

PRESS RELEASE



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*Photo: From Left to Right Standing: Bobby White, Bryce Schulte,
Elizabeth Taylor, Dawayne Ferguson, Jennifer Riddell.
Kneeling: Linzey Arthur and Toni Blais*

Career Tech students win silver awards at FFA competition

MONTAGUE: On Wednesday, February 4, 2009, Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MACTC) FFA members joined seven area FFA Chapters in the District Leadership Events competition held at Montague High School. All of the participating MACTC students won silver awards for their efforts.

Dawayne Ferguson from Muskegon Heights High School earned a Silver Award and fourth place in the *Prepared Public Speaking Event* with his speech on Bird Flu. Linzey Arthur from Muskegon High School competed in the *Job Interview* event and earned a Silver Award. Two teams from the MACTC competed in the *Demonstration* event. Team One, consisting of Bryce Schulte and Elizabeth Taylor, both from Mona Shores High School, and Bobby White from Muskegon Heights High School, demonstrated “*How to Set up a Freshwater Aquarium.*” Their demonstration earned the team a Silver Award. Team Two, consisting of Toni Blais from Orchard View High School and Jennifer Riddell from Fruitport High School, demonstrated “*How to Make Maple Syrup.*” This demonstration earned the team a Silver Award.

FFA is one of several extra-curricular Career Tech Student Organizations (CTSOs) offered by the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center. Currently 196 students participate in CTSOs. The students develop teamwork, public speaking, and goal-setting skills while preparing to compete in various events. The MACTC, located on the Muskegon Community College Campus, can be found at the corner of Harvey Street and Stebbins Road right next to the wind turbine. The MACTC opened to Muskegon area high school juniors and seniors in January 2005 and is operated by Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD).

FFA is a national organization of more than 507,763 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture and natural resources. The organization has more than 7,439 local chapters located throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands. FFA’s mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Local, state and national activities and award programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. ###