

OLD COLONY

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

On the Web at www.oldcolony.us



Newsletter for Parents and the Community

2008-2009 Volume III

Honor requires sacrifice

We extend our thanks and honor to those associated with Old Colony who serve our country in the military. We recognize with thanks our 2009 graduates who are United States Armed Forces recruits: **Fredrick R. DeMoranville**, Marines; **Coleman R. Macomber**, Navy; **Devon Malarkey**, Air Force; **Dustan McGlenn**, Marines and **Jay Rankin**, Marines. The Old Colony family extends their gratitude to **Colonel Nancy Souza**, who is one of the physical education and health instructors at our school.

With honor comes the sacrifice of time spent away from the family. **Mrs. Tracy Knowles**, a Sergeant in the National Guard's Army Division 101st Battalion of Engineers, shared her experience of life in a military family with the CIT students on May 29, 2009. Mrs. Knowles is the mother of a **Shana Rocca**, a Computer Information Technology student. During her first tour to Iraq, Shana was only able to communicate with her mother once during the year. Mrs. Knowles left for her second tour of duty to Iraq on June 13, 2009. Shana is hopeful that they will be able to communicate more often this time.

Former Old Colony graduate **Tyler Trahan** made the ultimate sacrifice in giving his life for his country in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, on April 30, 2009. Tyler was a 2004 graduate of the House & Mill Carpentry shop and quarterback of the football team. On the day of his funeral, the Old Colony family paid their tribute. Students from the National Honor Society, football team, and carpentry shop lined the road leading to the school. American flags were flown along the road, as well. As the funeral cortege passed by, taking the body of Petty Officer 2nd Class Tyler John Trahan to his resting place in the Massachusetts National Cemetery at Otis Air Force Base in Bourne, MA, students and faculty stood in silence and saluted the fallen hero.

A visitor from "Down on the Ice"

Don Cuddy, a journalist and photographer from **The New Bedford Standard Times** joined the Computer Information Technology (CIT) class, along with **Corey Wilson**, on March 25, 2009. The CIT students had followed Corey's Antarctic blog, as he worked as a graduate student for the University of Colorado. He was an Acushnet resident and was visiting with his family for a week. During his time home, Corey agreed to meet with Old Colony's CIT students.

The Standard Times news story focused on the impact Corey made on the students who communicated with him several times during his five-month stay in Antarctica. He did many amazing things while in Antarctica that the students were able to witness by following the blog on a weekly basis. Corey was an excellent role model for our high school students. During his visit, he gave a slide show presentation and had a question and answer session about his trip to Antarctica.

Student activities for the summer

The **Acushnet Classic Ensemble**, a summer orchestra program for musicians in grades 5 through 12, will meet weekdays from 12:00 - 3:00 pm, from July 6 until July 23, 2009, at the Fairhaven High School Performing Arts Center. Young string, woodwind, brass, and percussion players from the southeastern MA area, including the communities of Acushnet, Assonet, East Freetown, Lakeville, Rochester, and Fairhaven, are welcomed. The program fee is \$95. Please call **Doreen Nelson** (508-994-1098) or **Bryan Young** (508-821-2808) for more information.

The **Super Stars Skills Camp**, a summer basketball camp for boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 16, will meet on the Old Colony RVTHS campus in July. Basketball camp for the boys will be held from July 20-24, 2009; the girls basketball camp will be held from July 27-31, 2009. The fee is \$95. Please call Camp Director **Matthew Trahan** (774-644-0823) for program details, times, and further information.

Old Colony's free **Evening MCAS Summer Program** offers students intensive instruction in Math, English, and Biology. The summer classes will be held on the Old Colony RVTHS campus on Tuesdays through Thursdays, from 5:30 - 8:00 pm, beginning on July 7 and ending on August 13, 2009. Please call **Susan Maguire** (508-763-8011, ext. 221) for more information.

Around the Colony

* Old Colony won First Place in the **2009 Bristol Community College (BCC) Computer Science Website Contest** on June 11, 2009, in Fall River, MA. This marks the sixth straight first place finish for OC's web design students in the BCC web competition. Computer Information Technology (CIT) juniors **Robert Dupre** (Lakeville) and **Stephen Mantia** (Carver) were the winning team, taking home a trophy and \$100 Best Buy gift certificate. Approximately 50 students from four southeastern MA schools participated in this year's BCC event.

