Mid-month media coverage through

June 14, 2013
Meridian offers tips to parents to help teens stay safe online

Meridian Technology Center is offering Smart Technology Strategies for Parents, a new series to help parents keep their children safe when using social media.

“For parents, it is hard protect children from the potential dangers associated with social media if they don’t know what they are looking for. Today’s teens have grown up with the Internet, cellphones and text messaging. It is a big part of their social interaction. Most parents probably recognize their teenager most likely knows more about social media than they do,” Computer Training Services Specialist Susan Sharpton said.

The Smart Technology Strategies for Parents series will feature two sessions designed for parents to help them discover what they can, and should, be doing to ensure their teen stays safe on Facebook.

The Facebook Safety class will be on June 17 and will include tips for parents to help keep kids safe when using social media. The second class in the series, Responsible Posting, will be on July 15. This class will shed light on social issues that young adults are experiencing with their peers and how parents can help them be safe on social media.

To learn more about the Smart Technology Strategies for Parents series contact Sharpton at susans@meridiantech.edu or call 405-377-3333.
Perkins culinary student wins top prize

Reality television recently became more real for Kylie Payne.

The first-year culinary arts student won a ProStart cooking competition that was modeled after the popular Food Network show “Chopped.” The contest, part of a nation-wide Food Network promotional book tour featuring celebrity chef Maneet Chauhan and co-author Doug Singer, put culinary students like Payne to a timed test to prepare a three-course meal of traditional American fare for Food Network judges in Oklahoma City.

“Aside from the fact that we had two days to plan our meal instead of getting our ingredients on-site, everything was exactly like what you see on the Food Network cooking shows,” Payne said, still a little overwhelmed by the experience and her win.

“TV cameras were everywhere, watching every move you made and the competition was intense. I am addicted to watching ‘Chopped,’” but that didn’t even come close to preparing me for what it would really be like to actually participate in a contest like this,” she added.

In a 40-minute time frame, Payne prepared a wrap featuring a blue cheese stuffed burger with lettuce, tomatoes, mustard and sautéed onions along with a side of sweet potato fries and a homemade sriracha sauce.

When it came time for the judging, despite being confident in her creation, Payne wasn’t sure how the judges would react.

“It was beyond nerve wracking to present my meal to the judges,” she recalled. “They literally critiqued everything you did right in front of you. They didn’t show much emotion, they just told you what you did that was good and what you might want to do differently. That was extremely stressful.”

Payne’s attention to detail paid off, and she was awarded the top prize at the event.

“It was a complete surprise that I won,” she said. “There were a lot of other talented people at the competition, including my classmates from Meridian.”

Payne, along with Perkins student Michael Rafael and Stillwater student Cameron Robinson, were selected to participate in the high school chef event by their instructors, Donna Cantrell and Carolyn LeGrand. Students were chosen based on their demonstrated leadership throughout the year and their desire to pursue a career in the culinary industry.

As the winner of the event, Payne received a set of Gunter Wilhelm
Student

Continued from page A1

Executive Series knives, a favorite among professional chefs worldwide. The top three ProStart student finalists from the 21-city tour will have the opportunity to attend the National Restaurant Association Show and travel to Washington, D.C., where they will spend the day cooking with one of the featured chefs of the White House Chef Tour. The winners will be announced later this summer.
Students get career tips at Tech Trek

By Chase Rheam
Stillwater NewsPress

Meridian Technology Center is hoping it can point young students in the direction of their future career by giving them a chance to learn from professionals in their respective fields.

Meridian’s Tech Trek Camp, offered annually to students entering seventh, eighth and ninth grades, is being held this week.

“It’s really Meridian’s opportunity to give our surrounding school district students and hopefully potential students a glimpse of our campus and what it looks like and the programs that we offer and what they do in the programs,” said College and Career Transition Coordinator Judy Sindelar. “Our biggest hope is that we have them as future students, but it gives them a little bit of career awareness and career exploration.”

Twelve different areas were available over the three-day event, including construction, air conditioning, clinical lab and pre-engineering.

“We have 99 students and they are representing all of our districts,” Sindelar said. “We have 10 in the Meridian district and we have two outside our district who send their students, so those schools include Stillwater, Guthrie, Perry, Mulhall-Orlando, Frontier, Morrison, Agra, Carney, Coyle, Glencoe and Pawnee.”

The Tech Trek Camp has been held for at least 10 years. Sindelar said they have seen students find their preferred career route from this event.

“We try to track our students,” Sindelar said. “Of course, we’d like to see them come to camp and they all get to come to our eighth-grade career fair and then, of course, we have our sophomore tours, so we’re able to kind of see if we’re making an impact from grade seven on through.”

She said the various programs make for interesting reactions from the youth.

“The most exciting and most fun thing for me is to watch the students and watch what they’re learning and hear them brag about it and say, ‘Look what I did. Look what I made,’” she said.

One student posted on her Facebook page that she was having a great time at the camp, she

See ➤ Trek, page A3
By Mark Rountree
mrountree@swnewspress.com

Daytime instruction is budgeted for $5.1 million in fiscal year 2014, the biggest ticket item in the general fund of a preliminary budget that was unanimously approved Tuesday night by the Meridian Technology Center Board of Education.

Other significant costs include $2.1 million for building operations and $1.2 million for central support services in a $12 million preliminary budget.

Board members approved a $5 million figure in the building fund for the next fiscal year, which is $3 million less than last year.

“This is an estimate,” Meridian Superintendent Doug Major said, “until our auditor completes our estimate of needs and until all the county assessors in all the five counties we serve certify ad valorem collections for next year.”

Major said county excise boards will certify the collections in the middle of September.

Major said the preliminary budget is approximately 90 percent of the previous budget.

“We don’t anticipate that we will lose any of our revenue sources, but we don’t know if there will be any growth,” Major said.

“So by starting with 90 percent, until we know what that firm number is, it allows us to operate those first few months of the fiscal year.”

The budget indicates an 18.6 percent increase in insurance premiums for the next fiscal year, an increase of $31,188 over last year. The insurance covers property, auto/garagekeepers, liability, student malpractice and workers compensation.

“We never like for our costs to go up, but I think that the losses that have occurred, not particularly with us, but with other entities, have driven the cost up somewhat,” board member Gary Johnson said.

The board also voted to approve continued membership in several associations, including the Oklahoma State School Boards Association, the National School Boards Association and the Association for Career and Technology Education.

The board also voted to be a part of a cooperative agreement with the other Career Tech schools in the state to participate in a statewide marketing program. Meridian will contribute $18,750 to the marketing initiative.
A specialized machine works to remove turf from a sports field.

Incubator helps businesses grow

By Russell Hixson
russellhixson@stwnewspress.com

Sports Field Removal LLC, is a small company on the cusp of massive growth. It has one of three machines in North America that removes turf from sporting fields. Innovative technology and techniques allow the company to do it cheaply, fast and without damage.

"We provide a service that can not only save them money but can get them a recycling resurfacing certificate," said Jay Schneider, vice president of operations and sales for the company. The turf is not dumped in a landfill but instead repurposed as batting cage turf or on construction sites.

Schneider estimates in the next several years more than 2,500 fields will need to be replaced — and that's just on the West Coast. The company intends to do business all over the U.S. and even internationally.

Helping them manage their growth is Meridian Technology Center's business incubator program.

The incubator program is there to help small, innovative businesses grow, create jobs and enrich the local economy. The program provides guidance to the 10 or so businesses that occupy the Center for

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Grow

Continued from page D8

Business Development on the Meridian campus and others that don’t rent space in the incubator’s building.

The staff meets with businesses to help each avoid pitfalls, network with contacts and set goals.

“For a company that’s growing like a weed, to not have to call 15 people to set up things is huge,” said Brad Rickelman, assistant director of the Center for Business development.

One of the goals of the program is to spur local economic growth. The incubator program’s valuable assistance is meant to entice businesses to stick around. This means more jobs and more stimulation in the local economy, which is good for everyone Rickelman said.

“We can’t turn an un-successful business into a successful one, but what we can do is help businesses avoid some of the mistakes that they are going to make or at least mitigate those mistakes,” Rickelman said.

Sports Field Removal has been taking advantage of the program even using Meridian welding classes to help fabricate custom tools. But the owners say the most valuable resource has been the program’s experts who have given the company direction and the tools for the young businessmen to manage explosive growth.
Agriculture Extension Corner

Agriculture
Mixed market signals affecting cattle markets
It has been difficult this spring to get cattle and beef markets all operating on the same page. Choice boxed beef, which capped wholesale values below $200/cwt. for more than a year, finally punched through the ceiling on May 2 and posted a strong May run, culminating in record highs of $211.37/cwt. on Thursday prior to Memorial Day. While Choice boxed beef is likely to drop from the pre-Memorial Day highs, the question is one of how far and how fast wholesale beef prices may drop in the coming weeks. In any event, the strength in Choice boxed beef sets the stage for stronger summer beef demand.

