SPRING 2021

Boots on and Getting Started!

WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Dr. Richard Barnhouse Joins

WCTO

WCTC as President

Specialty Program to Begin in Fall

New! Kitchen and Bath Design Program

Culmination of Skills

Capstone Projects the Pinnacle of Students' Work

California California

WHAT'S INSIDE:



Welcome, New WCTC President, Rich Barnhouse, Ph.D2-6
"Homeowners are choosing to invest in their homes. They see the BENEFITS OF HIRING Professionals." PAGE
Capstone Projects8-9
WCTC Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Academy Alum10-11
High Schoolers Earn Dual Credit12-15
Notables15
WCTC Program Updates 16-17

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Text "wctcalerts" to 78015 to sign up for WCTC emergency alerts.

WCTC prohibits discrimination or harassment based on any status protected by applicable state or federal law.

Nelcome!

In January, Waukesha County Technical College welcomed Richard Barnhouse, Ph.D., as the College's new president. Barnhouse brings with him 20 years of progressive higher education experience, and he is excited to return to Wisconsin, where he lived and worked for a dozen years in the early- to mid-2000s.

Barnhouse is passionate about working at a technical college since he finds it to be the most notable and rewarding part of the academy – an experience that can have a marked change on individuals, families and communities.

Get to know the new president and his vision for technical education in this edition of Impact.

WCTC Impact is designed to showcase stories of how our graduates, students, instructors, and community and business partners strive to make a difference in the world around them, and how WCTC has propelled them to succeed.

This publication highlights the latest happenings, changes and improvements at the College, and it shines a light on student and alumni achievement. Students in the Diesel Technician program continue with hands-on learning during the pandemic.

Enjoy the spring edition of Impact!





Hands-on Higher Ed

800 Main Street, Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072



Leading into the 2020s Welcome, New WCTC President, Rich Barnhouse, Ph.D.



hen Rich Barnhouse, Ph.D., was growing up, he remembers his now-retired father coming home from the office with his suit a bit wrinkled, a stain or two on his sleeve. His father

worked as a manager of a national meat packing plant and later, as the owner of his own business. While at work, his father would often head out to the shop floor and climb under the machines to take a closer look at how things worked. In the process, he built strong relationships with the employees who operated the equipment. Those efforts helped him better understand workers' critical roles within the plant and the impact it had on the company's success.

While Barnhouse was only in high school at the time, he watched and listened closely to his father's example and has adopted that same philosophy and work ethic in his own life and career - particularly now in his new role as president of Waukesha County Technical College.

"I think the (WCTC District) board thought I was joking in my interview when I said I'd carry a pair of steel-toe boots in my trunk so that I can get on the plant floor - and find out what the needs are, what we can do

better and what's coming up next - but I was serious about that," Barnhouse said. "You've got to get under the machine, with the folks who are running the machine, to figure out how to make it better," he said, noting the importance of understanding and responding to industry's needs and how the College prepares students for the workforce.

Getting to Know the College, K-12 Districts, and **Business and Industry**

In his first year as top administrator, Barnhouse said his focus will be getting to know the College, as well as K-12 school districts and local employers - and elevating those partnerships.

"Number one is, without a doubt, to understand. I think it's a mistake for any new leader to come in and sort of espouse a vision for which they have no basis. And I think that's where you can get off kilter," said Barnhouse, who started Jan. 5. "My job this year is beyond leading, and transactional, and a little bit of vision. It is to really understand and listen to what's happening here inside the institution - but also to the needs and issues of business and industry."



Collaborations with local K-12 school districts are also important to promote awareness about WCTC and the Wisconsin Technical College System as a whole.

"It's equally important to have really strong relationships with K-12 districts in the region. It's our obligation to make sure that students in the K-12 systems understand the benefit, the value and the life-changing opportunities that exist at WCTC."

Additionally, being a good financial steward is paramount so taxpayers know their

"My job this year... is to really understand and listen to what's happening here inside the institution – but also to the needs and issues of business and industry"

dollars are being put to good use. "We really need to think about how we deliver on what our responsibility is and ensure that the taxpayers look at their bill and think, 'Okay, this is worth it," Barnhouse said.

