



FORT MYERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Upcoming Events

December 16
Blood Drive

December 18 – January 2
Winter Break

January 6
ParaPro Assessment

January 14
Practical Nursing
Informational Meeting
1-2 P.M.

January 15
End of 2nd Semester

January 16
Professional Duty Day
(no school)

January 20
Evening Classes Start

January 21
School Advisory Council
Meeting 7:30 A.M.

January 23
Taste of FMIT - BBQ

**Fort Myers
Institute of Technology**
3800 Michigan Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33916
(239) 334-4544
Fax: (239) 332-4839
www.fortmyerstech.edu

*Soaring Scene is a free
quarterly newsletter of FMIT.*

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Cathleen O'Daniel Morgan, District 3, Chairman
Steven K. Teuber, District 4, Vice Chairman
Mary Fischer, District 1
Jeanne S. Dozier, District 2
Pamela H. LaRiviere, District 5
Nancy J. Graham, Ed.D, Superintendent
www.leeschools.net

GREAT CAREER—Grateful Graduates

You won't find many turbine engines around Fort Myers. So why did Fort Myers Institute of Technology (FMIT) start offering a Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Repair program?

In 2010, Mr. David Branton, Chief Executive Officer, Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inc. (TGM) in Cape Coral approached Bill McCormick, FMIT's Director, and expressed his need to hire trained turbine technicians at his company which services turbine engines all over the western hemisphere.

In September of 2011 a partnership between FMIT and TGM was formed in order to create a new training program called "Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Repair."

According to Mr. Branton, "A partnership between business and education, built around economic and workforce-development needs, is necessary to attract the best talent to the power industry."



Bruce Lawmaster, Josh Przebienda,
Robert West, and John Medina

The story is a perfect example of what can be accomplished when private industry and public education partner to solve a problem.

Because this program did not exist anywhere else in Florida, a new curriculum was written by the partners and approved by the Florida

Department of Education. Program content includes physics, electricity, electronics, hydraulic systems, and assembly and reassembly of high speed turbines and generators.

In order to have a working training model, FMIT acquired a 2.5 megawatt used steam turbine generator from the power plant at the University of Portland, Oregon, and it was refurbished at TGM's Training and Logistics Center in Knoxville, Tennessee. It was shipped in pieces to FMIT, and students received invaluable hands-on training by putting it together as a permanent training tool. "Although small, this particular turbine generator is representative of much larger units used in power plants throughout the United States," said Mr. McCormick.

(continued on page 8)



SkillsUSA®

2014-2015 SkillsUSA Officers

- **President:** Miguel Gallardo (Drafting)
- **Vice-President:** Wayne Martin (Automotive Service Technology)
- **Reporters:** Wendy Hager & Gigi Schley (Medical Coder/Biller)
- **Secretaries:** Johanlee Andrujar-Perez & Keywee Owens (Medical Coder/Biller)
- **Treasurer:** Daniel Bruseth (Business Supervision & Management)
- **Parliamentarian:** Christian Wood (Automotive Service Technology)
- **Membership Representatives:** Angela Lopez & Terrika DuBose (Early Childhood Education)
- **Officer-At-Large:** Amanda Arnold (Medical Administrative Specialist)



Pictured from left to right: Daniel Bruseth, Johanlee Andrujar-Perez, Keywee Owens, Christian Wood, Miguel Gallardo, Angela Lopez, Terrika DuBose, Amanda Arnold, Wayne Martin, Wendy Hager. Gigi Schley is missing from photo.



Find us on
Facebook



William McCormick

Message from the Director

Where the Jobs Are

A recent feature in the national newspaper USA Today titled "Where the Jobs Are," focused on a workforce issue that we here at FMIT are very familiar: the national skills gap. The news story did a great job highlighting what many of our students have already realized - there are plenty of great jobs out there for those who have the right skills and know where to look. The author of the article referred to these positions as "middle-skill" jobs, but I would dispute that characterization. These jobs require advanced skills, and that is why those who possess them can increasingly choose from multiple employment offers. Nonetheless, I believe this article is another great indication that more people across the county are realizing the needs and benefits of a technical education.

The most recent workshop in the Market-Watch Workforce Now symposium series, (which is sponsored by the Fort Myers News-Press) focused on Information Technology job sector. This project also looked specifically at the local economy and its overall workforce needs. In both cases, the workshop participants were surprised to learn that the majority of future job openings in this local economy are in occupations that require less than a college degree but some postsecondary education and training. That is exactly what the national trends report as well and is in-line with what we here at FMIT provide.

Each year, FMIT receives over \$20,000 from many local organizations and community groups in generous donations to its student scholarship fund. Recently, two students were awarded \$500 general purpose scholarships from the B Company of the Vietnam Brotherhood, a group made up of local Vietnam War Veterans. The scholarships were presented to the students on November 7th and will be used to assist these student veterans with their educational expenses while attending FMIT. This is just one concrete example of the kind of overwhelming support FMIT gets from our community.

Please be sure to take a close look at this issue of the *Soaring Scene* as you will read about the many exciting, interesting, and noteworthy achievements being accomplished by FMIT students. Have a very, very, happy holiday season!

FMIT's Rapid Prototyping Lab

One person can make a difference and at FMIT one student can make a difference. Not long after enrolling in Electronic Technology in October 2013, one student, Ian Gustafson, wanted to see the school start to bring some of the new, emerging, rapid prototyping technologies and tools to FMIT.

Fabrication Labs (Fab Lab's) are growing in the United States and Europe as the technology is a big part of STEM educational objectives. After approaching his instructor, Mr. Charles Ryder, with a picture of the idea and through later collaborative group discussions with Dr. Ciolfi and Mr. Christiano, the plan of just how these exciting things would integrate with our school was hammered out.

Mr. Gustafson did extensive research, identified the tools and components, investigated what current equipment could be incorporated in the lab, and pinpointed the cost of the investment as well as the needed facility modernizations. In April 2014, Mr. Gustafson created a video and presentation for the proposed FabLab which was presented to FMIT's administration. The administrators were immediately on board and Mr. William McCormick, FMIT Director, secured a grant to purchase equipment and software. When the components arrived this fall, Mr. Gustafson was instrumental in getting the equipment set up and operating.

The new Fabrication Lab, located in the G building, is equipped with an array of flexible computer controlled tools for all sizes of things and different materials; the aim is to make "almost anything." When most people hear "Rapid Prototyping," they may think about 3-D printing, one of the most talked about new tools in our world today. But there is so much more! Some of the new features in the Lab include:

- A laser cutting and engraving machine;
- A 4'x8' CNC Router;
- 3-D scanning and 3-D printing;
- Vinyl cutting for graphics and signs;
- Electronic prototyping with microcontroller development boards; component breakout boards; manufacturing, test, and inspection equipment; and
- Fully-equipped computers with the hardware and software tools needed for these modern applications.

