

Saint John Valley Technology Center

Health Occupations Students of America

Spring 2014

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Community Service

First time donor Mariah Corriveau at the American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Health Occupations students, with Melana Marquis one of the donor walkers.

Tour Guides

November 2013 - Eighth grade students from surrounding school districts came for St. John Valley Technology Center Program tours. This first tour gives a brief overview of the programs. The three of us were demonstrating how to operate a Hoyer lift while explaining the safety features. This is one of the many skills that we learn in Health Occupations. The 10th grade tours are a great way to let students get a feel about what they will be working with if they choose a certain occupation. For me, the 10th grade tour of this occupation with the hands-on skills lab is what won me over into the Health Occupations program. Getting a tour is what made me realize that I wanted to come to tech, follow the medical career track, and continue my education to become a cardiac surgeon.

(Amber Ouellette)



Left to right: Brittney Beaulieu, Julie Dumond & Amber Ouellette

**For success Attitude
is as important as
Ability!**



Back left to right: Cassidy Chouinard, Amber Ouellette, Brittney Beaulieu, Beth Winters, & Mariah Corriveau. Front: Anik Tabor & Julie Dumond.

Congratulations

October 2013 - Returning Health Occupations II seniors have successfully received their PSS (Personal Support Specialist) certification. This course prepared the students to provide direct support to consumers in assisted living programs, residential care facilities; adult day service programs and home care settings. These students received their State of Maine Nursing Assistant Certifications along with First Aid & CPR Certifications in June 2013. This year, they are exploring career clusters including Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Assisting, Diagnostic Imaging, Health Information/Medical Records, Social Worker, Surgical Scrub Technician, and Nursing.

Happy Holidays!

December 2013 - To help get into the holiday spirit we visited the local nursing home to deliver homemade Christmas Cards. It was nice to see the smiles on their faces when we gave them the Christmas Cards! As a former worker at St. Joseph Nursing Home, the residents were glad to see me again. I believe it was a great way to bring in the Christmas Season. It is sad to say some residents do not have family to go visit them. These small jesters matters to the residents. They enjoy having company that time of year. *(Julie Dumond)*

Back left to right: Cassidy Chouinard, Julie Dumond & Amber Ouellette. Front: Anik Tabor & Brittney Beaulieu



Ultrasound Internship

February 2014 -

Through Health Occupations I had the opportunity to do several job shadows. I knew I wanted to work in the diagnostic and imaging department and this experience has strengthened my determination to pursue a career as an ultrasound technician. It is really cool to see the images of not only babies, but different parts of the body, and to actually see the baby's heart beat. I have the opportunity to work with a new technician who just graduated last year. We have been discussing the colleges and studying I will have to do to pass the classes. I am very anxious to start making big changes for my future.

(Cassidy Chouinard)



Mariah Corriveau first time donor.

While registering the blood drive donors I was contemplating donating blood myself. I had a good breakfast and drank plenty of fluids. I was nervous, but finally did it! The worst part was the tape they put over the gauze bandage after I was done! It was a great experience, I was able to help save 3 lives.

Blood Drive

January 30, 2014 – Health Occupation students at St. John Valley Technology Center (SJVTC) participated in their sixteenth annual American Red Cross Blood Drive. For this event the students posted flyers, talked with family and friends, and wrote up an ad for the local newspaper to get as many people to participate in the blood drive. At 6:45 A.M. students from the Health Occupation class arrived at SJVTC to help the Red Cross staff set up the equipment and supplies needed for the blood drive. The students worked as donor walkers, worked at the recovery table offering drinks and snacks, and others were at the door helping to register donors.

The blood drive started at 8:30 A.M. and ended at 1:30 P.M. In all, thirty useable units of blood were obtained from donors. There were only thirty-five presenting donors for our blood drive because many area community members had donated at the nearby college blood drive the previous day. For every useable bag of blood up to three lives could be saved.

(Mackenzie Pitre)

Nursing Assistant Clinical Experience

December 2013 - During our first clinical experience Mrs. Chasse greeted us at the main entrance of the hospital wearing her crisp white nursing uniform. She escorted us to the locker room so we could change into our white uniform, removing all jewelry except for a watch and name badge. Our nails were clean, short, and free of nail polish, our hair tied up and away from our face for a professional appearance.

We met with the infection control nurse for orientation and re-washed our hands after glow germ application. Everyone passed the hand-washing test. Then we reviewed Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), confidentiality, medical records, client rights, and had a tour of the hospital stressing the importance of safety, locating and use of fire extinguishers and call alarms, using RACE & PASS, Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) use and location, and the paging system with the different codes (what each color meant). I was amazed to see the equipment for bariatric patients. It was interesting to see the different departments in the hospital and learn about the diversity of occupations in health care.

(Melana Marquis)



Left to right: Mrs. Marie May Chasse RN, Taylor Roy, Rebecca Albert, Steffany Caron, Katelyn Roy, Mackenzie Pitre, Danielle Caron, Camryn Smith & Melana Marquis



Back left to right: Rebecca Albert, Taylor Roy, & Melana Marquis. Front: Steffany Caron & Nurse Pauline Jandreau.

Endoscopy Department

January 2014 - We went in the Endoscopy Department where Pauline Jandreau RN explained and demonstrated the electronic vital sign equipment on me. She showed and explained how they position patients and provide safety. We were able to handle the equipment and see the sterilization process and then we saw actual pictures and how they obtain samples to rule out cancer. We learned the importance and necessity of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for this department. This is a vital technique especially if you are working in a health care setting but most importantly everyone must practice their hand-washing skills to prevent the spread of germs. (Steffany Caron)

Health Screening at the Elementary School

November 2013 - The Health Occupation students went to the local elementary school in Frenchville to assist the school nurse with the yearly health screening tests. Health Occupation students helped with measuring the students' height, weight, and also performed vision and hearing tests. We enjoyed this experience; it is not often we get to work with children between the ages of 4-11. This experience helped us practice our communication skills with such a young age group.

I had the opportunity to work with a girl who was diagnosed with Down Syndrome. This was a first for me, she was so polite and well mannered and passed through the screenings like every other student. When I performed the hearing tests, I noticed the younger age groups had a hard time focusing on the sounds they were hearing. Overall this was a great experience. (Brittney Beaulieu)

What's Coming...

✿ May 8 & 9, 2014 – Maine State HOSA will have its annual convention and competition events in Bangor.



✿ American Red Cross Animal CPR & First Aid starts in April.



✿ The State of Maine Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) exam is May 16, 2014.

