishes than any other school district in all of Florida. This is an amazing accomplishment and one that shows just how hard our teachers and students are working. Many of our teachers and students worked tirelessly over the weekends and after school hours in the months leading up to the State Conference and many will be heading on to national events that will take place this summer. Congratulations to our advisors who lead the way to victory:

Braden River High led by Gil Burlew, John Frank, David Sheppard and Bill Ferrell; Southeast High led by Richard Platt and Irene Nikitopoulos; Lakewood Ranch High led by Greg McGrew and Quintin Jones; Bayshore High led by Martha Proulx, and Charles Heister, and Manatee High led by Joe Orr and Patty Harris.

Nolan Middle led by Justin and Theresa Devine; Johnson Middle led by Hollis Bostic, Suzanne Jarrell and Richard Herring; Haile Middle led by Justin Erickson and Pam Platt; Sugg Middle led by Charles Routhier and Curtis Mesnard; Braden River Middle led by Kyle Holbrook; Harlee Middle led by Nathaniel Bostic; Buffalo Creek Middle led by Brandi Dillon and Maddy Ross, and King Middle School led by Adam Carmicheal.

Manatee County TSA Totals: 48 1<sup>st</sup> Place Event Wins, 31 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Event Wins, and 28 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Event Wins. Manatee County also swept the overall rankings with Braden River High School taking 1<sup>st</sup> and Southeast High School taking 2<sup>nd</sup>. For the middle school division, Nolan took 1<sup>st</sup> and Johnson took 3<sup>rd</sup>. What an amazing performance, and good luck at Nationals! For additional photos, visit [www.floridatsa.com](http://www.floridatsa.com) and click the link to the State Conference photos.



Above: Greg McGrew, Quintin Jones and some of the Lakewood Ranch Team

Below: Joe Orr and some of the Manatee High Team



Braden River High School at TSA State Competition



Nolan Middle School TSA Students at State Competition

## Going Guinness



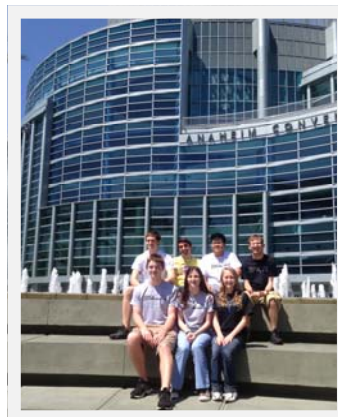
Lakewood Ranch engineering students made an attempt to beat the Guinness World Record recently with their Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. Setup of the deployment vehicle was without a hitch with liftoff at precisely 10:35 a.m. The balloon started its ascent quickly and quietly passed a private jet that was getting ready to land. It tracked southwest following I-75 until exiting due east down University Parkway continuing southeast until going over the Myakka River State Park reaching 98 mph horizontal speeds. The package continued skyward at a rate of over 20 ft./second until 11:36 a.m. at 77,385 ft. where it stopped transmitting for 18 minutes. When transmission was received, the package was on its decent heading in the opposite direction from 59,928 ft. Though there is not concrete proof, students believe the record was surpassed.

Retrieving the package took hours of driving, off-roading, and trudging through woods, cow pastures, and even coming face-to-face with a 2,000 lb. bull. But, in the end, the package was retrieved—all intact—ready for another go at the record next year!

## BHS Team Goes to World Championship



It wasn't the competition that was the highlight for the Bayshore High team reported the students; the true honor of the VEX World Robotics Championship in Anaheim, California was when Bayshore High technology teacher Martha Proulx and her late husband, Roger Proulx, were recognized for their work with the students. The couple was inducted into the VEX Hall of Fame as 2012-13 Volunteers of the Year for their activity in the robotics competition organization VEX and the Technology Student Association. The honor was a surprise for Ms. Proulx, technology adviser at Bayshore High. She is, and her late husband was, known in the Technology Student Association for volunteering at competitions statewide, setting up arenas, and serving as referees. Mrs. Proulx led the Bayshore team to the world's championship, where the students competed with robots bearing her husband's initials. "It is a way of remembering him," Proulx said. Mr. Proulx would have been proud as the team placed in the top 6 percent in the world out of 700 teams this year. Team member Khang Tran said the competition offered a chance to learn from their mistakes and to build better robots next year.