All of the programs on campus stand to benefit from the FabLab. Parts and brackets can be manufactured for cars, molds can be made for auto body repair, or nursing students can create detailed models of body parts such as a kidney or an aorta. All manner of soft materials, such as wood, paper, cork, glass, foam, or plastic, can be cut, bent, shaped, engraved, or created into the desired form using precisely-controlled computer equipment. The new facility is poised to emulate the new breed of modern, high speed, lean manufacturing startups driving new technology.

Before enrolling at FMIT, Mr. Gustafson earned an AA degree from Florida SouthWestern State College. He plans to continue his future in science and technology. "Ian will be an innovator and inventor," says Mr. Ryder. His contribution to FMIT is tremendous and will be a great benefit to future students here. Ian Gustafson has made a difference at FMIT.



Ian Gustafson

Auto Collision Students Use Latest Technology by Jon Clute

The Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing program recently acquired the Shark Frame Measuring Aligner Tool. This unit provides speed, accuracy, and easy-to-use 3-D imaging technology to get accurate measurements the first time. Manufacturer representatives came to FMIT to train the students on the use of the unit.

The Shark uses ultrasound technology to collect measurements and track repairs. Emitters on the probes are attached to the vehicle at specific points and send ultrasonic signals that are received by high-frequency microphones located in the lightweight extruded aluminum beam. The results are compared to manufacturer specs and any problem areas are identified automatically. This leaves the student/technician free to concentrate on straightening, not on how to collect measurements.





Construction Workforce Connection

Construction is booming again in Southwest Florida! The new Construction

Workforce Connection program is in cooperation with CareerSource SWFL and several local contractors. It is designed to get people trained in the construction field and on the job fast. The student spends the first 9 weeks in class completing an overview of the industry and receiving OSHA training. Then the student will declare their program of choice and will immediately begin on-the-job training three days a week and attend class two days a week. Financial assistance is available to those qualified. See an FMIT counselor or contact CareerSource SWFL at (239) 931-8200 for more information.



NEW WEBSITE

REAL Skills
for REAL Jobs

FortMyersTech.edu

Apply Online!

FMIT

FORT MYERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



FMIT's new website was launched on October 7th. The new site is more user-friendly, provides more information on FMIT's programs, and prospective students can now apply online.

Thank you to all the students who graciously 'modeled' for the page banners. Check out the new site:

www.FortMyersTech.edu

NTHS Inducts New Members

by Beth Browder

November 3, 2014—Eighteen new members were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). The students had to pass a rigorous nomination process before being inducted. They were nominated by their program instructor, maintain an 'A' grade point average and excellent

attendance, and produce proof of community service hours.

As members of NTHS, students receive an official letter of congratulations from National Technical Honor Society, are provided information regarding job opportunities in their field of study, and have the opportunity to apply for various scholarships.

National Technical Honor Society students recently sold large, florist-quality poinsettias. Profits will be used to help offset membership fees for the March inductees.



Standing from left to right: Melissa Ramos, Bradley Witter, Wanda Santos, Jecoa Loreda, Christian Rembert, Wendy Hager, Daniel Bruseth, Dorene Kukal, Paul O'Hern, Audelia Christmas, Russell Schneider, Christian Wood. Seated from left to right: Barbara Thomas, Darrell Williams, Melinda Rowley, Amanda Arnold, Krystal Olson, Tanisha Mitchell.

In the early 1990's, **Jeff Barde** (*bottom photo*) had been working as an air-conditioning technician for a couple years when he decided to enroll in the evening Air Conditioning class at FMIT in order to become a better technician. He continued working as a technician and service manager before earning his contractor's license. In 2008 Mr. Barde and his wife, Melissa, started their own company, Mr. Cool Air Conditioning & Heating, LLC, and now they are hoping to hire FMIT graduates.

The Bardes' goal is to offer outstanding customer service and to focus on ethical business practices. They started out small with Mr. Barde handling all the service calls and Mrs. Barde running the business office. With a lot of hard work, dedication, and commitment, they built their business from the ground up. Today they have 10

service trucks with 17 employees including their son, son-in-law, and two nephews. Their nephew Nathan Barde is currently enrolled in the evening Air Conditioning class at FMIT. Mr. Barde said it is very important for his technicians to keep current with the changing industry by attending continuing education and manufacturers' training classes.

Mr. Barde sees the Southwest Florida market igniting with more baby boomers retiring and moving to the area. Currently, he needs to hire two qualified entry-level technicians. "To be a well-rounded employee, the classroom training is irreplaceable," said Mr. Barde. He said that FMIT's Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heating Technology graduates won't have any problem securing a job; in fact, they will probably field multiple job offers!





Jason Hardman, Patrick Stott, Victor Goldschmidt, David Wahl

October 17, 2014—Victor Goldschmidt, Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University, spoke to the **Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology and Electronic Technology** students. The lecture focused on the nature of engineering thought processes: recognizing the role in problem-solving, looking for alternatives, using creativity, thinking in a pragmatic manner, considering safety, and always asking questions.

Looking for Free Resources— Check out the Library

by Cathy Fowler

Have you been to the library lately? If not, check out the new downtown library located at 2450 First Street. You'll be amazed with all the **free stuff available at the library**. Listed below are the major resources available to you with your library card:

-  Online Catalog Search
-  Download e-books
-  Download audio books
-  Search for books, audiobooks, e-books, DVDs or Blu-rays
-  Select which library you want the holds sent to for convenient pickup
-  Check your library account
-  Download music Free via Freegal

-  Access library subscription e-sources
-  Keep a list of items you have checked-out
-  Learn another language free at the library resource page
-  Career services available on the library resource page
-  Ask-A-Librarian
-  Programs and events
-  Research and Homework Tools



The downtown library has 25 computers with internet access available. If you need a quiet day to yourself, you can relax on the outdoor reading deck with tables and chairs overlooking First Street. A Genealogy Room has been opened and a volunteer is available to help you. The first step in accessing so many resources is to obtain or renew your library card. For additional information, www.leelibrary.net is the place to go.

Evening Classes

Most Classes begin January 20, 2015
Most Classes Meet from 6 – 9 P.M.

Air Conditioning.....	84 hours
A/C NATE Review Class.....	4 hours
Appliance Repair.....	84 hours
Auto Maintenance & Repair	84 hours
Boating Maintenance & Repair	84 hours
Certified Nursing Assistant.....	120 hours
Cyber Security	84 hours
Drafting and CAD.....	84 hours
Electricity	84 hours
Hair Braiding.....	24 hours
ICD-10 Certification Training.....	18 hours
Medical Coder/Biller (Online Course).....	1000 hours
Welding	84 hours

Register online at
www.fortmyerstech.edu

**GO FAR
WITHOUT YOUR CAR**



LEARN ONLINE!
Over 300 courses to choose from!

www.ed2go.com/fmit

MAXIMUM SECURITY

HACKER

PUSHING

Our daily life, economic vitality, and national security depend on a stable, safe, and resilient cyberspace. As we become more reliant on modern technology, we also become more vulnerable to cyber attacks. FMIT is offering a new Cyber Security class on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning January 20, 2015. This class offers an introduction to the technical knowledge and skills needed for further education in cyber security related careers. Students will learn about computer, network, web, and software security vulnerabilities, security; attack mechanisms and techniques; intrusion detection and prevention; risk identification; incidence response; penetration testing; key management; access control; and recovery. Sign up today at www.FortMyersTech.edu.

