DELECTABLE DERBY
Students finish culinary race at iconic event
SEE PAGE 12
Penn College Magazine, a publication of Pennsylvania College of Technology, is dedicated to sharing the educational development, goals and achievements of Penn College students, employees and alumni with one another and with the greater community.

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Aviation maintenance technology student Samuel J. Pham fixes a bike at the American Rescue Workers facility in Williamsport. He was one of more than a dozen students and staff who devoted part of their spring break to five local charities.

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Aviation maintenance technology student Samuel J.Pham fixes a bike at the American Rescue Workers facility in Williamsport. He was one of more than a dozen students and staff who devoted part of their spring break to five local charities.
Be Smart, Rule the World
To prepare the next generation for the jobs of the future, make them curious about how things work, faculty experts say.

Journey to the Winner’s Circle
Before thoroughbreds enter the Kentucky Derby starting gate, Penn College students feed thousands in Churchill Downs’ VIP venues.

Setting the Stage
Three graduates’ craftsmanship wows audiences of more than a million a year at Sight & Sound Theatres.

Fit for a Ring
A web and interactive media graduate’s career takes him to the sidelines of the Super Bowl as the Philadelphia Eagles’ digital project coordinator.

degrees that work.

ON THE COVER
The cover illustration was conceived and executed by Penn College graphic design student Kennedy L. Englert to convey the experience of Pennsylvania College of Technology hospitality students who, since 1993, have helped to prepare fine food during the Kentucky Derby. Learn more about the Derby experience on Page 12 and at magazine.pct.edu/jt.

ATTENTION, ALUMNI
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A 1908 Studebaker electric car, owned by the William E. Swigart Jr. Automobile Museum in Huntingdon and restored at Penn College, was recognized with an award at Florida’s prestigious Amelia Island Concours d’Elegance in March – the first student project ever judged at the show.

Affectionately known as ”Tommy,” the vehicle was one of a pair that shuttled federal legislators through an underground tunnel between the Old Senate Building and the U.S. Capitol shortly after the turn of the 20th century. It was honored with an Amelia Award in the Horseless Carriage (Electric) category.

Students and faculty in additive manufacturing and automotive restoration classes joined forces to prepare the car to run for the first time in 25 years. Their work included an electrical overhaul.

“The car was only designed to travel on flat grounds in a straight line, so traveling over the slopes of the golf course was new territory to ‘Tommy,’” student Luke C. Miller said. “But because we had completely mechanically restored the car, it had no troubles cruising around the event.”

Students assist Food Network star

An “Iron Chef” was among the culinarians who joined students to showcase the quality ingredients produced by Pennsylvania farms at the state Farm Show.

The students volunteered the final days of their winter break at the event, where they worked with some of Pennsylvania’s best chefs – and Food Network star Chef Alex Guarnaschelli – to prepare ingredients for the chefs’ demonstrations on the PA Preferred Culinary Connection stage and to cook samples of the recipes for Farm Show visitors.
College launches apprenticeship programs

Penn College is addressing the manufacturing skills gap by sponsoring apprenticeship training programs for regional companies and establishing The Apprenticeship Center on campus as a resource to collaborate with state and local partners.

A four-year mechatronics apprenticeship program began at Penn College in April, while a three-year CNC apprenticeship program began in May. The programs, along with pre-apprenticeship programs for high schoolers, received a $576,000 grant from the state Department of Community and Economic Development.

As program sponsor, Penn College will provide curriculum development, apprenticeship standards, program coordination, apprentice progress monitoring and maintenance of required records. This will enable numerous employers across multiple industry sectors to participate in Penn College’s innovative group model.

An apprenticeship program includes a paid-work component and an education component tailored to industry needs.

UPMC Susquehanna donates Wellsboro property

The gift of a UPMC Susquehanna-owned property will enable the college to expand the nursing program it offers in Wellsboro.

The Penn College Board of Directors approved transfer of the 8,400-square-foot facility at 22 Walnut St., Wellsboro, for $1. The agreement is contingent upon the college using the building to expand its Practical Nursing Program in Wellsboro.

The college hopes the nursing program can move into the facility by early 2019. The expansion will accommodate an increase in enrollment for the full-time, yearlong program from 18 to 24 students initially. Additional programming options may be explored later.

UPMC Susquehanna President Steven P. Johnson, who is also a member of the Penn College Board of Directors, said Pennsylvania is experiencing the second-highest shortage of LPNs nationwide, and the impact is being felt particularly in rural areas.
Wrestling
Three wrestlers reached the medal round in Penn College’s first-ever NCAA Division III regional appearance.
Freshman Jared Mooney became the first Penn College wrestler to stand on a podium at an NCAA postseason tournament, following his fourth-place finish at 184 pounds. Freshman Christian Fox and junior Dylan Otis also advanced to the second day of the tournament for Penn College.
Otis finished the season with a team-high 32 wins and just nine losses.

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A makerspace under development at the college will provide the environment – and essential tools – for students and employees to collaborate on innovative projects in a dynamic learning setting.

The facility will be named the “The Dr. Welch Workshop: A Makerspace at Penn College” to memorialize the late Dr. Marshall Welch Jr.

The makerspace will represent a combination of design, engineering, fabrication and education, enabling users to complete multidisciplinary projects with support and inspiration from others in the college community.

The design for the Penn College makerspace was created by architecture students and refined and finalized by a committee of faculty and staff.

“The makerspace is possible at Penn College because of the overwhelming support from donors,” said Loni N. Kline, vice president for institutional advancement.

The college expects to open its makerspace in the Carl Building Technologies Center in Fall 2018.
When David M. Zlotnicki moves his hand side to side and up and down, a robotic arm dutifully follows. Zlotnicki is wearing a “wired glove,” a black work glove that he’s outfitted with an accelerometer to sense the motion of his hand.

**BUT THE ROBOT WAS NOT MEANT TO BE CONTROLLED THAT WAY.**

Typically, a computer program controls the movements of the educational robot. To bypass the computer, Zlotnicki programmed a dual processor on a development board and then printed a circuit board to control the robot’s motors. The accelerometer on the glove monitors the glove’s orientation and sends the corresponding signal to the board driving the robot’s motors.

It was not an immediate success. It took more than 100 hours that stretched from evenings into early mornings in the college’s electronics and computer engineering technology facilities.

“David didn’t know how to do this project. He worked it out,” said Richard J. Calvert Jr., assistant professor of electronics and computer engineering technology, noting that industry seeks those who, like Zlotnicki, can work independently and take initiative.

**THE PAYOFF**

“The moment I saw everything was worth it was when I saw it operate successfully for the first time,” Zlotnicki said. “I was like: ‘OK, this is cool!’ Up to that point, I had a lot of failure. It’s not for the faint of heart.”

**WHY ELECTRONICS?**

The Oil City native acted and sang in community theater as a child, but in high school, he moved backstage, becoming a tech guru for the school’s drama productions.

“Running sound and light was really my introduction to electronics.”

**WHAT’S NEXT?**

Before his May 2019 graduation, he hopes to enhance the wired glove. “I want the robot to be able to move in several directions. I want it to be able to track my hand in 3-D space, follow my hand one-to-one. That’s going to be tricky.”

Beyond Penn College, he hopes for a career as an automation integrator, traveling to industrial facilities to establish automation systems.

See more “Penn College Family” profiles at [family.pct.edu](http://family.pct.edu).
What began as a hobby for Chris Rutledge turned into a passion – and a dream career.

Plus a soon-to-be Super Bowl ring

His journey from a student at Emmaus High School to Minneapolis – the site of Super Bowl LII – as a member of the Philadelphia Eagles’ digital team, included a four-year stop in Williamsport as a student-athlete at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Rutledge, ’16, first became interested in building websites in his junior year of high school, and he had that in mind when it came time to look for a college. He wanted a school that was far enough away – to gain a new experience – but not so far that he could not make an occasional trip home, and one that offered a major in web development.

Penn College satisfied all of those requirements: It offers a web and interactive media major, and it is approximately three hours from his hometown.

“I think the major was fantastic at Penn College,” Rutledge explained. “The small class sizes, the one-on-one with professors...
Left: Chris Rutledge, a 2016 graduate of the college’s web and interactive media major, will be fitted for a Super Bowl ring as the Philadelphia Eagles’ digital project coordinator.

In his senior year, Rutledge was a captain for the Wildcat men’s soccer team.

and the hands-on experience were important.”

During his freshman year at Penn College, Rutledge became involved in another of his passions – soccer. He did not play in high school but wanted to get involved in the sport again, so he became a student manager in his first year. By his senior year, he was a team captain and started in every match for the Wildcats that season.

“Soccer helped to keep me on track and focused,” Rutledge said. “It forces you to stay on a schedule and prioritize your work. It was a great experience.”

While interning for a company in New York City, Rutledge received a message on LinkedIn from someone from the Philadelphia Eagles inquiring about his interest in working for the team. Following several phone interviews and an in-person meeting at the NovaCare Complex, the Eagles’ headquarters, Rutledge was offered a job as the digital project coordinator, responsible for the front-facing part of the team’s website and mobile app.

Rutledge admits that he wasn’t a big football fan, and he favored the Chicago Bears because he was born in Chicago and spent the first three years of his life in the city. All of that changed when he began working for the Eagles.

“It’s a dream job that I could have never dreamed of,” Rutledge joked. “Being around the players at lunch and going to the home games, it’s impossible to not be an Eagles fan now.”

Just a year and a half into his job, Rutledge’s employer had its best season in franchise history. The Eagles reached just their third Super Bowl. On Feb. 4, Philadelphia knocked off heavily favored New England and brought back the city’s first Lombardi Trophy. And Rutledge was there to experience it.

“It hasn’t sunk in,” Rutledge said of the Super Bowl Championship. “And I feel guilty that I’m experiencing this in just my second year, when so many people have waited even longer than that.

“I think once we start getting sized for (Super Bowl) rings is when it will finally hit me.”

“The small class sizes, the one-on-one with professors and the hands-on experience were important.”
BE
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Smart, 150.36
RULE THE World
SCIENCE CLASSES AND FUN EXPERIMENTS
provide opportunities for students to gain the problem-solving skills needed for high-demand, high-tech manufacturing careers, according to Pennsylvania College of Technology faculty who appear in a documentary produced by the college and WVIA Public Media.

“I think the most important part of science, whether it’s physics or geology or chemistry or biology, is really understanding the thought process ... to work through a certain problem and get a result and know what that means,” says Kelly B. Butzler, associate professor of chemistry.

“I tell my kids all the time, nerds rule the world,” she says. “If you want to be successful, be a nerd. Be smart.”

Physics professor David S. Richards agrees: “I love the student that says, ‘I want to know how that works.’ ... They find that connection between science and the technology.”

Science is not an easy subject to learn, Richards and Butzler admit. Students need to be persistent in their pursuit of knowledge.

“I think patience is the key,” Richards says. “You have to have questions, but not just get frustrated and walk away from it because you don’t understand the answer right away. Keep pushing yourself and try to understand the basic components of how things work.”

Parents and teachers at every level – kindergarten through college – can motivate students to excel in the most demanding academic subjects by helping them connect their studies with their interests in hobbies or future careers.

“It’s always a challenge to convince someone they like math or chemistry,” says Tim E. Weston, associate professor of plastics technology. “Those words, I think, throw fear into many students, but at the end of the day, you have to know how things work.”

Weston is the founding faculty member of Penn College’s plastics and polymer engineering technology program, one of only six ABET-accredited programs in the United States.

“We have really become a leader in this industry for students who are looking to become plastics engineers, and to our peers who are teaching plastics engineering, or”

A group from New Covenant Academy in Mansfield makes final adjustments to its wearable back massager during a STEM Design Challenge hosted by BLaST Intermediate Unit 17 in the college’s Field House. Encouraging children to be curious about how things work will pay dividends in preparing them for science, technology, engineering and math careers, faculty experts say.
“I still think of those black-and-white wartime films where you see people on production lines and you see sparks flying at a foundry. … It was very dangerous. It was very unappealing,” admits Richard K. Hendricks, machine tool technology/automated manufacturing instructor at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Hendricks and industry leaders believe those outdated images are dangerously misleading at a time when an estimated 600,000 jobs go unfilled each year due to lack of qualified applicants.

“The evolution of the manufacturing industry is really beyond what you even imagine,” Hendricks says. “Most manufacturing environments are very clean, very well organized. It’s so high tech. … The technology has just evolved, and along with that, the quality of work in the manufacturing sector improved.”

Despite the high-technology makeover of manufacturing, there remains a “stubbornly poor perception of manufacturing jobs among younger workers,” according to a report by Deloitte and The Manufacturing Institute. The study found that among 18- to 24-year-olds, “manufacturing ranks dead last among industries in which they would choose to start their careers.”

With many vacant skilled manufacturing positions available, young people who dismiss the potential of a future in manufacturing could miss important career opportunities.
Hendricks explains: “The addition of technology – robotics, automated guided vehicles, laser-guided vehicles and all the automation – has decreased that workforce in the unskilled labor area but has kept the skilled labor demand up, because we still need people, skilled people, to program those machines and to set up the robots and to maintain them.”

Jennifer McNelly, former president of The Manufacturing Institute, agrees: “I think the definition of manufacturing has changed. When I think about it, … ‘It’s where the thought becomes the thing,’ because manufacturing is one of those environments where you can take an idea and a concept, you can produce it, and you can market it.”

McNelly is concerned about the consequences of not filling vacant positions in manufacturing.

“If we don’t have the right individuals, then manufacturing can’t grow. … It’s hurting manufacturing today,” she emphasizes. “I think one of the greatest challenges facing us … is whether or not we’ll continue to make things in this country.”

America is still making things, according to a January 2017 article in The Atlantic: “As some types of manufacturing disappear in America, … other types are growing. So-called advanced manufacturing, which is highly specialized and requires a facility with computers, is actually expanding.”

Despite employing fewer people, “manufacturing still makes up about 12.5 percent of America’s gross domestic product, the same as it did in 1960,” the article explains. “People who can work in modern manufacturing – those with computer skills and advanced degrees – are in demand.

“The average manufacturing worker now makes $26 an hour, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics,” the author continues. “The catch is that traditional manufacturing workers don’t have those advanced degrees, and can’t get those jobs.”

A public television documentary – “Working Class: Competition Drives Innovation! Why Science Matters” – was produced by Penn College and WVIA Public Media to encourage hands-on educational activities that connect students with science and other academic pursuits that can prepare them for success in modern manufacturing careers.

– Elaine J. Lambert
Penn College writer/video editor Tom Speicher embedded with hospitality students as they traveled to the 2018 Kentucky Derby. For a quarter century, Penn College students have joined the Derby’s culinary team.

CIRCA MAY 2014

Two classmates quietly climb aboard a yellow bus. She’s dressed in a green-plaid kilt and a white button-down shirt. He’s wearing khakis with a green polo. The 10-minute ride through Pottsville leads to another day of learning for Bridget M. Callahan and Jacob W. Parobek. Separated by a couple years in age and several seats on the bus, the Nativity BVM High School students don’t interact. But their futures will be united during a field trip of a lifetime.

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018; 5:03 P.M.

Callahan is once again sporting green-plaid clothing on a bus. Today it’s an open long-sleeve shirt, complementing her black T-shirt and jeans. She sits in the second row and appears relaxed, staring at the highway’s rolling hills. For her, the 11-hour journey is familiar.

About 10 rows behind is a young man wearing black shorts and a gray hoodie, whose attention alternates between his phone and the movie “Thor” playing on an overhead monitor. His apprehension adds to the weight of the bus carrying 41 people, about 40 cases of chocolate and dozens of suitcases. For him, the destination is foreign.

The only thing recognizable for Parobek is being on a bus with Callahan.

The two are among 28 Pennsylvania College of Technology students and 10 alumni who are traveling to Louisville to cook for thousands at one of the world’s iconic sporting events: the Kentucky Derby.

“The Derby would not be successful without the Penn College kids’ contribution to this event,” explains Chef Robin Rosenberg, vice president and chef de cuisine of Levy Restaurants, a premier sports and hospitality company that hires the students to cook at fabled Churchill Downs. “They are amazing. They are enthusiastic. Their passion, their work ethic – second to none.”

Approximately 40 students interviewed with Levy officials in February at Penn College for the Derby opportunity. Callahan made the cut for the third time. Levy selected Parobek on his second attempt.

“I’m excited, and I’m a little overwhelmed since it’s my first time,” he says. “I’ve never even seen the Kentucky Derby on TV.”

Callahan feels for her classmate. “You can’t know what’s going on here unless you’ve been here,” she says. “It’s really hard to explain pallets of food coming in and prepping it. It’s a little intimidating.”

Tuesday through Thursday, the students will prepare breakfast and lunch daily for nearly 10,000 patrons who have paid top dollar to enjoy

“The Derby would not be successful without the Penn College kids’ contribution to this event.”
premium suite and club access while watching early-morning workouts of Derby contenders and later a full card of racing.

Friday is Oaks Day, featuring the premier race for 3-year-old fillies. Saturday offers the main event: the 144th running of the Kentucky Derby, the nation’s longest continually held sporting event. On both Oaks and Derby days, about 24,000 spectators will be in the premium areas, savoring the delicacies crafted by the Penn College students and army of Levy hospitality pros.

“The quantities can be a little staggering,” says Chef Charles R. Niedermyer II, instructor of baking and pastry arts/culinary arts and coordinator of the Penn College Derby contingent. “It may be 3,000 pounds of carrots, 6,000 pounds of prime rib. Petite pastries at 5,000 pieces. It’s a lot of product. That’s what makes the experience so unique and special. You have the opportunity to produce that volume of product but at such a high quality.”

TUESDAY, MAY 1; 1:50 P.M.

This is the students’ “easy” day at Churchill Downs. Transported from their hotel by school buses, most of them arrived at the 147-acre complex by 9 a.m. They’ll become aware that it’s sunny and 82 degrees after leaving their workstations around 6 p.m.

Several are sweating in the main kitchen. The facility “feeds” nine other cooking kitchens and 15 satellite kitchens in the six-story complex. Rows of stainless steel production ovens, tilt skillets, steam-jacketed kettles and countless carts surround the students.

Alumna Sarah Brunski, ’17, is shoulder deep tossing cut vegetables in a bowl that’s the size of a tractor-trailer tire. Jacqueline R. Dull manipulates a massive stick blender in a tub of chocolate, melted from the pieces that she and classmates Somer A. Safford and Ashley R. Potrzebowski chopped earlier with Niedermyer.

Fifteen feet away is a table covered by mounds of prime rib. A trio of alumni – Dallas Tyree, ’16; Alyssa Morales, ’17; and Skylar (Burke) Diehl, ’12 – take turns slicing and seasoning the meat for its turn in the oven.

Four floors above them and about a quarter mile to the east works Callahan in the Jockey Club Suites’ kitchen. A few stains on her chef whites provide evidence of the countless racks of chicken she has drained and marinated.

“It’s not as overwhelming as other years. I know where everything is,” she says. “I think the first year coming in, you don’t know anyone, so you’re really nervous about everything. You’re scared of how the people are going to be, what you’ll be doing and if you can do it. It’s just a matter of finding your zone and getting it done.”

3:30 P.M.

Parobek is starting to do that in another fourth-floor kitchen. When informed he would be “working in Stakes,” Parobek assumed he would be making steaks. Instead, he’s at the Stakes Club, helping to prepare roasted turkey, various salads, and red beans and rice.

“Going from doing buffets at school where it’s 70 to 100 people to here you go up to 500 people, that was a shock to me,” he says while storing greens for the next day. “It was hectic at first. Tomorrow I believe it will be the same, but we’ll be here a little bit earlier.”

Try a lot earlier.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2; 5:03 A.M.

A slew of bleary-eyed Penn College students, including Callahan, are on the Derby shuttle bus. (Parobek left an hour earlier.) Twenty minutes later, they are walking through the quiet darkness to clock in at the bustling main kitchen and head to their respective posts.

Nearby, a grinning Niedermyer and Chef Donald Wressell, Guittard Chocolate’s executive pastry chef, are working on an array of heavenly cakes, cookies and chocolate desserts earmarked for The Mansion, the track’s most exclusive club.

“It’s easy to smile,” Niedermyer says. “It’s great to come down here and really make a difference and have an impact on the operation. And when the chefs tell me that they are excited and really happy that we are here, you can see that it’s genuine.”

As are the challenges.

“The Kentucky Derby is a very complicated, fast-moving event,” Niedermyer says. “There are venues all over the track, so you need to be always thinking, on your feet. You need to be flexible and ready to move.”

TOM SPEICHER, writer/video editor

TO THE Winner’s Circle

Kentucky Derby is a culinary marathon for students

Jacob W. Parobek, a culinary arts and systems student working at the Kentucky Derby for the first time, grows from apprehensive to “at-home” in Churchill Downs’ kitchens.
10:21 A.M.
Callahan knows that. After working most of the morning at Jockey Club Suites, she’s been summoned to the Starting Gate Suites, a floor above. With classmate Stephanie C. Myers, she garnishes braised pork shoulder, herb-brined roasted chicken and buttermilk mashed potatoes.

In 40 minutes, hundreds of guests will enjoy the results in a glorious dining room bathed in natural sunlight. “You don’t look at the whole week or you will get overwhelmed,” she says. “Each day it will get harder and harder not to hit the snooze button.”

