Rosedale is EXPANDING!

Rosedale Technical Institute is not only expanding its facilities but also its educational opportunities. Rosedale recently added a 42,000 square foot building adjacent to its current building, previously “Pittsburgh Mailing” on Bilmar Drive.

The space will function as a classroom and shop area focusing on the Diesel field. This will allow the Diesel department to purchase additional equipment and focus on preparing students for their working environment.

School President, Dennis Wilke states: “Our enrollment has been increasing over the past few years and part of the potential for more growth are the jobs coming out of the Marcellus Shale industry. With that whole industry comes a lot of trucks on the road and those trucks need repairs.”

Along with the Diesel expansion, Rosedale Tech is also announcing plans for a new HVAC program. This program will incorporate training on the installation, servicing and repair of equipment used in both residential and light commercial applications including gas, electric, and oil fueled systems. Emphasis will also be placed on the analysis and troubleshooting of HVAC circuits and control systems.

To be accepted for admission in the HVAC Program, an applicant must have a standard high school diploma or a high school equivalent certificate, must complete a recognized entrance exam, complete and pass a basic math evaluation, have a valid driver’s license and successfully complete two interviews within the Admissions Department. The requirements are strict but we only want the best!

The initial class start date is planned for September 26, 2011.

Why HVAC?

According to the US Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics), employment of heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers is projected to increase 28% during the 2008-18 decade. HVAC systems generally need to be replaced after 10-15 years, and due to the large number of homes and commercial properties built in recent years these units will need to be repaired and replaced by 2018. With the increased complexity in production of these units, HVAC technicians will need advanced and superior training.

Spring is a time of change and new beginnings. There are some big things in the works at Rosedale Tech so keep reading to be informed of all of the changes!

Check out the new and redesigned website by visiting www.rosedaletech.org. Rosedale is an exceptional place with the latest technology, equipment, and incredibly talented employees. The new website allows prospective students and the general public to see this. On the home page there are numerous action photos of Rosedale students hard at work along with graduate testimonials.

Another thing you will find on our website are the links to our social networking pages. We are constantly updating students and the general public on events and happenings at Rosedale through these pages. To receive these updates please select “like” Rosedale Tech on facebook.

In addition to the new website, Rosedale has launched a series of new television commercials. Tune in and watch as RTI spots air on networks like The Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, WPGH and WPMY, Monday through Thursday from 6:00-6:30 p.m. as well as other key time slots during many of your favorite shows!
Finding the Right “FIELD” PASSIONATE About Life

Automotive Technology student Darron Jett says that he has always had a passion for all sports, and of course, cars.

Darron has played football since he was five, starting in a midget league and following it all the way through high school. He briefly played volleyball, baseball, and wrestled in high school as well.

Upon graduating from Oliver High School, Darron knew he wanted to continue playing football and he was going to do everything he could in his power to do so. He ended up joining the Pittsburgh Pride, a local semi-pro team. Darron is a line-backer for the Pittsburgh Pride, and did so well that he was voted “Defensive Player of the Year” his rookie year on the team. Darron will be entering his 3rd season with the Pride this summer. When asked why he chose to enter the Automotive field Darron replied: “Growing up, when I wasn’t playing football, I was working on cars with my dad.” Darron also stated: “I am a very active and hands-on person and the automotive field really keeps me interested and working hard.” Darron aspires to not only start a great career after graduation but he hopes to own his own business someday as well.

Automotive Technology student Trumane Rodgers is a Pittsburgh native and the oldest of six. She grew up in a household with three boys and three girls. She said she was always close to her father, they would work on cars together and he would take her to watch him play basketball at the park. She can remember trying to join in the game as early as five years of age. When asked why she was so involved in things like sports and cars she replied: “I love hands-on projects, not to mention when anyone told me there was something I couldn’t do, I’d love to prove them wrong…. and I still do!”

Throughout grade school and high school Trumane indulged in various sports like soccer, track, softball, tennis and she was even a drum major. She finally found her “passion” in football. Trumane joined the Pittsburgh Passion in 2007 as their starting middle linebacker (#20). That year they went on 12-0 and took home the National Women’s Football Association (NWFA) Championship title. Trumane’s son, Talal also joined the team as a ball boy the same year!

Trumane has really enjoyed the friendships she’s developed with the girls on the team and, truly appreciates working with head coach and co-owner Teresa Conn. She also looks forward to working with new co-owner and Steeler Hall-of-Famer, Franco Harris.

The Madness of MARCH!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the RTI “March Madness” free throw competition. It was a close call but in the end the victory went to the Diesel Department (both Day & Evening programs).

