

FALL 2020 | ISSUE 10

WIRED

EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

INSIDE

UPDATE ON NURSING

EDISON STATE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEW FOUNDATION FUNDS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Update on Nursing



A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Edison State Community College's nursing program provides students with the quality education needed to enter the workforce as confident, prepared healthcare providers.

The two-year Associate of Applied Science Nursing degree program became available in 1980, and the first class graduated in 1982. Over the past 39 years, the program has added a track for licensed practical nurses to enter the program with advanced credit status (1986), conducted an evening sequence of classes (1992-1996), converted from quarters to semesters (1993-1994), increased the number of students admitted by starting two cohorts each year (2007-

2008), and subsequently increased the number of full-time faculty.

Over the years, students have entered the program for various reasons. Some students know they want to pursue a healthcare career straight out of high school, while others are looking for a career change. Regardless of their current circumstance, these students have a proven desire to give back by helping others.

As students begin their educational journey to becoming nurses through hands-on classroom learning, they must complete clinical experience. They begin doing so in their first semester with one of three long-term



AN UPDATE FROM THE NURSING DEPARTMENT AT
EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Nursing Program Advisory Committee

care facilities in the area. During the next two semesters, they attend clinicals in the hospital setting with an Edison State faculty or adjunct as part of a clinical group. Their final semester is spent in a 96-hour practicum with a nurse that is employed by each facility. This nurse works as a preceptor and is partnered with the student for patient care.

Through this combination of classroom work and clinicals, graduates receive the Associate of Applied Science degree. They are then eligible to take the National Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for licensure as a registered nurse.

Graduates of the nursing program have earned upwards of a 100-percent NCLEX pass rate each semester, proving its rigorous approach successful. The last graduating cohort in May 2020 earned a 100-percent pass rate, surpassing the national average pass rate for first-time test takers of 83.77-percent and the state pass rate average of 86.35-percent.

Not only have Edison State nursing graduates maintained a high pass rate on the NCLEX, but they've also proven successful in securing employment. For the last few semesters, graduates of the program have secured a 100-percent employment rate, an achievement that is no coincidence.

- Nyky Brewer, Director of Nursing, Ohio Living Dorothy Love
- Debbie Danielson, Student Clinical Placement Liaison, Health Partners
- Brittany Eshelman, Health Coordinator, Council on Rural Services
- Kimberlee Freeman, VP of Patient Care Services, Wayne Healthcare
- Deborah French, Director of Nursing, Miami County Health District
- Betsey Hertlein-Land, Staff Development Coordinator, Spring Meade
- B. Mark Hess, Medical Doctor
- Rebecca King, Ancillary Nurse, Riverside of Miami County
- Erica Lentz, Director of Nursing, Shelby County Health Department
- Cindy Liette, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Mercer Health
- Lori Ludwig, PN Program Director, UVCC School of Nursing
- Rhonda Matson, Director of Education, Reid Health in Richmond
- Linda Maurer, CNO, Wilson Health in Sidney
- Melody Overfield, Dir. of Risk Management, Brethren Retirement Community
- Susan Powell, Director of Nursing Excellence, Dayton's Childrens
- Kim Reinhard, Director of In-Patient Unit, Mercer Health
- Beth Rogers, Clinical Nurse Coordinator, Mercer Health
- Keri Scott, School Nurse, Piqua City Schools
- Sandra Swanson, Student Clinical Placement Ln, Kettering Health Network
- Jan Tillinger, Excellence Educator, Ohio Hospice

Their Experience



Liz Overbay
Class of '15

I have been asked by many people where I went to nursing school. When I respond with Edison State, their response is always the same, "I can tell you went to Edison State, they have an amazing program." This makes me proud to be a graduate of Edison State.



Janine Burns
Class of '20

Edison State's nursing program is without a doubt one of the hardest programs to complete. Thankfully, the challenging setting is also an intimate learning one. Going to Edison State pushed me further than I knew possible but my instructors and my peers were with me every step of the way to help me through.



Liana Michael
Class of '11

I've always been a creative thinker, but Edison State's nursing program expanded my mind and the way I think. Be confident in what you know but don't be afraid to look for other answers. As a floor nurse working med./surg./tele. this was important. Now as a nurse in a junior high and high school it is imperative as you don't always have a team to work with. I can honestly say if I had to do it all over again, I would choose Edison State in a heartbeat!



Jammie Kaeck is pinned in Dec. 2020



Brittany Seals is pinned in Dec. 2020

So, why such high numbers?
It comes down to several driving factors, including quality instruction, quality clinical partners, quality advisory committee, and, of course, quality students.

The nursing faculty, which have quickly become student favorites due to their down-to-earth personalities and vast subject area knowledge, consist of Olga Boberg,

Experience



Phillip DiPuccio
Class of '17

I started out on a med. surg. floor, but now I work in The Heart Institute at my hospital where we do step down cardiac procedures and I love my job. I also was nominated for a Daisy Award on my first year on the floor. Edison State gives you the tools to be an effective nurse and a caring one. I would recommend anyone who wants to be a nurse to go.



Kara Moore
Class of '17

I started off in a neuro-surgical ICU as a new grad. A short year and a half later I became a charge nurse. When COVID hit, I soon began traveling to my hospital's COVID ICU, and soon became a charge nurse up there as well. I believe my education at Edison State helped me prepare for all of my nursing challenges. If I had to do it all over again, I would choose Edison State-100%!



