Springdale Team to Represent US in Robotics
“Root Negative One” Headed to Dubai

A Tyson School of Innovation robotics team, “Root Negative One,” will be representing the United States at the FIRST Global Challenge in Dubai this coming fall. FIRST stands for For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology and is considered to be the robotics Olympics.

The team competed in this year’s FIRST event in the spring and was one of two teams from 7,000 to win the Inspire Award given by judges for their performance in the Inspire Tech Challenge.

Congratulations to Root Negative One!

Arkansas Hosts National Computer Science Summit
Leaders from 30 States Attend

In June, Arkansas hosted industry and government leaders from 30 states, Washington D.C., and Canada for the first-ever National Computer Science Summit for State Leaders. Arkansas has been a leader in this field under the leadership of Governor Hutchinson. The state was the first in the country to meet all nine of Code.org’s policy recommendations. Code.org is a national computer science advocacy group based in Washington D.C. Click here for additional information on this event.

Marion HS Receives College Board Award
AP Computer Science Female Diversity

Congratulations to Marion HS for recently receiving the College Board’s AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award for attaining high levels of female student representation in AP Computer Science in 2018. This honor goes to only 4% of secondary schools nationwide.

UAPB STEM Center Hosts Health Sciences Career Day
For 8th Grade Students in the Region

The UAPB STEM Center recently hosted a Health Sciences Career Tech Day for 8th grade youth in the Pine Bluff area. Students learned about various careers in health sciences and worked alongside professionals in a series of engaging workshops. Careers in the health field are in high demand, especially in certain regions of the state. This conference was one of the eleven that took place at university STEM Centers and UAMS.

Alma’s 2019 Teen Academy
Two-Week Technology Study

The Alma School District recently held their 2019 Teen Tech Academy. The event is a two-week study of current trending technology ideas. Students participated in one of the three program options: Digital Media, Vex Robotics or Computer Coding. The Academy was available to students entering grades 6-8 for the 2019-2020 school year.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

If you have an innovative project in your schools you’d like to share for our newsletter, contact Mike Mertens, AAEA Assistant Director, at 501-372-1691 or at m.mertens@theaaea.org or Dr. Joe Rollins, President, at 479-409-7409 or joe@nwacouncil.org.
Medical Assistant Program Gives Students a Head Start
Siloam Springs Students Earn Multiple Certifications

A "first of its kind" program at Siloam Springs High School is giving students hands-on experience in patient care and allowing them to graduate with several certifications in the first year of operation. All 18 students who graduated in May earned both their national phlebotomy certification and their national registered medical assistant (RMA) certification. Click (here) for more information on this innovative program.

Going “Solar”
Guy-Perkins SD to be 1st in State to be All Solar

Working in collaboration with Scenic Hill Solar of Little Rock, the Guy-Perkins School District is on track to be the first school system in Arkansas to be fully powered by solar energy. The district anticipates to earn significant savings in utility bills after the conversion is completed.

Going “Solar “in a “Big” Way
BIC to Have Biggest Solar Array in State

Stone Creek Solar of Jonesboro recently announced it would build a solar power plant in the Buffalo Island School District.

The facility is expected to generate the majority of the district’s electricity needs over the next 25 years with cost savings over $500,000. It is expected to be the largest solar array built for a school district in Arkansas.