

FMTC

FORT MYERS TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Upcoming Events

FMTC Informational Meetings

Every Tuesday at
9:30 A.M. & 5:30 P.M.
Thursday at 1 P.M.

10/03/16

Rosh Hashanah (no school)

10/06/16

ParaPro Testing

10/07/16

Annual Advisory
Breakfast 7:00 A.M.

10/14/16

Student Appreciation
Day – Blood Drive

10/17/16

Teacher Professional
Day (no school)

10/25/16

Practical Nursing (part-time)
Graduation 6:00 P.M.

10/26/16

Career Decisions Workshop
1:00-2:30 P.M.

10/31/16

Practical Nursing Graduation
3:00 P.M.

11/09/16

National Technical Honor
Society Induction

11/11/16

Veterans' Day (no school)

11/16/16

School Advisory Council
Meeting 7:30 A.M.

11/23-25/16

Thanksgiving Break

11/30/16

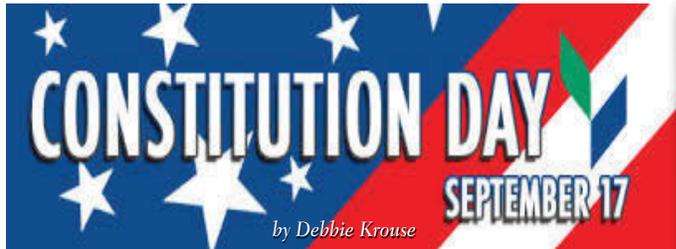
Career Decisions Workshop
1:00-2:30 P.M.

**Fort Myers
Technical College**
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 FMTC

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
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September 16, 2016 – FMTC students and staff celebrated the ratification of the Constitution that took place in September 1787. FMTC students were given a pocket-size copy of the Constitution of the United States. Representatives from Lee County Elections signed up 16 new voters.



Cosmetology students
Marian Arencibia and Cassidy Kramer



Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts students
Brandon Britton and Neasha Garcia



Welding Technology students – David Brethauer, Eric Bobnik,
Donnavan Gannon, Antonio Ortiz, and Hunter Welch

Student Awarded Scholarship for HVACR Training

by Debbie Krouse



September 13, 2016 – Adam Franklin, a student in the Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology program, was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship by the Clifford H. “Ted” Rees, Jr.



Adam Franklin

Scholarship Foundation. Mr. Franklin is one of 37 students across the nation to be awarded this scholarship from the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI). “We are pleased to award scholarships to these qualified and dedicated students and veterans, and hope to eventually welcome them into the industry,” said AHRI President and CEO Stephen Yurek. “Each year, the Foundation provides aid to an increasing number of recipients, helping to promote careers in the industry and fill good-paying jobs that cannot be outsourced.”

Mr. Franklin came to FMTC seeking a career with

a regular schedule and benefits after being self-employed for many years. Mr. David Wahl was his instructor for basic air conditioning and Mr. Patrick Stott was his instructor for advanced air-conditioning. Since June, Mr. Franklin has been on cooperative education and is employed full-time as an air-conditioning technician with Page Mechanical Group, Inc. He has earned Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 608 Refrigerant Usage Universal Certification and North American Technician Excellence (NATE) Residential ICE Certification and will soon be testing for 2 other NATE certifications. Mr. Franklin will graduate from the 1350 hour program at FMTC in October and will continue his career at Page Mechanical. “The instructors at FMTC really know the air-conditioning industry; they both helped me a lot,” said Mr. Franklin. “The other students in the program shared their expertise which helped me grow as well.”

FMTC’s Air-Conditioning program is nationally accredited by PAHRA (Partnership for Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Accreditation).

Director's Message

This college is an awesome place to work, as well as a great place to learn "how to work." I am excited about the future of Fort Myers Technical College, because I believe our college is fulfilling a much larger role in providing relevant job-skill training to our community. The state of our local economy has proven the importance and value of technical colleges such as ours, evidenced as our graduates have routinely been hired into positions of great responsibilities with compensations that will allow the lives of them and their families to thrive. Our programs are doing a great job of serving the job-training needs of many people who have sought to better their skills and capabilities, and we are gratified that so many have chosen Fort Myers Technical College to begin their new careers. We are glad you are here.



