

## The Wednesday Reader

### November 30, 2011

#### Rise to the Challenge with Certiport—FREE Learning Materials AND Exam Vouchers

Certiport is offering Montana CTE teachers and administrators the opportunity to have a lasting impact on your students, your school and your career.

Through the [Rise to the Challenge](#) program, Certiport is offering Montana CTE teachers the opportunity to get FREE exams and practice tests for their globally recognized certifications through February 29, 2012.

Certifications are available in the following programs:

- Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)
- Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)
- Adobe Certified Associate
- Autodesk Certified User
- Intuit QuickBooks Certified User
- Internet and Core Computing Certification (IC<sup>3</sup>)
- CompTIA Strata IT Fundamentals

Heighten your skills and reputation with the Certiport certification pathway, a vital foundation for further advancement. This is a real-world credential that can create lasting impact, especially if you integrate certification into your curricula

In addition to free learning materials and vouchers for teachers and administrators, schools can register to become a private testing center with *no minimum exam voucher purchase necessary* through the end of March 2012. This is a great opportunity for students interested in gaining the Statewide Articulation credits for CAPP 154 Microsoft Word and CAPP 156 Microsoft Excel.

To learn more about this opportunity for both you and your students, please click the link below.

[http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?llr=tuesk9bab&v=001gjTeQvTgjpp3k7kd2YeceFmK6\\_mzNB2t-ssfciB7OIE4eGPTp223Oo0XfnPEz5cYEwai6ahZTSv-IfyLdg4jNGNTwgxVP8ROjq\\_3c2m1tRv-dk6n4pS7w%3D%3D](http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?llr=tuesk9bab&v=001gjTeQvTgjpp3k7kd2YeceFmK6_mzNB2t-ssfciB7OIE4eGPTp223Oo0XfnPEz5cYEwai6ahZTSv-IfyLdg4jNGNTwgxVP8ROjq_3c2m1tRv-dk6n4pS7w%3D%3D)

#### National Financial Capability Challenge

The Department of the Treasury has partnered with the Department of Education to once again offer the 2012 National Financial Capability Challenge, kicking off on March 12!

The National Financial Capability Challenge is FREE a awards program designed to increase the financial knowledge and capability of high school aged youth across the United States so they can take control over their financial futures. It challenges high school teachers and other educators to teach the basics of personal finance to their students, and rewards students, educators, schools, and states for their participation and their success. Educators and top-scoring students will receive award certificates, and schools and states with the highest participation rates will earn special distinction.

To learn more about the 2012 National Financial Capability Challenge and to sign up to be a part of this year's challenge, please visit <http://www.challenge.treas.gov/about.aspx>.

#### Link to Mark's Blog: T212—Tools for Technology Integration and Infusion

During the 2011 Montana ACTE Institute, Huntley Project's Mark Branger presented a workshop for during the MBEA breakouts Friday morning where he introduced attendees to his *T212—Tools for Technology Integration and Infusion: 21st Century Technology Tools for Integration* which can be found at [www.hptechdept.wordpress.com](http://www.hptechdept.wordpress.com).

The Blog ([www.hptechdept.wordpress.com](http://www.hptechdept.wordpress.com)) provides a list of presentation and technology tools as well as to share information on Web 2.0 and resources for 21st Century learning.

If you have resources and/or links you would like to share, please send them to Mark at [mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us](mailto:mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us).

### **Tomorrow is the Deadline to Apply for the WBEA Professional Development Institute (PDI)**

Listen up business educators and mark your calendars. February 16-20 is the [Western Business Education Association \(WBEA\) 2012 Conference](#) in Newport Beach, California. Early bird registration must be done by January 15.

Even more importantly, if you have not attended the [Professional Development Institute \(PDI\)](#), this is your chance to get scholarship money towards your WBEA registration.

What is the [Professional Development Institute](#)? The health and relevancy of professional associations at the local, regional, and national levels rely on the involvement of teachers and administrators who will share their talents and time for the betterment of our profession. The challenge to continually train new leaders and reinvigorate the veterans is ongoing. In 1999-2000, the WBEA Board, under the leadership of President Mary Ann Lammers voted to institute a professional development opportunity at the annual conference and support this endeavor by paying for ½ of the registration fee for two participants from each Western State, Territory, and Province (S/T/P). The S/T/Ps were encouraged to pay the other half of the fee. The first PDI was held at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, in February 2000.

