

# SPOTLIGHT NEWSLETTER

## Welcome To the New BACC Program Instructors

Bloomington Area Career Center welcomes four new faculty and staff members, Miss Katie White, Mr. Rusty Wright, Mr. Paul Czapar and Mr. Andrew Behn.

### Fall Newsletter 2011-2012

#### Participating BACC High Schools:

Bloomington  
Blue Ridge  
Calvary Christian  
Central Catholic  
Clinton  
El Paso-Gridley  
Fieldcrest  
Heyworth  
LeRoy  
Lexington  
Normal Community  
Normal West  
Olympia  
Ridgeview  
Tri-Valley  
U-High

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at BACC according to the following schedule:

**Thursday Oct 27<sup>th</sup>  
4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

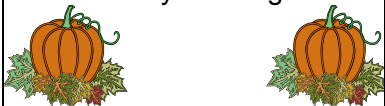
**Friday Oct 28<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.**

We will be scheduling appointments for Parent-Teacher Conferences.

To schedule an appointment, call 309-829-8671, or email [hutchisonr@district87.org](mailto:hutchisonr@district87.org)

#### **Cosmetology Parent /Teacher Conferences**

will be held at Hairmasters on Thursday evening and Friday morning.



**Miss White** is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University with a degree in Technology Education. She comes to the area from Chatham, IL where she worked as a long term substitute for the technology department at Auburn Elementary and Middle School. Before her time in Auburn, she worked as a Graphic Designer for three years at the Southeast Missouri State University Department of Recreation Services in Cape Girardeau, MO.



**Mr. Czapar** has been brought in to co-teach the new EMT-Basic program. He was originally from the Chicago area and moved to Bloomington in 2007 when he accepted a job with the Bloomington Fire Department. Mr. Czapar began his career in the fire service in 2000 and began teaching Emergency Medical Services classes in 2009. Mr. Czapar is a licensed EMT-Paramedic with multiple certifications in critical care, trauma care, advanced cardiac life support, pediatrics and leadership. Teaching high school is a completely new and exciting challenge that he says he is looking forward to.



**Mr. Wright** comes to BACC as an EMT instructor from the volunteer sector having volunteered for Dale Township Fire Dept. and Allin Township Fire Dept. as a fire fighter, EMT for the last 20 years, and teaching EMS in the adult learning area for the last 8 years. He was a student in the very classroom he is now teaching 30+ years ago, and has worked in various industries until finding a home as a paramedic in the last three years.



**Mr. Behn** is the new BACC Program Assistant and graduated from Illinois State University last December with a degree in Business and Computer Education. He is originally from Crete, IL where he grew up, but has lived in Bloomington/Normal for the past 5 years while attending ISU. Mr. Behn student taught at Normal Community High School and Lexington High School his senior year of college. At NCHS he taught Introduction to Business and Computer Applications. After graduating from ISU, Mr. Behn joined the Lexington School District as a substitute teacher.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Career & Technical Education Festival**

### *Today's Student...Tomorrow's Professional*

On Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, the Bloomington Area Career Center and the McLean County Community COMPACT will host its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Career & Technical Education (CTE) Festival at the Interstate Center in Bloomington, IL. The CTE Festival is a two-part all day event.

The Career Expo portion of the festival is attended by over 1500 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from 12 different schools from McLean/DeWitt counties. The students will take part in educational and interactive activities from vendors and will network with representatives from community organizations, businesses and colleges as well as the students and instructors from BACC programs. This takes place from 8:45am – 2:15pm.

The Community Open House portion of the festival is attended by high school students and their parents and gives them the chance to meet with BACC program instructors as well as business & college representatives. This takes place from 6:00pm – 7:30pm.

For more information on this event or to reserve your booth space, please feel free to contact Mr. Edwin Sargente at (309) 829-8671 x5163 or email [sargente@district87.org](mailto:sargente@district87.org).

