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ACC Alumni Success

Gabe Limberg



Pictured to the left is ACC alumni Mr. Gabe Limberg and his previous instructor Mr. Zac Koesler. Gabe is a former LPHS student who studied both Computer Repair and Computer Programming at the Area Career Center (Additionally, took AP Computer Science at LPHS). In all aspects the technology industry was a major calling for Mr. Limberg.

Upon graduation from LPHS and finishing his course of study at the ACC, Mr. Limberg chose a path that found himself enrolling in the Air Force Reserves. It is within that context that Mr. Limberg has found his calling in advancing his aptitude in the science of cyber security. Within the Air Force, Gabe has been advancing through the process of earning his many certifications in cyber-security and IT proficiency. While he has passed all of his certifications thus far, he does offer advice for those on this career path.

Gabe's first piece of advice pertains to doing whatever you can while in your High School Status. By that, it is meant, the more offerings you take advantage of (i.e.—dual credit, earning certifications, doing well in class) pays off in the long run. As an example, because of the work Gabe did while in his ACC and LP classes, he was able to enter into his job at a higher pay scale (Gabe is currently an E-3 grade but was able to start his government portion of his job at GS-11-because of previous training). While all jobs do have their own requirements, because of what he had already accomplished, Gabe was able to move through those requirements with much less difficulty than his colleagues who had not taken advantage of those offerings while in high school.

The ACC is proud to have played a part in starting Mr. Limberg's career, as well as counting him among its many successful graduates! Excellent work Gabe, The U.S. is safer as a result of your willingness to serve.

Welding Puts Cart Before The Horse

The ACC Welding classes, instructed by Mr. Joe Villarreal, have begun a joint project with Peru based business LKCS (Letterkraft Printing and Creative Solutions—[Their Website](#)). The project entails the ACC welding classes engaging in a mass production event to turn out between 50 and 60 custom mail carts that LKCS uses in their production facility. In this venture, LKCS provides the welding classes with the materials, design plan, and specifications for tolerance and measurement. The welding classes then develop a manufacturing process that involves everything from the step-by-step process for assembly, to the type of welding that will be employed in the assembly of parts. However, the most important aspect of what Mr. Villarreal and his class develop is the process and specifications for quality control. To ensure that a fully functional mail cart is produced to customer specifications, Mr. Villarreal must instruct his students in the purpose of the cart, the layout of the facility it will be used in, as well as the consequences of an improperly manufactured cart (e.g.—all four wheels not in constant contact with the surface, etc.). This is a second ideation of this project as previously the ACC has partnered with LKCS to produce over 100 carts in the past. The ACC is very thankful for the faith of our community partner to provide this opportunity for the students.



Left: LP students (L to R) Niles Tremper-LP, Dylan Salzs-LP, Austin Grieve-LP, pose next to a finished cart they assembled for their manufacturing project with LKCS. Additional pictures display the materials and instructional process involved in assembling the carts.

Students of The Month

Makenzie Hamilton
(LPHS)

MacKenzie Hartwig
(Henry-Senachwine)



Pictured Left (L to R): Kirk Ross (First State Bank), Robbyn Partain (Instructor) Makenzie Hamilton (LPHS), and Jan Phalen (First State Bank)

Pictured right (L to R): Lynne Pohar-RN (Instructor), Kirk Ross (First State Bank), MacKenzie Hartwig (Henry-Senachwine) and Jan Phalen (First State Bank)

Makenzie Hamilton of LPHS is a student in both the ACC Fire Science program as well as the ACC Health Occupations program. Makenzie has made the decision to carry forth into her post-secondary life by pursuing a career in the Health Occupations-EMS arena. She is an exceptional student academically, as well as complimenting that excellence in academia with a firm commitment to public service (she has been a cadet on the Utica Fire department for the past three years).

MacKenzie Hartwig, of Henry-Senachwine High School, is also a Health Occupations student in the ACC CNA program. MacKenzie has decided to take her excellent academic standing in the ACC program and continue on to post-secondary education in pursuit of further training in the Health Occupations field (Nursing and beyond). MacKenzie enjoys working with her instructor, as well as assisting her fellow students in mastering their 21 required skills.

The ACC is extremely grateful for students of both MacKenzie, and Makenzie's caliber. Their willingness to pursue an occupation that is in great demand, and deeply needed within the Illinois Valley region is a source of comfort for the years going forward. Annually the Health Occupations and Fire Science programs of the ACC send forth close to 100 students that carry with them skills and acumen that benefit the Illinois Valley. Thank you, Makenzie, and MacKenzie for sharing your skills, and for your excellent performance at the ACC.

Culinary Caters



Above: ACC Culinary Students, and instructor Mrs. Lori Turczyn, catered a book signing event by first time author Reese Carney. Reese is the daughter of Mrs. Emily Carney (Guidance Counselor at LPHS) and Mr. Patrick Carney (Social Studies Teacher at LPHS). Reese wrote her book to chronicle her surgery and subsequent recovery, as well as inspire others to overcome obstacles that they may face in life.



Pictured left Back Row: Instructors Mr. Scott Lauer, Mrs. Tiara Bedenko-Hill, Mrs. Lori Turczyn, Mr. Greg Sarver (LPHS Board President), Front Row: Jasmine Arce, Lexi Yepsen, and Maya Escatel (QuickBooks Students). Beatriz Arce, Miya Washkowiak, Evan Hoff, and Albert Kara Culinary Arts Students. The QuickBooks students showcased their learning materials, certifications earned, and application of their learning to the LPHS Board. The Culinary Arts students from the ACC program catered the board meeting (The Board was being honored for Board Member Recognition Day). The Culinary students, led by Mrs. Turczyn, treated the meeting attendees to cream puffs, and crème horns which they made as part of their baking unit of instruction.