Bayshore Robotics Team

## BHS Goes to Engineering Expo

Robotics students recently took two post-secondary education field trips funded by students and community outreach. Students attended the University of South Florida Engineering Expo, learning the importance of math, science, engineering, and technology within their lives. This provided a unique opportunity to meet and talk with Tampa Bay's engineers, and gave students a chance to visit engineering student organizations at USF. The Expo featured hands on exhibits that helped encourage more students to pursue fields in science and mathematics.

On the second field trip, students and chaperones boarded a charter bus to the University of Florida. Through the University's Gator Outreach, which is funded by Exxon, BHS students participated in engineering labs, observed demonstrations, and networked with current UF

Engineering students. After lunch, the group took a tour of the different departments in the College of Engineering and even made a visit to "The Swamp." Gooooo Gators!



## BRHS Engineering Visits MTI

On a "walking field trip," Braden River High engineering students recently visited the HVAC Refrigeration and Air Conditioning program at MTI.



## Competition Held at Palmetto High

Palmetto High School hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual United States Construction Challenge. It is a multi-level competition for over 60 Construction Technology Students in Manatee and Sarasota County. Participants came from Lincoln Middle School, Manatee High School, North Port High School, Sarasota Military Academy, and of course Palmetto High School.

Competition ranged from team framing, OSHA safety, power tools, to many other identification activities, and building a tool box. Students also participated in safety measure events, hand tools, fasteners, technical drawing, and accurate measurement. In the shop, they were drilling holes, driving nails, cutting with hand saws and construction corners.....each activity was timed and had specific rules to be followed. It was a great event. The top three winners were presented with plaques and there was a prize drawing for all contestants with the prizes provided by Home Depot.



Power Tool Competition



Students arrive at USCC



SDMC FBA Advisors

## School Board Recognizes FFA

**M**iddle and High School Manatee County Fair and State Fair FFA winners were recently recognized by the School Board of Manatee County at their Board Meeting. Students were applauded for their recent achievements.



*High School FFA Students with the Manatee County School Board Members; Dan West, Manatee County Fair Manager; and Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Program Specialist*



*Middle School FFA students, teachers and administrators with the Manatee County School Board Members; Dan West, Manatee County Fair Manager; and Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Program Specialist*

## Palmetto High Students Welcome Calf

**A** beautiful new calf was born recently at Palmetto High School! Animal Science 3 & 4 were present and able to see first hand as well as alumni members John Stephens and Buddy Parks who were also available to assist the heifer that was having difficulty with the birthing process due to the size of the calf (100 lbs.). It is always a great day in Tiger Country! Photo seen on right.

## Way to go Team!

**A**CT is very proud that 4 of our schools have been selected for the “Florida’s Finest” FFA Chapters. Congratulations to Braden River High, Southeast High, Haile Middle, and Palmetto High! Florida FFA announced the selection of “Florida’s Finest” FFA Chapters. The selection of these chapters is based upon the completion of the National Chapter Award program application. These chapters have excelled in the areas of student, chapter and community development and have worked hard to fulfill the mission of the FFA. One member and one advisor from each of these chapters will be recognized on the main stage during the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Session of the 85<sup>th</sup> Florida FFA Convention this summer.

## Haile FFA Shares at Freedom

**H**aile Middle Agriscience students did a great job and had fun sharing agriculture with Freedom students. The younger students were attentive as the girls gave some fun facts on agriscience.



*Haile and Freedom Students Working Together!*



*Proud Mama and her calf*

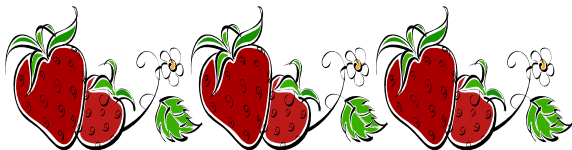
## Lincoln Recaps!

