

# Central Academy of Technology and Arts

## Cougar Chronicle



### Central Academy Families

We had a great week last pledging to not text and drive. The continues this week. If you visit the see the pledges and photos of our ing to be safe while driving on our tors in the front hall of the building.

College Night is this Wednesday, 9/18 at 6:30. This is a very important night for both students and their parents to come and hear about college admission. It is open to all parents and students and the admissions representative is from UNCC, but will be answering general college admissions questions.

Senior absentee photos and retakes will be this Wednesday and Thursday. If your child has not had their portraits done there is a \$30 sitting fee due at photo time. They will receive the yearbook pose, cap and gown pose and a recreational pose. If you ONLY want the yearbook pose there is no sitting fee. Postcards were mailed home designating your child's appointment time. These will be used as their pass to and from class, so they must bring them to show their teacher. If your child is getting their photo retaken - there is a \$30 sitting fee even if it's just the yearbook pose. Further information regarding choosing your child's pose for the yearbook will be forthcoming.

Today marks the first day of Hispanic Heritage Month celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Please see the Cougar Chronicle for information on the history of Hispanic Heritage Month and to learn about a local opportunity to experience and celebrate Hispanic culture.

Progress reports will be distributed on Wednesday. Please ask your children for these when they get home from school. If you have questions about the progress reports, please direct them to the teacher first. We will also have our first Site Base Team meeting on Wednesday at 3:40. We look forward to discussing needs for this year.

Please remember to pay your child's \$25 technology fee by September 31. You can send in a check or cash to your child's first period teacher, or pay online through the school website. We have many families that not paid yet and we do need to collect these fees within the next two weeks. Please remind your children to charge their chromebook each night as they are required to bring it to school each day.

Our office staff has been adding in email addresses to our Cougar Chronicle distribution list. If you do not get the email tonight, please check your spam folder in your email to make sure it is not being blocked. If you still do not see it, please call Ms. Lewis at school this week. The Cougar Chronicle, our Facebook page, in addition to our website, will be the main form of communication from school to home. At CATA we will continue to work toward Leading the Way so that your child can lead the way in the future! Go Cougars!

- Mrs. Kim Fisenne, Principal

Volume 1; Issue 6  
September 15, 2013

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600 Brewer Drive, Monroe,  
NC 28112  
(704) 296-3088 (Phone)  
(704) 296-3090 (Fax)  
<http://cata.ucps.k12.nc.us>

Look for text that is blue and underlined. This text is hyper-linked to the corresponding information available on the web. Click on the text to be taken to the corresponding webpage.

## CATA College Night—for all grade levels

All students and parents are invited to attend College Night on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the auditorium.

This is an opportunity to hear about admissions from the Assistant Director of Admission for UNCC.

9<sup>th</sup> graders, it is never too early to learn about college admissions.



### NATIONAL HISPANIC ★ HERITAGE MONTH ★



Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

(Above information taken from <http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov/about/> )

Please join in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month at Central Academy. Students will hear about famous Hispanic people each day on our announcements. Many teachers will incorporate information about Hispanic contributions throughout the month. In addition, we hope that you will take time to participate in events celebrating Hispanic heritage throughout Union County. In particular, on September 28<sup>th</sup> we hope that you will enjoy Concierto Latino 2013 at the Union County 4-H. This concert is sponsored by Union County Community Arts Council and the Union County Public Library. For more information about the concert, please click here to read about it in [English](#), and here to read about it in [Spanish](#).

# ~Class of 2014~Seniors



ALL seniors should be sure to login to their **CFNC account**. If you cannot remember your account information, be sure to create a new account as you will need that.

**Graduation Day:** *Thursday, June 12, 2014 at Winthrop University in Rock Hill* (Time approx. 3:00pm)

**Senior Pictures:** Senior portraits and retakes are on Weds and Thurs 9/18 and 9/19. Postcards were mailed home designating your child's appointment time. Please have your child bring the postcard to class as this will be their pass to leave and return to class. There is a \$30 sitting fee unless they are sitting for their yearbook photo only. There is also a \$30 sitting fee for retakes.

**Senior Graduation Packages:** Senior orders for robes and other graduation materials will be taken on September 18th. Packets were given out in classes at the start of school. Extras are available in the office.

## Important Dates

- **September 18** - 6:30pm a UNCC College admission counselor will be here to discuss and answer questions concerning college admissions. This is open to **ALL parents and students**.
- **September 22** - 2:00 pm-4:00pm; Union County College Fair at the UC Agricultural Center. Most NC college will be represented, as well as, college from surrounding state. This is open to all Union County Public Schools students and parents.
- **September 26** - a UNCC College admission counselor will be here to talk with seniors that are interested in attending UNCC. Seniors -sign up in guidance if you are interested in UNCC.
- **October 19** - Open House for Duke's Pratt School of Engineering. 8:00am -3:15pm. Register at [admissions.duke.edu](http://admissions.duke.edu).
- **November 1 SAT Registration** - Early registration begins September 25.

