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**PERRY
TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE**

Perry News

Fall 2010

Partnership Helps Auto Keep Pace With Industry

Perry's Automotive Technology Program has a new curriculum, new high-tech equipment and a new partnership with a leading tool supplier.

These changes raise the level of training and better prepare graduates for today's automotive industry, explained PTI President Christine Coté.

The changes come in response to changes in industry. As vehicles become more sophisticated, technicians require a higher level of training. "We now have a more technology-focused program," said Jason Lamiquiz, head of the Automotive Program.

Fifteen years ago, the typical vehicle had one computer. Now, a vehicle has from 10 to 30 computers all networked together, explained Dusty Morrill, PTI Automotive instructor. "These changes have revolutionized the industry," he said.

Keeping pace in an industry that is changing as quickly as the automotive industry is an expensive undertaking. A partnership with Snap-on Tools has reduced the cost of the equipment upgrades and also helped students purchase high quality tools at discounted prices. "We are grateful to Snap-on for partnering with us to upgrade our shop and to reduce costs and allow our students to purchase extremely high quality tools," Coté said.

The partnership also raises the quality of training for students. Instructors can become certified trainers by completing

the company's diagnostic equipment training. Lamiquiz and Morrill completed the training at Snap-on's National Training Conference earlier this summer. With the diagnostic certification, the instructors are qualified to train students so they can earn the certification making them more qualified technicians upon graduation.

"We are committed to helping instructors become better skilled," said Frederick Brookhouse, Snap-on's senior business and education partnership manager. "The Snap-on diagnostic equipment certification gives instructors the highest level of technical expertise in the country."

Partnering with schools makes sense, both for the equipment supplier and the school, Brookhouse emphasizes. Students may purchase high-quality tools at discounted prices and receive training from highly-skilled, certified instructors. The equipment supplier creates a loyal customer base by exposing technicians-in-training to their products.

Snap-on's goal is to create a national network of vehicle service training institutions that will develop and instruct advanced training courses to increase technician skills and improve shop



Automotive instructors Jason Lamiquiz, left, and Dusty Morrill, second from right, recently met with Frederick Brookhouse, senior business and education partnership manager for Snap-on Tools, and Lance Dodeward, right, local Snap-on sales representative, to finalize Snap-on's partnership with Perry Tech's Automotive Technology Program.

productivity. "A school such as Perry has a great deal to gain from partnering with a leading tool supplier," Brookhouse said. "Our reputation in industry, combined with the certifications we offer, helps a school earn a national reputation as the place to go for the highest quality automotive training."

Brookhouse added that to be successful, institutions must have a strong desire to create an advanced training center and to produce technicians with the highest level of skills. "It also takes instructors such as the ones you have at Perry who are passionate and interested in seeing students succeed," he stressed.

Other changes in the 12-month program included the addition of a variety of modern

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Donations Benefit Automotive Training



Students in Perry's Automotive Technology Program are training on several late-model vehicles thanks to the generosity of several local automobile dealers and manufacturers.

Recent vehicle donations include:

- 2001 Acura CL – donated by American Honda Motor Company. Special thanks to Bob Hall, owner of Bob Hall Auto, for facilitating the donation.
- 2004 Dodge Intrepid donated by Pingrey Ford.
- 2003 Ford F-150 – donated by Valley Ford Nissan.

In addition to the vehicle donations, Mike Olson Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge donated the following items: Snap-on ignition scope, Sun VAT 40, core Dodge Cummins engine, core Dodge 360 engine, four-wheel drive front axle and core Cummins particulate filter.

"These generous donations enable us to offer our students practical, hands-on shop experience," said Erin Fishburn, foundation director. ●

From the President

Strategic Plan Will Help Shape Perry's Future



Moving from "Good to Great" is the theme for a project which is allowing us to examine where we are today while reviewing our past and looking to the future.

The formation of a five-year Strategic Plan is one requirement of Perry's accreditation renewal. However, the process of creating a Strategic Plan is also a valuable exercise in proactive planning. Arriving at a plan which will carry us over the next five years is a complex process of self-examination and goal-setting.

Erin Fishburn, director of Perry Technical Foundation, is spearheading the Strategic Planning process. She started the project in June by distributing surveys to students, staff, faculty, alumni, employers and community

members. The surveys raised questions ranging from student services and campus safety to new programs and enhanced services.

