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**LAKE AREA
 TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

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**IT'S OFFICIAL!
 WE ARE LAKE AREA
 TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

In the midst of everyone's new normal, we're also getting used to our new name here at Lake Area Technical College! Goodbye LATI! Hello LATC!

All four of South Dakota's technical institutes became colleges on July 1, 2020, with the passage of HB 1083, which was signed into law during the 2020 Legislative Session.

"The name change from institute to college is important for a number of reasons," Lake Area Tech President Mike Cartney said during the transition. "For one, it reinforces to our graduates that they do, in fact, have a college degree and it's also important that the employers hiring our graduates know that, too." He also stated, "We've been working on the name change for a number of years but it does not change our mission. We still remain workforce-focused and offer Associate of Applied Science degrees."

Because the name change had been in the works for years, it allowed Lake Area Tech to slowly make the transition from 'institute' to 'college' in branding efforts over time. The school began using "Lake Area Tech" rather than "Lake Area Technical Institute" on most all promotional

materials so that when the name changed, the transition would be smooth.

To coincide with the name change, Lake Area Tech revamped its logo and website.

The new logo's unveiling took place concurrently on July 1 with the official name change and was well-received by students, staff, and the community. The new logo replaced the previous version, which had been in use for more than 11 years. The new logo and branding efforts have been slowly and deliberately incorporated into Lake Area Tech's promotional materials as they are depleted.

Planning for the new website began well in advance of the name change and made its debut in September 2020. A website committee, comprised of faculty and staff from a cross-section of programs and departments, met regularly to organize and prioritize website features with the developers. The completely revamped website features user-friendly navigation, interactive virtual tours, and a sleek collegiate look.

LAKEAREATECH.EDU



To receive the Lake Area Tech friends and family newsletter electronically send your information to:

MORGAN.JOHNSON@LAKEAREATECH.EDU



LAKEAREATECH.EDU



GOVERNOR'S LUNCHEON

“With the help of our event underwriter, the Watertown Community Foundation and our many sponsors, nearly \$25,000 was raised for student scholarships.”

The 18th Annual Governor’s Luncheon was held at Lake Area Tech on September 14, 2020. Governor Kristi Noem shared with attendees the importance of technical education and the important role Lake Area Tech has in helping provide much needed skilled workforce for South Dakota. With the help of our event underwriter, the Watertown Community Foundation and our many sponsors, nearly \$25,000 was raised for student scholarships. Our students are so appreciative of the scholarships they receive while attending school. Scholarships make a difference in the lives of hundreds of students each and every year. Thank you Governor Noem, for your support of technical education and Lake Area Tech.

LAKE AREA TECH WELDING PROGRAM WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STEM EDUCATION

“The Lake Area Tech Welding Technology program has provided a regional welding workforce since 1980. Welding students receive training in welding and fabrication applications and may earn a nine-month diploma or a two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree.”

The Lake Area Tech Welding Technology program was named a winner of the Excellence and Equity in Community College STEM Award by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program and the Siemens Foundation.

Eight winning programs across the country received this award for not only providing outstanding preparation for high-demand jobs in advanced manufacturing, energy, healthcare, or information technology, but also for their intentional outreach and support of diverse populations that typically are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers.

Winning colleges will receive \$50,000. Half will be allocated for program development, and half will be allocated as scholarships for outstanding students, known as Siemens Technical Scholars.

“Our welding program is not just another welding program,” said Mike Cartney, President of Lake Area Technical College. “It has an extensive history of student success with diverse populations in the STEM field. The Welding instructors “own” their program, care deeply about every student no matter their background, are focused on individual success, are highly creative in getting every student to the finish line, and cherish seeing every student graduate and start their careers.”

The Lake Area Tech Welding Technology program has provided a regional welding workforce since 1980. Welding students receive training in welding and fabrication applications and may earn a nine-month diploma or a two-year Associate of Applied



Science (AAS) degree. Students may opt for advanced training in advanced welding, precision machining, or business. Students may also receive training through non-traditional routes via apprenticeships, Learn Where You Earn, and Corporate Education. Welding graduates are employed as welding technicians and supervisors, fabricators, pipe fitters, inspectors, and entrepreneurs. The retention rate the welding students is 83%. The most recent placement data reports the average wage for welding technicians six months after graduation is \$21.46 per hour.

As part of the award, Lake Area Technical College in partnership with the Aspen Institute, will select students to be recognized as Siemens Technical Scholars and receive a scholarship of \$3,500 to \$10,000 to continue their education or pay student loan debt. These diverse scholars will share their stories with their peers to demonstrate the economic opportunity available in STEM careers.



STORY BECOMES CATALYST FOR PAY IT FORWARD MOVEMENT

Sometimes, random acts of kindness can move mountains. Last month, a community member read about three Lake Area Tech healthcare students who work the front lines in long-term care facilities to help pay for their education. The article noted how they take care of the elderly, fill the void for the family who can't be with them, listen to life experiences, and comfort them in their loneliness during COVID-19. That person was compelled to ensure the three students know they are deeply appreciated for being indispensable frontline workers and made the decision to assist with their tuition.

Lake Area Tech Foundation Executive Director Tracy Hlavacek explained that as the anonymous donor stepped forward to help with the students' tuition, they extended a challenge to do the same to donor's friends, family and co-workers to show appreciation to all the Lake Area Tech healthcare students for the career they chose, especially during this difficult time. And so, a quiet movement began and the Lake Area Tech College Heroes and Halos Scholarship Challenge commenced.

"The \$10,000 challenge match has been cast by the anonymous donor, and we only have a few short days to help these students"

"If we can accomplish this match, that will give us \$20,000 for scholarships to change students' lives next semester."

Hlavacek said. "If we can accomplish this match, that will give us \$20,000 for scholarships to change students' lives next semester. Some very lucky students enrolled at Lake Area Tech in the nursing, medical assisting, community healthcare worker and medical lab technician programs will receive scholarships for the 2021 spring semester, thanks to this group of generous donors."

ANYONE WISHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HEROES AND HALOS SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE, SHOULD CONTACT THE FOUNDATION OFFICE AT 605.882.5284 EXT. 268.

THE FESTIVAL OF TREES



The 21st Annual Holiday Festival of Trees was held, Friday, November 20, 2020. This was the 5th year it was held on the LATC Campus. On behalf of the Lake Area Technical College Foundation, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the countless people involved in helping make our event a success. We were thrilled to welcome a limited group of our alumni and friends "home" to our Campus again this year. In addition, this year there was also a virtual attendance option as well. Together, we had nearly 275 individuals attend either in person or virtually. This opportunity allowed us to showcase the beauty and wonder of our facility while maximizing our fundraising efforts in support of our students through scholarships, program enhancements and campus improvements. At Lake Area Technical College, our faculty and staff work hard to keep our programs cutting-edge to meet the workforce needs. Our distinctive technical education provides students the tools for successful careers in high-demand fields, whether it be right here in Watertown or across the region! Thank you to all, who played a role in the 2020 Festival of Trees. We appreciate your partnership in our student's success.



LATC HAPPENINGS



1,2,3. Kick-Off Day for the 2020-21 school year looked a little different this year due to COVID-19, but we adjusted to make it a fun day for our new first-year students. Luckily the weather held out!

4 & 5. The Prairie Lakes Healthcare Center of Learning opened this fall to healthcare program students. A ribbon cutting was held to celebrate and our Governor Kristi Noem did the honors!

6. The annual Governor's Luncheon took place this fall to raise funds for student scholarships. We thank Governor Noem, the First Gentleman, and all in attendance for being part of this special event!



7. Congratulations to Lake Area Tech Robotics/Electronics Department Supervisor and Instructor Brooks Jacobsen for being named the American Technical Education

Association Outstanding Board Member! Brooks was honored during the ATEA Region 5 Virtual Conference hosted by LATC. Congratulations, Brooks!



8, 9, 10. Covid hasn't stopped Lake Area Tech students from having some well-deserved fun! Thanks to our Student Activities coordinator and her crew for making sure our students are never bored!

11. Our annual Business Expo was one of the few in-person events held on our campus this fall. The participating business and industries were spread out over the four levels of the Student Center and many great connections were established between our students and businesses. Thank you to all who attended!



12. We have postponed all of our camps and Tech Days to spring semester with the exception of Senior Tech Day, held in early November for high school seniors who were able to visit programs of their choice and see firsthand what it's like to be Lake Area Tech student!

Take a look at these awesome Lake Area Tech masks that were custom-ordered by a mom and sent to school with her daughter and friends! That's awesome!



LAKE AREA TECH PRESIDENT MIKE CARTNEY INDUCTED INTO SOUTH DAKOTA HALL OF FAME

Congratulations, Mike, on your well-deserved honor from your Lake Area Tech family!

In September, Lake Area Tech President Mike Cartney joined a prestigious class of outstanding South Dakotans as a new member of the South Dakota Hall of Fame. Mike joined 11 fellow South Dakotans in a virtual induction ceremony that coincided with a small watch party held in the Student Center. Governor Kristi Noem recognized each of the inductees during the virtual ceremony.



The South Dakota Hall of Fame website provides a detailed account of each inductees' lifetime contributions to South Dakota through professional achievements and personal accomplishments. Here is a portion of Mike's biography from the South Dakota Hall of Fame website:

Lake Area Tech President Mike Cartney grew up in Watertown. Following graduation, he enjoyed a rewarding military career, which began with an appointment to the Air Force Academy. In 2007, Mike retired and returned to South Dakota. His leadership proficiencies and passion for education provided the perfect segue for an impact of epic proportions at Lake Area Tech and for South Dakota. Mike has modestly led the college to a litany of success: Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence

recipient, ranked top in the nation in academic categories of merit, and nationally recognized and replicated for workforce development best practices. Mike would argue these accomplishments take a village, but he is the team visionary. He is a respected champion for higher education and for economic and workforce development and has creatively merged the three, creating an ethos of rock star initiatives for South Dakota. Most importantly, Mike has indemnified student success by fostering a culture of caring and rewriting the definition of success: College is a pathway, not a destination. He has developed successful programs to assist South Dakota's low-income and diverse student populations succeed by removing affordability and accessibility barriers. Mike has changed these conversations and people are listening.

TO READ MORE, VISIT THE SD HALL OF FAME PROGRAM DIRECTORY PAGE AT WWW.SDEXCELLENCE.ORG/CHAMPIONS_FOR_EXCELLENCE.

UPDATE YOUR INFO

Newly Married?
New Job?
New Business?
Moved?
Children?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

VISIT US AT WWW.LAKEAREATECH.EDU/CONNECTIONS/ALUMNI-ASSOCIATION/ALUMNI-LISTINGS/



LAKEAREATECH.EDU

LAKE AREA TECH SCHOLARSHIP CYCLE FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

JANUARY 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2021

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Lake Area Technical College Foundation awarded more than \$450,000 in scholarship support to nearly 430 students this past academic year. We encourage all incoming and returning students to apply for scholarship for the upcoming school year.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.LAKEAREATECH.EDU/CONNECTIONS/FOUNDATION/SCHOLARSHIPS/

ALUMNI NOMINATED SCHOLARSHIP

Do you know a current or incoming student that will be attending Lake Area Tech? Alumni can now nominate students for an Alumni Scholarship!

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO MAKE YOUR NOMINATION, PLEASE VISIT
WWW.LAKEAREATECH.WUFOO.COM/FORMS/Z406L5107BC04K/ OR CALL THE FOUNDATION OFFICE.



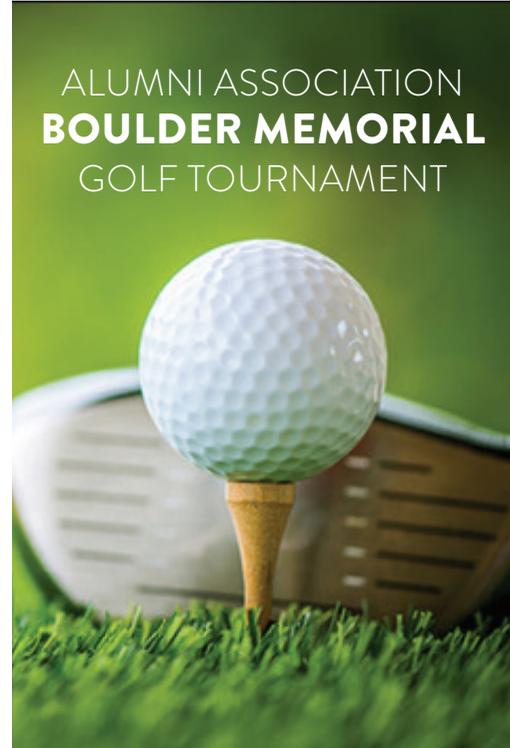
BUILD DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Both in-state students and out-of-state students are eligible for the scholarships.

The scholarships will support tuition, fees, books and other required program expenses in the eligible technical College programs.

Recipients of the scholarships will commit to living and working in the state, in their field of study, for three years following graduation.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND THE STUDENT WORKFORCE COMMITMENT, PLEASE SEE THE BUILD DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIP SITE AT
WWW.BUILDDAKOTASCHOLARSHIPS.COM



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOULDER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

GROSS / TIN WHISTLE SCORING

- 1st place - 105
Ted Horning & Brad Jacobson
- 2nd place - 100
Doug Olson & Jake Olson
- 3rd place - 98
Heath Rylance & Duane Broek
- 4th place - 97
McKay Parr & Clay Bak

NET / TIN WHISTLE SCORING

- 1st place - 120
Troy Zebroski & Ryan Hansen
- 2nd place - 119
Mark Stein & Stuart Stein
- 3rd place - 115
Ryan Walsh & Bruce Siegling
- 4th place - 115
Marty Maciel & Ryan Easthouse

Thank you to everyone that played and to all of our hole sponsors!

SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 19, 2021
PRAIRIE WINDS COUNTRY CLUB

DRIVE WITH LAKE AREA TECH PRIDE!

When your license plate renewal occurs, request a non-profit/organization license plate from your country Treasurers office. Purchase a \$30 set of LATC decals by calling the Alumni Association at 605.882.5284 Ext: 292, stop at the Alumni Office. When we mail the decals to you, put them on your license plates and Drive With Pride!