**Senior Academy Visits:** Guidance counselors visited seniors during their academy class last week to discuss College Admissions, scholarship searches, and answered any questions concerning college and careers.

**Seniors, Check your email!!!!** Guidance counselors are currently communicating with seniors through their email accounts. Seniors have received their first senior newsletter which is jam packed with the college application process.

## Scholarships:

- NC State Park Scholarship is given to two outstanding seniors who meet four criteria: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. If you are interested in being considered by the scholarship committee, please give Ms. Cameron a resume by September 17.
- Wendy's High School HEISMAN - If you are an athlete, apply for the Wendy's Heisman scholarship at [www.wendysheisman.com](http://www.wendysheisman.com).

**Transcripts:** NC is working on having new transcripts available for all students and the projected date is September 23rd. However, we (and all high schools in NC) are still able to provide colleges with transcripts now by sending them last year's transcript, this year's course schedule, and a letter of explanation with any changes.



## Central Academy - Cougar Spirit

Got Spirit??  
Yes, We  
Do!!!!



## Central Academy Pledges that IT CAN WAIT!!!! In the National No Texting While Driving Campaign

That said we need to address the newest generation of drivers—our youth. We have a huge opportunity—a responsibility—to set an example of safety. I urge you to lead when you are in the driver's seat by not texting behind the wheel. Put safety first with these tips:

**Be Smart.** Don't text and drive. No text message is worth a life.

**Be in control.** Remember it's your phone. You decide if and when to send or read texts. Take control. Download [AT&T DriveMode®](#) – an app designed to curb the urge to text and drive.\*

**Be Caring.** Don't send a text when you know a family member, friend or co-worker is driving.

**Be Focused.** Never use your phone to take pictures, send or read messages, record video, or watch TV while driving.

**Be an Example.** A recent survey<sup>1</sup> found that 77 percent of teens say adults tell them not to text and drive - yet do it themselves "all the time." Still, 89 percent of those teens said their own parents are good role models in terms of not texting while driving, so please lead by example.

**Be Proactive.** Take and share the pledge, and commit to stop texting and driving: [ItCanWait.com](#).

**Be Aware.** Know that many wireless companies offer parents an easy way to protect their teen from texting and driving. New tools can freeze all phone functionality during set times of day, while allowing 911 and customized "allowed numbers."

We're a family at (name of school). Let's do what's best for our students. Spread this simple but vital message: When it comes to texting and driving, **It Can Wait**.

Need More Info??? [ItCanWait.com](#) or Join the conversation: [#ItCanWait](#) or see [aaajustdrive.org](#)



## COUGAR ATHLETICS

If you have questions about athletics or want to volunteer to help with athletics, please send an email to Athletic Director, [Mr. Jay Niessner](#).

**Parking Passes for all Football Games** (both JV and V) at Cougar Stadium at Walter Bickett are on sale now. Passes are limited and will cost \$75 each. Passes are for parking ONLY and money for game tickets will be collected at the gate for each person in the vehicle. The pass gate is located across from the field house. Handicapped parking is available. You can purchase your passes in the main office OR online. To order online go to the UCPS website and click on [online payments](#).



### Varsity Results:

**Cross Country** Men finished 1<sup>st</sup> on Tuesday and 9<sup>th</sup> on Saturday.

The Women finished 2<sup>nd</sup> on Tuesday and 18<sup>th</sup> on Saturday.

**Football** CATA 16 Metrolina 13

**Soccer** CATA 1 Porter Ridge 2, CATA 1 Cuthbertson 2

**Women's tennis** CATA 6 West Stanly 3, CATA 4 Mt. Pleasant 5

**Volleyball** CATA 3 Monroe 0, CATA 0 West Stanly 3, CATA 0 Piedmont 3

### Upcoming Events:

**Monday 9/16:** Soccer @ Sun Valley 4:30 & 6:00

**Tuesday 9/17:** Volleyball Home vs. Mt. Pleasant 4:30 & 6:00, Soccer @ Salisbury 5:00 & 6:30, Tennis Home vs. Forest Hills at Monroe High School 4:00, Cross Country HOME 4:30 vs. Rocky River Conference