**A**griscience students become well acquainted with the production, processing, and marketing of fresh strawberries at Lincoln Middle under the direction of Kimberly Lough. From October-April students grow, harvest, sell, and of course EAT fresh strawberries from the school farm. The berries are grown hydroponically and integrate lessons in science, technology, and math. Students learn proper nutrient requirements of plants, apply ratios as they mix hydroponic nutrient solutions, perform pH tests, and learn irrigation design and the technology of time clocks. As strawberry season draws to a close in our subtropical Florida climate, Lough's students celebrate with their own miniature Strawberry Festival complete with homemade shortcake and fresh strawberry jam.

Below is an example of students showcasing and marketing their own fresh-picked hydroponic strawberries. Pictured left to right are: Arnetrice Gatherright, Enrique Caballero, Alyssa Kemmerer, Madison Stackhouse, and a drop-in student curious to see the fresh picks.



*Lincoln Agriscience students market their own fresh picked strawberries*



**Poultry Science** studies include the production, processing, marketing, and consumption of poultry products. As part of the curriculum, 8<sup>th</sup> grade agriscience students at Lincoln learned and practiced retail cuts identification with Mr. Jerry Levine, Meat Manager for Palmetto's Sweetbay Supermarket as he demonstrated the art of meat-cutting. The lab is an integral part of training for the FFA Career Development Event in Poultry.



*Agriscience students learn identification of retail poultry cuts from Mr. Jerry Levine, Sweetbay Supermarkets.*

## Lincoln FFA Makes History

**L**incoln Middle FFA made school history this year at the State Land Evaluation Career Development Event (CDEs) when they brought back a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish. Their accomplishments will be recognized during the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual FFA State Convention.

FFA members also practice "Living to Serve," which is part of the National FFA Motto. Members helped during the Palma Sola Botanical Park's Annual Spring Plant & Antique Sale. Members greeted visitors, loaded and transported plants, and helped run the hotdog booth. The Park, located in northwest Bradenton, is open and free to the public.



*FFA members "Living to Serve" during the Palma Sola Botanical Park's Annual Spring Plant & Antique Sale. FFA members pictured (left to right) Sebastian Siegler, and Caitlin Moore.*



*FFA Land Evaluation team (left to right) Sebastian Siegler, Elizabeth Atkinson, Jonathan Tyler, and Dylan Alvarez.*

## Congratulations Middle School FFA!

Congratulations to the **Lincoln Middle School** Ag Program for the big wins at the fair! They left with a total of 36 blue ribbons, plenty of red ribbons, AND they took 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, AND 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Poultry for Showmanship this year! Great job Lincoln students and Ms. Lough!

**Haile Middle School's** Dairy team finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the state of Florida at the State Fair in Tampa. Many grueling hours learning material for the skills bowl and taken written tests—plus hours of showing the animals across the state. The team was recognized at the 85<sup>th</sup> State Convention this summer at the Caribe Royale Convention Center in Orlando.

## Ag Celebrates Literacy Day

**Haile Middle School** volunteered to spend time reading with the students at Freedom Elementary School to honor Literacy Day. The FFA students had a great time reading with and sharing the importance of literacy with the younger students.



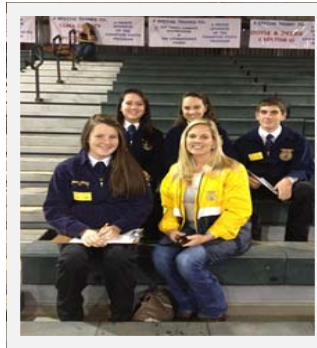
Haile FFA students at Freedom Elementary



Haile FFA students read to elementary students on Literacy Day

## Lakewood and Braden River Ranch Advance

**Lakewood Ranch** has advanced to the state competitions held in Gainesville for both Livestock and Horse judging.

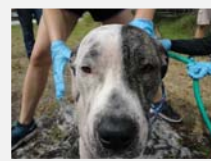


Left: Lakewood Ranch Livestock Team with Advisor Susan Graham



Right: Braden River High Livestock Team

**Braden River** also qualified to advance for Horse. Over 60 teams from around the state competed in both LRHS placed 9 out of 66 in both competitions and BRHS placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Horse! Great weekend for Manatee County FFA!



