



**CUYAHOGA VALLEY  
CAREER CENTER**

Career Development Department

Volume 1, Issue 2  
January – June, 2008

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**Career Development  
Events in Your Schools**

**Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools**

**“WHEN AM I GONNA USE THIS?”  
CAREER WEEK FOR 6TH GRADERS  
AT B-BH MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Thirty-four career professionals met with sixth graders and their teachers on May 5th through 8th to answer that very question.

On Monday and Tuesday, students completed the Career Game — an interest inventory — under the direction of Gretchen Weber, CVCC Career Specialist. On Wednesday and Thursday, parents and community members shared their careers with the students.

Every student heard four speakers each day. Each speaker spent 40 minutes with each of the four classes, explaining their backgrounds and career. Students also participated in an associated interactive activity with the speaker.

The career speakers helped the students connect what they are learning in school to how it prepares them for a future career. Speakers included **Lori Siwik**, lawyer with Risk International; **Lisa Bires**, Owner/Dancer with Revolutions Dance Academy; **Dr. Robert DiLaura**, Director of Research Technology, Cleveland Clinic & CWRU and wife **Sherri DiLaura**; **David Demeo**, sales management; **Jina Demeo**, physical therapist; **Diana Baskin**, flight attendant, Continental Airlines; **Doug Holmes**, Holmes Mfg. owner; **Dante Boccuzzi**, Executive Chef/Owner, Dante; **Greg Pinto**, VP Marketing, Audio Technica; **Sam Alai**, Mayor, Broadview Hts.; **David Schroedel**, Economic Development Director, Broadview Hts.; **Keye Daus**, Assistant Director of Operations, Cleveland Plain Dealer and **Jennifer Klump**; **Marlena Battle**, Lecture Program Director, Barbizon/Stone Model & Talent Agency;

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*Sneak a Peek newsletters are published in December and June to highlight Career Development and Career Pathways activities in your schools. Newsletters are edited and produced by Donna Hessel, Career Pathways Specialist.*

Dante Boccuzzi, owner and highly recognized executive chef of Dante demonstrated his pasta-making technique. Students got to taste-test the finished product.

See additional career speakers on page two.





Lisa Bires, owner of Revolutions Dance Academy, led students in a variety of dance moves.



Deverakonda Sarma, a chemical engineer who does research, helped students mix polymers.



Michael Maierson and Megan McKinney, prosthetics fitters for Leimkuehler, Inc., explained the process of fitting a client for artificial limbs



Marlena Battle, Barbizon/Stone Model & Talent Agency, explained the rigorous schedule models follow to train for a modeling career.

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**Maureen Leiby**, pharmaceutical sales; **Bill Lubinger**, journalist/sportswriter, Cleveland Plain Dealer; **Pam O'Hara**, freelance photojournalist; **Rita Scott**, owner/operator, Young Friends Daycare Centers; **Dr. Jeff Lawton**, orthopedic surgeon (CCF), **Dr. Gary Williams**, pediatrician/Residency Program Director; **Deverakonda Sarma**, chemical engineer/research; **Dave Lesesky**, computer sales; **David Link**, surgical sales; **Gary Naim**, homebuilder, Petros Homes; **Dr. Art Backman**, research scientist/chemical engineer, Lubrizol; **Dawn Soto**, former FBI-photographer/squad services tech & currently program assistant, Federal Air Marshal; **Vicki Anderson**, Special Agent, FBI recruiter; **Joe McCartin**, Chief Information Officer, National City Corp.; **Todd Kinzer**, Zoo Superintendent of Operations, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo; **Roger Kassouf**, Owner of SoftWall Systems of America; **Dr. Raouth Kostandy**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, University of Akron; **Michael Maierson** and **Megan McKinney**, Prosthetics Fitters, Leimkuehler, Inc.



Two sixth grade students examine a by-product of Metroparks Zoo. Todd Kinzer shared his day-to-day work as the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo Superintendent of Operations.

## ROCKETS FLY AT CHIPPEWA ELEMENTARY

On April 11, second graders and their teachers, Stephanie Roberts, Kate Clancy, Mary Kilbane and Albina Schapel had a visitor from NASA.

Ann Over, aerospace engineer, explained how rockets work and conducted several experiments with the students.