SPAM

IDENTITY

WALL

GRAINGER FOUNDATION DONATES SCHOLARSHIP MONEY



Stephanie Watson, Todd Zellner, and Bill McCormick

The Grainger Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois, has donated \$10,000 to Fort Myers Institute of Technology (FMIT) in support of its mission: "To prepare students for current and emerging industries."

"This grant will be used for scholarships for students pursuing technical and career education," said Bill McCormick, FMIT's Director. "We're grateful to The Grainger Foundation for its support, and their generous donation will allow deserving students to pursue their career education goals in Fort Myers," McCormick said.

Since May of 2010, the Grainger Community Grant Foundation has provided scholarships to over 40 students in amounts ranging from \$500 to over \$1,200. Without Grainger's continued support, many of our students would not be receiving the training and education deemed necessary to change their lives and the lives of their families. These funds go a long way in assisting students with their educational expenses, especially during this challenging economy. FMIT teachers, staff members, and students are extremely grateful to the Grainger Community Grant Program for their altruistic generosity.

This donation was recommended by Todd Zellner, branch manager of W.W. Grainger, Inc.'s Fort Myers location. Grainger has been a part of the Fort Myers business community for more than 50 years as the leading broadline supplier of maintenance, repair, and operating products. "We are proud to recommend the programs offered by FMIT," said Zellner. "We understand the need for technical and career training in the local community."



According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the median number of years a person stays in one job is 4.1 years; an average person will have 7-10 jobs in his/her lifetime. **Nancy Hamilton** (photo below), Early Childhood Education instructor, has been employed by The School District of Lee County for 43 years! She's not your average person! Her love of teaching has made these years go by quickly. She has taught hundreds of high school and adult students and over 350 three to five-year-olds have had their first educational experience with Mrs. Hamilton.

When Mrs. Hamilton pursued her Home Economics degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, she never planned on being a classroom teacher. That all changed when she did a student teaching assignment in her senior year and realized she loved teaching.

Fresh out of college, Mrs. Hamilton (then Miss Ward) moved from Meadville, Pennsylvania, to Fort Myers, sight unseen, to start her long career as a teacher. That first year of teaching was in 1971-72, just three years after schools were integrated; when teacher salaries were \$6,600 per year; and there was little or no air conditioning in the schools!

In October 1980, she started the Lee Tech Tots program at FMIT after teaching Family & Consumer Science at both Cypress Lake Middle and High Schools. In addition to her time with the School District of Lee County, she was also an adjunct professor at Edison State College (now Florida SouthWestern State College) for 28 years. She has taught two generations in some families. "Mrs. Hamilton taught a Home Economics course when I was in 6th grade at Cypress Middle School," says Leigh Byer. "I remember her teaching us how to sew "ditty-bags" with the drawstring! While working at High Tech Central (now FMIT), years later, I had the opportunity to enroll first my daughter Brittany in the Lee Tech Tots program, followed by several years later, my son Kenny. That was some of the best one-on-one instruction my kids ever received and certainly helped them academically! Everything came full circle."

The Lee Tech Tots program was located in two portable buildings for 32 years. Mrs. Hamilton designed the new facility which opened in 2013.

Along the way, Mrs. Hamilton received numerous awards for being an outstanding educator from the following organizations: Phi Delta Kappa, Florida Association for Education of Young Children, Lee County Vocational Association, and FMIT's Silver Apple Award. She was nominated by her students many times for the district's Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Program and was named a Teacher of Distinction three times. She was also a member of numerous

local, state, and national educational organizations as well as serving as an officer in many of those organizations.

"It has been a pleasure and privilege to work with Nancy Hamilton for a mere 14 of 43 years! Her enthusiasm and professionalism are infectious," says Dr. Beth Elliott, proud friend and colleague. "She cares deeply for her students and the program! She will be sorely missed. I wish her the very best in her retirement; she certainly earned it!"

"I have had the pleasure of knowing Nancy since 1989. She was invaluable helping us when we purchased a child care center; now she's invaluable as a friend!" says Marianita Kennedy, former owner/director, Carousel Kiddie Kingdom. "Her passion for education and her concern for others is apparent in everything she does. Her professionalism is a model to strive for. Nancy seems to have unlimited energy. She has always been an advocate for improving childhood education and also for all of her students. I know the Early Childhood Education program has been blessed by Nancy and it will be a difficult task to fill her shoes."

The past few years, Mrs. Hamilton has served as a SkillsUSA advisor and has led membership drives; fundraising activities; and has made travel arrangements to regional, state and national competitions. In 2008 she traveled with FMIT's state winners to the national competition in Kansas City, Missouri.

"Nancy Hamilton personifies the ideals of being a professional educator," says Mr. Bill McCormick, director of FMIT. "She may be the most competent, caring, diligent, and energetic teacher I have ever had the honor of working with. She has influenced and guided at least two generations of early childhood educators in Southwest Florida, not to mention the hundreds of colleagues, both in and out of school, that she has worked with. We have all been lucky to have worked with her," he said.

Travel, sewing, photography, and spending more time with family will be Mrs. Hamilton's priorities after she retires in December. Mrs. Hamilton and her husband David are the proud parents of Jason and Erin and the even prouder grandparents of Savannah, Autumn, and Garrett.

More than anything else, she'll miss her coworkers at FMIT; advisory members, some who have served 20 years on her committee; and the students. "We are family – we have laughed together, cried at times, worked hard, and celebrated each other's accomplishments," says Mrs. Hamilton.

We celebrate Mrs. Hamilton's accomplishments and wish her a very Happy Retirement!



SkillsUSA

by Keywee Owens, SkillsUSA Secretary

The FMIT Chapter of SkillsUSA has had a busy start to the school year. During September new members were enrolled and the election of officers was held. All officers and members were inducted into the chapter on October 3rd and have assumed their duties. The new officers represented FMIT in Sarasota on November 7th for the Regional Leadership Meeting.

A community service project of collecting donations and distributing pink ribbons for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Awareness took place on National Pink Day October 24th. October also proved to be a big fundraising month for SkillsUSA. Students sold the Lee County School Checkbooks to raise money for the chapter travel expenses to the regional competition which will be held in February 2015. SkillsUSA members held a Senior Picture Day where all students who will be graduating in the next few months were able to obtain graduation pictures in a cap and gown, all in a digital format.