The [PDI](#) has traditionally met for five to six hours on Friday before the annual conference begins. The participants attend part of the WBEA Executive Board meeting to see the regional board in action. Recently, they have been introduced and honored at a general function by sitting in a reserved area and being awarded a certification of completion by the PDI Director.

The original intent was to encourage new or veteran teachers who had not previously been involved in their professional associations to gain the skills and confidence to accept offices and committee assignments in their S/T/Ps. Some S/T/Ps have supported veteran teachers who are continuing to provide inspiration to members and want a "refresher" opportunity. Having a registration fee paid has also provided financial support for those teachers who do not have the support of their districts or colleges

The PDI application must be sent to MBEA President, Regina Wood, by December 1. Her email is [rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us](mailto:rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us). The link to the application is <http://www.wbite.org/pdf/2012PDIAPPLICATION.pdf>.

Please don't miss out on this great leadership and professional development opportunity. There are already several Montana business educators planning to attend the conference so let Regina know if you need a roommate to help with costs.

You can find out more information about the WBEA conference at <http://www.wbea.info>.

We hope to see you in California (in February...think about it!).

### **A Last-Minute Reminder About the CTE Educator Survey from Montana ACTE**

The Montana Association for Career & Technical Education (Montana ACTE) Executive Board is committed to serving its membership and educators of CTE to make CTE programs in Montana even stronger and to provide quality professional development.

Your officer team is conducting a survey of the 2011 Montana ACTE Fall Institute held in Great Falls on October 20-21. Even if you did not attend the Institute, there are a few questions that relate to those who were unable to attend the Fall Institute.

This survey will take approximately 10 minutes. Please take the time to complete this survey by accessed the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y6JKLT6>.

For your time in completing this survey, a drawing will be held and \$130 will be awarded to a member to apply towards membership. The survey must be **completed by December 2** at which time the survey will be closed. Survey winners will be announced and contacted in February.

The Executive Board will analyze the data from this survey at their January board meeting. Information gathered will assist

in the planning for the 2012 Montana ACTE Fall Institute to be held in Billings on October 18-19 at the Billings Crowne Plaza.

Thank you in advance for your time and for your commitment to Career and Technical education.

Sincerely,

Mark Branger  
Executive Director  
1477 Ash Street  
Worden, MT 59088  
406.967.2540 x360  
[www.montanaacte.org](http://www.montanaacte.org)

### **Wednesday Readers Available on the MBEA Website**

Past issues of the 2011-2012 school year's Wednesday Reader are now archived on the Montana Business Education Association's (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info).

The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

### **Video Contest! Calling All Montana Youth!**

Calling all students enrolled in Montana K-12 schools! Are you interested in gaining notoriety and possibly a cash award for your school? Look no further. The *Focus on Health* video competition has arrived!

The Montana Team Nutrition Program is looking for student-made videos that feature examples of healthy eating, active living, and an overall healthy school environment. We are calling on students enrolled in K-12 Montana schools to take part. Through this video contest, your school, organization, or club will have the opportunity to win a cash prize gain statewide recognition, and have your video featured at statewide events.

Videos can be about any school program that promotes student health and wellbeing through food and nutrition. These could include: improvements in the nutrition of foods available in school meals, healthy snack options (vending, concessions, student stores, etc.), Farm-to-School programs, increased opportunity for physical activity, expanded school breakfast programs and healthy school fundraising programs.

The video submission deadline is January 31, 2012.

For more information, official rules, and registration form, visit: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/FocusOnHealthVideoContest/>.

Questions can be directed to Aubree Durfey, Farm to School Assistant, Montana Team Nutrition at [aubreedurfey@gmail.com](mailto:aubreedurfey@gmail.com) or (406) 994-5640.

### **Get Money for Your Study—The 2012 WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship**

The Western Business Education Association (WBEA) takes pleasure in announcing the annual [WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship](#) for business and computer science educators.

The scholarship will be available for tuition and is offered and managed by the WBEA Executive Board through the WBEA Professional Development Committee. Funding for the scholarship will be through donations from individuals, companies, and other sources. The amount of the scholarship is \$500.00.