**Wednesday 9/18:** Volleyball @ Cuthbertson 5:30, Tennis vs. Metrolina @ Dickerson Park 4:00

**Thursday 9/19:** JV Football Home vs. South Stanly 7:00, Volleyball Home vs. Forest Hills 4:30 and 6:00, Tennis @ Parkwood 4:00

**Friday: 9/20:** Football @ South Stanly 7:30

Grade Level Administrators—

9th grade—[Mr. Willie Howard III](#)

10th grade—[Mr. Jeff Pusser](#)

11th grade—[Ms. Deanna White](#)

12th grade—[Mr. Jeff Pusser](#)





## Cougar Pride

- \* The following are students that have been selected for Student Advisory Council. These students will represent Central Academy of Technology and Arts in shaping education in Union County Public Schools. Students will meet with our Superintendent, Dr. Mary Ellis, in order to provide input and ideas. Our student selected are: Nicole Marie Pettine, Madison Blare Gault, Giovanni Castaneda Rubio, Amanda Lauren Privette, Zachary Shane Wyatt. Way to go Cougars!!
- \* The Central Academy Band of Blue performed for Staff, Parents, and Students at the Fall Open House! Way to go Band of Blue!
- \* Congratulations to this year's Student Body Officers for already boosting student spirit!!!



**The Cougar Canteen** is now open for business every afternoon from 3:30-3:45. Items for sale include Coke products, Powerade, water, chips, popcorn, cookies, and candy. CATA Spirit wear is also on sale in the canteen through the end of September. The Cougar Canteen is located outside the gym and is sponsored by the Band Booster Club at CATA!



## PTSO Meeting, Central Academy Open House, Fall Academic Bars & Letters

Thank you to all families that attended our Fall Open House. The teachers and staff were excited to meet you and we hope that you were able to gain valuable information and build relationships. A very special thank you to the Band of Blue for opening our program with a wonderful performance!!!

**Congratulations to all of our Academic Bar and Letter recipients. You have done an outstanding job in your academics and should be proud of your accomplishments. Those students not in attendance should go to Ms. Tweed in guidance to get your bar or letter. Those students that did attend, but did not receive a bar should also see Ms. Tweed in guidance to pick up your bar. Thank you and congratulations.**



## Around Campus... (for all home and away sports, see Athletics section)

**Chorus and Yearbook fundraisers continue this week.**

**Monday, 9/16—**

**Tuesday, 9/17—** 8:00 YCI meeting (Mr. Robinson's room); pm—3:45 FTA club (Ms. Durrah's room); Hands Helping Others (Ms. Hinson's room); Cross Country, Volleyball @ home; Tennis home @ Monroe HS

**Wednesday, 9/18—** Progress Reports distributed today; Senior Portraits during day; Senior Orders at lunch; pm—Debate Team (Ms. Cochran's room); Art Club in rm 102; Women's Basketball workouts, Site Base Meeting; 6:30 College Night

**Thursday, 9/19—** IT Can Wait Campaign; 8:00 FCA Huddles (Sholar and Gundersen's rooms); pm—3:30 Environmental Club mtg (Ms. Kopchick's room); Volleyball and JV Football @ home

**Friday, 9/20—** 8:15 SADD Officer mtg (Ms. Hibberd's room); MS Bike to the Beach community project checkin and parking

**Saturday 9/21—** UCPE callbacks; Student Council Retreat; Dance Academy at Freedom Park; Band of Blue performs at UC Preview (@ MRHS)

### Upcoming Dates:

**Friday 9/27—9/28—** Showoff Performance

**Monday 9/30—** Beta Club Inductions

**Tuesday 10/1—** Mimeless Chatter

**Monday 10/7—** End of Grading Period

**Wednesday 10/16—** Report Cards Distributed

**Thirsty?** There are water fountains throughout the building AND two water bottle vending machines—one at the bottom of the stairs near the media center in the 100-200 wing and one in the café. Stay hydrated! Your brain works better that way!!

In October, all Sophomores will take the PLAN which is a pre-ACT test. More information will be forthcoming.

### Driver's Education—Sign Up Now!!

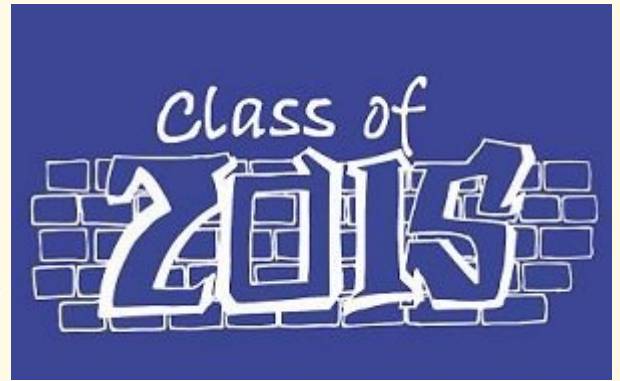
Driver's Ed classes must meet the minimum number of students or the class will be cancelled. Please sign up early so that classes are filled and do not have to be cancelled. If we have to cancel a class, the student will be moved to the next scheduled class. Refunds are not permitted. The fee is \$55.00 for all classes starting in or after October. A student must be at least 14 1/2 years old on the first day of class. Classes will run Monday through Friday from 4:00-6:00 pm. To sign up please contact Ms. Tammy Tweed in the guidance office **as soon as possible**.