Packers have enjoyed better margins recently as fed cattle prices have not responded in similar fashion as boxed beef prices rose. However, it is important to remember that virtually all of the wholesale beef price increase has been in the Choice market. The Choice-Select spread has widened which limits the impact of higher wholesale values in the fed cattle market. While Choice boxed beef values have increased over $10/cwt. in May, the wider Choice-Select spread limits the potential increase in fed cattle price to less than $4/cwt. Despite the potential, fed cattle prices have weakened from highs at the beginning of May to current levels under $125/cwt. May into June is a difficult period for a fed cattle rally as slaughter numbers increase seasonally. The last three weeks, fed slaughter (steers and heifers) has increased over 4 percent compared to the previous several weeks. However, steer and heifer slaughter in May is down nearly 3 percent from the same period last year. Unexpectedly large beef cow slaughter since mid-March has contributed to more seasonal slaughter pressure in May. If boxed beef holds stronger into the summer, fed cattle prices will likely maintain higher summer values than are currently expected.

Feeder cattle prices have been on the offensive all spring due to a combination of demand and supply factors. Feedlot demand for feeders has been tempered this spring under the weight of record corn prices and continuing fedding losses. The prospects for sharply lower corn prices should support feedlot demand for feeder cattle into the third quarter of the year. Recent concerns over delayed corn plantings were largely erased with the tremendous corn plantings progress in the past two weeks.

Larger feedlot placements in March and April reflected the continuing effects of drought reduced forage supplies and lingering winter weather. The jump in placements was more a question of short term timing than a trend for coming months. May placements will likely be down as feeder supplies continue to tighten for the remainder of the year. Poor forage conditions and delayed forage growth continues to prompt beef cow liquidation and limit summer stocker demand.

Rural development
The Payne County OSU Extension office is pleased to announce its Third Annual Young Entrepreneur Expo (YE2) from 5-8:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Payne County Expo Center. Our theme this year is “Get a Kick out of Entrepreneurship!”. This event is for your child under age 21 (and their parents) who already have a business or who are thinking about starting a business. The cost to attend is just $15 for the whole family, and that includes a light dinner.

The program for the evening features three outstanding workshops. Amber Ritter, owner of Computer Geeks, will start the program with her presentation on the “Best Business Apps for Smart Phones and Tablets.” The program will also include an interactive business plan-building exercise between volunteer business mentors and young entrepreneurs.

Our featured speaker for the evening will be Kyle Eastham, entrepreneur and Kurate/Judo Black Belt. Eastham’s program will intermingle life lessons for young entrepreneurs with demonstrations of his martial arts skills. Young people are sure to get a KICK out of it! Eastham has a master’s degree in entrepreneurship and is an adjunct professor in the OSU School of Entrepreneurship. Eastham has spoken all over the U.S. on topics, including self-defense, peak performance, motivation and managing employees.

In addition to these great workshops, the young entrepreneurs will be given the opportunity to set up a booth at the event, much like what they would do at a craft show or trade show. These booths will be evaluated by judges who will provide constructive feedback and award prizes. Eskimo Joe’s has already committed three $25 gift cards to be awarded to the top three places.

The Extension office is grateful to have the support Meridian Technology Center’s Center for Business Development to help make this event possible. If you are interested in making reservations to attend the Young Entrepreneur Expo, please contact Suzette Barta at 405-747-8320 or suzette.barta@okstate.edu. Our website is www.smallbiz.okstate.edu. Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/youngentrepreneurexpo.

4-H
Payne County 4-H Food Show
The Payne County 4-H Food Show will be held June 15 at the Payne County Administration Building. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Extension office at 405-747-8320.

County 4-H Cloverbud Fun Day
County 4-H Cloverbud Fun Day will be held June 20 for ages 5-8, at the Payne County Expo Center with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the event beginning at 9 a.m. Pre-registration is required with a $5 per child fee. Please contact the Payne County Extension office at 405-747-8320.

County 4-H Jr Round-Up
The County 4-H Jr Round-Up will be held June 18 for ages 9-12 at the Payne County Expo Center with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the event beginning at 9 a.m. Pre-registration is required with a $5 per child fee. Please contact the Payne County Extension office at 405-747-8320.

Compiled by Payne County Extension Educators Nathan Anderson, Desi Rash, Suzette Barta, Keith Reed and Brenda Brantley.
Sunday
Flapjack Fundraiser, 8-10 a.m., Applebee’s, 317 N. Perkins Rd. Fresh made flapjacks, sausages, drink for $7, with proceeds benefiting Oklahoma tornado relief.

Schools Out Bash, 1-7 p.m., White Barn Estates, 2020 E. Lakeview. Summer activities with concessions available.

Summer Reading Event Kickoff, 2-4 p.m., Stillwater Public Library. Crafts and story telling to dig into summer reading.

Family Quake FX 2013, 4-8 p.m., Sunnybrook Christian Church, 421 E. Richmond Rd. Water play games, inflatables, free dinner, prizes.

Monday
Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Stillwater Public Library.

Youth Fitness Zone 2013 Summer Camp: Amazing Race, 4609 Territory Lane, Ages 5 to 12. Information: 405-533-4033.

Stillwater Farmers Market, 2-5:30 p.m., Stillwater Medical Center, 600 S. Adams.


Love Feast, 6 p.m., First United Methodist South Campus, 2823 S. Husband. Free community meal.

Family Storytime, 7-8 p.m., Stillwater Public Library Story Time Room. Story, songs, films and take home crafts.

Tuesday
Current Challenges in Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, 8:15 a.m., OSU Wes Watkins Center, with field trip to The Botanic Gardens at OSU. Information: 405-744-5404 or stephanie.larimer@okstate.edu.

Oklahoma Science Museum, Forcing Shaping Our Planet, 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Stillwater Public Library, 1107 S. Duck. Information: 405-372-3633.

Free Community Summer Lunch, noon to 1 p.m. First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall corner of Sixth Avenue and Duck Street.

Bike Night, 6 p.m. Eighth Avenue and Main Street. Women Rider’ Night, with poker walk prizes and restaurant specials.

Meridian Technology Center Summer Camp Tech Trek, 8:30 a.m. 1312 S. Sangre Rd. Contact: 405-377-3333.

Young Entrepreneur Expo, 5 p.m., Payne County Expo Center. Contact: 405-747-8320.
Opportunity awaits graduates

Meridian Technology Center recently celebrated the success of students becoming Meridian Made during the school’s annual spring recognition ceremony.

Whether students are with us for one or two years, part-time or full-time, when they complete their training at Meridian, they don’t just have a skill — they have opportunity.

From spending time in local medical facilities to building a quarter of a million dollar home, students attending Meridian have the opportunity to blend a theoretical foundation with hands-on applications and real-world projects. Whether going straight to work or continuing their education, Meridian Made students are career and citizenship ready.

While at Meridian, students have the opportunity to participate in the Cooperative Alliance Program where they can receive college credit for the work they complete in their career training program.

Last year, Meridian students earned 3,204 college credit hours at just $8 per credit hour through Cowley College, Northern Oklahoma College and OSU Institute of Technology toward an AAS degree. We encourage all of our students to take part in this cost-saving program if college is the path they choose to take upon becoming Meridian Made.

Many of our students leave Meridian and immediately enter the workforce. Often times, in addition to their certificate of completion, they graduate with industry certifications and no debt.

This is great news considering the results of a recent Rutgers University study that indicated that of the 3.7 million job openings across the country, many of them require either an associate degree or technical certifications. This coincides with the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ projection that out of the top 10 occupations between now and 2020, only two of them will require a four-year college degree.

An analysis of the impact on Oklahoma indicates that CareerTech graduates add $3.5 billion to the state’s economy each year. We certainly see this as a positive return on your investment as taxpayers in the CareerTech system.

One of the things that we are most proud of when it comes to Meridian graduates is that they have a heart of compassion. Many of our training programs incorporate community service into their curriculum.

Students in our building trades programs spend countless hours each year with Habitat for Humanity assisting in the construction of new homes for qualified applicants. Radiologic Technology and Practical Nursing students recently spent a day volunteering with the Special Olympics and helped make wonderful memories for athletes from across the state.

Students in our Cosmetology program just gave haircuts and makeovers to a group of special needs adults as they prepared for their organization’s annual prom.

These examples are just a snapshot of what goes on in each of the program areas on campus, but it gives you an idea of the heart that Meridian students have.

As educators, we have the privilege of helping students see their full potential. When students leave our campus, they leave different people than when they came.

They have new skills, new hopes and new dreams. But, in all honesty, we do too. And each year at this time we take a moment to recognize the opportunity they chose for their lives and their decisions to become Meridian Made.

Doug Major is CEO/Superintendent of Meridian Technology Center, which serves residents of parts of Lincoln, Logan, Noble, Pawnee and Payne counties.
Meridian director selected as top new professional

The Oklahoma Association of Career & Technology Education selected Rebecca Eastham, Meridian Technology Center Director of Business and Industry Services, as the New Professional of the Year for Post-secondary Adult Career Education division during a recent award ceremony.

Eastham has been the Director of Business Services at Meridian Technology Center since 2010. This award recognizes the outstanding professional contributions of new members of the CareerTech system. Eastham was selected based on her exploration of alternative methods to increase the division’s services to a variety of industries throughout the Meridian district, and the implementation of a client contact metric to diversify services to businesses both large and small. This effort has led to an increase in successful partnerships with local chambers of commerce, other technology centers and existing Meridian training programs.