**Application Process:** Applicants must

1. Be a current member of an STP business education association and a member of WBEA/NBEA,
2. Be currently engaged in the business/computer education profession in the Western Region,
3. Register for and pass a credit class with a "C" or better, or
4. Register and complete a non-credit class, and

- Send proof of payment and grade sheet or unofficial transcript upon completion of the class to the Professional Development Director.

The [2012 WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship](#) can be downloaded from the [WBEA website \(www.wbea.info\)](#) or directly at <http://www.wbea.info/pdf/2012WBEAPISApplication.pdf>.

Completed applications must be submitted by January 1, 2012, to:

Eileen Wascisin, Director  
 WBEA Professional Development Committee  
 3815 Gala Loop  
 Bellingham, WA 98226-7845

### Locations, Colleges, and Dates for the Big Sky Pathways Initiative’s Next Steps Workshops

As everyone prepares to participate in the various Next Steps workshops for the Big Sky Pathways Initiative, a as reminder below are the locations, participating postsecondary partners, and dates for the upcoming workshops.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Participating Postsecondary Partners</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Helena, Holiday Inn	UM-Helena College of Technology	December 5 & 6
Fairmont Hot Springs	Montana Tech College of Technology & Gallatin College Programs	December 7 & 8

### What to Bring to the Next Steps Workshops

When preparing to attend your Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshop, please be sure to bring the following items:

- The completed and signed Invoice for reimbursement  
 Invoices have been/will be sent to school/districts clerks one-week prior to the workshop
- A printout of the Big Sky Pathway(s) developed year (if applicable)
- Updated course descriptions for all the CTE and Non-CTE courses in the Pathway(s)
- Course Outlines/Syllabi
- National/State/Curriculum Cooperative/District Standards
- School/District Graduation Requirements

### Next Steps Workshop Follow-Up—The Who, What, & When of Submitting Pathways-Related Materials for the 2011-2012 School Year

Last month the first three of the eight Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops were held in Great Falls, Havre, and Kalispell. Attendees began Gap Analysis process by comparing the coursework of their Pathway courses with the Cluster- and Pathway-level Knowledge and Skills Statements from the National Career Clusters ([www.careertech.org](http://www.careertech.org)).

The Gap Analysis is being completed by both the faculty of both the secondary and postsecondary Pathway partners. The Gap Analysis seeks to provide documentation the various knowledge and skills of a pathway are being covered within the Pathway’s coursework at either the secondary or postsecondary level, and in some cases both.

As Pathway partners complete their Gap Analysis the following timeline outlines this year’s submittal process.

Friday, December 2, 2011	Postsecondary Faculty submit Gap Analysis information to OPI Specialists
Friday, February 3, 2012	High Schools submit to Postsecondary Partner with High School CTE Teacher, Counselor, & Principal Review signature
Friday, March 2, 2012	Postsecondary Partner submits to OPI Specialist with College Lead Faculty and Chief Academic Officer Review Signatures
Friday, April 6, 2012	OPI Specialist submits to OCHE for review and approval
Friday, May 4, 2012	Agreement form returned to Secondary and Postsecondary schools with OCHE Deputy Commissioner Review and Approval

The Approval for this year has been modified/updated from the form used last year so be sure to use the new form (dated October 2011). When submitting for approval this year, please include the following materials/documents:

- Completed Pathway Template if developing a new Pathway or revising/updating your approved Pathway from last year (if not developing a new or revising/updating last year's Pathway, then you will just need to submit last year's Pathway as is)
- Completed Gap Analysis
- [2012-2013 Completed Agreement Form](#)

The [Request for Big Sky Pathway Approval form](#) to be submitted can be downloaded from the Big Sky Pathways page of the CTE section of the OPI website: [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_3](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_3).

### [Links to the Big Sky Pathways Gap Analysis Templates & Pathway Proposal Templates](#)

During the Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops attendees are provided with hard copies of the pathway-specific Gap Analysis templates and copies of the new Big Sky Pathway Proposal Template.

Both of these items are also available in electronic format and can be downloaded for completion and submission.

