

TECH TALK The Love Issue

What's new at Crawford Tech

Every month is a busy month at Crawford Tech and February is no different. Crawford Tech hosted 8 full days of work sessions with over 330 applicants from our local high schools in attendance. During work sessions, each student meets their potential instructor and classmates while they participate in a shop related activity. Culinary applicants made homemade cookies, Electronics applicants made a small battery operated light, and Sports Medicine applicants spent their sessions pretending to be patients! The work sessions are a vital part of the admission process at Crawford Tech. Great job to all faculty and staff and good luck to all applicants!

January/February 2024 brought the addition of three new staff. We welcome our new Precision Machining Instructor Joshua Mangel. Josh comes to us with over 16 years of industry and education experience in machining. Prior to Crawford Tech, Josh was a production manager at Time Machine in Franklin and was also the CNC and Master Cam adult education instructor at PMI. Through this experience, Josh was drawn to educating others which led him to Crawford Tech.

Paula Loveless joined Crawford Tech as an Instructional Aide. Paula worked as a paraprofessional in the Florida public school system for years. Paula now resides back in Crawford County near her parents and childhood home. Alice Williams also joined our Instructional Aide staff. She worked for 33 years as a lab analyst at Free-Col Laboratories and for 13 years as an aide for Crawford Central. Alice lives in Meadville with her husband and cats. WELCOME!

Skills USA and NTHS at Crawford Tech

Crawford Tech sent a bus full of students to the Skills USA District 10 competition on January 12, and we definitely came home winners.

Crawford Tech 1st Place District 10 winners are:

- Jacob Graham, Electronics Technology
- Kylie Shrock, Cosmetology
- Reagan Bohrer, Health Occupations
- Cienna Guthrie, Cosmetology
- Nathaniel Gordon, Computer & IS

Crawford Tech 2nd Place District 10 winners:

- Garrett Crawford, Auto Technology
- Brock Anderson, Drafting and Design
- Trenton Bowen, Culinary Arts
- Levi Motter, Health Occupations
- Justin Crawford, Auto Collision

Crawford Tech 3rd Place District 10 winners:

- Rylee Yount, Computer & IS
- Zoe Villalba, Health Occupations
- Chloe Wensel, Health Occupations
- Pheonix Humphreys, Welding CV
- Jonathan Grundy, Welding CV
- Raeden Covine-Kiser, Welding CV
- Isaac McCauley, Carpentry

Our 1st place winners will have an award ceremony on Monday 2-26-24 before moving on to the state competition. Good Luck Tech Students!!



**Meet Josh Mangel,
Precision Machining
Instructor**



**Meet Paula Loveless,
Instructional Aide**



**Meet Alice Williams,
Instructional Aide**

**WELCOME NEW
CRAWFORD TECH STAFF!**

TECH TALK

The Love Issue

Staff Spotlight Tim Barickman

Tim Barickman came out of retirement in 2022 and basically saved our Machining Program. He became the shop's full time instructor for over a year. Now with Josh Mangel at the helm, Tim is finally able to retire again.

What brought you to Crawford Tech? I had retired from Tessy Automation in 2021 and became the evening instructor at Uniquely Abled Academy at Tech. Mike later asked me to be on the substitute list. by 2022 I was subbing full time for Jim Hillwig and ended up being here almost two years!

Now that you can actually retire, what plans do you have? I am going to ride my motorcycle more, tinker with my cars and go fishing more often!

Your wife Bev retires from Tech later this year. Do you have mutual plans? Not really. Bev is a homebody and as long as I keep her lawnmower full of gas she is a happy lady!

What did you enjoy most about working here? Watching the students learn and develop. I feel like I made a difference.

Hidden Talent? I love to smoke meats on my Traeger Smoker.

Who have been your favorite people to work with? Dan Mealy. When we are together we solve the world's problems!

What would students and coworkers be surprised to know about you? After high school I worked at Heatrix making heaters. One day I went to the machine shop and it sparked my curiosity. That led me to night school and getting my apprenticeship. I later taught the evening adult class at Tech and Jim Hillwig was one of my students!

What do you think you will miss the most? The great working environment at Crawford Tech. And I will miss the students.

