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**Upcoming SkillsUSA/HOSA community service/service learning projects: MTI students and staff helping the local community**

*(Bradenton, FL—November 9, 2011)*

SkillsUSA students from the Boat Building and Marine Service Technology programs are doing a **Coastal Clean-up** on **November 10** along the Palma Sola Causeway. Students will pick up trash along the causeway and in the water, learn boating safety skills, and perform boat trials. Please call Kelly Ewing at 751-7900 ext 2041 for more information.

MTI's East Campus Culinary program will be hosting the VIP tent at the **Suncoast Food and Wine Festival** on **November 12** at the Lakewood Ranch Polo Grounds. Please contact Bert Spagnola at 751-8479 ext 2020 for more information.

SkillsUSA Nursing students from MTI's East Campus will be giving flu shots and performing blood glucose checks at the Palmetto Wal-Mart on US-301 for the **Palmetto Flu Clinic Fair** on Sunday, **November 13**.

Web Design SkillsUSA students are organizing recyclable collections during **National Recycling Week** now **through November 13**. Please call Vera Bourenina at 751-7900 ext 2210 for more information.

Health Occupations Students of America from the Dental Assisting program will be collecting non-perishable food and money for the **Mayor's "Feed the Hungry" Food Drive** now **through November 18**. A donation of even \$1.00 will buy a few cans of vegetables or a few boxes of mac n' cheese. For more information, call Kim Bland at 752-8100 ext 210. HOSA students from the Nursing program will sort and pack food collected from the Drive at Robarts Arena in Sarasota from noon to 5 p.m. on **November 18**. Joan Barrese, RN, has more information at 752-8100 ext. 242.

For a project dubbed "**sock it to the troops**," Medical Coder/Biller SkillsUSA students are collecting socks for **Project Blue Star** to be sent to troops overseas. Please call Dorri McPherson at 751-7900 ext 2177 for more information.

**About Manatee Technical Institute**

Manatee Technical Institute is a postsecondary career and technical education center under the School District of Manatee County offering over 40 career preparation programs. It is fully accredited by the Council on Occupational Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The mission of Manatee Technical Institute is to meet and exceed our community's training and educational expectations. MTI is a 2007 Tampa Bay Business of the Year, and its students have won more SkillsUSA medals than any other school in the nation for the past eight years.

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