



July 2018

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## SYSTEM NEWS RELEASES

### Tech College System Recognizes Student Ambassadors

April 19, 2018 | Conor Smyth



Madison, WI – The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) recognized 16 outstanding technical college students as “State Ambassadors” at a ceremony in Madison on Wednesday evening, in the midst of a two-day leadership development experience. The students will champion opportunities in technical education at events and in publications throughout the coming year.

“Our students are leaders at school, in the workplace and in the community,” said WTCS President Dr. Morna K. Foy. “This program and these 16 individuals exemplify that.”

Baird, an employee-owned, international financial services firm headquartered in Milwaukee, has sponsored the WTCS State Ambassador program since its inception more than a decade ago.

“We’re proud of Wisconsin’s technical colleges and recognize what they do for the state’s economy,” said Lisa Voisin, a managing director with Baird’s Public Finance Team. “Tech college talent is highly valued across economic sectors. Baird is committed to supporting these students and the opportunities provided by our technical colleges,” Voisin said.

The ambassadors’ backgrounds include traditional students attending college immediately following high school graduation, as well as those returning for additional education mid-career, or changing careers.

One of the program’s objectives is to develop greater public awareness and appreciation for the role and value of technical education for individuals, employers and the state’s economy.

## Women in STEM at BTC: Working to Close the Gap

April 30, 2018



Middle-school and high-school students in the Janesville School District take part in Career Cruising, an electronic platform that gauges their interests in future careers. Nearly all of the top ten careers girls listed were in health sciences and education. What didn't show up? Careers in engineering,

math and science. And it's not because girls don't have an aptitude for these areas of study – nothing could be further from the truth. The reason they aren't considering careers in these fields is because they are not aware of the opportunities.

To turn the tide and expose students to career options they may not have otherwise considered, BTC partnered with Janesville School District to hold its first annual Women in Stem event on Monday, April 23. More than 150 middle-school and high-school aged girls from Marshall, Franklin and Edison Middle Schools, Parker and Craig High Schools, and Rock River, Rock University, TAGOS Leadership Academy and Arise Virtual magnet schools had the opportunity to learn about careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"It was an eye-opening experience for these girls," said Patty Hernandez, Janesville School District. "One attendee told me the experience taught her that 'it's cool to go into an area like science.'"

The goal of the Women in STEM event was to tear down the stereotypes that 'girls can't do math' and get them excited about the possibilities of a career in fields that are traditionally male-dominated., "It's about encouraging girls to study and work in these fields and raise awareness about the growing job opportunities for people with a strong background in STEM," said Hernandez.

Increasing the interest in these fields is critical to our local economy as well as occupations that require a STEM background are growing at a faster rate than there are qualified people to fill them. "There are 688 manufacturing job openings in Rock County right now," Hernandez said. "Getting girls excited and interested in these fields will close that employment gap and open up more opportunities for all of our students."

## **BTC Announces Partnership with the University of Wisconsin Whitewater**

May 15, 2018



*Business program credits will now easily transfer from BTC to UW Whitewater*

- **Partnership will allow BTC students to easily transfer credits to UW-Whitewater**
- **Dr. Tracy Pierner, president of BTC and Dr. John Chenoweth, Dean of the College of Business and Economics will make remarks at the signing ceremony**

On Wednesday, May 16, leaders from Blackhawk Technical College and the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater took part in a signing ceremony announcing the partnership between the schools' business programs. The partnership will make the transition seamless for BTC business program students to transfer credits to UW Whitewater's business program. The partnership has been in the works for several years and includes BTC enhancing its coursework and textbooks to compliment UW Whitewater's.

"We have been working diligently to make this partnership a reality and are thrilled to be able to offer seamless transferability of our courses to our BTC students," said Jeff Kropp, BTC's business program chair. "Students will have the advantage of receiving a solid foundation of study in business courses and if they chose, easily transfer to UW to specialize in upper level business-focused classes. It's a win-win."

## **Stanley Correctional Inmates Use Time in Prison to Grow Their Education**

STANLEY, Wis. (WAOW) -

Inmates at Stanley Correctional Institution use their time behind bars to open new doors when they get out.

The facility offers numerous degree and certificate programs for those incarcerated.

Nearly 60 inmates walked across the stage at SCI on Friday with their loved ones there to cheer them on. The vocational programs are offered in partnership with Chippewa Valley Technical College.

"It's good to have an education for when you return to the community so you can better yourself for the community," Audie, an SCI inmate said.

Deputy Warden Mario Canziani said it's a level of accomplishment for the men. The newest program at the state prison is welding, beginning just last year.

"We've got eight inmate students that are completing vocational welding," SCI Welding Instructor, Lance Hahn said. "They're ready for manufacturing and construction."

While the graduates acknowledged the rough days that got them to SCI, many of them are now anxious to better the community when their time at Stanley is up.

"I've been revoked twice and I know what was waiting for me when I got out there and I don't want to return back to that," Aaron, Wausau native and SCI welding graduate said. "I'm not able to support myself or my kids and I turned to crime and it's a cycle I need to end and I'm confident, thinking positive that I won't come back."

More than 90 percent of the Department of Corrections inmates will eventually be released. These programs prepare them for life after serving a sentence.

## Choosing Trades: CVTC, Local Employers Partner to Support Trades

SAMANTHA STETZER

Apr 23, 2018



At 7 a.m. Carson Johannsen, 19, is working in a lab for his machine tooling techniques program at Chippewa Valley Technical College. By lunchtime he's learning math and later programming.

By 4 p.m. he starts his shift at W.S. Darley & Co., where he will stay until 8:30 p.m. But then he begins homework.

His weekends don't offer much of a break, either – Johannsen has another job.

And he'll repeat that cycle until he earns his associates degree from CVTC. Yet, in his second semester at the collage, the Eau Claire native already has a career in the field he's studying, applying what he's been taught in his classroom on a computer numerical control (CNC) machine, for W.S. Darley in Chippewa Falls.

"They've done a really great job for me," Johannsen said. "They've helped me out a lot; it honestly just feels like I get paid to go to school for four extra hours a day."

Johannsen is just one of a multitude students at CVTC who are already working in the fields they are studying at the college. The college's Dean of skilled trades, engineering and manufacturing, Jeff Sullivan, said many students within the trades and engineering programs at CVTC are already employed in their careers early on into their education at the college.

Tewalt, who has been with CVTC for more than 20 years, described the phenomenon like that of the once reliable-now-outdated floppy disk. The function of the disk is still to save files, much like more fluid, larger systems of USB or external drives of today, but is no longer relevant.