## Sammi Gets a Pardon!

**Palmetto High School** FFA is always looking for new ways to help the community and found just the opportunity in an American bulldog-mix on death row named Sammi. When the dog was found, she suffered a serious skin condition known as Demodex Mange. Because of the severity and the shelter's inability to treat her, shelter employees knew she would be difficult to place. Animal Service is working toward becoming a "No Kill Shelter," but due to over population of dogs, lack of space, and the fact that the canine's chances as a future pet were slim, it was felt there was not much hope for Sammi. Palmetto FFA students didn't hesitate and jumped at the chance to rescue Sammi.

Palmetto FFA advisor and agriculture teacher, Julie Tillet, stepped in and was able to secure a place for the 1 year old, female dog by the agriculture students at the Ag lab at Palmetto High. There she will be fostered out from the shelter so that the FFA chapter and agriculture students in the Veterinarian Assisting class can work with and train her while she receives the medication to improve her present skin condition. Sammi's adoptability will greatly increase, and she is sure to have a bright future in a new home.

Sammi is expected to be with the agriculture students for several months before she is returned to the shelter to be adopted unless a home is found for her beforehand.



*Sammi and Students*

Many other dogs like this one exist in all of our local shelters, so please help by donating or adopting rescue pets. If you are interested in adopting Sammi, please contact Julie Tillett at Palmetto High School.

### Braden River FFA Excels at State

State FFA Convention was a fantastic week of competition, leadership workshops and recognition of chapters, teams and individuals. Braden River High School FFA was proud to participate in many activities during the convention including: State Finalist in the Agricultural Education CDE, State Finalist in the Prepared Speaking CDE, State Job Interview Participant, Two State Degree Recipients, One American Degree Recipient, Top Ten (7<sup>th</sup> in State) FFA Alumni Essay Winner, 5<sup>th</sup> Place in State Harvesting Change Chapter, and the honor of helping recognize Honorary State Degree Recipient Ralph Garrison. Attached are a few photos!



*Honorary Degree Recipient Ralph Garrison and wife, Sandy with some of the Manatee County FFA contingent*



*Right: Mike Sanders, Southeast High's TV Production Teacher named "Advisor of the Year"*

### Southeast FFA Named State Champs

Southeast High's FFA Advisor and chapter members Zach Butler, Kaylee Betts, Alyssa Doss, and Brie-Ann Jaworowski are the 2013 State Champs after topping a 52-team field at the recent State Vegetable Career Development Event in Gainesville. Butler and Betts finished one-two in the competition where students had to identify:

- 65 kinds and varieties of vegetables;
- 35 harmful and beneficial insects;
- 28 different diseases that affect vegetables;
- 24 kinds of vegetable seeds; and
- 15 types of weeds.



*Southeast High's FFA Veggie Team*



### SETV's Sanders Top State SkillsUSA Advisor

Mike Sanders, Southeast High's Director of Television was named the Florida SkillsUSA Advisor of the Year. "Our program is extremely extensive and unique in the county," said Sanders. "We don't do high school television. We do real world television. We're not a filmmaking program. Students are taught news casting, talk shows, feature piece production and sports broadcasting." At the national level, Southeast has won three consecutive national titles, establishing the program as the premier of its kind.

The talented students of Southeast High's SETV, the Manatee County high school's student TV station recently won their 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive SkillsUSA state championship in Broadcast News Programming. SETV students managed a clean sweep, placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the event.



## BHS SkillsUSA Launches Shore Shirts

**S**HORE SHIRTS was the brainchild of the BHS chapter of SkillsUSA. With nothing more than a small manual press donated by Lakewood Ranch High School and some big ambitions, BHS students learned the silk-screening process all the way from the design phase through to the finished product. Their meager budget aside, students forged on with a trial and error method to find the best way to cure and expose the screens. They also used their creative skills for the artwork, and went on to the actual printing of the shirts.



