



# NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

## GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT SNELICK

Greetings! We hope you enjoy our Summer 2024 President's Newsletter.

We are already halfway through 2024, which seems almost impossible! Spring was an eventful time at NPRC for a variety of reasons. I want to acknowledge Amanda Beil, Greg VanOrd, and Bri Childs on their new roles with NPRC in recent months. I appreciate all your work and wish you the best as you continue in your respective roles. Furthermore, I want to give a warm welcome to our newest members of the NPRC full-time staff, namely Nick Haught, Dana Fitch, Megan Downs, and Jessica Ceriola. I'm thankful that you have joined the College and look forward to celebrating your accomplishments here at NPRC.

In recent months, there have also been some changes implemented to the Enrollment and Student Services division that will aid for a better future for NPRC. The community engagement and marketing teams now work as one team. This transition will allow our staff to better serve our institution and, most importantly, our students.

The Spring term is always a bittersweet one as we say goodbye to our amazing students who complete their degrees and certificates. This class was one of the largest in the history of our institution and we are #NPRCProud of all they have accomplished so far in their careers and lives. I know I speak for many in saying that I will always be proud to call them NPRC alumni and can't wait to see the impact they continue to make on the world beyond the classroom.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of our team members, program additions, (and exciting events to come for NPRC, its students and supporters.) Thank you for your continued support of all of us here at NPRC.

Sincerely,

Susie

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

### July 15 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

### July 22 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

### July 29 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

### Aug 2 — Registration Deadline\*

EMT — Port Allegany, PA

### Aug 2 — Summer 2024 Term Concludes

### Aug 9 — Fall 2024 Academic Term Application and Registration Deadline

### Aug 12 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

### Aug 14 — Fall 2024 Academic Term Begins

### Aug 19 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

### Aug 27 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

### Sept 9 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — St. Marys, PA

### Sept 16 — Registration Deadline\*

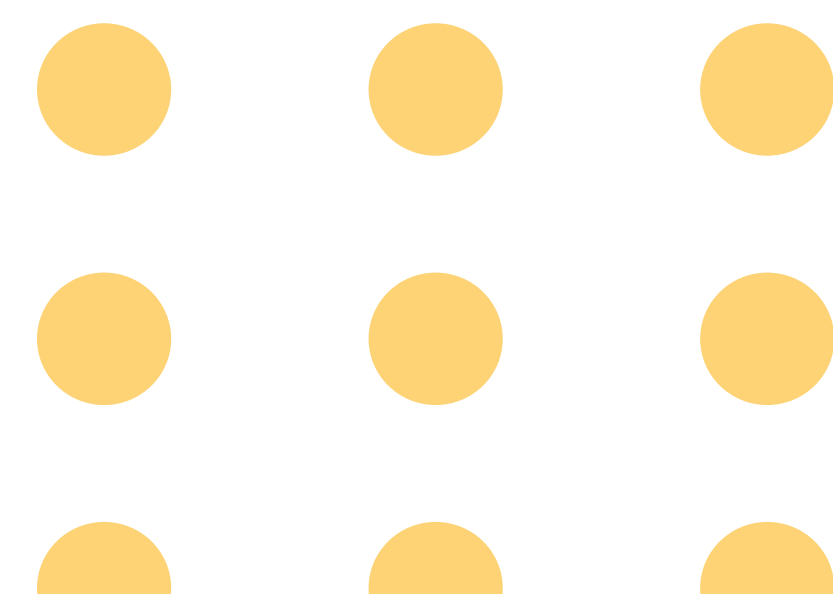
CDL Class A — Mansfield, PA

### Sept 23 — Registration Deadline\*

CDL Class A — Erie, PA

### Sept 24 — Fall Information Session

\*Workforce Development Dates





# NPRC NOTEWORTHY NEWS

## NPRC SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN **VIEWPOINT**

The Viewpoint short-form documentary series hosted by Dennis Quaid has selected Northern Pennsylvania Regional College for an exclusive opportunity to be featured on national public television. The upcoming season of the series, titled 'Leaders in the Future of Community College Education,' will feature the impact community colleges make in the United States.