The Gap Analysis worksheets can be found on OCHE's Workforce Development page at <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BSPGap.asp>. The worksheets are grouped by Career Cluster so please be sure to download the worksheet for your Pathway's program of study.

Should wish to submit a new Pathway, or revise one created last year, the Big Sky Pathway Proposal Templates can be found on the [Big Sky Pathways page](#) of the Secondary CTE section on the OPI website at [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7Gpc1\\_3](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7Gpc1_3).

If you are not sure which Gap Analysis worksheet(s) and/or Big Sky Pathway Proposal Template(s) to use, just give me a holler.

### [Information on Montana's Statewide Articulations](#)

Information about the [Statewide Articulation \(START\) agreements](#) and end-of-course assessments can be found on Workforce Development page of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) website at <http://mus.edu/wd/START.asp>.

Here you find the details about the various [Statewide Articulations \(START\)](#) discussed during the Big Sky Pathways meetings this fall as well as the form to register with OCHE as an instructor wanting to provide students with the opportunity to gain the START college credits.

Each START agreement provides details pertaining to the course outcomes, assessment procedures, assessment registration information (if applicable), and the awarded of earned credit(s).

Within Business and Marketing Education there are eight (8) START agreements—

- ACTG 101 Accounting Procedures I
- CAPP 120 Introduction to Computers
- CAPP 154 Microsoft Word
- CAPP 156 Microsoft Excel
- ITS 140 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Discovery 1
- ITS 142 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Discovery 2
- ITS 150 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Exploration 1
- ITS 140 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Exploration 2

Students who complete the coursework at the high school level can take the assessment identified within each START

agreement and be eligible to gain college credit from a participating postsecondary institution should the pass the assessment.

In order to receive the credit(s), students must complete one academic term at a postsecondary institution where the course is offered. After students successfully complete the academic term, the earned START credit(s) will then be awarded and the grade of "Pass" will appear on the transcript.

Please note: If a student enrolls with a postsecondary institution where the course is not offered then the credit(s) cannot be awarded. For example, if a student passes the ACTG 101 Accounting Procedures I assessment and enrolls with MSU-Bozeman, the START credits cannot be awarded as ACTG 101 Accounting Procedure I is not a course offered by MSU-Bozeman.

Participation in the Statewide Articulation process is at the discretion of local school district and/or classroom teacher and is not a requirement for Perkins and/or State Career and Vocational/Technical funding nor required for Big Sky Pathway approval.

### **Where to Find the Postsecondary College Programs**

As you work on your Gap Analysis and review your pathways and/or seek to develop a new pathway this year, below are the links to programs of study/course listings for the various participating colleges.

<b>College</b>	<b>Big Sky Pathway Degree Program(s)</b>
<a href="#">Dawson Community College</a>	<a href="#">AAS Business Management</a>
<a href="#">Flathead Community College</a>	<a href="#">AAS Accounting Technology</a> <a href="#">AAS Administrative Assistant</a> <a href="#">AAS Business Administration</a> <a href="#">AAS Information Technology</a> <a href="#">AAS Information Technology-Web Technology</a> <a href="#">AAS Small Business Management</a> <a href="#">CAS Accounting Technology</a> <a href="#">CAS Administrative Assistant</a> <a href="#">CAS Business Administration</a> <a href="#">CAS Entrepreneurship</a> <a href="#">CAS Marketing/Sales Specialist</a> <a href="#">CAS Payroll Accounting</a> <a href="#">Customer Service Certificate</a>
<a href="#">Fort Peck Community College</a>	<a href="#">AAS Computer Technology</a>
<a href="#">Gallatin College Programs</a>	<a href="#">CAS Bookkeeping</a>
<a href="#">Miles Community College</a>	<a href="#">AAS Business Management, Insurance option</a> <a href="#">AAS Information Technology, Graphic &amp; Web Design option</a> <a href="#">AAS Office Administration and Technology</a> <a href="#">AAS Small Business Management</a> <a href="#">Accounting Certificate</a> <a href="#">Customer Relations Certificate</a> <a href="#">Entrepreneurship Certificate</a> <a href="#">Fundamentals of Business Certificate</a> <a href="#">Sales and Marketing Certificate</a>
<a href="#">MSU-Billings College of Technology</a>	<a href="#">AAS &amp; CAS Accounting Technology</a>

