



PHOENIXQUARTERLY

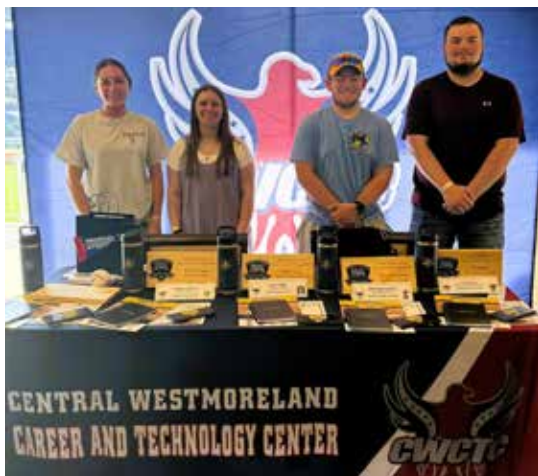
Volume 2 | Issue 4
2024 - 2025 : Quarter 4 Edition

The Official Newsletter of CWCTC

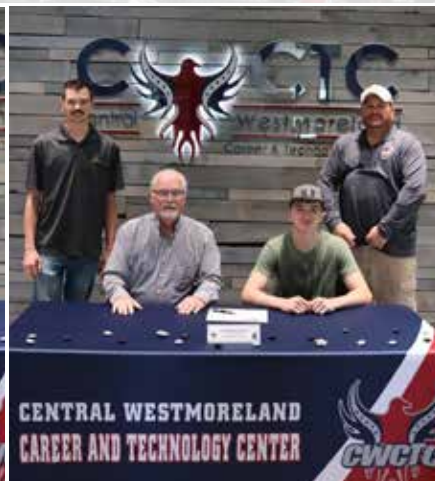
CENTRAL WESTMORELAND
Career & Technology Center
New Stanton, PA

cwctc.org

SENIORS CELEBRATE FUTURE SUCCESS AT CAREER SIGNING EVENTS



Seniors at CWCTC were invited to several signing events recently. The Pittsburgh Pirates hosted a Career & Technical Education Signing Day at PNC Park in Pittsburgh, PA. Four students and their future employers attended the event followed by a Pirate win against the Chicago Cubs. Students at the PNC Park signing were (top l - r): **Gretchen Hastings** a Sports Medicine and Mt. Pleasant student has committed to continue her studies at Duquesne University. **Ashley Hugus** an Aspiring Educator and Penn Trafford student has committed to continue her education at Geneva College. **Brayden Basso** a Protective Services and Frazier student has committed to the Air National Guard. **TJ Hoyle** is a Welding & Metal Fabrication and Yough student and has committed to the Operating Engineers upon graduation. A second signing event was hosted on the CWCTC campus with over 70 students scheduled to commit to employment or continued education. WANT TO SEE MORE? [f Central Westmoreland CTC](#) [PQV](#)



PQV PHOENIXQUARTERLY is a production of the CWCTC Multimedia Design Technology Program of Study

Instructor: Mrs. Jessica Lingsch

News Article Contributors: CWCTC Student Ambassadors from each of our nineteen Programs of Study who also attend one of our ten sending School Districts.



AUTO COLLISION SHINES AT FIRST-EVER CWCTC CAR SHOW

The Auto Collision class has been working hard to prepare for the school's first-ever Car Show on May 17. They've teamed up with Mr. Sidun's Welding program, who made some awesome trophies to hand out at the event. Our Collision students painted them in an array of fun colors. On top of planning the show, they've also been finishing up customer projects as the school year winds down.



CULINARIANS: COMPETE, CATER, & COOK UP CULTURE

The 4th Quarter started with students competing at 7 Springs for FCCLA in food innovations, sports nutrition, hospitality management, culinary arts, baking and pastry, food art, and management. We have been learning how to handle, fabricate, and prepare seafoods and also how to prepare ethnic foods. We are learning the history and the origins of these dishes, along with their taste profiles and the roles they play in the ethnicity. We have been perfecting our skills by hosting and catering many events such as a Mocktail hour at Redstone, Staff Seafood Boil Luncheon, Taco Bars, Skills Advisors Meeting, Aspiring Educators Mentor Luncheon, Teacher Appreciation Brunch at Southmoreland and Western PA PACTA meetings. We also hosted a food truck rally and had the chance to talk with food truck owners. A few students participated in Wellness Day at Hempfield, and taught students how to decorate cupcakes. As the school year concludes, we have also been very busy filling cupcake orders. The class has been dedicated to earning their ServSafe Allergen and Food Handler Certificates.

