

**Montana Business Educator Named to ACTE Region V Hall of Fame**

During the opening session of the 2017 ACTE Region V Conference, held in Rapid City, April 6-8, Huntley Project Business Educator Mark Branger was one of three new members welcomed into the ACTE Region V Hall of Fame.

The ACTE Region V Hall of Fame was established four years ago and the honor recognizes the contributions and distinguished accomplishments of those who have been identified with the work and purposes of Region V and the Association for Career and Technical Education. The Hall of Fame honors ACTE members who have made a significant impact on the field of career and technical education at the (national), regional and state levels.

Hall of Fame nominees are evaluated based upon their impact of contributions on student accomplishments curriculum, community, career and technical education programs; significant contributions at the state, regional and national level; and contributions or prominence achieved above and beyond job assignments.

In addition to being a business educator, Mark serves as the Technology Director for Huntley Project Schools, co-advises the Huntley Project Business Professionals of America chapter, and is the Executive Director for the Montana Association for Career & Technical Education (Montana ACTE).

The other 2017 Region V Hall of Fame inductees included Pam Ferguson from Arizona and Mike Roeber from Nebraska.

A large plaque that includes the names of all Hall of Fame inductees travels to the Region V business meetings and each honoree receives a smaller plaque with his/her name as a keepsake.

*Congratulations Mark!*

**Deadline Friday to Submit CTE Perkins Intent to Apply & State VoEd Application for 2017-2018 Funding**

The Office of Public Instruction has again this year combined both the Federal Carl D. Perkins 'Intent to Apply' AND the State CTE/VoEd Funding application for school districts' convenience. You can apply for one or both funding programs using this one electronic form.

The online link to access and complete the combined Federal and State Funding application is now available and listed below. It is also available on the Secondary CTE web page of the OPI website inside the *Perkins Federal Funding* tab.

Authorized Representatives of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will use the online link to access and complete the brief electronic form for the 2017-2018 E-Grants cycle. All public high schools and K-12 districts with qualifying Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are eligible to apply for funding. Elementary districts are not eligible for Perkins or State CTE/VoEd monies.

**Districts will NOT receive a 2017-2018 Perkins allocation unless this electronic form is completed and submitted online** at the OPI on or before the deadline. These designations are binding and cannot be changed once allocations have been downloaded into the E-Grants system.

The online link can be found at <http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1026384/41f0/>.

The **DEADLINE** for submission of the combined application is **April 28, 2017**.

If you have questions, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov) or by phone at 406.444.9019.

### **Perkins 2016-2017 CTE Spring Data Collection/ CTE Concentrators Due Friday, April 28**

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2017 and ends April 28, 2017. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2016-2017 school year who meet the definition of a Career & Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently, enrolled CTE courses count towards credits earned.

CTE Concentrators must have the 'CTE Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system. If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the Secondary CTE webpage located at this link:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pub/AIM/Collections/CareerTechnicalEducation/SpringCTECollectionGuide.pdf>.

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or send an email to [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov).

Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Christy Hendricks at 406-444-9019 or email her at: [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

Thank you so much for all you do from everyone at the Career and Technical Education Division of The Office of Public Instruction.

### **Registration is Now Open for MCEE Economics Seminar – June 14-16 in Bozeman**

Want to improve your economics teaching? Learn with other learn with other Montana teachers from the faculty at Montana State University with this no cost course.

Registration is now open for the 2017 edition of the [Montana Council on Economic Education](#)-sponsored *Economics Seminar for Teachers*. The [2017 Economics Seminar for Teachers](#) will be held June 14-16 on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman.

Professors and industry experts are offering a multi-day professional development program featuring the best practices in teaching economics at the high school level.

Enjoy three days in beautiful Bozeman, Montana at the MSU Campus. Classes will be offered in Linfield Hall with teacher lodging available on campus.

MCEE and sponsors will cover expenses for:

- Lodging
- Mileage
- Meals
- Parking
- Class Materials

Registration includes a \$50 fee that will be refunded upon successful completion of the course. The registration fee can be [paid online \(econedmontana.org/donate\)](http://econedmontana.org/donate) and registration forms for the [2017 Economics Seminar for Teachers](#) can be downloaded in both [Word](#) and [PDF](#) formats.

Registration forms and payment must be completed by Friday, May 5.

500-level college accreditation is under review for EDCI 588 course. For those who opt for the one college credit, 30 hours of out of class work will accompany the course. For those seeking to earn OPI renewal units, no additional assignment is necessary.

For questions, please email [mcee@montana.edu](mailto:mcee@montana.edu).

### **Learn Scratch this Summer Online from UNI "Introduction to Programming Using Scratch" Course**

The University of Northern Iowa is pleased to announce it will once again be offering the online course "[An Introduction to Programming using Scratch](#)" during the summer of 2017. This course has been taught to approximately 150 participants EACH of the last three summers.

The course will run from June 5 - July 14 and will require a TOTAL commitment of approximately 20-25 hours. The pace of the course is up to the participants who may start and end at their convenience at any time during the course offering—so long as the course is completed by July 14.

The course assumes no prior programming experience and will include material on teaching Scratch for Logo, storytelling, text interaction, and game playing, as well as coverage of some advanced topics. Each of the six units is a blend of 60-90 minutes of lecture videos (roughly 5 minutes each), hands on guided activities, and independent programming assignments.

Participants may complete the course for personal interest FREE of charge. Participants interested in earning 1 hour of graduate workshop credit (suitable for license renewal in the state of Iowa) have the OPTION of doing so for a fee of \$100 billed by the University of Northern Iowa.

Further details and the registration form are available at: [www.cs.uni.edu/~schafer/outreach/cs4hs/](http://www.cs.uni.edu/~schafer/outreach/cs4hs/)

Please feel free to contact Ben Schafer at [schafer@cs.uni.edu](mailto:schafer@cs.uni.edu) with questions or additional information.

### **Registration is Now Open for MIET 2017 in Great Falls – June 13 & 14**

The [2017 Montana Institute on Educational Technology \(miettechdays.weebly.com\)](http://miettechdays.weebly.com) will be held June 13 and 14 in Great Falls at Great Falls College MSU.

Registration is now open with the Early-Bird rate of \$110 available through May 19.

Participants will be able to earn up to 15 OPI Renewal Units or one (1) or two (2) graduate credits from Montana State University Northern.

Complete MIET 2017 details—including registration, costs and requirements for graduate credit, and Institute schedule—can all be found at [miettechdays.weebly.com](http://miettechdays.weebly.com).

### **BirdBrain Technologies' Finch Robot Loan Program – Get a Free Flock of Finch Robots**

Would you like to borrow a free flock of [Finch Robots \(www.finchrobot.com\)](http://www.finchrobot.com) for your school or library?

Apply for BirdBrain Technologies' Finch Robot Loan Program by April 30, to borrow Finches for the 2017-2018 school year.

Designed at Carnegie Mellon University, the [Finch](#) is a robot that inspires and delights students learning computer science by providing them a tangible representation of their code. The Finch responds to light, temperature, and obstacles, among many other capabilities.

It has support for a range of programming languages and environments, with coding options for students from ages 5 to 105.

Established curriculum for using the Finch Robot is available online, and curriculum design help is also available.

In this school year alone, teachers in 200+ schools across the contiguous United States have impacted more than 30,000 students through the Finch Robot Loan Program.

Learn more and apply for a loan of free Finch Robots here: [www.finchrobot.com/loanprogram](http://www.finchrobot.com/loanprogram).

### **Celebrate Earth Day & Spring with New Resources from Start Here, Go Places.**

Stop and smell the roses – and pick up some new materials.

Before those April showers usher in even more flowers, we're offering up some freshly picked resources for you to share with your students.

For as many colors as there are in the garden, there are just as many types of accountants. This month's activity is all about introducing and familiarizing your students with the environmentally focused kind. The [Go Green to Get Green, While Doing Good](#) worksheet prompts students to research and present on eco-friendly accounting jobs of all kinds.

With summer just around the corner, we've also added an article to help you help your students make the most of their breaks. [Summer Is for More Than Sleep](#) is a guide to helping students explore jobs by understanding the beyond-the-paycheck value they'll get out of having one -- and giving them some ideas about the various opportunities that are out there.

Download the worksheet, check out the article and peruse all the other materials we have at [StartHereGoPlaces.com](#).

### **Graduate Credit Available for the Business Education Summer Update Workshops**

Are you thinking about attending one of the three 2017 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops? What if you could earn a graduate-level credit for your participation?

For this summer's workshops, in partnership with Montana State University Billings, one (1) graduate-level credit will be available. The cost of the credit is \$99 and the requirements will be

- attend the workshop for the full day at one of the three locations,
- complete the online Cyber Teacher Certification training and submit a copy of the earned certificate,
- and develop and submit a lesson plan with associated instructional materials utilizing any of the information and materials gained from the workshop.

A link to register with MSU Billings for the credit and to submit payment for the \$99 fee will be available soon, so keep checking your *Wednesday Reader* and email for details.

Information regarding dates, locations, topics and registration details for the 2017 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops is included below in this edition of the *Wednesday Reader*.

### **EverFi Announces Three \$1,000 529 Scholarships for STEM**

Did you learn something from [Future Goals - Hockey Scholar](#) that sparked your interest in STEM skills? Enter the STEM Scholarship Competition to share your story. Three winning students will receive a \$1,000 529 College Savings Scholarship and have their stories featured on the EverFi blog.

[The STEM Scholarship Competition](#) is open to U.S. students who have completed at least one lesson in Future Goals - Hockey Scholar during the 2016-2017 academic year. Entries must be received by May 12, 2017 at 5:00pm EST.

Future Goals - Hockey Scholar is a [standards aligned](#), online STEM course that brings science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts to life through the game of hockey. Learning modules will build student's understanding of foundational STEM concepts, develop scientific and critical thinking, and highlight STEM careers.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, or have questions, reach out to Cari Turner at [cturner@everfi.com](mailto:cturner@everfi.com) or 406.204.2224.

## **Pace GenCyber: Cybersecurity Summer Workshop for High School Teachers**

The Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems at Pace University (Pleasantville, New York) invites you to attend a seven-day summer workshop aimed at introducing high school teachers to diverse topics in cybersecurity, free of cost.

The workshop will include lectures, hands-on exercises, presentations by industry professionals, group discussions, and lesson design projects. By the end of the program, participants will develop lesson plans that integrate cybersecurity concepts into their curricula or after-school programming.

Participants will receive a \$1,250 stipend upon completion of all workshop sessions and activities.

Topics will include:

- Basic Concepts in Cybersecurity
- Cryptography
- Access Control
- Biometrics
- Cybersecurity Analytics

Program details and application instructions are available at [www.pace.edu/seidenberg/gencyber](http://www.pace.edu/seidenberg/gencyber).

For more information or for questions, please contact [gencyber@pace.edu](mailto:gencyber@pace.edu).

This workshop is supported by the GenCyber program, and funded jointly by the National Security Agency and the National Science Foundation.

## **FREE Summer Update Workshops – “Hands on” Exploring of the STEM Branch of Business Ed**

While enjoying the calms and the wilds of Montana this summer, plan to take a day for some “Hands on” exploring of the STEM branch of Business Education. If you are looking for a little summer adventure, mark your calendars for the 2017 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops.

Three (3) regional workshops will offered across the state for Montana’s Business Education Professionals. The 2017 Summer Update Workshops topics will include the financial education program Hands on Banking®, getting “plugged into” activities for integrating Computer Science principals, and Cyber Teacher Certification.

Workshops will be held

- Monday, July 31 at Glacier High School in Kalispell;
- Wednesday, August 2 at Skyview High School in Billings; and
- Friday, August 4 at Capital High School in Helena.

Workshops will be facilitated by Montana Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson. Attendees will gain hands-on experience with the free, fun, and engaging financial education program from Wells Fargo Hands on Banking®; participate in and receive instructional resources for implementing computer science principals using engaging games and puzzles that use cards, string, crayons from CS Unplugged; and begin the journey to earn Cyber Teacher Certification via LifeJourney’s National Security Administration Day of Cyber.

In addition to all the information and fun activities, Summer Update Workshop participants will receive Hands on Banking® curriculum materials for teens (grades 6-8), young adults (ages 15-21), and Entrepreneurship (including starting, managing, & growing a business); the complete CS Unplugged collection of learning activities; and have the opportunity to become a certified Cyber Teacher.

Below is the schedule for each of the three locations: July 31, Kalispell at Glacier High School; August 2, Billings at Skyview High School; and August 4, Helena at Capital High School.

8:30-9 am: Registration  
9-9:30 am: Welcome & Introductions  
9:30-10:30 am: Hands on Banking®  
10:30-10:45 am: Break  
10:45-Noon: CS Unplugged  
Noon-1 pm: Lunch (On your own)  
1-1:30 pm: Business Education Curriculum Update  
1:30-2:30 pm: Cybersecurity Instructional Resources & Cyber Teacher Certification  
2:30-2:45 pm: Break  
2:45-3:45 pm: Cyber Teacher Certification, cont.  
3:45-4 pm: Wrap Up & Closing

Come for the day and leave with some fresh AIR—*Activities, Instructional Materials, and Resources*—to start out the new school year.

Registration can be completed at <https://goo.gl/forms/XVUTzqwKFOfMFiaq2>. If you have problems accessing the link via the Google “shorthand” URL, here is the longhand version of link, [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYtFK0u03RrUfVJoCOxxLyrtdTJLrAQki0twD1iU5SfEg6IA/vie/wform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYtFK0u03RrUfVJoCOxxLyrtdTJLrAQki0twD1iU5SfEg6IA/vie/wform?usp=sf_link).

***Please complete registration by Friday, June 23.*** A registration confirmation will be sent after your registration has been processed.

