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<https://edu.fcps.org/ctc/home>



**Frederick County
Career & Tech Center**



**@FrederickCTC
@CTCPrincipal**

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APRIL 2024 ■ Issue 4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello CTC Parents, Students and Staff:

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is really asking us to rethink what high school looks like. We must make sure we are preparing all of our students to have a bright future--- and we are working hard to make that happen at CTC. The Blueprint for Maryland's Future focuses on equity and closing deeply entrenched opportunity and achievement gaps to ensure that all students, from advanced learners to those who are struggling and have been historically underserved, receive the necessary support in order to reach their full potential. For more information on the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, please go to: <https://blueprint.marylandpublicschools.org>.

These past several weeks, CTC has presented at each academic planning night for all ten FCPS high schools this winter; providing important career and program information to students and parents. In addition, our faculty and Student Services department have been very involved in the recruiting, shadowing and application process for new students and registering second year students for next school year. Thank you to all involved.

An integral part of the CTC experience is participation in the SkillsUSA student organization and skills contests. Our school would like to congratulate all CTC students who recently competed in the regional competitions held at CTC last month. Our students competed in twenty-one (21) separate competitions against their peers from western Maryland; showcasing the skills they've attained in their respective technical programs. Students placing first, second and third in the regional competitions are eligible to compete at the next level; the SkillsUSA State (MD) competition in April. CTC will be sending 123 students to compete!

Finally, as we hopefully come to the end of the winter season, I want to express my gratitude to our staff for building positive and lasting relationships with our students. Building relationships with students is really the backbone of a positive school culture. To quote Missouri educator Justin Tarte: "Teachers who put relationships first don't just have students for one year; they have students who view them as "their" teacher for life."

Sincerely,

Michael Concepcion

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Important Dates & Reminders



**PLEASE REMEMBER
TO BRING YOUR
CHROMEBOOK AND
CHARGER
TO CTC EVERYDAY.
IF YOUR CHROMEBOOK
IS NOT WORKING
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SEE MS. ESHELMAN IN
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THANK YOU!**

CAREER COACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women in Trades Club

Interest Meetings in Media Center
come for snacks, stay with ideas



FREDERICK COUNTY
WOMEN IN TRADES

Career Fairs

Tuesday, April 16th :
High School Senior Career Fair
FCC Gymnasium
more info to come...

Friday, April 19th :
CTC Career & College Fair
Spires Cafe from 8am - 10am



questions? see or email
brenna.edmonds@fcps.org

DON'T FORGET TO REDEEM YOUR CTC BUCKS AT THE SCHOOL STORE

CTC Bucks are awarded
by staff members as an
incentive to encourage
students to improve their

academic performance and to participate in various school-based initiatives. When students earn five CTC bucks, they may redeem them for a blue ticket at the school store to be entered in drawings for gift cards. The next and final drawing will occur near the end of the school year.



Upcoming events...

April 16th

**CTC Culinary Arts & FFA Alumni
Honey Inspired Fundraiser Dinner
Carryout or Limited Dine In**

**May 2nd - 5th and 9th - 11th
Spring Greenhouse Plant Sale**

Resources & Support

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Helpful Resources

The [CTC Career Exploration & Job Prep Guide](#) provides helpful tips and resources!

The [Peterson's Test and Career Prep](#) provides resources that will help improve your test scores, explore colleges, universities and scholarships, explore careers, and prep for vocational tests. You will need to take a minute to complete the "New User Signup" if you are new to this database. Once you do that you are good to go.

The [Ferguson's Career Guidance Center](#) offers a wealth of resources for students to assess their career goals and interests, plan their education, learn workplace skills, find apprenticeships and internships, conduct a job search, and much more.

Click the links provided above to check out these great resources! You can also find these resources and many more on the [CTC Media Center](#) page.

Please see Ms. Leatherman in the CTC media center if you have any questions or need assistance.



THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION HAS OPENED THEIR NEW LOCATION

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Walk-In Crisis Care Center: Available 24/7 without an appointment and at no cost to you!

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For more information check out the contact information and links below...