UPCOMING DATES



- JAN 8** 2021 SPRING SEMESTER STARTS
- FEB 3** SENIOR TECH DAY
- FEB 16** CAREER EXPO
- FEB 25** EQUITY DAY
- MAR 15-19** SPRING BREAK
- MAR 31** JUNIOR TECH DAY
- MAY 14** GRADUATION

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



LAKE AREA TECH DIESEL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM RECENTLY ATTAINED A FIVE-YEAR AED FOUNDATION ACCREDITATION.



The accreditation signifies the program has met rigorous construction equipment technical standards and is an indicator that the program offers superior hands-on diesel equipment education. Lake Area Tech is the only technical college in South Dakota to be AED Foundation-accredited.

Diesel Program Supervisor Corey Mushitz commented, "This accreditation is a significant measure of success for Lake Area Tech Diesel graduates and was a collaborative effort by our students, ASE-certified instructors, administrators, and our valuable industry partners."

In addition to the new accreditation, the Diesel Program has previously obtained Master Certification status by the National College of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). To learn more about the AED accreditation, please see the Construction Equipment Distribution (CED) magazine article at <http://www.cedmag.com/magazine-archives/2020-June>. The Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) is an international trade association based in Schaumburg, IL, representing over 800 construction equipment distributors, manufacturers and industry-service firms.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LAKE AREA TECH DIESEL PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT WWW.LAKEAREATECH.EDU.

At this joyous time of year, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to each member of the Lake Area Tech community. We are fortunate enough to be among some of the greatest friends, volunteers, donors and alumni. On behalf of the Lake Area Tech Foundation, we would like to wish each of you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year filled with peace and joy.

As we approach the end of an unpredictable 2020, many of us are still busy preparing for another holiday season. This is also the time of year when we pause to reflect on all that is truly important in our lives and look forward to the New Year with great expectations. We are reminded of the true meaning of the season as we plan (either in person or virtually) to spend time with loved ones, exchange gifts, and make plans to give back with our end-of-year donations to various charities and institutions.

Your gift to the Lake Area Tech Foundation is an investment in the future of an exceptional group of bright, intelligent and engaged individuals in pursuit of their dreams.

OUR GIFT

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

– Sir Winston Churchill –

DONATE TODAY!

*The LATC Foundation is a charitable 501(c)3 organization.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Your tax-deductible gift assures the highest quality education available for the entire region. As you indicate the amount of your gift on this card, please consider a five-year pledge.

I would like to make a contribution as follows:

My Gift is Enclosed \$_____

Send a check payable to:
LATC Foundation
1201 Arrow Ave NE
Watertown, SD 57201

Online Contribution \$_____

www.lakeareatech.edu/connections/foundation/make-a-gift/

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!



LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Alumni Association
1201 Arrow Ave. NE
P.O. Box 730
Watertown, SD 57201-0730

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WATERTOWN, SD
PERMIT #550



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

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

Contact us at 605-882-5284.

SET YOUR SIGHTS ON A GREAT CAREER.

AGRICULTURE

- Agri-Business Option
- Agri-Production Option
- Commodity Merchandising Option
- Dairy Option
- Livestock Production & Management Option
- Precision Technology Option
- General Science Dual Degree

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

- Automotive Gas or Light Duty Diesel Options

AVIATION

- Aviation Maintenance Technology
- Professional Fixed Wing Pilot

BUILDING TRADES TECHNOLOGY

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

- Entrepreneurship Option
- Human Resource Associate Option
- Marketing & Management Option
- Photography/Media Option

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- Graphic Design & Digital Communications Specialist Option
- Networking & Cyber Security Specialist Option
- Programming Specialist Option

COSMETOLOGY

COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE WORKER

CUSTOM PAINT & FABRICATION

DENTAL ASSISTING – CERTIFIED

DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

- Ag/Industrial Tractor or Truck Option
- CAT ThinkBIG
- CNH Forging the Future
- Diesel Technology John Deere Option

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY OPERATIONS

ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

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 – LPN

NURSING – RN

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

PRECISION MACHINING

ROBOTICS

WELDING TECHNOLOGY

E-DEGREES

(Online Hybrid Programs)

AGRICULTURE

- Agri-Business Option
- Commodity Merchandising
- Livestock Production & Management Option

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

- Entrepreneurship Option
- Human Resource Option
- Marketing & Management Option
- Photography/Media Option

COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE WORKER – CERTIFICATION

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

DENTAL ASSISTING – CERTIFIED

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (CERT. ONLY)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

MED/FIRE RESCUE

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Certification only and Paramedic Option

MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN

PRACTICAL NURSING

PRECISION MACHINING

ROBOTICS

LAKEAREATECH.EDU