For more game-day photos please visit our page (Rosedale Tech) on facebook.
The flashlight drags are back! If you’re not familiar with the flashlight drags, they are a series of legal drag races that occur in the summer and fall on airport runways throughout the state of PA. The races start with a flashlight signal, much like they do in old movies, which is how they got the name. The idea is to provide a safe and legal racing environment for automotive enthusiasts.

Quite a few students at Rosedale Tech enjoy getting out on the track and showing everyone the hard work they’ve put into their vehicles with their “hands on” skills. Pictured are five Automotive Technology students with the vehicles they plan to take to the track this race season.

Left to right, Matt Pierson is pictured with his 1990 Honda CRX SI. He has a fully rebuilt turbo motor, Garret .63/.60 turbo and full suspension rebuild. Justin Lavery is with his 2007 Honda Accord. It is a fairly newer vehicle but he plans on performing some exhaust work, along with work on the intake, adding a turbo, lowering the vehicle, and adding rims. Clint Sines is with his 1995 Honda. He has performed work on the air intake, installed a 3 inch header back exhaust, lowered it 2 inches, put on 17 inch rims, and he plans on adding a turbo as well. Kyle Merritt is pictured with his 1996 Civic Hatchback. He performed a complete engine swap from his Prelude, lowered his vehicle 1 ½ inches and custom tuned the computer. William Lewis, on the far right, is with his 2004 Honda Accord. He has done work on the cold air intake, installed slotted rotors and a full Magnaflow exhaust, installed custom head, tail, and fog lights, lowered it 2 inches, and put on 19 inch rims. Wish our guys luck out there! For more information on the races please go to www.flashlightdrags.com.

Time for a Rematch!

Have you noticed the red 1968 Dodge Dart in the shop lately? General Education Instructor, Mark Simoneau purchased the car four years ago and performed an original restoration on the chassis, drive-train, and interior with the intention on driving it daily. The non-original 318 c.i. (5.2L)/727 automatic transmission was fine for the local car cruises and an occasional trip to the track, but the desire for more horsepower was always in the back of his mind. In fact, he raced against Diesel Instructor Rob Murphy, and after the most recent restoration, he wants a rematch!

As part of the recent restoration, Mr. Simoneau decided to convert his Dart to a manual transmission, so he purchased and rebuilt a Mopar big block A833 4 speed transmission. In order to get the estimated 600HP to the ground, Mr. Simoneau widened the rear wheel wells and moved the leaf springs in 3” to accommodate the massive 285/40-17 Nitto Extreme Performance street radials mounted on 10” wide “Bullet” style aluminum wheels.

Mr. Simoneau would like to thank all those students and instructors involved in the restoration. From all the suspension system upgrades, to the engine build, brakes, transmission, hydraulic clutch conversion, and engine compartment modifications, he definitely could not have accomplished the major undertaking in such a short amount of time.
Automotive Instructor Dan Castelli shows students how the evap system is full of water and different ways to resolve this issue.

Electrical Instructor Chuck Henderson speaks to students about the new door lock alarm system they are installing at RTI.

Diesel students John Mahn and Shaine Towe work hard on building a Series 60 Detroit Diesel engine.

Automotive students Ezra Barkley and Sean McHugo are replacing the head gasket on this vehicle.

Automotive students Jordan Koski and Jeff Fisher are installing the engine in a vehicle after repairing it.

Gen Ed Instructor-Kara Chan enjoying some Rita’s Italian Ice with her students during PRIDE week.
Electrical students continue to work on various projects throughout the school. The most recent one is the lighting for the new storage area in the tool room. A loft area was installed to accommodate the increase in equipment and RTI’s electrical department is making sure the area is well lit for easy access.

Another piece of very exciting news is the purchase of a Thermal Imaging Camera from Ideal. This top of the line camera takes a digital picture then overlays a thermal image to show various temperatures within the photo.

The purpose of this camera is to locate any “hot spots” or loose connections in a breaker box. It is mostly used for commercial and industrial work and is a fantastic tool for preventative maintenance. The camera also comes with software that allows you to download the photos and create customer reports in the form of a PDF, and allows you to attach an audio recording.

In a recent meeting held by Director of Education, Krista Kerna, all Rosedale Tech instructors were encouraged to revise and update their “substitute” lesson plans.

This task inspired Automotive Diagnostic Instructor Paul Danner, who is pretty particular and precise with his lessons. Mr. Danner is a Rosedale graduate himself, and for the past 8 years has been revising a book entitled “Engine Performance Diagnostics” that was published and now used internally as well as outside of Rosedale.

