

## TECH TALK

### FROM THE DESK OF MR. CUMMINGS, RJTC'S DIRECTOR

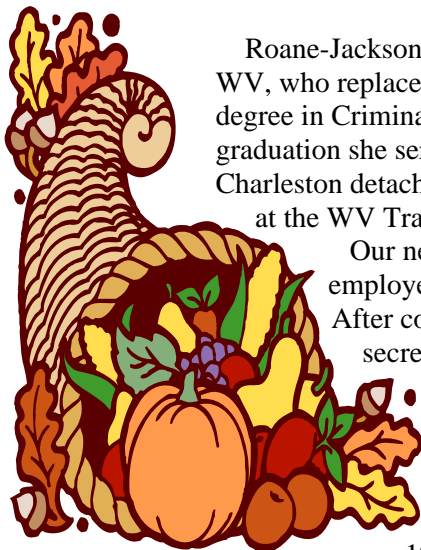
The 2009-2010 school year is off to a good start. Adults as well as students from Ravenswood, Ripley, and Roane County High Schools are attending the program of their choice and experiencing learning by doing. In each program area, teachers initially have focused on proper procedures, safety, and fundamental information for each class.

As the year continues, most of our instructional programs will become increasingly more hands-on as students progress through the curriculum. The faculty at RJTC expects students to maintain good attendance and work habits, both of which are vitally important to our students' success in high school, in post-secondary education, and in the work force.

On another note, many upgrades to the Roane-Jackson facility itself have been on-going recently. Students will notice new lighting and ceilings throughout Building A, as well as a renovated lobby. Additionally, Buildings B and C are receiving new lighting and new emergency eye wash stations in each shop area. The building construction shop has also received a new dust collection system, while the forestry shop has received two new garage doors compatible with the other doors installed last year. Facility upgrades will continue next year as the school continues to modernize.



### New Employees



Roane-Jackson Technical Center's new Criminal Justice teacher is **Mrs. Debbie Totten** of Given, WV, who replaced Mr. Matt Carper. She graduated from West Virginia State College with a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice in 1982 and then entered the WV State Police Academy in 1983. Upon graduation she served at the Huntington detachment, followed by an assignment at the South Charleston detachment, Department Headquarters, and Governor's Security. Her last assignment was at the WV Training Academy from which she retired in July 2008 as a first lieutenant.

Our new Finance Director is **Mrs. Debbie Cline** of Spencer who has replaced long time employee, Mrs. Barbara Grass. Mrs. Cline is a 1975 graduate of Spencer High School. After completing Roane-Jackson's 1974-75 business program, she was the financial secretary and receptionist at Spencer High School from 1975-1993 and continued in that position at Roane County High School until 2003, at which time she became the executive secretary for Roane County school's central office/food service. Mrs. Cline's three children are Danelle, Brandon, and Whitney.

**Mr. Todd Layhew** of Sandyville, WV, has replaced Mr. Dave Moore as Roane-Jackson's assistant director. He is a 1985 graduate of Grafton High School and a 1990 graduate of Glenville State College. He received his Master's degree from Valdosta State University in Georgia in 1996. Mr. Layhew has 19 years of professional experience in public education, which include six years as a high school physical education and health teacher, ten years as an assistant principal, and three years as a principal. He and his wife Melissa are the parents of Lindsey, 17, and Luke, 11.

## ProStart

**Sarah Martin**, a 2009 Ripley graduate, received a national certificate of achievement from the National Restaurant Association. In order to qualify, Sarah had to complete the ProStart two year program, pass the National Restaurant Association test, and complete 400 working hours in the field. Sarah will enter the culinary program at Fairmont State University in January.

Mr. David Bradley, first aid instructor for RESA, visited the technical center Sept. 12 for a presentation on fire safety to the following classes: ProStart, Auto-body, Welding, Criminal Justice, Child Care, Health Care Occupations, Auto-mechanics, and Millwright. In addition, ProStart students participated in the Foodhandlers' certification class and will soon receive their cards.