ASPIRING EDUCATORS END YEAR STRONG, PREPARE FOR NEXT STEPS



First and second-year students have been finishing out the year strong.

Second-year students have been finalizing their time in their practicum sessions and preparing for their next steps into college. First-year students have been enjoying learning about special education. They have gained knowledge of disabilities, learning disorders, and how to approach them when teaching. They have also been preparing for their practicum placements, future officers, and upcoming students for the new year. They look forward to continuing their teaching journeys!



LOOKING AHEAD at CWCTC

MAY 30 LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION
HAVE A SAFE & REFRESHING SUMMER!
AUG 25 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

SEPT 1 LABOR DAY - No School
OCT 13 NO STUDENTS - INSERVICE DAY
NOV 3 CWCTC STUDENT FAMILY NIGHT

COSMETOLOGISTS TRAVEL, TRAIN, AND TRIUMPH



In Quarter 4 of the Cosmetology Program, we have been busy attending trips. We went to different schools with Mrs. Crist to promote the CTC. The big field trip was for an International Hair show in New York City, this was a three day event at the Jacob Javis Convention Center. While in NYC we went to the Empire State Building, into downtown New York City, and by boat to Ellis Island. Another trip some cosmetology students went on was to Wendover Middle School. They did hair tinsel and braiding. The seniors have been preparing for their NOCTI exam, did very well and passed. Seniors are getting ready to take their State Board exam or they already did and passed and are licensed Cosmetologists and are already working in salons around our area and on the COOP program. As we begin to wind down the year we are looking forward to next year. Our plans are to attend a show at the Byham theater in February with a special makeup class, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. Also looking forward to Mrs. Iezzi taking a large group of students to the American Beauty show in Chicago April of 2026.

COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCE ENDS YEAR WITH CERTIFICATIONS, CREDITS, AND CODING SKILLS

Wrapping up the year in CIS, many certifications, including PC Pro, Security Pro, and Network Pro, have been earned, with two seniors earning more than one this year. Students who have finished their certifications are currently working on the JavaScript and game development curriculums. Seniors have finished their NOCTIs, and juniors are starting prep for their NOCTI next year. Dual enrollment with WCCC is wrapping up. Students who chose to take the courses earned one credit from the First Year Seminar course, and three more credits from the Intro to Telecommunications course. First-year students who have finished their certifications are currently working on responsive web design within the HTML curriculum.



AUTO TECH SENIORS FINISH STRONG WITH HANDS-ON REPAIRS AND CERTIFICATIONS



Throughout the 4th quarter, second year students wrapped up their year by learning about the components of brakes. Students learned about drum brakes, including their function and repair. These students learned the different component names, how to install and adjust these for proper function. Mr. Lewandoski tested students' ability to assemble drum brake assemblies and properly machine brake drums, using equipment. Mr. King and Mr. Pegg's students worked on several customer vehicles throughout the school year, especially in the final weeks of the school year. Repairs included replacing brakes, tires, oil changes, and performing alignments. These seniors also replaced a transmission in a 2014 Ford Escape and replaced an engine in a 1990 GMC truck, converting it from a V6 to a V8. Lastly, every senior earned an EPA 609 Certification and 13 seniors earned a PA State Safety and Emissions License.

ELECTRICIANS POWER THROUGH Q4 WITH HANDS-ON TRAINING



In Quarter 4, Electrical Technology students continued building real-world skills through hands-on projects. They focused on PVC underground installations, including trenching and proper conduit placement. Students also practiced EMT conduit installation, emphasizing accurate measuring and secure mounting. A key skill developed this quarter was learning how to properly pull conductors using a fish tape. Safety remained a top priority, with lessons on excavation safety to ensure students understand the hazards and best practices when working around trenches and underground utilities.

AGRICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN CULTIVATES A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The fourth quarter of the 2024–2025 school year was a busy and productive time for our Agriculture and Landscape Design Program. Students were actively engaged in greenhouse planting, maintenance, the FFA plant sale, and end of year cleanup efforts. Despite weather-related delays, steady progress continued on the Phoenix Falls project, which is expected to be completed during the final week of school. We extend our sincere thanks to **Norwin Landscape Supply**, North Huntingdon, PA for their support. A special shoutout to **Alfie Idele** for generously volunteering his time, guidance, and expertise on this year-long project.



CONSTRUCTION TRADES FINISHES YEAR WITH CERTS & PROJECTS



As the year comes to a close, our AM Construction students are successfully completing their OSHA 10 certifications, tiny houses, and continuing to work on their task lists in Masonry and Plumbing/Electrical. It was a busy year for us as we continue to grow. In the PM, we are working on several outside projects that include a house for Protective Services, exposed aggregate park benches for New Stanton Borough, several cabanas for Youngwood Park N' Pool, and dugouts for Youngwood baseball fields. To say the least, we have been busy in Construction Trades!

CERTS & CAREER PREP HIGHLIGHT QUARTER FOR HEALTH OCC

Health Occupations seniors sat for two certification exams this quarter, "Patient Care Technician" and "Pharmacy Technician." We also had our Mock Job Interview Day where 11 industry partners (Lifesteps, Accessibilities, Redstone Highlands, St. Anne Home, Independence Health, Senior Helpers and RNC) came in and conducted job interviews for 45 juniors and seniors. Many job offers resulted from these interviews. Our juniors and seniors also completed two additional certifications "Mandated Reporter" and "Direct Care Worker" to enable our students to enter various fields of employment upon graduation.



HANDS-ON HEATING PROJECTS WRAPS UP IN HVAC

In HVAC & Steamfitting students have been working on heat pumps, mini splits, and oil heating systems. Groups were divided by year to focus on specific projects. Many students have also been refreshing their recovery and gas heating skills in preparation for the upcoming NOCTI exam. As the year wraps up, students will be removing equipment and completing the final touches on permanent ductwork installations in the shop.



MULTIMEDIA DESIGN, ANIMATE, AND DELIVER IN FINAL QUARTILE

As the school year enters its final stretch, students in the Multimedia Design program have been hard at work honing their skills. They've been creating dynamic motion graphic animations using Adobe Premiere and After Effects, applying key animation principles. Recently, they've also begun exploring user interface (UI) design with Adobe XD, focusing on building intuitive, user-centered digital experiences!

CLIMBING HIGHER: POWERLINE COMPLETES UTILITY POLE PROJECTS

Our Powerline class has been very busy the last few weeks of school. After we finished our NOCTI testing we got right back to work. We built a two phase line with alley arms. We then installed transformers on some of the poles. The 120/240 volt transformers were measured 42 inches down from the top for the first bolt. For the transformer that we hung up while climbing the pole, we used a steel Becky to hold the transformer. The groundsman pulled it up with 3/2 blocks. A transformer gin was also attached to the 40 foot utility pole. Some of our students hung up and took down insulators on the tower.



Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above

CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM
JEANNETTE DISTRICT

COLLIN MCKENNA

FUTURE PLANS:
I am currently doing my Co-Op at Ketter's Restaurant/Kastner's Cafe, Jeannette. I plan on attending college and see my future self as a business investor, someone who is respected, and a person who strives always to improve.

CWCTC
JANUARY '25

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

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AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
MT. PLEASANT AREA DISTRICT

CONNOR KOVACH

FUTURE PLANS:
I'm currently working as a mechanic in my Co-op position at Greensburg Machine & Driveline. After graduation, I plan to continue building a successful career in the mechanical field by working at my family business, KRV.