Dial 211 Maryland
301-662-2255 Frederick County Hotline
988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

[Mental Health Association Walk-In Flyer \(English\)](#)
[Walk-In Flyer \(Spanish\)](#)



SPRING CLEAN YOUR MIND

Some if not most of us have a mental list of tasks, projects, homework, etc. that we want or need to tackle. Spring is a great time to start tackling or "cleaning" this mental list. Spring cleaning your mind is similar in practice to spring cleaning your house: decluttering the things that are holding you back, reinventing or refining your values, and then maintaining that sense of mental cleanliness and self-awareness moving forward. Below are some tips for Spring cleaning your mind:

BREAK BAD HABITS

- Tackle one habit at a time
- Pick a start date

ELIMINATE NEGATIVE THOUGHTS & SPEECH

- Approach problems as opportunities
- Take positive action whenever negative thoughts enter your mind

CLEAR YOUR PHYSICAL SPACE

- Donate any item/items you no longer need
- Clean your room and other areas of your home you access often

DEVELOP GRATITUDE

- Make a list of things you are grateful for
- Appreciate simple pleasures

DEVELOP AND/OR MAINTAIN POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

- Offer encouragement
- Be kind and allow yourself to be treated with kindness

PRACTICE MINDFULNESS

- Observe your feelings/thoughts without judging them as good or bad
- Be present in the moment



PEAR DECK TUTOR TUTORING SERVICES

Frederick County Public Schools partners with Pear Deck Tutor to provide 24/7 online tutoring to all students. The Pear Deck Tutor platform is easy to use and offered at no additional cost to you. With Pear Deck Tutor, students connect on-demand with a tutor who's an exact match for what they're looking for — whether they're stumped by a Calculus equation, craving a confidence boost, or looking for writing feedback.

The Pear Deck Tutor platform replicates all the best parts of in-person tutoring — including the ability to connect face-to-face through opt-in audio and video. The Lesson Space has all the tools a student may need for real-time collaboration with a tutor in even advanced subject matters.

No matter the field of study, writing skills are fundamental to academic and post-graduate success. Through Pear Deck Tutor's Writing Lab, students receive prompt feedback on their writing assignments to help them improve their written communication. For more information on how to use Pear Deck Tutor click here: [How to use Pear Deck Tutor](#)

[Get Started with Pear Deck Tutor](#)

[How to Connect with a Tutor](#) (video)

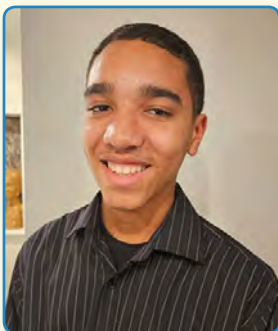
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Student Spotlight

CTC STUDENT, ELIJAH STEELE, ELECTED STUDENT MEMBER TO THE BOE

Gov. Thomas Johnson High School junior **Elijah Steele** was elected the next Student Member to the Board of Education of Frederick County (SMOB).

His one-year term will begin July 1. Until then, he will shadow current SMOB Brooke Lieberman from Urbana High School.



FCPS middle and high school students voted online to elect the 2024-25 SMOB. The election was finalized Tuesday after delegates representing each middle and high school cast their votes during the Frederick County Association of Student Councils General Assembly.

Steele was elected from a field of four candidates. During his campaign, Steele pledged to focus on mental health awareness and equitable opportunities for all students.

At Gov. Thomas Johnson High, Steele is a Student Government Association member and has served as chair for his school's Homecoming Committee. He is also a member of the Black Student Union, Future Health Professionals, and Junior Executive Clubs.

The SMOB's role brings a student viewpoint on educational issues to the Board of Education. SMOBs are expected to respect the diversity of students' points of view, improve communication between the student body, staff and Board members, and engage students about board policies and decisions.

FCPS News, posted February 7, 2024

CTC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE STUDENT RECEIVES FCPS IMPACT AWARD

CTC Biomedical Science student, Camila Gonzalez, also a senior at Urbana High School, was recently featured in the latest edition of FCPS Impact. Camila was nominated for this award by her CTC Biomedical Science teacher, Ms. Claudine Marcum. This award showcases students that are making an impact through their leadership, kind deeds, and positive attitudes. She also earned the gold award in health science from the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, a nonprofit that identifies, inspires, prepares and positions leaders in the classroom, community and workforce. The foundation's Youth Awards honor high school seniors who excel in the classroom and community. Congratulations Camila! To watch Camila being surprised with her FCPS Impact Award in the CTC Biomedical Science classroom click here [FCPS IMPACT AWARD VIDEO](#).



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Congratulations

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2024 SKILLSUSA REGIONALS RESULTS

On Saturday, students from Frederick, Washington and Alleghany Counties participated in the 2024 Region 6 SkillsUSA Regional Competition. There were 73 medals awarded in 18 competitions, and CTC students took home the gold, silver and bronze in 77% of the contests! 56 students from CTC now have an opportunity to advance to the State competition and beyond. It was a tremendous effort by our students, faculty, staff, and industry partners. Please congratulate all competitors on their success!