Viewpoint is a short-form documentary series that is distributed to public television stations in all 50 U.S. states. The series strives to make meaningful documentaries and inspire audiences to act. Viewpoint cultivates each segment with an approach that adds value to people's lives and aims to change the way people view educational programming. One of its goals is to enlighten the audience by delivering diverse informational and educational documentaries covering various issues and topics.

Filming for the documentary occurred in Erie on Tuesday, June 4, and an official VIP event to showcase the finished documentary will take place in Warren County on Saturday, October 12. More details related to this exclusive event will be announced later this summer.

Learn more about Viewpoint [here](#).



## **COMMENCEMENT** RECAP

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College celebrated their annual commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m. The event took place at The Red Fern in Kersey, with 17 students being recognized for completing their certificate or degree programs. Three students were recognized in absentia.

Student speaker Savannah Nichols shared about her journey of growth, the friendships she made, the moments of laughter she shared with her instructors in the classroom, and a message to her peers that their future is bright. "If there is one thing from my speech that I want you to remember, this is it. It is okay not to be okay, to not understand, to not be perfect, to have no idea what you are doing. I do not think that we know exactly what we are supposed to be doing. What I do know, if you wake up every day trying to grow and be a better person, we will be okay."

Beth Pellegrino, a Warren native and Partner and Senior Consultant at J. L. Nick & Associates, followed Nichols as the 2024 Commencement Speaker. Pellegrino's address shared:

"Express gratitude to those who've been part of your journey. Because, trust me, everyone needs their people, and often, true support pops up from the most unexpected corners. Know your people, love your people and cherish your people. We need our people to be present with us, listen without judgment and keep us going."

Read about the full ceremony and see the entire list of graduates [here](#).



## NPRC OFFERS **WORK-READY SKILL SET PROGRAMS**

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College announced this spring the addition of Work-Ready Skillsets in business, criminal justice, and social sciences. These skill sets will be offered starting in August 2024.

These skill sets can be achieved in under a year's time (two to three terms). They are non-degree, short-term options for students, but the credits can also be applied toward an associate degree at NPRC. If students choose to pursue a degree, they can request up to two skill sets within their program curriculum.

These Work-Ready Skillsets were added by NPRC to help students earn the skills necessary in specific areas to begin an entry-level career or advance their careers. They are perfect for businesses and organizations wanting to invest in their employees' development and prefer a quicker return-on-investment for their employees.

Learn more about each of the skillsets [here](#).





## PRESIDENT SNELICK NAMED EDUCATION TRAILBLAZER

President Snelick was recently selected as a 2024 Trailblazer in Higher Education by City & State Pennsylvania. According to the official release by Hilary Danailova, "Leaders in City & State's 2024 Higher Education Trailblazers are responsible for this enduring legacy. They are scientists and linguists, attorneys and lobbyists, and dedicated administrators whose creativity and collaborative spirit is evident in the sector's resilience."

Snelick was identified as a professional who 'Has successfully navigated the ever-changing economic, social, and technological landscape in higher education with innovative programming, outreach both tangible and virtual and, in some cases, restructuring to accommodate the ambitions of a new generation.'

"I am extremely honored to be recognized in the 2024 Trailblazers in Higher Education by City & State PA. This recognition wouldn't be possible without the innovative team I've been blessed to work with at NPRC. We pride ourselves in always focusing on our students first. We meet them where they are and don't let the traditions of higher education slow us down. With a team of like-minded individuals dedicated to the economic vitality of our communities, this work is fulfilling. We challenge ourselves each day to do more and be better than yesterday. I'm proud to lead this great institution and to receive this amazing recognition."

Check out more about President Snelick's selection [here](#).



## NPRC OFFERS ONLINE PROGRAMMING

NPRC is pleased to announce a partnership with ed2go, part of Cengage Group. This collaboration will bring online programming to NPRC's workforce development division and an opportunity to earn credentials and certificates in asynchronous and synchronous learning formats. Some courses will require regular remote attendance, while others can be completed at student's own pace.