November is off to a great start with the fundraiser 'Taste of FMIT.' Many participated in a fun day of tasty treats. Everyone is looking forward to December 5th for the 'Chili Cook-off.' November is also a time for SkillsUSA members to honor our veterans; each veteran was given a flag to honor his/her service to our country.

FMIT's SkillsUSA membership drive is now closed, but it looks like we have an outstanding group of officers who will lead the membership in many more projects and competitions through the 2014-15 school year.



Chef Joe Mastrangelo, Taste of FMIT Winner Shannon Singleton, & Arron Wakeman



Sacha Mahaley, Shakelia Burdette, Eileen Urrutia, & Lisemode Brignol

We the People

September 7, 2014 – To celebrate the ratification of the Constitution 227 years ago, FMIT students were given a pocket-size copy of the *Constitution of the United States*. Students also received a free doughnut and coffee. Thank you to RaceTrac for the donation of coffee.



Rafael Serrano



Taylor Smith, Esther Laborde, Daviana Gonzalez, and Mercedes Sanchez

Welcome

Terry Churaman, BSN, RN was born in Guyana and moved to the U.S. when he was 11 years old. After completing his AS degree at Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) and passing the Florida Board



Terry Churaman

of Nursing licensure examination in 2011, Mr. Churaman worked in the orthopedic unit at Lee Memorial Health System doing a 2 year internship. In 2012, he began the BSN program at FSW while still working full-time. He earned his BSN in May 2014. Two months later, he was hired to teach the 1st semester of the Practical Nursing program at FMIT. The minute he walked into his classroom, Mr. Churaman knew this was where he was meant to be. "Teaching at FMIT brings both of my passions together – teaching and nursing," says Churaman. "Terry is enthusiastic and extremely supportive with the students, says Nancy Redenius, Health Science Education Department Chair. "I have seen him be creative in the classroom providing the students with various learning tools. He is a great asset to faculty in the Health Science department and we are glad to him." Mr. Churaman continues to work part-time as a nurse at SalusCare, Inc. helping people going through detox for drugs and alcohol.

Donna Hernandez 'retired' from The School District of Lee County after teaching early childhood education for thirty-eight years. But she soon realized she wasn't ready to end her teaching career and just a few months later became the director of A Step Up Golden Gate at Collier Child Care Resources, Inc. While employed in the district, she hired and trained 50 Early Childhood Center staff members; spearheaded a grant for Early Head



Donna Hernandez

Start that increased federal funds by approximately one and a half million dollars to serve pregnant women, infants, and toddlers; oversaw the renovations of the Early Childhood Center's Infant and Toddler building; and developed trainings for parents, community organizations, local and state conferences, and on-going professional development for early childhood teachers and staff. Ms. Hernandez is a member of the state of Florida's Infant and Toddler Specialist Trainer Cadre and has served as a member of the local Early Learning Coalition Quality Committee from its inception.

When the Early Childhood Education instructor position opened at FMIT, Ms. Hernandez was eager to return to the comfort and stability of a school district. "After a long career in early childhood education, I understand the importance of ensuring children from zero to five get quality care and education," says Ms. Hernandez. "This passion to help students develop skills and an understanding of this very serious job of teaching our youngest and most vulnerable citizens has led me to FMIT. I am very excited to be fulfilling a career dream of training early childhood educators!"

Todd Robarge, Automotive Service Technology instructor, first learned mechanical skills from his mother who had learned them from her father. As soon as he completed high school in 2003, Mr. Robarge enlisted in the United States Army where he worked as a mechanic at Hanau Base in Germany. After completing his enlistment in 2006, he worked as a mechanic at a boatyard. In 2007, Mr. Robarge enrolled in the Automotive Service Technology program at FMIT



Todd Robarge

and was hired at Honda of Fort Myers in the cooperative education program. He completed the program in 2009 and went to work full-time for Honda. He has achieved Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Technician and Honda Master Technician status. Mr. Robarge assumed a teaching role at Honda when new technicians were paired with him. He discovered a love of teaching and seized the opportunity when a teaching position became available at FMIT.

Practical Nursing Graduates October 31, 2014



Pictured from left to right: Carsi Bellamy, Dolores Nunez, April Caywood, Brittney Tanner, Tatyana Karbisheva, Flor Gonzalez, Yolanda Frenot, & Stephanie Farnham. Not pictured: Valerie Cole

December 2, 2014 – The **Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology** students attended a traveling road show showcasing the newest products from Daikin Manufacturing, one of the leaders in variable flow refrigerant systems. Also showcased was a 100% Addison outside air unit for commercial buildings that conditions the hot and humid outside air before it enters the air conditioning unit that feeds conditioned air. The show was put on by Mr. Andrew Key, manager of Carroll Air Systems.



August 7, 2014 – Congratulations to **Debbie Georgiadis**, school counselor, and **David Wahl**, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology instructor on their marriage.



Withdrawing from Class Can Be EXPENSIVE

by Stephanie Watson

If you are a financial aid recipient and YOU withdraw from class, YOU could be responsible for repaying Pell Grant funds to the federal Government.

Withdrawing within the first five days:

If YOU withdraw from school during the drop/add period (the first five days of enrollment), YOU are entitled to a full refund of tuition. If YOU are a Federal Pell Grant recipient, YOU will only receive Pell Grant for the amount of time YOU were enrolled. The percentage of Pell Grant earned is determined by the number of hours YOU were enrolled. For example, a student who attends 18 hours of school may be entitled to approximately \$114.

Withdrawing after the first five days:

If YOU withdraw from school after the drop/add period (the first five days of enrollment), YOU will be responsible for the full amount of tuition and fees charged to your account during the term of enrollment. If you paid cash, you will not be entitled to a refund. If you received a Federal Pell Grant, you may be responsible for repaying Pell Grant to the Federal Government as well as paying the institution for funding returned to the Federal Government as a result of your withdrawal.

Return of Title IV Aid (R2T4)

When a student withdraws from school prior to completing the period of enrollment, the school must calculate the percentage of funding earned by the student and return the portion of unearned funds to the Federal Government. The R2T4 calculation is determined by the number of hours a student has been enrolled divided by the number of hours the student has

been paid. If you attend less than 60.1% of the hours paid, you will be required to repay a portion of the Pell Grant awarded. You will be notified of the balance and are responsible for paying in full within 30 days. Failure to pay your Federal Student Aid balances can result in a poor credit rating and ineligibility for additional loan and/or grant awards.

BEWARE!

CAUTION: If YOU are a financial aid recipient and YOU are thinking about withdrawing from school, please contact the Financial Aid Administrator for assistance. Financial Aid can be reached at (239) 334-4544 ext. 320. Our office hours are Monday – Friday: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM.



GREAT CAREER— Grateful Graduates

(continued from front cover)

To date, 26 students have completed the program which was designed to apprentice individuals into the rewarding and well-paying turbine generator industry. Ninety-eight percent of the graduates have been placed in jobs. Graduates work on turbine engines at paper mills, sugar plants, power plants, mines, and waste energy plants. First-year salaries range between \$40,000 - \$60,000. Experienced, trained technicians can earn as much as \$80,000 - \$100,000 per year and have opportunities for upward mobility and to travel all over the Americas.

