VIEW FROM THE VALLEY

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"The future is always uncertain, but we who celebrate what you have done, who celebrate all of your achievements, we are certain of one thing on this day: You will not let us down."

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As the school year comes to a close, we look back with pride on all that has been accomplished. Graduation has taken place, and we celebrated the hard work and achievements of our students as they embark on their next journeys.

But the excitement doesn't stop there! As we transition into the summer, we're gearing up for an enriching and productive season ahead. Our summer courses offer students the opportunity to continue their education, explore new subjects, and get ahead in their studies. Whether you're looking to catch up or delve into something new, our summer programs have something for everyone.

In addition to academic courses, we're excited to offer a variety of summer camps designed to spark curiosity and creativity. From music and theater to engineering and digital media, our camps provide a fantastic opportunity for young minds to learn, grow, and have fun. We encourage you to explore these options and take advantage of the unique experiences they offer.

Here's to a successful end of the school year and an exciting summer full of learning and adventure!

Warm regards,



On Wednesday, April 24th, Wabash Valley College hosted its highly anticipated annual Spring Fest, drawing students, staff, and faculty outside Main Hall for a day filled with fun, food, and fellowship. The event, running from 10 am to 2 pm, offered a variety of activities and attractions.

One highlight was the delicious food prepared by grill master Bobby Moyes, serving free hamburgers, pork burgers, and drinks. In addition to mouthwatering food, there were plenty of entertainment options. Diesel, known for their world-famous ice cream, provided dessert, while Student Senate hosted thrilling laser tag battles in the woods. The new Active Minds club added an inflatable obstacle course. Music filled the air as attendees played games like nine square, creating a lively atmosphere. Throughout the event, WVC clubs and the Wabash County Health Department set up tables to showcase their offerings and engage with attendees.

Overall, Spring Fest was a resounding success, bringing the WVC campus community together for a day of camaraderie and celebration. As students, staff, and faculty look back on the event, they will cherish the memories and eagerly anticipate next year's festivities.



WVC 62ND ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

On Friday, May 10th at 7 pm, Wabash Valley College held its 62nd annual commencement ceremony at the packed Spencer Sports Center. Families from all over the world gathered to witness their graduates walk the stage, marking the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.

The atmosphere was electric as graduates, dressed in caps and gowns, crossed the stage to receive their diplomas. The event celebrated the students' achievements and honored the support from their families, friends, and faculty. An inspirational speech from commencement speaker George Shelby, paralegal and WVC graduate, and college officials highlighted the significance of this milestone and encouraged graduates to pursue future successes.

After the ceremony, guests were invited outside to partake in light snacks under the tent, providing an opportunity for everyone to embrace, celebrate, and reflect on the journey that brought them to this moment. The reception allowed for photos, mingling, and shared joy as graduates and their loved ones commemorated this special day. Congratulations to all the graduates on their well-deserved achievements!



'24 NURSE PINNING CEREMONY

Wabash Valley College recently held its Nursing Pinning Ceremony on May 9th, a revered tradition signifying the transition from nursing student to healthcare professional. This ceremony, rich in history, acknowledges the dedication and readiness of graduates to serve society.

During the ceremony, each graduate held a lighted candle, symbolizing the "passing of the lamp" from Nightingale the new nurses. Florence Nightingale was known as the founder of modern nursing. Graduate Shawn Turpen led the class in reciting the "Florence Nightingale Pledge," nurse's version of the Hippocratic Oath, affirming their commitment to the profession. The emotional moment of pinning, sometimes performed by a family member, added a special touch to the ceremony, reinforcing the bonds between the graduates and their loved ones.

This ceremony celebrated the hard work and dedication of the nursing graduates, officially welcoming them into the nursing profession with the values that Nightingale championed.

















WVC GIVES RECOGNITION

Wabash Valley College proudly awarded scholarships to deserving Mount Carmel High School students during their Honors Night on Thursday, May 9th. These scholarships presented by WVC's academic advisor Brady Martin and Wabash Valley Arts Council Representative Dennis Stroughmat, aim to support students in pursuing higher education and achieving their academic goals.

John L. Acree Scholarship:

Asher Kight was awarded the John L. Acree Scholarship, which is designed to encourage study in engineering, science, or math. The applicant must be a student graduating from a #529 in-district high school in spring 2024, with preference given to Mount Carmel High School graduates. This award helps aid with tuition costs for fall 2024 and spring 2025 at Wabash Valley College if the student remains enrolled full time. This award is valued at \$4,000.

Don Horrall Scholarship:

Sophia Gamon received the Don Horrall Scholarship, established in honor of Don Horrall, one of the original members and the first president of the WVC Foundation. This scholarship encourages study in engineering, electronics, or math and is valued at \$1,000.