When the surveys were collected and the information tabulated, we created a 21-member committee of faculty, staff and administrators to review the information gathered, form benchmarks and devise actions to help us meet these goals.

The purpose is not to create a Strategic Plan that gathers dust sitting on a shelf, but rather one that is used as we make decisions that will shape Perry's future.

Every five years, the school applies to renew its accreditation through the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges. Perry will submit its application for renewal early in 2011.

In 1969, PTI became the first private technical school in Washington to be accredited by the ACCSC. The Arlington-Virginia-based organization is a private, non-profit independent accrediting agency which

is recognized by the United States Department of Education as an organization which works to ensure quality education for more than 250,000 students at 800 accredited institutions across the United States.

ACCSC assesses the effectiveness of an institution's educational programs by evaluating the infrastructure that supports the delivery of programs as well as educational outcomes, including student achievement.

Creating the Strategic Plan is a valuable exercise. It allows us to review input from the all the groups we serve – students, alumni, employers and community members. It also creates a forum for administrators, faculty and staff members to listen to one another. While we are continuing to evaluate the school's progress and making plans for the future, creating the Strategic Plan forces us to take a critical look at where we have been and where the future will take us. ●

Graphics Program Expands Curriculum

Perry's Visual Communication & Graphic Technology Program is now a two-year training program.

The program was expanded from 18 months to two years to incorporate curriculum which would better meet the needs of industry, said Nathaniel Hull, dean of education.

The program's new curriculum addresses industry needs in the areas of computer interaction, English language and written and oral expression.

The program now includes courses from first and second quarter of the Business Technology & Office Accounting Program.

This modification provides Graphics students with training on the Microsoft Office Suite, business English, keyboarding and business etiquette.

"Equipping students with office skills is a necessity if they are expected to achieve success in the offices of specialized design services, advertising agencies, printing companies, publishers and computer graphic design firms," said Hull.

The modification also requires that students complete an externship in the eighth quarter of the program. ●



PerryNews

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In Brief...

Office Administration Program Renamed

Business Technology & Accounting is the new name for Perry's Computer Applications & Office Administration Program.

"We felt the new name would more accurately reflect the curriculum taught in the program," said Lashel Church, head of the department.

Perry's Office Administration Department consists of three programs: Business Technology & Accounting, Medical Office Administration &

Coding and Legal Assistant/Paralegal.

Pacific Power Awards Grant

The Pacific Power Foundation awarded a \$3,000 grant to Perry Technical Foundation.

The funds will be used to build a transformer trainer for the Electrical Technology Program. The power transformer lab will replicate service voltages from the transformer through the customer's secondary connection.

"The lab will increase the understanding of

continued on page 5...

Two Programs Add New Instructors



Former instructor Forrest Buchmann has rejoined the faculty of Perry's Electrical Technology Program.

Buchmann taught in the program for 10 years, resigning last summer to accept a position in industry. "I missed teaching. I am an educator at heart," he said.

A Port Angeles native, Buchmann enrolled in Perry's Electrical Program after being injured as a logger. He graduated from PTI in 1996 and worked for Pro Controls, a local company that specializes in pasteurization control systems, before joining the Perry faculty in 1999.

Buchmann teaches in the third section of the two-year electrical training program.

Perry has hired Doreen Pastrana as an instructor in the Medical Office Administration & Coding Program.

Pastrana has 17 years of experience in the medical/dental field. She worked as a dental lab technician before moving into the field of medical billing. A Wapato native, she comes to Perry from Generations OB/GYN where she served as front desk supervisor and a medical biller.

"I see teaching at Perry as a way to make a difference by sharing what I have learned working in the industry," Pastrana said.

Perry's Medical Office Administration & Coding is an 18-month training program which prepares students for careers as medical office assistants, medical coders, medical office computer specialists and other support positions in medical offices, hospitals and other health care organizations. The program offers students an opportunity to earn several industry certifications. ●

Counselor Joins PTI Staff

Perry Tech has added a counselor to provide counseling and career services to students.

Marty Walters joined the staff in July. She brings a wealth of counseling and professional experience to her position at Perry. Walters has 17 years of experience counseling adolescents, adults and families in both schools and private settings. She has an additional 10 years of experience in program management, budgeting and scheduling in both the government and private sectors.



In her new role, Walters works out of the Student Services Office providing students with counseling services and career guidance. She said she welcomes the opportunity to use her skills to help students with a different set of issues and challenges. "Perry's student body covers a wide range of ages and life experiences, but all of the students are in a good position to go out into the workforce well prepared for successful careers," she said. "It's exciting to be in a position to help them experience success."

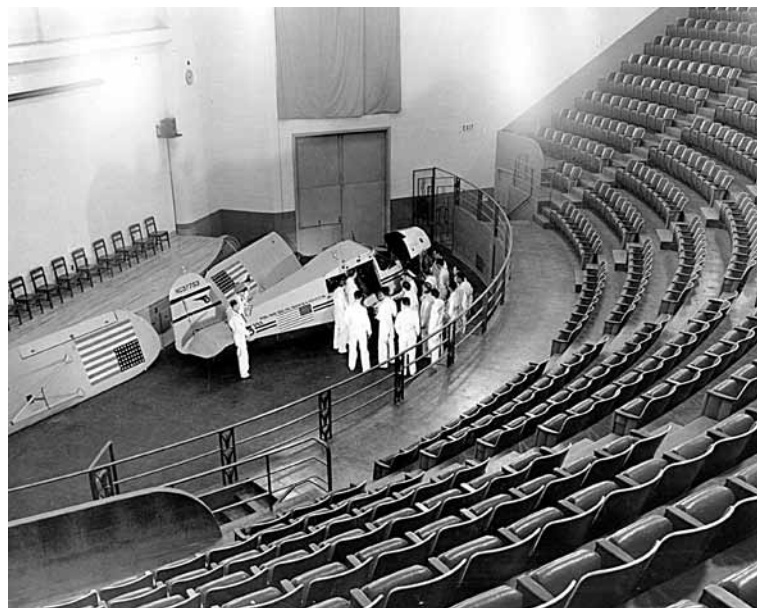
Walters earned a bachelor of arts degree from Eastern Washington University and master of arts degrees in human resources management and psychology from Marymount University.

Walters comes to Perry from Vienna, Virginia, where she was a counselor at Oakton High School in the Fairfax County Public Schools. Her return to Washington is a homecoming – she was raised in Spokane and attended her last two years of high school at Yakima's Central Catholic.

In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening and walking. ●

Where Is It Now?

This Rearwin Model 8135T Cloudster, pictured in the Perry Tech Auditorium, is now in the Mid-America Air Museum in Liberal, Kansas. For a time in 1943, Pan American Airlines leased space at PTI and trained Pan Am personnel on aircraft maintenance. As part of this training, at least one of the 20 Cloudsters manufactured in 1941 as a trainer was disassembled and reassembled in the PTI Auditorium. Richard Warren of Cookeville, Tennessee, purchased the airplane from a group of three partners in who originally purchased the plane from a London Museum in the early 1990s. The plane had not been flown for a number of years, but Warren rebuilt the Ken Royce 120 horsepower engine and recovered the airframe. Once he restored the plane, Warren sold it to the 92-year-old son of the founder of Rearwin Aircraft who in turn donated the plane to the Mid-America Air Museum. ●



Students of the Month

Each month, we honor an exceptional student.

Chad Johnson February 2010

Visual Communication & Graphic Technology



Chad Johnson had a college degree, a vocation in ministry and 10 years of work experience, but he still didn't feel like he had a career.

He decided to pursue his interest in art by enrolling in the Visual

Communication & Graphic Technology Program at Perry Technical Institute. Johnson was honored as February Student of the Month.

"Chad is an excellent example of hard work," said Michael Malaska, head of Perry's Visual Communication & Graphic Technology Program. "Every project, big or small, gets Chad's full attention."

A Yakima native, Johnson graduated from Naches Valley High School in 1993 and earned a bachelor of arts degree in Biblical literature from Northwest University in Kirkland in 1998.

Johnson hopes to combine graphic design training with his background in ministry. "I want to use design to communicate with people visually," he said "You can change the world through design."

Felicia Allen March 2010

Medical Office Administration & Coding



Going back to school is never easy, but balancing school with raising three young children is an even bigger challenge.