6:45 P.M.
Callahan is still a few hours away from setting her alarm. She’s been in The Mansion’s kitchen for the past 50 minutes slicing pepperoni. It provides good practice for Thursday, when she will cut roughly 70 pounds of prosciutto as part of her 13-hour day.

Parobek is sitting for one of the rare times during the week. He’s in the parking lot waiting for the shuttle to transport him to the hotel. He shakes his head while recounting the busy breakfast service and his main assignment for lunch: mashing 100 pounds of potatoes.

“Never did that much mass quantity before,” he says. “But I like it. It makes the time go quicker.”

THURSDAY, MAY 3; 12:12 P.M.
Unfortunately, time flies at the hotel, as well. Parobek managed just a few hours of sleep before catching the 4 a.m. shuttle. Now, he’s deep into the Stakes’ lunch rush with alumna Victoria L. Kostecki, ’16. They refill the chef’s table every few minutes with glazed carrots and roast beef before piping whipped cream on mouthwatering cheesecakes.

“It’s a lot quicker here than at school because we have to keep refilling and restocking,” he says. “We have to make sure it looks good, tastes good and that everything is perfect. This will give me a better understanding of how I can do things better at school.”

Like knowing the difference between a.m. and p.m.?

8:01 P.M.
Dozing since arriving back at the hotel on the late-afternoon shuttle, Parobek snaps to attention when his droopy eyes notice the clock reads 8. In a panic, he quickly dresses and contemplates an excuse for being late. Slowly, he clears the cobwebs and realizes it’s 8 p.m. rather than 8 a.m. Relieved, he goes back to bed, thankful for his 7:30 a.m. start time on Friday.

OAKS DAY, FRIDAY, MAY 4; 7:42 A.M.
Callahan is a bit envious of Parobek, since she had to arrive on the 2:30 a.m. shuttle. Mixing salads in the Starting Gate Suites and distributing the dishes to nine other dining facilities have consumed her first four hours. Later she’ll be restocking lunch, dinner and sumptuous desserts and making fruit platters. By the time she cleans up, it will be 9 p.m. She does this without serious complaint.

“I’m good,” she says with a confident smile. “It’s just my feet hurt a little bit. We’ve met a lot of different chefs this year, so it’s been pretty neat to work with them and see their different styles of cooking. They’re all Levy employees, so maybe I’ll work with them someday.”

11:05 A.M.
In the Stakes’ kitchen, a somewhat refreshed Parobek is also contemplating his future.

“It’s such an awesome experience to meet all these chefs and learn about their experience and the opportunities they get with traveling,” he says while seamlessly prepping pork loin and grits.

“I would like a catering business on my own, possibly, but I wouldn’t want to be a traveling chef.”

12:03 P.M.
Niedermyer takes a moment from

On Wednesday, three days before the Derby, students, from left, Bridget M. Callahan, Bailey L. Frey, Bethany R. Taylor and Stephanie C. Myers step away from the kitchens to take in the world-famous track.
building chocolate mousses in the main kitchen to empathize with Parobek’s time miscalculation from the previous evening.

“When I’m here, I wake up four or five times a night, wondering if I’m late,” he says. “I was back to work at 4 this morning, and that was after an 18-hour day yesterday. I tell the students that this is not a sprint, to pace themselves. Ask for help. Sleep when you can. Eat, drink and sit down when you can. Because when we need you to go, it’s time to go.”

DERBY DAY, SATURDAY, MAY 5; 6:03 A.M.
It’s go time.
Callahan juggles a cup of coffee in her right hand while traveling on the bus to the biggest day of the year for Churchill Downs. About 157,000 spectators will flock to the track this afternoon to witness 20 horses racing a mile-and-a-quarter for glory.

“Knowing that it’s your last day and that you get to sleep after this is pretty exciting,” she says with a chuckle. “It’s honestly an adrenaline rush knowing that, at the end of the day, you get to see the race.”

9:47 A.M.
So far, Callahan has seen plenty of the suites on floors four, five and six. She’s been a constant presence in the elevator transporting carts of salads that she helped mix earlier in the morning. That routine will continue throughout the day, the salads replaced by hot food and desserts.

“This definitely gives you a lot of confidence,” she says during a brief break. “You get to show people what you can do, what you know. You get to learn a lot from it. I never thought I would be here, let alone with someone from my high school.”

10:45 A.M.
That high school and now college classmate started his day at 4:30 building charcuterie boards consisting of cured meats, dried fruit, cheeses and jams for VIP guests. For the rest of the day, he’ll once again be concentrating on pork, roast beef and various sweets.

“It went so fast,” says Parobek, who truly seems at home in the kitchen. “I’m kind of relieved, but it’s also bittersweet. These people have become like family.”

1:45 P.M.
The corridors of Churchill Downs are a sea of people, and the main event is still five hours away. Women defy the unrelenting rain by proudly wearing hats featuring a canopy of colors. Men walk about in wild suits. The Kentucky Derby might be the only place a blinding orange blazer with blue pants and red sneakers is considered stylish.

6:30 P.M.
Parobek and fellow students puncture holes in white garbage bags for use as ponchos. They pull the bags over their heads and are led through dining rooms by a proud Churchill Downs Executive Chef David Danielson. Their destination is a rooftop view of the race. Spontaneously, diners turn toward the students and give them a rousing ovation for a job well done.

6:48 P.M.
The thrashing rain doesn’t dampen the students’ joy as they soak in the festive atmosphere below and the deafening roar of the crowd. Parobek is a couple hundred yards past the finish line. Callahan is about a half mile away by the starting gate.

Most of the students raise their phones for the next two minutes and capture the pre-race favorite, Justify, as he navigates the muddy track for a 2 1/2-length victory.

With water dripping off his glasses, Parobek turns from the track, reveals a wry smile and perfectly sums up the week with three words: “That was crazy.”
A WOODEN FISHING BOAT pitches on a turbulent sea, rising and falling on gale-fed surges, violently tossed fore and aft in a dramatically realistic replication of nature’s wrath.

Awash in emotion, audience members don’t consider the mechanics behind it: the 100-foot “rain curtain” through which they watch the spectacle unfold, the omnidirectional hydraulics that create the illusion, the variables that combine to such grand effect.

The tempest – a storm of literally biblical proportion – is part of “Jesus,” which runs through January at the Sight & Sound Theatres in Lancaster County.

The facility has earned its ranking as one of the top three theatrical attractions in the country, all the more astounding when one considers it began as a dairy farmer’s portable slideshow 42 years ago. What it offers is 21st century stagecraft, pure and not-so-simple. It is art devoid of artifice, the handiwork of earnest craftspeople hitching their talents to their faith.

“Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,” the apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians, a fitting road map for the hundreds of employees who turn their collaborative expertise into a celebratory experience for more than a million people each year between Lancaster and a sister theater in Branson, Missouri.

Three of those staff members, bound by common purpose and conviction, infuse their jobs with skills nurtured at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Jeffrey T. Feeman, ’13, was the institution’s first graduate in industrial design; Franklin N. Carr, ’07 and ’08, holds certificates in construction carpentry, cabinetmaking and millwork, and masonry; and Eric T. Metzler, ’07 and ’09, earned degrees in electronics engineering technology and technology management.
Feeman is a scenic drafter, Carr a scenic architect, and Metzler an electronics/animatronics technician. Three awe-inspiring job titles for three awesome gentlemen, who draw viability from a visionary’s sketchpad.

“Just being able to be creative with materials, then putting them together to make something that you’ve dreamed up in your head, is really fulfilling,” Carr says. “Coming up with an idea here at the theater, designing it on the computer and then seeing it put together in reality up on the shop floor, that’s really cool.”

Various departments (art, lighting, special projects, electronics/animatronics, and even hair and costumes) bring their wish lists to the Show Engineering work stations for what they want to see built.

“Then the art department actually gives us a fully formed mesh, like a rendering, of what the set is going to look like, and we have to make that a reality,” Carr explains. “If they give us a 30-foot-tall set, we have to design what’s going to hold it, the bone structure of it.”

An all-access walk through the sprawling network of offices and workshop space is rife with those bones and barely scratches the surface of the enterprise. Enormous sets in varying levels of completion command attention, while no-less towering remnants of past shows are warehoused for their eventual return to the schedule.

It is truly a beehive wrought large – artisans wielding paint-sprayers atop scaffolding; design wizards making magic at multiple monitors; wardrobe and wigs, cataloged and carefully displayed. And there are animals – a camel, water buffalo, horses, llamas, goats, donkeys – well-tended and waiting in nearby stalls and pens for their cue.

All of it happens with workday regularity, aside from (and in service of) 11 wondrous shows a week. There is no energy wasted, no offstage histrionics, no one taken for granted or deemed more important than another.

“Our chief creative officer will come down … and stop a meeting before it even starts … and say, ‘Let’s just take a minute and realize that each of our jobs, whether they’re big or small, creating the sets or creating the entire show, let’s take a step back and realize they’re all needed,’” Feeman says.

“You know that the show that you made, whatever part that you had in that show, is eventually changing someone’s life,” he adds. “You may not see it day to day, as in any job, but you know at the end of the day that what you’re doing does matter.”

The alumni took different paths to their theatrical destination, but the roundabout roads began on campus and continued to their shared haven.

Feeman once eyed architecture, and he doesn’t rule out a future in prosthetics (or any other field in which he can give back and improve lives). Carr was on the verge of a yearlong mission trip to Ireland when he got wind of a cabinetmaking job, then a dinner-theater carpentry gig in which he found a calling. Metzler’s resume includes a few years at an industrial park near campus, then travel to Lancaster with college friends to start an offshoot of their adopted Williamsport church.

“Penn College was definitely a great fit for me. The hands-on part was what really led me there, and getting that experience led me to where I am today,” Feeman says, singling out his coursework with industrial design professor Thomas E. Ask.

“In creating a product, you mostly go from engineering and you build your product, and then you make it look nice. You put the art on it, and you make it aesthetically pleasing,” he explains. “It’s almost the opposite being a theater, because we come out with the art first. We get the show to look exactly as we want it to, then we build the framing behind that.”

Sight & Sound’s page-to-stage process traverses three main shops. One does metal, one does the foam and...
Penn College graduates, from left, Jeffrey T. Feeman, ‘13; Eric T. Metzler, ’07, ’09; and Franklin N. Carr, ’07, ’08, have found a calling at Sight & Sound Theatres, where audiences are awed by the on-stage results of their behind-the-scenes work.

Watch a video about graduates’ work at Sight & Sound Theatres at magazine.pct.edu/st.
sculpting, and the third does paint and décor.

