REALITY REDESIGNED

Put your coffee under lock and key

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

Dream and design are what Trinity High School seniors Jacob Delzell and John Wagner do best. They were among a steering committee who started an Engineering Club at the beginning of the 2016-17 school term. When CTE Director Shannon Edwards told them about a Reality Redesigned challenge that could earn them scholarships and a spot on a reality TV show, it was right up their alley.

The seven-member Trinity team — self-named the Mooks — is embroiled in a competition against 17 other Randolph County middle and high school teams.

“Reality Redesigned: Stack Your Deck” is both a design competition and a television show hosted by Edge Factor, a 21st century company that focuses on building advanced manufacturing communities.

After forming their “dream teams,” team profiles were locked down and a panel of renowned judges started their work.

On March 8 they flipped the cards of the sketch deck to unlock a challenge and then formed a design and a guesstimate of the approximate cost.

The Mooks played the sketch deck and the challenge as they saw it was this: To get through the day, sometimes you need that big cup of coffee. However, every time you go to the bathroom (which is probably due to the coffee) Dave from accounting — the self-proclaimed office “prankster” — decides that

SEE REALITY/PAGE 5

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Vote for the Trinity High School team project design “The Stainless Steel-less Mug” at http://realityredesigned.com/. You can vote once each day.
it would be funny to take your cup of Joe.

The Mooks rose to the challenge with a foolproof design that will hold a specially-designed mug securely in place under lock and key. Estimated prototyping cost is $1,390.

“We flipped the deck March 8 to search for projects and viable solutions,” said Delzell, who is team captain. “We wanted to make a decision that was realistic, cost-effective and possible to make with the resources available.”

John Wagner, also a senior, said he took part in the Engineering Club and Reality Redesigned “because I have an interest in engineering and I enjoy the match and science behind it.”

“The base holds the cup in place,” Delzell said. “You have to have a key to unlock it.”

Wagner is hopeful because their design isn’t costly and won’t take long for them to build.

If their project is one of those selected, winning teams will face off in a televised finale held April 24 at RCC. Winning teams will be given a real-world challenge, a toolbox of resources, and only 84 hours to dream, design, build and prepare to present their ideas. Machining, 3D printing and welding will merge as the ideas flow from the teams while they seek to redesign reality.

As the design clock runs out, contestants will pack up their projects and take them into the studio. Teams will pitch their designs to the judges in front of audience members from the community, with a media recap of their journey during the 84 hours. While the judges are sequestered, the contestants will travel via limousine to a reception where they will network with business leaders. The judges will broadcast live from the reception to announce the winner.

Randolph Community College, through grant funding from the Gene Haas Foundation, is sponsoring this unique opportunity for students in the Randolph County School system. Winners will receive a scholarship to Randolph Community College.

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