

## Frederick V. Pankow Center

Career and Technical Education



### Criminal Justice - Gold Medal Winner

By Thomas Grindem

For the third year in a row, a Frederick V. Pankow Criminal Justice students won a SkillsUSA state championship, qualifying to represent Team Michigan at the National Championships in Kansas City. In April of 2010, Steven Pankiewicz II won the state gold medal, beating 16 other state finalists in the SkillsUSA Criminal Justice contest.

The contest consisted of several different role playing scenarios where the contestants were presented with situations similar to those that police officers experience on the job. Scenarios included a mock traffic crash, a domestic violence situation, booking procedures, latent fingerprint lifting, a medical



emergency, report writing, and a mock job interview. Each scenario is scored by police officers who volunteer their time to be judges.

This was not the first time Steven experienced success with SkillsUSA; he placed second in 2009. Steve put in a lot of extra time and energy preparing his self for the 2010 contest. He attended the Michigan State Police Student

Trooper Academy during the summer of 2009, and participated in several ride-along opportunities with local police.

Steven's first place finish earned him a gold medal and a trip to Kansas City for the National Championships in June. There, he competed with 34 other state champions in another set of mock scenarios, similar to the state contest. Steve, again, earned a very high score, placing fifth in the country. His fifth place finish is the highest ever for Pankow's Criminal Justice program. Presently enrolled in Macomb Community College's Law Enforcement program, Steve is well on his way to what is surely to be a successful career in law enforcement.

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - OUR FUTURE TEACHERS

By Bonnie Awrey-Kaufuss and Kathy Dier

*What will I be when I grow up?*



Many students are unsure of the career direction they want to pursue when they graduate from high school. Even those who think they know, might not be heading down the correct career path. If students could gain hands on experience during high school, this would give them a chance to explore different career opportunities and be better prepared to make a career choice.

Fortunately, L'Anse Creuse students have just that opportunity at the F.V. Pankow Center. For students interested in finding out more about the field of teaching, there are two different programs available for the 2011 - 2012 school year.

**Education: Early Childhood**

Students who choose the Education-Early Childhood class have the unique opportunity to teach in our licensed "Teens for Tots Preschool" program located in the F.V. Pankow Center. The students work with approximately 20 preschool children, ages 3-5. The high school 'teachers in training' develop and perform age appropriate lessons with the preschool children. They are part of a real preschool environment and are able to experience all the different aspects and

career pathways available. Students learn about creating a safe and healthy environment, guidance and discipline techniques, and are introduced to childhood stages of development and learning theories.

**Education: Kindergarten - 12th Grade**

Students who choose the Kindergarten thru Twelfth grade class have a very unique opportunity to work in a kindergarten through high school classroom throughout the district. The students work with selected mentor teachers in the actual classroom setting. Students learn about teaching as a profession, what makes an effective teacher, classroom management techniques, instructional methods and many other aspects of the job. Students experience first hand the dynamics of the classroom and what it takes to be a great "teacher."

### AUTO COLLISION AND DETROIT'S AUTORAMA

By Richard Stumpf

Auto Collision and Refinishing students at the F.V. Pankow Center are preparing a 2002 Jeep Liberty for this year's Detroit Autorama Custom Car Show at Cobo Center.



Students enrolled in the Auto Collision and Refinishing class spent part of last year and all of this year working on a Jeep Liberty that was donated from Chrysler Corporation through the Detroit Auto Dealers Association. The Jeep was used as a promotional vehicle at Chrysler and then donated to the Center. The Jeep will be entered in the high school category along with two other student painted vehicles.

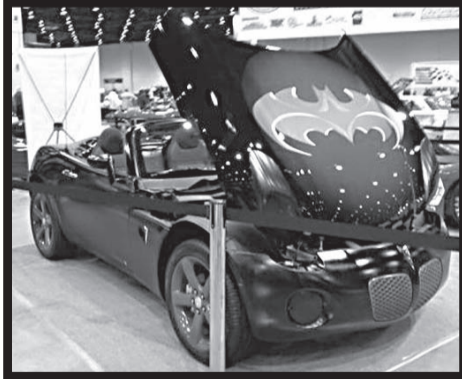
This year's project is sponsored by Cintron Beverage Group out of

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Cintron has a line of Energy Drinks with 5 different flavors and the students are painting the Jeep to look like Cintron's Citrus Mango flavored can. The partnership with Cintron is a perfect match for the high school students.

The Jeep is going to be painted silver with custom candy tangerine accents. Most of the interior is also going to be candy tangerine to help highlight the exterior

of the vehicle. The Jeep also has a custom Infinity Stereo System with several amps and some custom accent lighting.

The class is also going to enter last year's project, a 2006 Pontiac Solstice painted in the Batman theme and a 1988 Ford Mustang LX that was completed at the center last year but not in time for Autorama. The Mustang is painted



Frost Orange Metallic and has custom wheels and tires and a built 351 Cleveland engine. It is owned by Jim Trittschler of Howell Michigan. Jim bought the car in Florida, took the engine out and brought the car to Pankow Center for repainting.

On February 25, the class is going to attend Autorama's Education Day along with 3,000 other high school students. There will be several keynote speakers from the industry that will share some of their car experiences and answer questions. The students are then allowed on the showroom floor two hours before it is open to the public. This gives the students on opportunity to take photos and ask car owners questions.

### Pankow Horticulture Science and FFA

By Shirley Tautolo

Horticulture Science is a two year program located at the F.V. Pankow Center. The class focuses on all aspects of horticulture, natural resources, business, careers, and leadership. Students use the greenhouse and flower shop to practice their skills. They create a variety of floral arrangements including centerpieces, corsages, vase arrangements, and will even take special requests.

In addition to developing their floral skills, students raise heirloom vegetables and bedding crops in the greenhouse for sale to the public in late April and early May.

Students use the plants in the green house to learn different types of propagation; they even propagate Venus fly traps in test tubes in a

technique called tissue culture. Students have the opportunities to cross pollinate plants in an attempt to get different colored flowers. One of our most recent projects is called "Farm to Table" where students grow

vegetables and herbs for sale in the Creuse Café, a student run restaurant also located in the Pankow Center. They have an outdoor garden they use for winter

harvested lettuce, spinach, and radishes in November. Students even grew a pineapple and enjoyed a sample in class!

Future Farmers of America (FFA) is a leadership-career skills organization associated with Horticulture Science at Pankow, and

is open to students in grades 7 thru 12. Pankow FFA is involved in local community service projects such as planting flowers at schools, collecting food for the backpack program, and contributing to local community education activities.

Students participate in projects related to their career interests. For example, Samantha Colombo brought her steer named "Axe" to Pankow to demonstrate how to prepare the animal for show, as well as the care, feeding, and selection of steer.

Samantha purchased Axe this fall and will show him at the County Fair where he will be sold at auction.



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MAKING THE  
**Connection**

**Macomb Community College**  
Education • Enrichment • Economic Development  
Ed Stanton 586/445-7640  
email stantone@macomb.edu

**MISD**  
Macomb Intermediate School District  
Karen Johnston 586/228-3469  
email kjohnston@misd.net

For more information about CTE at the high school level contact the Macomb Intermediate School District. Contact Macomb Community College for college level programs. See contact information above.

**MCTEAA**  
Macomb Career and Technical Education Administrators Association

**TECH PREP**  
Cutting Edge to the Future  
Macomb County/St. Clair County

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