



# OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL TECH TALK

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*Julianne Abrams, Silver Medal Winner*



*Terence Berkeley, Bronze Medal Winner*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

## OCVTS STUDENTS COMPETE AT SKILLSUSA, BRING HOME MEDALS!

Twenty five Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) students, and their advisors, traveled to Kansas City, Missouri to compete in the 49th Annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. These students had qualified to attend the conference by earning First Place gold medals in their career area competitions at the 2013 SkillsUSA State Competitions which took place in Somerset, New Jersey, in May. SkillsUSA is a national organization which provides quality educational experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.

Brick resident Bryce Tocci, a Marine Trades student, brought home a Gold Medal in Marine Trades Technology. Bryce was also awarded a \$29,000 scholarship (photo not available); Julianne Abrams, a Design and Visual Communications student from Lakewood earned a Silver Medal in Screen Printing Technology; and Terence Berkeley, a Law and Public Safety from Point Pleasant student earned a Bronze Medal in Criminal Justice. In addition to medal winners, seven additional OCVTS students ranked in the top ten in the nation in their perspective competition areas.

According to the SkillsUSA website, "Nearly 6,000 outstanding career and technical education students - all state contest winners - competed hands-on in 94 different trade, technical and leadership fields. Students work against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations like electronics, computer-aided drafting, precision machining, medical assisting and culinary arts. Contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations, and labor organizations, and test competencies are set by industry." In addition to competition there were workshops, seminars, industry trade shows and opportunities for students to take in the local sights.

"Learn everything you can, anytime you can, from anyone you can, there will always come a time when you will be grateful you did."

*~Sarah Caldwell*

## OCVTS HOLDS GRADUATION FOR PRACTICAL NURSING STUDENTS

Ocean County Vocational Technical School held graduation ceremonies in July for the Practical Nursing program. 66 student nurses received diplomas for successfully completing the 11-month intensive Practical Nursing program. Several 2013 graduates received scholarships and recognition for outstanding achievements.

The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education presented Awards of Academic Excellence/ Outstanding Student Awards to Aimee Rand, Bayville for maintaining the highest grade point average; Kimberly Yeager, Toms River, for maintaining the second highest average and Lyndsey Berkeley, Beachwood for maintaining the third highest grade point average throughout the program.

The Vocational Education Commitment Award and Scholarship (known as the VECA Award) recognizes outstanding service, leadership and dedication to vocational education and is in memory of Bruce B. Beatty, a former engineer and President of the Society of Professional Engineers, was presented to Edwin Montanez, Barnegat.

Mutahannah Broomes, of Brick, received the Maria Lapid Professional Nursing Leadership Award, presented by Mr. Ernie Chan, Director of Nursing at Green Acres Manor, Toms River.

Through the generosity of the nursing program's clinical affiliates, Clinical Excellence Awards were presented to several graduates who excelled in both academics and the required clinical work experience at local medical facilities.



*Receiving recognition at graduation ceremonies are (left to right): Aimee Rand, Bayville (Highest GPA); Kimberly Yeager, Toms River, (2nd highest GPA); and Lyndsey Berkeley, Beachwood (3rd highest GPA).*

## STUDENTS FROM CHINA SHARE COMMON INTERESTS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The OCVTS Toms River Center was recently visited by a group of students and teachers from China. The students were here in the United States through an initiative sponsored by the National Relief Network, an organization which organizes volunteer groups to assist in state and federally declared disaster areas. They came to Ocean County specifically to assist in Superstorm Sandy restoration projects. Taking a day off from clean-up efforts, the students chose to visit a vocational school.

According to OCVTS Toms River Center Principal Jo Ann Price, "These students actually attend the Beijing International Vocational Education School so they were eager to see what our vocational school had to offer.

Mrs. Price concluded, "It was exciting to see how education, specifically vocational education has similar roots in other cultures. It was an absolutely wonderful experience for all!"

## OCVTS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

### ***THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER***

The OCVTS Performing Arts Academy will present 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' at the Ocean County College Arts and Community Center, on Friday November 22 and Saturday November 23.

While noted egotistical radio personality Sheridan Whiteside is on a lecture tour in a small provincial town in Ohio, he falls, breaking his hip and forcing a lengthy recuperation. He immediately takes over an entire household and meddles in everyone's lives with a combination of threats, intimidation, and acid-tongued wit.

Please join us at the Ocean County College Arts and Community Center, Toms River, Nov. 22 at 7PM (Tickets: \$13); Nov. 23 at 2PM (Understudy Performance - Tickets: Half Price); and Nov. 23 at 7PM (Tickets: \$13)

For tickets: Call the OCC box office 732-255-0500 or [www.tickets.ocean.edu](http://www.tickets.ocean.edu).

# OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – WORKING TOGETHER, BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW

Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) and Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for a new home construction in Berkeley Township.

In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, organizations throughout Ocean County came together to provide assistance to the many residents and business owners in dire need. As a result of these efforts a partnership was formed by Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity and Ocean County Vocational Technical School. Habitat for Humanity saw a shift in the focus of their mission from building new dwellings to repairing existing homes. There was a need for a workforce to help with their new construction objectives. OCVTS recognized an urgent need for skilled construction workers who would help rebuild our communities.

Working together, the OCVTS New Home Construction Program was developed. This 10-month accelerated construction trades training program for adult students provides real-world experience and hands-on skills. The students, under rigorous supervision, are building a 2-story house for a family selected by Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony marked a milestone in the developing partnership between OCVTS and Habitat for Humanity. The ceremony was a celebration to recognize the selected Habitat family who will ultimately live in the home; to thank the many donors who have contributed to the construction project as well as funding the development of the New Home Construction Program and to unite individuals, organizations and the community as Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity continues its mission.

Frank Folinus, Director of Adult Education at OCVTS commented, “This extraordinary partnership between OCVTS, Habitat for Humanity and our donors will have a lasting impact by helping this family, by giving our students skills for a lifetime and by improving the community”

Among those in attendance were Ocean County Freeholder Joseph Vicari, Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato, Ocean County Vocational Technical School’s Board of Education President Nina Anuario; Board members Stephen Scaturro, Ronald Rosetto and Maureen Stankowitz.



*The development of the OCVTS New Home Construction Program and the construction of the new home was made possible by the generous donations from many sources including the Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation and the Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education.*



*Diane Musella (center holding shovel, watches as her two sons ceremoniously break ground for their new home. They are surrounded by OCVTS Board of Education President Nina Anuario, Freeholder Joseph Vicari, Berkeley Township Mayor Carmen Amato, Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Suzan Fichtner on their left and the New Home Construction students and Instructor Chris Sullivan on their right.*

# **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY MARKS OFFICIAL OPENING OF CUISINE ON THE GREEN AT ATLANTIS, THE OCEAN COUNTY CENTER FOR CULINARY ARTS**

*Fresh, Local, Responsible*

An official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held at Cuisine on the Green, the Ocean County Center for Culinary Arts at the Atlantis Golf Course located in Little Egg Harbor. The Culinary Arts Training Center, part of the Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) district, is the result of a partnership with the Ocean County Parks and Recreation. The restaurant at Atlantis Golf Club had been vacant and the decision was made to utilize the space to provide Southern Ocean County with a state-of-the-art training facility as well as a new dining venue for local residents. Cuisine on the Green Culinary Arts Training Center becomes Ocean County Vocational Technical School's seventh career training facility.

Cuisine on the Green offers adult students the opportunity to pursue their career goals in the culinary profession. The 10-month accelerated curriculum includes classroom instruction, culinary skills training and working internships. The first class of students began their training at the new facility in September.

The ceremony marks the official opening of the Cuisine on the Green Pub and Restaurant. The newly renovated restaurant facility is open to the public and offers an exciting new dining experience as students train for exciting careers in the culinary arts. The use of locally-sourced foods, responsibly-caught seafood and environmentally-conscious practices are essential elements at Cuisine on the Green. The teaching philosophy at Cuisine on the Green involves a curriculum and training program incorporating a foundation of ecology, wellness, and responsibility to the overall reduction of the environmental footprint in the culinary industry.

The facility includes a banquet room which can accommodate parties up to 125 people, a dining room which can hold 60 guests, an outside patio area as well as a full service bar in the Pub which can seat 50. Go to [www.ocvts.org](http://www.ocvts.org) for more information about the training program and restaurant.

Ocean County Vocational Technical School administrators and Ocean County officials welcomed guests to tour the facilities and enjoy a bounty of hors d'oeuvres and beverages after the ceremony.



*Nina Anuario, OCVTS Board of Education President, center, along with local officials mark the opening of Cuisine on the Green, the Ocean County Center for Culinary Arts.*

*Adult Culinary Arts students prepared a delicious buffet for guests after the ceremony.*



## OCVTS RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION FROM THE JAY AND LINDA GRUNIN FOUNDATION

Local Toms River residents Jay and Linda Grunin, along with their son Jeremy, believe that young people can benefit from vocational technical education. Many high school students and high school graduates who choose not to go to college can receive great training and build a strong foundation of skills which can lead to great careers.