Felicia Allen was working as a grocery store clerk when she decided to take a new

career path and enroll in the Medical Office Administration & Coding Program at Perry Tech. Allen has proven herself as a student – she was named Student of the Month for March.

"We see in Felicia all the qualities that an employer wants to see in their employees," said Lashel Church, head of Perry's Office Administration Programs.

Allen had worked for a grocery store chain for five years when she decided she needed to continue her education to further her career.

Allen's instructors describe her as unfailingly helpful to her classmates, careful in her work and reliable with attendance. "I can always count on Felicia to have her work completed without error and to have a smile for her classmates," said instructor Briana Bizier.

Troy Ayon April 2010

I.T. & Communication Systems



Troy Ayon's instructors describe him as the perfect choice for Student of the Month – he does everything that's asked of him and more.

For this reason, Ayon was named April Student of the Month.

"Troy is a pleasure to have in class," said instructor Josh Phillips.

A Yakima native, Ayon graduated from Davis High School in 2002. He attended DigiPen Institute of Technology in Redmond and earned his associate of arts degree from Yakima Valley Community College before following the lead of his older brother, Michael, and enrolling in Perry's Information Technology & Communication Systems Program.

For the past five years, he has worked at the Union Gap Starbucks. "I like my job, but I don't want to work in retail for the rest of my life," he said.

When he graduates in December 2010, Ayon would like to put his skills to work doing networking for a school district or a municipality.

Skylar Franyutti May 2010

Instrumentation & Industrial Automation



Failure wasn't an option for Skylar Franyutti when he enrolled in the Instrumentation & Industrial Automation Technology Program.

The father of two has made good on his promise to make the most of his chance to

return to school by being named May Student of the Month. In the two years he's been enrolled, he's had perfect attendance. Instructors describe Franyutti as an exemplary student – confident, self-directed and helpful to his classmates.

Franyutti dropped out of high school and starting working when he became a father at the age of 17.

Franyutti worked in a manufacturing plant and a hardware warehouse. Two years ago, after the birth of his second child, he decided he wanted more. "I realized I wasn't going to be able to give the kids the life I wanted to give them," he said.

With the encouragement of his wife, Franyutti decided to enroll at Perry. Over the last two years, he's given it his all and will graduate in June. "I've always worked in an industrial environment," he said. "This is the perfect field for me – it allows me to get on the inside and understand how things work."

Terry Shirey June 2010

HVAC & Refrigeration Technology



He arrives early, helps his classmates and demonstrates a level of maturity that has shaped his entire class. These attributes earned Terry Shirey Student of the Month honors for June.

Shirey takes pride in his work ethic, developed over years of working in warehouses and in the parts industry. He enrolled in Perry's Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology Program after losing his job as parts manager at Walker Bay Boats when the company moved its manufacturing plant from Terrace Heights to Mexico. He received assistance through the state-sponsored Dislocated Worker Program and the Federal Trade Act.

Instructors describe Shirey as a model student. "Some company will benefit greatly from all that he has to offer," said Marc Mitchell, head of the HVAC/R department.

A California native, Shirey moved to the Yakima Valley about 15 years ago. When he graduates next June he hopes to land a job in an industrial setting.

Aaron Foss July 2010

Automotive Technology



Aaron Foss was warned that hobbies often make the worst careers, but he's finding that is not necessarily true. His hobby of working on cars is shaping up to be a good career choice.

The Union Gap resident has been named July Student of the Month at Perry Technical Institute.

After graduating from Wapato High School in 2000, Foss attended Yakima Valley Community College before going to work at Gottschalks. He enrolled in Perry's Automotive Program after losing his job when the Yakima Gottschalks store closed. The abrupt end of his retail career led him back to school and on to a new career.

"Aaron is a student who leads others by example and shows professionalism at all times," said Jason Lamiquiz, head of Perry's Automotive Department.

Foss began working on cars when he was in middle school. "I was always intrigued by cars, but I really didn't take it seriously or consider it as a career," he said.

When he graduates in September, Foss hopes to go to work for a dealership or independent somewhere in Washington.

Ron Zike: An Instructor Who Moves At Hurricane Speed



Spend a few minutes with Ron Zike and you'll know how he earned his nickname. To many of his students and friends, Zike is known as "Hurricane" – he thinks, talks and moves at hurricane speed.

