



LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

It's your world.

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Check out the 50th Anniversary Website
COMING FEBRUARY 1, 2015!

Alumni AND Friends

WINTER 2014
www.lakeareatech.edu



Lake Area Tech Celebrates 50 Years in 2015

Throughout 2015, we'll host "50 Events for 50 Years." These events include both external and internal events involving our students, the public, alumni, and friends of LATI.

It's an exciting time for everyone at Lake Area Tech as we begin our year-long "Fab @ 50" anniversary celebration! The festivities kick off in January and will run the entire year. As South Dakota's first technical institute established in 1965, we're planning many fun and exciting ways to celebrate our golden anniversary with students, alumni, current and former staff, and friends of Lake Area Tech.

One of the very first items on our "Fab @ 50" agenda in January is to launch the Lake Area Tech 50th anniversary website. The website will keep LATI friends and alumni informed of upcoming anniversary events, highlight student and staff memories, and showcase LATI's historical timeline. To find the website, just visit www.lakeareatech.edu where there

will be a 50th anniversary website link. We are also planning to connect with friends and family through social media channels. Stay tuned for more information on that.

Throughout 2015, we'll host "50 Events for 50 Years." These events include both external and internal events involving our students, the public, alumni, and friends of LATI. Please see page 5 for a complete list of the events planned to commemorate our 50th anniversary.

Another fun activity planned during the year is the collecting of memories and photos from current and past students and staff. We'd love to hear about your favorite instructors, meeting your spouse here; events that



Save the
LATI Alumni
Association money
and the planet;

to receive the LATI friends
and family newsletter
electronically send your
information to:

Morgan.Fitts@lakeareatech.edu

Lake Area Tech Celebrates 50 Years in 2015

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happened, or anything that brings back fond memories of the past 50 years at Lake Area Tech. Sharing memories is as easy as visiting the memories page on the new "Fab @ 50" website. Please click on the memories page and follow the instructions.

Last but not least, Lake Area Tech's Automotive Technology and Custom Paint & Fabrication program students and instructors have completely restored a 1965 Chevy Bel Air. The newly restored car will be raffled off as one of the culminating events of the celebratory year. Online ticket sales will be available through the new "Fab @ 50" website beginning in January and lasting through September 2015. The drawing will be held in September at the Vintiques Car Show in Watertown. All proceeds from the raffle will benefit Lake Area Tech student scholarships.

We look forward to connecting with new friends and future students and reconnecting with alumni and past employees of Lake Area Tech as we celebrate being "Fab @ 50!" Please visit the new "Fab @ 50" website in January for the latest anniversary information.



Community U Wraps Up

Community U, a series of fun and informative classes featuring a variety of topics, wrapped up its third semester in November. More than 125 community members enrolled for 16 classes that ranged in topics from Back Health to 3D Printing to Home Decorating. Volunteers, who are experts in that topic, lead the classes. In many cases, attendees come away with a project or with resourceful information relative to the topic. Community U is a project of Watertown H2O-20, Lake Area Technical Institute, and the community of Watertown.

Lake Area Tech Named a 2015 Military Friendly School

For the fifth consecutive year, Lake Area Technical Institute has been named to the coveted Military Friendly® Schools list. The 2015 Military Friendly® Schools list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and technical schools that are doing the most to embrace military students, and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation.



According to Lake Area Tech VA Certifying Official Julie Forman, "It is an honor to be included on the Military Friendly Schools list for 2015. We value the commitment our service members have made to our country and we, in turn, are dedicated to helping them achieve educational success at Lake Area Tech as they transition to civilian life. It is a huge transition for our military students and their families and we are here to make it easier."

In addition to its current array of student veteran services, Lake Area Tech has implemented new marketing and recruitment strategies. These include enhancing the veterans' services and benefits website information, maintaining an LATI Boots to Books Facebook page, and maintaining a veteran support coordinator. Additional recruiting strategies and marketing campaigns are planned for the coming year.

BizJet Engine Cutaway Donated to Aviation



It was an exciting day for LATI's Aviation Maintenance Technology staff and students when BizJet representatives hand-delivered an exclusive jet engine cutaway mockup. Oklahoma-based BizJet is a world-wide leader in jet engine overhaul and service. The idea stemmed from a visit to the program's Corporate Aviation Day last year during which Criss Berry, BizJet Vice-President of Engine Services, developed the idea of having their company build an engine mockup and accompanying handbook for the program.

