



NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT SNELICK

Happy holidays! We hope you enjoy our Winter 2024 President's Newsletter.

The Fall 2024 term came and went in a flash. Congratulations to all students who completed this last term with us. We are #NPRCProud of each of you and look forward to seeing you and your new classmate's next term.

The Spring 2025 term and the year 2025 overall is poised to be a big one for NPRC. We are beginning remote options for all academic courses; a move to provide more flexibility and greater access for students both in and out of our region. This decision is one that's taken everyone at the College to prepare for. I could not be more thankful for the work each of our team members has done to help make this possible.

Another recent update I'm proud to report is the introduction of our community hubs in Emporium and Kane that opened in December. These locations are designed to be places where our team members can collaborate, students can enroll in classes, and members from our communities can gather. We are thankful to so many in Cameron and McKean Counties who have welcomed NPRC and continue to support us as we advance our mission.

I also extend a warm welcome to our newest team members at NPRC. The College is fortunate to have all of you on our team and we know you will all be vital in serving our students going forward.

I end by thanking our departing members of the Board of Trustees, Amanda Hetrick, Greg Mahon, and Holli Wolfe. Each of you has served the College commendably and there's no question each of you will continue to be community champions for our institution. Thank you for your continued support as we continue our growth serving our communities, businesses, and students. We look forward to a bright year ahead!

Sincerely,

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

January 8 — Registration Deadline
SPRING 2025

January 10 — Registration Deadline
INSURANCE AGENT

January 13 — Registration Deadline
CDL - ERIE

January 24 — Registration Deadline
INSURANCE AGENT

January 27 — Registration Deadline
HUMAN TRAFFICKING - MANSFIELD

February 1 — Registration Deadline
KEEPING OUR CHURCHES SAFE - WILLIAMSPORT

February 10 — Registration Deadline
CULINARY BOOT CAMP II - WELLSBORO

February 10 — Registration Deadline
CDL - ERIE

February 24 — Registration Deadline
CDL - MANSFIELD

March 10 — Registration Deadline
CDL - ERIE & ST. MARYS

March 17 - 23 — Spring Break 2025
NO ACADEMIC COURSES

March 19 — Open Registration Begins
FOR SUMMER AND FALL 2025

March 24 — Registration Deadline
CDL - MANSFIELD

April 7 — Registration Deadline
CDL - ERIE & ST. MARYS



NPRC NOTEWORTHY NEWS

NPRC NOW OFFERING REMOTE OPTIONS

Beginning in January 2025, NPRC is building remote attendance options with live instruction into all their academic courses. By allowing students the option to attend courses remotely, this will bring even greater flexibility for students at NPRC. Students will be able to customize their schedules to meet their needs by choosing to attend all classes remotely, to attend all classes at an NPRC instructional location, or by engaging in both remote courses and attendance at an existing NPRC location. Laptops will still be issued as a part of the laptop loaner program to ensure students have firm access to their coursework.

By offering remote options with live instruction in all academic courses, NPRC hopes that a larger population of students can and will be served. Vice President of Academics, Dr. Ben Malczyk, shared, "NPRC is committed to its mission of providing affordable and accessible college offerings. Providing more remote options increases accessibility, especially for working adults by reducing unnecessary travel time. Freeing up time can mean more time with family, more time for studying, or more time for personal interests and needs. Students have asked for it, and the college has listened."

Learn more about completing an NPRC degree remotely [here](#).



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Trustees has welcomed Kat Thompson and Aaron Singer as their colleagues in recent months. Thompson joined the Board of Trustees in September, while Singer was sworn in during the November meeting.

Thompson currently serves as the Membership and Education Manager for the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce. Thompson earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a minor in Global Economic Development from Spring Arbor University in Michigan. She also is a graduate of Leadership Venango, holds a Certificate of Achievement from Strictly Business: Dale Carnegie Immersion Seminar, and is currently completing training through the Institute for Organization Management (IOM), a four-year nonprofit leadership training program through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Singer serves as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for MetalKraft Industries Inc., located in Wellsboro, as well as President for Keystone Automatic Technologies in Emporium. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Shippensburg University. In his volunteerism, Singer is active with organizations like C&N Bank, Bingaman & Son Lumber, Laurel Health Foundation Investment Committee, St. Peters Roman Catholic Church, Wellsboro Area Youth Soccer, and the Wellsboro Area School District as an assistant coach in a collection of sports.

Read more about the Board of Trustees [here](#).



