



Mendota  
Ottawa  
Princeton  
Depue  
Hall  
St. Bede

Putnam County  
Henry-Senachwine  
Marquette

LaSalle-Peru  
La Moille

“I’m a greater believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it”

— Thomas Jefferson

## The Career Center Courier

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### EMR Gets “Piggy” With It

Students who enroll in the Fire Science / EMR class at the Area Career Center receive their EMR training during the Spring semester of the school year. New to the program



*Pictured: Instructor Robbyn Partain demonstrates the effects of rescue techniques (CPR, Chest Massage) by using organs from a pig.*

this year is instructor Robbyn Partain. Robbyn is a fully certified Paramedic. As such, she brings with her a wealth of information, experiences, and skills that are then imparted to the students of the Fire Science program.

Demonstrating the skills that are part of her expertise, Mrs. Partain used organs (lungs and heart) from a donated pig to visually and tactually demonstrate the effects of life saving techniques. In this demonstration, Mrs. Partain demonstrated such skills as inserting a chest tube, inflating the lungs, performing a heart massage, and proper handling techniques when exposed to bodily fluids. In having students witness the physical effects their techniques have on the patient, a better understanding is garnered of the vital importance of applying proper technique.

Demonstrations such as this (combining the theory with practical demonstration) are the primary methodology employed in the ACC Fire Science Program.

### Turri & Wilke named ACC Excellence in Education Award Winners for 2018



*Pictured: Instructor (Chief) Richard Turri [Third from Right], with his period 1-2 Fire Science / EMR class.*

Each school year the La Salle County Regional Office of Education (ROE 35) sponsors a dinner and awards ceremony to celebrate outstanding educators and staff from across the region. Each school (based upon enrollment) is allowed to nominate educators and support personnel that best exemplify **Excellence in Education**.

This year the ACC faculty and support staff voted upon the personnel they thought best represented the excellence found in the men and women at the Area Career Center. For 2017-18 the ACC faculty and staff chose Mr. Richard Turri to receive the honor of ACC Educator of The Year,



and Mrs. Christine Wilke to receive the honor of Support Staff Employee of the Year.

Congratulations Richard and Chris-Excellent Choices

According to an article in Forbes magazine, Illinois ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of a shortage in the number of skilled trades workers available. In Illinois 57.9% of the skilled trade workforce is over 45 years old. This means that going forward, the shortage will become even more acute as members of the skilled trades tend not to hang onto their jobs into retirement age (this is because of the physical demands of the occupations.)

# LaSalle Peru Area Career Center

## Student(s) of the Month- IVEO

**Pictured Below:** Students of the month Veronica Lopez (St. Bede--Left) and Mariah Kaufmann (LPHS--Center) with Instructor Mrs. Mary Scott.



As part of the IVEO program, students Mariah Kaufmann and Veronica Lopez both agree that this class is their favorite part of their day. The reason: “because it challenges us to problem solve.” Mrs. Scott does not teach it like a traditional class. We are presented with problems then we must come up with the workable solution. We do that by brainstorming, talking it out, and planning.

With both students indicating that they will further their education in the Business Field (Veronica—Accounting at Augustana, and Mariah—Business at NIU), they agree that this course is an excellent way to get them started in their post-secondary education (it is dual credit with IVCC.)

However, it does present it challenges. Currently the class is working on their Business Plans and the process of designing a business in all its elements is quite comprehensive. Both Mariah and Veronica indicated that the challenge is in the depth and breadth that they must present in their business plan. Mrs. Scott has taught them quite well as to their understanding of the concepts. However, a great deal has been taught, and they now must put it all to use in a comprehensive and functional proposal. Congratulations to Veronica and Mariah!!

## Computer Programming Meets Real Life

*Pictured Below:* ACC Computer Programming Instructor Mr. Kevin Champlin (left) and Mr. Jack Rooney (right), President of Capitol Strategies Consulting, Inc.



The ACC Computer Programming class was treated to a surprise visit from Mr. Jack Rooney. Mr. Rooney is president of a computer software company that is based in Springfield Illinois. Himself an Illinois Valley native (Cherry resident and Hall graduate), Mr. Rooney played a key role in shaping the formation of the ACC Programming class.

Stemming from an article the ACC Director read in the News Tribune, Mr. Rooney engaged in conversation with the director regarding his vision for computer programming in the Illinois Valley area. This conversation led to insights into what framework should be used in teaching the class, as well as establishing a collaborative network that would seek to bring high tech/high paying jobs to the Illinois Valley area.

After visiting the class, both Mr. Rooney and Mr. Champlin see great promise for the ability to garner home-grown talent and its ability to fill high tech jobs. This can be done with students taught right here in the Illinois Valley. Programming students are currently working on MTA certifications and the ability to expand their learning at IVCC.

*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest growing job in America is Solar Photovoltaic Installers—What a coincidence, Mr. Matt Dawson, who teaches Residential Wiring at the ACC, has a unit on that very topic. Another example of the relevance of the Career Center!!*