Brian Mangan

Please take a few moments to look over this edition of the *Soaring Scene*. There are many great things going on here at our school, and we want you to know about them. In this edition you will read about some of the improvements and initiatives we have undertaken to make sure we are providing first-class programs. You will also read about some unique things our students are doing in their programs or in other student-based organizations. Fort Myers Technical College is a busy place with a wide array of student-focused activities. I encourage all students to take advantage of these opportunities. Get involved and stay involved, as this will only serve to improve your future job prospects. See you around campus!

Grainger Foundation Donates Scholarship Money by Debbie Krouse

The Grainger Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois, donated \$10,000 to Fort Myers Technical College (FMTC) 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 Brian Mangan, FMTC'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," said Mangan.

Since 2010, the Grainger Community Grant Foundation has provided scholarships 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. FMTC's 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 FMTC," said Zellner. "We understand the need for technical and career training in the local community."



John Murray, Sandy Shimp, and Todd Zellner

Nursing Assistant Graduates – September 2, 2016



Pictured left to right: Chelsea Herring; Metuschelah Petit-Frere; America Romero; Marilyn Giesel, instructor; Angelina Joseph; Guadalupe Sebastian; Alise Stoker; Sandra Pekular; Tessa Mabry



Notification to Parents Regarding Out-of-Field Teachers

Florida State Board Rule 6A-1.0503(3) recognizes that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. FMTC is reporting that there are no teachers that are teaching out-of-field during the 2016-2017 school year.

SAVE
THE
DATE

STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY

Friday
October 14th
Food & Fun!!!

Thursday
December 15th
CAREER FAIR
8:30 – 10:30 A.M.



September 8, 2016 – J.R. Pesek, Jacob Frazier, and Marco Garza, Welding Technology students, designed and fabricated display stands for the Southwest Florida Public Service Academy campus.

UNITED MECHANICAL INC.

by Debbie Krouse

July 23, 2016 – Mr. Patrick Stott, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology instructor, conducted a North American Technician Excellence (NATE) review class for the service technicians at United Mechanical, Inc. Everyone in the class passed this nationally recognized certification exam making United Mechanical 100% NATE Certified.

United Mechanical is a long-time supporter of the Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology program, has hired FMTC graduates, and has donated thousands of dollars of equipment throughout the years.



Soft Skills

by Steve Dougherty,
Security Specialist

Soft skills is a term used by hiring managers to address traits or behaviors not necessarily taught in school.

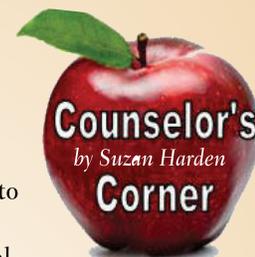
An applicant can show up for an interview possessing excellent qualifications for the job, and yet in the end, (s)he will not be hired because (s)he lacks the soft skills necessary to impress his/her prospective employer.

Soft skills go beyond the requisite requirements for a position and include such things as appearance, communication skills, and respect. I have conducted hundreds of interviews over my career, and I know that when faced with a choice between two applicants with equivalent qualifications, the edge and the job invariably go to the person who more looks the part of the job (s)he wants and who effectively and respectfully makes his/her case for the position.

Remember that the interviewer is not your friend and may ultimately become your boss. Look sharp and dress appropriately for the meeting. A collarless shirt, sandals, and numerous piercings will fare poorly if another candidate is dressed in crisp business attire with shined shoes and a neat haircut. Addressing the interviewer by his/her first name or calling him/her "buddy" will not score points. If there is more than one interviewer, "guys" is not an appropriate form of address, and you will lose out every time to a candidate who addresses the panel individually by name or collectively. Remember, too, that eye contact is important when answering questions. Failing to make eye contact, looking around the room, or looking down appears evasive and implies a lack of respect. Use of language says a lot about who you are in subtle ways. Slang and street references may convey a lack of respect for the interviewer and for the process itself. Speaking clearly and in complete sentences will always put you ahead of a candidate who mumbles, "Word, dude" in response to a question.

Bear in mind that a job interview is not a casual event. It is part of a formal process where your tangible skills will be assessed alongside the less tangible but equally important soft skills. The old adage, you only get one chance to make a first impression, still applies.

Almost as soon as school begins each semester, we already have students who are completing their education due to the varying number of hours for each program. Here are some suggestions for making a smooth transition to the next step in your career plan.