1ST PLACE

Mishani De Silva - Architectural Drafting
 Nikolas Lawson - Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair
 Gray Drennan - Automotive Service Technology
 Amaya Ferguson - Baking & Pastry Arts
 Evan Burd - Carpentry
 Chloe Stone - Cosmetology
 Gracelyn Hawbaker - Crime Scene Investigation
 Reese Sitter - Crime Scene Investigation
 Will Wright - Crime Scene Investigation
 Aidan McGarity - Criminal Justice
 Gavin Preston - Culinary Arts
 Hannah Koonce - Digital Cinema Production
 Grace Phillips - Digital Cinema Production
 Andrew Potter - Electrical Construction Wiring
 Ashley Smith - Esthetics
 Shannon Clarkson - First Aid/CPR
 Arwen Flint - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Sarah Patamawenu - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Aiden Petrie - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Zoe Razunguzwa - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Cheyenne Roberson - Nail Care
 Isabella Rogers - Nurse Assisting
 Andrew Winkler - Sheet Metal
 Thomas Alexander - Welding

2ND PLACE

Cameron Latch - Architectural Drafting
 Terrence Vattimo III - Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair
 Jeremiah Manahan - Automotive Service Technology
 Ahlia McDonald - Baking & Pastry Arts
 Matthew Piedramartel - Carpentry
 Shankle Kylie - Cosmetology
 Angela De La Cruz - Crime Scene Investigation
 Ileana (Jade) Elizalde - Crime Scene Investigation
 Anthony Flores - Crime Scene Investigation
 Cameron Vachon - Criminal Justice
 Blaine Trivett - Culinary Arts
 Aiden Bishop - Digital Cinema Production
 Nathan Peterson - Digital Cinema Production
 Joshua Onspaugh - Electrical Construction Wiring
 Ginny Ward - Esthetics
 Lillian Froehle - First Aid/CPR
 Carly Cairns - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Quintin Henderson - Health Knowledge Bowl

Layla Walker - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Sara Zupnik - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Amy Eichelberger - Nail Care
 Alex Cedula Lemus - Nurse Assisting
 Cohen Llewellyn - Sheet Metal
 Emory Moore - Welding

3RD PLACE

Diana Jimenez - Architectural Drafting
 Kaeden Smith - Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair
 Charles Shell - Automotive Service Technology
 Ariana Pulido - Baking & Pastry Arts
 Corey Doody - Carpentry
 Pryor Laci - Cosmetology
 Madison Baker - Crime Scene Investigation
 Angelina Crowder - Crime Scene Investigation
 Anais Tafoyem - Crime Scene Investigation
 Yara Diaz - Criminal Justice
 Hayden Williams - Culinary Arts
 Norah Dugan - Digital Cinema Production
 Alexandra Ramos - Digital Cinema Production
 David Thompson - Electrical Construction Wiring
 Madison Watson - Esthetics
 Alexas Sholes - First Aid/CPR
 Laura Blohm - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Ayumi Gomez - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Hailey Keegan - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Alivia Wachtel - Health Knowledge Bowl
 Cassie Sanford - Nail Care
 Brooke Russell - Nurse Assisting
 Christopher Gallagher - Sheet Metal
 Luke Iferd - Sheet Metal
 Brian May Jr. - Welding



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JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Katie Alfaro
Cosmetology I



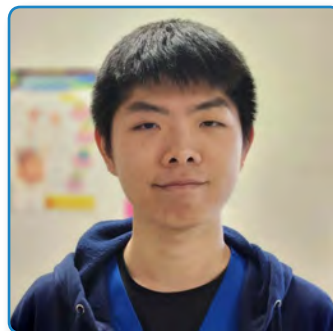
Angelina Crowder
Homeland Security/Criminal Justice



Noah Dame
Digital Design/Printing Methods



Melissa Hansen
Physical Rehabilitation



Zachary Huang
Academy of Health Professions



Rosalie Huston
Culinary Arts



Ulyana Kazhamiakina
Dental Assisting



Antonio Rodriguez
Web Technology



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Congratulations

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FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Lucas Acerenza
Physical Rehabilitation



Amaya Ferguson
Culinary Arts



Jaiden Holland
Academy of Health Professions



Jahari Johnson
Digital Design/Printing Methods



Jasmine Millan
Cosmetology I



Levi Moser
Carpentry



Brody Summers
Automotive Service Technology



Andrew Work
Autobody/Collision Repair

MR. DUMAN NOMINATED FOR FCPS TEACHER OF THE YEAR



The Career and Technology Center (CTC) nominee for FCPS Teacher of the Year is Mr. Don Duman. He is currently a Homeland Security/Criminal Justice teacher, starting his teaching career at CTC in 2014. Don has been a public servant for many years: Military Police officer in the U.S. Army, Sheriff Deputy/SRO for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office (retired) and now an outstanding classroom teacher at CTC.

