

# CAPAC CHRONICLES

# JULY 2025

## Newsletter



VOLUME 3

Thank You to our Sponsors & Volunteers  
You are the ❤️ of our STEAM Camp



Week 2 of the 2025 Full STEAM Ahead Theater & Robotics Summer Day Camp — Exploring Planetary Dreams! — kept the momentum going with creativity and STEAM-powered discovery!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, families, sponsors, and volunteers !  
Week 2 was filled with unforgettable experiences!  
Thank you to our families, staff, and volunteers for making this journey so special. Let's keep the energy going!!

*Denise McPhail*

## IMPORTANT DATES

JULY 2025

- 23- Katherine G. Johnson Hall Lab Tours
  - 24 -Amazon & Creative Hut STEAM activity
  - 26 - Performances at 10am & 2pm  
(campers call time is 8:30am)
- Campus trips rain or shine with CAPAC rain ponchos.

Contact us

Isis Macaraeg, CAPAC Support



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The Senator Charles J. Colgan  
Community Arts Benefit Fund





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### Menu Week of July 21 - 25



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Breakfast</b>	Scooters Applesauce 1% Milk	Waffle Flatbread w/ Grape Jelly Orange 1% Milk	Blueberry Muffin 1 Banana 1% Milk	Banana Bread Mango 1% Milk	Cinnamon Roll Peaches 1% Milk
<b>Lunch</b>	Chicken Drumsticks (w/ BBQ sauce Roll, Roasted Potatoes Fruit Mix 1% Milk	Taco Meat (turkey) Shredded Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato 2 Tortilla Fresh Fruit Salad 1% Milk	5 Chicken Meatballs w/ Marinara Sauce, Cheese Hot Dog Bun Steamed Spinach Peaches 1% Milk	Beef Macaroni Pasta Baked Broccoli Florets w/ Creamy Italian Mandarin Orange 1% Milk	Shredded Mozzarella w/ Flatbread Hot Marinara Sauce Salad Cantaloupe 1% Milk

Note: Menu may change for various reasons. Thank you for your understanding.

### LOCATION

Hylton Performing Arts Center  
GMU Sci-Tech Campus  
10960 George Mason Circle,  
Manassas, VA 20110  
Hours: 9am to 3pm  
Monday - Friday  
**Bring Your Water Bottle!**

### BUS MONITORS

Volunteers Needed!  
Support is most needed during  
school bus  
pick-up and drop-off  
(just 30 minutes daily).  
Email [admin@capacweb.org](mailto:admin@capacweb.org) to  
help!

### DRESS CODE

- T-shirts with sleeves only – no tanks, spaghetti straps, or halters.
- Shorts must be fingertip-length or longer.
- Closed-toe, rubber-soled shoes only – no flip-flops.

### EXPLORATION DAY

July 23rd and 24th - All chaperones must wear their camp t-shirts for the on-campus Katherine G. Johnson Hall Lab Tours and Amazon & Creative Hut STEAM activity.

Please note: Campers are only required to wear their t-shirts on July 24th.

### ELECTRONIC POLICY

Cell phones must stay in lockers and may only be used for emergencies.

CAPAC is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken devices.

### VOLUNTEERS

Bus Monitors - Arrive 10 minutes early to ensure safe boarding and exiting.

Chaperones - Arrive to the Hylton Center by 9:00 AM for Katherine G. Johnson Hall Lab Tours. Wear camp t-shirts and badges.

Volunteers are needed on July 26th after the performance to help break down the set and transport it to Extra Space Storage on Route 1 in Dumfries, VA.



# THE ART OF COMMUNICATION

On Monday, CAPAC campers kicked off the week with an exciting and interactive session titled The Art of Communication, led by the incredibly talented Sadara Funches. A National Association of Television Arts & Sciences Regional Student Production Award Recipient, Ms. Funches brought her energy and expertise to the stage—introducing campers to the art of improvisation as a powerful tool for storytelling and self-expression.

Improv, as Ms. Funches explained, isn't just about making people laugh—it's about thinking on your feet, building confidence, and working together to create meaningful moments in real time. She encouraged campers to take creative risks, listen closely, and trust their instincts.

One of the highlights of the day was a live improv demonstration featuring Ms. Funches and STEAM Ambassador Bobbie Bazil. Their playful and quick-witted performance brought the concepts to life, keeping campers fully engaged and eager to participate.