1. Request at least one copy of your official FMTC transcript from Student Services. If you plan to apply to multiple companies, you may want more than one copy. Transcripts cost \$5. Transcripts take about a week to process, so plan accordingly.
2. Obtain a copy of your Career MAP from your instructor and organize copies of any certifications you have earned into a folder or portfolio. As you progress through your career, you will have copies of everything you have achieved.
3. If you have not already registered with www.CollegeCentral.com and placed your résumé online, we encourage you to do so. Remember, this is a free service that will be available to you for as long as you can remember your FMTC student I.D. number. We are adding employers every day, and they are hoping to be able to connect with our graduates.
4. Make sure your correct address is on file with Student Services. The FMTC graduation ceremony will be held Thursday, May 18, 2017 (location to be announced). Everyone who completes a program during the 2016-17 school year is eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. Your fees cover the diploma w/cover, a graduation photo, and your cap and gown. We will be mailing graduation information to you during the spring semester.
5. If you are considering continuing your education at the college/university level, see one of the counselors to learn more about the statewide articulation agreement associated with your program. "Articulation" means that you get credit at the next education level for what you have completed here. The programs are all different, so it helps to investigate well ahead of enrollment. You can see the statewide articulation agreements at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-technical-edu-agreements/>. Look under the "PSAV to AAS/AS Degree" option.

Finally, remember we are always interested in hearing from our graduates. As you progress through your career, let your instructors know what you are doing. Graduates are welcome to participate on our program advisory committees and on our School Advisory Council. And, as you know, Ms. Krouse loves to feature graduates in *SOARING SCENE*! Thank you for choosing FMTC.

