



Mendota

Putnam County

LaSalle-Peru

Ottawa

Henry-Senachwine

Lamoille

Princeton

Marquette

Depue

Hall

St. Bede

We are looking for ways to decrease the dropout rate. I am pretty sure, if we eliminate Career and Technical Education, we are going to increase the dropout rate  
*Mike Enzi—U.S Senator*

## The Career Center Courier

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### Machine Technology Receives Grant and Donation of New Mills



The ACC is proud to host one of the few Machine Technology Curriculums in the area (and across the state). The ability to work with metal (and

other materials) takes on many forms. Integral in the many methodologies of working with solid materials is the use of CNC (Computer Numerical Control). In short, CNC is the use of computers and the programs that run them, to control the cutting and removal of material from a solid block of material. This process is an industry standard in manufacturing. Currently, the average skilled CNC operator earns a median wage of \$50,580 annually. These positions are in high demand, and in particular here in the Illinois Valley

The good news is that the ACC has a program to teach these skills and processes, as well as an excellent instructor. Mr. Matt Lee, pictured above at far right, has taught at the ACC for close to the past 10 years. Recently, Mr. Lee has secured three additions to his program that will increase its value exponentially. These three additions are:

1. Secured a \$5000 grant from the Gene Haas Foundation. This grant will allow the program to pay for students to test for and earn certifications while enrolled at the ACC.
2. Received an award of a donation of two new state of the art Mills worth over \$50,000.



*Illustration of K3 Mill received as donation from Trak Tools*

3. Incorporated teaching programs that are part of IVCC's CPT program. This will allow students to earn up to 12 College Dual Credits, as well complete over 60% of the required coursework to earn the CPT certification with IVCC.

All while never leaving the ACC, or spending a dime. Click [Here \(IVCC CPT\)](#)

for more information on IVCC's CPT program.

The Machine Technology class runs during the first two sessions at the ACC, and offers students an opportunity that is unique in this area. The class is a great study in the infusion of Mathematics (Geometry and Trigonometry) into the skilled trades.

For more information contact instructor Mr. Matt Lee ([mlee@lphs.net](mailto:mlee@lphs.net)), or ACC Director Dwayne Mentgen ([dmentgen@lphs.net](mailto:dmentgen@lphs.net)).

### IVEO Hosts Speaker



The ACC Entrepreneurship class was treated to an informative and motivational talk by local entrepreneur Mr. Dick Janko. IVEO has had over 15 speakers thus far this year.

The number of courses taken by secondary students in the CTE subject area has declined by over 25% since 2000. Increased graduation requirements for core curricular areas have taken their toll on enrollment in CTE classes. *U.S Department of Education, Transcript Study*

# LaSalle Peru Area Career Center

## Building Trades

The ACC building Trades Program has been busy completing the construction of a new Ticket Booth for Hall High School. The project started at the end of the 2016-17 school year, and has now finished in time for the 2017-18 football season.

Students in the 16-17 class were responsible for the framing and roofing of the booth while this year's students were responsible for the finish work (siding, windows, etc.). This collaborative effort allowed the ACC students to put their skills to real world use, as well as coordinate work-loads between teams of students.

Instructor Mr. Harold Burr welcomes projects such as this, and can work out details with your school, or personal residence if anyone is interested in availing themselves of his classes and their unique skills.



*Pictured above: Ticket booth constructed and finished by the LPACC Building Trades Class.*

**DID YOU KNOW: THE AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE FOR AN IRONWORKER IN THE ILLINOIS VALLEY AREA IS \$71.06**

## Student of the Month-CNA

The student of the Month for September at the ACC is Health Occupations student **Gena Fassino**.

Gena is a second year student from LaSalle Peru HS, who



*Pictured (left to right): Teaching Assistant Stephanie Mickley, Gena Fassino, and Instructor Juliana Dzurisin*

is currently enrolled in Medical Terminology. Having successfully completed her first year and passed the state exam for CNA certification, Gena has continued on and is earning dual credit (with IVCC) as a student in the medical terminology course. The academic path that Gena

has pursued fits in perfect with her career ambitions, as Gena will pursue her nursing degree upon graduation.

Not only have Gena's ACC courses prepared her with the skill set she needs to enter the nursing profession, but they have also set her academically ahead. This is possible through the dual credit that IVCC offers as part of the Health Occupations curriculum. Earning credit from an Illinois Junior College, allows that credit to be transferred to any state college within Illinois (as well as other Junior colleges), as well as many private schools.

Congratulations Gena, the ACC is proud of you and thanks you for starting your career with us.

### EDU-CARE:

The ACC Child Care Program will begin accepting enrollments for its fall session of Edu-Care. The program offers child care during the morning and afternoon hours at the Dolan Building of the ACC. Cost is \$5 per week. Those interested may fill out an online enrollment form found at <http://lpacc.org/childcare.html> , Or they may download a form and turn it in, in person.