Hello, and welcome to the Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC). The 2011-12 school year finds us with over 440 junior and seniors from 15 schools in our 12 different Career and Technical Education programs. The BACC has been in operation since 1968, with the objectives of providing students with experiences that teach technical skills, orientates students to a potential career, all while applying their academic skills.

At the BACC, students are given career exploration opportunities while becoming better prepared for college, advanced training, or the workforce. All of our courses prepare students for postsecondary training in their BACC area of study. Most of our courses offer dual credit or industry-recognized certifications. Last year, over 70 percent of our seniors planned on pursuing postsecondary training (college, community college, specialty school, military) in their area of study at BACC. In addition, 323 students (of 410) either earned dual credit or industry recognized certifications, and many others earned hours toward certifications.

In addition, students will also have the opportunity to build job readiness skills by attending resume and interviewing workshops. Job shadowing opportunities and membership in SkillsUSA is also available to students. SkillsUSA is a curricular opportunity that allows students to compete against other students in the state in their training area, while providing students with leadership training.

Information regarding opportunities being offered at BACC will be made available to your students through their classroom teacher. In addition, our website ([www.bloomingtonacc.org](http://www.bloomingtonacc.org)) also contains information about our programs and the various opportunities we offer.

I encourage you to keep in contact with us throughout the school year, especially with your son or daughter's classroom teacher. Generally, email is the easiest way to contact our teachers. Links can be found on our website for all of our instructors. In addition, you will have opportunities to visit the BACC, for events such as our Open Houses, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and for our awards ceremonies in the spring.

We look forward to providing a unique and challenging experience for your student.

Tom Frazier, Director

## Construction Trades 2011-2012 Project House & Updates

The Building Trades class has started construction of a ranch home in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. The house is located at 1013 West Front in Bloomington. This will be the seventh home that Habitat for Humanity has started this year. We will be working with other volunteer organizations on this home as well as the family that will eventually occupy the home. The students are currently installing the floor framing.

Students are also currently receiving training from an instructor with OSHA. They will receive the 10 hour OSHA training card upon successful completion. The Core Curriculum of the National Center for Construction Education and Research is being used this year. After passing rigorous written and performance test, the students can earn a nationally recognized certificate.

### Student Services Corner...

**Miss Bobb-Career Services Coordinator**    **Mr. Behn-Program Assistant**

Ext. 5183 or [bobbp@district87.org](mailto:bobbp@district87.org)    Ext. 5184 or [behna@district87.org](mailto:behna@district87.org)

**Mr. Sargent-Business & Community Liaison**

Ext. 5163 or [sargente@district87.org](mailto:sargente@district87.org)

Hello BACC parents and students. My name is Peggy Bobb and I would like to introduce myself as the Student Services Coordinator for the BACC. There are many opportunities that await your students here at the center.

Each month one second year student is selected to be the BACC Normal Rotary Student of the Month. This student attends Rotary functions and is eligible for a scholarship at the end of the year. Another opportunity for students is to be part of the National Technical Honor Society. This is an organization that honors outstanding student achievement in the career and technical educational fields. Students are nominated by their ACC teachers and then evaluated by a membership panel. Inductions take place second semester.

I also oversee the management of IEP's and accommodations at the center. Mr. Behn and I will meet with students who need extra help understanding and studying their course material. We also work with the instructors and home schools to meet those needs. Please feel free to contact me or Mr. Behn during your student's training at the Bloomington Area Career Center to further your student's success.

Mr. Sargent can be found in Room 163B. In addition to special event planning, coordinating the Career Link Grant, and serving as the Lead Advisor for the Bloomington Area Career Centers' chapter of SkillsUSA, students can also receive the following services: Internships/Apprenticeships, Job Shadowing, Employment Assistance, Resume Writing, Military Assistance, Financial Aid/College Visits and Community Service.

