



### Buy Local, Hire Local Promo

OCVTS Program: Building Maintenance & Culinary, Brick Center – Gerard Horn & Dennis Melia, Instructors  
 Students: Caitlin Bonafide (left) Gina Rispoli (left center), David Hedges (right center) Joe Bonafede (right)  
 Employer: A&P, Ortle Beach – Maryann Johnson, Bakery Manager (left center), Joe Dancisin, Store Manager (right center)  
 Website: [apfreshonline.com](http://apfreshonline.com)

The A&P in Ortle Beach has been an OCVTS business partner for almost twenty years. They have welcomed our students into their store for tours, job shadowing and internships. Most importantly, they have employed many of our students over the years. Having survived Super Storm Sandy, A&P has remodeled their store from top to bottom. With the goal of keeping the staff working during the restoration, the employees were assigned to A&P stores in other locations. Joe Dancisin, Store Manager, boasts about the store being better than ever and he is happy to welcome back all of the displaced workers, including the four OCVTS alumni pictured above.

David Hedges and Joe Bonafede have been employed at the A&P in Ortle Beach for a combined total of twenty-four years. David Hedges commented, “I like working here, especially helping the customers with their groceries.” One of Joe Bonafede’s job duties is assisting in keeping the store neat and clean. He commented, “I really enjoy my job, too!” Joe Dancisin remarked, “Both of these young men take pride in their work. We appreciate their work ethic.”

Maryann Johnson, the Bakery Manager, complimented Caitlin Bonafide on how well she has progressed working in the busy bakery department. “In addition to waiting on the customers, Caitlin has the important job of setting up the daily bake. She has now started doing the job she really loves, namely cake decorating. She is an asset to my team.”

Ms. Johnson also had kind words to say about Gina Rispoli. “She is one of my most dependable employees. She has learned all of the aspects of the bakery department including baking, ordering and documenting daily logs. I hope to have Gina here for many years.” Having been employed at A&P for over ten years Gina simply stated, “Working here has been an amazing experience.”

The Building Maintenance and Culinary Programs at the Brick Center have taught these students specific trade related skills as well as general employability skills that have prepared them to be successful in the world of work.