

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's Media Centers Newsletter

Jan.Feb.and March

Literacy Matters

What's Happening!

* A British Tea

Inside this issue:

British Tea	1
ACT Grants	2
Hydroponics	3
Food Fibs and Facts	4
Quiz Bowl	5
Black History Program	5
Senior Interview/Black History Program Cont.	7

A British Tea

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's English III Honors Class participated in A British Tea that was held in the Media Center. Mrs. Tracey Brinkley is the teacher of the class. The young ladies of the English III class attended the workshop and the young men attended a Young Men's etiquette class with Mr. Vernon Bryant a former NFL Player for The Saint Louis Rams, who is currently a Cities and Schools Director at Northwest, Mr. Bryant invited former NFL Player, Mr. Willie Gillus, who played with the Green Bay Packers to speak with the young men on social etiquette. Mr. Gillus is currently the area director for Cities and Schools in Halifax County.

Ms. Valerie Williams, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha volunteered her time and resources to assist North-

west in learning about having A British Tea and social etiquette. Mrs. Williams the social graces of having a tea.

Mrs. Magnolia Clanton, a member of The Lake Gaston Links of the Lake Gaston Area Chapter Volunteered to assist in sharing information on What is A British Tea. Ms. Clanton shared the history of tea with the students.

Mrs. Edna Williams, a member of The Lake Gaston Links volunteered in assisting in the discussion of "What is A British Tea?" Mrs. Williams also volunteered to donate resources.

The Lake Gaston Links and The Taste Creations Bakery in Rocky Mount, NC donated desserts. Reser's Fine Foods donated food.



English Honors students learn how to have a British Tea.

ACT Preparation

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy will be preparing for the ACT test. Our Junior students will take the ACT on February 25, 2020.

Our College Counselor Ms. Phillips did ACT strategy skills practice and the administration has been letting the Juniors work on Math, English or Science on the ACT on-line website.

Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman wrote a grant to acquire The Official ACT Prep Pack 2019–2020 by Wiley publishing. The books were recommended from a Test Preparation company out of Durham, NC.

The Junior Math and English teachers worked with the Junior Class that received the books. Halifax Electric donated the money to obtain the books.

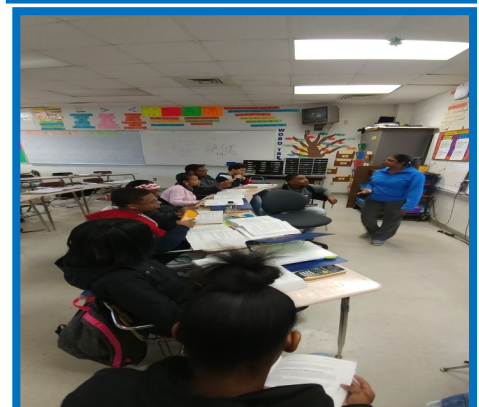
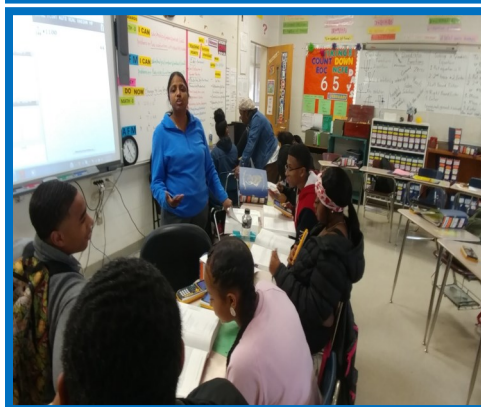
ACT Work Keys was also needed ACT Test Preparation guides. The Juniors in Ms. Whites Math ACT Workkeys class received ACT Workkeys Test Preparation Guides. The books will assist the students in understanding the testing strategies and needed background knowledge to excel on the test. The students also use online fun

resources. The Halifax Education Foundation donated money for ACT Test Preparation.

Mrs. Sura worked with Math Practice Test Questions on Mondays, Wednesdays, and every other Friday for the last 30 minutes in her Math Class.

Mrs. Brinkley's Junior English Class completed Reading Comprehension Skills practice tests.

**ACT Preparation
is needed to
acquire higher
scores!**



Hydroponics

Hydroponics is the process of growing plants in water. On January 22, at 10:00 AM through 11:00 AM, Mr. Auka's Biology Class planted hydroponic basil. The hydroponic kits were donated by A&T State University.

