



**June 2020**



Serving 17 counties and 4 cities in SWVA

[www.mtcofswva.org](http://www.mtcofswva.org)

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COVID 19 has brought many challenges to our community and society. The MTC and our community college partners are working hard to figure out what our educational future will look like. We are striving to determine how we can serve you to provide the needed workforce and training for your success in the future. During this pandemic, we have evaluated our programming, worked to determine how we can do what we do better, and planned for our future.

Perry Hughes, VP Workforce Development, WCC

The mission of the MTC is to drive value-added change in Southwest Virginia business. We do this by providing assistance in continuous improvement, industrial engineering services, Lean Six Sigma trainings, and quality management systems. In partnership with our local community colleges, we can also work to help develop customized training programs to improve your performance.

Our region of Southwest Virginia is resilient and strong. We take negatives and turn them into positives. We strive to lead. We are continuously searching for ways to improve. We will survive! *Perry Hughes*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Learning Dynamics for Instructors (LDI) 2-day Workshop July 25-26....see Page 3
- New River Mount Rogers Virtual Job Fair...see Page 4



Linda Neman

*I have always believed one should never day a day for granted or anyone for that matter. Reflection the past few months have made me hold true to that belief even more. We all have certainly been challenged to look outside the box, think differently, and adapt to change! None of us suspected our world would change so quickly. I believe this country is strong and resilient. It will bounce back stronger than ever! Our ancestors fought hard, shed blood and many tears to make the country one we enjoy today—free and prosperous. It is now our responsibility to make sure it was not in vane. Our economy will rebound; we have men and women in this country who value their ancestor's fortitude and will put one foot in front of the other to ensure the next generation has the same privileges. We will work together and forge a bond that cannot be broken. We will not let enemies seen and unseen get the best of us. Let us not forget ...the bald eagle was chosen June 20, 1782 as the emblem of the USA because of its long life and great strength. The bald eagle is known to exist only on our continent. This bird is independent, brave, and proud. It is a symbol of America's strength and courage. When things seem bleak, remember our American symbol—COURAGE AND STRENGTH! We will get through this together. Linda*





Shawn Wildman

## Protecting Your Employees as You Re-Open Your Business

As Virginia re-opens for business it is important to protect one of our most valuable resources, our employees. The easiest way for Manufacturers to achieve a safe work environment during this time is to focus on cleaning and disinfecting workspaces. The CDC has provided guidelines to help businesses re-open while maintaining a safe work environment for employees:

- Develop a workplace cleaning/disinfecting plan;
- Implement the cleaning/disinfecting workplace plan;
- Maintain and revise the plan.

### **Develop a workplace cleaning/disinfecting plan**

Evaluate your workplace to determine what kinds of surfaces and materials make up that area. Most surfaces and objects will just need normal routine cleaning. Frequently touched surfaces and objects such as light switches and doorknobs will need to be cleaned and then disinfected to further reduce the risk of germs on surfaces and objects.

- First, clean the surface or object with soap and water.
- Then, disinfect using an EPA-approved disinfectant.
- If an EPA-approved disinfectant is unavailable, you can use 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or 70% alcohol solutions to disinfect. Do not mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together. Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
- You should also consider what items can be moved or removed completely to reduce frequent handling or contact from multiple people. Soft and porous materials, such as area rugs and seating, may be removed or stored to reduce the challenges with cleaning and disinfecting them.
- It is critical that your plan includes how to maintain a cleaning and disinfecting strategy after reopening. Develop a flexible plan with your staff or family, adjusting the plan as federal, state, tribal, territorial, or local guidance is updated and if your specific circumstances change.

### **Implement Your Plan**

Once you have a plan, it's time to take action. Read all manufacturer's instructions for the cleaning and disinfection products you will use. Put on your gloves and other required personal protective equipment (PPE) to begin the process of cleaning and disinfecting.

### **Maintain and revise the plan**

To maintain the plan, communicate the plan to employees and the importance of following the plan guidelines, and correct employee behavior that does not follow the cleaning/disinfecting plan. Stay up to date on the latest information on the CDC and other reputable websites for the latest information on how to protect your employees and revise the plan as needed.

We have to make significant behavioral changes to reduce the spread of COVID-19. To reopen America, we will need to continue to social distance, frequently wash hands, wear cloth face coverings, stay home when sick and clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

It's important to continue to follow federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local guidance for reopening America. To read the full CDC article: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

*Shawn Wildman*



**Learning Dynamics for Instructors (LDI) 2-day Workshop** at the New River Community College, Christiansburg, VA on July 25-26th, 2020 . For more information and to register: [http://www.mtcofswva.org/sites/mtcofswva.org/files/APICS\\_LDI\\_072520.pdf](http://www.mtcofswva.org/sites/mtcofswva.org/files/APICS_LDI_072520.pdf)



Kevin N. Mumpower

## “Technical Zooming”

I wanted to take a minute and describe to our interested partners how MTC is adjusting and meeting the challenge of delivering technical training in the midst of a pandemic and state of emergency. Well, “It’s ZOOM, Baby”, and so with the help of our IT Department partners at Wytheville Community College (WCC), MTC has been trained and given the software infrastructure to conduct all client engagements via “ZOOM”. The planning for this change occurred over the course of 2 to 3 weeks. The MTC staff conducted several interactive trials and pilot runs with our internal MTC staff and selected students. These pilot runs allowed us to get familiar with “ZOOM” with respect to how to share our computer screens, manage audio and video quality, secure the entrance into our meetings, and record each session for future review. The pilot effort worked well, and MTC was able to begin delivering our first “ZOOM” classes, a Lean Six Sigma Greenbelt (LSSGB) course for a New River Community College (NRCC) client, and an ISO 9001:2015 class for a manufacturer within the Virginia Highlands Community College (VHCC) region. Therefore, within our first month of the pandemic challenge, MTC had altered course and was back in the saddle teaching our clients via “ZOOM”. Since the middle of March, MTC has conducted several client engagements for ISO Internal Auditor training, ISO certification development, and our first couple ASQ sponsored webinars.