Progressive Experience in Higher Education and a Return to Wisconsin

Barnhouse has 20 years of higher education experience in a variety of roles. Most recently, he was vice president of Student Services and Enrollment Management at State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota from 2016 to 2020.

Prior to working in Florida, he spent 12 years in Wisconsin. He was associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at the University of Wisconsin Colleges from 2011 to 2016, dean of students at Moraine Park Technical College from 2007 to 2011 and assistant campus dean for Administrative Services at the University of Wisconsin-Sheboygan from 2004 to 2007.

In the early part of his career, Barnhouse was assistant director for Facilities -Student Affairs at the University of South Carolina from 2003 to 2004 and assistant director for Operations - Student Affairs at Rice University in Texas from 2001 to 2003.

His career has taken him across the country, but he considers Wisconsin home.

"I came to Wisconsin in my mid-20s and left to move to Florida when I was 40, so for me, Wisconsin is my home. This is where I spent some of the most important years of developing my career," said Barnhouse, who grew up in suburban Toronto, Canada.

A return to the Badger State is also a homecoming for Barnhouse's wife, Tiffany, who grew up in Pewaukee, graduated from Pewaukee High School and took a class at WCTC one summer during her time as a student at the University of Wisconsin -Madison. "She's thrilled to be back," he said. "It's really a nice coincidence."

Barnhouse holds a Ph.D. in Leadership, Learning and Service from Cardinal Stritch University, a master's degree in Sport Administration from Central Michigan University and a bachelor's degree in Physical Education, with an emphasis in exercise physiology, from Brock

University in Ontario, Canada. Also, in 2019, he completed the Institute for Educational Management professional education program at Harvard University.

A Passion for Community and **Technical Education**

While Barnhouse has worked at both twoand four-year institutions, he has great fervor for technical education and its ability to transform lives.

"I've spent the last 16 or 17 years in this part of the academy, which I find to be the most notable and rewarding," he said. "We start by changing individuals and changing families, and then we can change communities. I feel like WCTC is where I can have an impact within the two-year college experience."

Additionally, he said a WCTC education offers something for all students: those enrolling straight from high school, returning adult students in their 30s, 40s or 50s and individuals looking for career retraining. If students want to continue their education or directly enter the workforce, they will be ready for the next step.

"From here, our students can go anywhere and everywhere," Barnhouse said. "I think our graduates are phenomenal critical thinkers, and they're going to do well because they've had such an exceptional education."

Praise for the Year-round 8-week Calendar

Barnhouse joined WCTC halfway through the College's initial year with the year-round, 8-week calendar, and he has nothing but praise for the innovative academic model He commended those involved with its development, calling it a "Herculean effort."

"I think our graduates are phenomenal critical thinkers, and they're going to do well because they've had such an exceptional education."

"It's amazing how quickly this was designed, built and implemented. Rarely, do things go well in their first iteration, but all signs are pointing to real success," Barnhouse said,

noting the calendar's numerous benefits, among them reduced time to degree and mastery of coursework. "The fact that our student survey went out and that student satisfaction went up, that's unheard of when you start a new model. So it's a real credit to the faculty for the way they changed their curriculum and their pedagogy to make it fit and to excel at it. And to do it during COVID-19 - it's absolutely incredible."

Settling in and Looking to the Future

On a personal level, Barnhouse and his wife are enjoying their recent move back to the Midwest. They have been participating in outdoor activities such as winter hikes, and cross-country ski and snowshoe outings, and they've been discovering new restaurants and savoring the classic Friday fish fry. Both sports fans, the couple is excited to cheer on the Packers and the Brewers in the teams' home state.

Professionally, Barnhouse is eager to guide WCTC into the next year and decade as the higher education landscape will continue to shift in how curriculum is delivered, how students' expectations are met and how technology impacts learning.

"I am thrilled to be here," he said. "I really look forward to advancing WCTC's legacy, which is, of excellence. It's a privilege and an honor to lead WCTC through the 2020s."

> Barnhouse and his wife, Tiffany, are happy to be back in Wisconsin!

