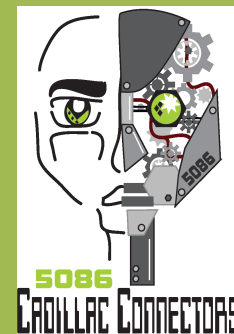


Cadillac Connectors Robotics 5086 | August 20th, 2017

ROBO TIMES



STEM Days at the YMCA

Just because it's summer doesn't mean that your child's mind can't be active and engaged! The Cadillac Connectors are partnering with the Cadillac Area YMCA to inspire kids to learn about STEM education and to keep their minds up and running during the summer months!

Written by: Kendra Jakubos

CADILLAC AREA YMCA-This week's STEM focus was CAD and design. On the first day, the kids used popsicle sticks to create miniature catapults which they could take home. Then they participated in a competition to see whose catapult launched the farthest, and what material worked best as a projectile.

On the second day, they spent some time learning how to use Tinkercad, which is a fun, simple, online tool for 3D design and printing.

The kids also used legos to create small project. They then drew blueprints for others to use when recreating the original project. This fun activity had them working together and using their creativity, both valuable life skills.

Finally, the kids saw a little of the process for screen printing as their t-shirt designs from the previous day were transferred onto shirts in ink.

The focus of the STEM days last week was Civic Creations. The kids built spaghetti bridges and met a guest speaker, Ms. Seitter, a professor at FSU, who told them a bit about her experiences in civil engineering.

We look forward to more cool projects and experiments involving programming next week!



Off-Season Competition

March is still a little ways-away. In order to brush up on those competition skills we have signed up for some off-season competitions that will get us pepped up and ready to take on the next upcoming season!

Written by: Lauryn Blake and Anna-Marie Seitter

In our current off-season, we as a team plan to participate in three competitions. Our regular season is January to March, whereas the upcoming competitions are in October and November. These competitions are completely optional and make use of the past season's bot. The results of off-season competitions do not count toward our upcoming season. In Michigan, there are five competitions during this time, and we have decided to attend three, one of which is the Bot Bash on Oct 13-14th. "An off-season competition is beneficial for the newcomers, mainly because they get an opportunity to see what actual competitions are like. It is more relaxed than a regular competition and we have more time to teach newcomers the ins and outs of competition," says Anna-Marie. She continued to say, "I attended Pellston last year with five or six other students. We competed with our 2016 bot. I remember socializing more while competing. We were able to switch out drivers and it was just a lot less pressure. During the off-season competitions, we don't feel the high demand for less mistakes. We're able to get newbies into driving positions comfortably so they're ready for the season ahead."

Calendar:

Saturday, September 30th: Rennee Alderman Fundraiser- We will be volunteering at a fundraiser to help Rennee Alderman fight her battle with Lyme Disease. The event runs from 3:00-7:00 and is at the Forest View Elementary School in Boon. There will be kid's carnival games, prizes, cotton candy, a silent auction, and a dinner. We hope to see you come out and help support a great cause!

Saturday, October 13-14th: Bot Bash- see side article

If you have an event that you need volunteers at contact us on our social media or email at

frcteam5086@gmail.com

We are happy to help!!!

Community Corner

North Country Trail Run

Written by: Shannon Metzger

On Sunday, August 27th the Cadillac Connectors will be volunteering at the North Country Trail Run in Wellston. This run consists of a Marathon, a half marathon, and a 50-mile Ultra run. The race gets its name from the North Country National Scenic Trail, a route from which runners in the Marathon and the Ultra 50-mile will cross in some spots. This trail is reported to be about 4,600 miles from Eastern New York to North Dakota. The race attracts over 500 runners from across the nation every year.

Our Connectors will be manning the water stations during Sunday's run. We will be cheering the runners on and supporting them by mixing Gatorade and providing snacks and water. Our 16 volunteers can't wait to be part of such a wonderful and powerful event in our community.



Visit our website:

connectors5086.org

And social media to see all our adventures!

@Team5086



A Connector's Mind

By Kendra Jakubos

Anna-Marie Seitter is a Junior at CHS and has been involved in FRC since her freshman year, joining Team 5086 for the 2017 season.

She maintained the role of Safety Captain despite the new team and received many awards, bringing the total up to seven: five Safety Star-of-the-Day's and two Hard Hat Awards.

The Safety Captain is the head of the Safety team, and as such carries significant responsibility. During the build season, Anna makes sure all team members use proper tool safety when working on the robot. At competition, she is interviewed by safety representatives, keeps people safe while they work on the robot, and assists other teams as needed. Additionally, Anna helps out with the FTC in the Junior High as Lead Student Mentor.

Aside from robotics, Anna participates in Quiz Bowl and choral, while providing a foster home for needy animals, and sailing in her free time.

We want to thank all of our sponsors and people who have helped us get through our build and off season:

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Thank You!!!

If you or anyone you know would like to subscribe to our next newsletters -or are interested in viewing our previous editions- please feel free to contact Shannon Metzger at shametz578@gmail.com.
Thank You For Reading!!!!



A Few Moments From Our Summer STEM Days!

