



CBI NEWS

the newsletter for business and industry training

We're on the web:

www.vhcc.edu/cbi

Kennametal Focused on Growth

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Contact the Center for Business and Industry at Virginia Highlands Community College for customized training.

276-739-2430

Located along the I-81 corridor in Chilhowie, Virginia, Kennametal is conveniently located to many of the customers it serves in the mining, agriculture, and construction industries. Kennametal specializes in brazing carbide tips onto steel parts.

The resurgence of the mining industry in Southwest Virginia is just one of the factors that keeps Kennametal running three shifts at full capacity. Scott Stewart, Plant Manager, who is new to the Chilhowie plant, but not to Kennametal told CBI that the Chilhowie facility is poised for growth, and in fact, they are currently hiring experienced assembly operators. "This plant has solid product lines and experienced employees. The people here have a 'let's do it now' point of view and stay focused on completing tasks. Although we will probably never be Kennametal's largest facility, we certainly can be Kennametal's best facility. We will accomplish this by having world class processes for everything we do," stated Stewart who has worked for Kennametal Corporation for the past 12 years.

Kennametal has been a well respected and involved member of the manufacturing community in Smyth County since opening its doors in 1980. In fact, Human Resources Manager, Rhonda Taylor, currently serves on the Executive Board of the Smyth Washington Regional Facilities Authority (SWIFA).

"I chose to become actively involved with SWIFA because of my passion to help this area regain the manufacturing jobs it has lost and to see the next generation of Smyth County and Washington County residents have the best of the best," said Taylor. The \$900,000 Virginia Works grant which SWIFA received in late 2006 should pave the way in helping Taylor see her goal to fruition. The purpose of the grant is to help promote manufacturing jobs, to match current and future training needs with existing training providers, and to help match qualified candidates with job openings. "I believe the residents in this area are the best of the best and will help our companies compete in this global market. They are going to need to improve their skills for the jobs of the future and it's going to take everyone (manufacturing, education, government, and the workforce) to make it happen," commented Taylor.



Over the last six months, Taylor and Stewart have been putting this job skills training philosophy into practice, contracting with CBI to offer CPR & First Aid and computer and leadership classes for their employees. "I want everyone to have the skills necessary to do their job in the most efficient manner possible. Specifically, they need to know how to communicate with and lead others," said Stewart. "CBI has provided quality training at a reasonable cost. They have been flexible and able to schedule the training times around our work schedules." Kennametal is achieving tangible results from this training. Stewart went on to say, "several people on our staff have improved their MS Office skills and are accomplishing tasks that were probably too intimidating for them in the past." Of the leadership training, Taylor said this, "The AchieveGlobal Genuine Leadership workshops is top training material for enhancing the management team and leaders. The training targets specific real life applications and is interactive enough for any level of management to take away something practical."

Kennametal Inc., is a leading global supplier of tooling, engineered components and advanced materials that are consumed in production processes. With 14,000 employees worldwide, the corporation's annual sales are over \$2.3 billion, nearly half of which comes from sales outside the United States. Kennametal is headquartered in Latrobe, Pa., USA, and has been named one of the Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania. Kennametal was founded in 1938 and today is represented in more than 60 countries. For more information about Kennametal Chilhowie or SWIFA, please contact Rhonda Taylor at 276-646-0401.

CBI Set to Move into the Fast Lane with New Motorsports Technology Career Studies Certificate



CBI will officially pull into the fast lane this August when it partners with the Washington County Neff Center to offer the first in a series of classes that will provide students with a Career Studies Certificate in Motor Sports Technology. The program will build on the current ASE Certification program available to Washington County High School students and will enable students to receive college credit while still enrolled in high school. Evening classes will be offered for adults interested in pursuing a career in a number of areas related to motor sports. The first class offered this fall is Chassis Development to be followed by Chassis Setup in the spring 2007 semester. "The idea for this training program came from the opportunity to apply for grant funds from the Virginia Community College



(Advisory Board Members pictures from top row left: Wade Lopez, Wade Day, Darrel Hollman, Jim Helton, Sam McKinney, Scott Anderson, Jeff Roark and Caleb Hollman)

System, and the desire to promote technical education in Washington and Smyth County" said Melinda Leland, dean of CBI. "We've worked with Mr. Doug Sparks and the Neff Center in the past to offer Automotive Technology Classes, and knew they had a state of the art facility and an existing curriculum on which to build. Automotive Service Technology Instructor, Scott Anderson, who himself has a passion for the racing industry, was eager to help us develop our curriculum and take the lead in instruction." "I was so excited about this opportunity when Melinda and VHCC approached me about helping develop a motorsports program in Washington County," said Mr. Anderson. "Thirty years ago when I got out of high school and looked around for a program like this, the only one I could find was in California. I've always had a passion for racing, and I'm excited about the chance to help others obtain the knowledge and technical skills to fulfill their dreams."