Gary Kiger is the program instructor in the Lakeland Electric Power Academy at Tenoroc High School. His program is a partnership between Lakeland Electric Power and Polk County Schools. He currently has 125 students enrolled in the 4-year long program. During the student's senior year, they job shadow at Lakeland Electric Power. Mr. Kiger regularly brings students from his class to FMIT for field trips to visit the Turbine program. So far, 8 students from the program have attended FMIT. On September 12, 2014, he visited FMIT with twelve students, four of whom plan to enroll here as soon as they graduate high school.

At TGM, new hires work like independent contractors, enabling the company to build a strong labor pool to support the 10 full-time teams it may have in the field at any point in time. Once hired, the graduate apprentices are assigned mentors—senior mechanics who will take their education to the next level.

Launching a collaborative business/education partnership requires a great deal of effort, but it is only the “tip of the iceberg.” The process of refinement and enhancement of the training program takes a long-term commitment. TGM provides equipment, instruction, and technical support on a regular basis to help ensure success. As an example, TGM Resource Manager Arlo Swab spends one day a week at the school, assisting the teacher, Jeff Ohime; he trains students in taking measurements, recording data, and working both safely and productively. TGM foremen and technical directors often visit classes to provide “real world” industry experience.

The key to TGM's success, according to President and CEO David Branton, is “We have the best qualified people, the best tools, and very specific work processes that allow us to work efficiently and get the job done right the first time.” Together, FMIT and TGM are creating positive and far-reaching ripples in the community.

Life as a traveling turbine mechanic certainly is not for everyone and graduates with strong family ties often look for a permanent position at a plant close to home after a road job or two. But those who are “unattached” and thirst for seeing what the world outside of Florida is like,

enjoy the work. About 40% of the company's business is offshore; the opportunity to visit countries in the Caribbean and South America is enticing to some. Plus, mechanics who manage their money wisely can pretty much survive on per diem and bank their wages.

The Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Repair graduates are very grateful for the training they received at FMIT. When they aren't working on a project, they are often on the FMIT campus working side-by-side with new students. They discuss their experiences with students and provide insights that are not taught in class—for example, how to travel and how to maximize per diem.

A few of the graduates recently shared their story while they were volunteering on campus.

John Medina graduated from the Turbine program in March 2014 and now works for Alstom Power which was recently bought out by GE for \$13 billion. Alstom also builds turbine engines and provides long-term service contracts. John encouraged two friends, Dustin Greco and Gary Swanson, to take the program as well.

“The Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection & Repair program at FMIT has given me the skills I need to be successful in the turbine industry by teaching us hands-on exactly what we would do out in the field. Safety is the #1 priority for the technician,” says Mr. Medina. He encourages students who are mechanically inclined to take the program. “Learn as much as you can.”

While on the job, he works 12 hour days, 7 days a week and enjoys the long stretches of time off. He spent 2 months in Orange, Texas, working at Cottonwood Generating Station owned by NRG Energy, Inc.

Samson Webb completed the Lakeland Electric Power Academy at Tenoroc High School where he was 19th in his graduating class. He was a high school junior when he found out about the Turbine program. Although he had the grades to be accepted in any college and his high school counselors strongly encouraged him to attend college, Mr. Webb wanted to get started with a career right away. He found out he could complete the Turbine program in just over a year and get a job earning over \$20 per hour. He plans on completing a college degree online while working for TGM, Inc. and would like to be a Steam Path Engineer.

Mr. Webb moved to Fort Myers to attend the FMIT Turbine program and rented an apartment with a classmate, Shawn Gillespi. He completed the program in October 2013 and went to work for TGM, Inc. within a week of graduating as a Turbine Generator Mechanic.

As soon as he graduated, he moved back to Auburndale, Florida, in order to live with his parents and save more money. He estimates he'll make between \$50,000 - \$60,000 his first

year on the job.

So far, Mr. Webb has worked on projects in California, Arizona, Jamaica, and Chile.

Shawn Gillespi also moved from Lakeland to attend the program. He completed the program in October 2013 and went to work for TGM, Inc. the day after he graduated. A few days later he was on a plane to New York for his first job. He has worked in Texas, Arkansas, Colorado and Tennessee. His next project is a major steam unit in Chile – he will be there from October through January.

Bruce Lawmaster is a 2012 graduate of East Lee County High School. While a student in high school, he attended the automotive program. His automotive teacher, George McDaniel, encouraged him to look into the Turbine program at FMIT. Once he checked into the program, he saw a brighter future than the automotive field – less competition and a more rewarding career. Bruce graduated from the program in October 2013 and went to work for TGM, Inc. the following month. Because the Turbine program did so much for him, he plans on volunteering as much as he can. “The program helped teach me the nomenclature. I had great hands-on experience and really appreciated the opportunity to work with trained technicians.”

Mr. Lawmaster loves to travel and has worked in Phoenix, AZ; Americus, GA; Baton Rouge, LA; Bartow, FL; Pittsburgh, PA; and Fargo, ND; he looks forward to international travel. “I've driven about 20,000 miles since March 2014 - all over the country and have been able to experience so much and so many different foods and people. I've also been able to save a great deal of money since I've started.” Mr. Lawmaster is living off his per diem for travel and saving his entire salary.

Josh Przebienda found out about the Turbine program through the GED class he was enrolled in. He previously worked as a carpenter but had always been interested in mechanics. Mr. Przebienda was a member of

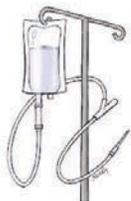


Students work alongside TGM skilled craftsmen to learn the proper method for lifting and lowering the steamer's upper casing.



the National Technical Honor Society while at FMIT. He graduated from the program in October 2013, and went to work for TGM, Inc. within the week. “The job requires hard work and lots of critical thinking. I am continuously learning because no two units are built the same.” Mr. Przebienda has worked in Texas, Montana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Florida.

Robert West graduated from the Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection & Repair program in March 2014. He has worked in six states, for three different companies, and looks forward to seeing more new places. “The work is tough, but very rewarding, long hours, lots of travel, and great money.”



Intravenous Therapy

by Cindy Marshall

The 30-hour IV Therapy course is offered on our campus several times a year. Students complete an online component that includes videos, worksheets, and links to websites prior to attending a hands-on 3 day intensive course.

During the classroom portion, students practice insertion of peripheral IV's, care and maintenance of a central line, use of electronic IV pumps, and learn to document the information in an electronic health record.



Mrs. Suzy Trimble observes a student demonstrating proper use of an electronic IV pump.

Holiday Fact

Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850. The trees usually grow for about 15 years before they are sold.