Campers walked away with a deeper understanding of how communication can be creative, collaborative, and fun—both on stage and in everyday life.





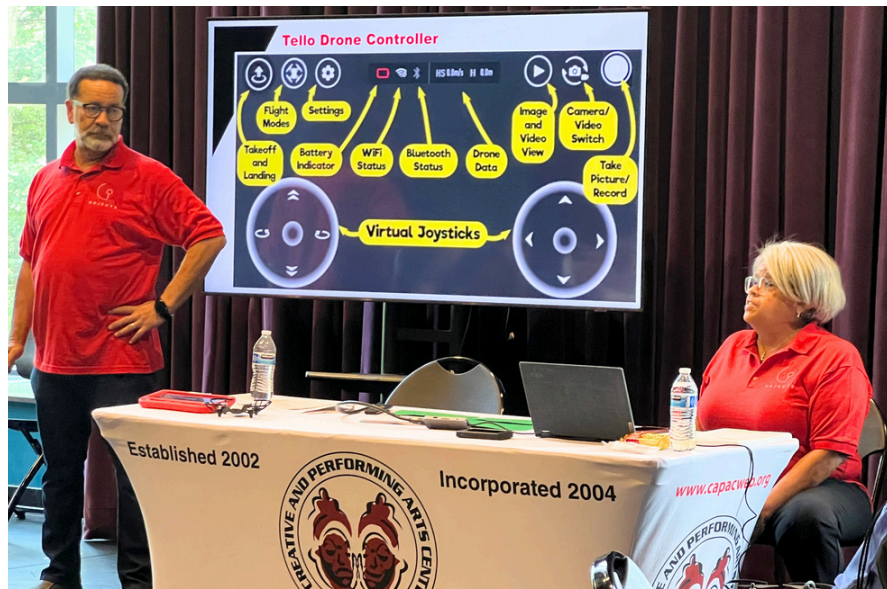
# DRONE TECHNOLOGY WITH AIRBORNE OBJECTS

On Tuesday, CAPAC campers took to the skies—well, almost! Thanks to a hands-on and high-flying workshop led by Steve and Robin

Burke of Airborne Objects, campers were introduced to the fascinating world of drones.

The morning began with an engaging presentation where campers learned the basics of drone technology, including the different types of drones, how they work, and their real-world applications in fields like photography, agriculture, delivery services, and even emergency response.

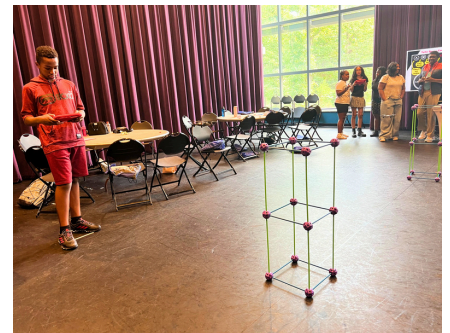
Campers walked away with a new appreciation for drone technology, teamwork, and the joy of innovation.



Steve and Robin Burke of Airborne Objects

Campers were then challenged to maneuver their drones in small teams, applying both STEAM knowledge and creative problem-solving.

Once assembled, the newly built drones were put to the test in a friendly—but fiercely fun—obstacle course competition. The challenge? Keep the drone within the course boundaries while navigating twists, turns, and barriers.







## A TASTY MATH LESSON WITH TEACHER JUSTIN BROWN

On Wednesday, CAPAC campers got a delicious slice of learning during an interactive and engaging math session led by Mr. Justin Brown, a passionate educator and math teacher at Graham Park Middle School.

With 14 years of teaching experience, Mr. Brown brought a unique blend of fun and focus to the campers. Kicking things off with an exciting round of pizza-themed trivia, campers tested their knowledge while warming up their math minds.

The activity quickly transitioned into fraction equations and operations, where students solved real-world problems—all centered around everyone's favorite food: PIZZA! From splitting slices to calculating toppings per pie, Mr. Brown made math both relatable and exciting.







# VEX IQ

## ROBOTICS

On Wednesday and Friday, CAPAC campers stepped into the exciting world of robotics under the expert guidance of Mr. Leonard Newman, a dedicated educator and head coach of the award-winning robotics program at Osbourn High School.

