



# wti CONNECT 360°

## HVAC APPRECIATION DAY

With rising temperatures this time of year, everyone's air conditioners are working overtime! This is one reason we celebrate National HVAC Appreciation Day on June 22nd. We want to honor these hard working men and women who keep us cool in the extreme heat. In order to recognize all of our students for their hard work and dedication, WTI presented them with magnetic LED work lights. We hope it brightened your day!



### NOTABLE DATES & EVENTS

- 9/4** - Labor Day (CLOSED)
- 9/19** - National IT Professionals Day
- 9/20** - Electronic Professionals Day
- 10/16** - New Class Start

- 10/17** - National Pharmacy Technicians Day
- 10/18** - National Medical Assistants Day
- 10/19** - National Billing & Coding Day



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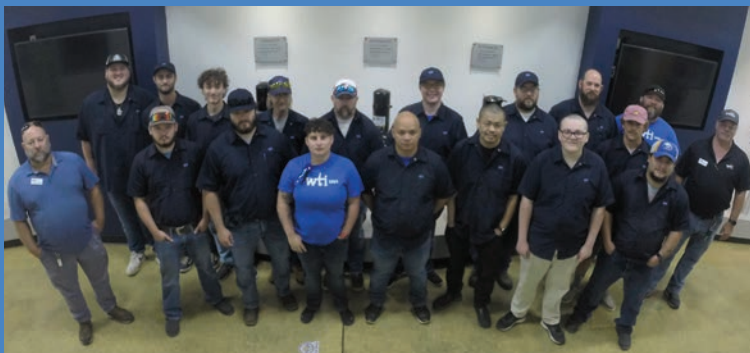


# JCI DONATIONS

Wichita Technical Institute received another donation from Johnson Controls International recently. They have made generous donations of equipment for our students to work on in the HVAC/R labs! The staff and students would like to thank JCI for their partnership with WTI.



# JOPLIN COMPRESSOR COMPANY TOUR



Joplin campus Heating and Air Conditioning students recently had the chance to take an inside look at Emerson's Copeland Compressor plant. Copeland Compressors are manufactured in Lebanon, Missouri in their new state-of-the-art assembly line!

This trip gave the HVAC/R students the opportunity to observe the real-time production of the compressors as well as seeing the quality control and testing procedures. We here at WTI are grateful for our relationship with Emerson. Opportunities like this, to tour real-world environments, are a huge benefit to the students.

# GRADUATE SUCCESS



Alona Baker decided to pursue WTI after becoming tired of working dead-end jobs and deciding it was time for her to do something she's passionate about.

One of Alona's all-time favorite quotes is one from Adam Grant. In it, he says, "Great minds do not think alike. They challenge each other to think differently."

When asked about her time at WTI, she said "Each department made me feel like this was the place for me!" Alona continued, "My experience was incredible. I remember when I just wanted information about the programs, and I was called for a campus tour. Financial aid was very good at explaining what my options were."

She also spoke well of her teachers. "They made sure each student understood the material in their learning style. They are very knowledgeable in their field and

could answer every question we might have had!"

Going into her first classes in the Computer Technology and Network Administration program at our Wichita campus, Alona was under the impression that it would be mostly refreshers and easy for her. She was surprised to find that she was learning a lot more than she thought she initially would. She enjoyed her classes at WTI and that showed in her class performance.

Nowadays, Alona has a service desk position at an IT company, resolving user issues and loves it.

Her advice to any current or future WTI student is, "Invest in yourself. Give yourself time and room to grow. Nothing is fast or easy. Time and hard work will always lead you down the path to success."



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# GRADUATE SUCCESS



Kari Black defines herself as ambitious, caring and courageous, and believes herself to be a leader. She also has a strong work ethic and is a proud veteran.

Kari admires her late grandmother, Mary Lou Pierce, the most. This is due to her strength and how she pushed through the hard times. She told us about how her grandmother had twins at 16 while her husband was away fighting in the war. She ended up losing her husband in the war and had to take care of the twins all by herself. Through it all, she was able to finish school and become a cosmetologist, always able to take care of her family. She lived a wonderful 96 years and always had a smile on her face.

Kari chose to attend WTI's Tulsa campus for our Medical Assistant program. She told us that WTI provided a schedule that fit her life just perfectly. The classes were smaller and the staff were very accessible. She goes on to state, "WTI is a great school for working adults. The staff is always willing

to help you with whatever you need to succeed."

One of Kari's favorite quotes is, "life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get," by Forrest Gump in the 1994 Forrest Gump movie.

Her personal definition of success is simply reaching and or surpassing any goals you have set for yourself.

During her time in the Medical Assistant program, Kari was able to obtain her Registered Medical Assistant certification. After her completion and graduation from the program, as well as getting help from our Career Services department, she was able to apply for and get a great job at FreedomLight Therapy and is a Certified Laser Therapist. She is currently working towards obtaining her license to be an IV Infusion Technician.

Kari's advice for WTI students is, "Always challenge yourself to be better, learn something new every day, and always be a role model to those younger than you."

# GRADUATE SUCCESS



Omar Sanchez is a very driven and motivated person. He likes to take active steps towards improve himself as well as helping others do the same thing.

He enrolled at WTI's Joplin campus after realizing that he was unhappy with his career. He took a big leap for his future and chose to attend our 48-week Computer Technology and Network Administration program.