Eastham holds a Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Administration from Oklahoma State University, a Master of Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma and is working on her Doctorate of Philosophy in Human Sciences from OSU.

With more than 20 years in the hospitality industry, she has held positions as clinical instructor and graduate teaching assistant at OSU; career development coordinator for the Oklahoma Restaurant Association; training manager for the Broadmoor Hotel; adjunct faculty at Pikes Peak Community College; employment manager at the Hyatt Regency Beaver Creek; employment manager, human resources administrative assistant and housekeeping manager at the Hyatt Regency Dallas/Ft Worth and front office manager at the Holiday Inn Great Southwest.

Eastham serves on a variety of local and state boards, including the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Chapter, the Oklahoma Hotel & Lodging Association and is the founder of the Oklahoma Women in Lodging Chapter.

For more information or to enroll at Meridian, visit www.meridian-tech.edu or contact a career counselor by phone at 405-377-3333.
Tech centers set up training for victims

By Mark Rountree
Stillwater NewsPress

Vocational education centers in Oklahoma are teaming up to help people whose homes were damaged during the recent tornado outbreak in central Oklahoma.

Meridian Technology Center is one of four technical centers which will offer free safety instruction on cleaning up debris, heat stress, chain saw safety, basic first aid and many other safety measures during the early days of cleanup.

Meridian Safety Training Coordinator Alan Drew was to visit with homeowners, volunteers and community members in Carney on Saturday to talk about safety, six days after a tornado struck the town.

Similar efforts will be conducted by Moore-Norman Technical Center, which services Moore, Gordon Cooper Technical Center, which services Shawnee, and Mid-America Technical Center, which services Newcastle. Each of those cities suffered tornado damages either Sunday or Monday.

"The first thing is getting safety equipment and instruction to people who are getting back into these devastated areas so that we don't have any more injury or casualties," said Bob Sommers, newly appointed director of CareerTech.

The free coursework may include half-day or full-day seminars, depending on the nature of the instruction.

The instruction also will be available on CareerTech's website at okcareertech.org, which will link users to other resources about basic instruction, safety and counseling.

"The good thing about technical schools is that we can adapt based on what the need is," said Dana Wallace, communications and marketing director at Meridian.

Funding for the free coursework was made available through the CareerTech system. Each year, the state allocates money to technical centers to make available to businesses for workforce training, Wallace said. The CareerTech system has earmarked $100,000 of those funds — to be used by the end of the fiscal year on June 30 — for safety and rebuilding instruction as a result of the recent tornadoes.

Meridian Business and Industries Coordinator Rebecca Eastham is helping to identify needs and coordinate the funding.

After the initial cleanup, the technical centers will assess needs and make available free instruction on basic construction skills such as framing, roofing and installing drywall.

"We are about customized training," Sommers said. "If companies need us, we can put together a curriculum in three to five days to meet a need. In this case, it's a community that needs us. We're doing exactly what we always do — targeted training dollars, fast turn around on curriculum, making it available, coordinating the state's resources and getting the job done."

CareerTech and Meridian offered similar services after the 1999 tornado that struck the Oklahoma City area.

For more information, contact Eastham at 377-3333.
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.

Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Thomas Casey
Jason Green
Brennan Harvey
Richard Hare
Michael Mansey
Andrew Tobias
Connor Wood

Automotive Tech.
Neddy Arnold
Hector Barragan
Jonah Bond
Garrett Canning
Tommy Casey
Ryan Cooper
Shane Cronquist
Nikita Frantz
Robert Hendrick
Weston Jenkins
Kevin Judge
Talen Kiefer
Cody Lovelace
Rex Maynor
Jeremy Miller
Matthew Miller
Isaac Montreal
Dalton O’Neal
Justin Pickens
Corbin Reid
Zachary Smith
Austin Taylor
Keegan Terrill

Biotechnology
Brittney Canales
Kaitlyn Creager
Christina Halamek
Jesse Henderson
Emily Hughs
Savannah Jenkins
Shelby Jewell
Noelle Jurina
Aaron Lane
Jennifer Lee-Hatch
Kayla Lyons
Cameron Race
Alesha Thompson-Foulke
Taylor Uhrig

Business Tech
Johannah Buckley
Bailey Eyestone
Rosetta Farmer
Trina Fekon
Deborah Fultz
Kelsey Gellenbeck
Cassie Gilbert
Julie Glenn
Brenda Holton
Jerrimah Lomondale
Blake Schultz
Theresa Tabor

Clinical Lab
Brandi Delgado
Abby Meyers
Whitney Payne
McKenna Turner

Collision Repair Tech
Justin Cross
Clayton Howard
Anthony Jackson
Joel Meyers
Corey Richardson
Michael Sprey
James Welch

Computer Aided Drafting
Kelsey Bostel
Jonathan Cook
Hailey Gill
Michael Houghton
Adam Lovelace
John Morgan
George Welliver
Terrax Williamson

Construction
Zory deSaber
Kenneth Hartman
Keaton Patson
Maurice Sartor

Cosmetology
Reagan Armstrong
Ariy Barragan
Emma Biesis
Haley Cabot
Caroline Cline
Katayoh Dolen
Morgan Duncan
Brianna Hamplarey
Kaleen Keeth
Chele Lewis
Nikola Sharp
Alison Stewart
Hannah Wyatt

Digital Media
Chad Bendure
William Burch
Liam Byrd
Tabitha Cooper
Stephanie Fassmore
Stephan Freeman
Michael Graft
Joseph Jarvis
Abigail Kirby
Keisha Lebow
James Martin
Shayla Miller
Brent Morgan

Destinee Muse
Joshua Oliver
Michael Orr
Jim Ritchey
Victoria Roden

Electrical Tech.
Bobby Cunningham
Dale Kent
Tyrone Lewis
Taylor Listerman
Erik Montgomery
Cory Norton
Manuel Ocampo
Mark Overacker
Cody Robbins
Levi Sager
Taylor West

Health Careers
Brandi Barta
Melody Beard
Anna Casey
Melody Collins
Erick Cramer
Amy Crews
Katie Decker
Koby Hays
Sage Hughes
Brianna Knutson
Kayllyn Kuehl
Stefanie Malone
Faythe Marrone
Michelle Martin
Teresa Niikern
Kayllyn Norris
Hunter Poston
Cadie Baff
Lyndon Sanderson
Ashlyn Shiplett
Ashlynn Sisson
Chasmin Searby

Samantha Snow
Haley Wittmer

Health Informatics
Beverly Charles
Malvina Collins
Jami Davis
Shelly O’Neal
Michelle Smith

Information Technology
Jacob Anderson
Bryan Askja
Shawn Crouch
Caleb Ford
Jarred Gordon
Johnny Graves
Michael Holland
Christian Mason

Pharmacy Tech
Battie Baybyle
Kelsa Bickham
Rebekah Chapman
Amy Coleman
Court Cright
Tiffany Creses
Nikki Devesaeux
Macy Griswold
Valese Greykowski
Johannah Howell
Sarah Johnson
Jacob Kliever
Adreanna Ledford
Kinnie McCork
Beth Meyers
Sara Olt
Mark Taylor

Power Sports Tech
Bryan Cooke
Dakota Daniels
Will Geer
Kirby Lyon

Pre-Engineering Academy
Tanner Bridenstine
Justin Fowler
Mark Gilber
Jesse Hoven
Kyle Ross
Colton Shelton
Jonathan Smith
Karl Stericker
Taylor Swans

Product Development & Machining
Jack Adams
James Clay
Corey Eaton
Bryce Hay
Aaron Matlock
Sean Masgrove
Joseph Porter

Welding
Dalton Alexander
Jesse Burch
Colt Burden
Jacob Crenshaw
Zachary Drouhard
Lev Hoffman
Jaylee Lewis
Dustin Maker
Anthony Smith
Dakota Wanzer
The Journal
MTC Selected as one of Oklahoma’s Best Places to Work

Meridian Technology Center has been named one of the Best Places to work in Oklahoma. okcBIZ magazine recently announced the top 35 Oklahoma companies selected as finalists for the program, which identifies and honors the state’s best employers.

“It's an honor to be selected as one of Oklahoma’s Best Places to Work,” said Superintendent/CEO Dr. Douglas R. Major. “Our mission of providing customized education and training services for individuals, industries, and communities is meaningful. Meridian exists to serve the residents of our district, and our employees make that mission possible. Their passion for their work is truly what makes Meridian Technology Center one of the best places to work.”

Best Companies Group selects and ranks the competition entrants by collecting and analyzing data from both employer questionnaires and employee surveys to determine which companies have the best practices.

“It’s easy to come to work every day at a place where you believe in the mission,” said Brooke Brown, a graphic designer at Meridian. “Not only is having the opportunity to impact students and businesses through education meaningful, but having leaders who provide compassion and encouragement for all employees in both their personal and professional endeavors is as well.”

Each of the companies honored will receive the results of their surveys, which show their workplace strengths and weaknesses compared with other participants. Categories studied include leadership and planning, corporate culture and communications, role satisfaction, work environment and relationship with supervisor. okcBIZ will announce the 2013 Best Places to Work in Oklahoma rankings at its annual awards gala in late June.

