

Manchester Press

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Erin LaBelle • Staff Photo

Fridays are for adventures

Ashley West takes a moment to read with her son Graham, 5, at The Garage Sale, previewing book selections he's made before purchasing, during a Friday mother and son "Adventure Day" before picking older sister Sylvia up from school. Graham attends pre-school Monday through Thursday, making Friday a special time for exploring the community together.

Ed-Co students explore tech possibilities

BY MIKE PUTZ
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Edgewood-Colesburg Jr.-Sr. High students learned that when it comes to computer science and technology the sky is the limit.

That was the message at Computer Science Awareness Day March 16, which brought area businesses to share how they use technology in their day-to-day operations.

Ed-Co teacher-librarian Diane Meyer was one of four staff members on the computer science team that developed the event.

"We wanted this day to give some light to our kids of all the different ways that computer science is used in businesses



Mike Putz • Staff Photo

Carter Bailey, front, and Mack Perrinjaquet experience virtual reality goggles provided by Northeast Iowa Community College as they explore careers during the Ed-Co Jr.-Sr. High School Computer Science Awareness Day.

and also different activities involving computer science," she explained.

While the high school students attended sessions with business representatives,

junior high students experienced driving simulators, virtual reality goggles, art and music, as well as artificial intelligence.

Tammy Kirby, IT systems development manager at Henderson Products, Inc. in Manchester, spoke to high school students about how science and technology tie into manufacturing.

Kirby, an Ed-Co graduate and current school board member, said she was glad to share the opportunities students can find close to home.

"Sometimes when people think of manufacturing, they don't always think of how a computer programmer might

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Manchester trooper receives valor award

BY MIKE PUTZ
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Iowa State Trooper and Manchester resident Devin Brooks was one of two Iowa State Patrol Troopers to receive the Sullivan Brothers Award for Valor for lifesaving efforts performed during a car accident in Blackhawk County on July 1, 2022.

According to the Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS) website, the award is named in memory of George, Frank, Joe, Matt and Albert Sullivan, who served together on the USS Juneau during the Guadalcanal naval battle in the fall of 1942. All five brothers died together when Japanese torpedoes struck their ship.

According to the IDPS website, the award is given to peace officers, firefighters or any first responders who, while serving in an official capacity, distinguished themselves by the performance of a heroic act in excess of normal demands where the person was fully aware of the threat to his/her public safety.

Brooks, along with Trooper Boyd Eser, were returning to Post 10 in Oelwein after conducting an interview in Cedar Falls.

"We were deciding which way to take back to the office and had decided on one specific route," Brooks explained. "Once we left, on the spur of the moment, I decided to take a different route — we came across a bunch of cars at an intersection and a bunch of smoke."

Brooks said he couldn't see the cars in the ditch and initially thought they were approaching a grass fire. Drivers already on the scene told the troopers two people in one of the cars were trapped.

With the engine compartment of the car on fire, Brooks entered the car through the back door.

"I couldn't see in there, but worked my way to the front seat and grabbed ahold of the driver and pulled her into the back seat — with the help of others, we got her out of the

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Contributed Photo

Iowa State Patrol Trooper and Manchester resident Devin Brooks, second from left, along with Trooper Boyd Eser, receive the Sullivan Brothers Award for Valor in Des Moines, March 3. From left, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds, Brooks, Eser, Kelly Sullivan (granddaughter of Albert Sullivan), IDPS Commissioner Stephan Bayens and Iowa State Patrol Chief Col. Nathan Fulk.

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