The primary goal of this career studies certificate is to train individuals in the basics of race car set up to enable them to be more qualified to find a job in field of motorsports. Mr. Anderson went on to say, "not everyone who completes the 15 credit hours will go on to work for NASCAR, but they might be inspired to become an engineer, fabricator, welder, an entrepreneur or even a teacher. We hope we might just change some attitudes about career and technical education at the same time."

For more information about the Motorsports Technology Career Studies Certificate, please contact Melinda Leland at (276) 739-2548.

First Administrative Professionals Conference Big Success

Building on VHCC's years long tradition of celebrating Administrative Professionals Day with a luncheon, this year CBI was proud to also offer a conference recognizing the contributions of Administrative Professionals in Southwestern Virginia. The day long event featured motivational speaker, Lisa Jones with Cracked Pot Ministries and Fitness by Design owner, Linda Stollings. In addition to the key note speeches, participants were able to select from six different workshops to attend. Subject areas included personality profiling, dealing with difficult people and using Microsoft Outlook Calendar as an organizational tool.



(Speaker, Lisa Jones)

Two lucky winners also received full makeovers including, hair, make-up provided by A Step Ahead Beauty School and a fashion consultation by CATO of Abingdon. "The Administrative Professionals Conference brought together over sixty professionals together to explore various topics in an enjoyable and fun atmosphere," said CBI Dean,



(Makeover winners Ramona O'Quinn & Jeanette Herd)

Melinda Leland. "With the theme of Simplifying Your Journey, the focus was on finding ways to accomplish every day tasks in the office and at home in a more simplified

way. The conference was a great success, and we look forward to hosting it again next year."

The attendees really seemed to enjoy themselves and shared with us several positive comments. One participant told us, "This was well worth my \$45. I want to come next year and bring others from my office. This was a well spent day." Another shared, "Please do this again next year. I felt pampered and was really impressed with the speakers."

CBI and SBDC to Co-Sponsor Summer Lunch & Learns

Once again this summer, CBI and the Small Business Development Center will sponsor four Lunch and Learn events. These two hour workshops are open to the public and will be held at the Small Business Incubator located in Stone Mill Business Park in Abingdon. The cost is \$10 per person and includes a two hour workshop, materials and a box lunch. Lunch and Learns are scheduled for Wednesdays in July and August from 11:00 AM —1:00 PM

Valuing Diversity in the Workplace -- July 12

Valuing Diversity in the Workplace - Learn how to get your business focused on the unique diversity of individuals as the organization's most valuable resource--its human capital.

Generations at Work -- July 19

Learn about the four generations who are currently in the workplace, the veterans, baby boomers, Xers, and millennials. We'll analyze each generation and its work ethic and discuss how best to work with people of each generation, their strengths, weaknesses, and motivational factors.

Keep Your Customers Coming Back for More -- August 2

Learn the keys to successful customer recovery; when a customer has a bad experience, get them back and make them a loyal customer for life.

Investing Basics for Beginners — July 26

This is the workshop for anyone who wants to begin investing and do it successfully.

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Upcoming Classes

Computer and Technology

CIW Associate Certification Prep: IT Certification for the knowledge economy

The Certified Internet Webmaster (CIW) certification program has now emerged as the most recognized professional-level job-role certification for IT. CIW certification validates competency in Information Technology job roles such as network administration, security, Web design, Web development and Java programming. CIW job roles are based on internationally recognized job-role standards. IT workers in more than 100 countries have earned more than 40,000 CIW certifications since the program's inception in 1998. As one of the fastest-growing IT certifications, CIW is accepted and endorsed by governments, employers and academic institutions.

Fundamental skill development includes: Web browsers, FTP and email; Web page authoring using Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML); basic infrastructure networking, and project management.

**July 31-August 4 8:00—5:00 Cost:\$400
(All materials included)**

MS Access Advanced & Application Development 2 Day Workshop

Day 1: Learn techniques such as: querying with SQL; using crosstab, parameter, and action queries; creating and running macros; using macros to control user interaction; importing, exporting, and linking database objects; optimizing, replicating, and synchronizing databases; and basic database security.

Day 2: Application Development is designed for experienced Access users who want to know how to create complex queries, create advanced forms using grouped controls and subforms, create macro groups, use dialog boxes and create Switchboards and Splash Screens.

Prerequisite: Working knowledge of Access, including simple queries, forms and reports

**July 18 & 19 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Cost \$105
Books and Materials Included**

For more information on our classes, visit our website at www.vhcc.edu/cbi

Call the Center for Business & Industry to register(276) 739-2430 or (276) 739-2533