“I specifically work for Shop Two, in supplying blueprints and documents for them,” Feeman, the scenic drafter, says. “Once Shop One rolls the set through that’s made of metal, they’ll put plywood on, foam on top of that, and then that gets carved down to create the sets and make them look realistic. That’ll eventually be rolled to Shop Three, where it gets painted and really looks realistic after that.”

Plausability is an essential element, but it is not always where the process begins.

“We work closely with the directors, taking their big-picture ideas and turning them into something real,” Metzler says of the 15-member technical-services department. “We listen to their crazy ideas and rein them in. Sometimes, we have to tell them, ‘We can’t do this, but we’ll do that.’”

A diversified skill set helps in navigating the periodic challenges, allowing a seamless back-and-forth between art and engineering.

“Just being able to get three different certificates while I was there was a big deal for me, just having that knowledge in the back of my head,” Carr says. “I’ll never have to worry about not having a job because I learned so many different facets of construction while I was there. I’ll always have something to do.”

He is grateful for such instructors as Glenn R. Luse, with whom he learned masonry.

“Definitely has a teacher’s heart, a mentor’s heart,” Carr says. “That’s not just a career for him. That’s, I think, a passion.”

Learning alongside such accomplished faculty is a definite asset in his toolbox.

“When you’re going to look for a job, the employer wants to see that you’ve put time into your career path, studying all the things that go into it. And being able to go into an interview knowing that you most likely have the upper hand because of your education, and especially the choice of college, is a big deal,” Carr says. “I think it always comes back to that hands-on stuff.”

The appreciable practicality of their education, put to use in such a personally rewarding venue, comes up often in conversation.

“This kind of presses all the right buttons for me. Being able to be creative, being able to bring the Christian message to people through what I’m able to do, is a really cool opportunity,” Carr says. “And it’s good to come to a show every once in a while, because being downstairs and disconnected from what’s going on up here, you forget about that. So coming to see a show, and seeing how excited people are to see the sets and the animals and everything, it’s refreshing and re-centers you on what you’re doing.”

Metzler also makes it a point to go upstairs once a week, as much for the audience reaction as to ensure a smooth performance.

“During ‘Samson,’ I watched regularly as the columns came crashing down,” he admitted.

A colossal moment, perfectly rendered and delivered. But what if it weren’t? Refining the “show must go on” mentality that he learned during three summers at Sesame Place near his Bucks County hometown, Metzler occasionally provides on-call support during a show’s run.

“If they need a hand, I know a little bit about a lot of things,” he says.

“When you’re in front of 2,000 people, you learn how best to troubleshoot. You really want to get the effect working; it’s not necessarily about fixing it, but letting the show push on without it if need be.”

Metzler is the type of guy who gets excited over the arrival of a new shipment of circuit boards and who respectfully recalls the co-worker who labored two years on lighting effects for “Noah.”

He instills each task with an attention to detail and a reverence for fundamentals that he learned in Penn College labs from the likes of Karl E. Markowicz, instructor of electronics and computer engineering technology.

“(He) drilled it into us such that, 12 years later, I still remember it!”

Some of the higher-level programming – the automated gizmos that move 30-foot buildings and tell them to stop where they’re meant to stop, courtesy of GPS technology – is installed directly in the set. There have been animatronic animals over the years, as well, for those times when a real rhinoceros or giraffe can’t be found in rural southcentral Pennsylvania and trained to take stage direction.

Among Metzler’s specialties are designing and laying out the circuitry for more intimate props, handheld items such as the shipboard lantern into which he shoehorned 96 blindingly bright LED bulbs so that it can be seen from every last one of the theater’s seats. And, yes, he can make it flicker for added authenticity; one more artist’s touch to enhance the crowds’ involvement.

“Working on it every day, you forget how cool it is. And then when you see people, how excited they are, and like, ‘How in the world do you do that?’” Carr notes. “To me, it doesn’t seem like that big of a deal until you take yourself out of it and just watch what other people are experiencing. That’s pretty huge.”

Seated with his fellow alumni in front of Sight & Sound’s panoramic 300-foot stage, where a technician fine-tunes the movement of a massive piece of scenery, Carr is no stranger to “huge.” Nor to the luxury of rewardingly blending vocation and devotion.

“Being able to come to work and love what I do … and love the people I work with … and love the end product, I think is not something a lot of people get to do,” he says. “It’s not just a job. It’s not just a career. It’s something that I love doing.”
Hailing from Rochester, New York, Adam G. Lembaris worked on Harrier jets in the Marine Corps. (He and his brother joined the corps together.) After five years of service, Lembaris searched online for aviation schools near his home city and visited Penn College first. “I came here, did the tour, everyone was friendly, and I didn’t look anywhere else,” he said. Enrolled in aviation maintenance technology, Lembaris is vice president of the college’s chapter of Omega Delta Sigma, a national veterans fraternity.

Lumley Aviation Center, “Room” C101

Constructed in 1992, the Lumley Aviation Center is a 50,000-square-foot facility on 5.8 acres at the Williamsport Regional Airport in Montoursville. Penn College offers FAA-certified bachelor’s and associate degrees, as well as a certificate in aviation maintenance technician. The facility is also home to Lycoming Engines training. The college’s aviation technology program has its origins in the 1930s.

With a hydraulic power unit connected to the aircraft, students and faculty complete a landing gear retraction test on a twin-engine Dassault Falcon 20 business jet. Instructor Michael R. Robison, a member of the U.S. Soaring Team, competed at the World Gliding Championships in the Czech Republic in July.

A pair of shoes belongs to a student in the cockpit. It’s typical practice to leave footwear outside of multimillion-dollar jets to protect the interior, which often features leather seats and plush carpet. In industry, technicians also wear “booties” over their boots. In addition to aircraft parked in the hangar, the college fleet includes a retired Boeing 727-200F cargo plane (parked outside).
“I’ve always enjoyed taking things apart, putting them back together and making things work,” said Thomas G. Urban, of Stockholm, New Jersey, an aviation maintenance technician student. “I thought aviation would be a good challenge. It’s cool stuff.” With the ability to earn a degree and his Airframe and Powerplant certification, he added, “I thought Penn College would be a good choice.” Growing up in an area of New Jersey that’s surrounded by state parks, Urban says he’s enjoying the natural resources of central Pennsylvania. “There’s some nice trails to go hiking here,” he said. Urban hopes to “work on smaller, privately owned aircraft somewhere close to New York City.”

Jean-Luc Keller received his first name due to his parents’ appreciation for “Star Trek” (and fictional Starfleet captain Jean-Luc Picard). Keller is a Blackhawk mechanic in the Army National Guard. “I figured I’d pursue a career similar to that. It’s something I’m good at,” he said. An aviation maintenance technology student from Wellsboro, Keller reports to Fort Indiantown Gap once a month for duty.

Bill F. Stepp III, associate professor of aviation, bought a wrecked Cessna aircraft in 1993 and restored it. The plane took flight again in 2000, and a year later, Stepp used it to obtain his private pilot license. Formerly an aircraft mechanic in the U.S. Navy, he earned bachelor’s and postgraduate degrees, as well as various aviation-related certifications, including Designated Mechanic Examiner. (There are fewer than 300 DMEs in the world.) His son is also a member of the college’s aviation faculty.
FOR MANY AMERICANS, the experience of anxiety is becoming increasingly commonplace. In fact, according to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly one-third of all Americans (31.1 percent) will experience an anxiety disorder at some point in their lifetime.

But there is hope! Anxiety is one of the most treatable mental health problems in our country, and many people suffer needlessly with these uncomfortable symptoms.

Symptoms of anxiety may include:
- Restlessness and irritability
- Muscle tension
- Sleep problems
- Relationship problems
- Decreased productivity

Many people use the terms “stress” and “anxiety” interchangeably; however, it is important to understand that stress and anxiety are not the same thing.

Stress is often a response to a particular situation. For instance, we may experience stress because we are feeling pressure to perform in our career. Stress is in many ways a normal reaction to life events, and it is not necessarily problematic. In reality, some stress can actually be motivating and may even help us to reach our optimal level of performance.

Anxiety, on the other hand, is a maladaptive reaction to the stress in our life and rarely is productive. For instance, we may experience anxiety in the form of chronic and excessive worry about our work performance.

Although both stress and anxiety may have a negative impact on one’s health, anxiety can create more prolonged problems. Anxiety and chronic stress have been linked to illnesses such as heart disease, obesity and migraine headaches, to name a few.

Healthy stress management techniques can protect us against the negative consequences of stress and anxiety. These include:
- Maintaining a healthy lifestyle (diet, exercise and sleep)
- Identifying and changing negative self-talk
- Deep breathing and other relaxation techniques
- Supportive social connections

When your symptoms begin to interfere significantly with daily activities, it may be time to seek professional help. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is the most effective form of therapy for treating anxiety disorders. This approach focuses on skill development, as well as identifying, challenging and changing the unhelpful thoughts that maintain anxiety. In addition, medications are sometimes used alone or in combination with therapy to relieve symptoms of anxiety.

Untreated anxiety can lead to unnecessary suffering, and often it may be difficult to know where to begin. A conversation with your primary care provider is often a good place to start. You may also want to consider visiting the American Psychology Association website (www.apa.org) for more information, as well as a list of psychologists in your area.

If you have an idea for an “Expert Tips” topic, please email magazine@pct.edu.
Richard L. Butts, ‘67, architectural technology, is retired and resides in Newville.

Richard Conni, ‘67, aviation, is an aircraft mechanic for Delta Airlines. He resides in Trophy Club, Texas.

William L. Corson, ‘67, engineering computer science, retired in 2002 as senior systems analyst for Eastman Kodak, where he designed and maintained software systems. He resides in Byron, N.Y.

Franklin L. Courter, ‘67, civil engineering technology, retired from Penn State as a construction quality representative. He resides in Northampton.

Agnes “Aggie” E. (Knittle) Fisher, ‘67, liberal arts, is retired and resides in Williamsport.

Robert E. Senft, ‘67, architectural technology, retired as a project manager for York Hospital. He resides in York.

Harry L. Wells, ‘67, heavy construction equipment operation, is managing vice president for American Equipment LLC, Villager Construction Inc., where he manages a $20 million fleet. He resides in Victor, N.Y.

Ron R. Heiber, ‘68, electrical construction, retired in September 2017 as traffic signal electrician for the City of Las Vegas. He resides in North Las Vegas, Nev.

John E. Hopkins, ‘68, architectural technology, is semi-retired, working part time as a pro service specialist at Lowe’s. He resides in Whispering Pines, N.C.

Ronald J. Kuhns, ‘68, electrical construction, retired in 2005 from the state’s Department of General Services. For more than 25 years, he was an electrician for the Capitol Complex in Harrisburg. He is an electrician and maintenance worker for St. Patrick Church in Trevorton. He resides in Coal Township.

Joseph D. Metcalf, ‘68, welding, is retired and resides in Shinglehouse.

