



**Career Education.  
Reinventing Possible.**

May 12, 2016

## **Digging Deep** **Brayden Stopinski**

Brayden Stopinski is a senior in Prosser's Heavy Equipment program. While maintaining a 3.5 GPA, Brayden has been on South Central High School's golf team all 4 years. He is a competitive sporting clay shooter and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state in 2012. At Prosser, he is working toward the PRIDE work ethic certificate and his Technical Honor's diploma. After a weeklong externship at Dan Cristiani Excavating Co., Inc, Brayden was recruited to do his internship with the company. Mr. Cristiani was so impressed with Brayden's skills and work ethic that they have offered him a job as a heavy equipment operator upon graduation. Also, this spring Brayden earned the prestigious NCCER Certification. Brayden would like to eventually move up into construction management. His teacher Cory Novak says of him, "I wish I had 10 or 12 Brayden's. He is a dedicated young man with a drive to learn and improve." Recently, his dad rented a bull dozer for Brayden and he dug two ponds and built a driveway on their property.



Brayden's proud parents are Tom & Penny Stopinski

## **Entrepreneurial Process** **Katie Shoemaker**

Katie Shoemaker is a junior at South Central High School and is enrolled in Prosser's entrepreneurship class. While completing the program curriculum, she participated in class projects that have allowed her to explore the entrepreneurial process. She has learned how to recognize innovative business opportunities and learned how to financially and ethically develop and carry out a business plan from the very first step to the actual opening day.



Katie is the daughter of Ms. Tammy Shoemaker

During a class project with one other classmate, Katie recently co-created and marketed a new breakfast cereal. Prosser students tasted all teams' cereal and voted for their favorite. Katie is a member of Prosser's chapter of the National Technical Honor Society. Katie is a candidate to earn her Core 40 diploma at the end of next school year, and she will have the QuickBooks certification and 15 Ivy Tech dual college credits because of her successes at Prosser. According to Katie, "I am a small town kid who will make something of myself."

## Shooting Stars Advanced Culinary

Six Culinary students recently tested for the Advanced Standings Program at Johnson and Wales University. Johnson and Wales is one of the premier culinary schools in the country with campuses in North Miami, Denver, Providence, and Charlotte. Breaking a new record, all six passed the test earning \$25,000 each towards tuition for a total of \$150,000. Prosser Career Education Center is the first school to have six students at one time earn this distinction. Each student will begin this summer in Charlotte and then will move to the campus that best fits their culinary arts career pathway. Chief Kirk, Chef Donahue, and Chef Graham said, "It is every teacher's goal to have one student surpass their potential, but to have six stars become shooting stars, makes the job complete". We are very proud of the Culinary program and its students and look forward to their success at Johnson and Wales University.



Pictured L-R: Nick Woods, son of Debra Woods; Josh Washington, son of Christine House; Josh Griffee, son of Joan Troy; Rachel Dever, daughter of Adam and Amy Dever; Karla Moran, daughter of Eva and Miguel Moran, and Ayden McCulloch, son of Rob and Rebecca Frakes

## A Heart to Help Katelynn Cottongim

Katelynn Cottongim describes herself as an old soul and when asked about how she got into health careers, she smiles and says she has always had a drive to help others. On October 10, 2010, Katelynn Cottongim and her older sister were heading down a trail in an ATV to have lunch with her family and friends to celebrate the recent wheat harvest. In an instant everything changed, the ATV flipped five times and



Katelynn's proud parents are Sandy and Larry Cottongim

Katelynn took her phone out to call for help and knew her hand was severely injured. Katelynn was then stat flighted to Kosair Children's Hospital to have emergency surgery. She distinctly remembers the great care she received at Kosair. When Katelynn came on her tour to Prosser, she knew she wanted to attend and was considering aviation and culinary, before she fell into health careers. Katelynn just recently finished a job shadow which helped her solidify her career pathway of helping others. She is the first from her family to attend college and will matriculate this fall at the University of Southern Indiana to be a Dental Hygienist. Katelynn has used her focus and drive to win the SkillsUSA State Championship in Basic Health Care, earn a PRIDE work ethic certificate, earn a CNA certification, achieve a Technical Honors Diploma, and a will graduate with a 3.78 GPA from Eastern High School.

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