### Take Time for 10 Things

1. Take time to work-it is the price of success.
2. Take time to think-it is the source of power
3. Take time to play-it is the secret of youth
4. Take time to read-it is the foundation of knowledge
5. Take time to believe-it is the highway of reverence
6. Take time to help and enjoy friends-it is the source of happiness
7. Take time to love-it is the one sacrament of life
8. Take time to dream-it hitches the soul to the stars
9. Take time to laugh-it is the singing that helps with life's loads
10. Take time to plan-it is the secret of being able to have time to take time for the first 9 things.

Source: One Minute Messages by Dan Clark

The BACC ECE Preschool officially opened the school year on September 12, with 17 preschoolers enrolled in the program. While earning either dual credit through Heartland Community College or working on completing the Level 1 ECE Credential through the Gateways to Opportunity Program, ECE students also spend time teaching and assisting in the Preschool Program. Students gain hands on experience in developing lessons that meet the criteria set forth in the Illinois Early Learning Standards. They also gain experience in creating bulletin boards, authoring newsletters and creating safe, welcoming and interactive environments in which children can grow and learn. As the school year progresses, the ECE students will gain a deeper understanding of child growth and development through preschool observations and assessments.



**Bloomington Area Career Center is now on Facebook**

BACC is now on Facebook. Check us out by going to the following link:  
[www.facebook.com/BloomingtonAreaCareerCenter](http://www.facebook.com/BloomingtonAreaCareerCenter).

The page has updates and reminders about class and BACC events. Pictures from class activities are also on the page. To receive BACC updates, simply click "like" on our page.



**All of the top achievers I know are life-long learners. Looking for new skills, insights, and ideas.**

**If they're not learning, they're not growing and not moving toward excellence.**

**Denis Waitley**

**BACC Success Stories 2010-11**

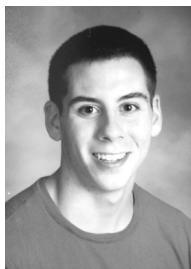
- ◆ 88 students participated in Job Shadowing
- ◆ 213 students visited postsecondary institutions through BACC
- ◆ Total Dual Credits Earned by BACC students - 490 credit hours
- ◆ 236 BACC Students earned Industry Recognized Certifications
- ◆ Sixty students were inducted into the BACC Technical Honor Society.
- ◆ 64 SkillsUSA State Participants, 17 students placed in 5<sup>th</sup> place or better at the state level

**BACC STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR NORMAL ROTARY**

The Normal Rotary invites the Bloomington Area Career Center to be represented as guests in their monthly luncheon meetings. The BACC students who are chosen exhibit citizenship, leadership, participation, and scholarship in their BACC program. Students chosen will represent the BACC for the months of September, 2011 through April, 2012. The students listed below will represent the months of September and October. At the end of the school year, the Normal Rotary will choose one of the monthly representatives to receive a \$500 scholarship. This will be presented at the BACC "Evening of Recognition" to be held on Thursday, May 10, 2012.

**Ryan McCormic** is a senior at NCHS and a second year student in the BACC Health Occupations program. Ryan plans on going to a four-year college/university and majoring in Pre-medicine. From there he plans on going to Med School and becoming a Licensed Physician.

**Amanda Woodson** is a senior at BHS and a second year student in the BACC Early Childhood program. Amanda plans on attending Heartland Community College and then going onto ISU to obtain a bachelors in Early Childhood Education and teach pre-school.



**September**  
**Ryan McCormic**  
 Health Occupations II  
 NCHS



**October**  
**Amanda Woodson**  
 ECE II  
 BHS

**BACC Calendar**

**October 10**  
**Columbus Day-No School**

**October 21**  
**Institute Day-No Students**

**October 28**  
**Parent/Teacher Conferences-  
 No Students**

**November 3**  
**8th Grade Career Expo (8:45a.m.  
 -2:15p.m.) & BACC Community  
 Open House (6:00p.m.-7:30p.m.)**

**November 24 & 25**  
**Thanksgiving Break-No School**



**McLean-DeWitt Regional Vocational System**  
**P.O. Box 5187**  
**Bloomington, IL 61702-5187**  
***Bloomington Area Career Center***

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED