

THE JOHNSONIAN

2020

Kyle Bonham was selected as the Outstanding Senior of the month for January at Forest City High School. But that was not the only accolade he received. Bonham also received his Welding Technology Certificate, completed during the Fall 2019 semester through Johnson College's Industry Fast Track program.

Industry Fast Track is a joint partnership with area school districts and Johnson College. Industry Fast Track offers high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to remain enrolled full-time at their high school while simultaneously enrolling in secondary and post-secondary coursework on the Johnson College campus. The coursework meets state requirements for high school graduation while providing college level courses.

Bill Burke, Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs said, "The industry fast track program gives area high school students the opportunity to gain college experience, earn credits, as well as save time and money." He also stressed, "Students earning their college degree or certificate earlier enables them to enter the workforce quicker to meet the demands of industry."

Bonham began the Welding Technology program in the Fall 2018 semester while he was beginning his junior year at Forest City High School. Bonham realized the benefits that starting his welding training could have. He said, "I first started welding because of the growing demand for welders in the industry, but it wasn't until my teacher approached me about the college opportunity that I really realized that this opportunity would give me a massive head start. Not only that, it would also greatly increase my education and skills."

While going through the program, Bonham said he faced some challenges like transportation. But luckily, he was able to overcome it with the help of his family and high school. "I have a great family and school that supported me throughout the time

I was at the College. My school would help by dropping me off with one of the buses and then one of my family members would pick me up. Both my family and my school sacrificed many hours of their time to make this possible and without their help I would not have been able to do this."

Once Bonham graduates high school, he plans on continuing his education in the field of welding engineering. He has received his certifications in both 3g and 4g Flux Core Arc Welding and Shielded Metal Arc Welding and is currently working toward others.

While reflecting about his experience, he said, "Johnson College has given me an opportunity of a lifetime and I will never forget it. My time at Johnson showed me that this College is one of the best around and the fact that classes are small ensures that everyone gets the help they need."

When asked what advice he would give to students who were considering participating in programs like Industry Fast Track, he said, "Stay strong and remember that what you are doing is amazing. You are attempting something that not many people get an opportunity to do. Also, try not to let the stress get to you. Take it day by day and focus on the task at hand, don't try to get ahead of yourself." He also mentioned that, "I also want to thank everyone that has made this possible, I know this took a lot of hard work to organize and I am very happy to have completed my education at Johnson. I hope that many more students get the opportunity to do what I have done because it is an awesome opportunity that has changed my life."



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

The 2019-2020 academic year was full of challenges we could never have anticipated. But with every bump and detour, Johnson College students persevered. I know I have said it many times before, but students, you never cease to amaze me. Your hard work and dedication to your education and developing your skills will benefit you not just in your careers but also in life. Your hard work and dedication to your education and developing your skills will benefit you in your careers and in life. These

skills will make you a desirable employee in the skilled and essential workforce that we have been educating you for.

We as a college spent a lot of this past semester thinking of new ways to deliver our hands-on education. That is the great thing about Johnson College: we know how to respond quickly and creatively to find solutions. We are looking forward to having students back on campus starting this summer and then more in the fall with our hybrid format. Despite the changes that will happen on campus, we are committed to delivering the best hands-on education. Together, we work.

Katie Leonard

Katie Leonard, Ed.D.



STUDENT PANTRY GOES BEYOND THE CAMPUS

The goal of the Johnson College Student Pantry, located in the Counseling and Disability Services office, is to provide a little help to our students in need, so they can focus on obtaining their education and training to enter the workforce. The pantry usually offers items such as: non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, and school supplies.

As the spring semester transitioned to remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pantry was suddenly not being utilized by students. This is when the Counseling and Disability Services department took the opportunity to temporarily revise the pantry's goal from providing a little help to our students to providing a little help to our community. The department partnered with Friends of the Poor through the

Lackawanna County Food Policy to coordinate a pickup of all the unused food from the Café and non-perishable items from the pantry. These donations were then made available to those in need within our community through food distribution initiatives.

If you would like to help replenish the Student Pantry, as we welcome students back on campus, please contact counseling@johnson.edu to coordinate a drop-off. We're looking for non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, and school supplies. Since food storage space is limited, local grocery store gift cards and gas cards will also be accepted. On behalf of the students who benefit from your donations to the pantry, thank you.



ONLINE LEARNING

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the spring semester was taught remotely through online learning. The campus community adapted quickly to accommodate the Stay-at-Home mandate. Instructors recorded live demos from their homes and began using new simulation software to help with instruction. Even with the shift to online learning, many students were able to complete their lab and internship hours at essential businesses.