Caine Named District #4 Superintendent of the Year

Dr. Ann Caine, Superintendent of Stillwater Public Schools, has been named the ship skills, involvement in professional activities, and their active role in the community. In 2001 she was a runner-up for Oklahoma’s Teacher of the Year.
MTC Business and Industry Services Director Selected As New Professional of the Year

The Oklahoma Association of Career & Technology Education selected Rebecca Eastham, Meridian Technology Center Director of Business and Industry Services, as the New Professional of the Year for Post-secondary Adult Career Education division during a recent award ceremony.

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Eastham currently serves on a variety of local and state boards including the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Chapter, the Oklahoma Hotel & Lodging Association and is the founder of the Oklahoma Women in Lodging Chapter.

The Oklahoma Association for Career & Technology Education unites the profession of career and technology education and serves the professional needs of its members. Oklahoma ACTE provides the kind of foresight and direction needed to develop a productive and competitive workforce for Oklahoma. The association is recognized as an educational leadership organization that works to fulfill the professional needs of its members and their customers in developing a competitive workforce.

For more information or to enroll visit www.meridianctech.edu or contact a career counselor by phone at (405) 377-3333 or toll-free at (888) 607-2509.
Meridian Student Wins Top Prize at National Skills Contest

Michael Orr, an adult student from Perkins, recently won first prize at the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference.

Orr, a student in the Digital Media program at Meridian, competed in the Computer Aided Modeling contest where he was given a scenario or prompt to design a 3D roller coaster for a fictional amusement park. As part of the skills contest, Orr researched roller coaster rides and created initial profiles, concept designs and prototypes for three roller coasters.

Orr was one of 12 students representing Meridian on the national stage during the recent leadership conference in Orlando, Fla. Other medal winners include Stillwater students Kristyn Yerger, who won third place in adult entrepreneurship; and Garrison Ethridge and Jessica Johnson, who won second place in the adult Website Design Team. In the high school division Stillwater students Destinee Muse, James Martin, Jim Ritchey and Brianna Leshow won second place in the Virtual Multimedia Team contest.

Top 10 winners include Robert Gellerbeck, Guthrie, for high school Prepared Speech; Reed Harvey, Glenoce; and Guthrie students Nathaniel Wilson and Norman Parks, who won in the high school Network Design Team contest.

Full-time adult and high school students attending Meridian are able to join one of several student organizations related to their field of study: Business Professionals of America; Family, Career and Community Leaders of America; Health Occupations Students of America; or SkillsUSA.

These organizations provide students an opportunity to compete against other technology center students from across the state. During each round of competition, students develop and demonstrate skills that include public speaking, presenting, working together as a team, interviewing and technical skills related to their area of study.

Participation in the student skills competitions is one way Meridian strives to fulfill its mission to provide customized education and training to individuals, industries and communities.

For more information or to enroll visit www.meridiantech.edu or contact a career counselor by phone at (405) 377-3333 or toll-free at (888) 607-2509.

Stillwater Electric receives Electric Operations and Reliability Award from trade organization

Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma (MESO) announces that the Stillwater Electric Utility (SEU) was named for Outstanding Achievement in the association’s annual Electric Operations and Reliability Competition in Oklahoma. The utility was recognized in the category for cities over 10,000 population and cited for achieving a high level of service reliability for cities within Oklahoma.

The utility was recognized for outstanding distribution automation and they can go home safe every day to their families. Stillwater Electric Utility had the highest reliability level of service recorded by public power systems in Oklahoma during 2013 with power being available 99.9978% of the time.

The city-owned utility also typically identified, responded to, and corrected a power outage problem in two hours on average. By having local ownership of the electric system and crews located within two miles of Meridian Technology Center students recently competed in the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Fla. High school division winners from left to right include Robert Gellerbeck, Norman Parks, Reed Harvey and Nathaniel Wilson.
Extension Corner

By Payne County Extension Educators
Nathan Andersen, Agriculture Educator
Dea Rash, FCS Educator
Brenda Bransley, 4-H Youth Development
Keith Reed, Horticulture Educator
Szuzette Barta, Rural Development
http://oes.okstate.edu/payne

AG News

2013 Payne County Pasture and Livestock Tours

This year’s Tour will be held on Friday, May 31. Pre-registration is requested to attend this event by calling the Payne County Extension office at (405) 747-8320. Registration will be between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Sponsorship of this event include Stillwater Milling Company, Farm Credit of Stillwater and the Cushing Vet Clinic. Coffee and donuts and lunch will be provided to participants.

Attention Cattle Producers!

The Payne County Extension Center is interested in being notified if circumstances arise within the month of May that would result in any orphan calves for use in the Bucket Calf Program. Please contact our office at (405) 747-8320, and provide a description of the calf (breed make-up, sex, color). Calves for the Bucket Calf show MUST be born in the month of May, so only May calves will be worked for the participants. We appreciate your help and assist the youth involved in the 2013 Bucket Calf Show.

Poor Forage Conditions a Big Challenge

Early May provides the first look at the forage conditions facing the beef cattle industry in 2013. Moisture conditions have improved marginally with the most recent Deschon Corning monitoring that 23 percent of the U.S. is in “D2-D4 drought conditions, down from

same time they have increased overall sable pounds.

Traditionally, cull cow prices are affected seasonally, like all cattle prices. In the fall any spring calving cows that are open and have weaned a calf are the first to go. Cull cows flood the market so a decrease is seen starting in July and August and continues on until November or later. So this gives a producer a window to aim for during late spring and early summer to capture value on cows culled from the herd. In the fall, when cow prices are traditionally at their lowest, spring cows are just weaning calves. The calf has increased the nutritional needs of that cow by over 20% when she is in lactation. So not only have we sold a cow in the fall when prices are low but also marketed her when she may be in a lower desired body condition due to poor late season grass. If a producer can retain the cow after weaning to add weight and condition he can also add value.

A fall calving cow herd can match up much easier with these parameters. A producer can wean a calf in the spring put weight and condition on a cow with forage that is high in quality and hopefully readily available and still market that cow in the summer hitting our window of opportunity. This opportunity to add value also exists with an spring cow that lost a calf during pregnancy or calving and is not reproductive efficiently for the cow and salvage value for the cow can be obtained fairly readily. A spread sheet is available at http://ages.cn.ordinal.edu/faculty/publications/5078.xls (Dean D. and D. Joyce, 2008.)

Adding weight to a calf is not only increases total available pounds for resale, but also increases body condition. The market structure is broken-up so buyers can estimate fat cover and muscle at the auction. Categories are breakers, boneless, lean and light type cull cows. A producer can increase value of a cow by moving her up in the slaughter categories by increasing dressing percentage especially if she is relatively heavy muscled, while at the same time they have increased overall sable pounds.

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Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.
Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.

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Air Conditioning
& Refrigeration
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José Gomes
Jason Green
Brennan Harvey
Richard Haven
Michael Massey
Andrew Tobias
Conner Wood

Automotive Tech.
Newly Arnold
Hector Barragan
Jonah Bond
Garrett Canning
Tommy Casey
Ryan Cooper
Shane Cronquist
Nikita Franze
Robert Hendrick
Weston Jenkins
Kevin Judge
Talon Kintzer
Cody Lovelace
Rex Maynor
Jeremy Miller
Matthew Miller
Ikea Memphis
Dalton O'Neal
Justin Pickens
Corbin Reid
Zachary Smith
Austin Taylor
Keegan Terrill

Biotechnology
Brittany Canales
Kaitlyn Crenger
Christina Halamek
Jesse Henderson
Emily Hoyah
Savannah Jenkins
Shelby Jewell
Noodle Jardina
Aaron Lane
Jennifer Lee-Hatch
Kayla Lyons
Cameron Rance
Alesha Thompson-Foulke
Taylor Uhrig

Business Tech
Johannah Buckley
Bailey Eyestone
Rocio Fornar
Trina Fessen
Deborah Fuchs
Kelsey Gelliker
Cassie Gilbert
Julie Glenn
Branda Hutton
Jereshia Lomax
Blake Schults
Theresa Tabler
Clinical Lab
Brandi Delgado
Abby Meyers
Whitney Payne
McKenna Turner

Collision Repair Tech
Justin Croes
Clayton Howard
Anthony Jackson
Joel Myers
Corey Richardson
Michael Sperry
James Welch

Computer Aided
Drafting
Kelsey Bottel
Jonathan Cieck
Halley Gill
Michael Houghton
Adam Losekens
John Morgan
George Wadlow
Terrica Williamson
Construction
Zory deBoer
Kenneth Hartman
Keaton Patterson
Maurice Santier
Cosmetology
Ragen Armstrong
Andrea Barragan
Emma Binger
Haley Carus
Caroline Cline
Kateryn Dole
Morgan Duncan
Brianne Humphreys
Kean Keeth
Chelsea Lewis
Micki Shung
Allison Stewart
Hannah Wyatt

Digital Media
Chad Bendure
William Burch
Lana Byrd
Tobiah Cooper
Stephanie Posmire
Stetson Freeman
Michael Graf
Joseph Jarvis
Abigail Kirby
Kelsie Lebow
James Martin
Shayla Miller
Brent Morgan