“Shore Shirts” filled their first order from the Math Department for nearly 100 “Pi Day” shirts. The tongue in cheek saying, “Come to the Dork Side” was a big hit. Students and advisors, MaryAnn Kauffman and Charles Heister, worked tirelessly many evenings to ensure all the shirts were correctly sized and printed.

Another shirt order was a little more complicated; a tri-color “bone Jour” bulldog for the French Club.

The small business has stopped taking orders for this year, but is eager to accept orders for next year.



*Above: Charles Heister instructing student in silk screening*



*Left: Students model shirts for sale at Bayshore High*

## New Faces at MTI

**M**TI welcomes two new staff members. Nikki Harville, new Digital Media & Design Associate in the Public Relations and Marketing Department. She will be putting together Tech Times, maintaining our new website, doing photography and videography, and designing ads, fliers and posters for both digital and print media. Ms. Harville comes from Tennessee where she was the chief editor and social media coordinator for Lincoln Memorial University's television and radio network.

A big MTI welcome also goes to Jay Romine, new Director of Manatee Technical Institute's Law Enforcement Academy. The recently retired Chief of Police for the City of Holmes Beach brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position of full time director. “I am so pleased to have a graduate of our Academy become our Academy Director,” stated MTI Director Mary Cantrell, PhD. “Jay's years of experience on the FDLE Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) give him the wisdom and insight that will help our Academy grow under his leadership.”

Of interest is that Mr. Romine spent his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday riding on patrol with Mike Rushing (who just retired from the director position), who was then a state trooper with the Florida Highway Patrol. In one evening, he was introduced to policing professionally and politely with empathy and compassion. Romine recalled, “Being a law enforcement officer was the only thing I ever wanted to do.” He now looks forward to giving back to the Academy where he started his education for his continuing career in criminal justice.



*Nikki Harville*



*Jay Romine*

## Industry Approved Accreditation

The Major Appliance and Refrigeration Repair program at Manatee Technical Institute has earned accreditation from the Professional Servicers Association as an industry approved training facility.

The accreditation recognizes that MTI has “met all of the industry requirements for Quality Instruction, Compliance to Competencies and Curriculum Development in the areas of Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology.”

Mike Basich, the Florida SkillsUSA Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology Coordinator and owner of Michaelson’s Appliance Repair, Inc. of Tampa, presented the certificate to program instructor Paddy McCarthy and MTI Assistant Director, Sue Downs at the Region 6 SkillsUSA conference.

“MTI earned this accreditation because of the achievements of the students,” Basich said, and attributed the accreditation to how well prepared the students were to pass the ISO exam.

The Major Appliance Program at MTI prepares students for employment as electrical home appliance technicians, electrical appliance repair specialists or appliance service.

Mike Basich,  
Paddy McCarthy  
& Sue Downs



## MTI Wins First in Ford/AAA Auto Skills

Two of Manatee Technical Institute's high school Automotive Technology students, Wade Ingram and Skyler Bellows, won first in the State of Florida in the Annual Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Challenge State Hands-On Competition.

The MTI student team was one of ten qualifying teams in the state of Florida to compete for the opportunity to represent their state in the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Challenge in June.

At the Hands-On Competition, the MTI team raced against the clock to correctly diagnose and repair a deliberately “bugged” 2013 Ford Focus SE. A combination of the MTI students’ hands-on competition and online

qualified them as the state’s championship team.

MTI sees the competition as a way to help students start promising careers in the automotive repair industry, where there is a rising demand for well-trained technicians that can repair both computer and mechanical components in today’s vehicles. The competitions are organized with the support of AAA and Ford personnel and local automotive instructors.