Paul L. McQuay, ‘69, tool design, a former teacher at WACC, retired from education in 1995 and founded Paul McQuay and Associates, where he was president until 2014. The corporation specialized in restructuring higher education, conducting projects in more than 75 countries. He is a recipient of the WACC Alumnus of the Year award and the Outstanding International Educator award and has published numerous articles. He resides in Fort Myers, Fla.

William S. Collins Jr., ‘66, business administration, is president of The High Road Inc., where he manages and produces festivals. He is a past board member and treasurer for the International Festivals & Events Association and has umpired girls softball for more than 35 years. He resides in Springfield, Va.

Stanley P. Miller, ‘66, architectural technology, is the principal of Stanley P. Miller Architect. In 1973, he graduated from Boston Architectural Center and received his Massachusetts architect license. He resides Boca Raton, Fla.

Charles E. Wilkinson, ‘66, technical illustration, is retired and resides in Elgin, Texas.

Richard S. Ashworth, ‘67, automotive body repair and refinishing, retired from Columbia-Greene Community College, where he was an assistant professor of automotive technology. He resides in Cobleskill, N.Y.

Dennis Ault, ‘67, business management, is retired and resides in Montoursville.

Mary (Cervinsky) Buttorff, ‘67, liberal arts, is retired and resides in Williamsport.

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Mary (Cervinsky) Buttorff, ‘67, liberal arts, is retired and resides in Williamsport.
Mark E. Buck, ’78, automotive technology, retired from PPL Electric Utilities on July 31, 2017, after 37 years of service. He was the transportation mechanic leader. He resides in Danville.

Terry D. Gerber, ’78, mechanical drafting, is a senior project specialist for Versum Materials. He resides in Tamaqua.

Tina M. (Weight) Meyers, ’78, secretarial science, is a medical transcriptionist. She resides in Lock Haven.

1980s

Lynn Sick, ’80, general studies, is the business services specialist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. His son Brandon, ’16, is an engineering design technology graduate. Lynn’s father, Joseph, was the first director of the college’s Earth Science Center. Lynn resides in Leesport.

Dana B. Carver, ’81, aviation maintenance technician, is an aviation safety inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration. He resides in Ypsilanti, Mich.

Sandy D. (Narabetski) Steinhaiser, ’81, floriculture, owns Floral Encores in Naples, Fla., where she resides.

Harold “Rusty” Huff, ’82, electronics technology, is a quality control/electronic engineering technician for TOA Engineering Co. He resides in Maple Shade, N.J.

Kimberly (Coons) Phillips, ’83, computer information systems, is a payroll and benefits administrator for Clinton County Government. She resides in Beech Creek.

Mark M. Genetti, ’85, machinist general, is a material technician for Mack Trucks. He resides in Kutztown.

Stephanie (Crimbly) Hoke, ’85, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Smiles on Trindle Dental Care. She resides in Mechanicsburg.

Terry H. Hunter, ’85, retail management, is a habilitation staff member for Hope Enterprises, where he provides support for individuals with disabilities and is a two-time employee of the month. He resides in Turbotville.

Dana B. Carver, ’81, general studies, is secretary to the first director of the college’s Earth Science Center. Lynn resides in Leesport.

Janet K. (Ulsamer) Kryder, ’87, general studies, is secretary to the assistant dean of industrial, computing and engineering technologies at Penn College. She resides in Lock Haven.

David McCarrier, ’87, diesel mechanic, is a supervisor for Keane, responsible for a fracking crew and its equipment. He resides in Williamsport.

Ellen J. (Conrad) Mull, ’88, radiography, is the CT team leader at Evangelical Community Hospital. She resides in Sunbury.

Kevin J. Tar, ’88, electronics technology, is an application developer for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He resides in Enola.

Lorenzo Adams, ’91, construction carpentry, is a housekeeping supervisor for Veterans Affairs. He resides in Coatesville.

1990s

Mary A. (Caramadre) Graham, ’90, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Zug Family Dentistry. She and husband, Jim, ’90, graphic arts, reside in Manheim.

Dana B. Carver, ’81, general studies, is a material technician for Mack Trucks. He resides in Kutztown.

Jonathan M. (Andes) Brent, ’89, radiography, is a neuro endovascular technology specialist for Geisinger Medical Center, where she assists in procedures and does 3-D reconstruction, sets up training, helps with research, visits sites for new technology purchases and is involved with the hospital’s Vascular and Interventional Radiology Fellowship. She resides in Danville.

Brad Evans, ’89, construction carpentry, is a supervisor for F.A. Bartlett Tree Experts. He resides in Chambersburg.

Michael A. Fornwalt, ’89, construction carpentry, is an area manager for Genuine Parts Co., overseeing nine NAPA Auto Parts stores. He resides in Muncy.

Nancy L. Pepperman, ’89, human services, is a rehab specialist for Living Unlimited Inc., where she assesses individuals’ employment capabilities and, if they are capable, helps them to find and maintain employment. She is also an emergency medical technician. She resides in Linden.

Christopher S. Gilmour, ’91, mass communications, is the lead graphic designer for U.S. Bank’s Elan Financial Services, MoneyPass ATM network, U.S. Bank Gaming Services and Enterprise communication. He resides in Denver, Colo.

Lori L. (Broughton) Dietrick, ’92, computer information systems: business programming, is the office manager for Occupational Health Services at UPMC Susquehanna, where she received a 25-year service award. She resides in Morris.

Shelley M. Funt, ’92, culinary arts, is the executive chef for Carroll Lutheran Village. She works with the local food bank and farmers market and is a culinary volunteer for the career and technical education program at Carlisle High School. She resides in Gettysburg.

Tracie L. (Eichner) Lesher, ’92, business management, is an administrative secretary for Geisinger. She resides in Sunbury.

Michelle D. (Cholin) Steppe, ’92, business management, is an administrative assistant for Gentry Development LLC. She resides in Williamsport.

Karen S. (Peluso) Alexander, ’93, retail management, is a homemaker and mother of four. She resides in Ephrata.

Jeffrey A. Gray, ’93, electrical occupations, is a foreman for VEC Oil & Gas, installing electrical components. He resides in Clifford Township.

Jamie L. Hosterman, ’93, electrical technology, works in sales for Keystone Communications. He resides in Danville.

Chad R. Smith, ’93, business management, is a mortgage originator for PS Bank. He resides in Sayre.
Gene M. Baker Jr., ’94, paramedic technology, is manager of pre-hospital services for Evangelical Community Hospital. He resides in New Columbia.

LuAnn (Konen) Brunner, ’94, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Bright Smiles Dental Care. She resides in Johnsonburg.

David J. Eastlake, ’95, technology management, is a provider of attendant care. He resides in Williamsport.

Blane L. Reichart, ’95, electrical occupations, is a project manager for Distech Controls, a provider of building management technologies. He resides in Hanover.

Dottie C. (Carns) Bowery, ’96, occupational therapy assistant, is a classroom assistant in the Clearfield Area School District. She resides in Clearfield.

Keith S. Cavanaugh, ’96, heating, ventilation & air conditioning technology, is a utilities technician for The Hershey Co. He is a graduate of the Associated Builders and Contractors HVAC/R apprenticeship program. He resides in Lewisberry.

Vicki A. (Fry) Hummel, ’96, advertising art, is a custom designer, innovation and engineering, for Playworld, a manufacturer of playground equipment. She resides in Northumberland.

Lesli A. (Brenerman) Willoughby, ’96, culinary arts technology and food and hospitality management, is a dining services supervisor for WellSpan Health. She is working toward opening her own cafe. She resides in York.

Christine M. (Hoepfl) Downing, ’97, early childhood education, is a center director for The Learning Care Group. She resides in Elkton, Md.

Robyn D. Gordner, ’97, graphic design, is the creative marketing manager for PlayPower, a manufacturer of playground and recreational equipment. She resides in Danville.

Lacy (Blair) Hess, ’97, office information systems, is a human resource analyst for the State Civil Service Commission. She resides in Selinsgrove.

Karen L. Krum, ’97, business management, is an accountant for PMF Industries. She resides in Muncy.

Nicole S. O’Connor, ’97, practical nursing, is a charge nurse for Valley View Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. She resides in Hughesville.

Jillian K. (Bliss) Cummings, ’98, early childhood education, is a lead teacher at KinderCare Learning Center. She resides in Brackenridge.

Nancy R. (Stephens) Hamilton, ’98, early childhood education, is a senior administrative assistant for RETTEW Associates Inc. She resides in Cogan Station.

Tanya J. (Rhine) Hower, ’98, early childhood education, is a family advocate for STEP Head Start. She resides in Williamsport.

Chris S. Kalb, ’98, landscape/nursery technology, is a parks superintendent/arborist for Lower Gwynedd Township. He resides in Pennsburg.

Chad McMillan, ’98, environmental technology, is project manager for nuclear plant services at EnergySolutions. He presented at the Electric Power Research Institute’s 2011 Low Level Radioactive Waste Conference and was a project manager in charge of installing and commissioning liquid waste processing equipment at Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant in Japan after the 2012 nuclear accident there. He resides in Albion.

Victoria (Albarano) Blucher, ’99, nursing, is a nurse practitioner for the Baltimore Sleep & Wellness Center. She resides in Joppa, Md.

Brian J. Bridge, ’99, heavy construction equipment technology, is a field technician for Ohio CAT. He resides in Carroll, Ohio.

Karen L. Hill, ’99, nursing, is a health professions teacher in the Williamsport Area School District. She resides in Muncy.

Ryan Schramm, ’99, culinary arts technology, is president and general manager of Ragged Mountain Resort in Danbury, N.H. He is a member of the boards of directors for Ski NH and RMST Inc. He resides in Warner, N.H.

Amy I. (Lapham) Smith, ’99, radiography, is a clinical instructor for the radiography program at WellSpan Health. She resides in Hanover.


2000s

Ryan M. Buffington, ’00, accounting, is the controller for Hinkle Contracting Co. and received a double organ transplant on Oct. 11, 2014. He resides in Lexington, Ky.

Jon Mackey, ’00, broadcast communications, owns JM Quizzo Productions. He resides in Williamsport.

Courtney L. (Caldwell) Mikešell, ’00, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Penn Highlands Hospital, working with pediatric clients in a local school district. She resides in Clearfield and is working toward a registered occupational therapist license.

Rebecca S. Miller, ’00, dietary manager technology, is a dietetic technician for Masonic Village at Elizabethtown. She resides in Palmyra.

Garret K. Phipps, ’00, electronics technology: industrial process control, is a maintenance manager for Hydro Aluminium Extrusions. He resides in Mebane, N.C.

Doreen C. Shannon, ’00, business management, is the disability services assistant at Penn College. She resides in Hughesville.