For the past 14 years, "Hurricane" has put his experience, expertise and enthusiasm to work training students in the fifth section of Perry's Electrical Technology Program. As an instructor in the program's fifth section, he supervises students as they transition from the classroom to working in the field.

"As a journeyman, you are always teaching someone the trade," he said. "As a journeyman instructor in the field, you are in a position of helping new electricians put everything they learned in the classroom to work on the job."

Like many of his students, Zike said he learns best by doing rather than studying textbooks. "The more you let them do, the more they learn," he said. "I get to see what

they have upstairs when it is put to use."

Electrical know-how came naturally to Zike whose step-father was an electrical contractor. After graduating from high school, Zike attended California State University Fullerton on a track scholarship for one year before going to work on an off-shore oil drilling rig. He went through the union apprenticeship

program and started an electrical contracting business in California with his uncle.

Zike worked at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant before it was mothballed and then returned to Washington in 1976 and worked at Hanford. In 1980, he left the electrician's union and for the next eight years worked as a maintenance electrician for Washington Beef. It was while he was working the swing shift for Washington Beef that Zike answered a call from his friend, Ken McKee, and started working as a journeyman for Perry. Off and on for the next decade, Zike worked graveyard and swing shifts and part-time days as a journeyman for Perry.

In 1996, he accepted a full-time position at Perry, but continued to work a second job. Over the years, he has seen his students' skills change. Today's students are less mechanically oriented and more computer savvy. He's also noticed that it's more challenging to instill

strong work ethics. "You can be the best electrician in the world, but if you're not there when the machine breaks down and I need you, it doesn't really matter what you know."

Despite the recession and the decline in construction, Zike still sees the electrical field as an excellent career for students to pursue. "I have been an electrician for 36 years and I have never collected unemployment," he said. "I may have had to move around and be versatile about what I did, but I have always found work."

Zike teaches his students to always be open to learn from their co-workers. "You don't have to be the oldest guy on the job to have the best idea," he said. "I've learned something from every job I've had."

He also stresses to his students the importance of not burning bridges and of giving an honest day's work to your employer. "Work hard, be honest and you won't have trouble keeping a job."

Zike knows how to play as hard as he works. He enjoys camping, hunting and fishing. His "baby" is his 1930 Model A coupe which he built from the ground up. He also enjoys riding both dirt and road bikes. And, then, there are the grandkids. "I love my five grandkids," says Zike with a grin.

Whether it's work or play, Zike does it with gusto. "My grandfather always said I was going to be a preacher, a lawyer or a politician. I didn't turn out to be any of those things, but my mind always moves at 90 miles per hour!" ●

In Brief... *continued from page 2*

the distribution of electricity and allow students to practice making and testing transformer connections," explained Mike Tucker, head of the Electrical Technology Program.

Perry Website Earns Award

Perry Tech's new website captured a Silver Medal in the annual Chinook Awards sponsored by the Yakima Advertising Federation.

The website was designed by Chris Duren, owner of Invisible Ink. The site was programmed by Invisible Ink's Steve Slaven. The redesigned site, www.perrytech.edu, went live last fall.

The award was presented at federation's annual awards luncheon and show on March 19.

Support PTI by Purchasing a Brick

It's not too late to support Perry Tech by purchasing a commemorative brick.

Perry Technical Foundation is selling engraved bricks which are prominently displayed outside the west entrance to the Eugene Shields Technical Training Center.

"The bricks are a great way to show your support for Perry or to honor someone who is special to you," said Erin Fishburn, foundation director.

Each brick is \$100 and all proceeds benefit the foundation in its efforts to raise money for student scholarships, equipment and capital improvements on the Perry Tech campus.

For more information or to purchase a brick, call Fishburn at (509) 453-0374, Extension 206.

Parking Lot Will Be Expanded

The parking lot on the east side of campus will be expanded this fall to accommodate an additional 100 vehicles.

"This expansion is necessary because our enrollment has grown nearly 60 percent over the last five years," said Christine Cote, PTI president.

Last spring, a 60-spot parking lot was added on the northwest corner of campus. ●

Class Notes...

Timothy Britz is currently living in Hungary where he works as an aircraft maintenance mechanic for Boeing. After graduating from the Graphics Program in 1988, Britz worked in sign making for a short time before helping his father retire from his machine shop.