[AAS Administrative Assistant/CAS Office Assistant](#)  
[AS Business Administration](#)  
[CAS Human Resource Management](#)  
[AAS Computer Programming & Application Development](#)  
[AAS Computer Desktop/Network Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Systems Technology](#)  
[CAS Networking Technology](#)

[MSU-Great Falls College of Technology](#)

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Business Administration-Entrepreneurship option](#)  
[AAS Business Administration-Management option](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Microcomputer Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Network Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Web Design](#)  
[CAS Computer Assistant](#)

[Montana State University-Northern](#)

[AS Business Technology](#)

[Montana Tech College of Technology](#)

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Accounting Technology, Health Service option](#)  
[AAS Accounting Technology, Human Resource option](#)  
[AAS Business Technology, Medical Office Specialist option](#)  
[AAS Business Technology, Administrative Computer Specialist option](#)  
[AAS Network Technology](#)

[UM-Missoula College of Technology](#)

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Administrative Management](#)  
[AAS Management, Entrepreneurship option](#)  
[AAS Management, Sales and Marketing option](#)  
[Management, Sales and Marketing Certificate](#)  
[AAS Information Technology, Information Systems Management option](#)  
[AAS Information Technology, Network Management option](#)  
[CAS Computer Support](#)

**[Career Clusters: The New Website/URL](#)**

Over the summer, the Career Clusters Website was incorporated into the site for the National Association for State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEC) and the new URL is [www.careertech.org](http://www.careertech.org).

Information about Career Clusters can be found under the Career Cluster button. The [Career Cluster page](http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/) (<http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/>) offers direct access to a wide-range of Career Cluster-related resources including the Knowledge and Skills Charts and Statements.

Within the realm of Business and Marketing Education, our Clusters and Pathways fall under the [Business Management & Administration](#), [Finance](#), [Information Technology](#), and [Marketing](#) cluster.

Please be sure to Bookmark/Favorites this site as it will come in handy while completing the Gap Analysis associated with the Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops this fall.

**[NBEA Annual Convention First-Time Attendee Stipend](#)**

If you are a professional member of the National Business Education Association ([www.nbea.org](http://www.nbea.org)) and have never attended the annual national convention, you are eligible for a professional development stipend.

The \$200 stipends will be presented at the NBEA awards luncheon on Friday, April 6, 2012, in Boston, Massachusetts. Recipients must attend the luncheon, where they will receive the stipend from NBEA President John Olivo on behalf of the regional or corporate sponsor.

Recipients will be notified by February 6, 2012.

If you would like to apply for a Professional Development Partnership Program stipend, please complete the [application form](http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ConventionStipendApplicationForm.pdf) (<http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ConventionStipendApplicationForm.pdf>) sign, and fax to (703) 620- 4483 or return to:

NBEA PDP Program  
1914 Association Drive  
Reston, VA 20191-1596

Applications must be received at NBEA headquarters by **January 3, 2012**. No application will be accepted after the deadline.

For details about the 2012 NBEA Annual Convention please visit <http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html>.

### **National Business Education Association Offers Two (2) \$1000.00 Scholarships**

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded this year to individuals pursuing continuing education or graduate study in business education.

The scholarships will recognize and support educators who have given evidence of leadership and scholarship potential in the field of business education. The NBEA Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to outstanding individuals for the purpose of continuing their study and professional development in business education.

To be eligible for an NBEA scholarship, an applicant must

- Be enrolled in a college or university post-baccalaureate or graduate-level program and submit proof of enrollment.
- Be enrolled in a business education program and/or other related areas in business.
- Submit proof of completion of at least two graduate courses (six semester hours).
- Submit a one-page letter describing (a) past contributions to the field of business education, (b) plans to utilize the degree in the future, (c) two or three significant issues in business education, and (d) why the applicant should be the recipient of the award.
- Submit a current resume.
- Submit two letters of recommendation attesting to the scholarship/leadership potential of the applicant.
- Be currently teaching and plan to continue to teach in the field of business education.
- Be a current professional member of NBEA at the time of application (a minimum of one full year of NBEA membership is required).