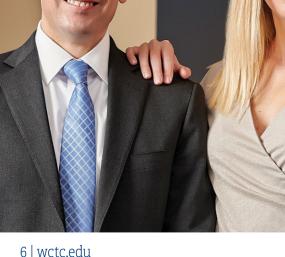


Boming Home Remos Sparks New Program

ake a quick scroll through Pinterest, and it won't be a surprise that kitchen and bath design is trending in 2021. The ongoing pandemic has affected countless facets of everyday life, especially how much time people spend at home. With home renovations on the rise, Waukesha County Technical College has announced a relevant new degree program focusing on kitchen and bath design.

Students in the Interior Design - Kitchen and Bath Design program will learn to create aesthetically pleasing, environmentally focused kitchen and bath spaces. Through hands-on projects, students build expertise in cabinetry, fixtures, appliances, and electrical and plumbing solutions. They will also learn to work with architects and builders, specifying materials and producing floor and lighting plans.

WCTC is proud to be a National Kitchen and Bath Association (NBKA) Affiliated School, and one of only two schools in the Wisconsin Technical College System to offer this specialized degree. Like all



WCTC programs, the new Kitchen and Bath program was built with guidance from an advisory committee, a team of industry professionals who help ensure that program curriculum reflects employer expectations and current industry standards.

Denise Merbeth is an independent kitchen and bath designer and an active member of both WCTC's advisory committee and the NKBA's Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Chapter Council. "The industry is currently strong, as homeowners are choosing to invest in their homes. They see the benefits of hiring professionals to assist in designing these important spaces," said Merbeth. "The industry is also rapidly evolving with new design trends, products and technology, and it is exciting to see what's next!"

The new program builds on the College's tradition of offering a top-notch interior design program since 1996. Students can combine the new and existing programs to earn two in-demand associate degrees in just three years. 🗖

Learn more at wctc.edu/kitchen-bath.

Culmination of the Academic Experience

oward the end of their program, most WCTC students must complete a capstone project - a portfolio, report or other assignment - as a final requirement to graduate. It allows them to demonstrate their learning, think critically and problem solve, and for many, it is a high point of their education.

The

WCTC grads Isabel Schueller and Erica Brautigam designed a steelframed conference table.

Erica Brautigam '19, Metal Fabrication/Welding – Advanced

Erica Brautigam teamed up with classmate Isabel Schueller '19 to create a stunning, one-of-a-kind conference room table.

"I loved finding new, inventive ways to complete the design.

- Erica Brautigam '19, Metal Fabrication/Welding - Advanced

Because the two women were enrolled in a nontraditional occupations program, they wanted to make something more feminine compared to what had been created in the past. They cut flowers and other natural elements from thick sheets of steel for the table frame

and base, and they handled all aspects of design, purchasing, troubleshooting, fabricating and finishing.

"All the classes leading up to the capstone project gave me the confidence to make something I had never done before because I had learned the techniques I needed to accomplish my ideas," Brautigam said. "I loved working through the problems and finding new, inventive ways to complete the design."

Darsi Matyszczyk '20, Health Information Technology (HIT)

For Darsi Matyszczyk's capstone portfolio presentation, her written reflections highlighted the understanding and skills she acquired in the program along with how she would use them in her career.

Along with the capstone course, HIT students must simultaneously take Professional Practice Experience (PPE). The PPE involved site visits, hands-on projects and virtual demonstrations, as well as creating (with Information Technology students) an inhouse electronic health record system for use by health students. Matyszczyk was able to incorporate elements from the PPE into her final presentation.

> "This project required me to look back on each assignment and reflect on what

Melissa Lugo '20, Business Management

Melissa Lugo knew she could apply her capstone project to her career, and it turned out to be sooner rather than later. Her project - to create a business plan - is something she has referred to often as she prepares to open her bakery storefront - Mama Ducky's Desserts - in downtown Waukesha in mid-April.



I learned both technically and professionally as a student at WCTC," she said. "Upon completion, I was able to see, in my own words and experiences, that I was qualified and ready to transition from a student to a health information professional."

"I was able to see, in my own words and experiences, that I was qualified and ready..." - Darsi Matyszczyk Health Information Technology, '20

Baking had long been a hobby of Lugo's, and in recent years, she began renting commercial kitchen space and selling her desserts at community events and vendor fairs. Upon learning the entire storefront where she rented the small kitchen space would soon be available, she quickly moved ahead with her plan.



"Since I had a business that was more than just an idea, I was excited to be working on a business plan," Lugo said. "I knew that within the year, I would be needing a business plan for a few different business decisions, and the (Business Management Capstone) class made it less daunting. What I was learning in the program would help me to run a functioning, successful business."

READY for Success



ay 2017 turned out to be a remarkable month for Carlos Guzman, a 2015 graduate of the WCTC Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Academy. He was offered a job at not one but four different

law enforcement agencies (all in one day), welcomed his infant son into the world and was sworn in to his new role as a patrol officer for the Town of Brookfield Police Department - the job he chose from the multiple offers.

Meet Carlos Guzman '15

His journey to that point wasn't easy, he said, but he reached his goals through a combination of education, hard work, perseverance, and support and encouragement from instructors.

As a youth, Guzman was involved with some tough crowds, which led him to make bad choices. Through the years, however, he focused on work and bettering "I really wanted to do himself. He completed the Bricklaying and something where I Masonry program at made a difference." WCTC in 2008 and spent 11 years in the construction industry.



The drawback, he said, was he often found himself laid off once construction season ended. He relied on unemployment and

> spent the off-season taking different classes, but he needed a definitive plan.

"I was not completing anything, and I thought, 'you're not getting any younger, and it's time to do something," he said. "And I really wanted to do something where I made a difference."

The approximate average

He enrolled in the Criminal Justice associate degree program and completed several classes before deciding to apply to the academy. Because he accumulated enough credits from previous college courses and the Criminal Justice Studies program, he was eligible to apply to the academy - which he successfully completed in 2015. He

- Carlos Guzman

entry-level salary for a graduate of Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Academy or Criminal Justice Studies associate degree program

In addition to the associate degree program and the academy, the College also offers specialty law enforcement training and police in-service.

> spent another year and a half working in construction before numerous opportunities became available to him in the police field.

"It's very nice to be a little more financially secure now and to be able to give back," he said. "I couldn't have asked to go anywhere else for my education. I learned so much from the Criminal Justice instructors, and it really prepared me for my career."

Scholers get a Deal Start on College Education

uring the 2019-20 academic year, over 52,500 high school students earned dual credit at one of the state's 16 technical colleges – including Waukesha County Technical College – according to the Wisconsin Technical College System. Dual credit allows students to earn high school and college credit simultaneously, and it provides them with cost savings, an earlier entry point on a career pathway, reduced time to degree completion and more.

"At WCTC, we offer a variety of methods for students to earn dual credit. From taking dual credit courses at the high school with a high school instructor, to attending courses on our campus, we support students from enrollment to completion," said Sandra Maylen, manager of WCTC's Center for Early College Opportunities. "Dual credit gives students an opportunity to learn about the expectations and rigor of college classes, and they can start their college or career path at no cost while in high school. Through the years, it has been exciting to see student growth as they become successful in their coursework and achieve their goals through hard work and determination."

Continued on pages 14-15.

High School Student to earn College Degree

his spring, Nicole Cheesman, a student at Waukesha County Technical College and senior at Waukesha North High School, will graduate from college before graduating from high school. Thanks to dual credit, she is able to earn 60-plus college credits during high school – many of which have been paid for by the School District of Waukesha. She will earn her associate degree in Business Management in May followed by her high school diploma in June.

Cheesman developed a passion for business early in her high school career, taking numerous related classes until she exhausted her options.

"I never really understood what it felt like to love a class as much as I did when it came to learning about business," she said. "I started taking every possible class that I could for business with the high school – until I couldn't take any more!"

She began program classes at WCTC in summer 2020 completing three classes and earning nine credits. She maintained the momentum taking 10 classes and earning 30 credits in the fall semester, and then another eight classes and 23 credits this semester.

"I was always someone who liked to excel in school," she said. "This just was another option for me to do that."

Besides a full course load, she also works two jobs – one at her family's company and the other at a grocery store.

Cheesman is one of the more than 52,500 high school students in Wisconsin to take

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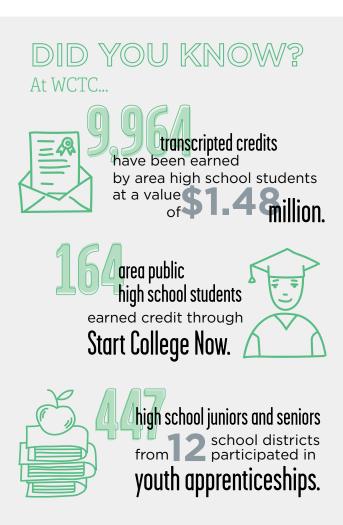
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advantage of dual credit. Statewide, in 2019-20, students earned nearly 229,000 credits - over \$31 million in college credit savings.*



Nicole Cheesman, Waukesha North High School student, will soon graduate from WCTC.

*Source: Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Dual Credit report, Nov. 2020



Source: WCTC Center for Early College Opportunities



High School Students can earn Dual Credit:

To learn more, visit wctc.edu/ hs-dual-credit.

Start College Now (SCN)

This program is available to public high school juniors and seniors who meet certain requirements to take postsecondary courses at a Wisconsin technical college. Approved courses, not already offered in the high schools, count toward high school and college credit. School districts pay the cost of tuition, course fees and required books. SCN is available during the fall and spring semesters.

Transcripted Credit

For public school students in grades 9 through 12, transcripted credit agreements allow students to enroll in WCTC courses at their high school and have a transcript of college-level credits prior to entering college. School districts collaborate with WCTC to determine which transcripted courses will be offered at the high school and vary by district. Classes are taught by high school faculty certified to teach the WCTC collegelevel courses. Transcripted credit is free to all students.

Youth Apprenticeships

This rigorous one- or two-year program, designed for high school juniors and seniors, combines academic and technical classroom instruction with paid work experience and mentored on-the-job learning in a skilled career area. Students receive occupation-related instruction and on-the-job training as part of their regular high school schedule, and they will be paired with a workplace mentor. Upon successful completion, students receive a state-issued certificate recognizing careerrelated work experience.

Credit by Exam

Students may be awarded college credit by achieving a satisfactory score on an exam with nationally recognized standards, including Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), DSST (formerly DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams.

Dual Enrollment Academy (DEA)

The competitive program gives high school seniors and well-qualified juniors a head start in careers in highdemand fields. The yearlong program provides students with high school and WCTC credit, an industry-recognized workplace certificate or technical diploma, and opportunities with one of WCTC's many industry partners. Students spend half of their school day at WCTC and half at their high school. Programs include:

- Automation Systems Technology
- Building Construction Trades
- Early Childhood Education Preschool
- Firefighter/EMT
- IT Systems Specialist
- Tool and Die/CNC
- Welding/Fabrication

NOTABLES

WCTC's Dental Hygiene Clinic Currently OPEN

WCTC's Dental Hygiene Clinic, located at the Waukesha campus, is currently open to patients – with increased health and safety measures in place during the pandemic. Student dental hygienists provide affordable, high quality, comprehensive dental care under the strict supervision of a licensed dentist and registered dental hygienist.

Call 262.691.5224 or visit wctc.edu/dhclinic.

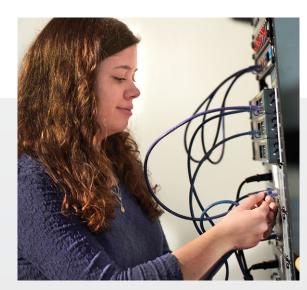


Eaton Corporation Donation to Benefit Manufacturing Students

The Eaton Corporation donated \$30,000 to WCTC's School of Applied Technologies for the purchase of a new fiber laser to be used in manufacturing programs. This will allow students to learn on updated, state-of-the-art equipment along with expanding their skill set in fiber laser welding, said Mike Shiels, dean of the School of Applied Technologies.

Ellucian PATH Scholarships help Students Affected by Pandemic

WCTC received a 2020 PATH Scholarship for \$20,000 from Ellucian, a leading provider of software and services built to power higher education. The College then awarded gifts of \$500 to \$2,000 to individual students who were experiencing economic hardships resulting from the coronavirus pandemic to be used to help pay for housing, tuition and related costs.



