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# TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

*A newsletter for friends of Highland Springs Technical Center*

<http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/hs/HighSprTech/>

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## Mr. Collie to retire after 33 years with HCPS

Mr. Johnnie Collie, principal of Highland Springs Tech, will retire, his last day being June 27, 2013. Mr. Collie has been at HSTC since 2006.

Career and technical education has always been near and dear to Mr. Collie's heart. He taught a variety of different classes at Highland Springs High School, beginning in 1981. Besides architectural drafting, engineering drafting, manual drafting and computer-aided drafting (CAD), he also taught graphic communications, photography, woodworking and Introduction to Engineering. He moved to Hermitage Technical Center to teach CAD in 1991. His next move was to administration as assistant principal at Hermitage Tech in 2001. When

Mr. Tom Collier, principal at Highland Springs Tech Center, retired for reasons of health, Mr. Collie was named to the position during the 2005-2006 school year.

Mr. Collie was an active advisor for SkillsUSA, a student skills/leadership organization, and took a number of his CAD students to state and national competitions. One student, Tony James, competed twice on the national level. Mr. Collie accompanied him to Kansas City, MO, where the national competition was held. Because Tony was disabled and used a wheelchair, Mr. Collie assisted him with daily tasks.

Mr. Collie won several teaching awards: The Rufus W. Beamer Excellence award in 1996,

Hermitage Technical Center Teacher of the Year for 1997-1998 and 1998-1999, and in 1998 he was one of eight educators in Henrico to receive a Gilman award. According to a Times-Dispatch article, this award is given to teachers "who exhibit the highest level of dedication, hard work and innovation in the classroom."

As an administrator, Mr. Collie was always approachable and ready to lend a hand. He never failed to thank his staff for their hard work and dedication. As for retirement plans — Mr. Collie plans on working! No doubt he will also continue to cook for his family, garden, read and travel. HSTC staff and HCPS will miss him very much.

## *New HSTC principal is tech center, HSHS alumnus*

Mr. William J. Crowder, Jr. has been named principal of Highland Springs Tech. Mr. Crowder graduated from Highland Springs High School and was an HSTC student in the Computer Systems Technology program in 1997-1998.

Mr. Crowder earned a BS in Information systems from VCU in 2002. He earned his Masters in 2005, and a post-Masters certificate in 2010. He earned his Educational Specialist degree in 2011. His advanced degrees are from The George Washington University in Educational Leadership & Administration. At this time, Mr. Crowder is finishing up his doctorate in Educational Leadership at Liberty

University.

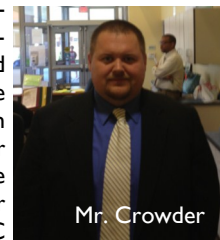
Mr. Crowder began his teaching career in 2004 as an instructor in Computer Systems Technology, and taught at HSTC for the next six years. Administration was the next step - he was appointed assistant principal at Fairfield Middle School in 2010. In 2012, he was named associate principal. Mr. Crowder says he is very pleased to be back at HSTC — this time as principal.

A genuine love of sports led Mr. Crowder to coach at the high school level. He served as assistant football coach at Highland Springs High School from 2005-2008. He was the school's director of football operations

from 2008-2010, as well as the head varsity baseball coach (2005-2010), and the head varsity golf coach (2008-2010).

During his tenure at HSTC, Mr. Crowder was named the first-year teacher of the year by his co-workers, and was the Gilman teacher of the year for HSTC in 2010.

HSTC welcomes Mr. Crowder "back to the family." The staff looks forward to working with him.



Mr. Crowder

### Students prepare for HOSA competition



Health Occupations Students of America members from Pharmacy Technician, Practical Nursing and Nurse Aide classes get ready for their trip.

### SkillsUSA district competition



Radio Broadcasting students compete at Richmond Technical Center

### Career Academy

Applications for Summer Fun Career Academy are being processed at both Highland Springs and Hermitage Tech. This four-week summer program allows rising 5th –9th graders to explore careers in technical fields.

This year, students may sign up for four one-week classes — everything from Radio Blitz to Spa Day Savvy. Students will enjoy hands-on activities, and take home projects they make in class. Classes will be held June 18th-July 11. For more info call 328-4075.

### SkillsUSA States

HSTC had several students who placed in the top three for the state in SkillsUSA competition in Roanoke, April 19-21. First – place winners go on to national competition in Kansas City, MO in June.

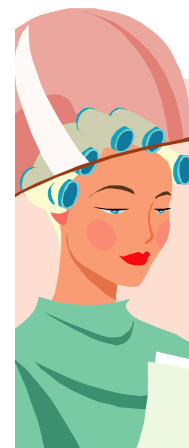
Andrew Johnson and Charles “Chas” Carroll took 1st place in Audio Production (team). Chas also won 2nd place in Radio Communications - Pre-produced. Shane Ely took 2nd place in Carpentry. Kelly Royster came in 3rd for Radio Communications - Pre-produced.

HSTC congratulates these students for their winning efforts.

### HSTC Cosmetology students sit for boards

Highland Springs Tech Center’s cosmetology students will soon have the opportunity to attain a state license in the field. Passing the state cosmetology exam will allow them to work as licensed cosmetologists in a salon or other professional setting.

The exam is scheduled for May 7, 2013 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Richmond Airport. The test consists of a practical (hands-on) section, as well as a written test. 18 second-year students have qualified to sit for the state board test.



### Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier visits HSTC

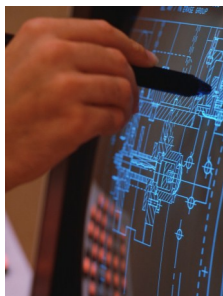


Dr. Dann-Messier meets with Mac Beaton, Director of CTE (left) and HCPS School Board members. (story, page 3.)

### Language tip:

Don't confuse *infer* and *imply*. If you *imply* something, you suggest it to someone. You *infer* (gather) something from what someone else is saying.

### HTA student wins video essay contest



Bishal Dutta, a High Tech Academy student at HSTC, won first place for his entry in the Richmond Joint Engineering Council (RJEC) Video Essay Contest 2013. The theme of his video was "Invent the Future." Bishal is a junior in Dr. Steve Herr's Introduction to Engineering class at HSTC.

As a finalist in the contest, Bishal, and a guest of his choice, received an invitation to the RJEC banquet at the Hotel Jefferson held in February. His winning video was played at the event, and he

received \$100 in prize money.

Bishal's winning video can be viewed at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVwXlgK0obo>



(l to r) Steve Herr, Bishal, William Lamp of **Engineers Plus**

### Dr. Dann-Messier visits

On Friday, February 22, Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, the U.S. Department of Education's lead official on adult and technical education, visited Highland Springs Technical Center

Dr. Dan-Messier came to HSTC to meet with students, teachers and business partners.

As the first Assistant Secretary who is also an adult educator, Dr. Dann-Messier leads the department's efforts in adult education and career and technical education, as well as efforts supporting community colleges and correctional education. (photos, page 2.)

## Student skills/leadership organization winners

SkillsUSA District II: (First place goes to state competition)



- Action Skills
- Audio/Radio Production
- Automotive Refinishing Tech
- Carpentry
- Chapter Display
- Club Scrapbook (single)
- Computer Maintenance Tech
- Criminal Justice
- Crime Scene Investigation

- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 2nd place/Highland Springs Tech
- 3rd place/Highland Springs Tech
- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 2nd place/Highland Springs Tech
- 3rd place/Highland Springs Tech
- 1st place/Highland Springs Tech
- 2nd place/Highland Springs Tech

- Cortney Heing
- Charles Carroll/Nia McLeod
- Racquelle Royter/Juan Guzman
- Sharriff Salaam
- Shane Ely
- Azerria Jones/Sadeja Jones/
- Jessyka Davis
- Tyeesha Williams/Sydni Beale/
- Tiara Tatum
- Aktural Alam
- Michael Hollier
- Kevin Williams
- Danielle Jordan
- Michael Engleheart/Gabby
- Mendoza/Phylissa Washington
- Winners, page 4**

### Upcoming events



- May 2** - Tech Ethics Society senior picnic
- May 3-5** - TSA Technosphere (state competition), Richmond Convention Center
- May 7** - Internship fair, 6-8 p.m., at Glen Allen H.S.
- May 8** - National School Nurse Day; National Paraprofessional Day; National HCPS Teacher of the Year ceremony at Glen Allen H.S.

- May 21** - Henrico Cty. Vocational/Technical Education Foundation annual golf tournament at The Crossings.
- May 27** - Memorial Day
- June 10** - HSTC Completion ceremony, 7 p.m. in the Hudson Gym. HSHS.
- June 23-29** - National SkillsUSA competition, Kansas City, MO
- June 28-July 2** - National TSA conference, Orlando FLA

### What to wear?

Once again, senior completers at HSTC will wear their home-school robes, but not their caps for the completion ceremony. Juniors/one-year completers will wear black or white. Girls may wear a dress or dress pants in either color. Boys wear black pants, white shirts, and a tie of their choice.

If a student is dressed inappropriately, they will be issued a gown for the event. Letters will be sent home soon with further details.



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## Highland Springs Technical Center Mission Statement:

The mission of Highland Springs Technical Center is to provide a rigorous and specialized program choice for the students of Henrico County. The academic and political focus of these courses facilitate a seamless transition from secondary to post-secondary and the world of work. The programs also seek to prepare students to be contributors to a competitive workforce, which is needed in the 21st century.

\* \* \*

### From Page 3

#### SkillsUSA District II (cont.):

Customer Service	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Nicole Page Destine Pleasant
Essay	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Alexis Hatcher Joshua Bester-Lewis
Extemporaneous Writing	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech 3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Quenyana Gray Joshua Bester-Lewis Erin Connelly
Job Interview Masonry	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Karen Henry Israel Gonzalez Jonathan Green
Poster Prepared Speech	2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech 1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Deja Johnson Katherine Wilansky Keisha Person
Radio Communications/Pre-Produced	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech 3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Charles Carroll Juan Guzman Racquelle Royster
Electrical Construction Wiring Spelling Career Pathways Showcase	2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech 3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech 1st Place/Highland Springs Tech	Tory Ellis Kaitlyn Foster Chelsea Kellum Lawrence Braxton Kevin Bermudez

#### TSA Regionals\* : (High Tech Academy students, unless noted)

Digital Video Production	2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Cullen Bade, Melissa Zhao, Lia Walton, Helen Dunavant, Ankita Roy, Tasha Krug
Essays on Technology	1st Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Casey Taylor Tyler Cable (Carpentry)
Photographic Technology Promotional Graphics System Control Technology	3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech 2nd Place/Highland Springs Tech 3rd Place/Highland Springs Tech	Melissa Zhao Kathryn Hutchins-Duda Kathryn Hutchins-Duda

\*1st-3rd place qualifies for state competition.