**O
P
E
N**

**H
O
U
S
E**



Public Invited—Free Admission—Door Prizes

**A CAREER IN A YEAR!
EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE!**

FMIT
Fort Myers
Institute of
Technology

Saturday
February 28, 2015
9 A.M. – 1 P.M.

3800 Michigan Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33916
(239) 334-4544
www.fortmyerstech.edu

Over 30 full-time
career training programs
Lowest cost in
Southwest Florida
Financial assistance available
Bright Futures
scholarships accepted

HOW TO FIND US
FMIT is located on Michigan Avenue
just north of the flea market. Take
Veronica Shoemaker off MLK to Michigan
Avenue and turn right one block.

TOUR THE CAMPUS—MEET THE TEACHERS!
Lots to do and see! **FREE** popcorn, manicures, and blood pressure checks. Tour the campus, see program demonstrations, car show, and much, much more. B-B-Q (nominal charge) and bake sale.

September 18, 2014 – **Chef Criss**, the Executive Chef at Sundial Resort, presented a cooking demonstration to the Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts students. She also talked to them about job opportunities at the resort AND they got to eat the delicious 15 lb. red snapper.



The Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology program recently became accredited through the Partnership for Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, and Heating Accreditation (PAHRA) in the following areas: residential heating and air conditioning, light commercial heating and

air conditioning, and commercial refrigeration. Thank you to Mr. David Wahl and Mr. Patrick Stott who completed an extensive self-study. The programmatic accreditation verifies that the program meets the instruction, curriculum, student, faculty, and facility standards set forth by PAHRA.



VETERANS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP

by Suzan Harden



On Friday, November 7th, Dick (Teach) Kennedy, Herb "Tiger" Hastings, and Jerry "Digger" Kmiecik, representing the Vietnam Brotherhood Bravo Company, presented two FMIT students with \$500 scholarships. We are pleased to congratulate Krystal Olson and John Roberts.

Krystal Olson, U.S. Army veteran who served in Alaska for four years, is enrolled in the Medical Administrative Specialist program. She is married with one daughter. Ms. Olson hopes to continue her education in the medical field after graduation.

John Roberts is also a veteran of the U.S. Army and is enrolled in the Plumbing Technology program. He is concurrently enrolled at Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW) pursuing an A.A. degree. He has just six semester hours remaining, and he is very excited about his graduations from both FMIT and FSW in the spring of 2015. Mr. Roberts plans on using his plumbing skills to support himself and his three children while he attends Florida Gulf Coast University to pursue a bachelor's degree. He is interested in a career in either education or business management.

FMIT thanks the members of the Vietnam Brotherhood for their support of our students.

Pictured from left to right: Suzan Harden, Krystal Olson, John Roberts, Herb "Tiger" Hastings, Dick "Teach" Kennedy



November 4, 2014 – Every student in the Major Appliance and Refrigeration Repair program



successfully passed the State of Florida 408 Gas Qualifier Certification exam! This certification allows an appliance repair company to apply for, and legally work on, gas-fired appliances. Thank you to Mr. Jason Nook from Gas Training Services who conducted a workshop on campus preparing the students for the certification exam.



Jacob Duran, Angelo Llewellyn, Latoya Atkinson Ramon Reyna, Charles Fillingame, Darrell Williams, Randall Spangler, Gang Nguyen, Aaron Eichbauer, Jason Slapp, and Ben Bartlow

FMIT Awarded 2015 Military Friendly Schools® Designation

Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life, has named **Fort Myers Institute of Technology (FMIT)** to the coveted Military Friendly Schools® list. The 2015 Military Friendly Schools® list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and to ensure their success on campus. Now in its sixth year, the 2015 list of Military Friendly Schools® was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 schools nationwide approved for VA tuition funding.



"We are honored to be recognized for the work we do for our veterans here at FMIT. More and more of our students are veterans, and it's important that we make sure we meet their unique needs as they pursue the career goals here at our school," said Bill McCormick, FMIT's Director and Army veteran.

October 20, 2014 – Manuel Gonzalez, a professional wrestler and Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts student, organized a fundraiser at New Era Wrestling for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.



Manuel Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez's great-grandmother and godmother are both breast cancer survivors who received

tremendous help and support from the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Mr. Gonzalez baked the cake and Mrs. Arron Wakeman, Chef Joe's extraordinary baking assistant, decorated the cake which was sold at the event.



Mr. Gonzalez enrolled in the program because he has always wanted to be a chef; his goal is to own a catering business and food truck that would deliver meals to the disabled.



segment on FMIT's YouTube Channel.

October 17, 2014 – Randy Ortiz Navarro, Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection & Repair student, is interviewed by Hernan Fratto, anchor at Univision SW Florida. View the



Page Mechanical Supports HVACR Program

by Patrick Stott

The Air Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology program recently received a donation of five gas furnaces. Because FMIT does not have natural gas, they needed to be converted to LP gas and LP gas tanks needed to be installed. By code bollards must be installed in the front and side to protect the tank from accidentally being struck by a vehicle. Holes needed to be cut through 4 inches of concrete; FMIT does not have the equipment to perform such a task. At the advisory breakfast on October 10th, Sean Jones, Service Manager for Page Mechanical Group, Inc. offered his company's services to drill the holes. Page Mechanical graciously sent two of their technicians (Eric Vella & Jacob Swisher) to core drill 5" holes for FMIT. Mr. Jones also offered to make the sheet metal ductwork that would be attached to the five furnaces to supply the air.



Eric Vella & Jacob Swisher

Thank you to Mr. Jones and Page Mechanical for their generous work. Because of their continued support, students will now have the chance to work on and service gas-fired furnaces. This will enable students who decide to go north to have actual hands-on experience with working with gas equipment.



October 10, 2014 – To coincide with the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, the Southwest Florida Public Service Academy hosted a local Fallen Firefighters Ceremony.



Riding for Warriors

by Dr. Dante Ciolfi

"I'll sleep in a ditch if I have to. Our soldiers are doing far more." When you look in Adam Sandoval's eyes, you can see that this isn't just talk. You see a man with passion to give back to those who have sacrificed and continue to sacrifice for our country.

He and Scooter (his rescue dog) are riding his Harley across the country to raise awareness and money for our wounded and fallen soldiers. One hundred percent of donations for the charity ride will go directly to Grade "A" charities like the Intrepid Fallen Hero Fund. Mr. Sandoval is funding the trip himself along with sponsors like Harley Davidson. He departed Fort Myers Harley-Davidson on Monday, November 10th and anticipates being on the road for the next year.

The connection to FMIT is that Roy Land, a student in Web Application Development & Programming, happened to run into Mr. Sandoval at Fort Myers Harley-Davidson. Mr. Land overheard Mr. Sandoval discussing a trip he was making and heard that he needed a Web site. Mr. Land, who is an Army veteran, offered to build the site as a class project. He secured the help of another classmate, Nelson Alvarez, a Marine Corps veteran. The two of them have worked feverishly to get the site ready on very short notice. Check it out at <http://scootinamerica.org>.