CWCTC
FEBRUARY '25

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

STUDENTS OF DISTINCTION

Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above

Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above

RESTORATION & DESIGN PROGRAM
NORWIN DISTRICT

GORDON HOWARD

FUTURE PLANS:
I have accepted a full-time employment position as a Kitchen Cabinet Refinisher with my Co-op employer, Kitchen Gallery in New Stanton upon graduation.

CWCTC
MARCH '25

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above

POWERLINE PROGRAM
MT. PLEASANT AREA DISTRICT

SAMUEL STULL

FUTURE PLANS:
I will continue my Co-op at Trout Electric, Mt. Pleasant until graduation and then begin full-time employment as a Lineman with them.

CWCTC
FEBRUARY '25

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

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CONSTRUCTION TRADES PROGRAM
NORMIN DISTRICT

BRAYDON PRUTZ

FUTURE PLANS:
Upon graduation, I have accepted a position with Brex Enterprises, Irwin PA. I see myself as a Heavy Equipment Operator in the future.

CWCTC MARCH '25
CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

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AGRICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN PROGRAM
PENN - TRAFORD DISTRICT

CHASE MOROCCO

FUTURE PLANS:
I am applying for an apprenticeship with the UA Local 449 Steamfitters to become an HVAC Technician.

CWCTC MARCH '25
CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

Second Semester Award Recipients

• STUDENTS OF DISTINCTION

Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above

COSMETOLOGY PROGRAM
PENN - TRAFORD DISTRICT

MOIRA CREPS

FUTURE PLANS:
I will continue my employment with Great Clips in Irwin, PA to achieve success in the Cosmetology industry.

CWCTC MARCH '25
CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

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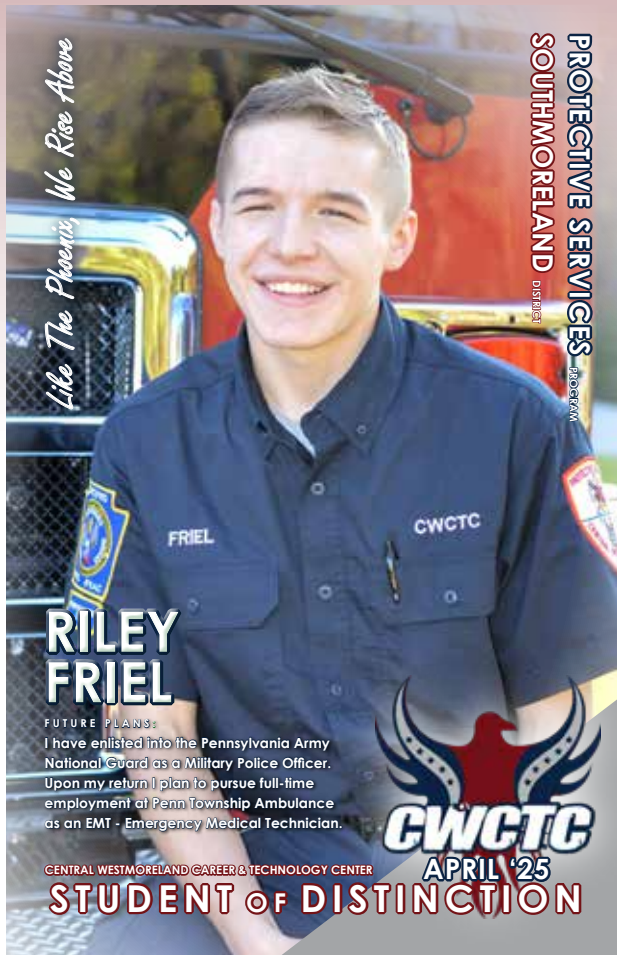
AGRICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN PROGRAM
SOUTHMORELAND DISTRICT

HAYLEE TARASKY

FUTURE PLANS: After graduation I will continue work with my Co-op employer, Hilltop Lab Animals. I am enrolled at Westmoreland College WCC for basic courses in hopes of continuing my education to become a Forensic Science Crime Tech or a PreK-2nd Grade Educator.