Donald E. Dean Book Scholarship:

Maci Farmer was awarded the Donald E. Dean Scholarship, a one year book scholarship that was established to assist a full-time Wabash Valley College student who is pursuing an associate degree. This scholarship is made possible through the generosity of the Donald E Dean family, in his memory. This scholarship is valued at \$250.

Student Ambassador Scholarship:

Sophia Gamon and Grayson Tinsley received the Student Ambassador Scholarship, which covers full tuition up to 16 credit hours per semester.

Steps to Success Scholarship:

Additionally, 35 students were awarded the Steps to Success Scholarship, totaling \$35,000 for up to two years, with an award of \$500 per year.

Inaugural Wabash Valley Foundation Music and Theater Scholarship:

Noah Alka was awarded the inaugural Wabash Valley Foundation Music and Theater Scholarship, valued at \$1,500 based on two semesters, \$750 per semester.

These scholarships signify IECC's commitment to supporting students' educational journeys and investing in their futures. Congratulations to all the deserving recipients!









WVC GETS RECOGNIZED

Illinois Farm Bureau recently named Wabash Valley Collegiate Farm Bureau as the Outstanding Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Outstanding Chapter Award recognizes the top Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter for their efforts in actively implementing the mission and goals of Illinois Collegiate Farm Bureau while making strides to both set and execute their chapter specific goals over the course of the academic year.

Wabash Valley Collegiate Farm Bureau successfully executed a range of goals during the 2023-24 school year, including establishing a memorial tribute for a former Collegiate Farm Bureau member. The college was successful in increasing chapter membership and community engagement through a variety of initiatives, including participation in the Olney Christmas Parade, the creation of an informative video addressing agricultural misconceptions, and delivering holiday gifts for children across six counties.

Wabash Valley Collegiate Farm Bureau's dedication to excellence extends beyond its campus as it maintains close ties with local county Farm Bureaus and actively participates in events such as Ag Acquaintance Day and local young leader programming opportunities. Additionally, the chapter maintains a high level of involvement at the state level through attendance at conferences like Young Leader Conference and IAA Annual Meeting.

Wabash Valley Collegiate Farm Bureau is invited to attend the IAA Annual Meeting in December where they will be formally recognized for their efforts.





Wabash Valley College is proud to receive recognition from the US Department of State for supporting the CBYX, FLEX, and YES programs. These programs feature high school students from around the world living with host families in the United States. These students attend high school or college, participate in professional development workshops, and become involved in host communities. We recently spoke with Sarah Melo, a 2024 WVC graduate and international student from Brazil, along with her mother, about Sarah's journey at Wabash Valley College. Reflecting on her experience, Sarah shared, "It was a good experience. I was scared at first due to the language barrier, being the only Portuguese speaker, but once you overcome that, it's easier to make friends." She found belonging in the international program, where English became the common ground.

When asked about her comfort level with her daughter being far from home, Sarah's mother expressed her confidence in Mount Carmel's tranquility, feeling reassured about Sarah's studies in the US. Sarah earned a volleyball scholarship to play at WVC and completed an associate's degree in science and arts.

SUMMER AT WVC

The spring semester has commenced, let the summer begin! This summer, WVC is offering a variety of summer camps for youth including:

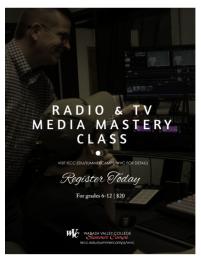
Our **Spotlight on the Future: Radio & TV Media Mastery Camp** is designed for grades 6-12, offering a creative realm of radio, TV, and digital media. All Equipment Provided: No need to bring anything but creativity and enthusiasm! We provide all the necessary equipment and tools for the day.

Our Engineering and 3D printing camp is a stepping stone into the world of innovation. Youth will get to experience lathe, drill press, and milling machine, understanding the skill and ingenuity it took to design and create in the days before digital technology.

The **Summer Music Camp** is from ages 5 to adult allows participants to discover the joy of music while learning the basics of various instruments.

The **Theatre Camp** is for those entering 5th grade to exiting Seniors in high school. Students will receive at least one 15-minute voice lesson, dance instruction each day, basic stage direction, audition technique, and 1 performance.

There is more to come! Visit iecc.edu/summercamps/wvc for details on each camp!









UPCOMING EVENTS

May 27, 2024

Memorial Day. College Closed

June 1, 2024

WVC PTA Program CEU Summit: A day of education for Allied Health Professionals. (visit iecc.edu/pta-ceu-summit to register)

June 3, 2024

First Day of Classes

In season sport schedules can be found at wvcwarriorathletics.com

Be sure to follow us on social media for event reminders, game schedule changes, student activities, and more!











We're now on LinkedIn! Search for Illinois Eastern Community Colleges-Wabash Valley College

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