Art Burg is employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a journeyman hydropower mechanic. A 2007 Instrumentation graduate, Burg lives in Bridgeport, Washington.

John Cope, a 2006 Graphics graduate, serves as regional graphic coordinator at Longview Fibre Paper and Packaging in Yakima. He has worked for the company for three years.

Phil Davis, who graduated from Telecommunications in 1989, has worked for the Washington State Department of Information Services for 21 years. For the past five years, he has managed the security gateways which are the single entry point for all web-based access into state resources. The gateways protect state services such as driver's license renewal, unemployment claims, businesses taxes and social service assistance.

Derek Gieschen, a 2001 Telecommunications graduate, is a network field technician for AT&T Mobility in Bend, Oregon. After graduating from Perry, he worked for U.S. Cellular before going to work for AT&T in 2008. He previously worked for AT&T in downtown Seattle before deciding that he wanted to return to Central Oregon.

Steven Hobson is employed as a technician for Quincy Heating & Air Conditioning. He is a 2004 graduate of the HVAC/R Program.

Michael Koch and Josh Chittim, 2010 Automotive graduates, opened a new business, Apple Valley Automotive Service. The shop is located at 1413 River Road in Yakima.

Kris Leonard is a SCADA instrument technician for the City of Portland. Leonard, a 2003 Instrumentation graduate, lives in Washougal with his wife and two young daughters.

Tim Mason, a 1971 Instrumentation graduate, is a technology designer with Dynamix Engineering in Columbus, Ohio.

Bruce Pritchard teaches HVAC/R classes at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center for Walla Walla Community College. Pritchard, who graduated from Perry's HVAC/R Program in 1984, also operates a HVAC/electrical training business called Fresh Air. ●

Your Perry family wants to know what you have been up to. Please email any recent news about yourself which you would like to share with fellow alumni to perrynews@perrytech.edu.

Generous Donor Provides Full-Tuition Scholarship

It was the hardest letter Christy Wahl had ever written – putting her gratitude into words was nearly impossible.

This spring Wahl was the recipient of a full-tuition scholarship to complete Perry's Medical Office Administration & Coding Program. "Words cannot begin to express what this means to me," said Wahl, who will graduate in March 2011.

The scholarship was made possible through a generous donation from Pat Temple. The scholarship will pay for the remainder – a total of four quarters – of Wahl's tuition.

The scholarship was a welcome surprise for Wahl who is putting herself through school, relying on financial aid and loans to pay for tuition, books and living expenses. After graduating from Davis High School in

2001, Wahl took a few detours before finding her way to Perry. Her father has been incarcerated since she was a teen-ager and for while she lived with her grandparents.



She moved to Oregon, tried out another technical school and jumped from one part-time job to another.

"I went through a rough time in my life – I got into some bad stuff," she said. "I didn't like where my life was going and I finally realized I needed to do something about it."

Wahl came back to Yakima and moved in with her mother. While she was

working at a local hospital she realized that she'd like to pursue a career in the medical field. "I always liked office work and this program seemed like the perfect fit."

Her goal is to graduate with straight As and so far she off to a good start. "I want to find a job that I love doing," she said, "I don't want to have to rely on anyone else. I want to take care of myself."

In addition to the Temple Scholarship, Perry Technical Foundation honored Wahl for her academic achievements by awarding her the Mary Monroe Davis Scholarship.

For now, the helping hand she received was a boost, a step up to what she hopes will be a better life. She accepted the Temple Scholarship with tears in her eyes and immediately called her mother. "Receiving these scholarships relieves so much of the stress I was under. I am so grateful." ●

Employees Team Up To Help Students



The staff and faculty of Perry Technical Institute are teaming up to help students in need by creating the Perry Pantry.

The pantry, located in the Student Services area, is stocked with food items that can be eaten while at school such as granola bars, fruit cups, instant oatmeal, juice, crackers and soup in a cup. The pantry also has essential toiletry items and larger food items that can be taken home to family members.

"We have encountered students who come to school hungry and we want to help them," said Anna Hopkins, attendance/foundation coordinator. "When students are hungry, it's difficult for them to apply themselves at school."