Wade Ingram and Skyler Bellows, AAA Auto Skills

## Law Enforcement Academy Graduation

The MTI Law Enforcement Academy recently graduated basic recruits at the Bayshore High School Auditorium. Successful completion of the Law Enforcement Academy at MTI makes one eligible to take the State Certified Examination for Law Enforcement, the required test to become a Certified Law Enforcement Officer in the State of Florida. Class leader George M. Schrenk IV presented Academy Director Mike Rushing Sr. with the class plaque. Guest speaker Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube addressed the class. The Sheriff advised graduates to set goals, continue their education, remember they are public servants, and to have integrity at all times. He also encouraged them to put God and family before self and career. Chief Rick Wells, Palmetto Police Department, gave the invocation and benediction. MTI Director Mary Cantrell, PhD, gave the opening remarks.

## Cosmetology Gives Back!

Manatee Technical Institute's SkillsUSA Cosmetology Team provided hair, nail, and skin treatments to clients of the Homelessness Coalition at the Stand Down for the Homeless recently at Payne Park in Sarasota. They served approximately 250 homeless men, women, and children.

## MTI Students Attend SkillsUSA Region Competition

Manatee Technical Institute students had great success at the Region 6 Florida SkillsUSA competitions. The Manatee Tech students won 63 Gold, 48 Silver, and 33 Bronze medals. With 144 medals, MTI again won more medals than any other school in the region.

Five tech centers and four high schools participated in the regional competition. Participating tech centers included: MTI, Charlotte Technical Center, Fort Meyers Institute of Technology, Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology, and Sarasota County Technical Institute. All four high schools were Manatee District high schools: Bayshore, Braden River, Manatee, and Southeast.

The skills contests were held at Manatee Technical Institute's new main campus on State Road 70, and the leadership contests were held at Charlotte Technical Center in Port Charlotte.

For the past nine years, MTI has exceeded all other schools by winning the most medals in the nation. SkillsUSA is an international organization that promotes excellence, employability skills, and ethics to students in career and technical education to better prepare them for successful careers.



*Residential Wiring Competition*



*Marine Service Technology*

## Honor Society for Adult Education

Twenty-five of the 1,200 plus adult education students at MTI were chosen for the top honor of being inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society; this includes the top 2% of the class.

Family members, friends, and instructors pinned the students with the official honor society pin. School Board Chair, Karen Carpenter and Adult, Career and Technical Education Director, Doug Wagner congratulated each one of them.

MTI Assistant Director, Linda Agresta recognized her staff, the District, and MTI administration and the Board for their support.

The MTI Chapter is one of only nine chapters in the state of Florida. About half the inductees are working towards their GEDs, and the other half are learning English as a second language. The chapter is named the Lee Carter Brown Chapter after the deceased daughter of Suzanne Paul, the retired coordinator of the MTI adult education program. Carter-Brown was a strong advocate of literacy programs. The induction ceremony was held at MTI's West Campus.



*Lazara Garcia (center) with proud daughter and granddaughter and School Board Chair, Karen Carpenter at the Honor Society Ceremony*



*MTI Awards Ceremony*

## MTI Student Wins Art Competition

Manatee Technical Institute student Marcos Aviles received an Honorable Mention in the 2013 Congressional Art Competition. Aviles is a high school student in MTI's digital design program. According to Aviles, a junior, "I wasn't going to enter the contest until my father reminded me that I would never win if I didn't compete. Now I'm really glad I did and can't wait for next year's competition." He is the first MTI student to win an award in the art competition. Over 200 congressional offices participated in the program, including Florida's 13<sup>th</sup> district. The competition provides an opportunity for high school students to exhibit their artwork and be recognized for their talent. Their submissions have been hung at the Ringling Museum and will remain there for six months. A reception honoring local winners was held in the museum on May 10.



Marcos Aviles  
with  
Congressman  
Vern  
Buchanan

## Service Project Gets Personal for MTI

A SkillsUSA community service project became personal for Manatee Technical Institute's Patient Care Technician students when they participated in the Relay for Life event on Saturday. Crystal Robles, a dual-enrollment high school student in the program, was diagnosed with stage-four carcinoma after a doctor found a mass on her neck. When Denise Walker, the program's instructor, found out about the diagnosis she and the students decided to make the walk for Crystal. With that theme in mind, students designed t-shirts to wear to the event to show their support for their classmate. The Relay for Life was a huge success; \$100,000 was raised before the event even started, and the students showed their support for Crystal.