The [NBEA Scholarship Application](http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ScholarshipApplication.pdf) can be downloaded from the NBEA Website ([www.nbea.org](http://www.nbea.org)) or directly from the following link: <http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ScholarshipApplication.pdf>.

Additional copies of the application form are available from NABTE institutions or from NBEA headquarters.

Application forms should be completed and sent to the NBEA office, postmarked no later than **December 1, 2011**.

An anonymous selection committee, made up of representatives from each of NBEA's five regions, will evaluate the applications and identify the winners.

Scholarship winners will be announced during the NBEA awards luncheon on Friday, April 6, at the NBEA 2012 Annual Convention in Boston, Massachusetts

### **On This Day in History . . .**

**November 30**

1835: Samuel Clemens, later known as Mark Twain, is born in Florida, Missouri

1974: *Elton John's Greatest Hits* began a 10-week run atop the *Billboard 200* pop album chart on its way to selling more than 24 million copies worldwide

#### December 1

1913: Henry Ford installs the first moving assembly line for the mass production of an entire automobile and reduced the time it took to build a car from more than 12 hours to two hours and 30 minutes

1973: The Carpenters went to No.1 on the US singles chart with *Top Of The World*

1982: Michael Jackson's *Thriller* album is released

1990: 132 feet below the English Channel, workers drill an opening the size of a car through a wall of rock to connect the two ends of the Channel Tunnel, or Chunnel, and Great Britain with the European mainland for the first time in more than 8,000 years

#### December 2

1804: In Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Napoleon Bonaparte is crowned Napoleon I, the first Frenchman to hold the title of emperor in a thousand years

1823: President James Monroe proclaims a new U.S. foreign policy initiative that becomes known as the *Monroe Doctrine* which forbade European interference in the American hemisphere but also asserted U.S. neutrality in regard to future European conflicts

1983: MTV aired the full 14-minute version of Michael Jackson's *Thriller* video for the first time

1997: *Good Will Hunting*, a movie that will earn childhood friends Ben Affleck and Matt Damon a Best Screenplay Oscar and propel them to Hollywood stardom, premieres in Los Angeles

#### December 3

1818: Illinois becomes the 21st state

1948: John Michael "Ozzy" Osbourne is born in Birmingham, England

1979: the last Pacer rolls off the assembly line at the American Motors Corporation (AMC) factory in Kenosha, Wisconsin

#### December 4

1945: U.S. Senate approves full U.S. participation in the United Nations

1965: The Byrds started a three week run at No.1 on the US singles chart with *Turn! Turn! Turn!*

1992: President George H. Bush orders 28,000 U.S. troops to Somalia, a war-torn East African nation where rival warlords were preventing the distribution of humanitarian aid to thousands of starving Somalis

#### December 5

1839: Union General George Armstrong Custer is born in Harrison County, Ohio

1933: The 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, repealing the 18th Amendment and bringing an end to the era of national prohibition of alcohol in America

1984: Released in theaters on this day, Eddie Murphy stars as the wisecracking Detective Axel Foley in *Beverly Hills Cop*

1987: Belinda Carlisle went to No.1 on the US singles chart with *Heaven Is a Place on Earth*

#### December 6

1865: The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, officially ending the institution of slavery, is ratified

1884: Workers place a nine-inch aluminum pyramid atop a tower of white marble, completing the construction of the Washington Monument, an impressive monument to the city's namesake and the nation's first president, George Washington

1969: Led Zeppelin made their debut on the US singles chart with *Whole Lotta Love*

### **Membership Must Be Completed In Order for Students to Compete at Regionals**

In order for students to compete at the regional level, they must be registered members of Business Professionals of America at the national and state levels. ***Students who compete at the regional level without being registered members will not be recognized as members of the Montana association and will not be able to advance to the state leadership conference.*** The deadline for completing BPA membership registration was Tuesday, November 1.

If your chapter has not yet registered, please do so as quickly as possible to be sure to receive any and all BPA communications, emails, and mailings.

To access the online membership registration system please go to <http://www.registermychapter.com/bpamem/> and enter your username and password.

Membership dues for this year are \$12.00 per member/advisor for National-level dues and \$8.00 for State-level dues.

If you do not remember your username and/or password or if you are taking over as a chapter advisor please let me know and I will email you the information.

