LTI Students Take Top Honors at Regional Welding Competition

April 19, 2016, Sharon, PA – Two students from the Sharon campus of Laurel Technical Institute brought back top honors in competitive events at the American Welding Society (AWS) Regional Competition held in Pittsburgh, PA this past December.

Laurel Technical Institute’s students participated in the AWS Pittsburgh Sections’ 35th Annual Student Weld-Off this past December. On Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA, AWS announced the competition winners. Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, PA) took 2nd place honors. Jason Parson (Franklin, PA) took 3rd place honors. Both students passed an X-Ray D1.1 in the positions of 3G, 4G, as well as a written test. The competition is pits hundreds of post-secondary welding students from across the region against one another in this display of welding skill.

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes, including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. AWS is supported by a staff of more than 100 professionals and serves over 71,000 members worldwide, including more than 15,000 international members. AWS is led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, and is composed of 22 Districts with more than 160 local Sections throughout the US and the world. AWS continues to lead the way in supporting welding education and technology development to ensure a strong, competitive and exciting way of life.

LBI Respiratory Therapy Raises Funds for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Each year, the LBI Respiratory Therapy students raise funds for an organization that is near and dear to their hearts, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The mission of the foundation is to cure cystic fibrosis and to provide all people with the disease the opportunity to live full, productive lives by funding research and drug development, promoting individualized treatment, and ensuring access to high-quality, individualized care.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a devastating genetic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system. There are tens of thousands of children and young adults in the United States diagnosed with CF. Great advances in medicine continue to be made that will help extend the life expectancy for CF patients to their 30s, 40s and beyond. The RT students get the opportunity to treat many CF patients during their clinical rotations. The students held a cookout lunch, sold pin ups, and sponsored a “Jeans for Genes” casual day to raise funds for the foundation. They also participated in the Great Strides 5K Walk held at the Connellsville-Youghigheny River Park on May 21, 2016. Together, we are adding tomorrows to the lives of people living with CF by supporting the search for a cure.

News from HOSA, LTI Sharon campus:

During the first HOSA meeting of the summer semester, members officially accepted the grant award from UPMC Horizon Foundation for an automatic external defibrillator and dedicated it to the memory of LTI maintenance supervisor, Mark Burdick.

LTI students give it all to aid the Red Cross Blood Drive

The Heat of summer hit Meadville at the same time the HOSA Hosted Blood Drive came to town. Networking student Josh Davies lays it all on the line to contribute to the cause. Donations reached record contributors for LTI - Meadville.

The 2016 Shamrock N Run was another success!

With the success of this event, LTI’s Sharon Respiratory Therapy Program is able to offer another scholarship worth $1,500 to a deserving student. The student must apply for the scholarship, including an essay on Why I chose LTI’s Respiratory Therapy Program, a letter of recommendation (outside of LTI), 3.0 gpa, and also have their current transcripts sent to Primary Health Network’s Charitable Foundation. This year’s scholarship winner is Hector Paniagua. Hector is in his 2nd semester in the RT program, he was also voted as the Class Representative by his peers. Hector is from New York, and recently moved to PA, with his two sons, in order to attend school. Congratulations Hector!!

LBI Scholarship winners definitely make the grade

Travis Thomas, a 2016 graduate of Northern Garrett High School, was awarded the John D. Mihm Memorial Scholarship. Travis, who resides in Friendsville, MD, will begin his studies at LBI this fall in Network Administration and Security. Travis is very involved in the Gospel Center Youth Group and enjoys playing basketball and football. He is the youngest of 4 siblings with two older brothers and a sister.

Courtney Totlichen, an Administrative Office Technology student, has been awarded one of two Ruth H. and Milton T. Decker Memorial Scholarships. Courtney will be graduating in January 2017. She’s been helping out at LBI’s front desk for two semesters now, and she is very excited for what the future has in store for her upon graduation. Her favorite quote is from Abraham Lincoln: “In the end, it is not the years in your life that count. It is the life in your years.”

Kellie Yeagley, A Respiratory Therapy student, has been awarded one of two Ruth H. and Milton T. Decker Memorial Scholarships. Kellie graduated in May 2016. Kellie believes the education, skills and clinical expertise she received at LBI has been optimal for acquiring an associates degree in the field of respiratory. Her academic achievements have secured a successful pursuit in her respiratory career. Kellie feels prepared and confident to enter the medical field as a well qualified respiratory therapist.
Director Douglas Decker awarded the following students Specialized Associate Degrees, Associate in Specialized Technology Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates:

Sharon Campus

Degree in Accounting & Business Administration
Linda Clark (Stoneboro, Pa.)
Charity Adkins (New Brighton, Pa.)
Alexis Alexander (New Castle, Pa.)
Michael Heckman (Mercer, Pa.)
Helena Valla (Sharon, Pa.)