Destinee Muse
Joshua Oliver
Michael Orr
Jim Ritchie
Victoria Roeden
Electrical Tech.
Robert Cunningham
Leah Kent
Tyrese Lewis
Taylor Littleman
Erik Montgomery
Carrie Norton
Manuel Ocampo
Mark Overacker
Cody Robbins
Levi Sagers
Taylor West

Health Careers
Brandi Barta
Melody Beard
Anna Casey
Melody Collins
Erick Cramer
Amy Crews
Kate Decker
Koby Hays
Sage Hughes
Brianna Kisslon
Kayslin Kooi
Tiffany Malone
Raythe Marcen
Michaela Martin
Travis Nolden
Kaylynn Norris
Hunter Poston
Cade Ruff
Lyndon Sanderson
Ashlyn Shippert
Chynna Spann
Samantha Snow
Haley Wittwer
Health Informatics
Beverly Charles
Malissa Collins
Jamie Davis
Shelby ONeal
Zachary Shann
Rebekah Spliter
Josh Wright

Information Technology
Jocob Anderson
Jen Baker
Michael Baker
Jeremy Berg-Matsson
Joshua Bray
Austen Blocker
Spencer Brooks
Braxton Butler
Austin Burns
Henry Carr
Reily Eger
Dalton Elliott
Robert Fischer
Kesha Gambill
Reed Harvey
Christian Johnson
Adam Kacir
Jason Lann
Nathan McCall
Devin McClain
Brendan McLuskey
Joshua Moram
Cole Morris
Norman Parks
Dayton Porter
Chase Rosado
James Trompler
Terry Wood
Riggen Wickham
Colby Williams
Garren Willis
Nathaniel Wilson
Robert Wineberger
Huang Zeng
Masonry
Matthew Byce
Alberto Cruz
Jared Green
Zachary Shann
Rebekah Spliter
Josh Wright

Metal Fabrication
Dillon Anderson
Brian Aka
Shawn Cough
Caleb Ford
Jared Gordon
Johnny Graves
Michael Helland
Christian Mason

Pharmacy Tech
Breanna Byrd
Kelsey Bickham
Rebekah Chapman
Amy Coleman
Cole Crowtry
Tiffney Crews
Nikki Devereaux
Macy Griswold
Valerie Grzybowski
Johanna Howell
Sarah Johnson
Jacob Kleeve
Adriana Ledford
Kirstie McKee
Bret Meyers
Sara Ott
Moriah Tovar

Power Sports Tech
Bryan Cook
Dakota Daniels
Will Gear
Kerry Lyon
Pre-Engineering
Academy
Turner Bridestine
Justin Fowler
Mark Gilbert
Jesse Hoyer
Kyle Rots
Colton Shelton
Jonathan Smith
Karl Stedder
Taylor Swank
Product Development
& Machinig
Jack Adams
James Clay
Corey Eaton
Bryce Hay
Aaron Matlock
Sean Maugrose
Joseph Porter
Welding
Dalton Alexander
Jesse Burch
Colt Burden
Jacob Creaghead
Zachary Drouhard
Levi Hoffman
Joyce Lewis
Dustin Maker
Anthony Smith
Dakota Wanger
MERIDIAN CLIPS

Perry Daily Journal
MTC to host free Business for Breakfast Entrepreneur event;

‘Crafting a business that works for you

STILLWATER – Successful business startups aren’t always traditional businesses. In fact, some of the most successful businesses were once ideas that few thought would work.

When Daniel Mercer, Mark Seibold and JD Merryweather, co-founders of COOP Ale Works, formulated the idea of opening a craft-beer brewery in Oklahoma City, they focused on creating a quality local beer that would appeal to customers looking for something better than the average brew. Now with six signature beers and several seasonal blends, this local brewery is making it big.

During the June 20 Business for Breakfast event at the Meridian Technology Center for Business Development Mercer will share some of the successes and setbacks that COOP Ale Works experienced as they moved from a startup to a self-sustaining business.

With a solid background in business and venture capital, Mercer knows more than the beer business. Throughout his career, he has helped more than 450 companies through the startup or expansion process. Mercer specializes in technology transfer, strategy development, tax credit and capital structures, financial modeling and operations management. Throughout his session, he will offer practical information for budding entrepreneurs and established small business owners.

To attend the June 20 Business for Breakfast event, contact Diane Maddox at dianem@meridiantech.edu or call 405-377-2220. RSVP is strongly encouraged.

The Business For Breakfast networking group meets from 7:30 – 9 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month in Room 104 North in the Center for Business Development at Meridian Technology Center. Each meeting includes a guest speaker and provides business owners and entrepreneurs an informal opportunity to network and share ideas and experiences. All networking sessions are free and include a continental breakfast.
MTC students receive
Oklahoma Business Women’s
Foundation, Inc. scholarships

STILLWATER, – The Oklahoma Business Women’s Foundation, Inc., awarded three scholarships to students from Meridian Technology Center.

Award winners include Susan Snyder, a Health Informatics student from Perry; Janna Nesbit, a Radiologic Technology student from Stillwater; and Ashlee Robnett, a Health Careers student from Cushing.

The Oklahoma Federation of Business Women, Inc. was founded in 1919. Since that time the Oklahoma Federation of Business Women, Inc., also referred to as Oklahoma Business Women’s Foundation, has built women’s careers and skills by holding workshops, seminars and legislative events; providing scholarships and building public issues awareness through media.

For more information or to enroll visit www.meridian-tech.edu or contact a career counselor by phone at (405) 377-3333 or toll-free at (888) 607-2509.
‘Technovation4Education’ summer camp for educators at Meridian Tech Center

STILLWATER, Okla. – In a world filled with hand-held devices, the Internet and instant access to information, using technology is second nature to most students.

Teachers, however, are now faced with the challenge of leveraging their students’ interest in technology to enhance learning for all grade levels.

Meridian Technology Center’s Computer Training Services will offer Technovation4Education, a hands-on professional development training event to assist educators, administrators and support staff to expand technology use in the academic setting.

This year’s camp will feature more than 40 courses where attendees can develop their skills through one of the three educational tracks customized for their specific role in the educational process. Courses for instructional staff include topics such as Free Sites for Education, Flipped Classroom, YouTube for Schools, Pinterest for Teachers and Weebly. Administrators will learn how to master their iPad with iPad Essentials and iPad Apps for Administrators as well as Video Creation on the iPad. Support staff will explore the ways to maximize their time in Basics of Word, Mail Merges, Basics of Excel, and Functions & Formulas in Excel.

Training topics and the diversified training tracts are a direct result of comments from last year’s participants as well as a survey of teachers from area schools, according to Kim Strom, Meridian Computer Training Services Coordinator.

“We had such a positive response last year,” Strom said. “We listened to what teachers said worked in the classroom and what they wanted to see offered this year. We’ve got a wide variety of training sessions available to help educators, administrators and support staff learn new skills that they will be able to immediately apply to manage their workload and engage students in the classroom.”

SST Software, Stillwater Medical Center and InterWorks, Inc. are valuable partners in this year’s Technovation4Education, according to Strom.

“The generous donations of these companies are a great testament to the commitment of our district’s desire to support teachers,” she said. “Our local business leaders understand that budgets are tight for school districts. By assisting with program sponsorship, these businesses are helping us provide quality training at an affordable cost.”

Strom indicated that local support for the event has also come from businesses that are providing donations for prizes throughout the summer training session. Stillwater Designs, Chris’ University Spirit, Sunrise Health Institute, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, and Zanotti’s Wine Bar have already committed to assisting with the event, she said. Donations will be accepted from other businesses through June 21.

Meridian’s Technovation4Education will be held June 25-27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All sessions count toward Professional Development points. Registration is available until June 7, as long as space is available.
Alternatives to school lunches, electronic bus routing looked at by school board members

by Kyle Smith
City Editor

The Perry Board of Education held a regular meeting Monday, May 13.

School board members recognized Coach Jeff Sullins and the Lady Maroon Tennis team. The Lady Maroons were state-runners up for the second time in four years.

Board members also heard a presentation from Keystone Foods representatives Josh and Steve Sanders. Board members are looking into the prospect of contracting out cafeteria services to Keystone.

Keystone Foods prepares meals from scratch, using no processed or pre-cooked food. The company also offers a salad bar and has bottled water available along with milk.

If the board contracts with Keystone, the school will pay by plate. Josh Sanders told the board that Keystone will partner with the current cafeteria staff and give the school the option of Keystone taking over employment or the school maintaining employment.

Keystone is family owned and based out of Stillwater. If the board signs a contract it would be a one year contract with four renewals.

Josh Sanders said his company currently serves six schools and is looking to add four next year, including Perry. He also said he doesn’t expect a price increase on students’ meals based on what the school’s cafeteria prices currently are.

Superintendent Scott Chenoweth spoke about a possible contract with Tyler Technology for an electronic bus routing system. Bus routes are currently done manually and are prone to inefficiencies. Electronically made bus routes would save time, overlay and fuel.

