

Welcome back to school after the nice holiday break! Things are getting very busy this time of year, and I will do my best to keep you informed of all the great things happening in our FCS and CTE world.

Now that the Legislative Session has started in Helena, are you aware that the Billings School District is proposing that the CTE current state allotment of \$1 million be increased to \$10 million to put Montana closer to the support that surrounding states have for CTE? The legislative bill is sponsored by Representative Don Jones on behalf of the Billings School District. Many of our states representatives and senators have been impacted by CTE programs in many ways such having the opportunity to participate in such programs or having children be enrolled in our classes. When talking to your representatives make sure to talk about success stories of your programs and how programs could be improved with help from the increase of state funds.

Apply to be Recognized as a CTE Student or Educator Innovator

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is actively seeking applications from educators and students interested in being recognized as *CTE Innovators* for CTE Month, in February 2015. **The deadline for submissions has been extended to January 19, 2015.**

For more information and to apply, please click on the appropriate link(s) below:

[National CTE Educator Innovators Submission Form](#)

[National CTE Student Innovators Submission Form](#)

[Media Release Form \(Must Be Signed by All Candidates\)](#)

FCS Positions Still Available

The following schools are still advertising for FCS teachers in Montana. Keep spreading the word!

- Dawson County High School in Glendive
 - <http://metnet.mt.gov/TPlacement/374CD198-3B9ACA00-035F4F59>
- Circle High School
 - <http://metnet.mt.gov/TPlacement/DC0F1D25-3B9ACA00-035D7097>

Lentil Resource – NEW & FREE!

For the LENTIL LOVERS OF MONTANA... a new FREE resources is now available about the production, processing, nutrition, and culinary uses of lentils: **Lentils: Gems in the Treasure State.**

<http://www.montana.edu/hhd/documents/facultyandstaff/publications/lentilbooklet.pdf>

This publication comes from Montana State University, and the project was spearheaded by Dr. Alison Harmon, a member of the Montana State University Food and Nutrition faculty. Dr. Harmon enlisted the help of three graduate students studying Sustainable Food Systems: Marcy Gaston, Michael Fox, and Tim Reusch. Each student has made valuable contributions based on their own lentil expertise. We hope after learning more about lentils you will be inspired to grow more lentils, process and distribute more lentils, purchase more lentils, cook more lentils, serve more lentils, and eat more lentils!

Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant program's spring cycle is now open!

Lowe's will donate up to \$5 million to public schools and public school parent teacher groups - at as many as 1,000 different public schools per school year. K-12 Schools can submit proposals for funding between \$2,000 - \$5,000. Several schools in Montana have used this funding for creating school gardens. The deadline is February 13, 2015, but Lowe's will close the application period once they receive 1500 applications. For more information, please visit the website: <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/hta.html>. Need inspiration? Check out their sample projects here: <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/sample.html/>

Montana ACTE Review from the Montana Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Educators (MAFCSE)

(Provided by Lindy Hockenbary, MAFCSE President)

The 2014 Montana Association of Career and Technical Education (Montana ACTE) Institute was held October 16-17 in Missoula. The Institute was a huge success with approximately 40 attendees from the FCS division. The following are highlights from the FCS division sessions at the institute:

- Participants gained literacy strategies specific to the FCS classroom. You can find the resources for the literacy session at this link: <http://goo.gl/eEDFMD>
- Participants gained new technology integration strategies for the classroom by exploring Kahoot! (<https://getkahoot.com/>) and Snapguide (<https://snapguide.com/>).
- Aubree Roth from Team Nutrition kicked off Friday morning with valuable information about school gardens.

The MAFCSE business meeting was packed with important information and decisions. MAFCSE members approved pursuing the creation of a MAFCSE website, approved a 2015 budget, and

elected new officers. Please welcome Jocelyn Sumner as the new MAFCE President-Elect and Shaye Skovgaard as the new Secretary. Megan Vincent shared information from OPI including recent and upcoming changes to Perkins.

Congratulations to Jamie Diehl who was named MAFCE New Teacher of the Year, Joan Leik who was named MAFCE Teacher of the Year, and Cathe Felz who was honored with the Community Service award!

Please welcome and thank your 2015 MAFCE officer team:

- Joanna Krogstad, President
- Lindy Hockenbary, Past-President
- Jocelyn Sumner, President-Elect
- Shaye Skovgaard, Secretary
- Margie Chinadle, Treasurer

We hope to see you October 15-16, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Grand in Billings, MT for the 2015 Montana ACTE Institute!