### **Montana BPA Regional Leadership Conferences Begin Next Week!**

Montana BPA's regional leadership conferences start next week with Region 7 kicking things off December 5 in Baker.

Below are the dates and locations for the eight regional leadership conference. If you have any questions, please contact your region's coordinator.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Region 1	January 9 2012	Kalispell	Ron Hanson, Ronan	<a href="mailto:ron.hanson@ronank12.edu">ron.hanson@ronank12.edu</a>
Region 2	January 9 2012	Missoula	Jamie Toivonen, Superior	<a href="mailto:jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us">jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 3	January 16 2012	Great Falls	Carolyn Stone, Moore	<a href="mailto:cstone@moore.k12.mt.us">cstone@moore.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 4	December 19, 2011	Helena	Kerri Cobb, Bozeman	<a href="mailto:kerri.cobb@bsd7.org">kerri.cobb@bsd7.org</a>
Region 5	January 9 2012	Livingston	Region Wood, Park	<a href="mailto:rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us">rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 6	December 19-20, 2011	Billings	Natalie Schaff, Roundup	<a href="mailto:rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us">rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 7	December 5, 2011	Baker	Julie O'Dell, Hardin	<a href="mailto:julie.odell@hardin.k12.mt.us">julie.odell@hardin.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 8	January 18, 2012	Sidney	Bertha Kirschten, Circle	<a href="mailto:bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us">bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us</a>

Remember, all students and advisors must be registered BPA members in order to compete at the regional, state, and national levels. Any non-registered student(s) will be disqualified and will not be able to compete at the state leadership conference.

The [2012 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference](#) will be March 11-13, 2012 in Billings.

### **Tomorrow is the Deadline for Montana BPA T-Shirt Design Contest Entries**

The [T-Shirt Design Contest](#) seeks Montana BPA members to create a graphic design to promote the Montana association of Business Professionals of America and the 2012 State Leadership Conference.

The winning design will be used as the official Montana BPA State Leadership Conference t-shirt to will be worn by members, advisors, and guest during state leadership conference activities as well as during the 2012 National Leadership Conference and other events and locations outside of BPA. The winning t-shirt design will essentially become a part of Montana BPA history.

All entries must meet the following guidelines:

#### **1. Theme**

The Montana BPA state officer team chose the theme "Unmask Your Future" for the 2012 Montana Business Professionals Association State Leadership Conference. Entries should express the theme and may also include ideals associated with BPA

#### **2. Specifications**

All entries must adhere to the following guidelines

- Shirt Color: Identify the color of shirt to be used, all shirts will be one (1) solid color
- Screen Colors: Only three (3) print screen colors may be used
- Printing: Printing will only be on the front of the shirt, no artwork will appear on a sleeve or backside
- Slogan: Must include either the words "Business Professionals of America" or the "BPA" acronym

- Option: Design may include the year, 2012, but is not required
- Submittal: Only one entry per student allowed, entry will be submitted electronically as a PDF document

Entries in for the [T-Shirt Design contest](#) are judged on the basis of originality, appearance and neatness, appropriateness for the conference theme, and promotional value. The Montana BPA State Officer Team will select the winning design.

All [T-Shirt Design Contest entries](#) must be E-mailed on or before December 1, 2011. [T-Shirt Design Contest entries](#) should be E-mailed to Staci Auck, State Officer Coordinator, [staci.auck@hobson.k12.mt.us](mailto:staci.auck@hobson.k12.mt.us).

### **Entries Must Be Received Tomorrow for the Montana BPA SLC Cover Design Contest**

The [State Leadership Conference Program Cover Design Contest](#) is a great way, and location, for Montana BPA's designers to showcase their talents and creative competitive spirits. The winning graphic design will be used on the conference program and promotional materials.

All entries must meet the following guidelines:

#### **1. Theme**

The Montana BPA state officer team chose the theme "Unmask Your Future" for the 2012 Montana Business Professionals Association State Leadership Conference. Entries should express the theme and may also include ideals associated with BPA.

#### **2. Content**

All entries should include the following information. Other information may be included if desired.

- Conference Name: "2012 Montana Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference"
- Conference Theme: "Unmask Your Future"
- Conference Dates: March 11-13, 2012
- Conference Location: Billings, Montana

#### **3. Format**

The design must fit vertically on a 5½x8½ sheet of paper exactly as it would appear on the final product. Full color designs are allowed and encouraged. The design will need to be submitted in PDF format via E-mail.

Entries in the [Program Cover Design Contest](#) are judged on the basis of originality, appearance and neatness, appropriateness for the conference theme, and promotional value. The Montana BPA State Officer Team will select the winning design.

The winner of the [Program Cover Design Contest](#) will receive \$25.00 and be recognized in the state leadership conference program.

All [Program Cover Design Contest](#) entries must be E-mailed on or before December 1, 2011. [Program Cover Design Contest](#) entries should be E-mailed to Staci Auck, State Officer Coordinator, [staci.auck@hobson.k12.mt.us](mailto:staci.auck@hobson.k12.mt.us).

### **BPA Announces the NLC 2012 Walk for Special Olympics Pin Design Contest**

Business Professionals of America announces the National Leadership Conference 2012 "Walk for Special Olympics"

#### **Description:**

Develop a logo design that will be utilized as a pin design as a giveaway for the Special Olympics Walk. You may not use any words, diagrams, clipart and/or artwork that are not public domain. Copyrighted materials other than the Business Professionals of America logo, name, and tagline, may not be used—even with written permission.

#### **Eligibility:**

Any registered BPA student member may participate in this contest>

#### **Submission:**

Electronic entry submission via: [www.bpa.org/submit](http://www.bpa.org/submit).

**Deadline:**

February 1, 2012, 11:59 PM EST.

**Specifications:**

- Contestant may select any theme that promotes the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference: Walk for Special Olympics in Chicago, IL on Saturday, April 28, 2012.
- The name of the walk is "Walk for Special Olympics"
- Dimensions of the logo must not exceed 4" x 4"
- Submissions must be vector graphics or at least 200 dpi
- Submissions must be 30 MB or less in size
- Confirmation of receipt will be provided when information is submitted
- All written materials must follow the organization's Graphic Standards and make proper use of the BPA logo and/or organization's name. (Refer to the Graphic Standards in the Style & Reference Manual)
- Contestants name may not appear anywhere on logo
- No registered trademarks or names may be used. It is the policy of Business Professionals of America to comply with state and federal copyright laws. The contestant will be DISQUALIFIED for copyright violations

The winning pin design will be selected by the National Officer Team and will be used at the 2012 National Leadership Conference.

**Grow Your DECA Chapter & Earn Recognition Deadline is Tomorrow**

Montana DECA advisors and members keep growing your chapter's membership and earn rewards!

Visit <http://www.deca.org/events/membershipcampaign> to learn what your chapter can earn.

The deadline is **December 1, 2011**.

**Spread the DECA Word With a New Public Service Announcement**

Direct from the National office, DECA is pleased to share a new audio and video public service announcement that your chapter can use in your community.

Many news outlets, such as radio stations, local television affiliates and local public access channels, provide opportunities for non-profit organizations to run public service announcements free of charge. In addition, you may wish to use these within your social media tools or broadcast them within your school's closed-circuit channel.

Both a video and a radio spot are available. Download them at <http://www.deca.org/page/psa>.

**DECA Images ICDC T-Shirt Design Contest**

DECA Images is launching their second annual DECA ICDC T-Shirt Design Contest.

Visit <http://www.deca.org/shop> for more details.

**One Week Left for the Montana DECA Program Cover Design Contest**

Entries for the Montana DECA State Career Development Conference Program Cover Design Contest are due next month.

Make sure to submit your students' cover designs by **Friday, December 9** to [erinweisgerber@yahoo.com](mailto:erinweisgerber@yahoo.com).

The theme is Las Vegas and the winner will receive \$50.

**DECA Conference Registration**

If you are planning on attending any of the conferences across the country this fall (WRLC, DECA Innovations & Entrepreneurship Conference, New York Experience, etc.), please make sure to check the DECA website now....conference registration deadlines are rapidly approaching!! Remember all students must be registered with DECA, Inc. prior to

registering for any conference.

You can register your members now by visiting [www.deca.org/membership](http://www.deca.org/membership)

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Business Education Specialist

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