Through this agreement, NPRC is offering a selection of cost-effective online courses designed to address the current needs of in-demand industries. Courses include AutoCAD, cybersecurity, human resources, Microsoft Excel, and professional bookkeeping and payroll management.

These ed2go-powered courses help NPRC close the education-to-employment gap for learners at all stages of their careers and lives. Offering these online programs can help the College deliver affordable and accessible programming to additional learners both in and out of the service region. Whether someone is a high school student looking to develop skills for college, a busy parent hoping to provide a better life for their family, or a lifelong learner looking for a way to challenge themselves, these programs can help students achieve their goals at NPRC in a new way.

For more information about NPRC's online programs and this educational partnership, visit [here](#).



## NPRC X NAIP: EMPOWERING FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College NPRC launched a collaboration with the National Association of Insurance Professionals, Inc. (NAIP) that began a virtual insurance agent training program in April.

The seven-week program addresses the skills gap affecting employment prospects across Pennsylvania, while this strategic partnership aims to guide participants to gain necessary soft skills, workplace proficiencies, and industry credentials crucial for forging successful careers in the insurance and financial services industries.

The program also offers a unique opportunity for participants to earn a weekly stipend while working to become a capable financial and insurance professional. Program completers will leave being equipped for roles in banks, credit unions, call centers, and insurance agencies. To qualify to take part in the program, learners must be at least 17 years of age and fluent in the English language.

Learn more about this new opportunity [here](#).





# NPRC STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## ELIZABETH PHELPS

Elizabeth Phelps began her time at NPRC as an EMT student and has since expanded her educational endeavors with NPRC to become an early entry student. Phelps was inspired to become a certified EMT because of her family lineage as medical professionals and because of her own medical hardship. The difference the medical professionals made in her life as well as the difference she had seen her mother make as a nephrology nurse, paramedic, and EMT instructor really were her reason for taking this step in her young life.

Phelps shared, “After being given so much by the community, I wanted to be able to send some of that love back. I became certified at only 16 years old, just like my mom. Watching her in this profession really encouraged me to step up and start helping others like she has.”

A native of Warren and a recent graduate of Tidioute Community Charter School, Phelps is excited for her next chapter beginning in August. She will be enrolling at Pennsylvania Western University – Clarion to major in nursing, with her goal being to one day work in the emergency room or intensive-care unit. The credits she earned as an early entry student at NPRC will give her not just a foundation of college learning heading to Penn West, but also credits that can transfer to help make this next step more affordable.

“I am very grateful for the opportunity I had to be a student at NPRC. They have been great at making sure I have the credits I need for college to help me cut down on the classes I would have to take later.”

Best wishes in your next chapter, Elizabeth! We are #NPRCProud of you!



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT

## AMANDA HETRICK

Amanda Hetrick has spent much of her life in education. From her time as a student, to Superintendent of Forest Area School District, and even as one of the first board members for the Educational Consortium of the Upper Allegheny (ECUA) over a decade ago, the field of education will forever be a part of her identity. “The best part about working in education to me is when students make connections between what they are learning and the real world. That moment of truth, when they see that what they are learning matters, it makes all the challenges worthwhile.”

Hetrick has had the pleasure of working on some of the earliest projects in the history of NPRC and is pleased with the growth and outlook for the future. “We have accomplished so much from not even having a mailing address when we started to achieving Middle States candidacy. With President Snelick’s leadership, NPRC is moving forward in a way that meets multiple community needs and focuses on making strong and lasting connections with our communities.”

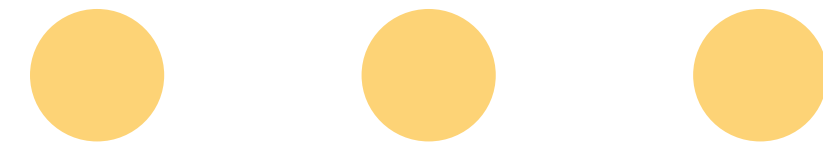
In her own educational journey, Hetrick earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Allegheny College; a Secondary English Education Certification, a master’s degree in educational administration, and a Secondary Principal Certification from Edinboro University; and a letter of eligibility from Westminster College. Besides her passion for her career, she enjoys spending time with her family and especially FaceTiming with her first grandchild, Quinn. Hetrick is also an experienced vocalist, pianist, and an avid reader.