The cutaway provides aviation students a scaled down, detailed "look" inside a jet engine and offers a tangible, hands-on training aid relative to the jet engine sector.

In addition to Criss Berry, LATI Aviation students and their instructor Tony Weigman and supervisor Greg Klein welcomed Caleb Benner, BizJet Director of Mobility and Customer Service; Jose Correa, BizJet Build-Line Production Supervisor; and John Bucher, Aviation Consultant.

Lake Area Tech Awarded a \$2.5 Million Job-Driven Training Grant

At Lake Area Tech, grant funds will enhance training initiatives in the Electronic Systems Technology, Energy Operations, High Performance Engine Machining, Precision Machining, Robotics, and Welding programs.

Lake Area Technical Institute is the recipient of a \$2.5 million job-driven training grant according to an announcement in September by United States Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez, and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Across the nation, 270 community colleges will share \$450 million in grant monies as part of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCT) grant program.

The grant will provide community colleges and other institutions funds to partner with employers to expand and improve their education and career training programs. This will help job seekers obtain the skills they need for high-demand careers in industries like information technology, health care, energy, and advanced manufacturing.

At Lake Area Tech, grant funds will enhance training initiatives in the Electronic Systems Technology, Energy Operations, High Performance Engine Machining, Precision Machining, Robotics, and Welding programs.

"This grant will help us address the regional workforce needs in Advanced Manufacturing by enabling us to expand our pipeline at the entry level," Lake Area Technical Institute President Mike Cartney said. "We are excited to be working, not only with businesses in Codington County, but in Brookings and Brown counties as well on this endeavor."



President Cartney Attends White House College Opportunity Summit



We are certainly privileged to be part of this summit and honored to be recognized for all of the great work by our staff, students and community of Lake Area Tech.

Lake Area Technical Institute President Mike Cartney, joined U.S. President Barack Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Biden at the White House College Opportunity Summit on December 4. The Summit brought together colleges and universities, business leaders, nonprofits and others committed to supporting more college opportunities for students across the country.

The summit focused on building sustainable collaborations in communities with strong K-12 and higher education partnerships to encourage college attendance, and improving persistence and increasing college completion, especially for first generation, low-income and under-represented students.

Lake Area Tech has been a top ten national finalist for the Aspen Community College Excellence Award three consecutive times, and has one of the highest graduation and placement rates in the nation. LATI President Cartney commented, "We are certainly privileged to be part of this summit and honored to be recognized for all of the great work by our staff, students and community of Lake Area Tech."



Drive With LATI Pride!

GET YOUR LAKE AREA TECH LICENSE PLATE DECAL.

When your license plate renewal occurs, request an organizational license plate from your county Treasurer's Office. Purchase a \$30 set of LATI decals by calling the Alumni Association at 605-882-5284 ext. 292, stop at the Alumni Office or conveniently order online at <https://www.lakeareatech.edu/alumni/licenseplatedecal/order.asp>. When we mail the decals to you, put them on your license plates and Drive With Pride!

LATI happenings



TOP: Following a very bright and creative Pink Day Fashion Runway Show in support of breast cancer awareness, the LATI Automotive Technology program captured the Pink Day Best of Show honors. Other program winners included Law Enforcement and Cosmetology.

1. Lake Area Tech was the host site for the dental mobile for a week in October. The Dakota Smiles Program provides dental care to children ages 0-21, who do not have a dental home. Our Dental Assisting students gained valuable experience as they helped patients and the dental team inside the mobile.

2. Congrats to Entrepreneurship student Shania Jensen, who competed in the Student Idea Competition at the Innovation Expo 2014 in Sioux Falls. Shania earned a fourth place finish after presenting her idea to invent a machine to sort and roll restaurant silverware.

3. Our Auto, Custom Paint & Fab, High Performance Engine Machining, and Occupational Therapy Assistant students raised \$866 for Make-A-Wish SD during the Car Care Event in October! Students performed a 40-point inspection, car wash, and car fitting for 50 cars during the event. Great job!

4. More than 60 regional businesses took part in the Business Expo held here in October. Our students connected with representatives from the participating businesses and discovered what internships or jobs were available.