Kimberly Barton
Class of '96

I graduated from Edison State in 1996 attending their evening classes. I had the opportunity to meet so many wonderful faculty and students who I still work with at the hospitals. The faculty helped mold me into the nurse leader I am today by being real, empathetic, challenging, and compassionate. The trust I had with them to give me a great education also allowed them trust in me as a healthcare partner for their students.

Michelle Dancer, Kerry Dowling, Marci Langenkamp, Peggy Montgomery, Leah Shreves, Rick Roberts, and Julie Willenbrink. The faculty is led by Jill Bobb, who serves as Program Coordinator and Interim Dean of Professional and Technical Programs and supported by Mary Jo Baker, Academic Project Specialist.

Additionally, the program's advisory committee consists of some of the area's best healthcare professionals. With program administrators working so closely with the advisory committee,

students of the program have a leading edge with the type of knowledge they gain through classroom and hands-on clinical experiences, which teach the latest and most advanced information and procedures.

Edison State also has the only associate degree program that partners with Premier Health for the capstone Versant residency. This partnership allows students to apply to the capstone Versant program and then have the opportunity to hire into a Versant residency when they graduate,

providing them with the opportunity to explore various areas of nursing. Edison State also partners with Kettering Health Network by taking students to the new Troy Hospital and Grandview Hospital for clinical experience.

The Associate Degree Nursing program at Edison State is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing, the highest level of approval a program can receive. •

Throwback

From modest beginnings in 1973 in a rented facility, the College has grown in stages, enduring many changes. Take a quick trip down memory lane as you browse through these photographs from the past.



Beyond the Classroom

Going above and beyond the call of duty, Edison State instructors are often found supporting organizations and individuals in our area communities.

VOLUNTEERING TO HONOR VETERANS

Veterans interface with us daily, yet few have ever had their stories written, shared, and archived so that they will be available for future generations. For a decade now, Edison State students, under the guidance of instructor Dr. Vivian Blevins, have been recording these stories. Blevins publishes her stories via Aim Media Midwest and in several newspapers south of the Ohio River. In each of her Edison State classes, she gives students the option of interviewing and writing these patriotic men and women's accounts.

"When I teach Fundamentals of Communication, I encourage my students to enroll for internships at the Miami Valley Veterans Museum. Additionally, the stories I write and those of my students are archived at the Piqua Public Library and the Museum. Included in those collections are 43 videos my students and I produced for the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, thus, there is also a global access for some of the work."

Blevins, who sees value in honoring veterans, assists with the Miami County Fourth of July parade and various other museum programs in addition to writing much of the monthly Museum newsletter. Adjunct instructor Vince Miller has also spent several months as a volunteer for the Miami Valley Veterans Museum. The Museum has recently been dedicating resources to renovating the old Chrysler dealership buildings located on South 25A. Volunteers, including Miller, have been involved with numerous hands-on tasks including, building spaces, refurbishing floors, adding new lighting, painting, and more to prepare the Museum to move from their downtown Troy location to 25A earlier this fall.

Adjunct instructor Carl DeSantis, a veteran himself, has been heavily involved with the Museum for a number of years, serving in a multitude of roles, including on the Museum's Board of Directors.



Adjunct instructor Vince Miller and wife, Bonnie distribute candy at the Miami Valley Veterans Museum's Trunk Or Treat event.

A number of other Edison State staff and faculty have been involved with the museum, including staff member Lornette Dallas and faculty member Steve Sykes, who provided a recent monthly breakfast talk as veterans. Edison State's Maintenance Department has also been generous to donate unwanted pallets to the Museum, providing a means for them to display their artifacts and collection.

To learn more about the Miami Valley Veterans Museum, visit miamivalleyveteransmuseum.org.

HELPING TO PRESERVE A HISTORICAL TREASURE

Adjunct faculty members Carl DeSantis and Lin Roberts, along with faculty member Levi Smith serve on a working board at The Historic Bear's Mill in Darke County. This great old fully operating grist mill has been a major historical treasure of Darke County since 1849.

Bear's Mill's grand framework is constructed of exquisite hand hewn timber beams that are nearly 50 feet

long. Standing four stories high, grain is carried from floor to floor throughout the inner workings of the Mill by the power of the water that runs through the mill race below.

Managed and maintained by the Friends of Bear's Mill, today's Mill offers an exciting place to experience a bit of history in a strikingly beautiful setting. The first floor of Bear's Mill is a celebration of food, nature, and art. The Mill Market carries an eclectic mix of Bear's Mill flours and meals, gourmet food items, coffee, clothing, jewelry, and unique home goods. The Mill Gallery features rotating exhibits that display the paintings, sculpture and photography of artists throughout the Ohio Valley.

Terry Clark serves as the Master Miller, and his wife, Julie is the "Master" Potter with the Mill Race Potters and the Clark Gallery.

As the Mill adapted to this year's conditions, the Mill and store re-opened in August, adjusting programs, and preparing to record "History in you Own Backyard." Learn more about the Bear's Mill by visiting, bearsmill.org.

Employees Graduate from Leadership Academy



Dr. Amanda Bylczyński



Rachel Carlisle

Two leaders from Edison State Community College have graduated as fellows of the first Ohio Leadership Academy for Student Success.

Dr. Amanda Bylczyński, Assistant Dean of Accreditation and Academic Effectiveness, and Rachel Carlisle, Director of Regional Campus Enrollment Management and Student Services, were among more than 40 leaders representing all of Ohio's community colleges that graduated Oct. 2, 2020, as part of the academy, organized by the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC). It is the first of its kind in the

nation to gather mid-level administrators, faculty, and staff for a year of training, exchanging ideas and immersion in how to promote student success.

"The fellows learned how to more effectively lead the many changes underway at our colleges—transformational changes—to improve student success," said Laura Rittner, executive director of the OACC's Success Center for Ohio Community Colleges. "We brought together people who have different roles at colleges so they could have a deeper understanding of how college leaders can work together to usher in these student success models."

The president of each of the state's community colleges could nominate two employees as fellows. They met six times throughout the year for two-day meetings, first in person and then online as the pandemic took hold. Sessions were relevant to Ohio specifically and included aspects of the Aspen Institute's presidential leadership curriculum. Fellows also worked on projects in small groups between sessions.

Dr. Bylczyński stated, "I am so thankful I was able to be part of the inaugural class. The academy was a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from around the state about issues and trends in higher education surrounding student success. My experience of working with these leaders and learning from the OACC training sessions has helped me to redefine my views of leadership, and the roles faculty can play as leaders in the community college."

Carlisle echoed Dr. Bylczyński's sentiments. "Participating in the OACC Leadership Academy provided me with a wealth of knowledge that I will be able to utilize throughout my career in higher education, and I appreciated that the academy focused on using leadership to positively influence student success. I felt that the concepts and best practices reviewed in the academy aligned with Edison State's ongoing efforts to provide the best support services possible to our students, with post-graduation success in mind."

Workforce Updates

The Center for Workforce Development and Education focuses primarily on training incumbent workers; therefore, the local employers are customers. Last year the Center served approximately 80 companies and trained nearly 1,100 employees. Its staff includes Keith Barga and John Hittetpole, who conduct training for manufacturers in Edison State engineering labs or on-site at companies. Trisha Elliott is the Project Specialist, which means she is the glue that holds the department together. The team is led by the Director, Peggy Wiggins, who will be retiring at the close of 2020. Brandi Olberding, Director of Apprenticeships and Work Based

Learning, will step into Peggy's role in the new year.

The advisory committee is made up of the following individuals: Eric Campbell, Crane Pumps; Rich Brenner, KTH; Rick Ridgeway, ORBIS Corporation; Matt Schwieterman, Emerson; Matt Stephens, Ramco Electric Motors; and Advanced Composites, in addition to the staff of the Center.

The Center has seen an increase in training for skilled positions in manufacturing in the last 2-3 years and expects that trend to continue for the foreseeable future. Training in soft skills has also been robust.



Brandi Olberding

Continued on Page 11

High-Quality Online Programs Pay-Off for Edison State



COLLEGE SEES ENROLLMENT INCREASE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

With a deep commitment to student satisfaction, Edison State Community College continues to make great strides in student fulfillment by increasing online learning opportunities. Years of faculty development, investments in online software and equipment, and online teaching and learning have not only positioned the college for success during the COVID-19 pandemic, but they have also contributed to a growth in enrollment.

This semester, Edison State has experienced an increase of 7.1-percent in overall headcount and a 11.7-percent in credit hours. These increases

demonstrate that online classes are becoming more popular, and students are enrolling full-time or taking an increased number of credit hours.

A 2016 student enrollment survey indicated that many students sought assurance that a degree or certificate could be completed entirely online. According to survey results, even if students have one or two courses required on campus, it created barriers to completion. Edison State responded, and every degree and certificate were reviewed with the goal of 100-percent online availability.

After years of strategic investment and faculty preparation, Edison State rolled out a 2018 fall course schedule highlighting online course offerings and complete online degree options. Online course sections were formatted to roll out new sections as needed

eliminating student waitlists and delays in schedule changes. Curriculum changes were completed that resulted in many new degree and certificate programs available through all online courses.

Increases in fall 2018 and fall 2019 enrollments indicated that Edison State had made the right move. Online registration in fall 2018 increased by 28-percent, and likewise, fall enrollment in 2019 was up by an additional 5-percent. Overall, Edison State has had steady enrollment growth since 2015.

Edison State President, Dr. Doreen Larson, explains, "Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic did not require a complete and disruptive shift in teaching and learning. For us, the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated our trajectory towards our goal of 100-percent online program availability."

"Students in Edison State online courses immediately experience the high levels of faculty engagement, individual feedback and support, and flexibility in learning and assessment that are the hallmarks of high-quality, highly effective online teaching and learning for both full-time and adjunct faculty. These quality factors take the faculty's time and dedication to develop and master," Larson added.

Edison State continues to highlight faculty professional development as Strategic Priority supported by a college Priority Project. Continued pursuit of innovation and excellence in all courses remains a top issue for all faculty and student support areas of the college.

Athletics Update



After consulting with college and local health experts, Edison State Community College is suspending its participation in NJCAA-sanctioned indoor sports for the 2020-2021 season. Intercollegiate competition for women's and men's basketball and women's volleyball will be deferred to next year. Inter-squad competition and team practices will continue in the spring of 2021 for these programs.

The factors influencing this decision were concerns over the unpredictable nature of the COVID-19 pandemic in the coming months and the impact this has on the College's ability to ensure the athletes' safety, the reduced number of other colleges with active athletics programs remaining, and the reliance on limited indoor spaces for these athletes.

Edison State President Dr. Doreen Larson states, "Edison State has successfully provided a safe practice environment for our indoor athletes, and we are confident that we can continue that environment in the

spring of 2021. We cannot assure that same level of safety for our athletes or athletes from other programs if we introduce intercollegiate competition."

Edison State Athletics Director Nate Cole commented, "This action to suspend 2020-21 indoor sports seasons until next fall, affecting men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball, is a tough call for all coaches and athletes. This was a difficult decision because athletics are a vital part of recruitment and student success initiatives at Edison State."

"Scholarship commitments to new or returning indoor sport student-athletes will be honored in 2020-21, and no student-athlete will be charged a season on eligibility. We will also continue to recruit new student-athletes for the 2021-22 seasons. As with everything we do, the decision to suspend athletics was made with the health and safety of our athletes, coaches, and our entire campus in mind. The college remains committed to helping its student-athletes achieve

their academic goals. Edison State will work with each student-athlete to address specific needs for the upcoming academic year," said Cole.

Dr. Larson continues, "We deeply miss engaging with students at our campuses and, in particular, we miss the joy and energy that our athletes bring to the culture at Edison State. We look forward to the healthy and robust competition that our future holds. However, painful in the short term, we know that we are making the best choice possible for our student-athletes and their families."

Outdoor spring sports, baseball and softball, are scheduled to begin in February and March, respectively. Visit athletics.edisonohio.edu for the latest Charger Athletics news, rosters, coaching staff, and schedules.

The 2nd Annual Drive for Scholarships

Fifteen teams of golfers teed-off in support of student scholarship opportunities at The Edison Foundation and Edison State Community College's 2nd Annual Drive for Scholarships Golf Scramble on September 25, 2020. The scenic Piqua Country Club golf course, coupled with beautiful weather, contributed to a perfect day for golf.

The Mutual Federal team placed first in the scramble and consisted of the following golfers: John Wade, Jim Heistan, Eric Noble, and Kevin McClurg. Placing second was the Edward Jones–Chris Slattery team, consisting of: Chris Slattery, Denny Steinke, Scott Bradley, and Jeff Slattery, and third place was taken by the Edison State team comprised of Bruce McKenzie, Chris Spradlin, Chad Beanblossom, and Steve Sykes.

In addition to 18-holes of golf, the scramble included lunch, which was sponsored by Park National Bank, a skins game, and raffle prizes.

Event sponsors included Putter Sponsors Premier Health–UVMC, Dr. Doreen and Len Larson, Ray & Bettye Laughlin; Student Scholarship

sponsors Orbis (Menasha) and Dr. Eric Prenger; Hospitality Cart Sponsor Greenville National Bank and Clark Schaefer Hackett CPAs & Advisors; Prize Sponsors The Scott Family McDonalds and VPP Industries; Team Picture Sponsors Greenville Federal; Raffle Prizes donated by the Dayton Dragons and Edison State; and Tee/Green sponsors AIM Media, Baird Funeral Home, Brethren Retirement Community, The Edison Foundation, Edward Jones Investments—Chris Slattery, Fifth Third Bank, Franklin University, Galbreath Realtors, Hamler-Gingrich/Favorite Insurance, Dr. Rick and Beth Hanes, Hartzell Propeller, Inc., Koverman Staley Dickerson Insurance, Marias Technology, Murray Wells Wendeln Robinson CPAs, Wayne HealthCare, and Westerheide Construction, Co.

All proceeds from the event directly benefited the student scholarship program, which provides Edison State students with the opportunity to attain higher education.

SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual Drive for Scholarships
JULY 30, 2021



1st Place: Mutual Federal



2nd Place: Edward Jones–Chris Slattery



3rd Place: Edison State Community College

Workforce Updates

Continued

ORBIS Corporation, in Urbana, provides reusable plastic containers, pallets, dunnage, and bulk systems. The Center has been partnering with ORBIS for almost five years to create a customized training program for their maintenance technicians. They have sent employees from their various manufacturing facilities in Kansas, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Ohio, and Canada to Edison State's Piqua Campus for hands-on labs in areas such as mechanical systems, industrial electricity, automation, and fabrication. Their employees consistently

comment on the quality of the program and the expertise of their instructors, typically selecting the highest rank in their ratings of the training.

Midmark Corporation, in Versailles, makes medical, dental and veterinary products and provides related services. Since 2011 they have been sending employees to Edison State for a customized CNC Operator Training program we created in partnership with them. The program combines online learning through our partner, Tooling U,

and hands-on labs at our Piqua campus. There are 40 labs hours included in the program, which is six-months in length; labs typically occur once a month after the students begin. Upon completion, the student receives 7 academic credit hours to apply to a program in advanced manufacturing. The Midmark associates have commented on the appropriateness of the program and how it helps them in their work, as well as the knowledge of the instructor and the cleanliness of the labs.

Holiday Evening Reimagined



on both the Edison State Board of Trustees and The Edison Foundation Board, served as Chairperson for this year's event.

"When I was asked to serve as Chairperson of the Holiday Evening, I was honored. Of course, like all of us, we went through some struggles trying to determine the format of this year's event. The staff of the Edison Foundation and its board are so talented and dedicated that I am truly proud of how the Holiday Evening came together," said Lukey.

The event featured artists from the Edison State area, who performed holiday favorites for viewers to enjoy from the comfort of home or anywhere with internet access. Throughout the program, The Edison Foundation incorporated messages of gratitude, acknowledgments to Edison State alumni who are essential workers, compelling student scholarship stories, and a special tribute to the local entertainment and restaurant industries.

In lieu of the phenomenal food offered annually at Holiday Evening at Edison State—this year's event extended beyond student scholarships to also benefit local restaurants. Each ticket from the Reimagined event entitled the purchaser to receive a \$25 gift certificate redeemable at their choice of local restaurants, including Basil's On Market, The Caroline, Coldwater Café, El Tequila Mexican Bar & Grill, Harrison's, Hickory River, JT's Brew & Grill, The Merchant House, Montage Café, Sharp's Tavern, Smith's Boathouse, The Bridge, 3 Joe's Pizzeria, Tavolo Modern Italian, and the Turtle Creek Golf Course.

"Those who watched the broadcast were informed as they heard from some of our scholarship-winning students and I know they were entertained as well. We were also happy to help out area restaurants who benefited from the gift certificate sales," added Lukey.



J. Kathryn Lukey
Event Chairperson

Established as both a celebration and commitment to higher education, Holiday Evening at Edison State has become The Edison Foundation's most successful student scholarship fundraiser. The Edison Foundation Reimagined the 23rd annual Holiday Evening at Edison State to feature local artists performing holiday favorites.

On December 2, 2020, Edison State hosted a ninety-minute virtual broadcast of the 2020 Holiday Evening at Edison State Reimagined to celebrate, recognize, and support Edison State students, partners, and the caring, compassionate, and resilient communities it serves.

J. Kathryn Lukey, who has served

Reimagined

A TRIBUTE TO LOCAL MUSICIANS AND RESTAURANTS



As a former school nurse for the Upper Valley Career Center, Lukey understands the value the education available in Miami County presents to the broader communities served. During her career at Upper Valley, she was charged by Dr. Richard Adams to head the Miami-Shelby Consortium, which was established to provide classroom programs, teen events, and teacher education programs to area schools, a position she held for over 15 years.

Additionally, several of Lukey's family members are Edison State alumni, including her son Jeffrey, late granddaughter Chelsea, and granddaughter Veronica.

"Jeff worked with disabled adults as well as at the alternative school in Sidney. His daughter Chelsea passed away a few months after graduating from Edison State due to a rare form of cancer. She was struggling with this diagnosis from age 14 until her death at 23. She was active in high school as a cheerleader, a Big Sister with the Piqua Chapter, and worked weekends at a nursing home in Wapakoneta, all while going to college and fighting her cancer. Veronica began with an associate degree from Edison State and has since continued her education while working at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, now pursuing a master's degree."

Due to COVID-19, the efforts to respond to community needs made The Edison Foundation Scholarship program even more critical. Proceeds from the event have also be allocated to the new Student Emergency Fund, which aims to help students with unexpected expenditures.

"Of course, the scholarships funded by the Edison Foundation are very important to students in our area. Edison State is a beginning education for many as well as a pathway to a career for others," said Lukey.

The 2020 Holiday Evening at Edison State was made possible by title sponsor Emerson; presenting sponsor Premier Health—Upper Valley Medical Center; Gold Sponsors AIM Media Midwest, Fifth Third Bank, Dr. Doreen and Len

Featured Performers

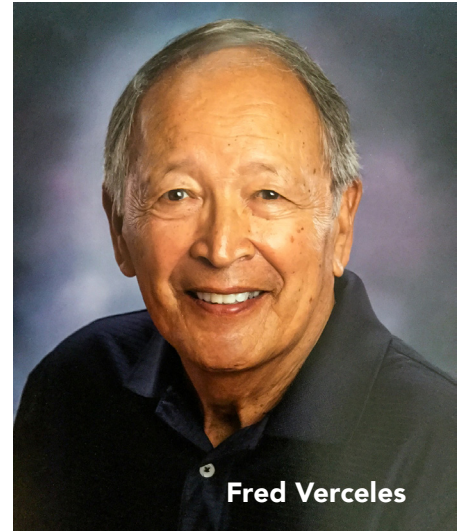


Larson; Silver Sponsors Cox Media, Dan and Jill Francis, Kettering Health Network, Ray and Bettye Laughlin, Park National Bank, Thom and Sandy Shoemaker—Troy Holiday Inn Express and Suites, Wayne HealthCare, and Wilson Health; and Bronze Sponsors Robert and Ann Baird, Baird Funeral Home, Blackbaud Giving Fund, Oskar and Charlotte Bushmann of the Troy Foundation, Ed and Kay Curry, Stan Evans—Hamler-Gingrich/Favorite Insurance, Allan and Tami Baird Ganley, Greenville Federal, Greenville National Bank, Dr. Richard and Beth Hanes, Jim and Jackie Hartzell, Hartzell Propeller, Inc., Rose and Ray Loffer Fund of The Piqua Foundation, Marias Technology, McCulloch Felger Fite and Gutmann Co. LPA, Tom and Mardie Milligan, VPP Industries, Inc., and The Wayne

HealthCare Foundation.

If you missed these musicians performing an amazing array of holiday and Christmas songs, you can still experience them via DVD. For a donation of \$100 to The Edison Foundation you will receive a DVD recording of the entire Holiday Evening at Edison State Reimagined 2020 as a gift.

For more information on how to donate to The Edison Foundation, become an event sponsor, or to be added to the Holiday Evening at Edison State mailing list, email The Edison Foundation at foundation@edisonohio.edu. •



Fred Verceles— Leaving a Legacy

The Edison Foundation is honored to announce the establishment of the Fred Verceles Scholarship. The scholarship's initial funding has been made available through generous donations by his wife Linda, other family members, and friends in celebration of Fred Verceles, who passed away on July 29, 2020.