Virtual Workshops Highlight Nontraditional Career Paths

WCTC is excited to host free virtual workshops every Friday in April, each highlighting a different nontraditional occupation. A nontraditional occupation is any job in which the employee's gender makes up less than 25 percent of the workforce - for example, women in the skilled trades or men in healthcare. Those in nontraditional occupations may find increased job satisfaction, higher wages, more job opportunities, good benefits and more room for advancement.

topics & dates:

Virtual Free ,

Men in Cosmetology - April 9 Women in Welding - April 16 Women in IT - April 23 Men in Medical Assisting - April 30

Attendees will hear from instructors and alumni with real-world experience while trying out some "hands-on" skills in a virtual environment. Presenters will explore industry trends and the labor market outlook for these nontraditional career paths.

Learn more and register at wctc.edu/events/careers.



Architecture and Construction

Architectural Drafting/ Construction Technology Building Trades - Carpentry Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating Service Technician Concrete Finishing (ABC) Construction Management Technology Electrician (ABC) Electricity Plumbing (ABC)

Business, Management and Finance

Accounting Accounting Assistant **Business Management Customer Service Specialist** Digital Marketing Promotions **Global Business** Human Resource Professional Human Resources Import/Export Specialist Leadership Development Lean/Six Sigma Marketing Organizational Leadership **Quality Management** Property Management Associate **Real Estate**



Business, Management and Finance

(continued) Supply Chain Management Supply Chain Professional

Education and Human Services

Aesthetician Autism Technician Cosmetology Early Childhood Education Early Childhood Education Preschool (Registry Credential) Foundations of Teacher Education Human Services Associate Interior Design Interior Design - Kitchen and Bath Design Master Aesthetician

Individualized Studies Individualized Technical Studies

Graphic Communications

Graphic Design Web and Digital Media Design

Health

Anesthesia Technology Central Service Technician **Dental Assistant** Dental Hygienist Health Care Services Management Health Information Technology Language Interpreter for Health Services Medical Assistant Medical Coding Specialist Nursing Assistant Nursing – Associate Degree Phlebotomy Technician Physical Therapist Assistant Radiography Surgical Technology

Hospitality, Culinary and Pastry Baking and Pastry Management **Baking and Pastry Production** Culinary Management Food Service Production **Hospitality Specialist**

Information Technology

- Desktop Support Technician
- IT Computer Support Specialist IT - Cybersecurity Specialist
- IT Database Specialist
- IT Mobile Programmer
- IT Network Specialist IT - Service Desk Technician
- IT Software Development Specialist
- IT Web and Software Developer
- Network Enterprise Administrator

Manufacturing

(Robotics) CNC Setup Technician **Electrical and Instrumentation** Industrial Electrician Industrial Maintenance Technician Injection Mold Setup (Plastic) Machine Tool Operation Machinist Maintenance Mechanic/Millwright Maintenance Technician Mechatronics Technician Metal Fabrication/Welding Technical Studies - Journeyworker Tool and Die Maker Tool and Die Making Welding Welding Technician

16 | wctc.edu



Automation Systems Technology

- Metal Fabrication/Welding Advanced

Protective Services Advanced EMT

Criminal Justice -Law Enforcement Academy **Criminal Justice Studies Emergency Medical Technician** Fire Medic Fire Protection Technician Paramedic Technician (degree) Paramedic Technician (diploma)

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

Biomedical Electronics Technology Electrical Engineering Technology Electronic Systems Technology Manufacturing Engineering Technology Mechanical Design Technology Mechanical Engineering Technology

Transportation

Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair Automotive Maintenance Technician Automotive Technology - General Option Automotive Technology - GM ASEP Option Diesel Equipment Mechanic **Diesel Equipment Technology** Truck Driving (CDL Class A)

Learn more at wctc.edu/programs.



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Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 4-7 p.m.

Waukesha County Technical College's Open House is your one-stop shop for all things WCTC. Join us online March 30 between 4-7 p.m.

For a limited time, the WCTC application fee is waived! Attend the Open House to learn more. We can't wait to meet you!

Visit wctc.edu/open-house.

