

BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { X } ACTION { } CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT: GOOD NEWS IN BATH COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- 1. School Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week, May 6-10, 2013
- 2. Operation Smile – Rebecca Blake
- 3. VSBA 2013 Spring Regional Forum Art Contest, April 18, 2013

Elementary:

- Lindsay Oliver	MES, Grade 1	Title: <i>Sierra</i>
Age: 7	Parents: Brent and Christina Oliver	

Middle School:

- Jillian Brown	VES, Grade 6	Title: <i>Jungle Queen</i>
Age: 11	Parents: Allen and Kim Brown	

High School:

- Austin Tuning	BCHS, Grade 12	Title: <i>Sal's</i>
Age 18	Parents: Greg and April Tuning	

- 4. P. Buckley Moss Art Center Contest Participants

Gustavo Paredes-Nieves	Emily Lowry
Tanner Lacks	Brandon Pritt
Rachael Gibson	Allyson Cutlip
Mikayla Miller	

- 5. FCCLA State Conference at Virginia Beach, April 12-14

Kiwi Plecker	2 nd Place – Gold Medal	Cake Decorating
	Awarded \$2,000 Culinary Institute of Virginia Scholarship	

Christal Colon	Bronze Medal	Team Cook-Off
& Katie Hostetter		

Monica Chen	2 nd Place, Silver Medal	Knife Skills & Chicken Fabriciation
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- 6. FCCLA Young Chef Challenge with DSLCC and the Homestead winners:

Kiwi Plecker, Christal Colon,	1 st Place -Cooking Team
Katie Hostetter, Amber Sensabaugh	

Halley Knott, Skye Dujardin	2 nd Place -Taste of Virginia
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Cassie Hoover, Kelsey Lindsay, Dillon Skovira	3 rd Place –Knowledge Bowl
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- 7. BCBS Grade 8 Band Performance for the TOTS Preschool Program

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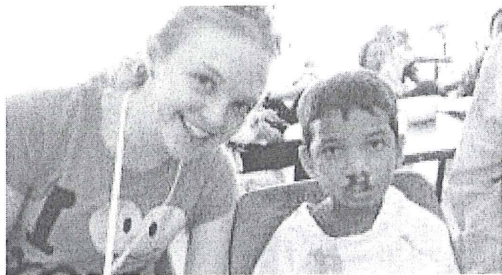


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2013-04-18 / Top News

Smiling says it all

BY MIKE BOLLINGER • STAFF WRITER



Bath County High School senior Rebekah Blake traveled to Cambodia in late February on an Operation Smile mission trip. She is shown here with a child before he has surgery to repair a cleft palate. (Photos courtesy Amy Blake)

HOT SPRINGS — Operation Smile changes lives by performing surgeries to repair cleft palates, cleft lips and other facial deformities. A recent mission trip to Cambodia has changed the life of a Bath County High School senior, too.

Rebekah Blake, daughter of Timmy and Amy Blake of Hot Springs, spent late February and early March in the Southeast Asian country as part of an Operation Smile mission trip. She said the experience gave her a new perspective.

“We take a lot of things for granted. They don’t hardly have anything,” Blake said. “It made me realize I have a good life here and made me try to humble myself and put myself in that situation. If I were in that situation, I wouldn’t survive. There is so much poverty there.”

She said the trip was what she expected and then some. “I tried to prepare myself for it, and it was a lot better than I expected. I was expecting it to be worse than it was. I

expected terrible food and no toilets, but it wasn't like that," Blake said.

Following breakfast around 7 a.m. each day of her trip, Blake said she and the others on the mission would bus about 15 minutes to a hospital. She would teach children about hydration, burn care and prevention, oral hygiene, hand washing and nutrition. "The hospital was very open and had no air conditioning," she said.

Lunch was made in the hospital, and one of the common dishes was chicken wrapped in a banana leaf and fried on a stick. Rice is also a staple of the Cambodian diet, she noted. "They eat rice with everything," Blake said.

After lunch, she spent the rest of the day occupying children before their surgeries and handing out "smile bags" when they came out of the operating room. She would go into the Child Life area and work with children five at a time to help them get ready for their surgeries.

"To get that whole experience, to meet people and see them come in the door looking for help, then when they come out of the operating room you see a different look on their face like they are saying 'thank you.' It's something I'll never forget," she said.

She recounted her experiences with two people in particular. One was a 46-year-old man who had been born with a cleft lip. "He had never been to school and didn't really have any friends. Once he had his operation, he told us his story," Blake said. "He didn't really talk before the surgery."

Another was a small child with a bilateral cleft whose surgery required repair in two places. "I took him into child life and he was crying. I got my scrubs on and went into the surgery with him. It was fascinating," Blake said. "He woke up during the surgery and it was really scary, but the anesthesiologist was able to get him back to sleep. While he was in recovery, his family thanked me for being there."

She also had the chance to visit the Operation Smile club at a private school attended mostly by foreign students. She discussed fund raising and other possible club activities with them.