“I don’t want to see buses crossing one another,” said Chenoweth.

The cost of the service would be $18,000 for three years. School board members wanted to see more data on potential fuel savings before making a decision.

A generous donation will allow for the purchase of 60 new computers for the high school. According to Chenoweth, the high school will have a proper computer lab on the second floor.

There are tentative plans to increase lunch periods by five minutes. The elementary school would dismiss at 3:15. The high school would begin classes five minutes later and dismiss at 3:20.

This, coupled with class time changes at Meridian Technology Center would allow vo-tech students to have time for lunch. Also, students who use buses from the high school campus would wait five less minutes for the buses to arrive from the elementary school.
Generation MTC Summer Camps at Meridian Technology Center

Submitted by Cara Adney
Marketing/Media Relations Coordinator

STILLWATER - What generation is your child? If you have a student entering 7th through 10th grade, they can be a part of Generation MTC.

Meridian Technology Center will host Go Girls and Tech Trek educational camps this summer. Each camp is designed to offer students an opportunity to combine learning and laughing.

"Just because students are learning doesn’t mean they can’t have fun and just because they are having fun doesn’t mean they can’t be learning," said Judy Sindelar, Transition Coordinator at Meridian. "We’re showing students how much fun career exploration can be with exciting hands-on activities in each of our interactive summer camps. With either of these experiences it will be difficult not to find something your child will love about Meridian."

Go Girls — If your fearless female is entering the 8th through 10th grade and is interested in exploring what makes the world go around, then Meridian’s Go Girl’s camp is the ideal way to start her summer.

Campers will use engaging technology like lasers used by spies, try the latest equipment used in medicine, launch a rocket and investigate an unknown planet. Time at Go Girls camp will be split between Meridian and Oklahoma State University where students will explore engineering tools and learn their practical applications.

Go Girls will be from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. May 28-30.

Tech Trek — For students entering 7th through 9th grades who are beginning to wonder what they want to do for their future career, Tech Trek is the perfect way to get a little experience in a lot of career fields.

Participants in Tech Trek will explore options in groups of eight or ten. Programs include automotive technology, air conditioning and refrigeration, business technology, clinical lab, collision repair, computer aided drafting, construction, culinary arts, health, information technology, masonry, pharmacy technician and pre-engineering.

Tech Trek will be from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. June 4 - 6.

Each of the Generation MTC Summer Camps includes lunch, snacks, transportation from the camper’s home school to Meridian, a T-shirt, supplies and certified instructors. For more information on summer camps download the brochure and registration form at www.meridiantech.edu/summercamps.

For more information visit www.meridiantech.edu or contact a career counselor by phone at (405) 377-3333 or toll-free at (888) 607-2509.

Students participating in summer camps at Meridian Technology Center can anticipate serious fun with hands-on career exploration. Meridian will offer Go Girls and Tech Trek camps this summer.
Douglass and Boyd

Rebecca Anne Douglass and Christian Dalton Boyd are announcing their engagement and upcoming marriage.

The couple will exchange nuptial vows at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 8, 2013 at the First United Methodist Church in Perry. Rev. Michael Strange will officiate at the double-ring ceremony.

Rebecca is the daughter of Frank and Joann Douglass, Perry. She is the granddaughter of Arliss Douglass and the late Frank Douglass, Sr., and of the late grandparents Louis and Elaine Bonner.

Christian is the son of Darren Boyd and Robbie Mackey. He is the grandson of Betty and Kenneth Billbe, Ann Owens and Jack Britt.

Rebecca will graduate from Stillwater High School with the class of 2013, where she is the current president of Mu Alpha Theta, and a senior representative of the Drama Club. She plans to attend Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa for an applied sciences degree in business entrepreneurship.

Christian graduated from Henryetta High School in 2011, and plans to attend Meridian Technology Center at some point in the future for studies in the computer technology field. He is currently employed at E-Z Drill, Inc. in Perry.

The couple plan to established their home in Perry.
"Time is not measured by the passing of years but by what one does, what one feels, and what one achieves."
Jawaharlal Nehru quotes (Indian Prime Minister. 1889-1964)

Congratulations, Graduates
Kyla Lyons & Jacy Springer
You Made It...
Congratulations, to all area Graduates!
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.
Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Thomas Casey
Jose Gonser
Jason Green
Brenton Harvey
Richard Haven
Michael Massey
Andrew Tipton
Conner Wood

Automotive Tech.
Newly Arnold
Hector Barragan
Jonah Bond
Garet Canning
Tommy Casey
Ryan Cooper
Shane Crouse
Nicola Franz
Robert Hendrick
Winston Jenkins
Kevin Judge
Talen Kister
Cody Lovelace
Jon Maynor
Jeremy Miller
Matthew Miller
Isaac Moneel
Dalton O’Neal
Justin Pickens
Corbin Reid
Zachary Smith
Austin Taylor
Keegan Teteri

Biotechnology
Brittany Canales
Kaitlyn Creager
Christina Halashek
Jesse Henderson
Emily Hays

Savannah Jenkins
Shelly Jocell
Noelie Jurina
Aaron Lane
Jennifer Lee-Hatch
Kyla Lyons
Cameron Race
Alexa Thompson-Pouline
Taylor Uteh

Business Tech
Johannah Barkley
Baily Byersone
Roxie Farmer
Trina Felton
Deborah Fultz
Kelsey Gillebeek
Cassie Gilbert
Julie Glenn
Brenda Hotten
Jermaine Lomsdale
Blake Schucki
Tressa Siboro

Clinical Lab
Brenda Delgado
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Whitney Payne
McKenna Turner

Collision Repair Tech
Justin Croes
Clayton Howard
Anthony Jackson
Joel Myers
Corey Richardson
Michael Spurr
Jason Welch

Computer Aided Drafting
Kelsey Broderick
Jonathan Cook

Hailey Gill
Michael Houghton
Adam Lovelace
John Morgan
George Willhite
Terrill Williamson

Construction
Zakary Anklue
Kenneth Harrison
Kenton Patterson
Maurice Sartor
Cosmetology
Regan Armstrong
Andy Baggott
Emma Boggs
Hailey Carolin
Caroline Cline
Kathryn Dolen
Morgan Duncan
Brannon Humphreys
Kellen Keeth
Chad Lewis
Nicklas Wilson
Allison Stewart
Hannah Wyant

Health Careers
Brandi Barret
Melody Beaudon
Anna Casey
Melody Collins
Brandi Cramer
Amr Elgey
Katie Decker
Koby Hooks
Sage Hughes

Brandon Kinnison
Kaylyn Kelch
Tiffany Maloney
Faye Marie Mirengo
Michaela Martin
Teresa Nichols
Kayslyn Norris
Hunter Poston
Cade Ruff

Lindon Sanderson
Ashley Shipler
Drew Siboro
Channita Sparrow

Samantha Snow
Hailey Witter

Health Informatics
Bevly Charles
Malika Collins
Jamie Davis
Shelby O’Neal
Michelle Smith

Information Technology
Jacob Anderson
Jon Baker
Michael Baker
Jeremy Berg-Maistri
Joshua Blay
Austen Bloy

Cody Fait
Spencer Brooks
Brahim Butler
Austin Bynoe
Henry Carr
Reily Egger
Dallin Elliott
Robert Fishler
Kevin Gambill
Reed Harvey
Christian Johnson
Adam Kear
Jason Lann
Nathan Wilson
Robert Wittenberger

Hanggang Zeng

Masonry
Matthew Byrd
Alberto Cruz
Jared Gieves
Zachary Shain
Rebekah Spall
Josh Wright

Metal Fabrication
Dillian Anderson
Brian Aria
Shawn Croom
Caleb Ford
Jarred Gordon
Johnny Graves
Michael Holland
Christian Mason

Pharmacy Tech
Batise Bayly
Kehoa Beckham
Rebekah Chapman
Amy Coleman
Cole Courtright
Tiffany Creas
Nikita Davzaura
Macy Gelisol
Valerie Grzybowski
Jawahri Howell
Sarah Johnson
Jacob Knezev
Arianna Ledford
Kinni McGinty
Beth Meyers
Sara Ott
Moriah Twister

Power Sports Tech
Bryan Cooke
Dakota Daniels
Will Cleer
Kathy Lyon
Pre-Engineering
Tanner Reinschmidt
Justin Fowler
Mark Gilbert
Jesse Hoffer
Kyle Hoss
Colton Shetor
Jonathan Smith
Karl Stecker
Taylor Swarne

Product Development & Machining
Jack Adams
James Clay
Casey Eaton
Bryce Hay
Aaron Mathies
Seas Musgrove
Joseph Porter

Webbing
Dalton Alexander
Jesse Burch
Colt Beren
Jacob Crenshaw
Zachary Troubold
Levi Hoffman
Jaylee Lewis
Dustin Blaker
Anthony Smith
Dakota Buntzer
Congratulations
Joshua Lee Mormon

Parents: Carrie Mormon, Tribune, KS; Danny Mormon, Perry, OK
Born: October 20, 1994 at Stillwater, OK
Schools: Tribune Public Schools, Tribune, KS; Perry Public Schools
Honors and awards:
Activities: Basketball, Golf; Robotics
Church Affiliation:
College preference or plans: Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Career Choice: Software Engineer