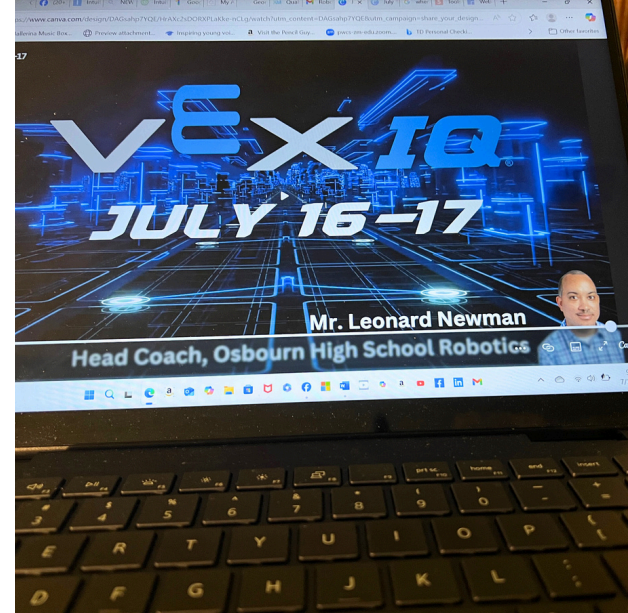
Mr. Newman introduced campers to VEX IQ Robotics, a hands-on engineering challenge typically tackled by high school students. But our talented campers were up to the task—working together to successfully build five fully functioning robots over the two-day session.

With patience, teamwork, and determination, campers learned to assemble motors, gears, and frames while developing skills in problem-solving, design thinking, and collaboration. The energy in the room was electric as teams worked through the technical

challenges, cheered each other on, and celebrated their progress.

To spark inspiration, Mr. Newman also shared an exciting video from a real robotics competition, giving campers a glimpse into the fast-paced, high-tech world of competitive robotics.

By the end of the session, campers not only walked away with new skills but also a greater appreciation for the creativity and complexity behind robotics engineering.







On Thursday, CAPAC campers were treated to an exciting, full-day experience with Micron Technology, Inc., a global leader in memory and data storage solutions. From hands-on activities to career inspiration, the day was packed with learning, innovation, and fun!

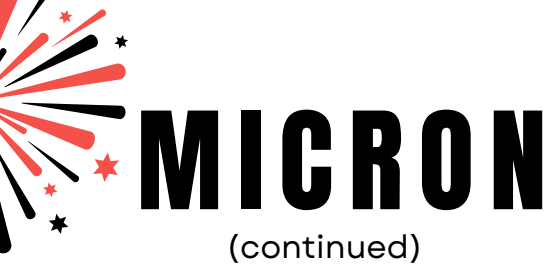
Employees from Micron generously volunteered their time to introduce campers to the world of microchips—tiny but powerful components that are used in everyday items like cell phones, laptops, and vehicles. Campers were amazed to learn just how essential these chips are and how deeply embedded they are in our daily lives.



**EXPLORING  
MICROCHIPS,  
CAREERS &  
CREATIVITY AT CAMP**







In addition to learning the science behind Micron's products, campers got a glimpse into the wide range of careers available at Micron. Volunteers shared their personal career journeys, job roles, and what it's like to work at a high-tech company shaping the future.

But it wasn't all circuits and semiconductors! Micron also hosted a pizza party for the campers and led a race car building activity that ended in a fun and friendly competition. Teams worked together to design, build, and race their cars, showing off their creativity and problem-solving skills.

We're so grateful to Micron Technology for investing in our youth and making STEM education exciting and accessible. From tech talks to race tracks, it was a day our campers won't forget!



Camper Marlon was the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner.







# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

A heartfelt thank you to the incredible volunteers from First Mount Zion Baptist Church Carpenters for Christ, led by Deacon Everett Griggs, for building the set for our Space School Musical production! Their time, craftsmanship, and dedication helped bring our campers' creative journey to life. We couldn't have done it without you!







# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

On Friday, our amazing STEM Ambassadors brought the energy with a fast-paced Math Trivia Challenge! Campers teamed up to solve brain teasers, number puzzles, and math facts—all while cheering each other on. The friendly competition boosted critical thinking skills and reminded everyone that math can be both challenging and fun!