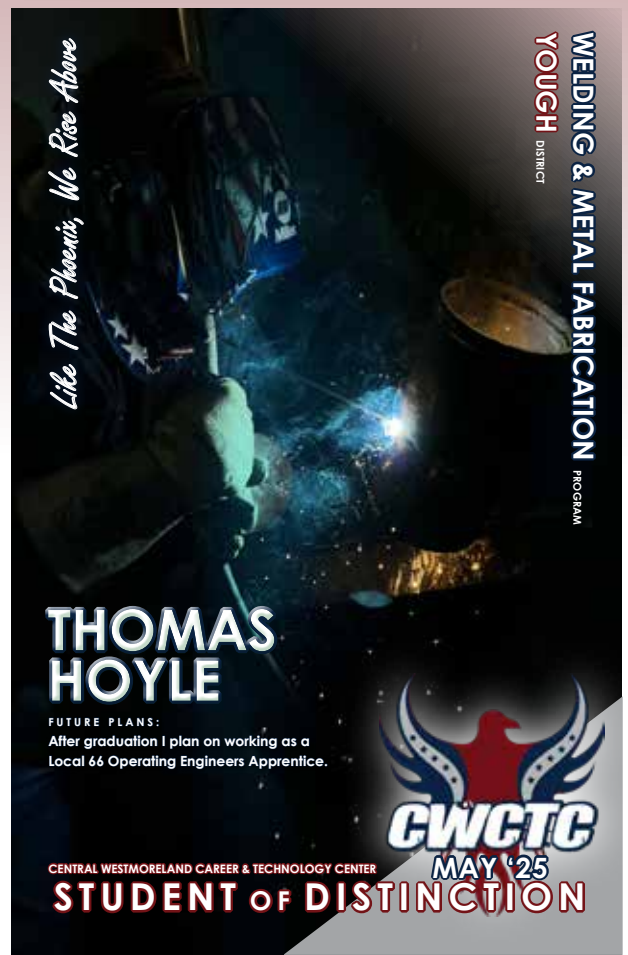
CWCTC APRIL '25
CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

STUDENT OF DISTINCTION



STUDENTS OF DISTINCTION

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Like The Phoenix, We Rise Above



Seniors Take Note...

CWCTC Seniors will receive their certificate and transcript in the mail mid-June once we receive graduation confirmation from the sending districts.

Congratulations and enjoy your success!





RESTORATION & DESIGN WRAPS UP YEAR WITH AWARDS, INSIGHTS, AND GOALS

This quarter of our Restoration and Design class has been packed with awesome experiences! We kicked things off by bringing home a well-earned 2nd place at the SkillsUSA State competition. Our visit to IUPAT DC 57 was super insightful, giving us a real look into the trades. Helping the community by going on work service projects at WIN of Greensburg and the Queen of Angels school in Irwin. Not only is it helping them, but we had on the job training. Some of our juniors are now exploring co-op opportunities for next year. We've also been working with our 7 steps to success, which is really helping us nail down our personal goals for hands-on work. Congratulations to all of our seniors that just graduated and good luck to all of them in the future!

SERVICE OCCUPATIONS: FRONT TO BACK OF HOUSE SKILLS BUILDING

The Service Occupations AM students passed ServSafe Food Handler Certification, gaining essential knowledge in food safety and sanitation. They practiced various "front of house" tasks and transitioned into "back of house" responsibilities, focusing on kitchen operations and applying kitchen math skills. These tasks are helping them build a foundation for careers in the food service industry.

PM students explored units on beverages, soups, casseroles, and desserts. Their dessert creations were a highlight—featuring no-bake cheesecake, dirt dessert, strawberry pretzel salad, and carrot cake trifle. Additionally, students practiced sandwich and salad bar setup, and hosted elementary students for a cupcake decorating activity. Finally field trips to a banquet hall, restaurant, and hotel offered real-world insight. A great hands-on learning experience!



PROTECTIVE SERVICES TRAIN, CERTIFY, AND SIGN OFF



This quarter, our dedicated second-year students have been testing for their ProBoard certifications in **Firefighter I** and **Basic Vehicle Rescue**. Third-year students recently completed the practical portion of their NREMT certification and are now working toward full completion. First-year students have been focused on developing firefighting and rope rescue skills, including hands-on training during field trips to the WCCC PSTC. As the year wraps up, all classes are beginning to say their goodbyes. Our seniors are grateful for their time at CWCTC and are excited to take the next steps in their journeys. —Third-Year Ambassadors signing off.