Learning was Fred Verceles' love from an early age. As a young boy, he treasured books from the library. However, his school advisers saw that his family was too poor to send him to college, so they put him in non-college prep classes like art and music, where he excelled. He dropped out of high school his senior year to join the United States Marine Corps, where he was marched into a room to take his GED.

Soon he discovered community colleges. Even though he didn't think he was smart enough to attend, he signed

up for classes. He began to collect credits slowly but surely. Right around the time he was sent to Vietnam, he was notified that he qualified for the Boot Strap Program. He was allowed to go full-time to a university for eighteen months to complete his bachelor's degree, fully paid for by the military.

Soon after, he completed his master's degree on the weekends through the G.I. Bill. After serving for twenty-four years with tours in Vietnam and Okinawa, he retired as a Sergeant Major and applied to teach at Edison State Community College. Starting as an adjunct instructor, he retired fifteen years later as an associate professor.

During his time at Edison State, he had two responsibilities outside of classroom teaching. He went to workplaces in the tri-county area and taught managerial

skills to the workers, encouraging them to come to the college to start their education. He was also a new student advisor, where he encouraged prospective students to think about attaining an associate degree. He often told them about how he started his education at community colleges.

He continued advising for almost ten years after retirement. He was hoping to pay it forward, thinking of all the financial help he received, by starting a scholarship in his name. Getting the ball rolling was the last item on his "to-do" list before he died.

Individuals interested in celebrating Fred by contributing to the Fred Verceles Scholarship, please contact The Edison Foundation at **937.778.7805** or **foundation@edisonohio.edu**.

Alumni Spotlight

MATT AULTMAN 2002

Matt was elected to the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation board of trustees representing Farm Bureau members in Champaign, Clark, Darke, and Miami counties. As one of Ohio Farm Bureau's 26 trustees, he will help govern the state's largest and most inclusive farm and food organization. He has served on the Darke County Farm Bureau Board for the past 12 years. Beyond the farm, Aultman works as a county commissioner and a feed nutritionist at Treaty Mills, LLC. Aultman attended Edison State Community College to study business and machine engineering. Matt sits on many boards, including the Coalition for a Healthy Darke County, Wayne HealthCare Foundation, Darke County Economic Development, Darke County Visitors Bureau, and the American Red Cross. Aultman and his wife, Morgan, along with their two children, Sophia and William, raise row crops, hay, produce, flowers, goats, chickens, and rabbits.

AMY BEANBLOSSOM 2002

Arcanum-Butler School District named Amy the district Teacher of the Year. Amy began her teaching career at Arcanum Elementary in 2009 as a teacher in the Multiple Disabilities classroom. She completed an Associate of Applied Science degree from Edison State Community College and both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Wright State University. In 2020 she was recognized as an "A-LIST" teacher by the Autism and Low-Incidence Coaching Team through the Montgomery County Educational Service Center. Amy lives in Greenville with her husband, Chad (Edison State Vice President of Regional Campuses), and two sons, Evan (9) and Hayden (5).

CAROLE GREENZALIS 2010

Carole (Ivan) Greensaliz recently accepted a new role as Project Manager within the Real Estate Strategy team at Northwestern Medicine International Health. Her responsibilities include identifying properties for future new hospitals, managing space allocation, and renovation projects to improve older rooms and wings. Carole is also back on the scene with improvisation. During the month of January 2020, she was part of a two-woman group called "Book Club" as part of The Second City Improvisational theatre troupe. The performance was featured in the Chicago Tribune's "Thing to Do in Chicago" post.

ERIK GRIGGS 2011

Since January 2018, Erik Griggs has served as the Greenville Income Tax Administrator. He is a graduate of Greenville High School and earned his Associate of Applied Business degree in Accounting from Edison State Community College in 2011. Before becoming the Greenville Income Tax Administrator, Erik was employed by Greenville Federal, working his way from assistant manager to branch manager.

AMBER STRAWSER 1999

After graduating with her associate degree from Edison State, Amber transferred to Wright State University and began to work on her Bachelor's degree in Social Studies Education, which she received in 2002, followed by her Master's degree in Social Studies Education in 2003. Amber applied her skills at Trotwood Madison City School District as a teacher and teacher-leader for ten years. She returned to Wright State in 2011 and completed a second Master's degree in Educational Leadership and obtained her principal's licensure in 2012. Amber has served as an administrator at Winton Woods High School in Cincinnati for the last seven years. This year she is happily sending one of her students to Edison State to continue his education.

DOROTHY STRINGER 2019

Dorothy Stringer joined the West Alexandria Police Department as an auxiliary officer in April and has now moved to part-time. Officer Stringer was in her forties when she decided to follow her dream of becoming a police officer. She graduated from Edison State Community College's Basic Peace Officer Academy in December 2019. Stringer's cohort in the Edison State program was the first in the region to include more female students than males. Dorothy credits this to the example being set by current female police officers.

Edison State Police Department

Police



Bruce Jamison
*Director of Campus
Safety & Security*

EDISON STATE ESTABLISHES NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Edison State Community College Department of Public Safety has changed dramatically over the past 18-months. After a very successful history creating a safe campus environment, and based on changing campus safety and security standards, the Department of Administration and Finance determined the need for an armed presence on campus. Safety had been maintained through some very well-designed physical security measures and competent security guards contracted to serve the college.