5. The Medical Assisting Students celebrated National Medical Assisting Day by offering free blood pressure readings in the Student Center.

6. Sixth graders from each of Watertown's elementary schools toured several stations at the LATI demonstration farm during the annual 6th Graders Farm Tour Day. They learned more about our agriculture industry, saw the crops we grew, and heard about best practices in agriculture.

7. Part of the annual LATI Agriculture Plot Tour included a drone demonstration. Thanks to Haug Implement employees from Willmar, MN, who demonstrated the Roboflight drones.



Fifty Events for 50 Years**

In celebration of LATI's 50th anniversary, we will host 50 events throughout 2015. We invite all friends and alumni to attend our public events in commemoration of our anniversary.

JANUARY 2015

1. Kick-Off Event
2. Senior Tech Day
3. Chamber After Five*

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015

4. CAB Welcome to the Neighborhood

FEBRUARY 2015

5. Student For a Day
6. Business Camp
7. Scholarship Recognition Event
8. Farm Show Booth*
9. Watertown Home Show Booth*
10. I Hate Winter Party – Alumni

MARCH 2015

11. Equity Day
12. Diversity Event
13. Men in Health Camp
14. Women in Science Camp

APRIL 2015

15. Auto Car Show*
16. Junior Tech Day
17. Governor's Luncheon*
18. All-Campus Read*
19. Robot Games
20. SkillsUSA State Competition at LATI
21. Past LATI Retirees Meeting with the President

APRIL – OCTOBER 2015

22. Five Sculptures Created *

MAY 2015

23. Graduation
24. Aspen & Don Lindahl Scholarship Award

JUNE 2015

25. Solar Car Race
26. Boulder Golf Tournament*

JULY 2015

27. Open House/Alumni Reunion*
28. 4th of July Parade*
29. ADATE State Conference at LATI
30. Signature Event*

AUGUST 2015

31. Kick Off Day

SEPTEMBER 2015

32. 5K Fun Run/Walk*
33. Feuerstein Series*
34. 9/11 Commemorative Event
35. 65 Chevy Bel Air Raffle Drawing*

OCTOBER 2015

36. Scrubs Camp
37. Ag Program Public Plot Tour*
38. Auto Car Care Event*
39. Career Search Expo
40. Manufacturing Camp
41. 3M Camps

NOVEMBER 2015

42. Senior Tech Day
43. LATI Holiday Festival of Trees*
44. Energy Camp
45. Holiday Festival of Lights Parade*
46. LATI Annual Fashion Show
47. Student Voice Food Drive

DECEMBER 2015

48. Celebration of Agriculture*
49. Wrap Up Event
50. 50,000 Hours of Community Service

* denotes public events

** subject to change

Win Me!

1965 Chevrolet BelAir

Celebrating 50 Years.



-TICKETS-

\$20 each or 6 for \$100.

PURCHASE ONLINE AT
50.lakeareatech.edu

**ONLINE TICKETS AVAILABLE
AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015.**

This 1965 Chevrolet BelAir 2 Door Sedan Resto-Mod frame-off restoration project features bright, Victory Red, high gloss paint with upgrades such as; power disc brakes, power steering, air conditioning, new instrument cluster, 18" Coys Wheels, and a 350 V8, fuel-injected small block engine with an overdrive transmission.

The transformation was completed by LATI Custom Paint and Fabrication and Automotive Technology students and instructors.

Celebrating 50 years of
"CHANGING LIVES &
LAUNCHING CAREERS"
1965-2015

fabulous
@50
LAKE AREA TECH
1965-2015

All in the Family



Kylie Eckman (right) is following in her father Jed's footsteps as a student at Lake Area Tech.

Jed Eckman doesn't regret changing careers in the early '90s. As a young family man working in youth ministry, he enrolled in Lake Area Tech's new 1+1 Nursing program to pursue a new profession. "It was a good move for me and my family. I loved the one-on-one contact with my instructors and the small school atmosphere," he said. Today he's a registered nurse at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, where he's been for 22 years.

His affinity towards LATI transferred to his children: Kylie, a first-year Physical Therapist Assistant student; Colton, a second-year Auto student (who also has a Welding diploma); and Dylan, a 2010 graduate of the Ag Business program. "I love my classes," Kylie said. "There was no question for me about coming to Lake Area Tech."