Omar's definition of success is simple, and something he has reached due to his time at WTI, "To me, success is defined by happiness & being content. Loving what you do, and waking up with joy every day is success."

While at WTI, Omar worked hard and was able to obtain his CompTIA A+ and Network+ certifications. When asked about his experiences with the staff, he

told us, "My WTI journey was entirely smooth and stress-free. The staff were great!" He continued on to say, "My interactions with my instructors were great. It was fantastic to interact with experts that were once in my shoes. I gathered helpful advice and was told some really awesome stories about the instructors' personal experiences in the field."

Currently, Omar is working as a Systems Engineer for Network Doctor. He likes his position and even told us, "This is the first job that I've had that doesn't feel like a job. I really enjoy working there."

His advice for WTI students is this, "If you are concerned that this experience will not produce good results, do not be. If you put in the effort and enjoy what you are learning, the rest will come."

# INSIDER INFORMATION



**Kelly Prater** - Pharmacy Technician Instructor in Joplin

**What's your favorite thing about working at WTI?**

I enjoy my job. I love working with the students. I enjoy seeing them learning and grasping new concepts. It is nice to see them overcome a fear of needles or even math problems! The students come up with some great questions about medications and we can both learn.

**What made you choose your field of study/career?**

I started in pharmacy in my senior year of high school working in a program where you go to school half a day and work half a day for school credits. I loved my job and have continued to work in the pharmacy field ever since. I have had the opportunity, in my career, to work in different pharmacy settings, including retail,

hospital, nursing home, and sterile IV room settings.

**What is a fun fact about you that many don't know?**

I have worked on a movie set. I worked in transportation, catering, handling equipment, as a production assistant, producer, and all-around gofer. I really enjoy the process of making a movie and can't wait until it hits the theater.

**Are there any student stories that have inspired you?**

I have a student that works in a hospital pharmacy. She was immediately trained to do chemo IVs for children. The hospital has a St Jude's department that works with children with cancer. She has told me many stories about the children she has gotten to work with. She delivers the medication to the floor and gets to meet the children and interact with them. She refers to them as "Superheroes".



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# FEEL GOOD FOCUS



“55 degrees feels different when you’re neck deep.”

That was the very first thought I had as I tightened my grip on the kayak, and pulled myself back in. My breath, clouding the view of the clear night sky, barely pierced with the light of a few bright stars. I remember laying there, watching rock formations pass by. — I knew I couldn’t lie too long, because the river has it’s dangers: buoys, rocks, barges, twists and turns, and not to mention wakes from all sorts of angles; but it was in that moment, that I found an odd sense of peace, despite having lost some of my gear, and precious time, to the river.

Even though I had just tipped my kayak over into the cold, moon-lit water of the Missouri River, I found myself taking a peaceful breath of fresh air.

With no human in sight for miles, I took a big sigh of relief. No one was around to see me embarrass myself by tipping the kayak over when I was reaching for a Snickers bar I had strapped to the top left of the kayak, saved just for that moment... And now the Missouri River was indulging on my chocolate, as I sat and laughed. Sometimes, in this life, we come across instances where we are clouded in stress, and often forget that the race to the finish isn’t all that matters. In those moments, while sitting alone on the river, all that mattered was that specific moment.

At WTI, we strive to continue to pour ourselves into others, and we can often find ourselves feeling drained, stressed, or even rushed. Although the point of the race is to finish, and finish well, those who race are often so preoccupied with winning that all the little moments and scenery blur right past them.

In this new world of teaching I have decided to remind myself to remember to take the time to “lose my Snickers.” I find it extremely rewarding not just for my students, but me as well, to sit and make genuine connections. Giving them this time to relax provides them the opportunity to learn even more effectively.

We all learn how to swim in completely different ways, and we all handle our stress differently as well. I think it is extremely important to remember that your fifty-five degrees may feel differently to others, especially when someone is neck-deep in it, and that life is far too important to not enjoy it – even if that means giving up some chocolate along the way.

**Steven Rose is a Medical Assistant Instructor at our Joplin campus. He is a dedicated, hardworking instructor and a vital member of the WTI staff!**

# JOB & CAREER FAIRS

Our Tulsa and Wichita campuses have hosted several job fairs and hiring events over the last few months. One of these events was a three-day long job fair event with employers from the area looking for students from all of our programs! During the three-day long Wichita event, we were thankful to have had 13 Medical employers, 5 HVAC employers, and 11 Electronics / Computer Technology employers attending and speaking with the students. All three of our campuses are committed to planning events such as these in order to introduce the students to companies in the industries and areas they are training to enter. Our ultimate goal is helping to search for the right opportunities for each of our students.



# WTI TEAM MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

## JULY

Becky Loos 17 Years  
Keith Nordmann 3 Years  
Colson Mark 1 Year

## AUGUST

Kendall Gunlock 13 Years  
Rodney Fronk 13 Years  
Madison Perkins 5 Years  
Jonathan McDaniel 1 Year

## SEPTEMBER

David Hull 29 Years	Alpha Sixkiller 15 Years	Holli Hatton 6 Years
Jeff Ranney 21 Years	Jerry Lemons 15 Years	Robert Wyss 5 Years
Rob Winn 21 Years	Toni Parsons 11 Years	Stephen Rose 1 Year
Deb Perdue 18 Years	Suzanne Young 11 Years	

# WELCOME TO THE WTI TEAM

Please help us welcome our new staff members; Rene Doty, Nichole Varner, and Heather Williams at the Wichita campus!



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