This year, Mr. Duman has gone beyond the call of duty by taking on the role of team leader for Habits of Work. He is also a valuable member of our school's Crisis Team and our School Improvement Process team where he has contributed significantly to our work to build a positive and inviting school culture and climate.



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CTC ACADEMY OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS ALUMNI RECEIVES WOW AWARD

CTC alumni, Brandi (Burdette) Knill, was selected for the WOW award at BridgingLife Hospice Care. After CTC, Brandi became a registered nurse and also got certified in hospice and palliative care. Mrs. Pieterse was happy to get this update from her former student.

This is what Brandi's director said in the nomination write-up about Brandi:

"I would like to showcase, Brandi Knill. Brandi is a PRN hospice nurse with BridgingLife. She has been helping the Community Based Palliative Care (CBPC) team for over a year. Her typical duties for the CBPC team consist of calling our patients who require monthly phone call check ins. She performs her role with great enthusiasm and attention to detail. However, what I want to highlight is that Brandi stepped up to the plate, before even being asked, when we had an associate go out on medical leave. She understood that the role of the employee who went out on medical leave was an imperative role within the team and the rest of the team could not function and the patients would not be served without someone to fill the role. To fill this role, she has worked after hours and weekends to ensure that the job gets done. As luck would have it, last month we had the most referrals we have ever had in one month and she handled it flawlessly. While filling this role, she has created new relationships with new referral sources, produced high quality ideas to benefit the team, showed great concern for her personal performance - all the while tending to the needs of our community and her family. I was in the process of creating this WOW award, prior to her family experiencing a tragedy. Even with the trials that she is experiencing personally, she has continuously showed up for our team. I am honored to work with her and value her time with us".



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What's Happening

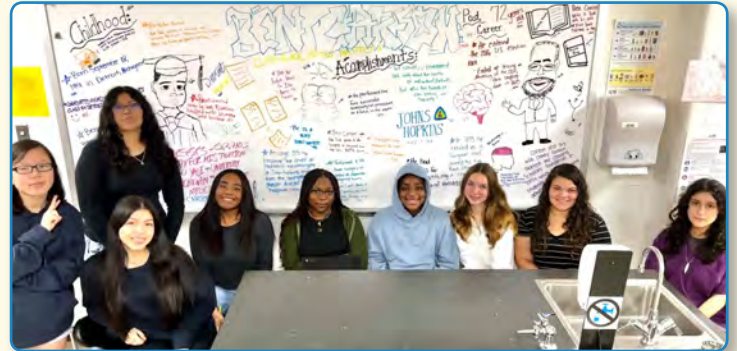
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MEDICAL ASSISTING: FIRST AOHP DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASS

The first Dual Enrollment Medical Assisting class began at CTC in January 2024. Students are pictured here dissecting a sheep's brain after learning medical terminology related to the nervous system. This dual enrollment Medical Assisting class is designed to be completed in three semesters rather than the typical four semesters at CTC. Students who complete the courses may earn up to 18 transcript credits from FCC. In addition, they will have the opportunity to become certified in CPR, First Aid, and Basic Life Support. Those students who complete the program will then be qualified to take the National Health Career Association's Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) test and become Certified Clinical Medical Assistants. We are excited to welcome this new class to CTC!



MRS. KIDD'S AOHP CLASS SHOW THEIR CREATIVE SIDE



Mrs. Kidd's 1st year AoHP class created this awesome graffiti board in honor of Dr. Ben Carson for black history month.

TELEVISION/MULTIMEDIA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN AMERICAN CONSERVATION FILM FESTIVAL

Each year, American Conservation Film Festival encourages youth ages 5 to 18 to create a conservation film of their own about what the environment and nature means to them. Videos



were judged by a jury on the power and relevancy of the conservation message, originality/creativity, and the overall production value, in that order. Components to be considered include use of imagery, sound, messaging (verbal or nonverbal), and surroundings. This year overall winner of the contest was the team of Zach Koehler, Ryan McNee, Garrett Mothershead, Ethan Putnam, and Liam Hoheusle. The winner of the high school division was the team of Jonathan Htut and Josh Velasquez. Congrats to all the Television/Multimedia students that participated.