PRE-SALE  

SkillsUSA®

Poinsettia Fundraiser

November 14th-22nd, during lunch

Large, Florist-quality Plants

\$12 each or \$10 for multiple orders

Plants will be delivered December 6th-9th



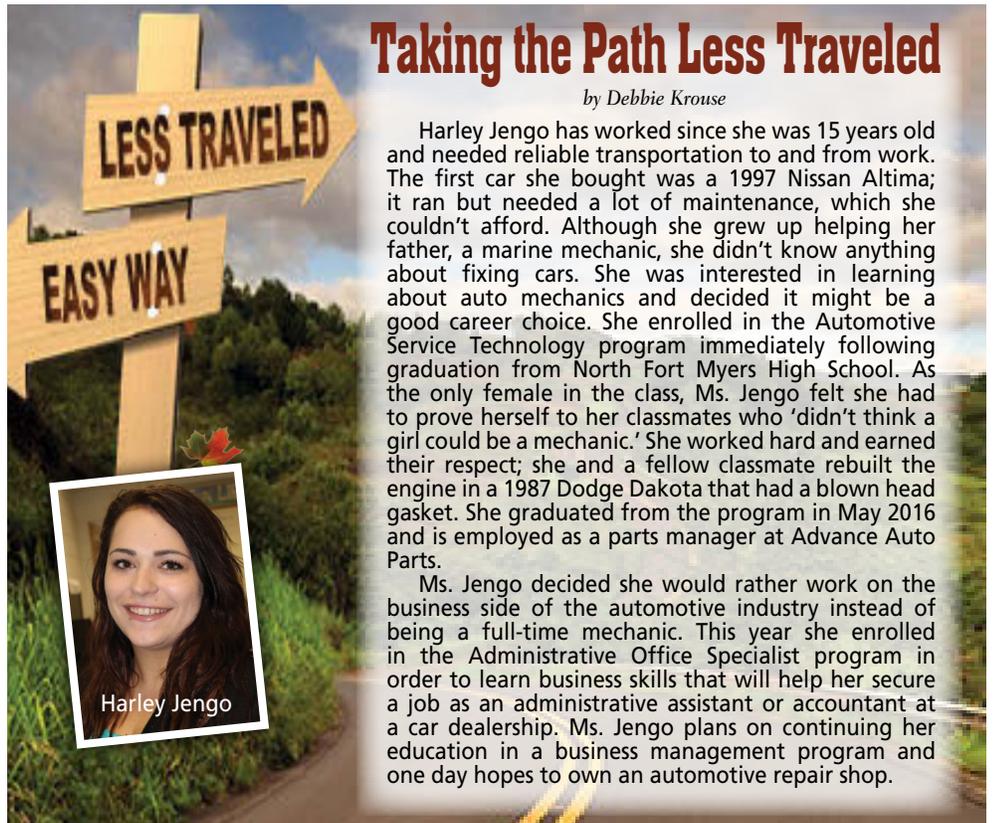
DAY PROGRAMS

- Administrative Office Specialist
- Air Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heating Technology
- Applied Cybersecurity **NEW**
- Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing
- Automotive Service Technology (A.S.E.-Based Technician)
- Carpentry
- Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts
- Correctional Officer
- Cosmetology
- Crossover Correctional Officer to Law Enforcement Officer
- Crossover Law Enforcement Officer to Correctional Officer
- Early Childhood Education
- Electricity
- Electronic Technology
- Emergency Medical Technician-ATD **NEW**
- Fire Fighter
- Fire Fighter/Emergency Medical Technician-Combined **NEW**
- Florida Law Enforcement Officer
- IV Therapy
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Major Appliance & Refrigeration Repair
- Marine Service Technologies
- Mechatronics Technology **NEW**
- Medical Administrative Specialist
- Medical Coder/ Biller (online)
- .NET Application Development & Programming
- Nursing Assistant-Articulated
- Nursing Assistant-Long-term Care
- Plumbing Technology
- Technology Support Services **NEW**
- Turbine Generator Maintenance, Inspection and Repair
- Web Application Development & Programming
- Welding Technology

For registration information call (239) 334-4544

The School District of Lee County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital status, pregnancy, or genetic information in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to: Sandy Shimp, Equity Coordinator, Fort Myers Technical College, 3800 Michigan Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33916, (Voice/TDD): (239) 334-4544, SandraLSH@leeschools.net.

Lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation. The district may assess each student's ability to benefit from specific programs through placement tests and counseling, and, if necessary, will provide services or referrals to better prepare students for successful participation.



Taking the Path Less Traveled

by Debbie Krouse

Harley Jengo has worked since she was 15 years old and needed reliable transportation to and from work. The first car she bought was a 1997 Nissan Altima; it ran but needed a lot of maintenance, which she couldn't afford. Although she grew up helping her father, a marine mechanic, she didn't know anything about fixing cars. She was interested in learning about auto mechanics and decided it might be a good career choice. She enrolled in the Automotive Service Technology program immediately following graduation from North Fort Myers High School. As the only female in the class, Ms. Jengo felt she had to prove herself to her classmates who 'didn't think a girl could be a mechanic.' She worked hard and earned their respect; she and a fellow classmate rebuilt the engine in a 1987 Dodge Dakota that had a blown head gasket. She graduated from the program in May 2016 and is employed as a parts manager at Advance Auto Parts.

Ms. Jengo decided she would rather work on the business side of the automotive industry instead of being a full-time mechanic. This year she enrolled in the Administrative Office Specialist program in order to learn business skills that will help her secure a job as an administrative assistant or accountant at a car dealership. Ms. Jengo plans on continuing her education in a business management program and one day hopes to own an automotive repair shop.

MISSION: The mission of Fort Myers Technical College is to provide high quality career and technical training, in order to prepare students for current and emerging industries, delivered by a professional and caring staff in a positive learning environment.

VISION: All students enrolled in vocational/technical programs will obtain workforce credentials through certificate programs and, where applicable, industry certification and/or licensure.

August 29, 2016 - **Raul Cortes** (third from left) brought his custom built 1969 Chevy Nova to the Automotive Service Technology program.



Mr. Cortes built this engine and races in drag & bracket races. The car uses 116 octane fuel (\$16.50 per gallon!!!) and races at about 150 mph. The students, who were studying engine building, had the opportunity to ask Mr. Cortes about the process of building a custom engine.



September 22, 2016 - The new **Commercial Foods & Culinary Arts** kitchen at the Southwest Florida Public Service Academy is now open. Chef Jim Wakeman and his students served their first meals today.



ENJOY A **SMOOTHIE** AFTER
A LONG DAY IN CLASS!
EVERY MONDAY AT 2:30 P.M.
IN FRONT OF 'A' BUILDING—**\$5 EACH**
A PORTION OF EACH SALE
SUPPORTS SKILLSUSA
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!