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YTI Career Institute graduates celebrate their accomplishments

The school held its graduation ceremony at the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center in York.

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For the Daily Record/Sunday News

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La'Chara Wintermyers, who graduated with a medical assistant degree, greets family friend Jana Murray outside the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center. YTI Career Institute's York Campus and its Motorcycle Technology Center graduated 116 students during its summer graduation Wednesday at the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center. (YORK DAILY RECORD/SUNDAY NEWS -- CHRIS DUNN)

York, PA -

YTI Career Institute graduate Carrie Kilby credited her son, Adam Trimmer, as her driving factor to earn an associate degree for medical assistant.

Kilby followed in her son's footsteps by attending YTI. Her son went to the Motorcycle Technology Center while working full time.

"Every time I struggled, I just told myself that if he could do it with his schedule, I could certainly do it with mine," she said.

Kilby was one of 116 students who graduated Wednesday night from YTI's York campus and the Motorcycle Technology Center. The commencement ceremony was held at the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center in York.

Thomas Hogue, founder and CEO of Gibraltar I.T. and an alumnus of YTI, was the keynote speaker.

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Soon-to-be YTI Career Institute's York Campus graduates proceed across the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center lobby just before commencement on Wednesday. (YORK DAILY RECORD/SUNDAY NEWS -- CHRIS DUNN)

"Now going forward, you are a reflection of this fine school," Hogue told the graduates. "Do them proud, do your family proud, and most importantly, do yourself proud. Go boldly into the world with your diploma, and earn a living doing what you love."

Casey Scott achieved an associate degree in electronics engineering technology with plans to continue his education for another degree in computer systems at YTI.

A retired Army utility repairman, Scott said, "Everything that they taught me in school, there's a place for. I never thought I would be doing anything with computers. The class that I was the least excited about is what I'm doing now."

Dane Wilt, the recipient of York campus's President's Award and an associate degree in business administration, said his downward spiraling past is what motivated him to take classes at YTI.

"Creating a better life for my kids and myself became my focal point," he said.

Wilt ended his award speech by reminded his fellow graduates and the audience: "Life is exactly what you make it. Put in the effort, maintain patience, surround yourself with good people. You can accomplish anything you desire."

Award winners

President's Award from the Motorcycle Technology Center: Michael Kakalecz

President's Award from York Campus: Dane Wilt

Colleen S. Learned Award of Excellence: Christopher Titus

Student Ambassador Award: Susie Flinchbaugh, Vicki Howard, Lester Neidigh, Ehren Webber and Andrew Webster

Academic Achievement: Carrie Kilby

Commitment to Career Award: Matthew Salimbeni and Casey Scott

Commitment to Excellence Award: Susie Flinchbaugh

Excellence in Professionalism: Jason Kaler

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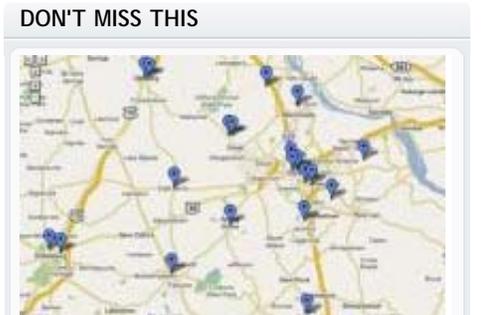


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