

LCOT Announces New HVAC Program

Laurel College of Technology is excited to bring a new 20-month HVAC Technician program into the fold, set to begin this fall. Laurel has designed the courses of this program to provide students with an awareness of the value and dignity of people - helping shape them into integrated, unique individuals ready to take on career opportunities in this growing field. "Trade workers like HVAC technicians, electricians, and welders are in dire need. We live in a world where the demand for blue collar jobs is growing, so the need for training is higher than ever," says Justin Caldwell, Laurel's Director of Trades.

The curriculum includes courses in HVAC-R and Heating Systems, Ductwork Fabrication, Plumbing Basics, HVAC Maintenance, Electrical Motors, Boiler

Systems, Pump Systems, and much more! With small class sizes and great faculty, Laurel has high hopes of helping build great technicians for the community workforce. "The goal of this new program is to help bridge the growing gap of technicians needed in Morgantown and surrounding areas," states Larry Shaw, HVAC Technician program instructor.

In the Fall of 2023, Laurel invited local organizations to participate in a program advisory board to assess the needs of the area and review the curriculum outline for the HVAC Technician program. Employers and advisors in attendance included representatives from Absolute Air, Air Service West Virginia, Fayette Heating & Cooling, WVU Medicine, Advanced Heating & Cooling, Horizon Construction Inc., Precision Plus

HVAC, and more! The gathering brought great conversation about curriculum changes, certifications, and skill needs to make this program a success for future graduates. The program also integrates a 500 hour internship with local employers to give students real-work field experience before program completion. Students of Laurel College of Technology's HVAC Technician program will receive invaluable skill development and experiences from all affiliations and local employers.

"We are excited to begin training students in this growing trade. American tradesman, Mike Rowe, recently stated that in the last ten years, for every five tradesmen that retire, only two replace them," states Douglas Decker, Executive Vice President of Operations of Laurel Institutes, "we think

that's so detrimental and presents a great need. Laurel's goal is to become part of the fabric in the communities we serve to build sustainable educational programming that meets the needs of both the employers and our graduates." The material covered in the new HVAC program will provide lectures and hands-on laboratory experiences led by seasoned instructors with years of experience.

The 20-month Specialized Associate degree program will provide education and training for future industry trade professionals in Morgantown and surrounding areas. Enrolled students will learn about the latest HVAC technologies available, develop installation and maintenance skills, and be equipped to provide valuable equipment repair knowledge in both residential and

commercial sectors. Laurel has designed a well-equipped lab space spanning 2,200 sq feet in the bottom level of their Morgantown campus, along with additional lecture classrooms, that students will utilize throughout the program to prepare them for equipment repair and installation, certifications, and critical thinking.



LTI Partners with Local Organization

In March of 2023, Community Action Partnership of Mercer County (CAPMC) became the recipient of \$1,409,640 to implement the Whole Home Repair Program (WHRP) funded through the PA Department of Development. There are two major prongs to the program, Home Repairs and Workforce Development. CAPMC distributed 300 applications across Mercer County and has received 180 applications from homeowners who are in need of repairs to their homes.

Eligible homeowners can receive up to \$50,000 in repairs (not remodeling) to their homes, repairs must bring the property up to standards and correct any existing deficiencies or hazards. The goal is to make the house habitable, improve energy and efficiency, and/or improve accessibility to or within the home. Currently there are 3 completed homes and 21 that are in the process of completion.

Funding for this project is provided by the PA Department of Development Whole Home Repair Program to invest in workforce development programs that will connect trainees to training, apprenticeships and jobs through committed employer partnerships

related to improving the habitability and performance of homes.

Wilma Torres, the CEO of CAPMC, states that the investment in LTI's students will help to reduce the debt burden as they graduate and go into the workforce. "We need to share interest and retention of not only college students but those in the trades to grow and stay in Mercer County, these talents are often forgotten but they prove to be a part of the foundation of a City or Counties existence."

LTI's 16-month Electrical Technician program provides education and training for future industry trade professionals in Hermitage and surrounding areas. Enrolled students gain skill in Residential Wiring, Low Voltage Wiring, and develop an understanding for maintenance and installation. "Electricians are in demand now more than ever. We live in a world where the demand for blue collar jobs is growing, so the need for training is higher. This opportunity is a great way to offer education to eligible students in an area where jobs are available." says Justin Caldwell, Laurel's Director of Trades.

