

Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Oct. 30, 2015

Pickaway-Ross hosted about 450 eighth-graders last week and that was just one of the activities taking place during a very busy week.



Grace King, our Student Services specialist, arranged for students from six schools to bring eighth-graders to Pickaway-Ross for tours, as part of the effort to introduce younger students to the benefits of career and technical education.

With the help of many of Grace's Student Ambassadors, the eighth-graders visited each of our labs briefly and learned about the programs.

Lisa Wayland, principal at Adena Middle School, told Grace by e-mail:

"The students couldn't stop talking about all that they saw. We were most impressed by the confidence and the leadership skills of all of the student tour guides, as well as the students within each program who were willing to share information and lead the discussion of their areas. It was apparent they have a passion for what they are doing."

Last week, as most of you know, was the Circleville Pumpkin Show, a four-day event that features no shortage of parades, people and pumpkins.

Scott Patrick, Diesel & Heavy Truck Mechan-

ics instructor, spearheaded the FFA float for the Wednesday night parade. Scott and his students worked for several weeks to get the tractor in shape to pull the float that featured six of his students.

Also last week, Scott Brohard and Kirk Hewitt took the Electrical students to the Electrical Trades Center for the annual fall field trip. Students were assigned to one of five classes: AutoCAD, electronics, fiber optics, welding and wire pulling.

The twice-yearly field trips are part of a partnership with the center that has been in place for many years.

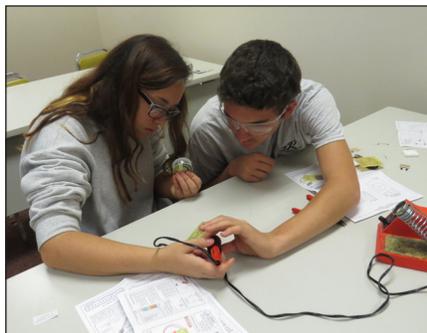
And on Friday, Criminal Justice students took part in the Mace chemical training that instructor Ed Ryan schedules each year.

The exercise is met with a mixture of fear and excitement by students, many of whom choose to repeat the exercise as seniors.

Caitlyn Root, one of those seniors, said afterward, "I love it and hate it at the same time!!"

The experiences that our students get at Pickaway-Ross help prepare them for what comes next in their lives, as learners, leaders and workers.

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From left: students from Circleville Middle School learn about the Engineering program; Electrical students solder a circuit board at the Electrical Trades Center; and a Criminal Justice student who is feeling the effects of being sprayed by Mace is led to the water station to rinse.