Automotive Gets PHYSICSal



Pictured left Henry-Senachwine student Brendan Lester and La Moille student Rik Boege(right) got a lesson in physics while performing a routine oil change on a customer's car. In working on a car, with a known design flaw that affects its oil plug, the students were unable to remove the plug without damaging the oil pan. So, with the help of their instructor (Mr. Mike Fisher) the students improvised a suction device that created backflow and siphoned the oil from the pan (via the dip stick tube). Knowing that the dipstick provided access to the pan, the students employed plan B via the use of a small hose, a five gallon bucket, and the use of a shop vac to create the initial draw of the oil. Their ingenuity saved the customer a costly repair bill and provided clean oil for the next 5000 miles 😊.

Around The ACC



Above: Early Childhood Education is in full swing with over 20 preschoolers gracing its program. The ACC students (under the excellent leadership of Mrs. Lori Johnson) are putting their lesson planning skills to the test in the areas of sensory learning (auditory, kinesthetic, tactile, visual), as well as in the areas of language, mathematics, and natural/scientific exploration. Above, preschool students participate in lessons exploring artistic expression (left), and in letter recognition (right). Additionally, the young ones were participating in Super-Hero Day (pink capes and masks). They are instructed by LP students Katelyn Lucas (Front), and Kayla Ortman (Back)



Early Childhood Education Students Alise O'Brien -LP (left) and Geno Harmon-LP lead their pre-school charges in conducting a scientific experiment on gases. Students inflated a balloon and caused bubbling reactions using baking soda and vinegar (as well as food coloring).

A Perfect Storm for Education



What happens when a philanthropic and civic minded individual works with a skilled and committed instructor who believes in the ability of his students?

Excitement for Learning

What you see pictured above is the end result of a student approaching his instructor and asking to do a project that involved using his developing skills to address a need he had in his life outside of school. His instructor (a skilled and caring teacher) saw an opportunity to encourage a student and foster his enthusiasm for the class. This ideal learning situation was further fostered because an individual the student has never met believed in the need for students to have exposure to state of the art equipment.

Using both lathes and mills, students Landon Schonk (LP-Hat) and Bryce Smith (Hall) fashioned custom wheel spacers for Bryce's truck. The spacers will provide for a wider wheel stance on the truck and improve the aesthetics when driven. As Bryce explained, the code needed to generate the manufacturing of these spacers on the mill (pictured right) was hundreds of lines long. While he did not have to input every line of code, he did have to put his mathematical (Geometry/Algebra II) knowledge to use in verifying that the equations and dimensions for generating the proper spacing and hole placement were correct. The result of combining his core curricular aptitudes in math, with his skill sets from the Machine Technology class, allowed him to produce this project that encapsulates the learning of the class, as well as the enthusiasm of its real-world application.

This learning experience is provided through Instructor Mr. Matt Lee, and the generosity of Mr. Tom Kowalski—Mill purchases.

Medical Terminology



Medical Terminology is a 3 Credit Hour dual credit class that is meant to serve as a compliment to the CNA and EMS classes at the ACC. Students in this class learn about the systems of the body and the accompanying medical terminology used in discussing them. This hard-working group of students immerse themselves in the Fall semester as they pursue further learning and employment in the health occupations career path. Students may take Medical Terminology independently or concurrently with the CNA program.

Pictured above Left are First Block Medical Terminology students (Jakelyn Carreon, Emily Eitutis-Not Pictured, Abbey Gardner, Hannah Hubinsky, Madison Stanbury, Melanie Stisser) and their instructor Mrs. Katherine Lambert. Pictured above Right are Second Block Medical Terminology students (Kailey Archer, Megan Crites, Teresa Pini-Not Pictured, and Maddison VanZuiden-All of LPHS) and their instructor Mrs. Katherine Lambert.

A Tip from Early Childhood

The benefits of reading to young children (from infancy onward) are astronomical. At every opportunity the aspect of having parents, relatives, friends, and other caring people reading to your young one has shown benefits in language development, establishing connections, providing emotional security, and establishing the base that needs to be laid down for a child to become proficient in reading. It is stated that if a child is not proficient in reading by the 3rd grade, they are at a much higher risk of not graduating from High School. So read to your child early, read to them often, and as research has shown, read to them from quality material. It will all make a huge difference, and provides for strong bonds.

Fire Science Guest



Pictured above, Mr. Joseph Henning of Western Illinois University (Fire Science Professor) speaks with the students in Mrs. Robbyn Partain's ACC Fire Science class. Mr. Henning not only spoke of the program the WIU offers in Fire Science, but also spoke of diverse career paths that are available via the study of Fire Science. Upon listening to the academic opportunities that are available, students were then informed of upcoming exploration activities that they could participate in at WIU. The ACC is in the process of scheduling an excursion for the Fire Science students to experience what WIU has to offer.

If further information is wanted regarding the WIU course of study for Fire Science, Professor Henning can be contacted at JE-Henning@wiu.edu, or one can navigate to the WIU website at [WIU Fire Science](http://wiu.edu/fire-science).

October Trivia Master



October Trivia Winner Lauren Yates (Counselor at Ottawa H.S) displays her prizes for being the first to correctly answer the question of:
According to the BLS, what is the *median wage* for airline pilots, copilots and flight engineers in the U.S., as of May 2022?

The correct answer was: \$211,790

November Trivia Question: Prize to first person to correctly send answer to dmentgen@lphs.net.

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), a licensed Illinois CNA must meet at least one of how many different requirements to be put on the licensing registry?