Laurel has a well-equipped lab space spanning 2,000 sq feet at the Hermitage campus, along with additional theory classrooms, that students utilize throughout the program to prepare them for equipment repair and installation, certifications, and critical thinking. Students begin skill development within the first semester of the Electrical Technician program, allowing for more hands-on productivity and understanding. "American tradesman, Mike Rowe, recently stated that in the last ten years, for every five tradesmen that retire, only two replace them," states Douglas Decker, Executive Vice President of Operations of Laurel Institutes, "we think that presents a great need for educated workers in the skilled trades sector. Laurel's goal is to become part of the fabric in the communities we serve to build sustainable educational programming that meets the needs of both the employers and our graduates. The investment that Community Action Partnership of Mercer County (CAPMC) is making for current and future students is so important."

Premier Partner: Laurel Highlights Tuscan Sun Spa and Salon as Premier Employer Partner

Laurel is always excited to highlight another local company in the growing network of Premier Employer Partners. Tuscan Sun Spa and Salon was opened by Cheri Satterfield in Clarksburg, WV in 2004, and Laurel is excited to welcome them into the fold to further support graduates of their School of Cosmetology programs.

In the past, team members from Tuscan Sun have been regular attendees of PAC meetings, showing a commitment to the students at Laurel and their programs. By doing so, they have provided necessary input to the

development of curriculum and training the students in the Cosmetology, Nail Technician, Hair Styling and now Esthetics, programs gain during their education. "Partnerships like this are essential to our small communities in the area. We're creating impactful relationships with students that move our job markets forward," says Sherri Rimel, Campus President at Laurel College of Technology, "we're excited to see the graduates that come from this program migrate into local community jobs with companies like Tuscan." As Laurel continues to grow



relationships with the network of partners, it's great to see how dedicated the local employers are to every aspect of upcoming graduates. As a premier partner, Tuscan Sun Spa and Salon offers tours to students to help them find

the perfect fit for their future careers, attend career fairs, appearances at the school as guest speakers, in class demos, and provide scholarship or tuition reimbursement opportunities for eligible Laurel students.

LTI's Respiratory Department Hosts Guest Speaker



A big thank you to Select Specialty Hospital for stopping by our campus! Our Respiratory Therapy students had a blast hearing all about the hospital and the job opportunities for their field. It was a great experience!

LTI Names Chef of the Semester



A big thank you to the President of the American Culinary Federation's Pittsburgh chapter, Chef Chris Galarza, for stopping by our campus! Chef Galarza sampled many dishes prepared by our Culinary Arts students, and with his help we named our Chef of the Semester: **Anna Prince!** *Congratulations to all of our students on a job well done!*

LTI Celebrates Upcoming Graduates

Last week, we celebrated our bright, outstanding students with our Graduate Brunch! Graduates and staff in our Cardiovascular Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Network Administration & Security and Welding & Fabrication programs enjoyed a buffet prepared by our Culinary Arts program. Students were honored with certificates by their instructors, and three students were honored as Distinguished Graduates! Everyone has worked so hard on their educational journey, and we are very excited to see all of your future successes! Good luck in your last couple of weeks here, and we'll see you at Graduation!



LTI's Culinary Arts Department Hosts Committee Meeting

Laurel Technical Institute's Culinary Arts department held its latest Advisory Committee meeting, inviting guests from local establishments such as The Tavern on the Square, WestWinn Urban Agriculture, Walnut Hill Farm, Mercer County Career Center, Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, and Talbot's Taproom & Terrace. Practitioners,

restaurant owners, and other stakeholders were invited to attend either in-person or virtually, and provided valuable feedback to our Culinary Arts instructors to benefit the future of the program. A big thank you to everyone for attending; we're excited to see what the future holds for this program and are appreciative of the support!



LTI Hosts Mock Interviews



Students from our Culinary Arts, Network Administration & Security, and Welding & Fabrication programs put their skills to the test during mock interviews in their career development class. Interviews were conducted by representatives from local companies, with each student interviewing twice they were provided many tips and tricks to perfecting their interview skills. With many of these students graduating at the end of this semester,

we can't wait to see what they do!