The trip has garnered the interest of Hollywood's Big Block Productions which will video the trip and turn it into a reality show. "ScootinAmerica" reality show will be brought to you by the producers of successes like "American Idol," "Pit Bulls and Parolees," and "Monster Garage" just to name a few.

*Happy trails –
Adam and Scooter*

Honoring Our Veterans

On this Veterans Day FMIT honored students and staff for their military service. They represent all branches of service. We have chosen two veterans to feature in this issue: Khrystie Gonzalez, Coast Guard, and Anthony Finney, Marines.

Khrystie Gonzalez received an academic scholarship when she graduated from Palmetto Ridge High School. After graduating from Hodges University with an



Khrystie Gonzalez

A.S. in Medical Assisting she applied her skills for two years in the field. Although she loved her job, she was looking for a challenge and the opportunity to travel.

Ms. Gonzalez's father was a 23-year veteran of the United States Coast Guard where he rose from the lowest enlisted rank to a Warrant Officer. Impressed by his success, Ms. Gonzalez enlisted for a four year stint in the Coast Guard. Boot camp was in Camp May, New Jersey followed by her first unit at Station Oak Island, North Carolina. Ms. Gonzalez studied more in the Coast Guard and earned more certifications than she had in college. First aid, CPR, Search & Rescue, Shooting, Tactical Member, Boating Safety, Towing, and Self-Defense were just a few of the certifications she earned. Her job included patrolling the U.S. coastline and securing that ships going to war weren't intercepted by enemies. After completing two months of training in Petaluma, California, Ms. Gonzalez rose to the E4 rank of Storekeeper (logistics specialist) and was transferred to Detroit, Michigan where she finished the last two years of her enlistment in the Financial/Logistics division.

When her grandfather presented the family with a few acres of land, Ms. Gonzalez decided to finish her enlistment and pursue her dream of living a self-sustainable lifestyle. Her experience in the military has given her the confidence to know she can do anything. Using the GI Bill, she enrolled in the Carpentry program to learn the skills to build her own home. When she completes the program in the

spring, she would like to work for a couple years in construction to learn additional skills. Her entire family plans on moving back to Puerto Rico within a couple years to turn their dream of self-sustainability into a reality. They will grow their own fruits and vegetables and raise chickens, pigs, and cows. Ms. Gonzalez knows that self-sustainability won't happen overnight and she plans on using her medical and carpentry skills to help offset costs.

As high school graduation was approaching in 2003, **Anthony Finney**, wasn't sure what career he wanted to pursue. The United States had recently invaded Iraq so Mr. Finney made the decision to serve his country in the United States Marine Corps. Immediately after graduation, he reported to Paris Island, South Carolina to complete Marine Corps Boot Camp. The Marines in his first unit were more like his brothers than friends.

In 2005, he was deployed to Al-Qa'im, Iraq near the Syrian border.



Anthony Finney

For seven months he provided convey security as a gunner. On one of their missions, they came under enemy fire and the truck he was in caught fire and exploded;

fortunately everyone aboard was able to escape uninjured. In January 2007 Mr. Finney returned home after his 4-year enlistment was over. He had a hard time adjusting to civilian life and re-enlisted for another 4 years six months later. In 2009-10 he was stationed at Camp Ramadi, Iraq and 2010-11 at Helmand Province in Afghanistan. He signed up for another 2 years and spent his final year in North Carolina and by this time had reached the rank of sergeant.

His years in the Marines helped him gain more confidence in himself but the skills he had learned didn't translate to a good job in the civilian world. That's when Mr. Finney decided to use the GI Bill to pursue further education at FMIT. After graduating from the Plumbing Technology program, he plans on working in the area as a plumber. His long-term goal is to move to the beautiful state of Oregon.



The staff and students at FMIT thank the following fellow students and staff members for their service to our country. You are appreciated!

Students

Joshua Allred	Army
Nelson Alvarez	Marine Corps
Stephen Baughman	Army
Kevin Benjamin	Navy
Clayton Estill	Marine Corps
Jason L. Farley	Army
Anthony Finney	Marine Corps
Shelemiah Fleming	Army
Khrystie Gonzalez	Coast Guard
Alan Klein	Army
Roy Land	Army
Carl Morris	Army
Paul O'Hern	Air Force
Krystal Olson	Army
Sergio Ortiz	Army
Oran Renfroe	Marine Corps
John Roberts	Army
Roberto Rosa-Espada	Army
Brandon Schwerdtfeger	Navy
Matt Wertin	Navy
Justin Yaple	Army

Faculty & Staff

William McCormick, Director	Army
Jon Clute, Instructor	Navy
George Cook, Substitute Instructor	Navy
Steve Dougherty, Student Affairs	Air Force
Steve Friebel, Technology Specialist	Navy
Mac McGee, Instructor	Army
Todd Robarge, Instructor	Army
Troy Ruth, Security	Army





November 13, 2014— The **Marine Service Technology** students manned a booth at the 42nd Annual Fort Myers Boat Show. It is widely considered the premier boat show on Florida's west coast and featured boats of just about every type imaginable.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!



Standing left to right: Kevin Lundgren, Brian "JR" Barone, Alex Pitcel, Aaron Ramos, Sal Dalu. Kneeling left to right: Logan Pufahl, Brian Cousino, Rusty Hanzevack, Jay Somers



Congratulations to **Esther Bermudez** who will be retiring on December 19th. Ms. Bermudez has been employed at FMIT since 2006. She is moving to Avondale, Arizona to live with one of her sons; she also has a son in New Jersey and another in North Carolina, 5 granddaughters, and a grandson. Enjoying life and traveling are top on her agenda including a trip to Puerto Rico to visit family. Best wishes!



Rusty Havzevack, Sal Dalu, Brian (JR) Barone, Kevin Lundberg, Brian Cousino, & Alex Pitcel

October 3, 2014 – Students in the **Marine Service Technology** program enjoyed a training day on the Caloosahatchee River. They learned basic starting and operating procedures aboard FMIT's 26-foot Stamis powered by a late model 350 Magnum Mercruiser Bravo sterndrive propulsion unit. Students from previous classes resurrected the old boat that was donated to the school and installed the new power plant.



Pictured from left to right: Alexander Hernandez; Oran Renfroe; Richard Schaefer, Carpentry instructor; Khrystie Gonzalez; Michael Lobo



November 5, 2014 – A new guard house was designed by the **Drafting** students and built by the **Carpentry** students. **Electricity** students will wire the structure, and painting and

landscaping will be done by FMIT's custodial staff.

Check out FMIT's YouTube Channel to see program videos, TV commercials, and interviews. Visit www.fortmyerstech.edu and click on the YouTube link.