Mr. Danner decided that he wanted his students to have the FULL experience of him teaching, even in the event he could not be present. The new Smartboard Technology (available in every classroom), allows you to record every stroke of the “marker” and virtually everything written on the Smartboard using the Smart Notebook software. All one has to do is to press play and the entire lesson plan plays back right on the board, however, there is no sound.

Mr. Danner once again saw this as a challenge. He found a way to install a microphone which allows him to voice record right over the Smart Notebook notes. He even took it one step further and started videotaping shop class. This is more of a “how to” or a “step-by-step” for diagnostic procedures. He states that all of these resources are helpful especially if a student is absent. Also, this technology allows him to pass along the lecture to the student so they don’t miss the objective of that particular class.

*To check out Paul Danner’s shop lessons on please search username “ScannerDanner”.

Paul Danner is diagnosing a vehicle using the Snap On Verus scan tool.
Congratulations Graduates
Class 2011 Spring

Automotive Graduates
From L to R: Walter Maust, Brendan Conley, Joshua Campbell, Jarred Thurmond, Omar McKenzie, Christopher Yaklich, Tyler Wil- loughby, Christy Neff, HuiMin Li, Kenneth Savage, Eric Chan, Garrett Schultz, Daniel Pastor Jr, Robert Kent, Andrew Wilson, Joshua Wy- ant, James Sugar, Jonathan Bees, Richard Godbolt

(Not Pictured) Paul Bayens, Thomas Gray, Jeffrey Massie, Jarrett Milligan, Stephen Newman, Thomas Mays, Christopher Read, Kevin Butt Jr, Doug Duff, Westley Smith, Steven Truitt

Electrical Graduates
From L to R: Nicholas Winters, Michael O’Connor, Cory Nolan
(Not Pictured) Kenneth Maxwell, Rykell Taylor, Ed Hairston, Ryan Staab

Diesel Graduates
From L to R: Ray Haspel Jr, Nixon Clark, Alex Folino, Stanley John Kennedy Jr, Benjamin Raisley
(Not Pictured) William Dinatale III, Jarrett Magee, James Nabuda, John Reese

We would also like to send a special thanks to our graduate speakers:
Joshua Campbell, Ray Haspel Jr, and Cory Nolan.
Great job!
Family & Friends Share The Pride!
A Graduate’s Success

Chris Peffer graduated from Rosedale Tech’s Automotive Diploma program in 1994 and has had a very successful career as an Automotive Technician.

Chris has been working and practicing his hands on skills since graduation, at both a Chevy and Chrysler Dealership, and most recently repairing various types of construction equipment.

With the recent economic situation Chris was laid off from his construction position around the same time he and his wife Monica were planning for their first child. He decided that he wanted more for his family, and not to have to depend on anyone else for an income.

This is when Chris decided he was going to put his entrepreneurial skills to the test. About a year ago Chris opened Peffer’s Garage, an automotive service shop/inspection station in Waterfall, PA. Peffer’s Garage provides Pennsylvania state inspections and all repairs related to the inspection.

Chris states that the shop is doing better than he could have ever hoped for, and so is his family. His son Cole is now 11 months old! When Chris was asked what major lesson he applies in his life from his experience at Rosedale he said: “I learned and still practice that the only dumb question is the one that goes unasked.” He said that this is essential in the automotive field, especially when diagnosing a vehicle.

Congratulations Chris!

Karl meets the MOPS

Diesel Instructor, Karl Kruger spent some quality time with the MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) at Belleville Presbyterian Church.

Karl instructed the ladies on how to do everything from preventative maintenance to filling their cars with the correct fluid. All moms received an informational handout as well as a tire gauge (which Karl demonstrated how to use), and some other Rosedale supplies. Karl hopes that he’s provided sufficient information to make them feel a little safer in their vehicles.

HAPPY Retirement Mr. Hampson!

Electrical Students gave a heartwarming farewell to Electrical Instructor Ron Hampson. Ron shared a world of knowledge and electrical experience with our students, faculty, and staff during his time with Rosedale. He said that with all of his free time he is going to work on his “honey-do” list and start building an electric car. We wish you the best Ron!

NOW HIRING

Due to our recent expansion, RTI has many positions open in the education field. We are looking for experienced, well-versed individuals who can engage students and train them in the specialized areas of:

- Automotive
- Diesel
- Electrical
- HVAC Technology

Please contact Director of Education, Jim Shore or Director of Education, Krista Kerna at 412-521-6200.