To read more about Hetrick and her colleagues on the Board of Trustees, click [here](#)!





# NPRC PROCTOR SPOTLIGHT



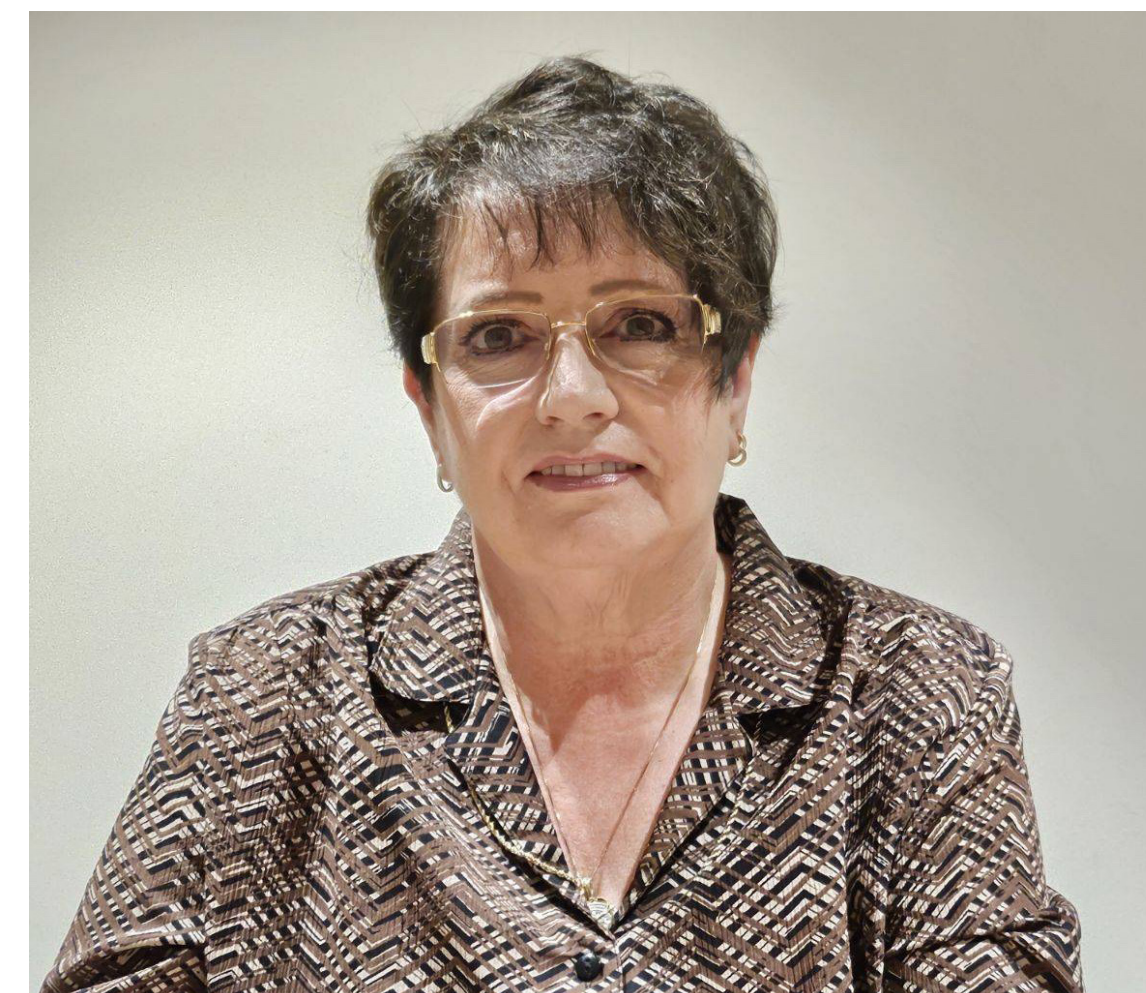
## DEB SMITH

Deb Smith has been a part of the NPRC community as a proctor since 2020. She was a longtime employee of the University of Pittsburgh-Titusville/Education and Training Center and served as a Switchboard/Police Dispatcher and Administrative Assistant for much of her tenure before retiring in 2020.