AUTOMOTIVE STUDENTS WORK ON VINTAGE CHEVROLET

by Ron Ellis

Students in Mr. Ron Ellis's Automotive Service Technology (AST) class not only work on the newest technology on late model cars, but also have the opportunity to work on classic and historical automobiles. This 1964 Chevrolet Impala, owned by Steve Hubbard, is completely restored and was in need of some service. A transmission selector shaft seal was removed and replaced with a new seal. This cured the defective oil seal problem. In the past, Mr. Hubbard has donated money so that the AST students can take the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification test

and upon a passing score be reimbursed. A great example of the camaraderie between some of the local auto shops and the school is the example of Steve Santangelo, who has received 7 ASE certifications and has been reimbursed with the funds Mr. Hubbard has generously provided. The AST program is providing students with a rewarding and lifelong set of skills. The success is obvious and placement in the workplace is high. Enrollment is now open for the Automotive Service Technology program beginning on January 20, 2015.



Maximillon Taggard



Certified Professional Biller

by Judy Smith



Amanda Goff, a student in the Medical Coder/Biller program, recently became the first student to pass the Certified

Professional Biller exam. She is already employed as a professional biller with FMA Hospitalist. Ms. Goff, a member of the National Technical Honor Society, will take the Certified Professional Coder exam after she completes the program in January.

CPB™

Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee – seated from left to right: Gayla Thompson (Early Learning Coalition), Sue Rihani (Wellington Academy), Patricia Guth (Child Care of SWFL), Donna Hernandez (FMIT); standing from left to right: JoAnne Fuciu (LMHS), Nancy Hamilton (FMIT), Dr. Beth Elliott (FGCU), Frances Cerniglia (Brown Academy)



October 10, 2014 – Over 100 business professionals along with Dr. Nancy Graham, Superintendent of The School District of Lee County, attended **FMIT's Annual Advisory Breakfast**. These advisory members, many former FMIT students, provide their expertise and support to the instructors. The delicious breakfast was prepared by Chef Joe's Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts students.



SkillsUSA President Miguel Gallardo

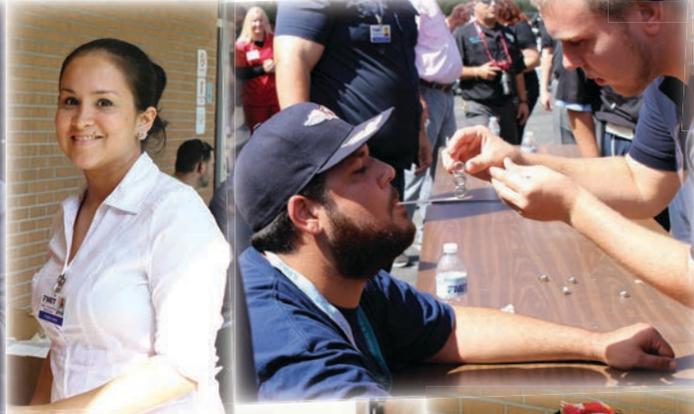


Pictured from left to right: Aimee Rudd & Shanna Grier

Student Appreciation Day— October 10, 2014

You had a choice and you chose FMIT. Thank you!
 Thank you to everyone who participated or came out to watch the games. A great time was

had by all!!! A special thank you to Mr. Mike Esterline and the Marine Service Technology students for organizing the games and providing all the great prizes!



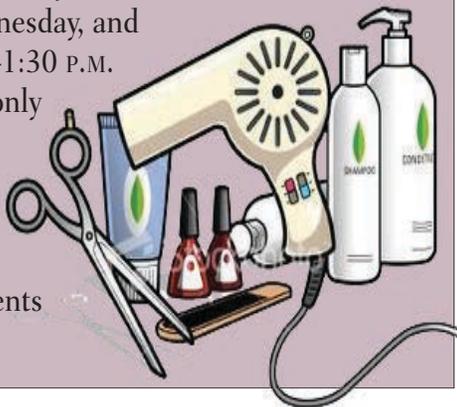
Congratulations to **Ryan Fowler** and **Joe Arnold** (above), Welding Technologies students, who came out on top at the Student Appreciation Day (SAD) games. They now have possession of the coveted SAD trophy and have earned the right to display and adorn it until it goes up for grabs at the next event in the spring.



August 21, 2014 – Students in the **Early Childhood Education** received Red Cross First Aid and CPR training for adults, children, and infants. Below, **Martha Hidalgo** performs infant CPR.

COSMETOLOGY SALON OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FMIT's Cosmetology Salon is open to the public on Thursday from 9 A.M.–4:30 P.M.; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 A.M.–1:30 P.M. Haircuts are only \$5.00 and a basic manicure is only \$6.00! No appointments are necessary.



Diversity Think Tank by Cindy Marshall

Nancy Redenius, Department Chair of the Health Science Education Department, attended a Diversity Think Tank as a member of the Florida Action Coalition. This event was held in Orlando on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. We are proud to have a member of our faculty on the steering committee of this forward thinking coalition. To learn more about the advancement of nursing in Florida, please visit <http://thefutureofnursing.org/FloridaActionCoalition>.



Photo courtesy of Florida Action Coalition Facebook Page. Nancy Redenius is the first person on the left.

DAY PROGRAMS

- Administrative Office Specialist
- Air Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heating Technology
- Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing
- Automotive Service Technology (A.S.E.-Based Technician)
- Building Construction Technologies
- Carpentry
- Certified Nursing Assistant (*various starting dates throughout the year*)
- Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts
- Construction Workforce Connection
- Correctional Officer
- Cosmetology
- Crossover Correctional Officer to Law Enforcement Officer
- Crossover Law Enforcement Officer to Correctional Officer
- Drafting (CAD)
- Early Childhood Education
- Electricity
- Electronic Technology
- Fire Fighter
- Florida Law Enforcement Officer
- IV Therapy
- Licensed Practical Nurse (*various starting dates throughout the year*)
- Major Appliance & Refrigeration Repair
- Marine Service Technology
- Medical Administrative Specialist
- Medical Coder/ Biller
- .NET Application Development & Programming
- Patient Care Assistant
- Phlebotomy
- Plumbing Technology
- Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Repair
- Web Application Development & Programming
- Welding Technologies



For registration information call (239) 334-4544



October 30, 2014 – **Electricity** students installed the electric for the new fountain and lights in the courtyard.

Pictured below from left to right: Chris McElroy, Richard Liepold, Michael Ramraj, Danny Hernandez, Matthew Schneider, Joseph Machado, Jason Farley

PART-TIME PRACTICAL NURSING STUDENTS GRADUATE

November 4, 2014 – Congratulations to the eight dedicated part-time

Practical Nursing students who recently completed their program. They attended class two days per week for the past 23 months along with 12 hour clinical days. Most of the students work and have families, so it took a lot of perseverance in order to complete their program.



Pictured from left to right: Theresa Foreman, Kelli Laird, Jessica Rivera, Romaine Wilson, Joshua Allred, Leigh Deriso, Louis Juste, and Roxanna Chavez, Matthew Schneider, Joseph Machado, Jason Farley