!!! ALERT!!!

Please take the proper measures to ensure safe driving. There have been a few near accidents at the intersection of Beecham Drive and Bilmar Drive. We want to remind everyone to come to a complete stop when approaching the stop sign and take your turn with oncoming traffic — we do not want to create a gridlock at this intersection. Thank you for your cooperation and remember, your safety is our primary concern!
Good Old Diesel Days...
Recently the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation paid a visit to Rosedale Technical Institute. The purpose of the visit was to inform Diesel students of the opportunities at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and put the word out that they are constantly searching for technicians.
Pictured (L-R) are Denning Meals, Lauren Hoag, and Bill Cleaver. Lauren is the Recruiting and Training Coordinator. Bill and Denning are both Rosedale graduates and currently hold positions in the Diesel Department. Bill is a Highway Equipment Manager and Denning is a Diesel Technician. While at Rosedale, they both reminisced about their time as a student. In fact, Bill stated that he would never have guessed he would make it as far as he has. Denning inquired about Rosedale’s very own drag truck, DieselZilla, and shared that he was one of the first students to work on it.

Field Trip Frenzy
Pictured are Brashear High School Students at Rosedale Tech.
High School Admissions Representative, Ben Martin, has done a great job of cultivating and maintaining relationships with many of our neighboring High Schools. Ben has put together an interactive field trip experience. The students receive a thorough presentation to better inform them about Rosedale’s various programs, and they also experience true hands on demonstrations from Rosedale instructors.
This includes an Electrical demonstration (with the aerial and/or scissor lifts), a Diesel presentation (where students get to disassemble and reassemble a trainer engine) and an Automotive presentation (which involves a tire changing competition!). We are very excited that so many high schools have visited us and we encourage more to come. If you are interested in scheduling a field trip please contact Ben Martin at (412) 521-6200.

*To see more field trip action please visit us on Facebook*

“Ask the Boss” Field Trip
The Electrical Technician students recently visited a commercial building under construction at 847 North Avenue. This space is being turned into rustic and industrial residential housing. All of the electrical work is being completed by Rich Werner and his company Werner Electric. The interesting and exciting thing about this is that Rich has RTI Electrical Technician graduate Mike Marro and current Electrical Technician student Adam Cartier working on this project with him.

During their visit the evening students were able to explore the complex electrical design and learn more about practical residential wiring situations. The students expressed that the Q & A section was the most helpful. They were able to ask questions about what really happens on the job and how to handle certain challenges when they arise.

Recently, JR Mangan’s diesel class had the opportunity of visiting Detroit Diesel in Cranberry. RTI grad Ed Watterson invited the class to tour the facility and observe equipment demonstrations.
No one knows business like Kara Chan . . .

Rosedale would like to take the opportunity to welcome the newest addition to the evening faculty, **Kara Chan**. As a General Education Instructor, Kara will be preparing our students for their respective fields by teaching them interviewing skills, helping them prepare their resumes, and giving them a tremendous amount of customer service knowledge.

Kara earned her Master’s in Business Administration from Robert Morris University and has spent the past few years marketing and selling everything from athletic equipment to promotional items.

In her spare time Kara also helps run a construction company that does anything and everything involved in building a house. She has quite a few carpentry skills herself; however, they do subcontract most of the work.

For fun Kara enjoys racing dirt bikes, photography, and traveling. Kara and her family have five dogs, six cats, and a goat. Kara said they needed a new tractor to keep up the yard, but at the time goats were cheaper, and so far it’s worked out great!

We would also like to mention that Kara was referred to us by an Automotive Technology Rosedale graduate, who also happens to be her brother, Eric Chan (pictured above).

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Adding more **power** to the Diesel Department . . .

**James Tamborski** recently joined Rosedale as an Evening Diesel Instructor.

James comes to Rosedale with an extensive history as an Industrial Hydraulic Specialist. He mostly maintained construction off-road equipment for Winchester Equipment. Through experience and hard work he finally found himself as lead technician at Pitt Ohio Express. This is currently his day job and he states that it is incredibly rewarding and challenging on a daily basis. James states that he joined Rosedale as an instructor because he wants to “give back to his industry”. He said that he has thrived so much in this industry and he wants to help others entering it do the same.

James is originally from the Ohio area, but he now resides in Apollo, PA with his wife and four children, Josiah (12), Rachel (14), Leigha (17), and Chelsea (18). In fact, Leigha, a student at Westmoreland Area VoTech, has been so excited about her dad’s profession she hopes to follow in his footsteps.