Charles Machine Works, Inc.
336-4402
1959 W Fir Ave

Congratulations
Andrew Charles Pettit

Parents: Stephanie Wyatt; David Pettit
Born: September 27, 1994 at Stillwater, OK
Schools: Wasilla Public Schools, Wasilla, AK; Perry Public Schools
Honors and awards:
Activities: Wrestling
Church Affiliation:
College preference or plans: Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Career Choice: Carpenter

Charles Machine Works, Inc.
336-4402
1959 W Fir Ave
Congratulations
Dalton Andrew McNeil

Parents: Travis and Kimberly McNeil
Born: February 7, 1995 at Enid, OK
Schools: Perry Public Schools
Honors and awards: Rotary-Student Representative
Activities: FFA; Football
Church Affiliation:
College preference or plans: Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, OK; Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Career Choice: Auto Mechanics

Charles Machine Works, Inc.
336-4402  1959 W Fir Ave
Congratulations
Autumn Ann Buntin

Parents: Kimberly and Khris Mills; Jeff and Justina Hamaker

Born: December 15, 1994 at Stillwater, OK

Schools: Perkins Public Schools, Perkins, OK; Stillwater Public Schools, Stillwater, OK; Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK; Perry Public Schools

Honors and awards:

Activities: Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK: HOSA

Church Affiliation:

College preference or plans: Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Career Choice: Nursing

State Farm Insurance Co.
336-2110
405 Fir
Congratulations

Cody Ray Robbins

Parents: John and Jonnell Robbins
Born: July 29, 1994 at Stillwater, OK
Schools: Perry Public Schools
Honors and awards:
Activities: Wrestling; Football; Baseball
Church Affiliation:
College preference or plans: Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Career Choice: Electrician

Perry Daily Journal
336-2222 714 Delaware
Congratulations
Joey Dwane Tell

Parents: Wendi LeForce; Peter Tell
Born: March 3, 1995 at Enid, OK
Schools: Perry Public Schools
Honors and awards:
Activities:
Church Affiliation: First Presbyterian Church, Perry, OK
College preference or plans: Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Career Choice: Autobody

Kennedy's True Value
336-5420
715 Fir Ave.
Congratulations
Chad Alan Bendure

Parents: Dennis and Cynthia Bendure
Born: March 15, 1995 at Stroud, OK
Schools: Perry Public Schools; Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater, OK
Honors and awards: BPA (Computer Modeling)-State Finalist, Top 6
Activities: BPA
Church Affiliation: First Christian Church, Perry, OK
College preference or plans: Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, OK; Oklahoma Christian University, Edmond, OK
Career Choice: Video Game Design and/or 3D Modeler.

First Bank & Trust Co.
336-5562
The Superintendent's Corner

By Scott Chenoweth
Perry Superintendent of Schools

The month of May arrived amidst cold temperatures and bustling activities involving Pre-Kindergarten through the Graduating Class of 2013. State-mandated testing has ended, pre-enrollment is being finalized, and students are engaging in various projects, theses, and extracurricular activities.

Seniors are preparing for graduation and our state legislators are working out issues that will affect our schools' funding and policies for next year.

These are just a few examples of what make spring such a fast-paced and action-packed time of year.

Congratulations are in order for graduating seniors and their parents. Your hard work, effort, and time invested in education have been well worth it.

Graduation is a very important and enjoyable time that we should not take for granted.

The requirements and expectations students must meet to graduate continue to be more and more rigorous. The Graduating Class of 2013 has risen to the challenges and met it with great success.

The list of accomplishments of this class is very long and still does not account for all the academic and extracurricular successes of which they have been involved.

Saturdays, May 18, is a day to celebrate and celebrate.

It takes many individuals and groups to make our school year a success.

To the faculty, staff, and administrators, thank you for working tirelessly throughout the year to meet each individual student's needs.

To the community of Perry, your support of our school is overwhelming and it is appreciated.

We are blessed to have such support from all these groups and we thank you so much for your continued support.

Why should you pre-plan your funeral?

Relieve an emotional burden from your family during a highly emotional time.

Thinking about your funeral leaves most people feeling a little uneasy but it gives comfort to grieving families in knowing that the funeral reflects what their loved ones wanted and gives them peace of mind to not have to make important decisions at a stressful time.

If you would like to pre-plan your funeral, Palmer Marler Carberry Funeral Home pre-need counselors would be happy to assist you.

If you have already pre-planned elsewhere, it is very easy to change your services to Palmer Marler Carberry Funeral Home. We will be happy to take care of the details!

Call us at (580)572-9911

Richard Kukuk - Manager
Anita Marler - Funeral Director
Bill Simon - Funeral Assistant
Janel Harmon - Funeral Assistant
Tammy Boley - Funeral Assistant

Duane Marler - Funeral Director
Josh Marler - Funeral Director
Mary Webb - Funeral Assistant
Diana Simon - Funeral Assistant

Palmer Marler Carberry
Funeral Home
“People Who Care”
203 E. Jir  Phone: 580-572-9911
Perry, Oklahoma 73077  Web: perrycares.com
GENERATION MTC
SUMMER CAMPS

Discover the many career fields offered at Meridian Technology Center!
Application Deadline: May 24
Students Entering 7th - 9th Grade
June 4 - 6 | 8:30 am - 3:30 pm | $50

Learn about cool technology at our Pre-Engineering Academy camp for girls!
Application Deadline: May 20
Girls Entering 8th - 10th Grade
May 28 - 30 | 8:30 am - 3:30 pm | $50

For more information, visit meridiantech.edu/summercamps

Meridian Technology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, disability, religion or veteran status in its educational programs or activities. This includes, but is not limited to, recruitment, admissions, educational services and activities, financial aid and employment.
Valedictorians...

Continued from pg 1 and participated in basketball, softball and track. She is a member of the Baptist Church. Her plans are to attend Arkansas Tech University and major in physical therapy or veterinary medicine.

Kristi Diana Lane was born Jan. 9, 1995 in Stillwater, the daughter of Barry and Cheryl Lane. Her offices attended schools in Ponca City and Glencoe before starting at Frontier in the eighth grade. His honors include Basketball Team Captain, Academic Letterman, Baseball Team Captain, and listed on the Superintendent's and Principal's honor rolls. He also participated in Cross Country and was a member of the Future Farmers of America. He is a Presbyterian. He plans to major in mechanical engineering at Oklahoma State University. She plans to enroll at Oklahoma State University and major in biology.

Jared Dale Mackey was born Feb. 15, 1995, the son of Robert and Tina Mackey. He is a member of the Student Council, Captain of the varsity football team; State History Day qualifier; and Morrison Future Farmers of America parliamentarian. He was also the 2013 Oklahoma 89er Day Queen, served as the Future Farmers of America president and secretary, reporter for the Cherokee Strip Riding Club, and sentinel for HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America). She is a member of the high school bowling league, National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society. She also attended Meridian Technology Center. She is a member of the Cross Brand Cowbo Church. She plans to study agriculture at Oklahoma State University.

Jesse Henderson was born April 20, 1995 in Stillwater, the daughter of Rocky Henderson, Morrison. She was the 2013 Oklahoma 89er Day Queen, served as the Future Farmers of America president and secretary, reporter for the Cherokee Strip Riding Club, and sentinel for HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America). She is a member of the high school bowling league, National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society. She also attended Meridian Technology Center. She is a member of the Cross Brand Cowbo Church. She plans to study agriculture at Oklahoma State University.

Covington-Douglas Savannah Vaugh Kirk was born April 4, 1994 in Enid, the daughter...
MERIDIAN CLIPS

Logan County Courier
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success starts before work.

Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.

Aiden Whit
Megan Young

Congratulations to the Class of 2013:

Megan Young
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.
Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2012.
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.

Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.
Congratulations on Becoming Meridian Made

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.

Congratulations on the completion of your career training at Meridian Technology Center class of 2013.