“(It’s) still saving but obsolete, because no one is doing that way,” Tewalt said.

On that same token, students are continually inundated with new technology and new ways of learning that technology. It’s programming options made on advice by local employers that are done to encourage more students to enter the trades, Skar said.

“We try to keep the school on cutting edge so the students want to be enroll there,” said Skar, a CVTC graduate.

The schedule Johannsen follows during his school day is just one kind of schedule students can have at CVTC, Sullivan said.

An apprenticeship program allows students to come into class for a limited number of weeks from elsewhere while they learn a new skill, while still maintaining a career. This program is sponsored by employers or labor groups and allows students the chance to earn a living while learning.

Other programs have shifts, where students come to labs and classes in morning, midday or nightly increments, and some students don’t have classes on Fridays to allow them to take up weekend work more easily.

Some students, Sullivan explained, may only be taking one semester of classes to receive a certification through their employer while others are there for a 2-year program to earn a degree. Some programs also offer five entry dates into the program throughout the year.

This is done, Tewalt explained, to not only cater to students’ schedules but also to the types of students who use the labs and classrooms for their own career improvement. Some students may be in their 30s or 40s with families a full job, while others are just out of high school taking the next educational step.

At Darley, Johannsen said the company has been understanding of his flexible schedule and sees him as a student first, especially if he has a project or school work he has to finish.

“I don’t think it’s all I ever want to do but I think it’s going to open up my life and ready me for education in a way that I didn’t think it would,” Johannsen said. “I’m excited to where this will bring my life... I think I chose correctly.”



## **CVTC Evolves, Budget to Stay About the Same**

### **College revamps spaces, programs**

By Andrew Dowd | Leader-Telegram staff

Published on June 7, 2018 | Updated 12:24 a. m.



Front entrance of Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire.

STAFF FILE PHOTO BY DAN REILAND

“The budget is flat, but everything underneath it is changing,” CVTC President Bruce Barker said. “Our mission never changes.”

The college has adjusted some of its offerings to match demand expressed from regional employers who need workers, including the restaurant and hospitality industry.

The home for CVTC’s new culinary program is part of the Business Education Center, 620 W. Clairemont Ave., undergoing a \$1.5 million renovation. The first culinary courses are set to begin there this fall with an initial class of 24 students already signed up and another 24 in January.

“That program is already full with a waiting list,” Barker said.

CVTC also is starting a Foundations of Teacher Education program next year to train people to be teachers’ assistants in K-12 school districts.

Another part of CVTC’s Business Education Center will get attention in the coming year as the second floor gets its first upgrades in decades.

**Tax impact**

CVTC's proposed budget would mean \$85 in property taxes on a \$100,000 home, about \$1 less than tax bills sent out in December.

Local property taxes account for less than a quarter of CVTC's budget, with other sources of revenue including tuition, state aids and fees making up the rest.

CVTC accounts for the smallest portion of local property tax bills, with more money going toward K-12 public schools, and city and county government. Four percent of an Eau Claire homeowner's 2018 tax bill due this year went to CVTC.

CVTC's property tax levy has been subject to a freeze limiting its growth to be proportional to new construction in the college's 11-county district.

The value of property within the district is expected to increase 4 percent in the next fiscal year, which will help absorb the slight increase in CVTC's tax levy and make a lower tax rate for homeowners.

## High School Students in the Fox Valley Receive College Diplomas and Certificates

by Pafoua Yang, FOX 11 News  
Thursday, May 10th 2018



*FVTC Automotive Technician program high school graduates Thursday, May 10, 2018. (WLUK/Pafoua Yang)*

APPLETON (WLUK) -- More than a dozen high school students in the Fox Valley area received either a college certificate or a diploma today.

Theo Kretzmann is just weeks away from finishing high school in Omro, but he's already getting a college diploma.

"It's good, I'm getting a head start, most students aren't even started yet," Kretzmann said.

Kretzmann and 4 others are the first group of high school students to graduate from the Fox Valley Tech's 2-year 'Automotive Youth Education Systems' program.

Ten other high schoolers received a technician certificate, for their first year, including Zeb Punzel of Fox Valley Lutheran High School.

"It's really cool that I can really further my education while I'm still in high school and do what I really want to do which is working on cars," said Punzel.

## **This Generation of Women Not Just 'Farm Wives' Anymore Colleen Kottke, Wisconsin State Farmer**

Published 4:45 p.m. CT May 30, 2018 | Updated 12:04 p.m. CT June 1, 2018



*(Photo: Submitted)*

For many generations, the heads of farm operations across America were likely to be men clad in overalls wearing a cap emblazoned with the logo of a local seed dealership or cooperative.

Back then, most women were viewed as homemakers who raised the children, kept the family fed and clothed, and were delegated as the indispensable "go-fer" who ran for spare parts, delivered meals out to the field and kept watch over sows during farrowing – all the while keeping hearth and home running efficiently.

Although many of these duties were important to the success of the farm, they were often looked upon as secondary in nature. Today women are stepping into the forefront and playing more prominent roles on the farm and in careers in the agribusiness industry once dominated by their male counterparts.

"My grandma did all those behind the scenes jobs that made the farm tick including all the bookwork," said Fox Valley Technical College graduate Dariann Novitski. "Now we're starting to step out from behind the label of just the "farmer's wife" and pursuing agricultural careers of our own."

siblings, is able to carry out almost every function on the family farm—even breeding the cows, a skill she learned while pursuing an Animal Science degree at NWTC.

“Some people are surprised that I’m A.I. certified, but it really isn’t about being male or female, but being knowledgeable about what you’re doing,” Kroll said. “My female friends also handle a lot of the jobs on the farm once considered a man’s job.”

FVTC graduate Taylor Klein has plans to combine her small herd of cows with her boyfriend’s herd of cows on a dairy operation in Dodge County. Immersed in the farm community all of her life, Klein says the achievements and ambitions of women are more widely accepted today.

“I haven’t run into that bias where people believe a woman shouldn’t be running or carrying on a dairy farm,” Klein said. “I have several friends who have gone home and taken over the family operation as opposed to their brothers doing it. From where I’m from that’s common.

“We grew up learning to do the same things as our brothers and it’s much more common for (girls) to be driven towards those same jobs and positions held by men,” she added.

### **Seizing Opportunities**

Despite not growing up on a production agriculture operation, Micheala Slind wanted to work in an agriculture-related field. A friend persuaded her to become a Dairy Science major upon entering CALS at UW-Madison.