Nicole D. (Smith) Snyder, ’00, occupational therapy assistant, is certified occupational therapy assistant for Family Medical Home Health Agency. She resides in Milton.
Kenneth Healy, ‘01, manufacturing engineering technology, is executive vice president and director of engineering for PMF Industries. He was named Engineer of the Year by SME Chapter 49. He resides in Williamsport.

Craig M. Reitz, ‘01, graphic design, is the lead graphic designer for Restek Corp. He resides in State College.

Christopher Shenot, ‘01, aviation maintenance technology, is a maintenance supervisor for Republic Airlines. He resides in Monaca.

Jeffrey M. Corcelius, ‘02, broadcast communications, is a postproduction editor for Discovery Communications. He resides in Baltimore.

Matthew J. Heins, ‘02, broadcast communications, is a license examiner for PennDOT. He won an Associated Press award for Best Talk Show for “Step Up to the Mic” on WPPA-AM in Pottsville, and in 2011, he was a CBS News correspondent for northeastern Pennsylvania during flooding from Tropical Storm Lee. He resides in Coal Township.

Jessica (May) Lentz, ‘02, early childhood education, is a lead teacher for STEP Head Start. She resides in Montoursville.

Joseph A. Schaefer, ‘02, automotive technology, is an electrician for Penn College. He resides in Jersey Shore.

Richard B. Campbell, ‘03, computer aided product and systems design, works for Verescence, where he engineers new mold assemblies and bottle drawings for the perfume cosmetics industry. He resides in Monroe, Ga.

Wendy A. (Mazur) Carl, ‘03, culinary arts technology, is a scheduling coordinator for food service provider Aramark. She resides in Mount Carmel with husband, Donald, ‘03, culinary arts technology.

Robert Dimnick, ‘03, business management, is a scheduling services specialist for Geisinger’s urology department. He resides in Danville.

Stacy A. (Tittle) Healy, ‘03, computer aided drafting technology, is a lead teacher at a YMCA. She resides in Asbury, N.J.

Rebecca A. Mazurik, ‘03, applied human services, is a school psychologist for Parma City Schools. She graduated from Bucknell University in 2009 with a Master of Science in education specializing in school psychology. She resides in Willoughby, Ohio.

Jason M. Radle, ‘03, architectural technology, works in design/sales for Cisney and O’Donnell Builders & Remodelers. He resides in Mount Union.

Michael Sebergandio, ‘03, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a materials engineer for CNH Industrial North America. He resides in Landisville.

Gabriel S. Stever, ‘03, toolmaking technology, is a fabrication supervisor for Ashland Technologies. He resides in Mount Carmel.

Julie (Kehrer) Vogel, ‘03, landscape/nursery technology, is a maintenance manager for Shaylor’s Ponds & Patios. She resides in Montoursville.

Amy B. (Phillips) Weaver, ‘03, technology management, is an assistant manager for AAA Southern Pennsylvania. She resides in Hellam.

Marsylvia J. (Smith) Weaver, ‘03, business management, is managing partner for Waymarric LLC, which she founded with her parents and brother, and she owns and operates The Plaza Cafe. She resides in Gaines.

Joseph M. Delibertis, ‘04, building construction technology, is president of D&S Elite Construction. He resides in Douglassville.

Matthew R. Fry, ‘04, broadcast communications, is a dyno lab technician for American Axle & Manufacturing. He resides in Yoder, Ind.

Rebecca L. (Rinella) Hayden, ‘04, printing and publishing technology, is a graphic communications technology instructor at the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County. She is pursuing a Master of Education from Temple University. She resides in Moscow.

Erin E. (Charney) McKean, ‘04, nursing, is an RN for Mount Nittany Health. She resides in Bellefonte.

Mackenzie R. Miller, ‘04, heating, ventilation & air conditioning technology, is a loader for Metals USA. He resides in Hallam.

Joseph P. Roque, ‘04, building construction technology, is a land development manager for Lennar, a homebuilder. He resides in Chesapeake, Va.

Dannette (Brosious) Shebest, ‘04, nursing, is an RN/hospice systems analyst for Evangelical Community Hospital. She resides in Northumberland.

Amy R. Clark, ‘05, nursing, is an oncology certified nurse at Geisinger Lewistown Hospital. She resides in Lewistown.

Rebecca L. Dorley, ‘05, early childhood education, is the coordinator of the APPRISE health insurance counseling program for STEP Office of Aging. She resides in Jersey Shore.

Kimberly D. Eisenhower, ‘05, graphic communications technology, is the assistant director for Blessed Beginnings Preschool & Childcare. She resides in New Columbia.

Jennifer R. (Brinkley) Martin, ‘05, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is an engineering manager-body process for Toyota Motor North America. She resides in Georgetown, Ky.

Crystal M. McCusker, ‘05, business administration: management, is a field service assistant for Chesapeake Energy. She recently became a certified emergency medical responder through the college and a local ambulance company. She resides in Dushore.

John P. Petro, ‘05, computer information technology: data communications and networking, is a systems application manager in integrated security design for Johnson Controls. He resides in Bethlehem.

Bobbi J. Winn, ‘05, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Flagship Rehabilitation Services. She resides in Lock Haven.

Douglas J. Avelino, ‘06, forest technology, is a coordinator of survey and pipeline development for Williams Cos. He resides in Catawissa.

Brent Bondura, ‘06, technology management; ‘05, networking and technical support, is the IT manager for Sands Auto Group. He resides in Macungie.

Jessica DeHaas, ‘06, baking and pastry arts, is a bakery assistant in Penn State’s specialty bakery. She makes and decorates cakes for weddings at the university’s hotels. She resides in Bellefonte.

Al A. Duncheskie, ‘06, architectural technology, is a senior CNC programmer for Universal Forest Products, including product design and production applications and managing the shop. He resides in Trevorton.

Tara L. (Hipler) Hagenberger, ‘06, construction management; ‘04, architectural technology, is a land development manager for Landmark Homes. She resides in Lancaster.

George B. Hohman, ‘06, computer information technology: data communications and networking, is a network specialist II for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He resides in Selinsgrove.
Andrea L. Kessel-Sanders, ’06, culinary arts technology, is the kitchen and catering manager for GoodWill’s Restaurant and Bakery. She resides in Northumberland.

Marie Magyar, ’06, nursing, is an RN and a transplant coordinator for the Gift of Life Donor Program. She resides in Lewisburg.

Michael Melnyk, ’06, applied human services, is associate director of student affairs at Penn State Harrisburg. He resides in Hummelstown.

Charlotte E. Parsons, ’06, early childhood education, is a paraprofessional for Bradford, Lycoming, Sullivan and Tioga Intermediate Unit 17. She resides in Montoursville.

Heather A. (Leitzel) Smouse, ’06, nursing, is an RN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Lewisburg.

Amy M. (Richardson) Tomalavage, ’06, accounting, is the business manager for Williams Valley School District. She resides in Schuylkill Haven.

Kimberly L. Wilkinson, ’06, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Geisinger HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital. She resides in Selinsgrove.

Jason M. Willis, ’06, automotive technology management, is service director for Faulkner Subaru of Mechanicsburg, where he and his staff were ranked second in the district for outstanding customer service. He resides in Dillsburg.

Mike Zappitelli, ’06, building construction technology, owns MAZ Construction LLC. He resides in West Chester.

Daniel Bennett, ’07, information technology: security specialist and information technology: web & applications development, is a cybersecurity architect for Geisinger Health System. He earned a master’s degree in homeland security with a concentration in information security and forensics in 2013 from Penn State. He and wife, Chelsea (Bagley), ’06, legal assistant: paralegal studies, reside in Montgomery.

John R. Deihl, ’07, aviation maintenance technology, is an aircraft technician for Boeing. He resides in Prospect Park.

Helena N. (Yancey) Floyd, ’07, individual studies, is a bus driver for Student Transportation of America. She is pursuing a degree in education. She resides in Williamsport.

Eric Kramer, ’07, information technology: security specialist, is an information security risk and compliance analyst for Fulton Financial Corp. He resides in York Haven.

Renee L. (Hoffman) MacDonald, ’07, architectural technology, is a CAD technician for Commercial Display and Design. She resides in Oxford, N.Y.

Sabrena A. O’Keefe, ’07, business administration: human resource management, is associate director of the Center for Leadership and Service at Florida International University. She resides in Hollywood, Fla.

Steven J. Reed Jr., ’07, computer aided product design, is a mechanical engineer for Sinterite. He recently moved back to St. Marys.

James S. Riedel, ’07, automotive technology management, is regional product training manager for Subaru of America Inc. He resides in Westville, N.J.

Jason A. Rowlands, ’07, automotive technology, is a maintenance mechanic for a Carpenter Technology steel mill. He resides in Reading.

Christopher Ruggiero, ’07, applied health studies; ’02, paramedic technology, is the primary paramedic instructor at Greenville Technical College. He resides in Simpsonville, S.C.

Tacy L. (DeGreen) Schuler, ’07, technology management, is the tasting room manager for Blue Mountain Vineyards. She resides in New Tripoli.

Sarah C. Smith, ’07, mass media communication, is a sales account executive for ChoiceOne Urgent Care. She resides in Rosedale, Md.

Matthew M. Staub, ’07, electronics engineering technology, is a printed circuit board design engineer for Google’s consumer electronics division. He resides in Oak Park, Ill.

Emily M. Stockwell, ’07, floral design/interior plantscape, is the owner of Everyday Flowers. She resides in Fair Haven, Vt.

Ashley Helmrich, ’08, graphic communications management, is a prepress technician for Bayard Printing. She resides in South Williamsport.

Dan Hornberger, ’08, nursing, is manager of invasive cardiology for Wells Health. He was recently quoted in Cardiovascular Business magazine and was a speaker at Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics, an international conference, in 2015. He resides in Dover.

Garrett E. Howell, ’08, automotive technology, is an automotive technician for Lake Chevrolet. He resides in Lewistown.

Erin A. Karpich, ’08, accounting, is an accountant for River Valley Regional YMCA. She resides in Williamsport.

Derek I. Smith, ’08, residential construction technology and management, is a superintendent for Structure Tone, a construction manager and builder. He resides in Morris Plains, N.J.

Dustin R. Derr, ’09, business administration: management, is a sales consultant for Verizon. He resides in Lewisburg.

Dustin K. Droge, ’09, technology management; ’07, electromechanical maintenance technology, is a maintenance supervisor for Brookfield Renewable. His staff maintains a 240-megawatt hydroelectric power plant. He resides in Mountville.

Renee L. (Alexander) Kelly, ’09, mass media communication, is the office manager for Matthews Motor Co. She resides in Wellsboro.

Nick T. Koupiaris, ’09, welding and fabrication engineering technology, owns and operates NTK FabWorks. He resides in Rougemont, N.C.

