

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Sept. 14, 2018

With two years in the books, Pickaway-Ross' Career Tech Kids Day continues to grow and be a great opportunity to connect young people with career-tech education.

A half-day career camp for second- to eighth-graders, Career Tech Kids Day is an all-volunteer effort created by Donna Patrick.

Each fall, Donna visits colleagues to request their participation. In years past, teachers have created sessions tied to forensics, medicine, engineering, carpentry, art and photography.

Last year's Kindness Rocks sessions, in which participants painted positive words and images on small stones, was such a success that it was offered during the Ross County Fair this summer.

This year's event will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3. For the third year, visitors will get lunch provided by McDonald's and bottled water from Perfection One Collision Center.

Kingston National Bank, which came on board last year as the giveaway sponsor, is back this year as the event's presenting sponsor, donating \$500 that will go toward lunch bags for the kids.

Also this year, Alex Deaton is working to line up corporate sponsors to donate \$100 each so that participants will get T-shirts.

Participants can sign up for up to three sessions taught by Pickaway-Ross staff members. Sessions planned so far are Bowtiques & Braids with Donna;



Operation with Adrienne Davis; Bugs & Butterflies with Alex Deaton; Magic of Disney with Tony Eal-lonardo; Machining & Motors with Brent Ebert and Danny Morris; Creative Cupcake Creations with Katie Hewitt; Art Club with Tea McCaulla; Rubber-band Engineering with Mark Misita; and Ice Cream Science with Jennifer Widdig.

Still in the planning stages are Kindness Rocks and a session offered by Circleville Sports Medicine instructor Jan Altier and Health Administration instructor Amy Peters.

Tony's Disney session, created as an option for parents, is coming back after a successful introduction last year. Donna is hoping to round out the morning's offerings with a few other sessions for adults.

"We have gotten so much positive feedback from people who have taken part in this event," Donna said. "I'm looking forward to seeing what else we can offer."

"Some of the session ideas come from an area outside of a staff member's day job," Donna said, such as Katie's cake-decorating hobby.

Other staff members who volunteer their time are Robin Bussey, Tracey Eyre and Tammy Sutherland, who continue to help with registration.

Staff members who have an idea for a session can call Donna.

Dennis Franks is superintendent of Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center. He can be reached at dennis.franks@pickawayross.com.



FAR LEFT: Brent Ebert will again work with kids in the Machining lab. LEFT: Last year, Katie Hewitt helped kids build birdhouses. This year, she will teach cupcake decorating techniques.