“I knew I wanted to work in a field where I would get to interact with people every day and be a part of a team,” said Slind who will take on the role of a dairy consultant and nutritionist with Cargill Animal Nutrition after graduating this spring.

Slind said she isn’t surprised at all at the growing trend of women seeking degrees in agriculture.

“A career in agriculture has always been extremely appealing to me and I think many of my classmates see the same opportunities,” Slind said. “A chance to

“While all students are animal care and well-being focused, there is a different level of emotion most of the young ladies display when dealing with cows or calves,” she said. “I think employers also feel that females are “better caregivers” in general. A stereotype or sure, but may have some merit in many instances.”

Klein says having a direct hand in nurturing an animal from birth on up through its life-cycle is gratifying.

“An animal depends solely on you to provide everything they need to grow and keep them healthy,” Klein said. “You take them from being a young – sometimes sickly – calf, push them and watch them grow, breeding them and then watching them produce. You see the full circle from your first calf and you do the same thing over and over again, from one generation to the next. That’s so rewarding.”

### **Decision makers**

Novitske says some of the misconception about agriculture being a male-only industry may stem from a misunderstanding of the scope of agriculture.

“When I was young, I was blind to all the opportunities that agriculture offered. Attending college I realized that there’s a lot more to farming than working on a farm,” said Novitske.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, women are making decisions on everything from bookkeeping to crop security.

“Women are making a lot of the important decisions today on the farms they run or visit,” said Davis. “That’s really not shocking to people working in the agribusiness industry today.”

Klein says her interest in cattle genetics has increased over the years since providing mating input on her string of show cows. She expects that input to continue in her partnership with her boyfriend.

“Of course, breeding decision are something that we’ll discuss, but I have the final say over my animals,” she said with a laugh.

## Gateway Grads Encouraged to 'Seize the Moment'

By TERRY FLORES [tflores@kenoshanews.com](mailto:tflores@kenoshanews.com)

May 15, 2018 Updated May 15, 2018



SOMERS — The president of an Elkhorn-based manufacturing company told graduates of Gateway Technical College their diplomas give them an edge in a world that should be taking technical education more seriously.

Michael Reader,  
president of Precision

Plus, which specializes in Swiss-turned components, was the keynote speaker at Tuesday night's commencement at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside's Sports and Activity Center.

Reader, who also serves on Gateway's foundation board, said those in the technical fields "suffer from a perception problem."

"This perception has been reinforced for decades by those that want us to think the only honorable profession is one that requires an advanced degree from a four-year university or more," he said.

Anything less, according to Reader, has been viewed as a "lower status" and is the reason more students are not encouraged to pursue technical educations and careers.

"I am here to tell you this is their problem, not yours ... not mine," he said.

Reader alluded to the "crushing debt" many students who are in four-year college programs are under while following others' dreams.

Jerrell Griffin, 29, of Kenosha, graduated with a barber technologist degree, saying he always enjoyed cutting hair.

“This is something I do to give back. It’s not just about the money,” said Griffin, who now has a license to practice.

Nortoya Evans, 37, of Kenosha, who earned a degree in cosmetology, said she has been at it long enough and it was time for her to do something she loves. She plans to open her own business to showcase her specialty in styling beards and dreadlocks.

“And I want to be a role model for my kids,” she said, proudly displaying the black graduation cap decorated with the help of her six children.

Luis Yon, 34, of Kenosha, earned a marketing degree, which he said will help him empower students in his native Guatemala and at schools in Waukegan, Ill. The Join Foundation, of which he is part, is also planning to eventually help minority students with leadership programs in at least one public school in Kenosha in the next five years.

“This has helped me to grow and create better opportunities for our students,” he said. “We also want them to go to college.”

Gateway’s commencement ceremony recognized 947 prospective candidates for graduation from programs completed last summer and fall and the 2018 spring semester. Of them, 494 graduates earned associate degrees or technical diplomas this spring.

According to Gateway officials, 395 students participated in the commencement ceremony, the largest attendance since 2012.



## LTC Foundation Announces Promising Futures Scholarship Campaign

5/4/2018

### **CLEVELAND, WI –**

The Lakeshore Technical College Foundation announces the launch of the Promising Futures Scholarship Campaign, a new initiative to raise funds to help high school seniors and adult students access the financial resources needed to enroll at LTC. With a campaign goal of \$1 million, the LTC Foundation has secured \$764,000 in donor contributions to date.

As a lead donor, The West Foundation provided a \$150,000 gift to the campaign.

“Education is vital to building strong communities,” said Tom Bare, chair of The West Foundation Board. “Ruth and John West were passionate about providing people with education opportunities, and the Promising Futures Scholarship Campaign is an ideal investment in the future of the community.”

The Promising Futures Scholarship Campaign will make the dream of a college education a reality by addressing three key initiatives: Promise Scholarships for high school seniors, Futures Scholarships for adult students, and Emergency Grants for LTC students in need of immediate financial relief.

“Lakeshore Technical College is a pathway to a better future, and we believe strongly that economic barriers should not prevent people from enrolling at LTC. In Manitowoc and Sheboygan counties more than one third of high school seniors face significant financial need each year. Additionally, one half of adult students who enroll at LTC have no ability to contribute to college tuition and expenses,” said LTC President Dr. Paul Carlsen. “The money raised for need-based scholarships will alleviate financial and other barriers for these students.”

Promise Scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors residing in or attending schools within the LTC District and cover the gap between Pell grant awards and LTC tuition. Futures Scholarships, ranging from \$500-\$1,500, will be awarded to adult students who have no ability to fund the costs of tuition, fees, and supplies. Emergency Grants will provide immediate financial relief for students in crisis.

“We believe that LTC is key to preparing the skilled workforce our area employers need to fuel their growth,” said Campaign Co-Chair Tryg Jacobson. “LTC graduates who receive high-quality, hands-on learning at LTC have the ability to transform their lives and make a better future for themselves and their

## **Madison College's South Campus Could be an Economic Driver**

The influence of MATC's planned south campus could be greater than the recent developments on East Washington because of its human and economic impacts.

BY JOE VANDEN PLAS



Steve Goldberg dreams big. Actually, he imagines big and as the gift development specialist for the planned Madison College south campus, he has an empowering image coursing through his mind as he raises money to make the new campus a reality.

Noting that people who live in south Madison are three times more likely to require public assistance and 30% less likely to have a post-secondary credential, Goldberg says a less tangible benefit of the new campus, which could be open for business by the fall of 2019, will be an uplifting impact on the people who live, work, and worship there.