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THE NEW DENTAL ASSISTING PROGRAM IS OFF TO A GREAT START

The Dental Assisting lab/classroom is up and running! It's so exciting to see all of the new dental chairs and equipment in the classroom. We have state-of-the-art functioning dental equipment which will allow students to actually practice suctioning techniques as each chair is equipped just like in an actual dental office. Our program has begun with the very first cohort of students who are so excited and eager to learn all of the tools and techniques associated with Dental Assisting. We are learning about oral hygiene, medical abbreviations, body systems-integumentary (skin), skeletal (bones), and about infection control. We have been able to show prospective students that are shadowing how to take dental impressions. The shadowing students get to mix the materials, take an impression on themselves, pour a model, and take home a model of their smile. One recent highlight in our program is that students have been able to wear their brand-new scrubs and nametags! Upon completion of this 5-term program and certification exams, students will be work-ready! I am so excited to share my 37 years of experience with these students and fulfill the growing need for qualified dental assistants within our dental community.



“DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN”

If you have driven down 13th Street lately, Yogi Berra's famous quote may have come to mind, or you might have asked yourself “Haven't I seen that house before?” Well, this time last year House 34 (left) was the same familiar shade of green until the carpentry students installed the siding. The House Foundation had to move forward with House 35 due to the logistics of “where to pile the dirt?” Once the remaining dirt around House 35 has been dug, scraped, pushed, and compacted, work will resume on House 34 where trim and all of the finishing touches will be applied on track to complete by June. This “Tale of Two Houses” will come to an end once the “For Sale” sign is in the front yard of 34, and you will find the construction trades students back at House 35 practicing their craft all over again.





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What's Happening

11

MRS. KIDD'S AOHP CLASS DISSECTING COW EYES, SHEEP BRAINS, AND RATS



CTC STUDENT BUILDER OLYMPICS

On Saturday, March 16th, students showed off their skills in the CTC Student Builder Olympics at the 49th annual Home and Garden Expo at the Frederick Fairgrounds.



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THE SCHOOL YEAR AT A GLANCE

2024

January 1 (Monday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
January 15 (Monday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
January 16 (Tuesday)	Schools Closed*
January 17 (Wednesday)	Schools Closed*
February 16 (Friday)	2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students
February 19 (Monday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
March 22 (Friday)	Schools* Closed for Students
March 29 (Friday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
April 1 (Monday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
April 2-5 (Tuesday-Friday)	Schools* Closed for Students
May 2 (Thursday)	2-Hour Early Dismissal for Students
May 14 (Tuesday)	Schools** Closed
May 27 (Monday)	Schools** and Offices Closed
June 5*** (Wednesday)	2-Hour Early Dismissal/Last Day of School for Students

*BOE Determined

**State Mandated (See page 40)

***FCPS will make up days closed for inclement weather or other emergencies in the following sequence: June 6, 7, 10, 11 and 12. If no snow days are used, the last day for students is Wednesday, June 5. The June 2-hour early dismissal will occur on the last day of school for students. The school year will provide 180 days for students. Dates are subject to BOE revision.

Get Calendar Details:

www.fcps.org/calendar

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Select FindOutFirst email calendar updates and emergency-closing announcements:

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See the Calendar Handbook months pages



FCPS Maryland



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WELCOME TO CTC!



TOM DAWSON, CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY/INTEGRATED MEDIA AND WEB DESIGN TEACHER

Hi, my name is Tom Dawson and I have lived in the Brunswick/Jefferson area for over 66 years (2 years in Raleigh, NC) with my wife Kathy. We have been married for over 47 years. We have two children, Mitch and Jill, with twin grandsons who love playing baseball, and we love watching them. I started work on repairing TV's after High School, then moved into computers/networking while at the U.S. Postal Service for 16 years. Left there in 2000 for a teaching position with Nortel Network (cloud/telecom company) for 2 years. I came back to Maryland in 2002 and was able to re-join the federal government with NIH as their team-lead clinical apps/database admin (HIT). At this time (2002), I started working for FCC in their Credit and CEWD departments, teaching MS Office, CompTIA A+, Network+, and Security+, and other classes as needed. Retired from federal government employment in 2017 (31 years), to help FCC and Montgomery College with their American Promise Grant programs. After teaching for over 22 years in the evenings, it was time for a change, which is why I am here helping our CTC students. I am very active with our church, and enjoy golfing, bike riding, and fishing from time to time.

The most important careers make a positive impact in the lives of others.



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