STRONG FINISH FOR WELDING PROGRAM WITH STUDENT SUCCESS AND SHOP MAINTENANCE



During the fourth quarter, students in the Welding and Metal Fabrication program made significant strides toward completing their Program of Study tasks. Many are finalizing projects and successfully earning industry-recognized certifications, demonstrating their skills and readiness for the workforce. The focus has been on practical application, with students showing strong competency in various welding techniques and safety procedures.

As the school year comes to a close, we are also engaged in end-of-year cleanup and essential shop maintenance. These efforts ensure a safe, organized environment and prepare the facility for a strong start to the next academic year. Equipment is being serviced, inventory is being assessed, and workstations are being reset for incoming students.

Overall, the quarter has been marked by student achievement, program completion, and forward-looking preparation. The welding program remains committed to providing a high-quality, hands-on learning experience that equips students for success in the skilled trades.

SPORTS MEDICINE STRENGTHENS REHAB AND NUTRITION SKILLS

Students in the PM are learning about the rotator cuff musculature of the shoulder and associated rehabilitation techniques of stretching and strengthening. We are working together in groups to create individualized rehab programs for various shoulder pathologies by incorporating active assisted range of motion (AAROM) and general rotator cuff and scapular stabilization strength exercises. AM students started the Nutrition lesson by watching the **Supersize Me** documentary that details the negative effects of consuming a high fat, high carb diet. Students also kept a food log and were able to research the fat, carb, protein, and calorie content of the food they consumed.



REM STUDENTS BRIDGE DIGITAL DESIGN AND PRECISION MANUFACTURING IN HANDS-ON PROJECT



At CWCTC, students participated in an engaging project creating a six-piece puzzle, gaining hands-on experience in sawing, machining, programming, and inspection. The process involved using Mastercam CAD software to design and program parts, which were then machined on a 3-axis mill such as the TM-1P or VF-1. After machining, students used precision tools like calipers—capable of measuring to .001 inches—to inspect their work. This project effectively combined digital design with real-world manufacturing practices, helping students understand the full process from concept to completion while reinforcing skills in measurement accuracy, machine operation, and quality control.

CCTSO

CAREER & TECHNICAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

"Student organizations allow you to gain leadership experience, learn new transferable skills, build your own resume, and get involved in your school community."

Spotlight

EMPOWERING THE FUTURE: WOMEN IN INDUSTRY NETWORK 'WIN' INSPIRES CWCTC STUDENTS



Recently, the **CWCTC Women in Industry Network– WIN** hosted a powerful mentoring event that brought together students from CWCTC and accomplished professionals from across a variety of industries.

Representatives from the PA State Police Liquor Control Board, Western PA Operating Engineers, Brex, Carlco, Intervala, and Westmoreland Mechanical Testing shared their career journeys, offered guidance, and inspired the next generation of women entering the workforce.

This event provided students with valuable insight into real-world career paths and highlighted the importance of mentorship, representation, and community in building successful futures.

★ Citizenship ★ Honesty ★ Leadership ★ Responsibility ★ Scholarship ★ Skill ★ Service ★

CWCTC TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN CAREER & TECH ED

CW Technical Honor Society is an organization to honor, recognize, and empower students in Career and Technical Education. Eligibility is through nomination based on academic performance and attendance at CWCTC and their sending school. Inducted members pledge to exhibit Citizenship, Honesty, Leadership, Responsibility, Scholarship, Skill and Service. Each January, eligible seniors are nominated based on their first and second quarter performance. Nominees are given an application packet to complete and submit for review. The CWCTC Advisor will notify successful candidates.