“If you can picture in your mind’s eye a couple of years from now, a family of color raising children on that side of town, pointing to this new building where Park Street meets the Beltline, and telling their children, ‘Do you see that building over there? That’s our college. In a few years, you and your sister get to attend our college.’

“There is a lot of power in that,” Goldberg adds. “It’s not going to be a remodeled hand-me-down. It’s going to be a brand new campus, built specifically for community education.”

The man who convinced Goldberg to come out of retirement and lead the fundraising drive agrees completely. Then again, the south campus was Dr. Jack E. Daniels’ vision to begin with, and if ground breaks in June as he hopes, he

Three technology labs will feature some Cisco and custom service training within the technology realm, but perhaps the most promising tech feature will be the early college STEM academy, which is a partnership with the Madison Metropolitan School District to offer a dual-credit technology curriculum. Two years from the start of the new south campus, Daniels hopes to see up to 200 select Madison junior and senior high school students come to the college, do all their educational training there, and receive college credit that is also used for their high school requirements.

According to Daniels, it could be possible for a junior or senior to take 100% of his or her classes at the south campus and receive both their high school diploma and their associate degrees, as well.

"The top two industries in Dane County are health care and technology," he notes, "so we want to position ourselves well for that."

### **Entrepreneurially centered**

Not only could there be more business development in close proximity to the south campus, the new campus also will include an arm of Madison College's entrepreneurial center. Since the majority of employers in Madison are small businesses, the facility will be a resource for them with seminars, workshops, and collaborative engagement with nearby partners such as the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County and the Madison Black Chamber of Commerce, Omega Schools and Centro Hispano, the Joyce and Marshall Erdman Access Community Health Center Clinic, Head Start's Park Street location, and the Literacy Network. The center also exists to review and develop business plans and provide other entrepreneurial services.

"That [Park Street] corridor in itself is a health corridor at the other end, but it can also move down toward the Beltline," Daniels says. "There is also the potential to have other, different types of businesses, a greater diversity of businesses within that corridor that we can actually assist with education, training, and being engaged collaboratively with other groups that help economic development in that area."

The 75,000-square-foot south campus building also will be open to the community for meetings, events, and association activities. It will offer a full menu of student services, including financial literacy, and serve as a seven-day-a-week campus with alternative programming such as weekend college for people who can't take advantage of course offerings Monday through Friday.

It also promises to be more accessible than the Truax campus. In the past, Daniels has cited the transportation issues faced by south Madison residents who want to enroll in programming at the Truax campus. Even with public

## Madison College Hopes to Train More students in Auto Collision Repair

By: Amanda Quintana

Posted: May 12, 2018 12:29 PM CDT

Updated: May 13, 2018 09:12 AM CDT

MADISON, Wis - On Saturday, graduates of the Madison College Collision Repair program showed off some of their hard work at the annual Pride in Your Ride car show.

Instructor Aaron Stroot hopes the event brings awareness to the program and the lack of workers in auto repair.

"Our field is a field that not a lot of people know. The only reason people know about auto collision is when you crash your car," said Stroot. "The industry is begging for help. They don't have enough students. The students that we graduate are getting jobs right away."

He said many high schools do not offer collision repair courses anymore because a paint booth and supplies are too expensive. Some schools still offer a basic mechanics class, but rarely teach auto body repair.

Madison College offers a one- or two-year collision repair curriculum. This year 13 students graduated from the two-year program and 11 graduated from the one-year program.



Stroot hopes the car show inspires other students in the community to apply.

"Cars are expensive and they're getting more and more advanced and you just can't do this out of your garage. You need to get trained at it to do a quality repair for these newer technology cars," he said.

All proceeds raised at the car show benefit the MCCR tool scholarship for graduates.

## UW, Madison College Strike Agreement to Offer Scholars of Promise Free Tuition

*By Nicholas Garton*

*May 11, 2018*



Madison college and the University of Wisconsin entered into a landmark agreement Thursday morning during a banquet event at the Madison College Truax Campus that expands the Scholars of Promise program to some students who earn their Associate Degree at Madison College to receive their baccalaureate degree from UW-Madison without paying tuition or fees.

Many of the first cohort of Scholars of Promise students, who began classes in the Fall of 2017, were present at the luncheon and have expressed their intent to transfer to Wisconsin after they receive their Associate Degree in Spring 2019.

Chaya Miller is one of the first Scholars of Promise recipients. Miller is a West High graduate who completed a Learning to Learn course that enables students to know important resources around campus, have one-on-one time with mentors, and use resources like the writing center. She finished her first semester with a 3.25 GPA.

Miller said she wasn't great at school and was providing for herself on her own. She didn't think she could go to college or afford an institution like Wisconsin. But because of Scholars of Promise, she will be able to pursue a four-year degree and pursue a career in nursing.

“These determined students have proven to be hardworking, resourceful and persistent. These individuals committed themselves to the goal of an Associate’s Degree. Though financially disadvantaged, these individuals can now pursue the dream of a college degree and the career of their choice.”

Anyone interested in more information about the Scholars of Promise program can call the Scholars of Promise office at 608-246-6036.

## GRANT SPARKS MAJOR RENOVATION OF IT PROGRAMS AT MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

MAY 7, 2018

A \$750,000 grant from the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) is helping Mid-State Technical College make significant upgrades to its IT Software Developer program to meet the needs of local employers. Improvements funded by the WTCS “Core Industry Grant” include a more collaborative, student-centered teaching environment and the ability to connect IT classrooms across multiple Mid-State locations. The technology and equipment upgrades are also helping the College expand its evening offerings and begin to develop classes for delivery online.



*Mid-State IT students collaborate in front of one of several new large monitors during their Introduction to Programming class. The monitors were recently purchased with funds from the College's WTCS Core Industry Grant and are intended to create a more collaborative, student-centered environment that reflects what the students will eventually experience in the workplace.*

The IT overhaul represents Mid-State's response to requests from local businesses to expose students to the collaborative, flexible work environment today's IT software developers and technicians work in, as well as important “soft skills” like communication, teamwork, creativity and time management. Over the course of the 2016–17 and the 2017–18 academic years, Mid-State will receive the full \$750,000 to purchase new equipment and hire faculty and lab assistants.

Students are already using the new grant-funded classroom technology and new pod-based furniture that allows them to face each other as they collaborate and engage in the “agile” software development methodologies now standard in the IT industry. The new technology supports sharing of digital content from the

## Parents, Daughter Graduate Together from Mid-State Technical College

**WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. (WSAW)** -- It was a big day for students at Mid-State Technical College in Wisconsin Rapids as they received their diplomas, but it was even more so for one family in particular.