A big thank you to Sarah Dufford from North American Forgemasters, Carisa Sechrist from Ellwood, Megan Sharber from Zekelman Industries, Alta Roqueplot from Joy Cone Co., Deidre Reinhart from St. Paul's Senior Living Community, Corrie Allen from Kismet PEO, and Amber Blackwell from Steward Health Care System for coming down and interviewing our students! We appreciate all that you do!

LCOT Hosts Cosmetology Competition

The Cosmetology students put on a great competition to showcase the skills and talent they've been working on! They had skill areas in makeup, hair, and nails based on the theme they chose for their team! We enjoyed having friends and family on campus

to watch these groups! Your support and attendance are very important and it was great to have you included! We'd also like to extend a huge thank you to our guest judges from local area spas and salons, Great Clips, SpaRoma, and the Beauty Bar. You

were all an integral part of the night and we were so glad you joined us! Congratulations to these hard working teams, you all did such a great job!



LTI's Welding Department Tours Local Facility



Last week, our Welding & Fabrication department had the opportunity to stop by Samuel Service Center's Hermitage location for a tour! Team members Andrew Sorg and Guy Martin were great

tour guides, giving everyone not only an amazing view of the location, but great advice to our students on managing the work/life balance in their future careers and on positive company culture!

A big thank you to Andrew and Guy for touring us, and to Samuel, Son & Co. for letting our students and instructors stop by the Hermitage location!

LTI's Medical Department Visits Local Community Foundation

This past summer, instructors Stacey Beckinger and Jessica McElhinny from the Respiratory Therapy program, alongside Cardiovascular Technology instructor Stephanie Meeds

visited the UPMC Horizon Community Foundation's MERP. MERP, otherwise known as the Medical Equipment Recycling Program, is beneficial for instructors like ours to be

able to access the necessary equipment needed to teach the next generation of healthcare professionals. A big thank you to everyone involved with the MERP program!



LTI's Electrical Department Tours Local Business



Electrical Technician students from Instructor Joe Smith's Commercial class toured The Avalon Grand Resort, named one of Ohio's Best Resorts. The Avalon is a Premier Partner with Laurel Technical Institute due to the organization's engagement and investment in the programs and our LTI students.

LTI's Welding Department Receives Donation

A big thank you to Andrew Sorg and Operations Manager Guy Martin from Samuel, Son & Co.'s Hermitage location for donating this stainless steel to our Welding & Fabrication program! Our students in the welding program are excited to start working with the materials, and we can't wait to see what they do with it!



Laurel Institute of Technology Opens Doors on New Facility

Laurel Institute of Technology first opened its doors in May 2023 as the newest addition to its growing network of locations. Previously located at 127 Ben Casey Drive in Suite 101, the facility welcomed the first group of students in the fall of 2023 for the Cardiovascular Technology program. Thanks to strong support from the community the campus opened doors to a newly built 9,500 square foot facility designed for instructional and lab space in the same Gipson Office Park complex in Fort Mill. The school has plans for new programs and expanded enrollment as the new facility opens its doors.

"The new facility is a transformative moment for Laurel in this area," states Douglas Decker, Executive Vice President of Laurel Institutes, "This new building creates an exceptional environment for future students and will further exemplify Laurel's



dedication to advancing the priorities we have for these students. We look forward to training qualified graduates to meet the local growing workforce, and we know that this move will be vital to that."

Laurel Institute of Technology currently offers a 16-month Cardiovascular Technology diploma program. Laurel has designed the courses to provide the students with

an awareness of the value and dignity of people - helping shape them into integrated, unique individuals ready to take on career opportunities in this growing field. This program, along with the on-site simulation experience, is reflective of Laurel's commitment to preparing exceptional, job-ready professionals in a way that addresses the ever-increasing need for qualified



technicians in local areas.

"We have researched and seen the needs of trained technicians in this sector of healthcare," states Douglas Decker, Executive Vice President of Laurel Institutes, "The Cardiovascular Technology program will train students to be vital contributors to the health and well-being of our communities, which we feel is so important right now."

LTI's Culinary Arts Department Hosts Capstone Dinner



The Capstone Dinner is a staple of the Culinary Arts program, and gives our students an opportunity to showcase the skills they have developed during the programs. Friends and family are invited to dine and are provided a flavorful feast of cuisine to enjoy. We are proud of our students and how far they've come, and cannot wait to see what they'll make next!

