

THE JOHNSONIAN

2020

Twenty-five year old Janet Gibbons is off to a great start after her first semester as a Johnson College heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) student. The native of Robesonia, Pennsylvania who now lives in Hamlin, has received two prestigious scholarships to kick off her degree pursuit. Gibbons has received both the Women in HVACR Scholarship and the Horatio Alger Career & Technical Scholarship. After submitting a transcript and essays for consideration, Gibbons was delightfully surprised before the fall semester began. She was awarded over \$3,000 in aid to go toward pursuing her associate degree.

Women in HVACR, was organized exclusively for educational purposes to further the growth of women in all areas of the HVACR industry, including technical, sales, management and ownership. Their goal is to provide their members with a variety of opportunities to network and develop in a professional environment. Gibbons attended a reception in Boston, Massachusetts to receive her scholarship.

The Career & Technical Scholarship Program, funded through the Horatio Alger Endowment Fund, provides scholarships to students who have faced and overcome great obstacles in their lives who wish to pursue a career or technical education at an accredited non-profit post-secondary institution in the United States.

When deciding on a career path, Gibbons said she chose heating, ventilation, and air conditioning because of “the

amount of career opportunities.” She had a family member attend Johnson College and after passing by the College for many years, she decided, “This is where I want to be.” She knew that a desk job was not for her and her boyfriend served as an inspiration. She said, “I did not want to spend time getting a degree in something I do not like.”

Her valuation of the degree is a theme that rings true for Walter Wood '11, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning department chair. Wood was part of Johnson College's first graduating class of the program and has been leading the department since the fall of 2018. Wood said, “There is a tremendous need for qualified technicians. The HVAC department is approached from various local companies that are in search of multiple candidates for positions on a regular basis.”

Speaking about women like Janet in their pursuit of a career in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, Wood said, “The HVAC field has evolved and there are ample opportunities for female students to prosper. Women in the HVAC field tend to pay more attention to detail and that is very crucial when dealing with in-depth wiring diagrams and other various tasks.” Wood is extremely proud of Janet and her ambitions to be a great technician. He knows that the drive she put forth to earn her scholarships is a true testament to her character. She has also set a great example for her classmates in just one semester. Wood added, “Janet is a great student with a lot of potential. She is detail-oriented and strives to put her best foot forward. She tends to be the last student to leave the classroom for the day, wanting to continue on additional projects. From an instructor standpoint, this truly shows her drive and determination she has to be the best she can be.”

Gibbons is thankful for the instruction of Wood and instructor Mike Visbisky for helping her to build the foundations of her technical training. According to Gibbons, more women should be heading into the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning field. To women interested in this program, Gibbons says, “Go for it. There is nothing that should stop you from doing what you love and there are so many opportunities for work and great pay.”





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

WHAT A SEMESTER, JOHNSON COLLEGE!

We hit the ground running in the fall with our largest student body to date! This year, we have high school students getting a jump start on their careers through the Industry Fast Track and dual enrollment programs. We're also providing more real-world, hands-on learning from our industry immersion and live labs than ever before. These experiences put students right into industry and get them ready to be contributors to the workforce of NEPA. All of these initiatives further our goal of highlighting the value of two-year colleges that focus on career and trade education. In keeping with our founder's mission, we are training students for in-demand careers of today and preparing them for advances that may affect their fields into the future. Johnson College continues to be the most valuable resource for the changing technological needs of our society and our community.

Katie Leonard

Katie Leonard, Ed.D.



CELEBRATION OF INDUSTRY

Johnson College hosted Dr. Katie Leonard's Celebration of Industry which commemorated the intersection of industry and education in Northeastern Pennsylvania as part of the inauguration activities to recognize Johnson College's President & CEO. The week of events in September focused on the future of technical education and consisted of a

campus wide showcase with open labs and presentations by Johnson College faculty, students, and industry partners. The student panel was the highlight of the week's events. Employers had the opportunity to hear directly from the future workforce. Donors, alumni, and community friends were also invited to an evening reception at the ISUZU Center of Excellence Training Center in Pittston, PA.

INDUSTRY PARTNER OF THE YEAR BREAKFAST

As part of the Celebration of Industry events, Johnson College honored industry partners who continuously support students and graduates at the Industry Partner of the Year Breakfast. Honorees were chosen based on their history of philanthropy, volunteerism, and mentorship of Johnson College students and graduates. Dr. Leonard recognized an organization from each of the College's program areas.





TRUNK OR TREAT

Students and staff from Johnson College, as well as community members, participated in the 6th Annual Trunk-or-Treat event on October 30th. More than 1,300 local children were in attendance at this free community event.



VETERAN'S DAY LUNCHEON

The student engagement department hosted a luncheon for veteran students and faculty to honor them for their military service. A short ceremony took place on November 8th that included readings by Harry McFarland '18, Mr. Todd Campbell '82, Joshua Shaver '18, '20, and Student Veterans of America Student Leader, Joe Minzak '19, '20.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED

The Annual Scholarship Breakfast for Donors and Recipients was held at Fiorelli Catering on November 6th. Student speakers included Alexis Fetterman, '21, and Peter Graziano, '20. They spoke about how receiving a scholarship to supplement their educational costs has impacted their

experiences at Johnson College. Douglas Cook, Regional Marketing Manager of MotorWorld Mile One Autogroup spoke about the importance of supporting Johnson College as a donor and the positive impact it has on students as well as the College.



ROBERT H. SPITZ FOUNDATION GRANT

The College's veterinary technology program has received a grant from The Robert H. Spitz Foundation, administered by the Scranton Area Community Foundation for \$5,000. The 2019 grant money supports Johnson College's Animal Care Center which serves the public by providing routine animal care. Specifically, the grant supports the center's low income spay and neuter services.



JOHNSON COLLEGE ANNOUNCES COLLABORATION WITH FOREST CITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Johnson College and Forest City Regional High School announced a grant partnership funded by the United States Department of Agriculture on October 22nd. The grant assists Johnson College in bringing trade and technical curriculum into Forest City Regional High School. It will also support the purchase of instructional materials which will aid in the delivery of college level courses. Programs that are part of the grant plan include Architectural Drafting & Design Technology, Logistics & Supply Chain Management, and Transportation.

SKILLS USA

Led by chapter advisors, Jim Burden, technical instructor, and Cole Goldstein, advanced manufacturing technology program director, nine Johnson College students competed in the 2019 Regional SkillsUSA competition on December 16th. All nine earned a medal and will continue on to the state competition in Hershey, PA. This is the first year that Johnson College has had a team participate in the post-secondary category.

Johnson College hosts the regional competitions annually. The 2019 competition had over 130 high school students from Lackawanna CTC, Carbon County CTC, Delaware Valley High School, Hazleton

Area CTC, Susquehanna CTC, Tunkhannock Area High School, Wallenpaupack Area High School, Honesdale High School, West Side CTC, and Wilkes-Barre CTC participate.

SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers as well as high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations, health occupations, and for further education. SkillsUSA programs include local, state, and national competitions for students to demonstrate occupational and leadership skills.



SAVE THE DATES

APRIL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 4th from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

2020 GOLDEN ALUMNI REUNION & INDUCTION CEREMONY

Saturday, April 25th from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

28TH ANNUAL JOHNSON COLLEGE OPEN

Monday, May 18th at Pine Hills Golf Club, Scranton, PA registration begins at 9:00 A.M.