Two generations graduated together Thursday. Sierra Rehberg and her mother Deanna and father Shawn joined her at the commencement ceremony where all three got their associates degrees.

It was Sierra who motivated her parents to go back to school. "I was coming from high school to go into the accounting program. That's what my mom had always wanted to do so she said maybe I should do that and I was like yeah lets do it together!" explained Sierra.

Shawn Rehberg said they planned a big celebration at the end. "The coolest thing is that when we went back to school they planned a Alaskan cruise as a last big celebration. The whole family is taking off in a month or two on an Alaskan cruise as a big celebration as hey we did it."

Sierra also says her degree in accounting will help her grow within the bank she works for.

As for the parents, they plan to use their degrees to further grow their business in the area.

Mid-State says it was the family support that got them to this point. "They were quite the support for each other and obviously we do what we can to make sure our students are successful," explained Bobbie Damrow, the Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development at Mid-State.

The Rehberg family is graduating debt free thanks to foundation grants and scholarships.



## **MATC's Culinary Arts Program Gets its Close-Up in a New TV series on Milwaukee PBS**

**Nancy Stohs, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel**

Published 12:00 p.m. CT April 23, 2018

### *First Course*

If you've ever wondered what it takes to become a chef, you'll want to tune in to a new four-part television series produced by Milwaukee PBS called "Cook. Plate. Dine."

The series, which airs starting May 3 on WMVS-TV (Channel 10), goes behind the scenes of Milwaukee Area Technical College's Culinary Arts Program.

There's a bit of a promotional tone in the narration, not surprisingly, but not without merit. Plenty of Milwaukee's best chefs trained at MATC, among them restaurateur Joe Bartolotta, who appears throughout a couple of the episodes. Among them, the nine instructors in the school's 50-year-old, accredited program have more than 200 years of industry experience. And, as Bartolotta says on screen, the training kitchens at MATC "are probably better than any commercial kitchen in the city."

But if the first episode is any indication, most of what you'll see on screen is students — students learning techniques in class but also one-on-one interviews in which they describe their experiences at the school, their passion for cooking and how they came to choose this career.

A student whose Peruvian mother cooked traditional Peruvian dishes for dinner every night, for example, realized that he wanted to be part of "this whole cultural experience with food." Another, who says she was cooking for her family from the age of 8, says "food has always brought us together." Other students — and instructors — reference parents or grandparents who inspired them.

Bohdan Zachary, general manager for Milwaukee PBS, was inspired to create the series when he literally took a wrong turn. He was in town in the fall of 2015 to interview for the job and, new to the MATC building, accidentally found himself at the student-run 6th Street Cafe, where the sight of 30 students in chef's garb listening to their instructor made a big impression.

Milwaukee PBS offices are in the MATC downtown building on N. 6th St. because the technical college is the license holder for Milwaukee's public TV stations.

Filming of the series began the following spring with MATC's Five Star Food & Wine Evening, an annual scholarship fundraiser, and concluded last May at commencement. Roughly 700 hours of footage was shot.

He thinks this “look behind the curtain” will appeal to anyone curious about what it takes to become a chef, and “not just foodies — this is beyond foodies.”

For anyone considering a culinary career, it shows the many job possibilities that are out there, he added, from restaurants to food trucks, private clubs and catering. “Compared to 10 years ago, we have a very vibrant food space in the Milwaukee area.”

Ironically, the series is also a reality check for a generation that grew up on the Food Network.

“The Food Network created excitement about the industry,” Busalacchi said, but a culinary career is “not all about TV cameras and half-hour shows.” (Although that’s exactly what the Milwaukee PBS series *is* about.)

“The truth is, you’re working with people, you’re on your feet all day, five days a week, and often on weekends.”

That said, “it really is a rewarding industry if this is what you want to do.”

No doubt many of the students would agree. Whether they’re learning how to flip an egg or julienne carrots, they do look like they’re having fun.

Tending to what look to be chicken breasts in a skillet, a student featured in the first episode smiles at the camera and says: “I’m actually excited to wake up at 6 in the morning to come to class.”

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*Facebook: [jsonline.com/food/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/jsonline.com/food/facebook).*

## When to watch

The four half-hour episodes of “Cook. Plate. Dine.” will air on Milwaukee PBS Channel 10 at 7:30 p.m. on consecutive Thursdays (following “Around the Corner with John McGivern”) beginning May 3. On May 31, Milwaukee PBS will air all four episodes back to back starting at 7:30 p.m.

Please check [milwaukeepbs.org](http://milwaukeepbs.org) for the full schedule of repeat airings.

## 'Investing in students:' House of Harley-Davidson announces technical school scholarships

POSTED 7:18 AM, MAY 3, 2018, BY TRISHA BEE, *UPDATED AT 08:51AM, MAY 3, 2018*



House of Harley-Davidson

MILWAUKEE — The House of Harley-Davidson is giving a boost to high school students who want to pursue an education at a local technical college. “Full Throttle Technical College Boost” is set up by the House of Harley-Davidson as an annual scholarship fund.

According to a press release, the company will award two graduating high school seniors with a \$1,000 scholarship to be used towards their education at any campus of Gateway Technical College or Milwaukee Area Technical College.

A panel will select two recipients – one student from a Milwaukee County high school and one student from a Racine County high school. The House of Harley-Davidson has locations in both counties.

“We believe in the future of Milwaukee and Racine Counties and we believe in investing in students who chase their dreams,” said Jeff Binkert, president of House of Harley-Davidson. “This is our way to support education for those who are interested in advancing their current career or for those who are planning to transition into a new employment field. Wisconsin’s excellent technical college system makes that possible.”\

The recipients must enroll at any campus of Gateway Technical College or Milwaukee Area Technical College for the Fall 2018 semester. The scholarships will be awarded on June 29, 2018. More details to follow.

## STUDENT OF THE YEAR FINDS LIFE PASSION AT MORAINE PARK



Life is too short not to love what you do. That was the exact mindset that brought Joseph (Joey) Jaeger to Moraine Park Technical College in 2016. However, Jaeger's path didn't lead him directly to here. His plan out of high school was to earn his college

degree and then one day take over his family's business, Performance Roofing Systems, Inc., in Richfield.

Jaeger graduated from Hartford Union High School in 2001 and then began his college career at the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater.

"I worked summer months with my dad, I looked forward to it," Jaeger said. "I was proud to be a part of the family business."

Jaeger also had a racing career. He raced on dirt tracks in communities such as Beaver Dam, Oshkosh, and Manitowoc.