VANS ARRIVAL

It was the 14th of October, and those vans arrived from Boulder. We could wish, right? They were actually from Boise, Idaho, but it would've been a great spin on Thomas Rhett's hit song, Unforgettable.

On a serious note, NPRC's amazing vans arrived in Warren County and many of the faculty and staff received training on how to operate each of the two vehicles on what was a cold and rainy October 14, 2024, in northwestern Pennsylvania. These vans have and will continue to be an asset for the institution moving forward for both our academic and workforce development divisions. We cannot thank Custom Crafted Vans for taking on this unique project and building us two state-of-the-art vehicles that will allow us to better serve our communities and learners for years to come, no matter where they may be in Pennsylvania. If you see them out and about, be sure to snap a photo and tag us or ask for a quick tour!

Check out more photos from [training day](#).



VIEWPOINT LAUNCH

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College was selected in 2023 to be featured in the next season of Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid. The production team visited Erie this past summer for a day of filming, and finally, the documentary is ready for viewers to enjoy.

To check out some of this film and see many from the NPRC community make their debut on the big screen, click [here](#).



DAVE WILSON LAPSEN CONFERENCE

Instructor of Criminal Justice, David Wilson, presented at the Law and Public Safety Education Network (LAPSEN) National Conference in San Antonio, Texas in December. Wilson delivered a presentation called Collaborative Synergy: Uniting Multiple Classes for a Joint Project that overviewed the benefits of joining different criminal justice classes into one overarching project at NPRC.

The project approach provides a deeper understanding and respect into each criminal justice stakeholder's roles, starting at the very first encounter that a law enforcement officer has with a member of the community through the findings of guilt. Participation in this innovative project allows students to utilize and enhance critical thinking skills, public speaking, and teamwork, while diving into the adversarial world of criminal justice.

Wilson also attended a national certification in basic 911 instructor training. This training now allows him to certify students in National Emergency Communications Institute (NECI) basic 911 dispatch.

Learn more about Wilson's experience at the [conference](#).



PROCTOR SPOTLIGHT

REGINA SAWTELLE

Regina Sawtelle has become a friendly face that students attending courses at NPRC's Education and Training Center – Erie recognize. Sawtelle has been working as a proctor for the College since August 2023 and enjoys being a part of helping students in their pursuit of college degrees. "I like to think that in a small way I am helping the continuing education of others. I enjoy the interaction with staff and students."

In her career, Sawtelle has worked in healthcare for many years. She previously served as a Business Office Manager for a long-term care facility for over 25 years. Today, she works for a local independent colorectal surgeon in Erie and is responsible for medical billing and coding for the practice. She received her education in this field from JH Thompson Academy and Healthcare Consulting & Coding Education. She is also an Erie County native and graduated from Harbor Creek High School.

Outside of her career, her five grandchildren are those she spends much of her time with. They are the light of her life. When she is not attending their activities and sporting events, she also enjoys nature walks in the various parks Erie County offers, volunteering, interior design projects, and spending time in worship. "My faith is a daily part of my life and includes devotions, bible studies, and attending worship and praise events."

Thank you for all you have done and will continue to do for our students in Erie County, Regina!



NPRC STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MISSY BECKER, ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Hello! I'm Missy Becker and I serve as the Assistant Registrar here at NPRC. I joined the College in September, but working in education is not new to me. I earned a Bachelor of Science in Social Studies Education with a focus in economics from IUP and worked for many years as a high school teacher. I later earned my Level II teaching certification at Wilkes University.

Education has been what I've done throughout my career, and I feel education is the gateway to opportunities. While my new role looks different, it still allows me to help students navigate their unique paths to success. Entering a new chapter in education is both challenging and exciting. Having spent the last two decades in the classroom, I was accustomed to the hands-on, day-to-day interactions with students, directly guiding them through their learning experiences. In my new role at NPRC, my contribution is more peripheral - supporting students from behind the scenes. It's a different kind of impact, but one I'm equally passionate about.

I've called western Pennsylvania my home for my entire life and am originally from Monroeville. Today, I reside in Warren with my husband and our three girls who keep us incredibly busy. When not spending time with them, you will find me cooking, reading, or listening to a True Crime podcast.

The thought of changing careers was frightening not long ago, but when I began to view change as an opportunity for growth and fulfillment, I'm no longer afraid of it. I have been following NPRC's development since 2017, and I am thrilled for the chance to grow with this institution!



