

MIAMI VALLEY

CAREER TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Teachers, staff big part of MVCTC success

By Lynne Minneman
Contributing Writer

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Last week I had the opportunity to attend a sophomore career day over at the Miami Valley Career Technology Center at 6800 Hoke Road, Clayton.

I was recruited to attend as a chaperone and accompanied sophomores on an exciting trip to one of the most technologically advanced schools that I have ever had the opportunity to visit.

But what impressed me most about the visit, other than the sheer attention to detail in all of the programs, were the teachers, staff, and administrative personnel that I was fortunate enough to meet.

"MVCTC is a place where miracles happen every day," said Steve North, east building counselor for the technical school.

MVCTC serves 27 area high schools and offers more than 50 career technical programs for high school juniors and seniors. The campus also offers lifelong learning opportunities for adult students in its Adult Education program.

North is in his 13th year at MVCTC and he said before coming to the school he was a residential home builder working on about 500 homes in two states.

"I am a counselor because I want to expose students in problematic situations to new, or different, approaches to resolving problems," he said. "The student that successfully resolves his own problems becomes more self-sufficient."

The school has been around since 1971, when it was referred to as the Montgomery County Joint Vocational School; many of my high school classmates graduated from there. Although it was still very impressive "way back when," the school has now grown into a world-class career technology center.

"We are nationally recognized as being a standard for excellence in vocational education," North said.

"We are lucky to have an unbelievable staff and administrators like Dr. John Boggess, our superintendent."

North said other counselors at the school are Tracy Hetrick, Barb Sommer, Gaye Gerren, and Phil Raterman. And these are just a few of the wonderful people behind the scenes at the school.

For more information about the school, or how to apply, visit www.mvctc.com/home on the Web.

And if you would like a holiday wreath, the students from the agricultural services program are selling wreaths and poinsettias. You can purchase one at the MVCTC greenhouse from noon to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Poinsettias are available in Freedom White, Enduring Pink, Maren (salmon), Freedom/Prestige Red, Peterstar Marble, Jingle Bell and Winter Rose Red. Sizes include 6.5 inch (\$6) and 4.5 inch (\$3.50), and they come with foil pot covers.

Holiday wreaths are made of fresh Balsam and are available with decorations of velvet bows or fresh mixed greens. Sizes available include 8-inch wreath ring (\$15), 12-inch wreath ring (\$20), 16-inch wreath ring (\$25), 20-inch wreath ring (\$35), small door swags (\$10) and pine roping (\$1.50/yard or \$35/25 yards).

For more information, contact instructors Lindsay Risch or Eva Brownlee at (937) 854-6573.