LTI Hosts Cosmetology Competition



Our Cosmetology and Esthetic/Nail Technician students had the opportunity to put their skills to the test with a Cosmetology Competition! Students could work in groups or solo and put their skills to the test in their hair, makeup and nail skills based on the "Under the Sea" theme! They and their models walked the runway for their fellow students and teachers to see what they've done!

Local judges Lori Moore from Styling One Salon and Spa, Danielle Benic from Unwind Day Spa, and Jennifer McCurdy and Bridget Keefer from Great Clips stopped by to see all the great work and name our winners: Kendall Wansack for Best Hair, Peyton Mazzant for Best Makeup, and Destiny Keller for Best Nails! Your four were an integral part of the day and we were so glad you joined us!

Congratulations to all the students, everyone did such a great job!

LBI's Respiratory Department Hosts Clothing Drive

During our first ever Week of Service this summer, the Respiratory Therapy students were hosting a Clothing Drive! Clothes were donated throughout the week, and were taken by our students to Care and Share in California, PA.

to be donated! A big thank you to everyone who participated, we had a great turn out and we can't wait to do this again next year!



Morgantown Announces September 2024 Graduating Class



Laurel College of Technology held their Fall 2024 graduation ceremony on September 13, 2024. Opening comments were given by CEO and President of Laurel Institutes, Nancy Decker, saying "We couldn't be more proud of your hard work. We know this is not always an easy journey, but here you are, and that alone is huge." First to be recognized was the class Salutatorian, Hannah Martin. Next to be recognized were the September 2024 Distinguished Graduates, Victoria Hershman and Hannah Martin.

During the ceremony, Laurel's graduating Nursing students were also recognized and celebrated with a Pinning Ceremony led by Program Director of Nursing, Dr. Michelle Borland. Borland led the presentation of pins and talked to the class about what it means to be a nurse. "You will never be bored. You will always be frustrated," she said. "You will be surrounded by challenges. You will step into people's lives and you will make a difference." Borland also says "You each brought something to my nursing career, and the career of your instructors, every conversation was a learning experience and we cannot thank you enough." She and Clinical Director, Mrs. Hillary DeWitt, presented the pins to each of the six graduates with evident pride for each student.

Following the Pinning Ceremony, Director of Education, Alfred Vallano, presented the Degrees and Diplomas to the graduates. Career Services Coordinator, Laurel Muhly-Alexander, reported that 50% of the September graduating class have already accepted an employment offer within their program of study! The following students were awarded Specialized Associate Degrees and Diplomas in the following programs:

Specialized Associate Degree Programs:	Blake Greener	Leah Elliot
Electrical Technician	Victoria Hershman	Hannah Martin
Gary Flesher	Allison Hott	ShyAnn Todd
Nursing	Alyssa Sauriol	Zoe Vannoy
Jacob Allen	Diploma Programs:	Nail Technician
Sarah Dalzotto	Cosmetology	Jaden Wilson
	Mary Croskey	



LIOT Awards Hard-Working Students

Congratulations to these hard working Dean's List Award Recipients! Students received awards for Highest Honors, High Honors, Honors, and Perfect Attendance based on the previous semester. Keep up the hard work, you're all doing fantastic!

LTI Welding Students Receive Certifications



Congratulations to our Welding & Fabrication students on obtaining their American Welding Society certifications! These certifications could open up opportunities for the students to weld in various structural fields, such as bridges, skyscrapers and power plants! We love seeing the students succeed, and are proud to see them all pass! Congratulations everyone!



LTI Hosts Dean's List Ceremony

Congratulations to our Dean's List award recipients! You have all done such a great job and we are all so proud of you! Keep up the good work!



LCOT Hosts Dean's List Ceremony

Congratulations to these hard working Dean's List Award Recipients! Students received awards for Highest Honors, High Honors, Honors, and Perfect Attendance based on the previous semester. Keep up the hard work, you're all doing fantastic!



LIOT Hosts Dean's List Ceremony

Congratulations to the Deans' List Award recipients! These hard working students were presented with Highest Honors, High Honors, and Honors awards for their academic achievements! Congratulations to each of you, keep up the great work!