New Montana ProStart Coordinator

The Montana Restaurant Association Education Foundation is pleased to announce Sarah Goan Boyer as the new Coordinator for the ProStart Program. ProStart is a high school curriculum designed by the National Restaurant Association to teach high school juniors and seniors about the culinary and management aspects of the restaurant business. Currently, 22 high schools across Montana teach ProStart. Boyer's job is to serve as the link between educators and restaurant industry partners.

Boyer has decades of food service and hospitality industry experience both in the in the United States and overseas. She most recently was chef/owner of the 12 West Supper Club in Helena, MT, where she also had been executive chef at the original Montana Club and the opening chef for Lucca's at the Carriage House. Prior to returning to Montana in 2002, Boyer managed international programs and worked in curriculum development at the Culinary Institute of America's Greystone campus in St Helena, CA. As the ProStart Coordinator, Boyer looks forward to moving the program forward and having a positive impact on the next generation of food service industry workers in Montana. Boyer can be reached at sarah.boyer@mtretail.com or at 800-388-0236.

NCAT seeks new community partners for FoodCorps Montana program!

The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) is currently accepting initial applications from Montana schools, non-profits, or government organizations to host a FoodCorps service member from September 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016. FoodCorps is a nationwide team of AmeriCorps leaders that connects kids to real food and helps them grow up

healthy. As AmeriCorps service members, these dedicated individuals give a full-time year of public service to help communities:

- Build and tend school gardens;
- Conduct hands-on nutrition & food system education; and
- Serve more healthy, local food in schools.

NCAT is FoodCorps Montana's state-level host site, and is the proud home to the original model for the national FoodCorps program. To learn more about what FoodCorps service members do and who can apply to be a FoodCorps service site, [open the attached PDF for full information](#).

For new applicants there is a two-step process. Go online to complete the letter of inquiry/pre-proposal at <https://www.ncat.org/mtfoodcorps/>. It's short and easy to complete. **The deadline for submitting the online pre-proposal is January 17, 2015.**

Applicants with a strong pre-proposal will be contacted in March and invited to complete a full 15-page application online. Details on future deadlines and other full application information will be offered then. For questions about the FoodCorps Montana program, visit <http://mtfoodcorps.ncat.org>. Please feel free to contact Al Kurki at akurki@ncat.org, (406) 494-8655, or Kirsten Gerbatsch at kirstern.gerbatsch@foodcorps.org, (406) 533-6645.

Put It Up! Food Preservation for Youth curriculum

The National Center for Home Food Preservation, hosted by the University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences, is proud to announce the availability of a new youth curriculum to teach hands-on food preservation topics. At this time, the files are available electronically, and there are directions below for accessing them.

Put It Up! Food Preservation for Youth curriculum is a series of informal educational lessons that guide youth to explore and understand the science of safe food preservation. Activities include canning salsa, making jam, drying fruit leather roll-ups, pickling cucumbers, and canning soup (and more!). The hands-on food preservation activities are designed for middle school ages; however, we have found in pilot testing that they are appropriate for 4th- to 12th-graders depending on prior experience with food preparation and sciences.

You can find a more complete description and request form (it's free!) at the National Center for Home Food Preservation website, <http://nchfp.uga.edu/>. If you have any questions, please contact Kasey Christian (kaseyc@uga.edu), Project Assistant at the National Center for Home Food Preservation.

Thought of the Day

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

~ Maria Robinson, American author

Calendar of Events

January 24 – 27, 2015: FCCLA State Advisers Management Meeting, Washington, DC
February 1, 2015: Montana FCCLA Board of Directors Meeting, Helena, MT
February 1 – 2, 2015: Montana FCCLA State Executive Council Winter & Governor's Meeting, Helena, MT
March 3, 2015: Montana ProStart State Competition, Bozeman, MT
March 15 – 17, 2015: Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference, Billings, MT
April 15 – 17, 2015: Montana Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Annual Conference, Hamilton, MT
April 15 – 18, 2015: ACTE Region V Conference, Overland Park, KS
April 17 – 19, 2015: National ProStart Competition, Anaheim, CA
June 7 – 10, 2015: NAEYC's [2015 National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development](#), New Orleans, LA
June 18 – 20, 2015: 11th Annual CAFÉ Leadership Conference, Niagara Falls, NY
June 24 – 27, 2015: AAFCS Annual Conference & Expo, Jacksonville, FL
July 5 – 9, 2015: FCCLA National Leadership Conference, Washington, DC
October 28 – 30, 2015: [National Career Pathways Network Annual Conference](#), Dallas, TX

Facebook Group Links

Please click on the link and ask to be added for some great conversation & resources:

- ✓ Montana FCS Educators Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/168470129878554/>
- ✓ Montana FCCLA Chapter Advisers Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/248102661886036/>

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