Foundation Executive, Jeremy Grunin, says “OCVTS is a perfect match for the mission of the Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation. Both organizations are committed to helping the young people of Ocean County develop great careers. The Foundation is a strong advocate for continuing to infuse top notch talent in to local commerce and the OCVTS is certainly a great vehicle for doing just that”.

The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation recently demonstrated their strong support by donating \$20,000 to the help launch the New Home Construction program. In partnership with Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity, this program will prepare students in each phase of construction as they build a home right here in Ocean County.

The Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation has also contributed to the success of other OCVTS programs. Last year a \$100,000 donation launched the OCVTS Job Placement Services Department. This department works to provide employment opportunities for OCVTS students and graduates.

## OCEAN COUNTY FOUNDATION HOLDS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



The Ocean County Foundation for Vocational Technical Education held its annual golf outing fundraiser on October 10. For the first time the tournament was held at the Atlantis Golf Course in Little Egg Harbor. A buffet lunch, served prior to tee off, was prepared by OCVTS Adult Culinary Arts students at Cuisine on the Green, the Ocean County Center for Culinary Arts, which is located adjacent to the golf course.

Despite the unfavorable weather, participants enjoyed the new challenging course. The Golf Outing is one of the major fundraising events for the Foundation. Through various fundraising efforts and the attraction of private resources the Foundation is focused on providing financial support for equipment, facilities and program development.

Since its inception in 1994 the Foundation has awarded over \$480,000 in scholarships to OCVTS students and over \$490,000 in grants to teachers and programs.



## OCVTS HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS WIN MEDALS AT NATIONAL COMPETITION!

Students from several OCVTS Health Technologies programs recently traveled to the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) National Leadership Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee. They were qualified to compete at the national level by winning in regional competitions held earlier in the year.

Medical Assisting student Tracey Hoer, of Manahawkin, earned a Silver Medal while Samantha Sente, of Lanoka Harbor, and Michael Acevedo, of Lakewood, both placed in the Top 10 in the Nation in the Medical Assisting competition. Dental Assisting student Carla DiVona, of Point Pleasant, earned a Bronze Medal for Dental Science.

*Medal Winners Tracey Hoer, left and Carla DiVona.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- PAA Fall Drama at OCC....November 22 & 23
- PAA Information Session #2 .....November 14
- MATES Information Session #3....November 16
- PAA Information Session #2 .....November 23



## OCEAN COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

### Board of Chosen Freeholders

- John P. Kelly ..... Director
- James F. Lacey ..... Deputy Director
- John C. Bartlett ..... Member
- Gerry P. Little ..... Member
- Joseph H. Vicari ..... Member/OCVTS Liaison

### Board of Education

- Nina Anuario ..... President
- Stephen Scaturro ..... Vice President
- Joseph Passiment ..... Member
- Ronald Rosetto ..... Member
- Maureen Stankowitz ..... Member

### OCVTS Administration

- William P. Hoey, Jr. .... Superintendent
- Nancy Weber-Loeffert. .... Asst. Superintendent
- Frank J. Frazee ..... Business Administrator
- Beatty-Sharisky ..... Supervisor, Toms River
- John Biscardi ..... Vice Principal, Brick
- Alison Carroll ..... Principal, MATES
- Kevin Dineen ..... Principal, Student Services
- Frank Folinus ..... Director, Adult Education
- Karen Homiek ..... Principal, Lakehurst
- Thomas McInerney ..... Principal, Waretown
- Jo Ann Price ..... Principal, Toms River, LPN
- Christine Santasieri ..... Supervisor, Lakehurst
- Lynn Sauer ..... Principal, Brick
- Dr. John Wnek ..... Supervisor, MATES
- Lori Young ..... Supervisor, Curriculum/Grants
- Lillian Zavattieri ..... Principal, Jackson



OCEAN COUNTY CENTER FOR CULINARY ARTS

## IS NOW OPEN

Check our website for full menu, upcoming events and entertainment schedule

[www.cuisineonthegreen.com](http://www.cuisineonthegreen.com)

609.296.2137

291 Country Club Blvd., Little Egg Harbor

*This e-newsletter is published by Ocean County Vocational Technical School. Comments and/or suggestions may be sent to Jean Sullivan, Editor, at [jsullivan@mail.ocvts.org](mailto:jsullivan@mail.ocvts.org)*



### ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Adult Education Office	732.473.3100	x1000
High School Admissions	732.473.3100	x3122
After High School Admissions	732.473.3100	x3144
Academy Admissions	732.473.3100	x3065
Practical Nursing Admissions	732.473.3100	x3145
Cosmetology	732.473.3100	x3128
Financial Aid	732.473.3100	x3139

**WWW.OCVTS.ORG**