She also gave an overview of the different rockets used by the space program, from the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo projects to the current space shuttle and into the future for the rockets that will be used to return to the moon and travel to Mars.



Mrs. Stephanie Roberts, 2nd grade teacher, models a space suit as Ann Over, an aerospace engineer, explains how it works



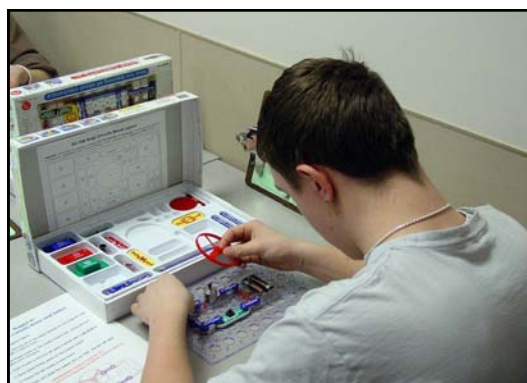
Gretchen Weber, CVCC Career Specialist, outfitting a second grader with an astronaut's sleeping bag.

## Seventh Grades Visit CVCC for "Exploration"

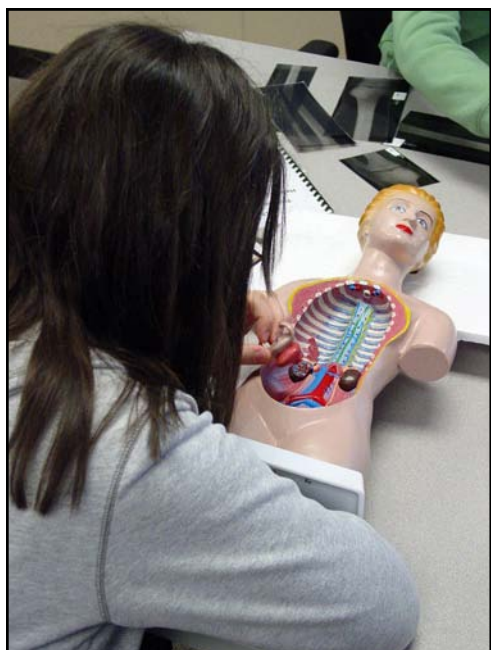
During February, March, and April, 7th graders from CVCC's district middle schools and their teachers had an opportunity to tour CVCC and experiment with some of the skills students in the school are practicing in their classes.

CVCC Career Specialists conduct a lesson at each associate school to introduce career and technical education. The day spent at CVCC includes a school tour, "Tryvertising" lab in which six activities simulate skills used in various careers, "CVCC Bingo," lunch in the cafeteria and an online interest survey that helps students match their interests with potential careers.

Career Specialists conduct a follow-up lesson in students' classrooms to answer questions. Exploration at CVCC gives students a head start in planning their high school classes and activities, which they begin to do in the 8th grade.



A student tries his skill at creating an electronic circuit that spins a propeller, following a diagram.



Seventh graders used "Anatomical Annie" cutaways and miniaturized organs to build human systems for a glimpse at what a health career might involve.

Arranging several types of flowers and foliage according to directions provided students with practice in a career as a florist, one of the units taught in CVCC's horticulture class.

## THIRD GRADERS LEARN HOW WORMS MAKE SOIL

On May 7, third graders at Chippewa Elementary heard a presentation from Pam Taylor, a naturalist from the Brecksville Nature Center. The naturalist introduced the Composting Critters program. Along with students, she conducted three experiments to determine what conditions are favorable to red worms to enable them to change "garbage" into "soil."

The presentation corresponded to a recycling and scientific inquiry unit in students' science curriculum. Teachers of the third grade classes are Miss Madigan, Mrs. Galosi, Miss Janko, Mrs. McKelvey and Mrs. Nolan.

Pam Taylor, Naturalist, prepares an experiment to show students what conditions best support red worms as the worms turn compost into soil.