Criteria for nomination:

- 3.0 or higher at sending school
- 90% or higher in your Trade Program Area
- 3 or less absences per quarter
(medical and school related absences do not count against you but must be verified with official excuses)
- CWCTC Senior



INDUCTEES LISTED BY TRADES:

AGRICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN:

Daniel Bell - Y
Gage Converso - BV
Dominic Hallam - F
Bradlee Patterson - J
Autumn Swank - S
Haylee Taraskey - S

ASPIRING EDUCATORS:

Adi Gardner - MP
Ashley Huggins - PT
Chyanne Lane - Y
Shelby McMillen - H
Reese Yohman - MP

AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION TECHNOLOGY:

Layla Bash - MP
Savannah Herring - GS
Peyton Snyder - Y
Waylon Taylor - Y

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS TECHNOLOGY:

Logan Born - J
Colin Kane - N
Connor Kovach - MP
Jason Lezar - PT
Cole Lusher - N

COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCE:

Vladyslav Arlukh - H
Rachael Ayres - S
Caleb Encl - F
Caden Miller - H
Max Stockstill - H
Payton Young - H

CONSTRUCTION TRADES:

Diesel Ford - Y
John Kline - H
Bollie Merichko - GS
Emily Painter - PT
Nathan Panepinto - BV
Braydon Pruitt - N
Savanna Skantz - Y
Michael Wyzkiewicz - H

COSMETOLOGY:

Carlie Willcox - GS

CULINARY ARTS:

Zachary Kellner - H
Collin McKenna - J
Aubree Spiering - N
Milan Sudaric - Y

ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY:

Nicholas Argento - BV
William Bowser - F
Dakota Danks - H
Hector Flores - H
Lucas Gesmond - N
Luke Hanon - H
Cyrus Orzech - H
Jordan Ott - GS
Ryan Strobel - MP

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS TECHNOLOGY:

Allisa Duncan - F
Katherine Guzik - N
Madison Klejka - MP
MacKenzie Otr - S
Jaylynn Ramsey - H
Kira Singo - GS
Emily Stewart - S

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN TECHNOLOGY:

Tanner Hayes - H
Riley Savage - Y
Lexus Thomas - H

POWERLINE:

Xavier Burns - H
Addi Hochinski - N

PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

Emma Augustine - H
Alexander Baker - GS
Brayden Basso - F
Savanna Compton - H
Emma Drescher - Y
Riley Friel - S
Jordayne Johnson - N
Keyaira Stoffer - H

RESTORATION & DESIGN:

Gordon Howard - N

ROBOTICS ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING:

Randall Piccolo - MP

SERVICE OCCUPATIONS:

Haylee Everett - MP
Justin Gabrovsek - BV
Kayla Kent - BV
Blake McNeal - PT

SPORTS MEDICINE:

Gretchen Hastings - MP
Mia Jordan - S
Grace Morey - H
Michelle Steban - Y
Cadence Swank - MP

WELDING & METAL FABRICATING:

Mason Barnhart - MP
Thomas Hayle - Y
Tyler Moza - PT
Jacob Siese - S
Samantha Vinsek - H

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 MEMBERS



AGRICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN



ASPIRING EDUCATORS



AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION TECHNOLOGY



AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS TECHNOLOGY



AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS TECHNOLOGY



20 **CENTRAL WESTMORELAND CTC HONORS SENIORS** 25
AT ANNUAL RECOGNITION CEREMONY



CONSTRUCTION TRADES



SERVICE OCCUPATIONS



COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCE



CULINARY ARTS



COSMETOLOGY



SPORTS MEDICINE



MULTIMEDIA DESIGN



ROBOTICS ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING



ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY



HEALTH OCCUPATIONS



HVAC / STEAMFITTING



POWERLINE



PROTECTIVE SERVICES



RESTORATION & DESIGN



WELDING & METAL FABRICATION

CWCTC Seniors were encouraged to participate in the annual Senior Recognition Ceremony - SRC on the campus of Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center on Monday evening, May 12th. Attendees enjoyed sunny skies and a cool breeze for the outdoor ceremony that welcomed friends and family members of the participants. The event was open to any of the nearly 400 students who will soon be completing their studies at the CTC and split into two sessions based on their Program of Study. On behalf of the CWCTC School Board, Administration, Faculty, and Staff, we wish all seniors good luck as they embark on their future journeys!



Congratulations Class of **2025**