In mid-2019, a search was conducted for a Director of Campus Safety and Security. Bruce Jamison, retired Chief of Police from the City of Piqua Police Department, was brought on board and found support from administration and trustees to form a police department to meet the needs of the college through professional law enforcement. A police department was established by meeting the requirements of the Ohio Attorney General's Office—the first new police department in the state in about five years.

In early 2020, Chief Jamison swore in the first two police officers of the Edison State Police Division. Both of which are well known on campus, have been students, and served as security

officers for a number of years—Adam DeBrosse and Ragan Williams. Officer DeBrosse, a Piqua resident, had served as a Security Guard through a private company until he completed the Edison State Police Officer Academy, when he was hired by the college as its first armed security officer. Officer Williams, of Lima, had attended Edison State as a student-athlete on the Volleyball team. She completed the Edison State Police Officer Academy in December of 2019.

At about this same time, a vacancy occurred for the contracted security guard that worked evenings at the Greenville Campus. Campus Security Officer Joe Speer, a retired police lieutenant from Piqua Police Department, who lived and worked in

e Dept.

Covington, accepted the part-time job as an Edison State employee. He also began assisting in the establishment of professional standards for the department and the development of a policy manual for the newly formed police department.

As campus vulnerabilities were assessed by the new staff, the need for improvements to emergency operation plans was identified. Jim Bowell, a Troy resident who had retired from the Troy Fire Department and was working part-time for the Miami County Emergency Management Agency, agreed to join the department as a Reserve Officer in the position of Emergency Management Specialist.

"We continued to work to establish the most professional police department possible when it hit—the COVID-19 pandemic. Campus Safety and Security staff were in the building as we worked on emergency plans with every part of the college to find ways for our students to complete their educational goals in the midst of a global crisis," said Jamison.

Jim Bowell was then hired as a part-time Operations Center Manager. As the Department implemented safety measures that included screening every person that came into campus buildings, we also knew that the permanent safety improvements would require additional staff, both at the Piqua and Regional Campuses.

Staff expansion of the Department of Public Safety began in earnest to meet these new needs and prepare for the future with the support of Edison State's President and her cabinet. A strategic plan was developed that would provide armed police protection at all times classes are in session at the main campus, with police support at all regionals, and security at all facilities when the buildings are in use.

Campus Security Officer Al Decker was the next on board. He screens and greets the Piqua Campus employees on their arrival Monday through Thursday. He is retired from developmental disabilities services as an investigator

and a manager after a long career in social work. He assists with crisis intervention needs and has already applied his extensive interviewing skills to assist during background investigations of new employees.

In the past few months, Edison State has searched for, interviewed, and conducted extensive background investigations to hire five more part-time Campus Security Officers and one more full-time Campus Police Officer. While it is too early to announce the Campus Police Officer due to COVID-related delays in polygraph examinations, the college is proud to introduce the five new Campus Security Officers.

- **Jordan Shellabarger–Piqua**
Has experience as a Corrections Officer in a county jail.
- **Brooke Dunlevy–Bradford**
A former standout student-athlete on the Women's basketball team with a degree in Criminal Justice who also works with youth in a local juvenile court system.
- **Amanda DeCola–Springfield**
Formerly an armed security officer at a local university.
- **Ed Sauers–Piqua**
A military veteran and former corrections officer.
- **Earl Briggs–Sidney**
Holds extensive experience as a security officer in a variety of settings.

"Our young department has enjoyed tremendous support and appreciates this greatly. We know we have responded well to the safety concerns presented by the pandemic, and are committed to continue to proactively serve all members of the campus community as we work together with them to stay safe while enabling students to complete their educational goals and realize their dreams here at Edison State," added Jamison.



Earl Briggs



Jim Bowell



Adam DeBrosse



Amanda DeCola



Al Decker



Brooke Dunlevy



Ed Sauers



Jordan Shellabarger



Ed Sauers



Regan Williams

Sunshine 5K



Taylor Kolker, 2019 MLT Alumnus (L), Vickie Kirk, Assoc. Prof. of Allied Health (R), and daughter Michaela Kirk



Dr. Rick Hanes, VP of Bus. & Comm. Partnerships, his wife Beth, and son Luke

Representatives of Edison State Community College participated in the annual Sunshine 5K Run/Walk in beautiful Greenville City Park. The race supports several local nonprofit organizations including The Edison Foundation. A new course in 2020 brought participants through more Greenville Park areas, as opposed to on the streets.

Participants representing Edison State/The Edison Foundation included: Melissa Eve, Beth Hanes, Josh Hanes, Katherine Hanes, Luke Hanes, Rick Hanes, Michaela Kirk, Vickie Kirk, Taylor Kolker, Doreen Larson, Vince Miller, and Jennifer Williams. Congratulations to age group winners Michaela Kirk for finishing first, Vickie Kirk finishing second, and Luke Hanes finishing third!

The Sunshine 5K, hosted each September by the Darke County

Foundation, welcomes hundreds of runners and walkers to Greenville City Park each year. Over \$14,000 was raised for the following non-profit organizations:

- **Bridges 2 College**
- **Cancer Association of Darke County**
- **DeColores Montessori School**
- **The Edison Foundation**
- **Friends of Darke County Parks**
- **St. Mary's School**
- **Darke County Foundation Grant Fund**

The Darke County Foundation worked closely with the Darke County Health Department to ensure safety and social distancing protocols were followed. Implemented in this effort was a rolling start process, which began at 8:00 a.m. and ended at 8:45 a.m. and allowed runners to stagger to achieve social distancing.