Another aspect of the student experience that adapted well to the new circumstances was Student Engagement. Nolan Renz, Director of Student Engagement said, "Our students

were very responsive to our new virtual engagement efforts. Unfortunately, we weren't able to offer the large scale events that students have become accustomed to attending in the spring. This new set of circumstances provided an opportunity for students to participate in new virtual offerings, such as: virtual hangouts, weekly contests, and remote club meetings. They helped keep students, many of whom are part of the essential workforce, engaged with the College and each other while learning distantly." Renz also shared, "Our student leaders really stepped up in the remote setting. Members of all of our organizations were very enthusiastic to stay engaged and help their fellow students in any way possible." The semester ended with the annual student leader appreciation event successfully hosted virtually this year.

A SUCCESSFUL FIRST EVER VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Johnson College hosted its first ever virtual open house series during the month of April. Each week, a different division of study was highlighted in a webinar format. The webinars featured information about financial aid, career services, and a variety of other student services the College offers. Bill Burke, Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs, said "Although we could not meet in person and conduct campus tours, we were able to meet face to face virtually and provide 360 degree virtual tours of our labs." Participants asked questions and received answers in real time by a group of panelists that included staff and faculty. With feedback through surveys and conversions of applications, Burke determined that the sessions were beneficial. He continued, "Attendees appreciated our commitment to supply the same smaller group settings and personal attention Johnson College

would provide during an in person open house. This first ever Johnson College virtual open house met their expectations."



OUR GRADUATES ARE IN DEMAND

Like most high school graduates, Carter Terysen wasn't sure what the future might hold after he graduated from Honesdale High School in 2018. Two years later, after obtaining his associate degree in Carpentry and Cabinetmaking Technology from Johnson College, Carter has discovered that his career is quickly headed in the right direction.

The day after his last class at Johnson on May 8, Carter learned he was hired as a carpenter at Dakan Enterprises in Honesdale, PA. He has been working at Dakan for several weeks and loves his new job. In addition to his own initiative and hard work, Carter credits the education and skills he obtained at Johnson for helping him secure a great job in a field he loves.

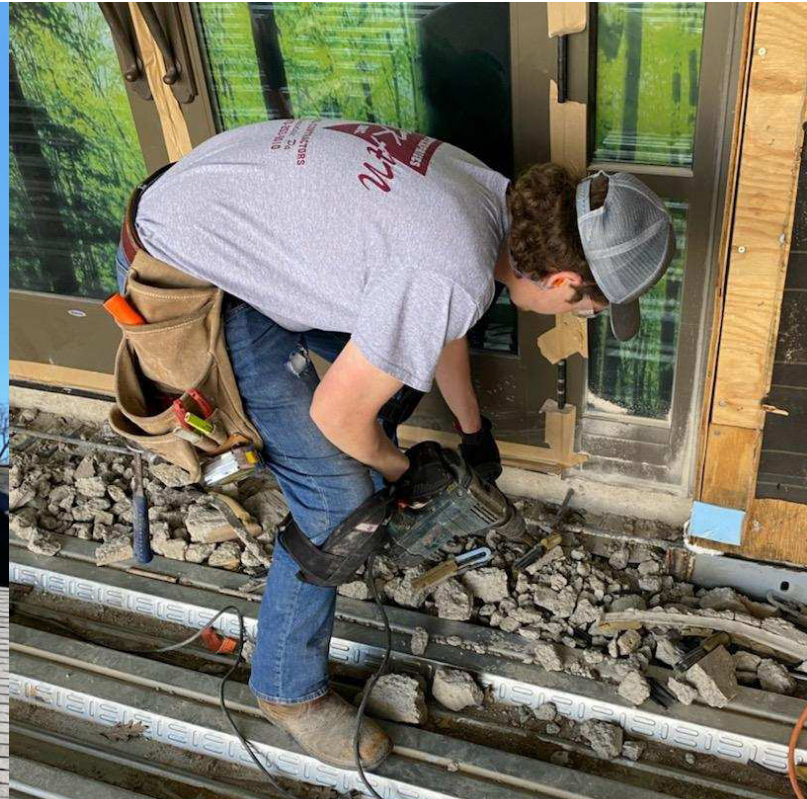
Carter, who placed first in Skills USA College Division carpentry competition, particularly credits Todd Campbell '82, director of Johnson's Carpentry and Cabinetmaking Technology program for helping him refine his craft.

"Mr. Campbell was absolutely great. I'm using so much of what he taught me every single day. My supervisors were really impressed with how much I knew even though I'm just starting out," he said.

"Carter was really a great student and it's a pleasure to see him succeed," Todd said. "He's dedicated and extremely hard working."

While jobs in many professions are difficult to find in the wake of COVID 19 pandemic, recent Johnson graduates such as Carter are taking advantage of the essential skills they have learned. Many are finding jobs in a variety of fields such as manufacturing, electronics, welding, health sciences, and more, that are critical to the regional and national economy.

"I'm really glad I went to Johnson after high school. I feel like I'm in a great place in my life right now and I'm looking forward to the future," Carter said.



SAVE THE DATE

IN-PERSON OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, July 25, 2020

COMMENCEMENT

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 | Circle Drive-In, Dickson City, PA

DAY OF GIVING

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

johnson.edu

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