## Child Development State Winners

Students in Mrs Durst's Child Development Specialist program represented RJTC and our communities at the very first state competition at the Future Educators Association Fall Leadership Conference Sept. 25-27 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center. High schools throughout West Virginia competed in the following events: essay competition, FEA leadership award, impromptu speech, lesson planning, 2011 conference theme development, educational display, and public service announcement. State winner in essay competition was **Raven Hall**, daughter of Ms. Dee Hall of Ripley. **Shawna Farley** and **Jessie Flesher**, both of Ravenswood, were first place winners in the educational display category. Shawna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Barrett, and Jessie is the daughter of Mr. Everett Flesher. These students will represent WV in Feb. at the National FEA Conference in San Antonio, TX, and are pictured below as listed above.



## Drafting/CAD Program Receives Modernization Grant

The Drafting/CAD students now have the ability to bring their design ideas to life in ABS plastic thanks to a new Dimension uPrint 3D printer. Purchased with money received from a Program Modernization grant, the 3D printer allows students to take their 3D drawings created using computer aided drafting (CAD) software and turn them in to functional 3D models. Using the 3D printer is as easy as pressing the PRINT button; and within a couple of hours, students have functional, kinematic models which are used to evaluate their designs, to test functionality, and to add to their portfolios. The printer helps students gain a new, critical area of expertise and real world experience. Visitors are invited to the Drafting/CAD classroom to examine sample parts and to view the machine in operation. Furthermore, solid model services for individuals and industry are available.



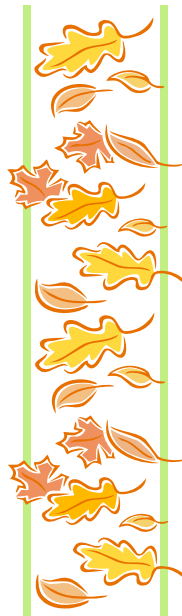
## Teacher of the Year

The faculty of Roane-Jackson Technical Center elected **Mr. Mike Williams** as the 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year. He graduated in 1972 with an AB degree in Industrial Arts from Fairmont State College and received a Masters degree in Vocational Education from Marshall University in 1985. Mr. Williams has developed a number of significant programs at RJTC during his 26 year tenure, resulting in multiple 1st place state winners in the Skills USA competition and several who placed nationally. He also taught at the Heritage Christian Academy and served as assistant principal there for two years. Most notably, he has been an active member of Ripley Baptist Temple for many years and considers his teaching career a privilege that has provided him the opportunity to positively influence the lives of his students, both at school and at church. Mr. Williams and his wife Sherry of 38 years are the parents of David, Daniel and Elizabeth Sirbaugh and the proud grandparents of 4 grandchildren.



## HOSA

Students will attend the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) State Fall Leadership Conference Oct. 10 from 8:30 to 3:30 at Cedar Lakes. Mrs. Young conducted a parents' meeting Sept. 17 to discuss major issues related to the class and to clinicals in the spring. **If you were unable to attend, please make arrangements as soon as possible to meet with Mrs. Young during the school day.** Also, the class will be conducting a fundraiser for "Autism Speaks," the national service project for HOSA.



## Practical Nursing

The Practical Nursing class at RJTC began July 8, 2009. Fundamentals of Nursing, Professional Vocational Relationships, Anatomy and Physiology, and Growth and Development are the initial required classes. In addition, clinical rotations have already begun by placing students in local nursing homes for observation and hands-on experience. Participating nursing homes are Eldercare in Ripley, Ravenswood Village and Ravenswood Care Center in Ravenswood, and Cedar Ridge Nursing Home in Sissonville.

The **Capping Ceremony** for this year's students will take place at RJTC in Raymon Cunningham Hall on **Oct. 22** at which time the Annual Open House also is held at the technical center (**6:00-8:00**). During the ceremony, female students will receive a nursing cap and male students will receive a lapel pin to denote their status as student practical nurses.

## Students of the Month

Roane-Jackson Technical Center's Secondary Student of the Month is **Josh Bee**, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Bee of Orma. Josh is a 9th grader who primarily has been home schooled but last year attended the center and completed the Aries Networking Academy taught by Mr. Gump. This year he attends each Friday to further his computer education under Mr. Gump's tutelage.

The post-Secondary Student of the Month is **Dawn Fore**, who resides in Reedy with her husband Steve and their son. She is enrolled in the Licensed Practical Nursing program taught by Mrs. Michelle Ellis, Mrs. Evie Harris, and Ms. Vickie Langford. After graduating, Dawn Plans to work in the LPN field in the Roane/Jackson area.