Uniontown Announces September 2024 Graduating Class



Laurel Business Institute held graduation on September 19th, 2024, at the State Theater in Uniontown, PA. Opening comments were given by Nancy Decker, President and CEO of Laurel Institutes, "Graduation is a time of new beginnings and we are always excited to celebrate this time with you because we know that it took hard work and dedication for you each to get here," says Decker.

Assistant Campus Director, McKenna Gower, recognized the class Valedictorians, Brooke Clark, Madison Gibson, Luke McCullah, Amber Ravenscroft, and Christine Specht. Salutatorians Bonnie Benco and Emily Brentensky were also recognized. Next to be recognized were the September 2024 Distinguished Graduates, McKenna Hilling, Madison Gibson, and Amber Ravenscroft, all three were also recognized for membership into the Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society. Laurel Business Institute's Assistant Campus Director, McKenna Gower, then presented the Degree and Diplomas to the graduates. The Career Services department reported that 66% of the September 2024 graduating class have accepted employment offers within their program of study. The following students were awarded Specialized Associate Degrees and Diplomas in the following programs:

Degree Programs:	Diploma Programs:	Esthetics & Nail Technician
Cloud Computing Technology	McKenna Hilling	Faith Andrews
Mason Tharp	Jacob Robison	Keristen R. Harris
Early Childhood Education	Christie Specht	Alaina Petrosky
Nicole Gregg	Madison Vojtkofsky	Amber Ravenscroft
Electrical Technician	Cosmetology	Alicia M Rimbey
Ontario Jones	Adriana Allen Angelo	Nail Technician
Medical Office Administration	Bonnie Lee Benco	Samantha Grim
Savannah Turner	Emily Marie Brestensky	Nina Moreland
Network Administration & Security	Madison Morgan Gibson	Welding & Fabrication
Alexander C. Abedejos	Devyn Harris	Truman Philip Avery
Chase Hicks	Lillyann Germaine Horvath	Hunter James Brangard
	Cassidy Brook Zelasko	Brooke Clark
	Adalina Elizabeth Zolbrod	Olivia Fairbee
		Luke McCullah
		Heath Randolph II

LBI Celebrates Upcoming Graduates

We were excited to recognize this next group of graduates as they finish their final semester here at Laurel! Instructors also awarded three deserving graduates of the Distinguished Graduate award for this class! You have each worked so hard and we're proud of each of you! We can't wait to see you at graduation next month!



Hermitage Announces September 2024 Graduating Class



Laurel Technical Institute held its Fall graduation on September 12, 2024, at the Hickory High School Auditorium in Hermitage, PA. Opening comments were given by Doug Decker, VP of Operations at Laurel Institutes, then Campus President, Lauren Chaney, presented the Degrees and Diplomas to the graduates. 52% of the September 2024 graduating class have accepted an employment offer within their program of study. The following students were recognized for the following programs:

Degree Programs:	Diploma Programs:	Esthetics & Nail Technician
Cardiovascular Technology	Cosmetology	Tiarra Cacho
Hailey Boozer	Vincent Altany	Amya Hall
Haylee Clark	Izabelle Beichner	Keyonna Lockhart
Ashley Freeman	Taylor Boulding	Sa'Mya Moore
Ainsley Hall	Kyra Brown	Kelly Vanepps
Jordan Litwiler	Hannah Coyer	Jade Wagner
Allison Sauerwein	Sierra Crawford	Welding & Fabrication
Elly Yereb	Reiley Gordon	Jenna Argiro
Medical Billing and Coding	Madison Kreider	Brooke Bryson
Erika Wimer	Madison Moody	Savannah Hinkle
Medical Office Administration	Zhanna Ray	Hunter Jones
Savannah Turner	Makenna Reavis	Jeremiah Marol
Network Administration and Security	Caidence Sloss	Alexander Rice
Aaron Dennis	Oriana Smith	Elijah Smith
Chad Fullum	Culinary Arts	Heather Sternthal
Jacob Reinhart	Marissa Austin	George Troyer
Michael Vallas	Zane Chavers	
	Melvin Osorto	

Laurel Celebrates Culinary Arts Graduate

GRADUATION May 2024
PROGRAM OF STUDY
Culinary Arts
REAL JOB
El Ganador
as the Owner

vendors at the Hermitage Night Market! We are so excited to see this amazing start to her journey!