Smith began at Pitt-Titusville in 1997 and worked in academics, the Barco Center, admissions and financial aid, and campus police during her career. She earned two associate degrees in business management and information systems in addition to a Pennsylvania Police/Fire Dispatcher License during her tenure.

In this chapter of her career, she serves as a resource for students attending NPRC at the Education and Training Center. "I have formed strong relationships with many from NPRC and everyone has been great to work with. But the best part about working for NPRC is the students. I enjoy helping them in any way I can. Seeing their success is my favorite part."

In her free time, Smith enjoys attending car shows with her husband to showcase their rebuilt 1967 Ford Mustang Restomod, decorating, and floral work. Decorating she's particularly grown to love during the holidays, especially as a decorator for the Associated Charities. In 2023, she decorated a total of 15 Christmas trees, including eight at The Titusville Ironwork's, several for friends and family, and the large tree on the campus of Pitt-Titusville. Decorating Pitt-Titusville's Christmas tree has been a staple in her holiday season for 25 years and is a tradition she looks forward to continuing for years to come.



# NPRC STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## MEGAN DOWNS, STUDENT BILLING SPECIALIST

Hello! I'm Megan Downs and I joined NPRC in April as the Student Billing and Accounts Receivable Specialist. I'm a native of Russell and graduated from Eisenhower High School. I continued my education at Clarion University and earned a bachelor's degree in finance, focused on corporate finance, and a minor in data analytics in December 2023 in three-and-a-half years.

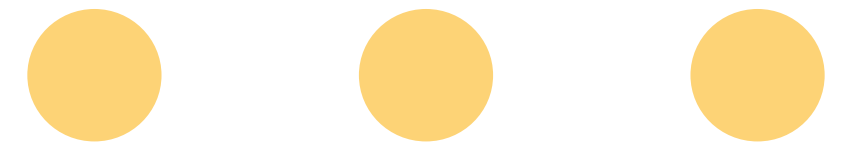
Prior to NPRC, I worked for Northwest Bank, beginning as a teller and working my way into the Small Business Lending and Credit Card Services. I also completed a remote data analytics internship last year at a company called PSCU, the largest credit union service organization in the country.

I have not been with NPRC for long, but I can already say I highly enjoy working with the people here. I have a lot to learn, but I know that the community here will offer the training and guidance needed to continue growing.





# NPRC STAFF SPOTLIGHT



## DANA FITCH, ADMIN. ASST. TO VP OF FINANCE/OPERATIONS

Hi, everyone! I'm Dana Fitch and I joined NPRC in March as the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Finance and Operations. I grew up in Centre County and graduated from Phillipsburg-Osceola High School before moving on to DuBois Business College to earn a specialized legal assistant associate degree.

Prior to NPRC, I spent eight years working for Northwest Bank, with the last two years serving as a Suspicious Activity Investigator. My husband, Tyler, and I have three young boys Anthony (6), Chase (3), and Cooper (3) who keep us busy. We enjoy being outdoors together and the wilderness Warren County has to offer. In the short time I have been with NPRC, I have felt very welcomed by all and look forward to my continued learning and contributions to the College!



## GREG VANORD, IT SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

Hey! I'm Greg VanOrd and recently became an Information Technology Support Technician at the College. I began at NPRC in 2023 and previously served as the Student Billing and Accounts Receivable Specialist.

I am a native Warren County resident and native of Russell. I went to Eisenhower Middle/High School before moving on to Clarion University for my Bachelor of Arts in Spanish degree. I have also since added a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science online from University of the People. I came to NPRC after several years working for Northwest Bank in departments such as flood insurance, loan operations, and application development.

The best part about working at NPRC is the culture and leadership are closely behind the mission as they both create an environment where you feel heard and a part of the greater whole. I'm excited for what's to come for the institution and myself in this new role!