* The **Old Colony Chapter of the National Honor Society** recently conducted its twenty-third annual Induction Ceremony. The students were selected for membership based upon their scholarship, leadership, service and character. Students are selected by the **National Honor Society Faculty Council**. Those inducted included:

Class of 2010

Amanda E. Couto	(Rochester)
Danielle N. King	(Carver)
Ruethai Onnom	(Acushnet)
Tyler M. Steek	(Lakeville)
Jordan S. Schweidenback	(Acushnet)

Class of 2011

Chance D. Avery	(Carver)
Zachary S. Bernard	(East Freetown)
Lacey R. Cabral	(Acushnet)
Jillian L. Corrigan	(Acushnet)
Hailee B. DeTerra	(Acushnet)
Sarah D. Diggle	(East Freetown)
Elijah J. Faulkner	(Acushnet)
Nicholas J. Jenkins	(Acushnet)
Jaime L. Pimental	(Acushnet)
Brian M. Poland	(Lakeville)
Joseph L. Testa	(Carver)
Zachary J. Vieira	(Acushnet)
Olivia H. Young	(Lakeville)

The **Old Colony Chapter of the National Honor Society** is led by Advisor **Christine Watling**.

* The **Fifth Annual Old Colony Golf Tournament** was held at the Acushnet River Valley Golf Course in Acushnet, MA, on May 16, 2009. Families, friends, alumni, and guests of Old Colony RVTHS helped to make the event a huge success by raising \$14,500 - with all proceeds benefitting the **Old Colony Student Scholarships and Services**. Old Colony wishes to thank **John Abaray**, **Gary Brown**, and all of the people who helped to make the golf tournament a fun family event and profitable fundraiser for Old Colony's students.

* The **Old Colony Math Team** sent 12 members to the Math Meet at Tri-County RVTHS in Franklin, MA, on April 16, 2009. Competing against 20 MA vocational schools, our students placed 7th overall and represented Old Colony well.

* Old Colony's **SkillsUSA Chapter** participated in the Skills USA Massachusetts State Skills and Leadership Conference in Marlboro, MA, from April 30 - May 2, 2009. Competing against vocational students from across the state, Old Colony students won five medals in 13 competitions. The winning OC medalists were:

Silver Medalists

Jade Worthington (Acushnet) - Comp. Programming
Nicholas Weigel (Rochester) - Carpentry
Alexander Tironati (Freetown) - Web Design (Team)
Eli Reznekevitz (Freetown) - Web Design (Team)

Bronze Medalists

Ryan Hansen (Mattapoisett) - Automotive Serv. Tech
Ryan Tucker (Lakeville) - Electronics Applications

The Old Colony SkillsUSA Chapter is led by Co-Advisors **John Mare** and **Steven Miranda**.

* The **English Department** awarded three students with a book and plaque for their consistent effort and improvements made during the 2008-9 school year. Award winners are: **Shawn Stanley**, Grade 11; **Jillsley Dakin**, Grade 10, and **Kevin Tessier**, Grade 9. The awards were given June 16, 2009, at a recognition breakfast in their honor.

* The 8th Annual **Mr. Cougar Competition**, held on April 3, 2009, was a huge success! A standing-room-only crowd of over 600 people witnessed a fun evening and entertaining competition. **Eric Michaud** (Rochester, CIT) was crowned Mr. Cougar 2009. The other 2009 senior contestants were: Acushnet residents **Nicholas Abaray**, **Timothy DeAraujo**, **Joshua DeMelo**, **Cotey Perry**, **John Regis**, **John Romanelli**, and **Thomas Sylvia**; East Freetown resident **Matthew Cruz**; Freetown residents **Jazz Reis**, **Eli Reznekevitz**, and **Alexander Tironati**; Rochester residents **Joseph Cook** and **Nicholas Weigel**; Lakeville resident **Drew Bartlett**; and Mattapoisett resident **Jordan Botelho**. Congratulations to all of the senior contestants!

* Ten junior Health Careers students received their **CNA certification** after completing their written examination and competency test. Testing was done by the American Red Cross. The following students received CNA certification and are now eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education Program at the end of their junior year:

- **Lindsey Branco** (Freetown)
- **Katelyn Brunette** (Freetown)
- **Courtney Deneault** (Acushnet)
- **Hollie Duggan** (Acushnet)
- **Lindsey Earle** (Carver)
- **Alisha Fratus** (Acushnet)
- **Danielle King** (Carver)
- **Trisha Mello** (Lakeville)
- **Erika Sironen** (Carver)
- **Emily Stallions** (Carver)