## PARENT SPEAKER SERIES COLLEGE SURVIVAL SKILLS 101



On February 13 from 7 to 8:30, a panel of experts addressed issues critical to college-bound students. More than 70 parents and students attended the session. Panelists were Alma Sealine, Director of Housing at CWRU (social and emotional ramifications), Danny Shoo, senior at CWRU (a student's perspective on college life), David Pelland, CFP, Bear Pelland Associates (financial responsibility); and Sgt. Chad Cunningham, University of Akron (safety and legal aspects of being 18). Each family received helpful articles and a checklist of "must-have" conversations prior to a student's leaving for college.

## SOUP WITH THE SUPE



Community Seniors enjoyed a soup and salad lunch buffet prepared by CVCC culinary arts students in December. Roscoe Schlachter, CVCC Superintendent, welcomed guests. The luncheon was one of three hosted by Career Development Community Liaisons, Bridget Murphy and Marie Elias that targeted community groups.

## GUIDANCE COUNSELOR BRUNCH



Fourteen middle and high school counselors attended a *Career Connections* brunch December 7, 2007 at CVCC. The brunch was planned to familiarize counselors with CVCC programs, introduced by Roscoe Schlachter, Superintendent, and Mike Hall, Principal. Middle School Career Specialists, Gretchen Weber, Kathy Richards and Michele West, along with CVCC Community Liaisons Bridget Murphy and Marie Elias, hosted the brunch. Participants viewed a presentation on the career exploration program offered to all K-12 students and heard about new programs and ideas from additional CVCC staff. The presentation enabled counselors to see how career exploration fits into the career planning process, and the advantages of including career-technical programs in students' plans.

## 2008 STUDENT JOB FAIR ATTRACTS 850+



Students from all eight districts age 15 and up met employers, interviewed and completed applications for part-time and summer jobs on March 13 at CVCC. Students were prepared for the event by their career specialists

through instruction on interview techniques, professional appearance and resume preparation. More than 50 employers were arranged at color coded tables according to the age groups they were hiring, facilitating students' job search. Members of the Cleveland Society for Human Resource Management assisted students with completing applications. Parents who accompanied students were able to get handouts on child labor laws, work permits and occupational trends, as well as other events of interest at CVCC.

**Career Specialists in Your Schools**

**Elementary**

Gretchen Weber—gweber@cvccworks.com

**Middle School**

Gretchen Weber—gweber@cvccworks.com

**High School**

Karen Moseley—kmoseley@cvccworks.com

**Career Development Supervisor**

Bill Novak—bnovak@cvccworks.com

*Need Skills? Ours Work!*

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

**Career Development Department**



**Our objective is to prepare all district students, K-Adult, to make the best possible informed career choices and position them for future career success by providing impactful age-appropriate resources and relevant experiences**

**CVCC Coming Events**

- Career Connections Workshop (New Teacher Orientation) August 11, 2008

- Teacher Externship Luncheon November 6, 2008—12 Noon

**Parent Speaker Series**

College & Career Planning Seminar November 12, 2008- 7-9 PM

- High School Student Job Fair March 12, 2009—4-7 PM

**CAREER PATHWAYS**

**CVCC DISTRICT STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ROBOTICS COMPETITION**

The Ohio Robotics Club held its spring HORD robotics competition at CVCC on April 19. Teams from Brecksville-Broadview Hts., North Royalton, Independence and CVCC entered Ant weight (1-pound) robots constructed in their industrial technology classes. CVCC program instructors conducted a workshop in February on design and building techniques for district teachers. Career Pathways donated the basic components to participating schools to build and operate the robots. The students built wedge and spinner type robots. While they didn't win, the students fared well in their first competition and learned a lot from watching the winning combatants.

**TECH COMPETITION SUPPORTS "STEM" EDUCATION**

Career Pathways and the industrial technology district teachers held the 8th consecutive Technology Competition at Independence Field House on May 2. Students used their pre-engineering knowledge and skills to design and build structures and vehicles. Airplanes and magnetic levitation cars were timed and the winner was selected based on optimum performance. Towers and bridges were stressed to failure to determine the winning design. Technology Wars pitted four school teams against each other in a problem-solving event. Beverly Kuch, Career Pathways Specialist, coordinated the robotics and tech competition events.

Students from Brecksville-Broadview Hts. celebrate winning the trophy for the third year in a row.



Dan Dulik and Ron Surace, teammates from Independence, exhibited high confidence in their robot, "Gold Digga" prior to the fight. They won in the first round, but were eliminated in the second.