Congratulations to May 2024 graduates **Victoria Delgado!** Victoria, a graduate of our Culinary Arts program, has started the impressive journey of owning her own business, **El Ganador!** El Ganador will be one of the many food and beverage

LBI Hosts Dean's List Ceremony



As the saying goes, "The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you" in education including, Highest Honors, High Honors, Honors, Perfect Attendance, and LBI'm Involved. Congratulations to these incredibly hardworking students, your recognition is well deserved!



LBI Hosts Summer Dean's List Ceremony

Congratulations to the following students for their academic achievements in the past semester. These hard working students were presented with Highest Honors, High Honors, and Honor's awards! Congratulations to each of you, and keep up the good work!

Highest Honors: Ashely Allen, Madison Bungard, Chase Soltis
High Honors: Ariana Shaffer, Zaidan Bochnak
Honors: Cheyenne Phifer

LCOT Students Added to Aspiring Nurses Program



Congratulations to the newest additions of WVU Medicine's Aspiring Nurses Program! Laurel College of Technology is proud to be the educational home of 17 of the students added to this cohort. Congratulations to these hardworking students, we can't wait to see where your future takes you!

LBI Hosts Dean's List Ceremony (spring)

Congratulations to our Deans' List Award recipients! These hard working students were presented with Highest Honors, High Honors, Honors, Perfect Attendance, and I'm Involved Community Service awards last week!

Congratulations to each of you, keep up the good work!

SAVOR THE SUMMER

All of our departments took some time this summer to celebrate and enjoy the company of our awesome, hard working students! We had smoked some pulled pork, grilled hotdogs and burgers, and our students filled our tables with some DELICIOUS sides and desserts! Such a great time together!

LCOT Savors the Summer



It wouldn't be an LTI summer without our Summer Picnic! Executive VP and Grill Master Dr. Decker manned the grill alongside our Culinary Arts department to bring together delicious burgers, hot dogs, veggies and more for everyone to enjoy! Several students even got together for a bit of cornhole, and had a blast! A big thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible. We can't wait for the next one!

LTI Savors the Summer



LBI's Trades Department Celebrates Summer

Students and staff from our Trades department came together to enjoy the weather with a department-wide cookout! Justin Caldwell, head of our Trades department, took on the roll of grill master and dished out hamburgers and hotdogs to all of the Electrical Technician and Welding & Fabrication students and staff. Nice job Justin, everyone had a blast!



LIOT Celebrates with a 'Back to School Bash'

As we made our way back to campus in September after a much needed break, Laurel took some time to celebrate and enjoy the company of these awesome, hard working students! Students and faculty had the opportunity to enjoy some grilled hotdogs out in the sunshine!



LTI Welding Student Receives Scholarship

Congratulations to Welding & Fabrication student Maureen Dora on receiving a scholarship through the Mike Rowe Works Foundation! Also known as the Work Ethic Scholarship, the Mike Rowe Works Foundation looks for hardworking

individuals in various trades programs who are dedicated to their chosen field or trade, and they awarded scholarships to 303 people this year. We're excited to see where the future takes you, Maureen! Congratulations!



LCOT Joins Local Radiothon

It was such an honor to be involved in such a great cause for the second year! Laurel was on site with WVAQ and WKKW this summer for their annual WVU Children's Hospital Radiothon! Laurel donated \$1,500 that was raised during our 2024 Week of Service! We are so

proud of the students at our campus, this event would not have been possible without them! They volunteered, donated, and gave their all during that week! We're proud to be part of this event and community!



LTI Announces New Practical Nursing Program

In an effort to meet the growing need for nursing staff in local healthcare systems, Laurel Technical Institute is excited to announce the addition of another pathway into the healthcare profession with its one-year Practical Nursing program. Students will learn current industry skills in the new simulation lab before they start their direct client care clinicals that are coordinated and supervised by Laurel's faculty and local clinical partners.