The Lake Gaston Links and Northwest's NSBE Jr students came out to assist the Biology class with their hydroponic kits. Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman shared the step by step process of planting the basil in the water, clay pebbles and a hydroponic sponge.

The students reviewed the germina-

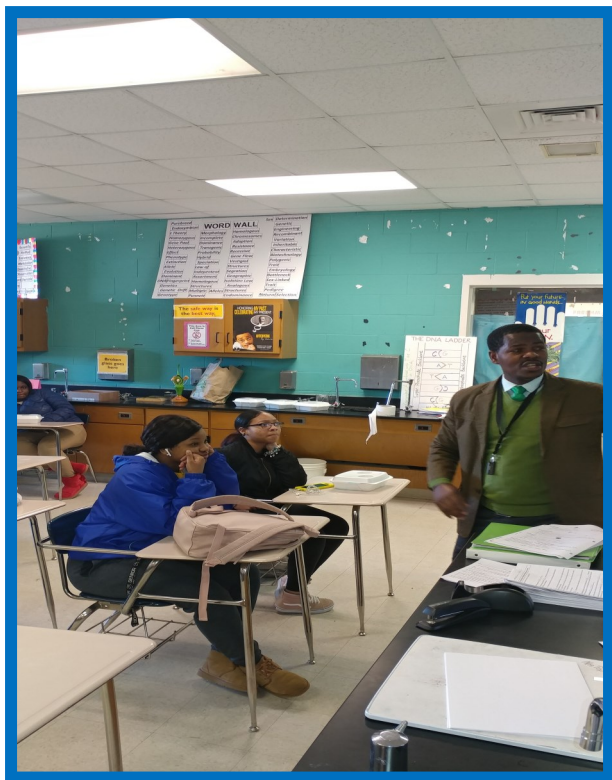
tion process of a basil plant.

The plants are now growing in Mr. Ford's Horticulture class's Greenhouse.

The Lake Gaston Links Inc. also gave a hydroponic workshop on March 4, 2020 at 4:00 PM through 5:00 PM at The Roanoke Rapids Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Edmonds, a Halifax County Agricultural Extension Agent assisted the Links in teaching how to grow a hydroponic parsley.



The Science Department collaborates with The Lake Gaston Links in growing hydroponic basil.



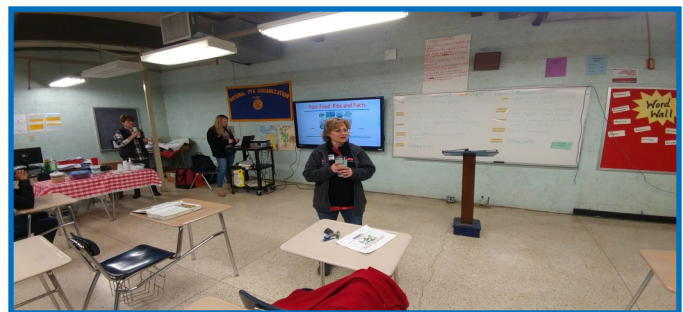
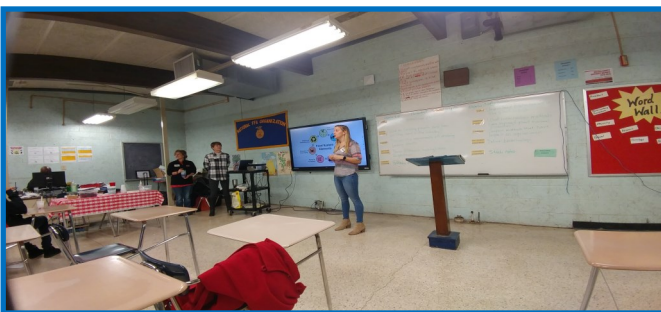
Mr. Auka's class reviews the stages of germination after planting hydroponic basil.



Mr. Edmonds explains the process of growing hydroponic parsley.

Your Food: Fibs and Facts

The NC Cooperative Extension Agents: Beth Burchell, a specialist in Livestock, EB Odom, a FCS specialist and Victoria Neff, a Horticulture specialist, visited Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's Horticulture class on February 14, 2020 at 8:00 AM through 9:40 AM. The agents discussed the topic What Do All These Label Claims Really Mean? How the animal was raised? What the animal ate? How the animal was processed? They dispensed myths on some food labels. For example Pig and chickens are not legally allowed to receive hormones according to federal law so if they claim is used on pork and poultry packaging it must also contain the disclaimer "Federal regulation prohibit the use of hormones in poultry and pork." Routine use of FDA approved antibiotics are frequently used to prevent illness and promote growth and are commonly administered in larger commercial production systems. When antibiotics are given, federal regulation requires a withdrawal period before slaughter so that the drugs can fully leave their system before entering the food supply chain. The truth is that a consumer should know that many claims may be used without a third-party verification. They also discussed 14 Ways consumers can reduce food waste., one way to stop food waste is to freeze food that you do not eat. Some people can freeze food that they will not eat until later. It was mentioned to keep your refrigerator at 40 degrees farhrehheit or below. The agents treated the students to a Valentine's treat of blueberries, strawberries, yogurt and oats. The students appreciated the healthy food.



The NC Cooperative Extension Agents: Beth Burchell, a specialist in Livestock, EB Odom, a FCS specialist and Victoria Neff, a Horticulture specialist, visited Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's Horticulture class .

The Eastern Regional African American History STEM Quiz Bowl

The Eastern Regional African American History (STEM) Quiz Bowl took place on February 26, 2020, 9:00 AM through 10:30 AM in Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy's auditorium. The schools who attended were Weldon STEM High School Career Academies, Southeast Collegiate Prep Academy, and Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy. Each team began studying in January of 2020, they discovered African American First in Science and Technology and they also learned about the first African American doctors in Halifax County and other STEM leaders in the community. This year there was an emphasis in STEM because Northwest National Society of Black Engineers Junior Club (NSBEJR) suggested that our students should learn more about African American leaders in the STEM fields. The majority of the students at Northwest and Southeast are African Americans. Northwest came in first place and Southeast came in second place. Weldon observed the Quiz Bowl and will compete in 2021.



Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy, and Southeast Collegiate Prep Academy took a picture together. Both schools competed and discovered new facts about African American First in Science and Technology. Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman was their coach. Mrs. Jennifer Friend also assisted Southeast High.

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy produces a Black History Program at Lakeland Theater

Northwest Collegiate and Technical Academy produced a Black History program that was produced at Lakeland Theater in Littleton, NC. Mr. Gilbert Avent's Theater Arts Class worked with Mr. John Duvall, a Director at Lakeland Theater.

The Theater Arts students learned lighting, stage production, and acting techniques. They traveled to work and study theater production and acting on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Lakeland Theater.

Mrs. Ruffin-Pittman assisted Mr. Avent in procuring script for the student's production. She also portrayed Billie Holiday in the program.

Dr. Lavonne McClain, a Halifax County administrator and other administrators assisted in helping the students obtain buses and a bus driver to travel to Lakeland Theater.

Ms. India Johnson directed African Dance. Mrs. Kenya Clemonts was the narrator of the program.

Jayden Vinson was awarded \$300.00 for the best performance to continue studying theater at Lakeland. He portrayed Colin Kaepernick, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Joseph Asagai from an excerpt of Raisin in the Sun.

All of the students were brave and did a good job in portraying various African American Leaders in America.

Photos were taken by Mr. Gilbert Avent, the Theater Arts teacher.

The theater scholars portrayed the following: Moms Mabley, Harriett Tubman, Michelle Obama, Colin Kaepernick, Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, Tupac Shakur, Cynthia Brooks, excerpts from A Raisin in the Sun, Billie Holiday, African Dance, African Modeling and a gospel song, "Close to You," sang by Mrs. Angela Sessoms and Mr. Willie Moore. Mr. Willie Moore also played musical interludes. Samuel Kearney was the assistant stage director and musician. Mr. Avent played saxophone solos.

More photos of the program are continued on page 9.



Black History Program Continued
Photos taken by Mr. Gilbert Avent



Senior Interviews

Senior Interviews for second semester were held today in the Media Center on March 11, 2020 from 9:00 AM through 11:00 AM. Mrs. Tracy Brinkley, Senior Advisor assisted in preparing the Seniors for their interviews. The Roanoke Rapids Chamber of Commerce also helped with the interviews. Ms. Susan Simmons and Ms. Jan Morgan from the Chamber of Commerce interviewed the students.



Students practice a mock job interview.



Black History Program continued

