



### BOBCATS LOOKING GREEN

A new \$120,750 grant received from IGEN, Illinois Green Economy Network, is helping FCC take its first step towards a green future. The future of energy consumption in America is



*Man surveying solar panels.*

increasingly looking towards renewable options. With the help of this grant, FCC will be able to help the environment and assist its students in learning about this new future.

This move towards sustainability comes with the planned installation of solar panels on the roof of a campus building. While the placement has not yet been determined, the funding for this installation is covered by the IGEN grant written by the Dean of Instruction, Dr. Paul Bruinsma. Installing these solar panels will save the college \$150,200 on its energy bill in the next 25 years, and the college can then put these funds to use on new educational endeavors.

Dr. Bruinsma is very enthusiastic about the new grant's cost-saving initiatives and the educational opportunities this installation will allow. Two of FCC's trade programs, Automotive Technology and Electrical Distribution Systems, incorporate class experiences that the new solar array will enrich. The automotive classes will use the solar panels in conjunction with its new hybrid car simulator to learn about alternative fuel sources and their impact on the automotive industry. At the same time, the Electrical Distribution Systems program will use the panels in its Residential/Commercial Wiring course and study the solar arrays as a new electric distribution system in its Distributions Systems Maintenance class.

### Upcoming Events

#### November

- 25 Start of Thanksgiving Break
- 29 Class Back in Session

#### December

- 08 Last Day of Classes
- 20 Start of Winter Break

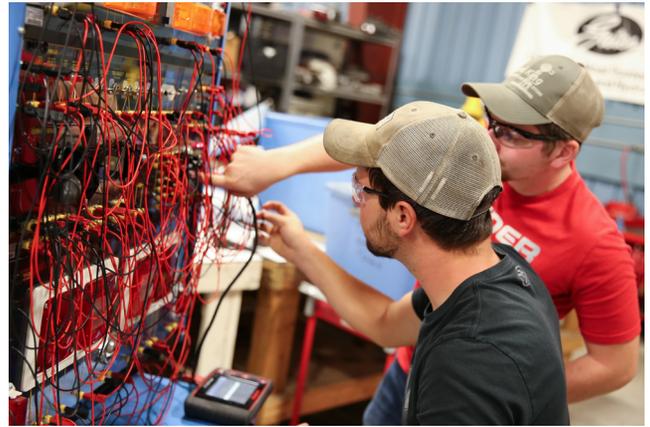
#### January

- 03 College Re-Opens
- 10 First Day of Spring Classes



## BOBCATS LOOKING GREEN - CONT.

The installation of this new campus element will begin in 2022 and alleviate the campus electricity bill this summer. Following this, the panels should receive classroom implementation in the Fall Semester of 2022. The future of FCC is bright, and with new solar panels to harvest the light, it is sure to be more green.



*Automotive students working on Electrical Panels*

## TWO FCC FLOATS IN THE BIG PARADE



*The Homecoming King and Queen, baseball players, Linda Monge, and Carrier Halbert getting ready for the parade.*

King and Queen, Zach Sliger and Ali Paintner. The royalty was surrounded by Zach Slinger's teammates on the FCC Baseball team, who distributed candy. Local children were pleased to see the athletes and even more excited getting candy from the team.

The second entry added to the candy haul even further. This group featured the Certified Medical Assistant program who had created a float in the back of a pick-up truck. The float featured a football goal post made of balloons in FCC Black and Gold that called on the High School's football team to score a "Touchdown!"

## TWO FCC FLOATS IN THE BIG PARADE - CONT.

Behind the goal post walked CMA students and their instructor, Jodi Peach. They passed out candy to the kids and informational flyers to adults. While these cards may not have been as sweet as the candy, they featured information about the CMA program and the excellent opportunities it has for college students of all ages.



*CMA students walk behind their goal post float*

Both FCC parade entries were excellent representations of the college. Participation in community events such as these is vital to forming a bond between the community and the college. While this form of advertising may not lead to immediate results, creating this connection with area youth will make future graduates more likely to choose FCC as their post-high school home.

## VOLLEYBALL SEASON ENDS WITH A SMASH



*Jenna Schnepfer serving at a home game.*

The FCC Volleyball season had an atypical season end due to a positive COVID test within the team. The protocols surrounding COVID caused many of the games at the end of the season to be cancelled. Despite the stress caused by this, Volleyball Headcoach and FCC Athletic Director Nixie Hnetkovsky still led the team to a great season that built upon the success of the previous Bobcat Volleyball teams.