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Thomas Casey
Joe Gibney
Jason Green
Brennan Harvey
Richard Haven
Michael Kassev
Andrew Tobias
Connor Wood
Automotive Tech.
Nevsky Arnold
Hector Barrejo
Jonah Bond
Garrett Conning
Tommy Casey
Ryos Cooper
Shane Crockett
Nikita Frantz
Robert Hendrick
Weston Jenkins
Kevin Judge
Talon Kiser
Cody Lovelace
Rel Maynor
Jeremy Miller
Matthew Miller
Jared Musial
Dalton O’Dell
Dalton O’Dell
Justin Pickens
Corey Reid
Zachary Smith
Austin Taylor
Kegan Terrill
Biotechnology
Brittney Cundall
Kailyn Creager
Christina Halama
Joan Henderson
Emily Hughe
Savannah Jenkins
Shelby Jewell
Neice Jurin
Aaron Lane
Jennifer Lee-Hatch
Kayla Lynn
Cameron Race
Aleshia Thompson-Foulke
Taylor Uhrig
Business Tech
Johannah Buckley
Baily Bryson
Rosetta Farmer
Trinity Fuller
Deborah Gails
Kelsey Gellinbeck
Cassie Gilbert
Julie Glenn
Brenda Hutton
Jenika Lamadace
Blake Schulte
Theresa Tabor
Clinical Lab
Brandi Delgado
Aby Miller
Whitney Payne
McKenna Turner
Collision Repair & Tech
Justin Cross
Clayton Howard
Anthony Jackson
Jord Myers
Corey Richardson
Michael Sperry
James Welch
Computer Aid
Draffing
Kelsey Balfar
Jonathan Cook
Hayley Gilleen
Michael Houghton
Adam Lovelace
Bob Morgan
George Wellner
Terry Williamson
Construction
Troy Deboer
Kenneth Eastman
Christian Peterson
Maurice Savage
Cosmetology
Ragan Armstrong
Andy Barreto
Emma Biegas
Hayley Carney
Caroline Clines
Kathryn Dolen
Morgan Duncan
Brant Hamilton
Kalen North
Chelsie Lewis
Nichelle Sharp
Allison Stewart
Hannah Wyatt
Digital Media
Gael Bremure
William Burch
Lumi Ryd
Lilith Cooper
Stephanie Fossett
Stetson Freeman
Michael Graft
Joseph Jarvis
Abigail Kirby
Kileesa Lew
James Martin
Shayla Miller
Brent Morgan
Destine Muce
Joshua Oliver
Michael Orr
Jim Ritchey
Victoria Roden
Michal Williamson
Electrical Tech.
Kathy Cunningham
Letha Icenhoun
Tynne Lewis
Taylor Lipman
Erik Montgomery
Cassie Norton
Manuel Orception
Mark Overby
Cody Robbins
Levi Sagers
Zack West
Health Careers
Brandy Barta
Melody Beard
Ains Caucy
Melody Collins
Erick Craner
Amy Crews
Katie Decker
Koby Hayes
Sage Hughes
Brandy Knudsen
Kaylynne Kuehl
Tiffany Mahone
Bethany Mead
Michelle Martin
Teresa Niskora
Karylin Norris
Hunter Poston
Cade Ruff
Taydon Sanderson
Ashlyn Shigley
Arissay Simon
Chasithea Spence
Samantha Snow
Hayley Wittwer
Health Informatics
Beverly Charles
Malika Collins
Jamie Davis
Shelly O’Neal
Nichole Smith
Information Technology
James Anderson
Ivan Baker
Michael Baker
Jeremy Berg-Matson
Joshua Bloy
Austen Blocher
Spencer Brooks
Braxton Butler
Austin Burton
Henry Carr
Reily Egger
Dalton Elliott
Robert Reeder
Kevin Gamble
Brett Harvey
Christian Johnson
Adam Kauk
James Lenn
Nolan McGinn
Devon McClain
Brendan McClellan
Joshua Meyers
Cord Morris
Norman Parks
Dayton Porter
Chase Ross
Jesse Tenppler
Terry Weed
Ryders Wicksom
Cathy Williams
Garren Willis
Nathanial Wilson
Robert Wineberger
Huangzeng Zeng
Meyers
Matthew Byce
Alberto Cruz
Jared Green
Zachary Suman
Rebekah Spiller
Josh Wright
Metal Fabrication
Dillon Anderson
Brian Aska
Shawn Gaughn
Caleb Ford
Jarred Gordon
Johnny Greaves
Michael Holland
Christian Mason
Pharmacy Tech
Rattie Baurkley
Kreza Bickham
Rebekah Chapman
Amy Coleman
Cole Courtright
Tiffany Craves
Nikos Derveniss
Macy Griswold
Valerie Graykowski
Johannah Howell
Sarah Johnson
Jacob Kluver
Adrianna Lefford
Kinzie McGuck
Bret Myers
Sam Ong
Moriah Towar
Power Sports Tech
Bryan Cooke
Dakota Daniels
Will Green
Kery Lynn
Pre-Engineering Academy
Tanner Brinkman
Justin Fowler
Mark Gilbert
Ravi Hauer
Kyle Bass
Colton Shelton
Jonathan Smith
Karl Strecker
Taylor Swanson
Printed Development & Machining
Jack Adams
James City
Cory Eaton
Bryson Hey
Aaron Metlock
Sean Munro
Joseph Porter
Wilding
Dalton Alexander
Jesse Burch
Cale Burden
Jacob Crenshaw
Zachary Drobhard
Levi Drass
Jaret Lewis
Dustin Maker
Anthony Smith
Dakota Waner
Young, fearless

Entrepreneurs come in all shapes and sizes. And ages, as proved by the third annual Young Entrepreneur Expo.

Katie Oestmann of Yale, a 15-year-old, won first place in the booth competition at this year’s event at Payne County Expo Center. Katie won with “Uniquely for U,” which offered layered dessert jars and hand-made greeting cards.

Sisters Susan and Karen Weckler of Glencoe were second with Sewing Kits 4 Kids. Colby Hutson, 12, of Perkins, earned third with Coasters for Colby.

More than a dozen young entrepreneurs competed. They ranged in age from 6-year-old Avyn Hazzard of Stillwater, who developed a recipe she calls “Criss-Cross Applesauce,” to Regan Abner, 17, from Edmond.

“The part of the event that the young people enjoy the most is the booth display contest,” Dr. Suzette Barta of the sponsoring Payne County OSU Extension Office, said.

“Young entrepreneurs are given the opportunity to set up a booth, much like what they would do at a craft or trade show. They are judged on elements of design and their knowledge of their product.”

Erin Early-Johnson from the Food and Ag Products Center at Oklahoma State University and Misty Stutsman from OSU’s Riata Center for Entrepreneurship served as judges.

“The booth display contest is a lot of fun but the primary purpose of the event was to serve as educational opportunities for young people and their families who are interested in entrepreneurship,” Barta said.

Three workshops were offered for the participants.

Amber Ritter, owner of Computer iGeeks, spoke to the group about cool applications for tablets and smartphones that can be used for business.

The second workshop was a “Build-a-Business Plan” activity in which the participants had the chance to visit with volunteer mentors in small groups. Ron Duggins, Director of Meridian’s Center for Business Development, talked to the kids about developing an elevator pitch. Laurie Taylor, Founder of Beacon PR, spoke to the kids about marketing, and Mary Barton, Entrepreneurship Instructor at Meridian Technology Center, visited with them about financial issues.

The featured speaker for the evening was Kyle Eastham, local author, speaker, instructor and entrepreneur. Eastham wore his karate black belt and demonstrated a few techniques while teaching wonderful lessons about setting goals, having focus, and making productive life decisions. He gifted each entrepreneur with one of his books, “Life is a Bowl of Choices.”

www.facebook.com/youngentrepreneurexpo
Get a Kick out of Entrepreneurship - Youth Program set for June 4

The Payne County OSU Extension office is pleased to announce its 3rd Annual Youth Entrepreneur Expo (YE2) on Tuesday evening, June 4, 2013, 5:00 – 8:45pm at the Payne County Expo Center. Our theme this year is “Get a Kick out of Entrepreneurship!” This event is for young people under age 21 (and their parents) who already have a business or who are thinking about starting a business.

The cost to attend is just $15 for the whole family, and that includes a light dinner. Contributions by the CREC Foundation and the Stillwater Frontier Rotary Club help make this event possible at such a low cost to participants.

The program for the evening features three outstanding workshops. Amber Ritter, owner of Computer iGeeks, will start the program with her presentation on the “Best Business Apps for Smart Phones and Tablets.” The program will also include an interactive business-plan-building exercise between volunteer business mentors and young entrepreneurs.

Our featured speaker for the evening will be Kyle Eastham, entrepreneur and Karate/Judo Black Belt. Kyle’s program will inter-mingle life lessons for young entrepreneurs with demonstrations of his Martial Arts skills. Young people are sure to get a KICK out of it!

Kyle Eastham is the founder and Executive Director of Bold Step, an organization that works with universities to reduce sexual assault among college women. Kyle has a Master’s degree in Entrepreneurship and is an adjunct professor in the OSU School of Entrepreneurship. Kyle has spoken all over the US on topics including self-defense, peak performance, motivation, and managing employees.

In addition to these great workshops, the young entrepreneurs will be given the opportunity to set up a booth at the event, much like what they would do at a craft show or trade show. These booths will be evaluated by judges who will provide constructive feedback and award prizes. Eskimo Joe’s has already committed three $25 gift cards to be awarded to the top three places.

The Extension office is grateful to have the support Meridian Technology Center’s Center for Business Development to help make this event possible. If you are interested in making reservations to attend the Young Entrepreneur Expo, please contact Suzette Barta at (405) 747-8320 or suzette.barta@okstate.edu. Our website is www.smallbiz.okstate.edu. Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/youngentrepreneurexpo.
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The Cleveland American
May 22, 2013

Ryan Keith McCullough

Favorite Subject: History
Favorite School Event:
   Winning District in baseball!
Favorite Cafeteria Food:
   None of it.
Favorite Song:
   My Kinda Party - Jason Aldean
Favorite TV: Cheers
Favorite Board Game: Life
My hero: My Dad
After Graduation Plans: Going to
   Meridian Technology Center
Career of Choice: Welder
Parents: Rick and Raelene McCullough

CONGRATULATIONS FROM
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