ANNE SCHWANKE, STUDENT RECRUITER

Hi! I'm Anne Schwanke and I currently serve as the Student Recruiter for Forest and Warren Counties at NPRC. I joined the College this fall after returning to my Warren County roots. I'm originally from Pittsfield and graduated from Youngsville High School. Before returning to Pennsylvania, I lived in New York City, where I completed my studies in art history, museum studies, and philosophy at Pace University.

When I returned from completing my bachelor's degree, I wanted to be involved in something local and meaningful to the community. Since I grew up here, I know a bit about the community's wants, needs, and dreams for the future of the county. Being a member of NPRC's team, I feel as though I am giving back to a community through empowering them with the knowledge of an invaluable resource like affordable postsecondary education. My favorite part of working at the College is the opportunities I have to engage with community members from all different backgrounds.

I am thrilled to be in a position where I get to interact with many great people face-to-face about an authentic, non-profit such as NPRC. This position has also allowed me to gain a newfound appreciation for so many parts of Forest and Warren Counties that I hadn't previously discovered.

Outside of my career, I enjoy watching movies, spending time in nature, making art, and reading books about artwork, and traveling to American and European landmarks when possible. It's been exciting to grow these last few months alongside an institution that continues to do the same. I'm excited about what's ahead!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT



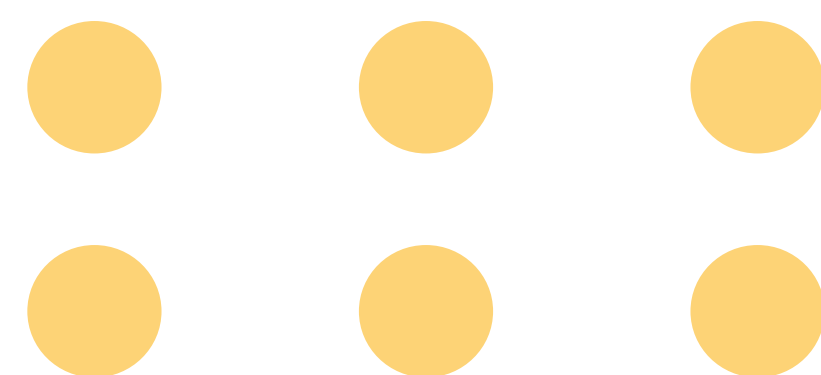
KAT THOMPSON

Oil City resident Kat Thompson returned to her western Pennsylvania roots around a decade ago and has since made a tremendous impact with the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce. Thompson currently serves as the Membership and Education Manager, but it's far from the only service she provides for her local area.

She manages the VenangoREADY career readiness program, a partnership between the Venango Chamber and local schools, helping to connect students and educators to local businesses.

Over her career, she has worked in various fields including manufacturing, international education, tourism, economic development, and workforce development. But most of all, delivering exceptional service and education to those in her community have been some of her proudest achievements. "NPRC offers numerous opportunities in this area, and I'm eager to share these with my network. I appreciate the tailored customized training the College provides to help businesses upskill their employees. With the high caliber board of trustees, I'm looking forward to gaining valuable insights in the coming years and I know I will learn so much from them; significantly enriching my own leadership journey."

Learn more about Thompson and our impressive group of trustees [online](#).



NPRC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

T.J. SWANSON

T.J. Swanson completed his CDL training through the NPRC and PA Pride, LLC partnership in 2023 and it has helped him, and his family, take their businesses, Swanson's Welding & Fabrication and Swanson's Excavating, to new levels. "After completion of my CDL test, we have been able to grow our trucking business to include an impressive variety of work. We are currently up to three trucks and nine trailers to accommodate for any job at hand. We are hopeful that soon we may even be able to add a fourth truck to our operations."

Swanson's experience at NPRC was a positive one and he built a great relationship with his instructor, Evan, who helped him to learn some important tricks of the trucking profession. "The course was amazing, and I was fortunate to have a great instructor like Evan who helped me throughout. I already had knowledge about trucking having grown up around it and having previously gotten my CDL permit a few years ago. However, he taught me several important lessons to help my career."

Swanson is thankful for the support that his parents, Tor and Rebecca Swanson, gave him to pursue his passion for trucking; one he's had for nearly all his life. Additionally, he recognizes that NPRC and PA Pride, LLC were helpful in pushing his career to what it is now and helping to expand his family's business. "The process was so smooth to get my license. I'm not sure if I'd be doing what I am today without this program being available close to me. The entire process was easy, enjoyable, and hassle free, so we as drivers would leave feeling ready for the next step in our careers."