If you could pass on any wisdom to your students and colleagues, what would it be? Have patience..

HAPPY RETIREMENT TIM!! YOU WILL BE MISSED!

Crawford Tech February Birthdays

Auto Collision: Kevin Lewis 2-27, Jacob McCauley 2-29

Auto Tech: Ryan Yunik 2-8.

Carpentry: Zoe Allen 2-14, Caleb Anderson 2-19, Camren Eckenrode 2-16, Aiden English 2-27, Destiny Gates 2-16,

Computer: Carter Boardley 2-15, Arion Cotterman 2-7, Dylina Despenes 2-20, Cameron Keller 2-2

Cooperative Education: Kara Blair 2-23, Alexa Lynn 2-2, Adrianna Stearns 2-21

Cosmetology: Gianna Araujo 2-17

Culinary Arts: Kiersten Newman 2-16,

Drafting: Joseph Granat 2-8, Tyler Pinkard 2-4, Henry Travis 2-13, Tyler Wright 2-13,

Electrical Occupations: Richard Atkins 2-10

Health Occupations: Kora Bellinger 2-12, Ciara Hutchinson 2-6, Valerie McGowan 2-8.

HVAC: Chaden Hart 2-3, Jonas Van Dusen 2-17

Sports Med: Harper Nelson 2-14, Luc Sorenson 2-5

Vet Sciences: Kendall Craft 2-19, Brooke Davis 2-13, Ava Thom 2-24, Colt Wetherell 2-16

Welding CVMS: Alexander Paskorz 2-2



Check out our awesome Tech ladies Christine, Tiffany and Jackie spreading some sugar love at field day 2023.

Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

Monday 2-19-24: President's Day/ No school

Monday 2-26-24: Skills USA Awards Ceremony

Wednesday 2-28: Skills sponsored cookie and hot cocoa break.

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The Love Issue

Deep Thoughts With Student Services

Each year Valentines Day suggests the celebration of romantic love shared by a couple. However, Valentines Day is also a day to celebrate the love of friends, family and coworkers. This month let's honor one of the most important relationships we have--our workplace friendships.

After over 25 years of experience in hospitals, local government and public schools, I have personally never witnessed nor worked in an environment with the amount of love and camaraderie as Crawford Tech. I would bet almost every faculty member and staff have a close friend here at work. But have you ever thought about how powerful these friendships can be? The research is clear. Camaraderie has a profound impact on our workplace.

Camaraderie fosters a positive environment that promotes staff well-being. When colleagues form strong relationships built on trust, mutual respect and friendship a great sense of community is created like we have at Crawford Tech. When friendships thrive in the workplace, employees are more apt to bring their best selves to work.

Workplace friendships make us happier with our jobs and increase our engagement and productivity. When we have this sense of camaraderie and connection at work it improves our overall sense of purpose and belonging. Friendships at work also ease the blow of work-related stress and reduce burnout. Having a support system of coworkers who understand and empathize with work challenges helps us cope with every day stress. These friendships also provide us with social support and encouragement, which improves our mental health, overall well-being and job satisfaction.

Although not intentionally, we sometimes take these wonderful relationships and friendships at work for granted even though they are the heart and soul of Crawford Tech. Try to take notice of the love, laughter and friendship at the next faculty meeting, the next Ted Talk or the next time you walk into the faculty lounge at lunchtime. Can you feel the love?

The Student Services Team

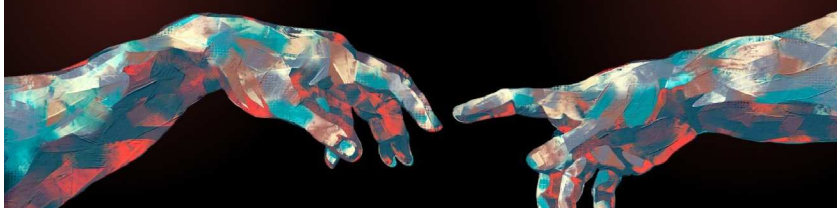
Tech Feels The Love!



Just for fun!



Workplace Friendships



The Heart of Crawford Tech