Degree in Network Administration
Charity Adkins (New Brighton, Pa.)
Alexis Alexander (New Castle, Pa.)
Michael Heckman (Mercer, Pa.)
Helena Valla (Sharon, Pa.)

Degree in Medical Assistant
Sierra Coccia (Sharon, Pa.)
Dawn Kennel (Mercer, Pa.)

Degree in Medical Laboratory Technician
Susan Dales (Greenville, Pa.)
Shakiya Koonce (Sharon, Pa.)
Tammy Plummer (Greenville, Pa.)
Brittany Whitehead (Sharon, Pa.)
Justin Yerace (Ellwood City, Pa.)

Degree in Welding & Fabrication with Pipeline Technology
Ryan Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
Chris Stull (Brookfield, Oh.)

Certificate in Esthetics
Lori Polovsky (Sharples, Pa.)

Director Patricia Campbell awarded the following students Specialized Associate Degrees and Diplomas:

Meadville Campus

Degree in Accounting & Business Administration
Jennifer Boyd (Meadville, PA)
Brody Pratt (Hartford, PA)

Degree in Cosmetology
Jennifer Hazlett (Seneca, PA)

Diploma in Cosmetology-Esthetician
Alaina Batts (Greenfield, PA)

Diploma in Cosmetology-Esthetician & Nail Technician
Nicole Moore (Centerville, PA)
Lorena Sampson (Titusville, PA)
Rebecca Owens (Meadville, PA)

Degree in Network Administration & Security
Rachel Bontrager (Kent, OH)

Degree in Phlebotomy Technician
David Groves (Erie, PA)
Elizabeth Lashbrook (Meadville, PA)

Degree in Early Childhood Education
Bridge Carter (Erie, PA)
Senequa Johnson (Meadville, PA)

Degree in Health Information Technology
Stefanie Fitzgerald (Ullica, PA)

Diploma in Medical Assistant
Leana Burns (Townsville, PA)

Diploma in Respiratory Therapy
Rosalyn Janea Burger (Morgantown, WV)

The following students received a diploma in phlebotomy technician:
Courtney Inman of Langeloth, Pa.
Tyesia Jolly of Aliquippa, Pa.
Melissa Link of Glenshaw, Pa.
Jessica Sonetti of Pittsburgh, Pa.
Pamela Yasko of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Left to right-Lindsey Beck, Jessica Sonetti, Melissa Link, Tyesia Jolly, Susette Hirschoff, Pamela Yasko, Courtney Inman, Allison Santonastaso

Left to right-Lindsey Beck, Jessica Sonetti, Melissa Link, Tyesia Jolly, Susette Hirschoff, Pamela Yasko, Courtney Inman, Allison Santonastaso
Laurel Technical Institute celebrated the graduation of its fall 2015 graduating class at Hickory High School, Hermitage, Pa. Jason Parson, David Campbell, and Dylan Desilvey were valedictorians and Gina Morrison was salutatorian.

Director Douglas Decker awarded the following students Specialized Associate Degrees, Associate in Specialized Technology Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates:

**Sharon Campus**

- **Degree in Accounting & Business Administration**
  - Khaliah Hasan (Farrell, Pa.)
  - Nicole L. Husband (Sharpsville, Pa.)
  - Jason Parson (Franklin, Pa.)

- **Degree in Cosmetology**
  - Lindsay Curtis (Greenville, Pa.)
  - Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)
  - Gary Newsom (New Castle, Pa.)

- **Degree in Dental Health Administration**
  - Cheerise A. Blakely (W. Middlesex, Pa.)
  - Thomas Heutsche (Sharpsville, Pa.)
  - Gina Marie Morrison (Marscupa, Oh.)