**9/9/2013 through 10/2/2013—THIS IS A DATE CHANGE FOR THE 8/26 CLASS**

The next class is Nov. 12th—Dec. 10th. Most Fall athletes should be able to take this class. Feb. 18- March 14; March 17- April 9



## Junior College to Do List



### **Continue looking at colleges-** /visit, visit, visit

- Does it offer your major
- Is it the right size for you
- Consider the location – distance from home, weather, campus appearance
- Visit colleges-you get 3 lawful excused absences, check school web site for the junior's visitation dates; colleges usually have junior visitation events in the spring
- Can you afford the school

### **Take the college entrance exam**

- Take the exam in the spring of this year
- Take the SAT and ACT once (the school will test the ACT in March)
- Take your second test from the test you scored highest on
- Register for test online-if you are on free or reduced lunch, see your guidance counselor for a fee waiver
- DO NOT begin your senior year without a SAT test

### **Bring up your GPA**

- Colleges look at your final junior GPA for entrance so this is the last year to bring up your GPA
- Colleges look at the classes and grades you have made in your 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade

### **Scholarships**

- You should already be looking for scholarships
- First look for them on the college web site where you plan to attend (type scholarships in search engine)
- Second open scholarship search accounts (you can find links on the CATA web site under school counseling tab then click on scholarships)

### **Create a resume**

- An example of a resume' is on the CATA web site under the tab school counseling or you can go to Word and use a template.
- Your resume' should include extracurricular activities (in and outside of school,) you should include any honors you have received, list leadership, and give detailed information concerning community service.
- You report on grades 9-12

### **Athletes**

- Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse (find it online)
- If you are on reduced/free lunch, the registration fee can be waived. See Ms. Tweed in guidance to have the fee waived.

### **CFNC.org**

- If you do not have an account, open one. You will use this web site to apply to NC schools Cfnc.org has had a face lift; be sure and check it out.

**QUESTIONS??** Talk to your guidance counselor.....



**PTSO** Are you looking to get involved at CATA? Join the Cougar Council, PTSO! We plan events for the teachers and provide resources for students. We would love to have you join us! Please fill out the [information sheet](#) on the PTSO website.

**Officers for 2013-2014** :President – Laura Minsk; Vice-President – Deb Christensen; Secretary – Wendy Duemmler; Treasurer – Susan Montgomery

To contact the PTSO, please email us at [thecougarcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thecougarcouncil@gmail.com). You may also call the school at 704-296-3088 and ask for Deb Christensen.

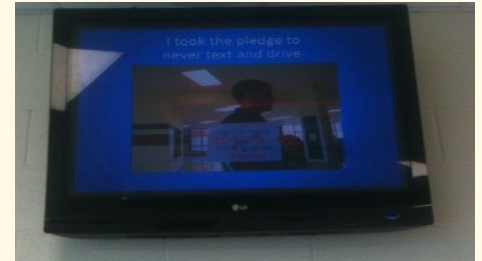
PTSO membership - \$10 per family (which includes the student and parents), \$5 per student, \$5 per staff

PTSO is seeking volunteers to help with hospitality/teacher events, and many other areas. Contact [thecougarcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:thecougarcouncil@gmail.com) to sign up

Support CATA when you use your VIC card at Harris Teeter. Link your card to our school's account - # 3612. [Click here](#) to re-link online or visit any Harris Teeter store. We appreciate your support!

## Student Life

**Things are Looking UP!!!** - Student life is thriving at CATA and now students and visitors can have a sneak peak into what happens behind the scenes at CATA—both in and out of the classrooms. How do you do this? Look UP in the front hall of the school. Three monitors have been added to showcase a day in the life of a CATA student; one outside the main office, and two on the way to the gym and auditorium.



**Club Leadership Council**— NEXT meeting—9/27/13 to review plans for individual clubs for the year and to discuss a school-wide club community project. Bring your information and ideas. 8:15—8:45—send your club leadership council rep.....