Law Enforcement Program Off to a Great Start

It's not hard to miss students in the new Law Enforcement program as they walk across campus. The program issues a uniform to each student, which reflects LATI's colors and bears the program logo.

"Since the early days of policing in America in the mid-1800s, law enforcement officials have worn uniforms to deter would be criminals and to make the official readily identifiable to members of the community they serve," Law Enforcement Department Supervisor Jo Vitek said. "Our attire is very similar to the uniforms worn by law enforcement agencies throughout the United States."

As the first semester ends, Vitek said they are on target with the curriculum and student development. In addition to coursework, an emphasis on the character and competency of the students is paramount. "When you stop and think about it, there is no other profession in which a person is empowered and has the authority to take away someone's liberty or freedom of movement," Vitek said. "Nor is there any other profession in which a person has the authority and power to take another's life, if justified. Given the responsibility of the law enforcement profession, it goes without saying that those who enter it must be held to higher ethical standards. We must have integrity. As law enforcement professionals we are accountable for our actions and ultimately to our communities who have entrusted us with power and authority over them. Because of these reasons, 'doing the right thing, for the right reason, even when no one is watching' is imperative and stressed throughout our entire curriculum."

Helping to instill those values and to provide insight into their respective fields, Vitek invited guest speakers into the classroom this semester including agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), a Watertown Police Department officer, and several civilian guest speakers during the Human Diversity class.

Looking forward to next semester, Vitek said the students' curriculum includes Criminal Procedures. "I am extremely excited because the SD Sheriff's Association will be helping us deliver a course of Civil Process," she said. "This is an area unique to sheriff's offices throughout the US. We are fortunate to have such a great working relationship with the South Dakota Sheriff's Association. It should be a great semester!"

RIGHT: Law Enforcement student participation in the Veterans' Appreciation Event and the Law Enforcement Open House, both held this semester.



LATI Law Enforcement Core Values Logo

Law Enforcement students wear a uniform exhibiting the LE logo. Each point on the badge represents a core value. Values represented are: Human Life, Principles in Constitution, Quality of Life, Being Values, Personal Character, Individual Leadership & Peaceful & Tranquil Environment, and To Live & Prosper.



Endowing a Dream

"Changing Lives and Launching Careers" is a phrase used to describe the value of an education at Lake Area Tech. Helping someone change their life and launch their career in a field of their choice is the greatest benefit that can be made. At some point in each of our lives, making a difference for someone else starts to gain our attention and the idea of creating something that can outlast ourselves, gains focus.

Creating an endowed account can do just that. The initial contribution establishing the account remains intact and the annual interest earned on the account is used to provide support following the donor's intent.

Many individuals, organizations and businesses have established endowed accounts at Lake Area Tech to provide a scholarship for students, to support a program of study or assist the Institute with needed Scholarships can make the difference whether a student will attend or not attend higher education. Scholarships also serve as confirmation of hard work and dedication paying off. Some of the earliest endowed scholarship accounts at the Foundation have now provided 20 students with scholarship awards. And they will provide another 20 scholarships in the next 20 years.

Program enhancements ensure programs remain current and instep and campus improvements strengthen the Institute and solidify its future.

Endowed accounts can be started with a onetime gift or with several gifts made over a period of time. A professional firm is responsible for investing endowed funds and under the watchful eye of the Foundation Finance committee, a conservative investment strategy is taken to protect all endowed funds.

Endowed accounts can be named by the donor to reflect their family name, a name of a loved one or business or corporation.

If you would like to receive some general information regarding establishing an endowed account, please email Tom.Paulson@lakeareatech.edu.



Teresa (left) and Danika Wendling

Life-Long Dream Coming True at LATI

Teresa Wendling was burned in a fire as a young girl and that tragic experience triggered an interest in healthcare. "I was inspired by the nurse that cared for me and by my uncle who was a firefighter," she said. "Ever since then, I wanted to be a nurse or work in a health-related field."

That inspiration was put on hold for many years, though. As a young mother, Teresa put her family's needs before her own but when her sixth child entered first grade, she knew the time had come to make her life-long dream come true.

Teresa knew Lake Area Tech had an excellent reputation and since it was so close to her home in Lake Norden, she didn't think twice about applying for admission. Soon after, she was accepted and, in the fall of 2013, she began taking nursing pre-requisite classes. Today, she's well into her first year of LATI's Practical Nursing program and is thrilled her dream is coming true.