Crystal Robles

## Dental Assisting Program is Awarded \$1,000.00

The Florida Association of Orthodontists awarded \$1,000.00 to the Manatee Technical Institute Dental Assisting program in recognition of its excellence in providing high quality orthodontic training and state certification and assisting in the certification of alternatively trained orthodontic assistants. When students complete the MTI program they are granted the state certificate in dental assisting expanded functions. To date MTI has a 100% completion rate. MTI plans to use the donation to help purchase orthodontic equipment and supplies necessary to teach the orthodontic portion of the program.



Dr. Steven Tinsworth, past president of the association, presented the check to MTI Director Dr. Mary Cantrell (left), program counselor Kathy Matthews (far left), program director/instructor Kim Bland (right), and East Campus administrator Dr. Priscilla Haflich (far right).



## We Moved

Professional Support Center  
2501 63rd Avenue East  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
941-751-6550



<p>DOUG WAGNER—EXT. 2057</p> <p>SUZETTE VENTRONE—EXT. 2253</p> <p>CAROL LEWIS—EXT. 2006</p> <p>SUZANNE THEISS—EXT. 2314</p> <p>ROY NELLES—EXT. 2317</p>	<p>TRISH LITTON—EXT. 2054</p> <p>TERRY BRAZA—EXT. 2058</p> <p>MELISSA SCHWAB—EXT. 2316</p> <p>SARA GAINES—EXT. 2179</p>
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## CTSO and Student-Centered Events

The ACT Department is here to support you in any way we can to help you achieve a successful chapter. Attending conferences with students is one of the most exciting and demanding aspects of being a CTSO advisor, while providing student-centered educational opportunities that last a lifetime.



**CECF/BPA** [www.cecf.org](http://www.cecf.org) or [www.bpa.org](http://www.bpa.org)  
July 2013 State Association Advisory Council Meeting, Washington, D.C.



**HOSA** [www.flhosa.org](http://www.flhosa.org)  
June 26 - 30, National Leadership Conference Nashville, Tennessee



**DECA** [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org)  
Jun 18- Jun 21, Bring Your Classroom to Life with DECA Institute | Charlotte, NC



**SkillsUSA** [www.skillsusafl.org](http://www.skillsusafl.org)  
June 24-27 National Leadership Conference Kansas City



**FBLA/PBL** [www.floridafbla-pbl.com](http://www.floridafbla-pbl.com)  
July 18-19, New Adviser Training, Orlando, FL



**TSA** [www.floridatsa.com](http://www.floridatsa.com)  
June 28-July 2, National TSA Conference Orlando, FL



**FCCLA** [www.flccla.org](http://www.flccla.org)  
July 7-12, National Leadership Conference Nashville, Tennessee



**FBA** [www.futurebuildersofamerica.org](http://www.futurebuildersofamerica.org)  
July 26-28, Southeast Building Conference Orlando, FL



**FFA** [www.flaffa.org](http://www.flaffa.org)  
National FFA Convention October 30 - November 2, Orlando, FL

# ACT UPDATE

Adult, Career & Technical Education

**School District of Manatee County**  
2501 63rd Avenue East  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
(941) 751-6550 Ext. 2253  
[www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com)



**Adult, Career and Technical Education** is the branch of academics that links the world of education to the world of work. The **ACT UPDATE** delivers the department's latest news, events, and "shining stars"—accolades of achievement in career and technical education. Got news, events, or comments to include in the next **ACT UPDATE**? Send your articles to:

**Doug Wagner, Director ACT**  
[wagnerd@manateeschools.net](mailto:wagnerd@manateeschools.net)

or

**Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Specialist**  
[littont@manateeschools.net](mailto:littont@manateeschools.net)

## Around the District

Watch for all of the publications keeping you informed about what's happening around the District in the Adult, Career and Technical Education Department.



Tech Times

Career Pathways

Take Stock Times

Transition Times

ACT Update

Spotlight on Success

ManateeACT.com