**Guidance Department Newsletter**

March 2019

**Dates to Remember**

- March 6, 2019: Career Day
- March 25, 2019: End of 3rd Marking Period
- March 1-31, 2019: Various Scholarship Deadlines
- March 4-28, 2019: NOCTI Testing

**Career Day** – Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center will hold its annual Career Day on **Wednesday, March 6, 2019**. On that day, representatives from more than 60 apprenticeship programs, businesses, colleges and the military will be present to help students make decisions about their career pathway. Regardless if a student wants to go directly to work, get additional training, enlist in the military or continue their education, information and opportunities will be available. Career Day proceeds go into scholarship funds at CWCTC.

**Financial Aid** – “I can’t afford to go to college” are words we as counselors hear too often. Students that currently qualify for free or reduced lunch are frequently the big winners when it comes to financial aid assistance. However, if you do not complete the FAFSA, (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), form, you will not know just how much money you have been granted. Remember, loans you have pay back, grants you do not! All students are encouraged to visit our Guidance Office to get answers to all of your questions and concerns.

**Scholarship Deadlines** are fast approaching for the month of March. Earning a national or local scholarship can help to reduce the cost of post-secondary tuition. Students looking for help to pay tuition often search for scholarships and our guidance team can help!

**NOCTI Testing** a.k.a. the PA Skills Assessment Test, occurs throughout the month of March. These program specific tests measure the skills and knowledge of the students in each program and consist of both a written and a performance section. Volunteers from business and industry come in to judge the performance section to assess students’ ability to perform job specific skills.

**Programs of Study Offered**

- Automotive Collision Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Carpentry
- Commercial & Advertising Art
- Computer & Information Science
- Construction Trades Technology
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Electrical Occupations Technology
- Graphic Design Communications
- Health Occupations Technology
- Heating & Air Conditioning
- Horticulture
- Logistics & Warehouse Management
- Machine Trades Technology
- Masonry
- Painting, Restoration & Design Trades
- Plumbing
- Powerline
- Protective Services
- Robotics Engineering
- Sports Therapy & Exercise Science
- Welding

by:

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Congratulations CWCTC Students of the Month! Below are their post-secondary plans,

**SEPTEMBER – Belle Vernon Area High School**

**Michael Danto**, Robotics Engineering – “I am going to Penn College of Technology for Electronic and Computer Engineering. There I will earn an associate degree and then transfer into the bachelor degree program.”

**Michael Yaggi**, Logistics – “I am unsure if I am going to go into the work force or attend some sort of trade school.”

**OCTOBER – Frazier Senior High School**

**Hannah Kerestesi**, Graphic Communication – “I will attend Indiana University of PA to major in nursing.”

**Catie Sickler**, Cosmetology – “After I earn my Cosmetology Licenses, I want to attend Douglas Education Center to get a Cosmetology Teacher Certification.”

**NOVEMBER - Greensburg-Salem High School**

**Betty Burgess**, Commercial & Advertising Art – “I plan to attend Westmoreland College for my general education credits and then transfer to California University of PA. There I will major in fine arts and minor in music.”

**Cory Contic**, Carpentry – “After graduation, I plan to seek employment in the carpentry or construction field; somewhere I can put my skills to work.”

**DECEMBER – Hempfield Area High School**

**Matt Giron**, Robotics Engineering – “I will attend Penn State University to study Electro Mechanical Engineering Technology.”

**Derek Hainsworth**, Computer & Information Science – “I plan on attending Pittsburgh Technical College (PTC) to study Network Security and Computer Forensics.”

**JANUARY – Jeannette High School**

**Stephanie Ciarkowski**, Cosmetology – “I plan to attend Westmoreland College for my first 2 years of college and then transfer to Seton Hill for my bachelors in Science for the physician assistant program.”

**Michael McCabe**, Electrical Technology – “I have recently applied to Pennsylvania College of Technology where I would like to study to be an electrician and play baseball. After graduation, I would like to be employed locally in the Westmoreland County area.”

**FEBRUARY – Mt. Pleasant Area Senior High School**

**Taylor Barr**, Graphic Communication – “I am considering attending either Pittsburgh College of Technology or California University of PA for Graphic Design. Upon graduation, I plan to pursue graphics as a career by either getting a job in the field or starting my own business.”

**Alexandra Sager**, Carpentry – “After graduation, I plan to seek employment in the carpentry or construction field or attend some type of school. I am in the process of applying to Triangle Tech in Pittsburgh for carpentry.”