Barrie J. Kuhn, ’09, applied human services, is an anesthesia technician for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Montgomery.

Adam Leister, ’09, construction management, is an electrician for Energy Culture, an electrical and solar provider in New South Wales, Australia. He resides in Naremburn, Australia.

Amber Lowry, ’09, legal assistant: paralegal studies, is a paralegal for Malcolm Mussina Esq. She resides in Montoursville.

Floyd Springman, ’09, applied technical studies: construction, is a controls technician for Northwind Technical Services. Six years after graduating, he attended another technical school and is again continuing his education at Fort Hays State University. He resides in Sabetha, Kan.

2010s

Joshua Aucker, ’10, hospitality management; ’08, culinary arts technology, is the owner/executive chef of Barrel 135 in Williamsport. He resides in Lock Haven.

Amanda L. Beiler, ’10, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Functional Pathways and works for the U.S. Postal Service. She resides in Muncy.
Tyler Z. Kline, ’10, hospitality management, is a route sales representative for Schwan’s. He resides in Port Royal.

Elizabeth (McLenigan) Leffler, ’10, baking and pastry arts, is the pastry chef for Comfortfood and Kitchenette. She resides in Fairless Hills.

Tango Marbaker, ’10, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a field supervisor for the Department of Commerce, overseeing field representatives in six counties. Both of her sons are Penn College students. She resides in Canton.

Sheila M. (Delaney) Nye, ’10, applied health studies; ’09, radiography, is the radiology manager for Bucktail Medical Center. She resides in Renovo.

Valerie L. Raines, ’10, legal assistant: paralegal studies, is a quality manager for Berman Bedding Inc. She resides in Corry.

Carol Withey, ’10, health information technology, is an electronic health records analyst for Geisinger. She resides in Milton.

Jacob Yi, ’10, collision repair technology, is a painter for Autobody Images. He resides in Elkridge, Md.

Cale T. Benard, ’11, electrical technology and electromechanical maintenance technology, is an electrician for Brookfield Renewable Energy Group at the Safe Harbor Dam. He is pursuing a bachelor’s degree online from Penn College in applied management. He resides in Willow Street.

Peter J. Cassarly, ’11, residential construction technology and management, is a project manager for Contract Hardware & Supply Inc. He resides in Altoona.

Mitchell W. Fink, ’11, business administration: banking and finance; ’10, business administration: management, is a meat department manager for Weis Markets. He resides in South Williamsport.

Samantha L. Kelly, ’11, health information coding specialist, is an inside sales coordinator for Universal Forest Products. She resides in Ashland.

Shannon L. Killian, ’11, accounting, is a senior financial analyst-asset protection for Foot Locker Retail Inc. She resides in Enola.

Stephanie M. Land, ’11, aviation technology, is a float mechanic for Med-Trans Corp. She maintains EC135 medevac helicopters at three bases. She resides in Millersville.

Nathan F. Lott, ’11, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a strategic account manager for ESAB Welding and Cutting. He resides in Parkton, Md.

Katie R. Mengle, ’11, baking and pastry arts, is a printer for Geisinger. She resides in Bloomsburg.

Megan (Gordon) Neff, ’11, culinary arts technology, is a catering manager for Red Robin. She resides in Dover.

Diana L. (Geedey) Raffa, ’11, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a dental hygienist for Trask Family Dentistry. She resides in Mifflintown.

Sandra M. (Angstadt) Reichard, ’11, ornamental horticulture: landscape technology, is a farm loan analyst for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency. She resides in Kutztown.

Anthony T. Vasura, ’11, residential construction technology and management: building construction technology, is an estimator for Premier Construction Group Inc. He resides in Pottsville.

Adam J. Yoder, ’11, building automation technology, is an account executive for Johnson Controls Inc. and is pursuing a master’s degree. He resides in Williamsport.

Ryon M. Bodwalk, ’12, heavy construction equipment technology: operator emphasis, is a mechanic for UGI Utilities and the owner of Down Home Landscaping. He resides in Stillwater.

Samantha (Catlin) Bruinooge, ’12, graphic design, is a production graphic artist for Woolrich. She resides in Roaring Branch Township.

Ryan J. Catena, ’12, construction management, is a project engineer for Trumbull Corp. He resides in Cranberry Township.

Lynette Di Paolo, ’12, individual studies, is retired and lives in Ocala, Fla.

Logan J. Kenyon, ’12, architectural technology, is a design technician for Davis Ulmer Sprinkler Co. He resides in Canton.

Meghan K. (Myers) Messersmith, ’12, nursing, is an RN clinical supervisor for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Jersey Shore.

Cody J. Miller, ’12, culinary arts and systems, is the head cook in Penn College’s Capitol Eatery. He took bronze in the 2016 National Association of College & University Food Services Mid-Atlantic Region Culinary Challenge. He resides in Williamsport.

Stacey J. Paronish, ’12, registered nurse: emergency nursing, is a licensed practical nurse for Evangelical Community Hospital. She resides in Williamsport.

Sierra Petro, ’12, radiography, is a CT technologist for MRC- CT Diagnostics. She joined the National Guard and resides in Virginia Beach, Va.

Katelyn R. (Ciavardini) Romano, ’12, culinary arts and systems, is executive chef for Parkhurst Dining Services at Bucknell University. She resides in Washingtonville.

Corwyn K. Smith, ’12, residential construction technology and management, earned a Master of Project Management degree from Penn State in 2017. He is a project manager for Benchmark Construction. He resides in Lancaster.

Jessica L. (Korman) Solt, ’12, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Tender Touch Rehab Services. She resides in Allentown.

Justin T. Wenger, ’12, construction management, is a project manager for Lobar Inc. He resides in Dillsburg.

Brian Witner, ’12, hospitality management, is paraprofessional/personal assistant in the Keystone Central School District. Last summer, he was the food service director at Sylvan Hills Christian Services Camp. He resides in Lock Haven.

Shannon L. Abercrombie, ’13, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for HealthSouth. She resides in Bellefonte.

Chris Allebach, ’13, computer aided product design, is a mechanical designer for Dorman Products, where he designs car parts. He lives in Harleysville.

Mohmed H. Alnasser, ’13, plastics and polymer engineering technology, is a business unit general manager for Texofib in Jubail, Saudi Arabia, where he recently managed a $74 million geocomposite production line project.

Jessica Frank, ’13, graphic communications management, is a technical project manager for R.R. Donnelley. She resides in Millersville.

Michel M. (Sloan) Hansotte, ’13, automotive technology management; ’14, collision repair technology, works in counter sales for Hovis Auto and Truck Supply. She resides in New Castle.
Kristina M. (Kline) Heimbach, ‘13, early childhood education, is a registered behavior technician for Connecting the Pieces. She resides in Trout Run.

Lauren L. Heiser, ‘13, nursing, is an RN for Geisinger Medical Center. She resides in Paxinos.


Beth A. (Shaner) Kelleher, ‘13, radiography, is a stay-at-home mom in Montoursville.

Alexandria Lundy, ‘13, early childhood education, is a patient access representative for Geisinger Medical Center. She resides in Towanda.

Allyson Lynch O’Malley, ‘13, technology management, is an appraiser for EAC Valuations. She resides in King of Prussia.

Kyle Mullin, ‘13, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a welding supervisor/engineer for Hamill Manufacturing Co. He resides in Monroeville.

Amy (Smith) Pfeiffer, ‘13, nursing, is an RN for UPMC Susquehanna, where she was a Daisy Award nominee. She resides in Linden.

Katie N. Reitbauer, ‘13, health information technology, is an assistant regional vice president for MBMS. She handles radiology medical billing and oversees a staff of 13. She resides in Shillington.

Anita K. Tyberg, ‘13, human services, educates and demonstrates assistive technology to people with hearing loss and teaches sign language. She is an ombudsman for the Area Office of Aging and is president of the Blair County Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America. She chairs the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Board for the state’s Public Utility Commission. She resides in Altoona.

Christopher P. Brennan, ‘14, residential construction technology and management: building construction technology, is a construction manager for Toll Brothers. He resides in New Hope.

Meghan C. Cunningham, ‘14, individual studies, is a student in the University of Pittsburgh’s Master of Public Health in public health genetics and Master of Science in genetic counseling dual degree program. She resides in Pittsburgh.

Tyler J. Fatzinger, ‘14, landscape horticulture technology: landscape emphasis, is an arborist for the City of Allentown’s Parks Bureau. He resides in North Catasauqua.

Sara E. Green, ‘14, applied health studies, is employed by Affilia Home Health. She resides in Dauphin.

Holly R. Hartsock, ‘14, legal assistant: paralegal, is a legal assistant for Spitler, Kilgore & Enck, PC. She resides in Lebanon.

Katie I. (Havard) Hatch, ‘14, nursing, is an RN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Williamsport.

Briana L. Klingler, ‘14, baking and pastry arts, is an assistant manager for a Sheetz store. She resides in Asheboro, N.C.

Jennifer L. Norris, ‘14, health information technology, is a records center supervisor for Bryan Health. In her previous position, she received Select Medical’s Rocco Ortenzio Award. She resides in Lincoln, Neb.

Diane M. Russell, ‘14, nursing, is a training program performance improvement coordinator for Geisinger Health System, ensuring compliance with guidelines for trauma accreditation. She is a certified emergency nurse and trauma certified RN. She resides in Muncy.

Samantha-Jo M. (Bradley) Rynearson, ‘14, baking and pastry arts, is a production manager for Dan Ryan Builders. She resides in Morgantown, W.Va., and is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in applied management from Penn College.

Sarah M. Shivock, ‘14, human services, is an activities assistant at The Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania. She is pursuing a bachelor’s degree from Marywood University. She resides in Scranton.

Crissie Swartwood, ‘14, health arts: practical nursing, is an LPN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Jersey Shore.

Joseph R. Wienches, ‘14, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is a quality engineer for John Deere pull-behind scrapers and sugar cane loaders. He resides in LaPlace, La.

Brenda Applegate, ‘15, nursing, is an operating room nurse for Geisinger Medical Center. She resides in Hughesville.

Joshua E. Bachorski, ‘15, computer aided product design, is a CAD drafter for MI Windows and Doors. He resides in New Berlin.

Rachael A. Byerly, ‘15, web and interactive media, is a digital media design specialist for mXtr Automation. She resides in Williamsport.

Jonathan F. DeRoner, ‘15, computer aided product design, is an application engineer for Automated Cells & Equipment. He resides in Addison, N.Y.

Gwen E. Dixon, ‘15, business management, is a universal associate for CNB Bank. She resides in Houtzdale.

Rebecca G. Fidler, ‘15, physical fitness specialist, is a laborer for Day’s Lawn Service Inc. She resides in Williamsport.