"My dad has been an avid stock car driver since the 70's and worked as a roofer, so I was born into both," Jaeger said. "I can remember being around the age of six and climbing ladders with my dad and helping him with minuscule tasks, like holding the end of a tape measure."

In 2006, Jaeger graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater cum laude, with a bachelor's degree in urban planning and a minor in general business.

"I worked for my family's business until 2011, when I realized it wasn't something I was passionate about," Jaeger said. "It was a wonderful experience, I gained a lot of knowledge, and it supported my racing pastime, but it just wasn't for me."

After leaving the family business, he opened a single employee shop, buying junk cars, in the fall of 2011.

“My experience has been wonderful here because I took advantage of the opportunities the College has to offer,” Jaeger said. “I have gone on volunteer trips with the SNA to New York, New Orleans and will be going to Tennessee the end of April. There we will volunteer with Remote Area Medical to offer healthcare assistance to those who otherwise couldn’t afford it.”

Of course, this is just a glimpse of Jaegers involvement at Moraine Park and within his community. Faculty and staff rave about the type of person and student he is.

“Joey isn’t just a great student, he is a great person,” Kerry DeGroot, Moraine Park nursing instructor said. “The healthcare facility that hires him will benefit from his caring, compassionate and knowledgeable approach to nursing. I look forward to watching him grow in the field.”

For this reason, and many more, Jaeger was named the Moraine Park Technical College 2018 Student of the Year.

“I would say that being nominated for Student of the Year was my greatest achievement as a student,” Jaeger said. “But, actually being selected as the 2018 Student of the Year is one of the biggest accomplishments of my life.”

So what is the next step for Jaeger? Graduation on May 19!

“I plan on taking my boards by June 10, which is also my birthday,” said Jaeger. “That way I can celebrate my birthday, graduation and passing my boards all at one time.”

His ultimate goal is to work at a local hospital in the Emergency Department (ED).

“I love how fast paced the ED is and the teamwork atmosphere,” Jaeger said. “I am more than willing to do what I can to positively impact people and strengthen the healthcare field.”

Graduation day will be one of great pride for Jaeger, he has worked hard to get where he is and is excited to begin working in the field.

## Gas Utility Program at MPTC to be Full of Students When it Starts

TERRI PEDERSON [tpederson@wiscnews.com](mailto:tpederson@wiscnews.com)

May 10, 2018



Beaver Dam Mayor Becky Glewen attended an open house at Moraine Park Technical College on Wednesday that unveiled the new Energy Education Center at the school. She is shown talking with Alan and Ramona Ehrhardt. Terri Pederson/Daily Citizen

A new area of Beaver Dam Moraine Park Technical College will be filled with students when the first gas utility construction and service class starts in June.

It was filled with visitors Wednesday as MPTC hosted the Beaver Dam Chamber of Commerce May Business After Hours to unveil the new Energy Education Center at its Beaver Dam campus.

Steve Logan will be the instructor for the gas utility class, and said that it is a nine-month program to prepare the students to be hired by utilities and other area contractors.

“What we heard from Alliant and We Energies and other contractors that there was a shortage of natural gas construction workers,” Logan said. “Students get both classroom and field instruction.”

There will be 16 students in the program, Logan said. They will begin on June 18 and finish in the middle of March.

Those attending the open house were given tours of the Moraine Park campus, which also houses the engine technology training center for Mercury Marine. The campus is home to a national training facility for Mercury Marine technicians.

Beaver Dam also offers an electrical power distribution program, housing a pole field, lift trucks and other equipment to train electrical power technicians, as well as a portable training lab for Wisconsin firefighters.

## **Nicolet Awarded Nearly \$1 Million in State Grants to Expand Opportunities for Students**

April 11, 2018

Nicolet College was recently awarded nearly \$1 million in competitive state grants from the Wisconsin Technical College System.

“Every dollar helps students reach their goals and learn the skills they need for successful careers,” said Nicolet College President Richard Nelson.

“In the end, we all benefit. Many of these grants focus on furthering flexible learning so more people bring increased skills to jobs in our communities. The college’s flexible learning approach is known as Nicolet My Way.”

Nicolet applied for 11 grants. For the second straight year, the college was awarded 100 percent funding for each application that was submitted. The 2018-19 grants total \$945,265.

Specifically, the grants will allow the college to:

- Expand the newly-structured Nicolet My Way Welding program that focuses on teaching competencies and allows students to progress through at their own pace.
- Launch a Nicolet My Way pilot program that will bring the Welding program to five area high schools. Students will have the opportunity to earn a Nicolet Technical Diploma in Welding right in the high school. The grant will also pay for high-tech welding simulators for each school. The technology accelerates learning and can shorten the time necessary to earn the college credential. Participating high schools include Rhinelander, Northland Pines, Tomahawk, Laona and Mercer.
- Provide direct support for under-resourced students. The effort will provide additional college preparation workshops, more support for students taking online classes, additional tutoring for students, financial guidance and assistance, and career planning and development services.
- Fund numerous activities with middle and high schools in the Nicolet District. These will include career exploration events, skills competitions, and college visits for students. The grant also funds professional development for high school teachers teaching college-level credit classes in their high schools.

Other grants support GED and HSED education, fund testing of new instructional technologies, advance literacy in communities, and fund professional development activities for Nicolet staff.



## Nicolet to Offer Nicolet My Way Format for IT Students

Published on 05/14/2018

Already seeing success in the format with their welding program, Nicolet College will continue to expand their Nicolet my Way offering.



Nicolet My Way gives students a chance to complete their coursework outside of the traditional semester structure. The program offers almost monthly start dates, and allows the students to complete the program at their own pace. Nicolet will assign each student an Academic Coach who will regularly check in and help students stay on track with their plan.

The school announced this month that they will begin to offer the Nicolet My Way programing for their Information Technology instruction .

Dean of Enrollment Erika Warning says that many students need a convenience factor to complete coursework and fit college around their busy lives.

One key component of the format is online instruction. In that same announcement, the school says that nearly 1/3 of credits taken at Nicolet are through online courses, including some degrees available entirely online.

Nicolet's IT program will officially convert to the Nicolet My Way format this fall. The welding programing launched this past winter to great success.

## Oneida County Jail Program Provides Education Option Behind Bars



Educator Darlene Machtan is helping Kenneth Shoemaker complete his HSED through a program run through the Oneida County Jail and Nicolet College. Started last fall, 25 participants have been selected to take part.