**The CATA Club Fair** was a huge success. Clubs displayed information and some had students available to answer questions during lunches and during the Fall Open House. Hundreds of students signed up to express their interest in the clubs. Don't forget that there is still time to join a club. Being active in student life, whether through clubs, honor societies, athletics, co-curricular activities, or performance groups is very important on your high school resume! More im-



portantly, you can build great relationships with people that have similar interests. Join today!! **NHS** members joined in the past Friday for an NHS Fun Night. Students went on scavenger hunts and participated in teambuilding activities. Way to go National Honor Society!!



## Band of Blue to perform at UC Marching Band Premier

The **7th annual Union County Marching Band Premier** will be held at Marvin Ridge High School on September 21, 2013. It will be held in the MR stadium from 5-10PM.

The Union County Marching Band Premier is an opportunity to see the show for each of the Union County high schools' marching band. Each school will present the show that they will be offering in competition locally, regionally and in some cases, nationally. There will be judges on hand to watch and critique each show and provide feedback to each school without the pressure of a true competition. It is a great opportunity to support the high schools of Union County, to promote the arts in our community, as well as to see some great marching band routines. Concession stand, baked goods, and other fun items and activities will be available for your enjoyment.

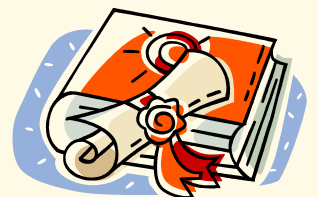


## CATA thanks our Band of Blue sponsors!!

Dr. Susan Lester, Sun Valley Family Physicians  
Pustaver Chiropractic Care  
Susie Verrill  
Bovi Family, Jenchos Gift Therapeutic Riding  
Foundation for the Carolinas  
Metro Honda  
Pinsak Orthodontics, Dr. George Pinsak  
Laxer, Long & Savage Dentistry & Orthodontics  
Mike Weis & Family  
Target  
Harris Teeter  
Wal-Mart



**Yearbooks—Be sure to buy your yearbook!!!!**  
**[Yearbookforever.com](http://Yearbookforever.com)**




## OFFICE HOURS

**Central Academy of Technology and Arts** Office Hours are Monday through Friday; 7:30—5:00 pm. Please call or visit during these hours.



The **Union County Arts Council** (UCAC) is a major proponent of the arts in Union County and supports arts education in Union County Public Schools each year. Please see the ad below for an upcoming event sponsored by UCAC and directed by our very own Larry Robinson!! We hope that some families from Central Academy are able to attend this great event.

**UNION COUNTY PLAYMAKERS**  
*Premiere Event for Union County Community Theatre Project*  
 DIRECTED BY LARRY ROBINSON



*"Death is a Cabernet,  
Ol' Chum"*

**Treehouse  
VINEYARDS**

WHEN MALCOLM MELEE'S BODY WAS FOUND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE  
STAIRS IN HIS WINERY, WAS IT A TRAGIC ACCIDENT OR MURDER?

*Friday, October 4 & Friday, October 11*

**TREEHOUSE VINEYARDS 301 BAY STREET • MONROE, NC**  
 7:00 CASH WINE BAR | 7:30 DINNER | 8:15 SHOWTIME | **\$60.00/PERSON**  
**TICKET INFORMATION (704) 283-2784 OR WWW.UNIONARTS.ORG**

It was an evening of wine and cheese at the Melee Vineyards in the Nippy Valley, celebrating the winery's tenth anniversary. Owner Melee took great pride in pouring his world-famous Melee Cabernet, the wine that tickles the palates of wine connoisseurs around the globe.

As the gathering broke up about midnight, Melee bade "farewell" to everyone and said he would stay around to turn out the lights. But this morning, it became deadly obvious that someone had planned lights out for Malcolm Melee, for his body was found at the bottom of the staircase.

Enjoy an evening that includes dinner, cash wine bar from Union County's Treehouse Vineyards and help solve the mystery of who pulled the cork on Malcolm Melee.

Union County Arts Council to fund a special lighting project at Central Academy!!! CATA proposed a project called **"Lighting the Way"** in order to bring the lighting control system in the CATA auditorium up to date, and the UCAC approved this initiative! Thank you to Mr. Jeff Weis for creating the proposal, to Mr. Larry Robinson and to UCAC Board member, and PTO president, Mrs. Laura Minsk, for supporting the initiative. A very special thank you to Ms. Barbara Faulk for seeing the value for all Union County schools in this project, due to the Union County Performance Ensemble.

We are excited to begin the project.

**Want MORE info?? Go to the CATA website, click on Parents and Community, then click on link for the newsletters—the Cougar Chronicle. Past issues are posted there each week!!**