SUPER BOWL CYCLE: When actor Keanu Reeves surfed his custom motorcycle down a desert highway in an ad that aired during Super Bowl LII, the shiny aluminum gas tank shells beneath his foot were manufactured by BelMit Development, founded by Wayne Mitz, who earned degrees in 2000 and 2002, and Steven D. Belin, who attended 2002-04.
Margaret R. Harvey, ’15, physician assistant, is a PA for Internists of Central Pa. She resides in Mechanicsburg.

Jordan E. Highland, ’15, applied human services, is a case manager for Community Services Group, where she provides outreach and therapy for families receiving intensive mental health services. She resides in Williamsport.

Ashley Jandrisavitz, ’15, nursing, is a labor and delivery RN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Cogan Station.

Mary K. Kelley, ’15, occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Kidswork Therapy Center. She works within the Shamokin Area School District. She resides in Coal Township.

Ethan G. Kline, ’15, electronics and computer engineering technology: robotics and automation, is a technician assistant for SurePower in Ridley Park. He resides in Aston.

Andrew B. Kolva, ’15, diesel technology, is a hazardous-waste truck driver for TRADEBE. He resides in Chambersburg.

Kristiana Laylon, ’15, health arts: practical nursing, is an LPN for Family Practice Center and is pursuing an associate degree from Penn College. She resides in Lindon.

Angelina (Kunkel) Smith, ’15, human services, supervises the Community Supports Program at Hope Enterprises. She resides in Riverside.

Amanda M. Steigerwalt, ’15, graphic design, is a designer-senior analyst for Merkle Inc. She is a member of the Women in Leadership committee. She resides in Norristown.

William P. Thomas, ’15, information technology: information assurance and security, is senior information security administrator for Boscov’s Department Store. He resides in Reading.

Brianne E. Applegate, ’16, nursing, is an RN for Geisinger Bloomsburg Hospital and resides in Danville.

Aaron L. Burson, ’16, surveying technology, is a surveyor for HSS Land Surveyors. He resides in Jersey Shore.

Anthony J. Cox, ’16, automotive technology management, is an aviation engine production technician for Lycoming Engines. He resides in Jersey Mills.

Estefania A. DeCoursey, ’16, health arts: practical nursing, is an LPN for UPMC Susquehanna and is continuing her nursing education at Penn College. She resides in Muncy.

Nicholas C. Edmiston, ’16, heavy construction equipment technology: operator, is a skilled laborer-operator for Shirley Contracting Co. He resides in Oakton, Va.

Anthony R. Hauck, ’16, exercise science, is a personal trainer for The Miller Center for Recreation and Wellness in Lewisburg. He resides in Selinsgrove.

Jacob Heuman, ’16, building automation technology, is a building automation systems field engineer for Air Systems Inc. He resides in Boiling Springs.

Cavan R. Irvine, ’16, physician assistant, is a cardiac surgery PA at Hershey Medical Center. Among his duties, he is an operating room first assistant. He is a 2017 graduate of Duke University’s physician assistant surgical residency and is pursuing a Master of Science in physician assistant studies from Touro College. He resides in Hummelstown.

Krystalis R. Kerr, ’16, culinary arts and systems, is a food service cook for Geisinger Medical Center. She resides in Danville.

Victoria L. Kostecki, ’16, applied management; ’14, baking and pastry arts, is a pastry prep cook for Levy Restaurants. She resides in Rochester, Mich.

Mitchell M. Parmelee, ’16, heavy construction equipment technology: Caterpillar equipment emphasis, is a heavy equipment technician for East PBE. He resides in Meriden, Conn.

Nichole N. Simcox, ’16, accounting, is a quality assurance measurement technician for West Pharmaceutical Services. She resides in Jersey Shore.

Benjamin L. Thayer, ’16, residential construction technology and management, is a project engineer for Harkins Builders. He resides in Reisterstown, Md.

Kelli S. Tyler, ’16, nursing, is a quality and safety nurse for UPMC Susquehanna, where she received the Above Clinical Excellence Award. She resides in Montoursville.

Bradley G. Willis, ’16, heating, ventilation & air conditioning design technology, is a project engineer for Johnson Controls and is the student activities chairman for the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers. He resides in Harrisburg.

Andrew P. Baumann, ’17, construction management, is a project engineer for Kinsley Construction. He resides in Camp Hill.

Tyler M. Breon, ’17, heavy construction equipment technology: operator, is a laborer/operator for R.C. Bowman, an excavating and paving company. He resides in Millheim.

Morganne Bresnock, ’17, health arts: practical nursing, is an LPN for UPMC Susquehanna. She resides in Danville.

Loralee E. Lindemuth, ’17, dental hygiene: health policy and administration, is a dental hygienist for Aspen Dental. She resides in Tidioute.

Dexter Maurer, ’17, heavy construction equipment technology: technician, is a technician for Highway Equipment & Supply Co. in Ephrata. He resides in Palmyra.

Patrick M. McIntosh, ’17, residential construction technology and management, is a service technician for Ground Water Treatment & Technology, where he helps to construct water-treatment facilities. He resides in Pocono Manor.
Stephanie M. Puckly, ’17, welding and fabrication engineering technology, is pursuing a Master of Professional Studies in management and organizational leadership from Penn State. She resides in State College.

Cory J. Snyder, ’17, automotive technology: Mopar CAP, is a service technician for Fairfield Auto Group. He resides in Williamsport.

Kevin Steinbacher, ’17, accounting, is an administrative supervisor for PPL Electric Utilities. He resides in Cogan Station.

Morgan J. Tannery, ’17, applied health studies: occupational therapy assistant, is a certified occupational therapy assistant for Encore Rehabilitation Services. She resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Brittany R. Terpstra, ’17, web and interactive media, is the digital marketing coordinator for Wilkes University. She resides in Jim Thorpe.

Zachary D. Warren, ’17, automotive technology: Mopar CAP, is a Jeep and truck technician for 4 Wheel Parts. He resides in Hummelstown.

Robert E. Wood, ’17, culinary arts and systems, is the food service director for Seacrest Village. He resides in Manahawkin, N.J.

Kimberly L. Wilkinson, ’06, occupational therapy assistant, and her husband, Christopher, ’06, building construction technology, welcomed their second son in October 2015. They reside in Selinsgrove.


James S. Riedel, ’07, automotive technology management, and his wife, Nicole, welcomed son Henry in December 2016. They reside in Westville, N.J.

Garrett E. Howell, ’08, automotive technology, married Kelly Sunderland on Aug. 6, 2016. They reside in Lewistown.

Jill (Buzzard) Messick, ’08, advertising art, and her husband, David, ’13, applied technical studies: electrical trades, welcomed son Thane on Sept. 2, 2017. They reside in Middletown.

Derek I. Smith, ’08, residential construction technology and management, married Jennie Morello in May 2017. They reside in Morris Plains, N.J.

Lindsey (Fackler) Kornbau, ’10, nursing, and her husband, Jason, ’07, aviation maintenance technology, welcomed daughter Taylor in September 2016. They reside in York Haven.

Elizabetgh (McLenigan) Leffler, ’10, baking and pastry arts, and her husband welcomed their second child, Samuel Joseph, on April 12, 2017. They reside in Fairless Hills.


Samantha Catlin, ’12, graphic design, married Chad Bruinooge, ’13, construction management, on Feb. 3, 2017. They reside in Roaring Branch Township.

Katelyn R. Ciavardini, ’12, culinary arts and systems, married Marco Romano, ’11, culinary arts and systems, in May 2016. They reside in Washingtonville.

Meghan K. (Myers) Messersmith, ’12, nursing, and her husband, Brandon, welcomed their second daughter, Quinn, in June 2017. They reside in Jersey Shore.

Jessica L. (Korman) Solt, ’12, occupational therapy assistant, and her husband, Chuck, welcomed son Carter on July 15, 2015. They reside in Allentown.

Michel M. Sloan, ’13, automotive technology management; ’11, collision repair technology, married Timothy Hansotte on May 21, 2016. They reside in New Castle.

Mariah Walter, ’13, occupational therapy assistant, married Kyler Thomas, ’13, building construction technology, on Sept. 16, 2017. They reside in Bedford.

Margaret R. Harvey, ’15, physician assistant, married Steven Thorne in May 2017. They reside in Mechanicsburg.

Briane E. Applegate, ’16, nursing, welcomed son Jackson on Jan. 6, 2017. She resides in Danville.


**In Memory**

Ralph A. Horne, retired dean of instructional support/outreach, on Feb. 19.

Former Sen. Roger A. Madigan, an ardent advocate for Penn College and a longtime member of its Board of Directors, died on June 2.

Madigan, 88, whose name adorns the Penn College library as a fitting tribute to his passion for education, served on the board from 1991 until his retirement from the state Senate in 2008. Madigan was elected to the Senate in 1984. Previously, he served in the state House of Representatives from 1977-84. He was also a trustee emeritus of The Pennsylvania State University, having served on the board from 1979 until 2001.

“Senator Madigan was a gentleman, a statesman and a public servant in the truest sense of the term,” President Davie Jane Gilmour said. “He served with distinction on the Penn College Board of Directors for more than 17 years. I valued his wise counsel and steady demeanor. He will be missed by the entire college community.”
Meet Zachary Kravitz

Zach is a 20-year-old Penn College student working to turn his dreams into reality.

Hometown: Malvern, Pa.
Major: Construction Management
Professional Dream: To become a real estate developer in the Philadelphia area
Extracurricular Interests: Student Government Association senator, resident assistant, student development assistant
Scholarship Recipient: Dr. Kenneth E. and Mrs. Marion C. Carl Scholarship
Penn College – College Store Scholarship
Penn College Foundation Scholarship

Scholarships are motivating Zach to remain focused on his applied technology education. Scholarships have the power to turn dreams into reality for students as they earn degrees that work.

The average unmet financial need for a Penn College student is $12,937. Learn how you can impact the lives of Penn College students by visiting www.pct.edu/impact or call 570-320-8020.

Endless Opportunity

500 scholarships awarded annually from 200 scholarship funds
$800,000 awarded to students for the 2018-19 academic year, and growing
Pennsylvania College of Technology became an affiliate of Penn State in 1989 after establishing a national reputation for education supporting workforce development, first as a technical institute and later as a community college. Today Penn College is a special mission affiliate of Penn State and a national leader in applied technology education. Penn College offers more than 100 bachelor, associate and certificate majors to nearly 5,500 students in careers ranging from manufacturing, design, transportation and construction to hospitality, health, business and natural resources. Business/industry connections, small classes, industry-standard equipment and faculty with work experience contribute to strong graduate placement rates. The full college experience awaits those desiring on-campus housing, Greek Life, student organizations and NCAA Division III athletics.

For information, call 800-367-9222
Web and interactive media student Malachi J. Atkinson shows his school spirit.