June 8, 2018

BY NAOMI KOWLES

For the Star Journal

Nearly half of all local jail inmates across the country lack a high school diploma or its equivalency, according to Bureau of Justice statistics. Last fall, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office took steps to change that, by launching a program that offers General Equivalency Diploma (GED) and High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) courses for jail inmates. So far, the effort spearheaded by Sheriff Grady Hartman has had 25 participants, who are selected based on recommendations and behavior.

The program was implemented as a way to enhance the facility as a temporary destination for state inmates, which in turn provides income for the county, Hartman explained. The state pays \$51.46 a day per inmate, which resulted in a net revenue of about \$1.5 million for Oneida County in 2017. At a cost of about \$10,000 a year, Hartman sees the GED program as a small cost for great results.

"I like to describe being in jail as death by boredom," Hartman explained. "If we can offer some programs to help take up their time and point them in a positive direction, that's real important to the overall safety and security of the facility, and the relations that the correction officers have with the inmates."

“Reading has to come first,” she noted, saying that she structured her program to build momentum by starting with their strengths.

Many of her students are temporary transfers from inner city areas, she noted, which has been a cultural experience she has enjoyed. And while working with “the guys” has been a highlight of her career, she says it can be a crushing experience when they give up on the program.

“I just want to see them succeed,” she said.

“You treat us like you know we can do this, like you believe in us,” one man told her before transferring out of the facility. “And if you believe in us, then we believe in us...you also tell us that we ain’t working hard enough.”

“You push us to do more, be better, and be faster. That’s what it takes.”

## Unique Partnership Aims to Fulfill Statewide Tech Education Teacher Shortage

NTC, Marian College Announce Partnership to Help

*By Emily Boyer*

Posted: Thu 9:25 AM, Jun 14, 2018

Updated: Thu 6:35 PM, Jun 14, 2018

**WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW)** A shortage of teachers in North Central Wisconsin's K-12 schools has prompted a Wisconsin university and technical college to try and help fill in the gaps.



North Central Technical College and Marian University of Wisconsin will offer NTC students a co-enrollment program. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be qualified to teach technology education to students. This program is the first of its kind in the state.

The collaboration enables graduates holding associate degrees in technology from NTC to crossover and use Marian University of Wisconsin's education program to gain the teaching aspect. The thing that makes this partnership unique is that students can stay on the NTC campus throughout their studies, effectively keeping and encouraging them to stay in North Central Wisconsin.

According to the Executive Vice President of Student Affairs with North Central Technical College Jeannie Worden, 80% of NTC grads stay in the area which is another reason why she expects this program will make a significant impact specifically on Wisconsin's north central k-12 schools.

"We are here to serve our communities. We're here to serve our learners, so we want to make sure we are producing students that are going out into the workforce and are able to advance our communities" Worden said.

Friday, Jun 08, 2018 07:30 AM

## **Packers Give Back Celebrity Bowling Event raises over \$60,000 for NWTC College Comeback Program**



The Green Bay Packers today announced the Packers Give Back Celebrity Bowling Event, presented by Nestle, on June 6 raised over \$60,000 for the College Comeback Program at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC).

Packers players, coaches and alumni participated in the event along with area businesses and community members. The night benefitted the College Comeback Program, a scholarship program that provides a second chance to returning adult students, many of whom are supporting a family and working multiple jobs while finishing their education.

Packers players, coaches and alumni participated in the event, with proceeds benefitting the College Comeback Program at NWTC.



Evan Siegle, packers.com

## Excitement for Auto Body Collaboration

April 30, 2018

Platteville -

A group of Platteville High School students was recently given the opportunity to explore the field of auto collision refinishing, thanks to a collaboration between Southwest Tech, Averkamp Auto Body in Platteville, Wisconsin, and Platteville High School. The students spent a week learning from Ed Averkamp, owner of Averkamp Auto Body, which culminated in an active educational visit to his business on April 27.



Nearly two years ago, Averkamp, who serves on the Southwest Tech Auto Body Advisory Committee, spoke with Greg Wubben, auto collision instructor at Southwest Tech, about sparking interest for the industry in the younger generation. That resulted with the duo contacting Platteville High School and bringing Chuck Smet, technology and engineering teacher, and students on board. The first group of students in the energy, power and transportation class took part in the experience during the fall semester.

Averkamp purchased the sheet metal, which provides good practice simulation for the students. The safety gear and paint were donated. Averkamp built the stand for the hood. "I make them assemble the front end, get all the gaps to fit, and make sure everything is adjusted correctly," he said. "I proceed to make dents in the hood right in front of them and then they work on pulling the dents out of the hood. They work on a little hand and dolly work with straightening, a little bit of filler work, and then prep the panels for paint. At that point I bring the front clip over to my shop and then they get to come here on a field trip and paint it."

## **Two Area Schools Team up to Tackle Nursing Shortage**

Tatiana Cash

7:05 PM, Mar 13, 2018

Mount Mary University and Waukesha County Technical College now offer a joint 1-2-1 Nursing Program to tackle Wisconsin's nursing shortage.

The program lets students live on Mount Mary University's campus while taking classes at both schools.

The nursing student's first year will be at Mount Mary University. Their next two years are spent at WCTC. The student's final year is back at Mount Mary where they'll earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Mount Mary President Christine Pharr says the shortage is due to a few factors. One of the biggest is a large number of nurses entering retirement.

"The need is expanding at the same time that the supply is diminishing," said Pharr, "After their third year they receive a registered nurse license and then in their fourth year they complete their bachelor's degree."

The Wisconsin Center for Nursing found the state will need an additional 7,500 nurses a year to meet the demand by 2020. WCTC's President Kaylen Betzig says nurses graduating from this joint program will have more possibilities.

"To get their BSN, which is desirable among hospitals and then allows them to go on and get their masters," said Betzig.

This is the second 1-2-1 nursing program Mount Mary University offers to Wisconsinites. Future nurses also have this opportunity at Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Pewaukee, April 04, 2018

## WCTC and Industry 4.0: Preparing Educators/Students for Tech Careers

Partnerships focus on training; emphasis on fluid power



Industry 4.0 – or the fourth industrial revolution -- has already begun to change the face of manufacturing. Computers and automation have increasingly become mainstream in modern factories, but now these systems are working together -- and smarter -- as devices seamlessly communicate with one another to improve productivity.

Employees need the skillsets to program, control and manage these processes and systems, and Waukesha County Technical College has been at the forefront of Industry 4.0, modifying its curriculum offerings, collaborating with local high schools and arming instructors with the tools needed to prepare students for evolving manufacturing jobs.