"Our program provides an interactive learning environment and incorporates a strong foundation of clinical experiences in long term, acute, and primary care settings," states Kristen Prezioso, Director of Practical Nursing, "Our goal is to provide each student with an ever evolving opportunity for growth and education and we're excited to offer that within this

program." This 12-month diploma program is offered to students in Hermitage, P. A., and surrounding areas. It provides students access to a new learning simulation lab and provides hands-on experience that students will utilize throughout the program to prepare them for certifications, critical thinking, and patient care. The curriculum students will take includes courses in Nutrition Therapy, Fundamentals of Nursing, Human Growth & Development, Medical Surgical Nursing, Certification Prep and much more! With small class

sizes and experienced faculty, Laurel has high hopes of helping build great healthcare workers for the community and surrounding areas!

In addition, Laurel Technical Institute has established healthcare affiliations with St. Paul's Senior Living Community, UPMC Horizon and Jameson, Magee-Womens Hospital, Independence Health System, as well as Shenango on the Green. The students of Laurel's healthcare programs will receive invaluable clinical experiences from all affiliations.

LTI's Cosmetology Department Tours Local Salons



Several of our Cosmetology students had the opportunity to stop by Buhl Mansion and The Avalon, checking out their salons and talking with the staff about the future of their field! A big thank you to both Buhl Mansion and The Avalon for letting us stop by, it was a wonderful experience for our students!

LCOT Makes Donation to Local Hospital



Our nursing department donated this car wagon to the WVU's Children's Hospital! Pictured is the LPN-ADN Pediatric Rotation and the Nursing Manager for the Pediatric Acute Unit. This was such a sweet and kind gesture from these students and faculty, we're excited to see the joy brings in the hospital halls!

LBI Hosts Blood Drive

A huge thank you to all who donated at our Blood Drive! We collected 17 units of blood products; which Vitalant said will help 51 patients.

Also a big thank you to the Practical Nursing students for escorting the donors to the 2nd floor donation center, helping them answer the pre-donation questionnaire, providing company during the donations, and refreshments and conversation while donors were recovering! We're so proud of you all!



LCOT Partners with Local College on New Pathways for Nursing Students

Laurel College of Technology located in Morgantown, West Virginia is excited to announce a new collaborative effort with West Virginia Wesleyan College of Buckhannon, West Virginia to allow graduates of Laurel's 20-month Associate Degree of Nursing program to expand their education through an RN to Master Science in Nursing opportunity. The agreement allows eligible Laurel graduates who pass the NCLEX and obtain the credentials to be a Registered Nurse through the West Virginia RN Board to apply for enrollment in WVWC's Master Science in Nursing program. According to the agreement, WVWC will accept eight eligible students a year who after an individualized review for potential admission for graduates meet the predetermined criteria.

Laurel's Associate Degree of Nursing (ADN) is a 71 credit program that spans over 5 semesters and is designed to prepare the graduate to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for registered nurses and to enter

a career as a beginning practitioner of nursing. In June of 2024, Laurel received initial accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Public information about accreditation is disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program on the ACEN website. Laurel has designed the courses to provide the students with an awareness of the value and dignity of people, a view of the patient as an integrated, unique individual that requires nursing knowledge and skills. The program and simulation center is reflective of Laurel's commitment to preparing exceptional, job-ready professionals in a way that addresses the ever-increasing need for qualified nurses.

"Our program, and the students in it, are held to rigorous expectations for the safety of future patients and the care our students will provide the community," states Doug Decker, Ph. D., Executive Vice President of Laurel Institutes. "We're excited to see this pathway open up for our graduates. This agreement creates

an additional entry point for students who want to expand on their career and professional training and complete a masters' degree."

West Virginia Wesleyan College offers graduate programs in nursing with various pathways and points of entrance. Currently, students can choose between Master of Science in Nursing Leadership or the Family Nurse Practitioner. The school also offers Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Certified Nurse Midwifery options in collaboration with Shenandoah University. For the past two years, the College has offered an RN to MSN program, which allows nurses with an associate degree in nursing to complete bridge course work and then directly enroll into the MSN program.

Coursework for the graduate programs in the School of Nursing at West Virginia Wesleyan College is offered in a hybrid format including online, asynchronous, and limited on campus residency

experiences.

"Our College is dedicated to providing flexible and accessible continuing education opportunities for nurses at all career stages," said Dr. Lynn M. Linder, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. "This partnership represents a significant step forward in our mission to cultivate a highly skilled health care workforce for West Virginia. We're thrilled to offer programs that accommodate the demanding schedules of working nurses while advancing their professional development."



Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students can be found at www.laurel.edu/consumer-information