

CiTi Student Earns Gold at My SkillsUSA

More than 60 Career & Technical Education students from the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation recently competed at the statewide SkillsUSA Competition, including one student who punched her ticket to nationals with a first-place finish.

Kaitlyn Spier, a senior from Central Square’s Paul V. Moore High School, took first-place in the Nursing Assistant competition and will represent CiTi BOCES in Louisville, KY in the National SkillsUSA contest set for June 22.



Central Square senior Kaitlyn Spier (right) celebrates her first-place finish with her instructor, Julie Warren.

“Oh, my goodness, I’m going to Kentucky,” said Spier after receiving her gold medal and championship pennant. “I just want to thank my instructors and classmates for pushing me to come to SkillsUSA.”

Nursing Assistant instructor Julie Warren said she is proud to have played a role in Spier’s education and success and looks forward to seeing what she can do at the national competition and beyond.

“Kaitlyn is an amazing young lady who will have a very bright future in healthcare,” said Warren.

G. Ray Bodley High School students Elias Dahar (Internetworking), and Jacob Parkhurst (Diesel Equipment), both took second-place in their respective competitions. APW student Matthew Vincent took third-place in Collision Damage Appraisal.

SkillsUSA adviser Ryan Wood said he is proud of each CiTi student who participated in the statewide competition, noting the experience will serve as a strong learning opportunity for next year.

CoCo Café debuts in Fourth Street School

A brand new, student-run café has been brewing for a while at the Fourth Street School, and the Vocational Enrichment Program (VEP) recently welcomed its first batch of customers.

Named CoCo Café, the half-day work study program affords students the time to learn skills such as directives, time management, collaboration, work ethic, hygiene, responsibility, initiative and workplace safety.

“Working in the café allows the students to learn and practice employability skills in a structured, supervised environment,” said Bonnie Eastman, teacher for the VEP. “The

café provides a place for students to develop and improve soft skills so they are ready for the world of work.”

Eastman and her team — Karen Sereno, Mark Berlin and Michelle Wade — assist the students and provide supervision while working in the café.



Orders came fast and often during the grand opening of CoCo Café.



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CCCE Prepares for Career Fair

The Center for Career and Community Education is gearing up for a career fair featuring a variety of occupations.

Set for June 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Cayuga Community College Fulton campus, students and alumni will have opportunities to meet with employers in fields such as healthcare, business administration, accounting, information technology and computer science. Experts will be available to help attendees develop resumes and improve their job marketability.

For more information about this event or other CCCE programs, please call 315.593.9400.



Emily Kirch (New Vision instructor), Robyn Proud (Principal of Student Programs at SUNY) and Teresa Woolsen (VOW Foundation) are surrounded by New Vision Allied Health students during the S.A.F.E. Fair.

New Vision Allied Health students participate in County S.A.F.E. Fair

Students from the New Vision Allied Health program took part in the Oswego County Substance Awareness Family Education (S.A.F.E.) Fair, held recently at the Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center.

The event, organized by the VOW Foundation, focused on holistic and alternative ideas to help prevent and treat addiction and/or mental illness. Students from New Vision began research projects in February, studying socio-emotional learning, mindfulness, wellness and stress relief strategies for all ages. The students then used their research to organize informational stations to educate their peers.

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Allied Health students participate in S.A.F.E. Fair

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“It was a great opportunity to provide support and educate,” said Jenna Hood, a senior at G. Ray Bodley High School. “These techniques can be used by anyone to help cope with stress.”

The New Vision Allied Health program was represented by students from many high schools in Oswego County, including Central Square, Fulton, Mexico, Oswego and Pulaski. The program received many accolades for its work and earned high praise from members in the community who were grateful for the valuable knowledge they shared.

“Seeing so many people come together makes me proud to be a part of this community,” said Emily Klein, a senior at Pulaski High School. “New Vision has made me a more active member in the community and I wish to continue to go to events like this in the future.”

The New Vision Allied Health program has participated in the S.A.F.E. Fair for three years. This partnership helps enhance student learning with hands-on experience, noted New Vision Allied Health instructor Emily Kirch.

“For me, the S.A.F.E. Fair was a fun and interesting experience,” said Nathan Galluzzo, a senior at Mexico High School. “I got to learn a lot about different things I never knew existed and connected with community members.”

CiTi students help make PROM a success

CiTi Early Childhood Education students were on hand at the Oswego Industries PROM (Possibilities Remain Our Motivation), held recently at CiTi’s main campus in Mexico. Students helped attendees create bracelets and lava lamps as a memento from the evening’s festivities.



Teens of the Month Earn Recognition

The CTE Teen of the Month honorees were: Emily Alnutt, Trevor Elowsky, Robert Fredericks, Tim Halsey, Chase Kaylor, Tory Paro, Nathan Stuart, Matthew Vincent and Preston Wallis. Earn student received a certificate of recognition and a \$50 check. Pictured with the students are Michael Thurlom, CTE Principal and Dave Eastman, CTE Counselor.

Fourth OCAY League Competition Also Crowns Overall Champion

The fourth and final Oswego County Academic Youth League competition for the school year took a turn toward sports with a twist. The competitors were asked to complete a series of timed-tasks with a sporting theme.

The creative teams used skills in writing, graphic design, physical education, business, law, history, creativity, time management and teamwork. The teams of eight students were tested on their knowledge of a wide range of topics including disability law, sports rules, sports trivia,

business, advertising and an activity with a salary cap.

During their competition they were asked to create an inclusive sport providing equal opportunity to participate regardless of disability. The goal was to create a sport to enable athletes to participate along with their able-bodied teammates as equals. The sport was to be new and unique and should not resemble any other sport or activity. They were also asked to give their sport a unique name and catchphrase.

The teams also created a



The team from Oswego High School took home first place and the gold medal in the fourth and final OCAY League competition of the school year.

tri-panel poster to advertise their new sport and then “pitched” their sport to a panel of “Shark Tank” judges where they also answered questions about their sport from the judges.

The team scores were tabulated and the top three teams were awarded medals. Taking the third-place bronze medal was the team from Fulton. The silver medal went to the Central Square team, while the gold medal was presented to the team from Oswego High School.

At the final competition of the year, all points earned from all four competitions are tabulated and an overall champion is named for the school year. The winning team takes

home the traveling OCAY League trophy, their school name is engraved on a plaque featuring the past winners from many years and a special take home trophy is awarded to the school for them to keep and display at their school. It was a close competition for overall champion and the team from Central Square was honored with the distinction for the 2018-19 school year.

OCAY League was established to give students an opportunity to compete in academic challenges and is coordinated through the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation’s gifted and talented program.



Overall OCAY League Champions for the 2018-19 school year went to the team from Central Square.