

Shawn Volk – Lead Instructor and Math Instructor  
Chris Choudoir – Science and Bio-Medical Sciences Instructor  
Dan Van Eperen – Humanities Instructor  
Jason Lavigne – Business Instructor

Jon Larson – Engineering and Manufacturing Instructor  
Kevin Pratt – School to Career Liaison and Counselor  
Amy Vander Zanden – LCCPA Administrative Assistant

## **LCCPA Student Spotlight: Kara Hooyman**

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### **Describe yourself:**

I always try my best in everything I do. Example: when I am faced with a problem at Valley VNA I keep trying until I find a solution. I am shy at first until people get to know me which then allows them to recognize my sense of humor and energetic personality. I am organized and always willing to help others. I am a pretty open person.

### **How did you decide to enter the LCCPA ?**

I am a hands on learning person and don't do well with a lot of lectures. It seemed like a good fit.

### **Did you make the right choice entering the academy?**

Yes, I have gained a ton of experience. It helped me narrow my career choice. You get to spend more time with your teachers and they are very understanding. My initial interview to enter the academy has been described as one of the worst ever! Since then, I have dramatically improved my interviewing skills, which has opened numerous doors for me.

### **What are some defining moments in your life?**

My initial career experiences taught me that healthcare professionals must have good communication skills. My job at Valley VNA forced me to be more vocal with the residents, which allows me to better serve them. I put myself out there and I am thankful I took the risk.

### **Something that very few people know about me is..**

I don't want to show people that I get really stressed out at times. I don't want to negatively affect others

### **Describe a really challenging day**

I wake up at 4:30am. Get ready and leave for work by 5:20am. My first task at work (Valley VNA) is a shift report and then I perform my regular duties until 9:20am. I return to school for a day of education then onto dance practice and an evening of dance performance. I get home around 8:30 pm and proceed to study until 10:45pm (*that's why they pay me the big bucks!*)

### **My best stress relieving techniques are...**

Going for a run. Focus on my breathing.

### **Talk about your nursing assistant job at Valley VNA**

I enjoy working there. Every day brings something different. The residents purposely tease you to watch your reaction. I leave work every day with a good story to tell (never forgetting my HIPPA laws!) I have learned a lot about medications and their therapeutic purpose.

### **My dream job is...**

Something related to nursing that allows me to care for and help others in a medical capacity.

### **What is most important to you?**

My family. My great grandmother died this past summer and so I watched the in-home care she received. My great grandmother inspired me to care for others. My family is somewhat "weird", but we have a great time together! They support me in everything I do.

### **The future of healthcare will see:**

Advancement of technology which will likely lead to better results. Hopefully, we will find cures to some of our deadly diseases (etc. cancer).

### **I would describe the LCCPA as:**

A school that strives to teach their students while providing great career experiences. Students are given many opportunities to be successful in the future. The LCCPA has taught me to take advantage of every opportunity. These opportunities can open up new experiences that can lead to further career growth.

### **My biggest joys are...**

Hanging out with friends and spending time with family on vacation.

Kara will be attending either Marion University or NWTC majoring in nursing. She lives with her parents Jennifer and Chad, brother( Mack), sister (Hannah), her dog( Sami) and her gecko (Nala).

## ***Amelia Van Handel Visit***

*By Anna Roehl and Carrigan Hurst*

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On December 22, Amelia Vanhandel, sat down with a group consisting of six freshman girls to talk about her medical school experience. She told us about the classes we should take in high school to help us when we get to college and medical school. These classes were mainly science and math classes. She also suggested we take AP Literature, because in her opinion it was closest thing to a real college class.

After our questions about how we should prepare for college, Amelia told us about how she found her medical passion. She is going to be a plastic surgeon. We got to hear a story about a man who lost the ability to use his arm and how surgery is healing him. A team of plastic surgeons took the muscle that makes him cough and relocated it to his arm. They also sewed together other muscles so that when he thought about coughing his arm would flex and move up. This man went from having no control over his arm to being able to move it. Amelia said that watching that transformation, that made her want to be a plastic surgeon.



After she answered all of the questions we had for her, we explained to her all the career things we have done this year and some things we are planning to do in the future. We explained how the Little Chute Career Pathway Academy allows us to take part in all of the career based things such as career experiences, and volunteering. She was very interested in how the Charter School worked because she didn't have that opportunity when she was a student at Little Chute High School. After we were done explaining all the great career experiences we got to be part of, we brought her down to the charter rooms and gave her a tour. One of us got our computer out and showed her all the online classes we take and we also showed her the PLTW class we are taking right now. Amelia was very interested and said the Charter school was going to help us a lot learning how to work on our own, and the career experiences are a great opportunity.

## ***Fox Valley Hematology and Oncology***

*By Maddie Lamers*

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On January 8th, a small group of freshman, sophomores and a junior went to Fox Valley Hematology and Oncology to learn more about their volunteering opportunities. Fox Valley Hematology and Oncology is a cancer treatment center in the valley. It is a rather new facility but very well known.

When we got to Fox Valley Hematology and Oncology, we were taken into the Education center and we went through the Volunteer Orientation Manual. We discussed a lot about the facility and what we may be doing. We then asked any questions we had. After talking, we were given a tour of the facility. Once we wrapped up the tour we all got a picture and left back for school.

We all had a great time getting to learn more about Fox Valley Hematology and Oncology. Many of us are looking forward to getting the opportunity to volunteer at an incredible place!