When asked to comment on the season, Coach Hnetkovsky said “The FCC Bobcats volleyball team was comprised of 6 sophomores and 8 freshmen. We improved this season-doubling our wins to 10. We ranked two places higher this year -9th out of 12 teams-as well in Region 24.” This rise in ranking will surely continue for the young team as they push further into their student-athlete careers.

Nixie continued by saying “Improvement is what we strive for in each match and each season and we accomplished that!” This theme of growth is the perfect representation

of the FCC athletic program that focuses on helping students grow in all aspects of their life through the team environment.

## STUDENT AMBASSADOR OF THE MONTH

This month's featured student ambassador is Grace Herman. Grace's connection with the college started before she set foot on campus as a full-time student. Throughout her education at Flora High School, Grace took dual credit classes. Thanks to this hard work, she was able to enter FCC as a sophomore. This made Grace's post high school path clear. Her ability to fast track her education combined with the close location of the school made FCC the perfect fit. Grace said, "I liked the location of the college; I wasn't quite ready to quit my job and move away from all that I've ever known."

Staying in the local area is also part of Grace's plans after FCC. After graduation, Grace intends on transferring to EIU to earn her bachelor's degree in secondary science education. She then wants to move back home to teach life science at a local high school. This connection to the local area and her dedication to her studies makes Grace a very valuable asset to the Student Ambassador team.



*Grace Herman, this month's featured Student Ambassador*

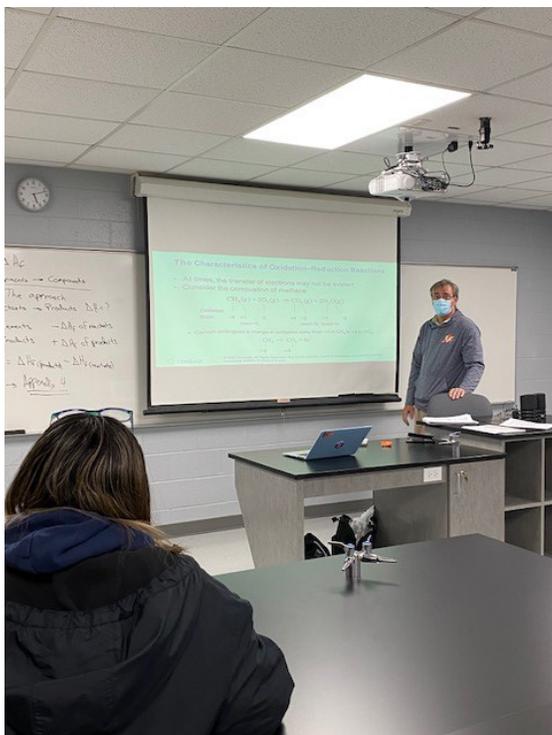
## PRODUCE PRODUCING FUNDRAISER



*Box of produce from Cusumano & Sons*

The FCC Bobcats Softball team will be doing a Cusumano & Sons Produce fundraiser this Thanksgiving season. This yearly fundraiser is an excellent way for community members to get high-quality fresh produce while supporting the FCC Softball team. Each produce box will cost \$30 and contains: celery, potatoes, winter squash, onions, gala apples, carrots, pineapple, sweet potatoes, cabbage, brussels sprouts, and cranberries. Orders can be made through any Softball team member or by calling (618) 244 - 0198. Pick-up for the boxes will take place on November 20th at 211 Market Ave in Fairfield, IL.

## TITLE III UPDATES



*Class being conducted in renovated Room 22*

- On October 11, 2021, the Title III team lost beloved team member Joy Smith to a brief battle with cancer. Joy was instrumental in equipping the faculty recording studio and worked with students and faculty on various projects including the New Student Orientation. She will be greatly missed.
- Quality Matters is conducting an Official Review of Life Science Associate Professor Nixie Hnetkovsky's LSC1101 General Biology. At the conclusion of the review, the course will become FCC's first course to become Certified by Quality Matters.
- Renovations in Mason Hall Room 22 are nearing final completion and classes are now taking place in the updated space. In the coming year, Science Labs in Rooms 22 and 23, along with the MLT lab in Room 21 will be outfitted with additional equipment and instrumentation to support student learning