The new MTC vision now includes professional remote interactive sessions using “ZOOM”, so that we can deliver technical support and training to a number of clients simultaneously across our Region. Innovation, creativity and overcoming obstacles almost always occurs quickly when in the middle of a crisis, and our 2020 crisis, the Covid19 state of emergency, did just that; it has allowed MTC to develop a new effective tool for MTC’s mission. There always seems to be a “silver” lining where one might not expect it, and so with the traditional MTC. Captivating a “Doing what it takes” attitude, we continue to make sure each client is served with quality service. MTC is now “ZOOMING” around the Southwest Virginia Region helping our manufacturers. Give us a call so we can help your company.

“ZOOM” Engineer,



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## COVID-19 RESOURCES

<http://www.mtcofswva.org/covid-19-resources-virginia-manufacturers>

<https://supplychain.genedge.org/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/colleges-universities/considerations.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/mental-health-non-healthcare.html>

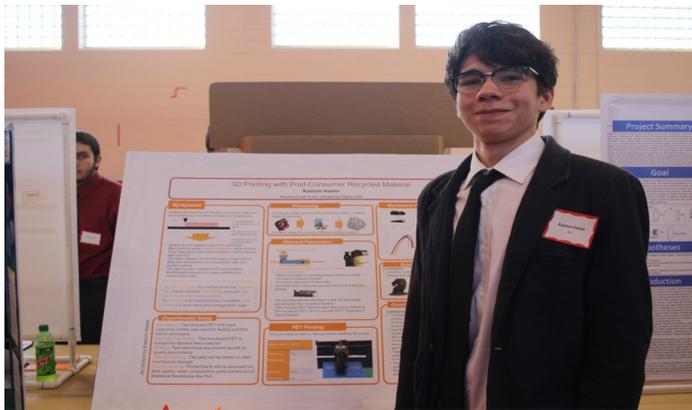
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>

# IN THE NEWS

Vicki Delp, Grant Compliance Coordinator for the Manufacturing Technology Center, was selected to receive the 2020 Wytheville Community College Distinguished Service Award. The Distinguished Service Award is designed to recognize members of the WCC community who have given the College exceptional service, other than teaching, in a manner that is beyond the normal expectations and above specific monetary compensation. This award is intended to recognize outstanding individuals who have given to the enduring life of the College in unique and exemplary ways. Congratulations, Vicki!



Vicki Delp



On behalf of the Manufacturing Technology Center and Board, we congratulate Henry Myers IV on receiving the Manufacturing Technology Center's Excellence in Manufacturing award! Henry's project was "The Structure of a Quadcopter Drone Under Crash Conditions" and sponsored by Katharine Davis. Henry is a student at Blacksburg High School. This is the 24th

year the MTC has supported the Blue Ridge Highlands Regional Science Fair. Congratulations, Henry! We wish you much success in all your future endeavors. You are on a great path.

Don't let COVID-19 limit your access to a quality workforce.  
Sign up now for this exciting new recruiting opportunity!  
Register for FREE at [www.NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com](http://www.NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com)



## New River/Mt Rogers Virtual Career Fair

Open July 20 - 24, 2020  
With  
LIVE Virtual Connections July 21-23

REGISTER NOW at [NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com](http://NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com)  
and then it's as easy as 1...2...3!

- 1 REGISTER...then View your business profile page at KnowledgeToWork.com.**  
Once you register to participate, we will create your profile and send you the login credentials. Your virtual booth will include a company logo, descriptions in "About," "culture," and "Benefits," as well as display a list of job openings with a link to your online application. If you only use a paper application, let us know so that we can provide a digital version in this platform. If you'd like to make edits, let us know!
- 2 Select a time slot to host a Virtual Connections meeting.**  
After you register, we will send you a list of available time slots for your Virtual Connections for you to choose from. You'll use one of our video conferencing platforms to connect with job seekers and answer questions about topics including work environment, company culture, benefits, and your on-boarding process. We set-up the technology, then provide staff to help you navigate the process.
- 3 On your assigned day, sign in and host your 30 minute video conference meeting.**  
One of our partners will join the video conference to help manage attendees, share chat questions, and cue you when the time is up! If you meet job seekers that you'd like to interview, we will capture their contact information!

Questions? Contact Kimber at [kimber.simmons@vcwnrnr.com](mailto:kimber.simmons@vcwnrnr.com) or 540-357-1651

To register for the Virtual Career Fair:

[www.NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com](http://www.NRMRVirtualCareerFair.eventbrite.com)  
[www.wbchamber.com](http://www.wbchamber.com)

Hosted by: Virginia Career Works New River | Mount Rogers Area, Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired, New River Community College, People Incorporated of Virginia, Wytheville/Wythe/Bland Chamber of Commerce, Joint IDA of Wythe County, Southwest Virginia Alliance for Manufacturing