WCTC recently held a kick-off event for area educators and industry partners, including representatives from the National Fluid Power Association (NFPA) for the Fluid Power and Applied Mechatronics Training and Employment Network (FAMTEN), to announce a collaboration with area high schools. WCTC was chosen as the first FAMTEN tech school due to its proximity to the NFPA and its commitment to expanding a fluid power curriculum.

Mike Shiels, WCTC School of Applied Technologies dean, said the College has been researching ways to further develop an Industry 4.0 partnership and curriculum that combine elements of smart manufacturing, automation and mechatronics, particularly as they relate to fluid power -- both hydraulic (water or other liquids) and pneumatic (gas or pressurized air).

“We offer fluid power courses in many of our programs – Automation Systems Technology, Facilities Maintenance, Industrial Maintenance Technician and apprenticeships. This is a big component of Industry 4.0 training, and our hope is to expand these offerings in the future,” Shiels said.

While WCTC course selections will expand, so will learning opportunities at several area school districts, including New Berlin, Sussex-Hamilton, Oconomowoc, Menomonee Falls, Elmbrook, Arrowhead and Kettle Moraine.

Through the FAMTEN network, high school students will receive hydraulic and pneumatic training -- similar to what is taught in WCTC fluid power courses.



## **WTC, Viterbo Collaborate on Engineering Degree Program**

MARC WEHRS La Crosse Tribune

Apr 28, 2018

Western Technical College and Viterbo University will combine their resources to create a bachelor's degree in engineering program under an agreement signed Friday by the schools' presidents at Western's Integrated Technology Center.

Beginning this fall, Western students will be able to pursue the "engineering pathway," a 64-credit associate of science-liberal arts degree. All 64 credits will be transferable to Viterbo, where pathway students can enroll as juniors.

The curriculum on the Western campus will include 10 credits of calculus and analytic geometry, 10 credits of calculus-based physics and 10 credits of chemistry, along with engineering, design, statistics and other liberal arts basics.

Western President Roger Stanford said area employers consistently tell him they need engineers, and the agreement with Viterbo — a year in the making — will produce its first bachelor-degreed engineers in 2022.

"Employers are screaming for engineers," said Stanford.

"This transfer agreement with Viterbo positions us to meet the needs of employers in the region and provide more opportunities for our students," he said.

Viterbo University President Glenna Temple said the agreement with Western makes sense for her institution. Viterbo students who want to pursue engineering will complete introductory coursework on the Western campus.

"Our goal is making engineering as affordable and as accessible as possible," Temple said of the arrangement.

Stanford said ramping up engineering at Western makes good use of taxpayer money: The campus already has the facility — the Integrated Technology Center finished just over two years ago as part of an \$80 million district-wide renovation and expansion project called Vision 2020. The school's already-completed transition to offering a liberal arts curriculum means it already has much of the faculty firepower it needs to have students ready for a junior year in engineering at Viterbo, Stanford said.

Students in the pathway program will spend two years — five terms — at Western to complete the 64 credits, which also include basic engineering design, and sketching and AutoCAD.

**Graduate of HSED at Western Technical College  
Overcomes Past to Focus on Future**  
Western Technical College  
May 6, 2018

When Nikki White of Quinlan, Texas, was just a sophomore in high school, everything in her life changed forever.

“I found out I was pregnant with a child,” she said. “I was only 16.”

What happened next at school was, somehow, both predictable and surprising.



Nikki White, 2018 HSED graduate  
Western Technical College

“I didn’t want to go to school. Every day I was called horrible names because of my situation,” White said. “It was emotionally devastating.”

The toll of the name-calling and bullying caused White to drop out of school. It was during that time that White struggled financially, working in fast food before moving to La Crosse in 2010.

Last summer, White discovered the General Education Development and High School Equivalency Diploma programs offered at Western. These options allow individuals who did not fulfill high school graduation requirements to earn employability skills, such as resume writing, reading and business management.

White isn't done with her schooling just yet. Following her graduation, White now plans to continue at Western to earn a degree in Human Services, something she never thought was possible.

"To get the chance to say, 'I did it,' is a fabulous feeling," White said.

"Nikki is a classic example of perseverance. She kept showing up, kept working harder and harder, and she took on the challenges to meet her goal," said Nelson. "Now she has a new goal, and there is no question in my mind, she will accomplish it."

To learn more about GED or HSED opportunities at Western, visit [www.westerntc.edu/learner-support-and-transition](http://www.westerntc.edu/learner-support-and-transition).

## **WITC, UWS Recognized as Military Friendly**

By Superior Telegram on May 15, 2018 at 7:52 a.m.

Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College earned the 2018-2019 Military Friendly School designation by Victory Media, which connects the military and civilian worlds, and publishes G.I. Jobs, STEM Jobs and Military Spouse.

"We're proud to be recognized for serving those who have served our country in such a meaningful way," WITC President John Will said. "I know I speak for everyone at WITC when I say that it's our privilege to help individuals and families navigate their college options."

The Military Friendly Schools list has come to set the standard for higher education institutions to provide the best opportunities for veterans and their spouses. This list provides a comprehensive guide for veterans and their families using data sources from federal agencies, veteran students and proprietary survey information from participating organizations.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly Schools designation were evaluated using public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey completed by the school. Student survey data was also taken into consideration for the designation. More than 1,400 schools participated in the 2018-2019 survey, with 941 schools earning the designation.

The University of Wisconsin-Superior also made the list of Military Friendly Schools.

The 2018-2019 Military Friendly Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine.

## WITC Students Win at SkillsUSA Conference

By Herald Newsroom on May 16, 2018 at 7:49 a.m.



From left to right: Kyle Drinken of St. Croix Falls, John Peterson of Beldenville and Andy Janes of Grantsburg. Photo courtesy of WITC

Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College welding and power sports students attended the SkillsUSA 45th annual State Leadership and Skills Conference held April 24-25 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

SkillsUSA is an organization serving students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations. The Leadership and Skills Conference showcases the best students in state and rewards them for excellence. Industry representative are involved in evaluating the student performance and to keep training relevant to employers' needs.

WITC's power sports students Andy Janes (Grantsburg), took first place in Motorcycle Technology and John Peterson (Beldenville) took first place in Marine Technology. Both students will move on to nationals in Louisville Ky., in June. Kyle Drinken (St. Croix Falls) won third place in Marine Technology.

The WITC students expressed their thanks and appreciation to the college for supporting their efforts to advance their career options. It would have been difficult without the financial support.

By attending the competition, the students can prove their skills and increase their employment opportunities and starting pay upon graduation.