There was some free time during the trip, such as a Cambodian shopping experience. "When you go into a place, they expect you to bargain with them. It was really cool, a really great experience," she said.

She also was able to have a "fish massage." She put her feet in a tank, and the fish swam around them.

While at the market, Blake said she needed to use the restroom. "There was a lady at a table in the front, and when you went in the floor was full of water. The bowl of the toilet was in the ground. And,



The primary responsibility of high school students on Operation Smile mission is to teach children about hydration, burn care and prevention, oral hygiene, hand washing and nutrition. Bath County High School senior Rebekah Blake recently participated in a mission trip to Cambodia and is shown with a group of children she made a presentation to.

there was no toilet paper. It was disgusting. When I came out, the lady said I had to pay for using it. It was an experience I was expecting, just not at that particular moment,” she said.

The real point where Blake realized the trip had changed her was after a visit to an AIDS orphanage on her last day in Cambodia. She said despite their situation, the children there were very happy. “They were happy because they had what they needed. They had brothers, sisters, food, electricity and were getting an education. I just wanted to stand there and cry because they were so happy,” Blake said.

She took 12 quilts with her on the trip, and donated them to the orphanage. She said orphanage officials plan to hang them there.

Not only has the trip changed her outlook on many things, but Blake said it has possibly changed her future. She worked with the child life specialist, who among other duties helped prepare children for surgery. “I think I’d like to work with Operation Smile while I’m young and willing to travel. I’ve always wanted to help others, but this trip really strengthened that desire,” she said.

For more information on Operation Smile, visit operationsmile.org or call 1-888-OPSMILE (677-6453). Operation Smile is based in Norfolk.

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2013-05-02 / Top News

Bath FCCLA members successful at conference



Bath County High School FCCLA members attending the state conference in Virginia Beach were, front row (l-r): Christal Colon, Monica Chen and Kyanna Plecker. Second row, Katie Hostetter and adviser Adaline Hodge. (Photo courtesy Adaline Hodge)

VIRGINIA BEACH — Members of the Bath County High School chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America participated in a weekend leadership training conference April 12-14.

Attendees participated in a weekend of workshops and sessions that challenged, informed, and motivated members and their advisers to learn more about leadership through FCCLA. Along with nearly 1,300 other advisers and members, Bath County's FCCLA chapter adviser, Adaline Hodge, accompanied four members to the meeting.

To begin the conference, nearly 850 members participated in STAR Events, a series of competitive events that demonstrate proficiency and achievement in leadership and job-related skills. There are 81 categories of STAR Events for members to compete in as a team or

as an individual.

Bath's Kyanna Plecker participated in Cake Decorating and won second place. She received a gold medal and a \$2,000 scholarship from the Culinary Institute of Virginia.

She created a cake with her take of an open lotus flower made of royal icing and gum paste. She added string work to the sides with a piped shell border and zigzag top border. The judges complimented her idea and piping skills. Plecker aspires to be a bakery owner one day, but wants to go to college first to obtain a degree in management.

BCHS students Christal Colon and Katie Hostetter entered as the cooking team. They received a bronze medal for their efforts. There were 21 teams in the cook off, of which 18 received a bronze medal with no gold medals awarded in the event.

The two of them cooked a meal in 60 minutes with a menu of spinach salad with red onion and orange segments served with mustard vinaigrette and croutons, sautéed chicken breast with supreme sauce, oblique carrots and broccoli florets, and seasoned mashed potatoes.

Exchange student Monica Chen competed in the knife skills and chicken fabrication event. She was awarded a silver medal and second place finish in this event. She was timed in her efforts to make a julienne, oblique and large dice of cucumber and yellow squash.

Then she had 20 minutes to cut a chicken into eight pieces and debone and skin the breasts and take out the tenderloins. She then had to display each piece as white and dark meat. The foods used in this competition were given to a homeless relief shelter in the area.

The "FCCLA: Reality Check" theme was reinforced by Friday's powerful opening general session, where meeting attendees geared up for a variety of leadership training opportunities. The motivational speaker for Friday night was Eddie Slowikowski, whose message challenged students to make positive decisions and model effective leadership.

The Saturday morning business session allowed members to vote on issues relevant to the organization, including the election of state officers for the 2013-2014 school year. Inspirational speaker Jarrod Jones kicked off Saturday morning's leadership training with a presentation on meeting life's challenges called "I Never Signed Up for This!"

Members then participated in a series of workshops that focused on career exploration, leadership, and implementing effective service projects in their schools and communities. Katie Hostetter, Kyanna Plecker and Christal Colon served as hostesses for the Culinary Iron Chef workshop. The workshop featured Jeff Bland of Roanoke, US Foods corporate chef, as the contestant for the Iron Chef competition. He told members about the field of culinary arts and his experience as a past FCCLA officer as he cooked the items presented to him. He made cream soup with a Guatemalan influence.