- **Degree in Respiratory Therapy**
  - Nyetia Bailey (New Castle, Pa.)
  - Lindsey Ellebie (Farrell, Pa.)
  - Alaina Marie Schell (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Esthetics**
- Alexandra Dawson (Hermitage, Pa.)
- Mathias Shappee (Jamestown, Pa.)
- Randall Stebbins (Greenville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Phlebotomy**
- Chevelle Marie Carlson (Greenville, Pa.)
- Alaina Marie Schell (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Welding Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Pipeline Technology**
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Plumbing Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Refrigeration Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Sheet Metal Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Steel Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Transportation Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

**Certificate in Welding & Fabrication with Utility Technology**
- David G. Campbell (Sharon, Pa.)
- Dylan DeSilvey (Pulaski, Pa.)
- Thomas Hughes (Sharpsville, Pa.)

LTI Instructor is recognized with American Welding Society Distinction

The Howard E. Adkins Memorial Instructor Section Award is presented to Brian Bickel. Mahoning Valley Section 2014-2015 In recognition of quality instructional performance devoted to the promotion and expansion of welding skills and knowledge.

Congratulations Brian!

LTI is so proud to have you on our team!
The students of PBL adopted the March of Dimes as their annual community fundraising event for 2016. Throughout the year the members of PBL held various fundraisers to help reach our goal. As the effects of PBL grew so did the number of participants. What started off as a group event ended up developing into a LTI Family Event! Students from all majors and programs, members of their family, teachers and instructors, and staff members all stepped up to support the cause.

**Walking Tacos** are always a hit with the student body, and even more so with the staff.

**Philadelphia Candy Bars Sales** is just a good excuse to have chocolate on hand. Caramel by far was the winning flavor, but Peanut Butter came in a close second.

T-Shirt Sales allowed the members the opportunity to use their creativity and design a Team Shirt. The members actually designed 2 different T-Shirts. When it came to the vote “Showing Off Our Heart” won for the team shirt, and the “Tender Lovin’ Butterflies” were sold as a fundraiser.

Raining Purple Dimes Vendor Show invited friends and family members, who are Independent Consultants for Home Based Sales companies, to have the opportunity to set up their tables and sell with items without having to be hosted in someone’s home. During the event there were multiple door prize drawings, a Chinese auction, and wonderful food and desserts created by the members and staff for our guests to enjoy. During the event we welcomed 12 different vendors, opened our doors to over 65 guests, and provided an opportunity for 25 team members to volunteer in the organization and decoration of the event.

2016 March of Dimes took place on Sunday, May 1, 2016 at Buhl Park, Sharon PA. The 2016 LTI Team had 72 registered members. Unfortunately, the rain kept some members away but 55 members showed up with umbrellas in hand to participate in the walk. After the walk everyone was treated to Roast Beef Sandwiches and Boneless Wings from Quaker Steak, Chips and Popcorn from Herr’s, Smilie Cookies from Eat N Park and Italian Ice from Yum Berries.

2016 March of Dimes took place on Sunday, May 1, 2016 at Buhl Park, Sharon PA. The 2016 LTI Team had 72 registered members. Unfortunately, the rain kept some members away but 55 members showed up with umbrellas in hand to participate in the walk. After the walk everyone was treated to Roast Beef Sandwiches and Boneless Wings from Quaker Steak, Chips and Popcorn from Herr’s, Smilie Cookies from Eat N Park and Italian Ice from Yum Berries.

Pharmacy Technician students from both Unioitown and Sharon campuses had the opportunity to tour the 1.1 million sq. ft. Morgantown branch of Mylan Pharmaceuticals. The company was founded in 1961 with a mission of helping small communities in West Virginia obtain affordable medication. Currently, Mylan is the 2nd largest generic and specialty pharmaceutical company in the world! The company manufactures over 1,400 different products and produces over 45 billion doses annually. During the tour, students were shown the step-by-step process of how a medication is created, tested, packaged and prepared for delivery. Multiple students said their most enjoyable part of the tour was seeing how the medications were created for dispensing. All medications contain an active ingredient, usually in a powdered form. Once the active ingredient is combined with other fillers, the product is mixed using industrial sized blenders. From this stage, the mixture is packaged into capsules or pressed into tablets for bottling. To ensure accuracy and quality, multiple samples are taken from each step in the production process. Some machines can dispense up to 3,000 units every minute! Once the medication batch has been prepared, the machines and rooms used must be thoroughly cleaned. It can take hours to clean a small room (floors, walls, ceilings, machinery) to ensure that cross-contamination does not occur. Having the opportunity to tour a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant was an invaluable experience. Not only did the students learn about the production process, but it demonstrated the importance of safety and quality.