Upcoming Events

December 31—Medical Laboratory Technician Application Deadline

January 18—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Campuses Closed

January 19—Spring Semester Begins

January 20—Paul G. Duke Academy for Community Leadership 2.0 Begins

January 21—Virtual Charger Country Alumni, Friends, and Staff Trivia Night

January 31—Physical Therapy Assistant Application Deadline

February 15—Summer Priority Registration Begins

February 22—Summer Semester Registration Begins

March 18—Charger Athletics Reverse Virtual Raffle

New Foundation Funds



STUDENT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

The Edison Foundation has joined together with Edison State Community College to provide funding for student emergency needs. After a yearlong study, The Edison Foundation Board of Directors approved the formation of the Student Emergency Assistance Fund in June, 2020, along with budgeting \$5,000 for FY21 as startup funding. The newly formed fund is a critical lifeline of support that provides immediate aid to students threatened as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

Support of this fund is even more critical now as COVID-19 continues to impact the lives of our students. As families continue to endure record hardship and financial loss, students are at an even greater risk. By giving to the Student Emergency Assistance Fund, you

are helping to ensure that even in these uncertain times, students at Edison State can pursue their educational goals and realize their dreams.

Students across all of Edison State's campuses need your help. Please consider supporting our Student Emergency Assistance Fund—to keep our students on track for the future. Donations can be made through The Edison Foundation at www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation (click donate button) via PayPal, by check, or credit card. Please make payments to The Edison Foundation and designate Student Emergency Assistance Fund.

THE EDISON FOUNDATION FUNDS \$8,353 IN MINI-GRANTS

The Edison Foundation mini-grant program is designed for employees of Edison State to utilize in the advancement of the college mission and strategic plan. The Edison Foundation Chairperson Jennifer Williams along with former Chairperson John Warner serve as members of the mini-grant program and announced distributions for fall:

- \$1,000 to Michelle Dancer/Kerry Dowling for the Nursing Dept.
- \$1,000 to Elisha Hicks for the Early Childhood Education Dept.
- \$1,000 to Rachel Carlisle for Regional Campuses
- \$1,000 to Levi Smith for the Advanced Computing Program
- \$1,000 to Levi Smith for the Cybersecurity Program
- \$1,000 to Darlene Francis for the Healthy Lifestyle Program
- \$500 to Amy Borgert for the Student Services Dept.
- \$670 to Harold Hitchcock for the Maintenance and Facilities Dept.
- \$625 to Heather Lanham for the President's Office
- \$558 to Andrea Francis for the Marketing and Comm. Dept.

Please consider supporting our staff and faculty through the mini-grant program. Donations can be made through The Edison Foundation at www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation (click donate button) via PayPal, by check, or credit card. Please make payments to The Edison Foundation and designate Mini-Grant Program.



Virtual Charger Country TRIVIA NIGHT



You are invited to participate in a virtual Charger Country Trivia Night! Team up and put your knowledge to the test with a mix of general knowledge questions. Teams of 4 or less will join via Zoom. Space is limited.

Event Details:

When: Thurs., Jan. 21 at 7pm
Where: Online via Zoom
Cost: FREE!
Prizes: Awarded Per Team Member
1st: \$25, 2nd: \$15, 3rd: \$10

How to Register/Participate:

Team captains will register their entire team by emailing rhanes@edisonohio.edu with the following information:
1) team name; 2) team captain name and email; 3) team member names and emails (up to three).
Team captains will receive a Zoom link which they can then share with their team.



1973 Edison Dr.
Piqua, OH 45356

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 386
Piqua, OH
45356

MAILING PANEL

A Note From The Edison Foundation...

Make a 2020 tax-deductible gift to **The Edison Foundation**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization formed to support the educational and community service goals of **Edison State Community College**. All gifts are appreciated and provide scholarships and academic program support.

DONATION YEAR-END DEADLINES

CHECK

Must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2020.

The Edison Foundation
1973 Edison Drive
Piqua, OH 45356

CREDIT CARD

If sent by mail, must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2020; if made online, **The Edison Foundation** must receive transaction details by 4 pm EST on Dec. 29, 2020.

The Edison Foundation accepts donations on PayPal via Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. The secure site is: www.edisonohio.edu/donate

GIFTS OF STOCK

To receive tax credit in 2020, must be received and handled by our broker, Fifth Third Bank. Contact Megan Alley at 513-534-3557 or megan.alley@53.com. For a year-end gift or more information, please email foundation@edisonohio.edu or call 937-778-7805.

Thank you for your support!

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION...

WIRED is an alumni and friends newsletter published by the Office of Business and Community Partnerships and the Office of Alumni Engagement. The newsletter contains alumni and friends highlights, information, and events that Edison State Community College supports and hosts on an ongoing basis. For more information, contact:

The Edison State Office of Alumni Engagement
1973 Edison Drive, Piqua, Ohio 45356
alumni@edisonohio.edu
www.edisonohio.edu/alumni

The newsletter is made possible by contributions from Dr. Vivian Blevins, Jill Bobb, Nate Cole, Carl DeSantis, Andrea Francis, Bruce Jamison, Vickie Kirk, Vince Miller, Leah Shreves, Julie Slattery, Peggy Wiggins, Dr. Doreen Larson, and Dr. Rick Hanes; Design: Andrea Francis; Administration: Dr. Doreen Larson, President; Dr. Rick Hanes, VP of Business Community Partnerships and Executive Director of The Edison Foundation.