Being a mom, a student, and a part-time employee is a lot to juggle. Teresa is thankful that some of the pressure she's under was relieved by Lake Area Tech Foundation scholarships.

"I'm so thankful that I have a little more freedom because of the scholarships," she said. "I don't have to work as much and I have more time to concentrate on my studies."

Another perk for Teresa is being in school with her daughter, Danika, who is a first-year Financial Services student. Danika is also a Lake Area Tech Foundation scholarship recipient. "I'm working hard on my studies and I also have an internship at Dacotah Bank, so I was really happy to receive a scholarship," she said.

Even though Teresa and Danika are in different programs, they do see each other on campus occasionally and even have a class together. And, while it's second nature for moms to help their children, Teresa is grateful Danika shares her talent in algebra. "She's a great tutor!" Teresa said.

Lake Area Tech Holiday Food Drive Benefits PACH Program



Pictured are LATI staff members and Aviation Maintenance students who delivered food items to the PACH program following the record-breaking food drive. From left to right: LATI Admissions Representative Chris Schanzenbach; LATI Aviation Maintenance Instructor Tony Wiegman; LATI Diversity/Student Activities Coordinator Holli Owens; and LATI Aviation Maintenance students Nathan Yost, John Chisham, Adrian Stack, and Jared Krause.

Students and staff at Lake Area Technical Institute wrapped up its annual holiday food drive contest last week by exceeding a goal of collecting 2,235 pounds of non-perishable food items for the Watertown PACH Program. Following a two-week long food drive, a grand total of 2,310 pounds of food was collected, beating last year's record by 75 pounds!

The Cosmetology program donated the most food items by weight with a total of 501 pounds and the Business Associate program contributed the most individual food items with a total of 825 items. For their efforts, those programs celebrated with a pizza or sub party.

Areas OF Study

AGRICULTURE

Agri-Aviation Option
Agri-Business Option
Agri-Production Option
Commodity Merchandising Option*
Dairy Option*
Environmental Option*
Equine Management Option*
Large Animal Technician Option*
Precision Technology Option
Ranch Management Option*

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY*

Flight Training Option*

BUILDING TRADES TECHNOLOGY

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Fashion/Retail Merchandising Option*
Hospitality and Tourism Option*
Human Resource Associate Option*
Marketing & Management Option
Photography/Media Option*

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

CISCO Specialist Option*
Network Specialist Option
Programming Specialist Option
Security Specialist Option
Visual Communications Specialist Option

COSMETOLOGY*

CUSTOM PAINT & FABRICATION

Auto Body Technician Option
Diploma Option

DENTAL ASSISTING*

DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

CAT ThinkBIG*
CNH Forging the Future*
Tractor Option
Truck Option

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY OPERATIONS*

ENERGY TECHNOLOGY*

ENTREPRENEURSHIP*

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY*

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Agri-Financial Services Option
Business Accounting Option
Consumer Financial Services Option

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR*

HIGH PERFORMANCE ENGINE MACHINING*

HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICIAN

Child Development Option
Developmental Disabilities Option
Mental Health/Activity Technician Option
Youth Offender Option

LAW ENFORCEMENT

MED/FIRE RESCUE

Emergency Medical Specialist Option
Paramedic Diploma

MEDICAL ASSISTING

MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

NURSING

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT*

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT*

PRECISION MACHINING*

ROBOTICS

WELDING TECHNOLOGY

* Indicates these programs are unique to Lake Area Tech in SD.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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P.O. Box 730
Watertown, SD 57201-0730

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WINTER 2014
www.lakeareatech.edu

E-Degrees

(Online Hybrid Programs)

AGRICULTURE

Agri-Business Option
Commodity Merchandising Option
Ranch Management Option

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

Marketing & Management Option

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

DENTAL ASSISTING

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

FINANCIAL SERVICES

MED/FIRE RESCUE

Emergency Medical Technician Certification

MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

NURSING

PRECISION MACHINING

ROBOTICS

See www.lakeareatech.edu for detailed program by program E-Degree information.



LAKE AREA TECH
IS ON FACEBOOK

"Like" the Lake Area Technical Institute Alumni Association page to receive updates from the Alumni Association and Foundation Office.