These workshop will be offered free of charge with up to six (6) OPI Renewal Units available. Participants who complete the Cyber Teacher Certification program and submit a copy of their earned certificate will be eligible to receive six (6) additional OPI Renewal Units. Proof of an earned Certificate of Completion must be submitted by Friday, August 18, 2017 to receive the additional six (6) units.

*Participation in one of the 2017 Summer Update workshops is required in order to earn the six (6) OPI renewal units through this offer to receive renewal units for the completion of the Cyber Teacher Certification.*

Any travel and lodging expenses you may incur to attend can be paid for by either Perkins and/or State CTE/VoEd funds.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

### **Belgrade Business Ed Department Looking for Information & Input from the Field**

Belgrade High School business teachers Nancy Francis and Leslie Peterson are looking at adding WordPress to their Web Design class and are wondering if there are any school using WordPress.

If you are using WordPress and/or have information and resources you would like to share, please contact Leslie at [lpeterson@belgradeschools.com](mailto:lpeterson@belgradeschools.com).

### **GAERF 2017 Student Design Competition**

The [Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation](http://www.gaerf.org) (GAERF) ([www.gaerf.org](http://www.gaerf.org)) is having their ninth annual student design contest. This year's theme is MAGnify!

Students are encouraged to design and print a full-page magazine ad for a product of their choice that is linked to digital media that demonstrates the role that print plays in today's multichannel media mix. The contest is open to all secondary and post-secondary students studying graphics communications/printing, advertising, graphic design, or interactive media program.

Entries selected by GAERF will be judged by the a panel of industry professionals. Winners and their instructors will be notified by July 17, 2017.

1st Place Awards: \$2,000 plus a two-day all-expenses paid trip for the student and instructor to attend PRINT 17, September 13-14, 2017, in Chicago, IL (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

2nd Place Awards: \$1,500 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

3rd Place Awards: \$1,000 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

Entries must be submitted by teachers/instructors, and are due June 2, 2017. Visit GAERF's [website](#) for the contest entry form and rules.

### **Explore Game-Based Karel, Turtle, and 3D Modeling Courses in NCLab for FREE**

The NCLab Team ([nclab.com](http://nclab.com)) is pleased to announce the release of new versions of the popular Karel Coding, Turtle Coding and 3D Modeling courses.

These courses **are** free for educators. Visit <http://nclab.com/teachers/>.to request your free professional development license. Major improvements include dozens of self-graded quizzes and performance tasks (creative projects) aligned to Common Core, NGSS and CSForAll standards. In addition, NCLab has implemented many other minor features based on instructor and student feedback.

#### **Karel Coding**

Learn programming with the engaging power of a computer game. Students solve fun mazes, write programs in a simplified Python language, and earn karate-like belts and certificates. Designed for complete beginners as well as for students who already know Scratch. Ages 10-99.

Read more at [nclab.com/karel-coding-course](http://nclab.com/karel-coding-course).



### Turtle Coding

Students are introduced to Python coding by drawing beautiful patterns with the Python Turtle. They learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own designs, save them in their NCLab account, export them for laser cutting and 3D printing, and share them online. Ages 11-99.

Learn more at [nclab.com/turtle-coding-course](http://nclab.com/turtle-coding-course).

### 3D Modeling

This course introduces students to Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG) by building models they know from games, sports and movies. Students also learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own models, save in their user account, export for 3D printing, and share with others online. Ages 12-99.

Discover more about 3D Modeling at [nclab.com/3d-modeling-course](http://nclab.com/3d-modeling-course).

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

The Cook Islands, named for explorer James Cook, are a group of 15 islands in the South Pacific Ocean between Fiji and French Polynesia.

There are 15 islands that make up the Cook Islands and each are classified as either “Southern Island”, “Northern Island”, or “Other Island”.

Residents here are known as Cook Islanders.

The Cook Islands is an independent state in an associated-state relationship with New Zealand; however, it has its own parliament and government and its own laws and judiciary, but defense matters and foreign policy should be handled, according to the relationship, in consultation with New Zealand.

While gaining independence in 1965, the Cook Islands remains part of the Realm of New Zealand and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is Head of State of the Cook Islands.

The Cook Islands are the world’s second largest producer of black pearls.

The official language on the Cook Islands is English, but many people speak Maori.

About 20,000 people live on the Cook Islands.

The New Zealand Dollar is the main currency with the Cook Islands also having its own distinctive notes and coins which are in circulation alongside the NZ currency, and of equal value.

There are only two ATMs in the Cook Islands.

Most of the music and dance takes its roots from Polynesian influences, as the islands were settled by Polynesian people in the 6th Century.

It is summer year-round in the Cook Islands--the drier months are from April to November with average temperatures between 68 to 79 degrees and the hotter, more humid months are from December to March with an average maximum temperature of 82degrees.

In 2015, the population of the Cook Islands was 9,838.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info). The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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*"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh*