

WELCOME TO THE FIELD

Season Start Recap

THE FALL OF 2018 HAS BEEN FULL OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH FOR OUR BELOVED TEC TIGERS. IN ADDITION TO THE OYSTER RECOVERY AND THE GIRL POWERED WORKSHOP THE TEAM HAS VOLUNTEERED TO MAKE TWO DIFFERENT STEAM NIGHTS (ONE FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ONE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL LEARNERS) AT WIGOMICO DAY SCHOOL A RESOUNDING SUCCESS. ADDITIONALLY, THE TEC TIGERS ENJOYED MEETING AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO THE NEW SOMERSET FTC TEAM 13766 WHERE WE SHARED OUR EXPERIENCES, ANSWERED THEIR QUESTIONS, AND GAVE THEM ENCOURAGEMENT AS THEY ENTER THE EXCITING WORLD OF ROBOTICS. GOOD LUCK TEAM 13766.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2ND- SPAGHETTI
BRUNCH FUNDRAISER

DECEMBER 8TH-FTC SOUTHERN
MARYLAND COMPETITION

DECEMBER 15TH-WIGOMICO COUNTY
ROBOTICS WINTER VEX
TOURNAMENT

JANUARY 5TH- FRC KICK OFF

JANUARY 12TH- FTC ANNAPOLIS
QUALIFIER



Community Service

THIS SEPTEMBER TEC TIGERS WERE PROUD TO SUPPORT CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION EFFORTS BY WORKING WITH THE GREAT PEOPLE OF THE OYSTER RECOVERY PARTNERSHIP AND PURDUE CHICKEN. TO HELP BOLSTER THE OYSTER POPULATION OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY, WE BAGGED TWO LARGE DUMP TRUCKS FULL OF SHELLS. THAT EQUATES TO AN ESTIMATED 700 BAGS, AND AT AROUND 400 SHELLS A BAG THAT COMES OUT TO >280,000 SHELLS BEING PLACED INTO THE BAY. EACH SHELL CAN PRODUCE TEN OYSTERS, AND EACH INDIVIDUAL OYSTER CAN FILTER 50 GALLONS OF WATER IN A DAY.

THE VISION OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO HAVE A SELF-SUSTAINING OYSTER POPULATION FOR ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC PURPOSES THAT IS CHARACTERIZED BY A WELL-MANAGED AND GROWING COMMERCIAL FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY IN THE CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL BAYS AND BEYOND. SHELLFISH ARE CRITICAL TO REVERSING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY'S POOR WATER QUALITY AND DECLINING HABITATS. GIVEN OYSTERS' CRITICAL ECOLOGIC ROLE AND KEYSTONE STATUS IN THE BAY, OYSTER RESTORATION AND AQUACULTURE ARE TWO OF ONLY A FEW STRATEGIES THAT PROVIDE RESTORATIVE BENEFITS TO THE BAY WHILE ALSO PROVIDING GREEN JOBS.

THIS EVENT RECEIVED GREAT COVERAGE BY THE LOCAL MEDIA INCLUDING WMDT-ABC AND WBDC-FOX AND THE TEAM WAS ALSO FEATURED IN A PROMO FOR THAT WEEK'S EPISODE OF OUTDOORS DELMARVA.



SOME OF THE LADIES OF THE TEC TIGERS SPENT A WONDERFUL DAY THIS OCTOBER HOSTING A GIRL POWERED WORKSHOP. MANY THANKS TO NASA AND THE NAVY/LOCKHEED MARTIN FOR HAVING REPRESENTATIVES AT THIS EVENT. THANKS TO OUR TEAM VOLUNTEERS FOR TEACHING THESE YOUNGER LADIES ABOUT THE EXCITING, AND CHALLENGING, WORLD OF ROBOTICS. INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEM INNOVATORS IS PART OF THE MISSION OF THE TEC TIGERS AND IT IS ONE THAT IS NEAR, AND DEAR, TO ALL OUR HEARTS.



First LEGO League

On November 10th the club volunteered at the Salisbury Middle School First Lego League Scrimmage. The team assisted in setting up fields, running the computers, scorekeeping, and coordinating participating teams during this friendly competition. Many of our Club members got their first start in robotics by participating in First Lego League and have continued their efforts in the program throughout high school. FIRST LEGO League teams research a real-world problem such as food safety, recycling, energy, etc., and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build, program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technology, then compete on a table-top playing field. It all adds up to tons of fun while they learn to apply science, technology, engineering, and math concepts (STEM), plus a big dose of imagination, to solve a problem.



Senior Spotlight

ALANA REYES IS A JUNIOR AT JAMES M. BENNETT HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HER INTERESTS INCLUDE CODING AND COMPUTERS. AN HONORS STUDENT, SHE PARTICIPATES IN THE PROJECT LEAD THE WAY ENGINEERING PROGRAM AND IS A ROBOTICS TRAILBLAZER ADEPT AT PROGRAMMING AND ROBOTICS. SHE HAS PARTICIPATED IN VEX, FTC, AND FRC. SHE IS AN EXPERIENCED LEADER ON THE TEAM AND HAS BEEN A CAPTAIN AND CO-CAPTAIN WHERE SHE IS ADEPT AT STRATEGIZING AND RESPONDING WELL UNDER PRESSURE. ALANA HAS COMPLETED OVER 100 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE TEAM AND PLANS TO ATTEND COLLEGE FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE.

ALANA HAS WORKED HARD TO BUILD THE TEC TIGERS INTO WHO THEY ARE TODAY. JOINING IN THE 2015 - 2016 SEASON AS A FRESHMAN, ALANA WAS ABLE TO EXPERIENCE THE FIRST YEAR OF BOTH VEX AND FTC. THOUGH THERE WERE SEVERAL SET BACKS IN THE BEGINNING, SHE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TEAM WORKED HARD TO BUILD THE PROGRAMS, LEADING THEM TO WIN FUTURE AWARDS AND TRAVEL ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

SHE HAS DEDICATED MUCH OF HER FREE TIME TO THE TEAM AS SHE ATTENDS ALMOST EVERY MEETING WITH HER FATHER WHO ASSISTS THE TEAM AS A MENTOR. SHE HAS BEEN ABLE TO OVERCOME MANY OBSTACLES AS SHE LEARNS NEW WAYS TO TACKLE GOALS AND SETBACKS. SHE HAS DEVELOPED MANY NEW SKILLS OVER THE YEARS AND PLANS TO PUT THEM TO USE IN HER FUTURE COLLEGE CAREER.

Battle of Baltimore

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRC TEAM 3389 WHO FINISHED AN IMPRESSIVE 2ND AT THE 12TH ANNUAL BATTLE O' BALTIMORE. WE OVERCAME SEVERAL CHALLENGED AND PARTNERED WELL WITH OUR ALLIANCE CAPTAIN TEAM 686 AND ALLIANCE TEAM 1629 TO DEVELOP HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES. THE BATTLE O' BALTIMORE IS AN OFF-SEASON FIRST FRC COMPETITION SPONSORED BY THE MARYLAND ROBOTICS ALLIANCE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE BALTIMORE AREA ALLIANCE), AN ALLIANCE OF TEAMS ACROSS THE STATE OF MARYLAND. IT BROUGHT TOGETHER 36 TEAMS IN 2018 WHICH HAVE UNITED TO STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT FIRST FRC IN THE AREA.

Graduate Students: Where are they now?

IN THE SPRING OF 2018, WE GRADUATED SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE TEC TIGERS. WHILE WE WERE SAD TO SEE THEM DEPART, WE ARE PROUD OF WHERE THEY HAVE EACH GONE.

Cheyanne Jimmerson – CHEYANNE PARTICIPATED IN THE TEC TIGERS FTC AND FTC TEAM. SHE CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE TEAM'S BUSINESS SIDE AND EVEN SERVED AS CAPTAIN OF FTC FOR ONE OF HER YEARS AS A MEMBER. CHEYANNE IS NOW ATTENDING THE MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY IN NEW YORK AND COMES TO VISIT THE ROBOTICS MEMBERS WHEN SHE GETS THE CHANCE.

Eric Carey – ERIC PLAYED A LARGE ROLE IN THE TEAMS FIRST FTC SEASON AS THE TEAM CAPTAIN. HE WORKED DILIGENTLY TO MEET ALL GOALS AND EVENTUALLY MOVED OUT OF FTC TO WORK ON THE FRC TEAM. ERIC CONTRIBUTED A LOT OF TIME TO THE TEAM AND PLAYED MANY LEADERSHIP ROLES THROUGHOUT EACH SEASON. HE NOW ATTENDS COLLEGE PARK AND IS WORKING FOR A DEGREE IN ENGINEERING.

Cole Watson – COLE PARTICIPATED IN FRC THROUGHOUT HIS HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AS THE LEAD CADD ROLE. HE HELPED THE TEAM AS NEEDED, PARTICIPATING IN MECHANICAL WORK WHILE LAYING OUT THE DESIGN FOR THE ROBOT. COLE IS ATTENDING COLLEGE AT COLLEGE PARK FOR HIS ENGINEERING DEGREE.

Joshua McKelvey – JOSH PARTICIPATED IN BOTH FTC AND FRC WHERE HE CONTRIBUTED HIS EFFORTS TOWARDS ELECTRONICS AND CADD. HE ALSO ASSISTED THE VEX TEAMS WITH MECHANICS. JOSH WAS A WELL-KNOWN MEMBER OF THE TEAM AS HE PARTICIPATED IN SKILLS USA, WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL HIS SENIOR YEAR. HE NOW ATTENDS COLLEGE PARK FOR HIS ENGINEERING DEGREE.

Pranav Papali – PRANAV WAS A MEMBER OF THE FRC AND VEX TEAMS WHERE HE FOCUSED HIS EFFORTS ON CADD AND MECHANICS. HE LED HIS VEX CADD TEAM AND SHOWED GREAT LEADERSHIP SKILLS. HE NOW ATTENDS UMBC AND IS WORKING FOR HIS ENGINEERING DEGREE.

Shane Hernandez – SHANE CONTRIBUTED A LOT OF HIS TIME TO THE TEAM'S FRC TEAM AS A SKILLED MECHANIC. HE OFFERED THE TEAM MANY IDEAS AND WORKED HARD THROUGHOUT HIS HIGH SCHOOL CAREER. SHANE NOW ATTENDS WORWIC, THE LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

Nathan Spicer-Davis – NATHAN PARTICIPATED IN ALL THREE TEAMS, WORKING A LOT WITH PROGRAMMING, CADD, AND MECHANICS. HE LED HIS VEX TEAM AND LED THE FRC TEAM HIS SENIOR YEAR. HE NOW ATTENDS COLLEGE PARK FOR HIS ENGINEERING DEGREE.