The pantry shelves are filling quickly, thanks to the generosity of employees and several local businesses. If you would like to assist Perry students by making a donation to the pantry, please call Hopkins at (509) 453-0374, Extension 230. ●



Perry House Removed to Make Room for Expansion

A bit of Perry's past has disappeared. The large house located to the north of campus was recently torn down.

The home was part of one of four farms which were located on the 52-acre piece of property that Harriet I. Perry purchased in 1940. The home, built in 1920 and owned by J.R. Schwarze, was left intact to serve as a home to the school's first director, Frederick G. Leasure. Over the years, several school directors and instructors lived in the 3,200 square foot home.

"The foundation was unstable and after much consideration, we determined that it was not feasible to renovate the house," said PTI President Christine Cotè.

The property will be used for future campus expansion. ●

In Memory...

Frank T. Ausborn, a graduate of Perry's Maintenance Program, died on July 7 at the age of 71. He was born in Baldwin, Georgia, and settled in California before relocating to Yakima in 1957. He served in the Army and was stationed at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. He moved back to Yakima and was employed at Herber's Service Station until 1981. He later worked for Dowty Decoto.

Eugene "Gene" Delbert Bridges, Sr. died on May 28. He was 85. Gene was born in Yakima and worked for the Civil Conservation Corps before enlisting in the Navy. After serving in the Navy, he graduated from Perry's Aircraft and Engine Mechanic Program and then continued his career in aviation mechanics, first for United Air Lines and then flying as a pilot/flight engineer for TWA. He lived in Kansas City and Albuquerque before moving back to his hometown to be near family.

Gary James Dellinger, 62, died on July 10 after a motorcycle accident on Chinook Pass. He was born in Yakima and graduated from East Valley High School in 1967 and Perry Technical Institute in 1968. He went on to

a 32-year career at Safeway as a checker and dairy manager.

Gene Gibson, 69, died on April 30. He was born and raised in Toppenish and enrolled in Perry's Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology Program after serving in Vietnam with the United States Air Force. He worked for Montgomery Wards for many years as an appliance repairman. He moved to Florida in the early 1980s where he worked as a chef on a tugboat. In 1987, he moved back to the Yakima Valley where he farmed and worked in construction until retiring in the mid-2000s.

Ian Gordon "Scotty" Hannah died April 15 in Albany, Oregon, at the age of 84. Scotty graduated from Perry's Instrumentation Program in 1963. He was born in Barhill, Scotland, and served in the Royal Air Force during World War II. In 1949, he came to the United States to visit relatives in Pomeroy where he worked on wheat ranches. After graduating from Perry, he worked at a nuclear test site in Idaho in the 1960s before going to work for Oremet. He was hired by Wah Chang

in 1971 and worked for the company until his retirement in 1993.

Auto Body Program graduate Paul "Sonny" Leonard died July 16 in Yakima. He was born in Seattle in 1942 and enrolled at Perry after graduating from Highland High School. He owned his own business, Paul's Body Shop in Yakima, which his son, Christopher, now operates.

Instrumentation graduate Scott "Skeeter" Michael Misner died March 31 at the age of 47. He was born in Crosby, Minn., and graduated from high school in Soldotna, Alaska, in 1982. After graduating from Perry in 1988, he worked for American Instruments in Glendora, California, and on oil drilling platforms in Alaska, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore for Marathon, Unocal and Chevron. ●

If you know of a Perry graduate or former staff member who has passed away, please forward the information to perrynews@perrytech.edu.

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Partnership Helps Auto Keep Pace With Industry *continued from page 1...*

hand tools, scan tools, multimeters and lab scopes. The program upgraded to Verus, Snap-on's state-of-the-art diagnostic platform. Four automotive lifts were added in the shop, which improve the ease and safety of working on vehicles. The tool room was reorganized and Mark Dean was hired to serve as tool room attendant. He checks tools in and out to students and keeps track of the inventory of tools.

Equipment isn't the only change – the mustard yellow paint was replaced with a shade of burgundy that matches the other buildings on campus.

The changes have brought a new enthusiasm to students enrolled in the program. "They are really putting us on track to have the skills and knowledge we need to get the job done," said Aaron Foss, an Automotive student who is scheduled to graduate in September. "This will make us more competitive when we hit the job market." ●



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