The Saturday evening banquet and evening session, entitled "Escape from Reality," gave members a chance to recognize individuals who support the organization. Sunday's closing general session included the awarding of STAR Events medals and trophies and installation of new state officers.

FCCLA is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only national in-school organization with the family as its central focus.

Participation in national programs and chapter activities help members become strong leaders in their families, careers and communities.

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BCHS Students Attend FCCLA Conference In Virginia Beach

HOT SPRINGS - Youth from the Bath County High School chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) recently participated in a weekend leadership training conference held April 12-14 in Virginia Beach.

Attendees participated in a weekend of workshops and sessions that challenged, informed, and motivated members and their advisers to learn more about leadership through **FCCLA**. Along with nearly 1,300 other advisers and members, Bath County's **FCCLA** chapter adviser, Adaline Hodge, accompanied four members to the meeting.

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There are 81 categories of STAR Events for members to compete in as a team or as an individual.

Bath County chapter members participated in the following events: Cake Decorating with Kyanna Plecker receiving second place, a gold medal and \$2,000 scholarship to the Culinary Institute of Virginia.

She created a cake with her take of an open lotus flower made of royal icing and gum paste. She added string work to the sides with a piped shell border and zig-zag top border.

The judge's complimented of her idea and piping skills.

Kyanna aspires to be a bakery owner one day,



ATTEND CONFERENCE — These Bath County High School students recently attended the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America leadership training conference in Virginia Beach. Front row, from left, Christal Colon, Monica Chen and Kyanna Plecker. Back row, Katie Hostetter and Adaline Hodge, FCCLA adviser. (Photo Courtesy of BCHS FCCLA)



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yet wants to go to college first to obtain a degree in management.

Christal Colon and Katie Hostetter entered as the cooking team. They received a bronze medal for their efforts.

There were 21 teams in the cook off, of which 18 received a bronze medal with no gold medals awarded in the event.

The two of them cooked a meal in 60 minutes with a menu of spinach salad with red onion and orange segments served with mustard vinaigrette and croutons, sautéed chicken breast with supreme sauce, oblique carrots and broccoll florets, and seasoned mashed potatoes.

Monica Chen competed in the knife skills and chicken fabrication STAR event. She is a first year culinary student.

She was awarded a silver medal and second place finish in this event. She was timed in her efforts to make a julienne, oblique and large dice of cucumber and yellow squash.

Then she had 20 minutes to cut a chicken into eight pieces and debone and skin the breasts and take out the tenderloins. She then had to display each piece as white and dark meat.

The foods used in this competition were given to a homeless relief shelter in the area.

The "FCCLA: Reality Check" theme was reinforced by Friday's powerful opening general session, where meeting attendees geared up for a variety of leadership training opportunities.

The motivational speaker for Friday night was Eddie Slowikowski, whose message challenged students to make positive decisions and model effective leadership. Members were rocking in their seats with his music presentation.

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The top winners in each of the national STAR Events will have an opportunity to compete in Nashville, Tenn., at the National Leadership Conference, July 7-11, against top winners from other state associations.

Bath students attended national conference last July in Orlando, Fla., and brought home a bronze award in the cooking team STAR event. The teams this year did not qualify at the national level.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only national in-school organization with the family as its central focus.

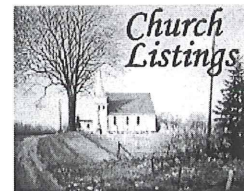

Participation in national programs and chapter activities help members become strong leaders in their families, careers and communities.

DECORATED CAKE EVENT — Bath County High School student Kyanna Plecker stands beside her Lotus flower design cake at the recent FCCLA leadership conference in Virginia Beach. Kyanna was required to present a slice from a round 10-inch cake along with a job portfolio in the Decorated Cake STAR event. She received a second place for her efforts, a Gold Medal and a \$2,000 scholarship from the Culinary Institute of Virginia. (Photo Courtesy of BCHS FCCLA)

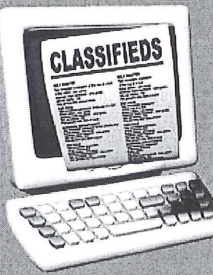
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Patsy Chestnut

From: Melinda Hooker
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 1:03 PM
To: Patsy Chestnut
Cc: Sarah Rowe
Subject: Good News from BCHS
Attachments: TOTS 1.JPG; TOTS 2.JPG; TOTS 3.JPG; TOTS 4.JPG

Patsy,
Here is some good news from the BCHS Band...
The Eighth Grade Band performed its annual variety show for the TOTS preschool program on May 1 during the eighth grade band class in the band room at BCHS. The students performed as a group and in small group ensembles. They played everything from pop tunes to nursery rhymes and even choreographed their own flag routine. After the performances, they showed how their instruments worked and gave the kids a chance to push buttons etc. The TOTS kids had a ball as did the eighth graders!
Pictures attached! Thanks, M

Melinda Hooker

Bath County Schools
Director of Bands
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