Welcome to Rosedale James, we are glad to have you on our team!

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**Second Phase**

If you find yourself in Rosedale Tech’s front office between 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM, you will see the friendly face of new Rosedale employee, **Eileen Fratangelo**.

Eileen is originally from the Baldwin Area, and was one of 10 children. She recently retired from Verizon Wireless after working there for the past 36 years as an IT Specialist.

Retirement seemed to leave Eileen bored so she went in search of a new part time job. Eileen found Rosedale and brings with her a world of computer knowledge. She is a fantastic addition to Rosedale and she has already completed numerous computer related tasks.

When she does have spare time, Eileen likes to travel. She has been to Bosnia, Spain, France, Portugal, Mexico, the Bahamas, Canada, and numerous states throughout the United States. Out of all of these places, ironically enough she states that her favorite place is Myrtle Beach! We are happy to have Eileen on our staff and if you happen to be in the front office be sure to tell her hello!
RTI’s Programs Reach New Heights!

Rosedale would like to give a warm welcome to Ed Petrunak. Ed has joined Rosedale as the Director of Curriculum Development. Ed is responsible for compliance (making sure the curriculum meets state and federal guidelines), and he also adds quite a bit of creativity and excitement to the instructors’ daily lesson plans.

Ed is originally from Johnstown, and has lived in numerous cities throughout PA. He obtained experience teaching in inner city Pittsburgh schools, he taught for a while at CCAC, and he has been in proprietary education since 1975. With all of this experience we are grateful to have him aboard!

Ed’s true passion, however, is adrenaline. Ed loves to do anything edgy and exciting. Some of his adventures include parachuting, scuba diving, spelunking, parasailing, gliding (in a plane), hang gliding, and he is an avid downhill skier. He does plan on going whitewater rafting this summer, and he also has plans to go bungee jumping this year.

Welcome Anna!

Anna Bartolini, Director of Financial Aid, comes to Rosedale with over 25 years experience in the field of education and school systems. She enjoys working in the education environment, mostly because she loves encouraging students to follow their dreams and do what they’ve always wanted to with their lives.

Anna has two undergraduate degrees, a B.A. in History from University of Pittsburgh as well as a B.A in Secondary Education from Point Park University. She started her journey in the education system as an Admissions Representative at Medlan School of Allied Health Careers, where she was also promoted to Director of Admissions.

Anna always thought she would get into teaching but was presented with numerous opportunities outside of the teaching field, still in the school system. Anna has worked at Pittsburgh Technical Institute as Director of Admissions, Career Training Academy as Campus Director, and Academy of Court Reporting as Campus Director, just to name a few. In her new position, Anna commented that she enjoys the daily interaction with the students.

In her spare time Anna loves to travel, learn new languages, cook, and admits that she is a big “Dancing With The Stars” fan. She and her husband Gary frequent the sunny beaches of Mexico and love to take advantage of their time share in Cabo.

Not Just “General” Education

Rosedale’s new General Education Instructor, Marc Mullin, is a Penn State graduate who obtained his Bachelor of Science with a focus in Psychology. His degree and his previous work experience have allowed him to get to know people pretty well. After completing his degree, he managed Ryan’s Pub and Grill in Regent Square for about seven years. While doing this full time, he taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade music.

As you can tell, Marc is truly a multi-talented individual; however, his true passion is cars. Marc states that he has been working on cars since he could hold a ratchet. Marc’s family also owns E & M Auto Center in Edgewood PA, where he has been working since he was 12. Marc has been a crucial part in running and managing E & M Auto Center, and brings Rosedale this same Entrepreneurial knowledge and spirit. Marc’s passion for cars doesn’t just end here. He has also been a member of The Sacred Piston Car Club for the past 2 years.

Marc will be teaching Entrepreneurship, Resumes and Interviewing, Customer Service, and Shop Management! Rosedale is very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable individual on board to share real life experiences with our students. Welcome Marc!
April 2011 Awards


Student of the Month

Automotive (day): David Smith
Diesel (day) – Frank Bialko
Electrical (day) – John Yedlowksi

Extra Effort Award – This award recognizes students that consistently give 110%, arriving to school early, staying late, working on special projects, or going above and beyond. Automotive: David Matovich

Most Improved Award – This award recognizes a student who has made a strong improvement in both grades and attendance, there is something to be said for making a comeback. Diesel: Randy Meeker.

Helping Hand Award – The helping hand award recognizes students that go out of their way to offer assistance and support others through tutoring classmates, helping others with shop work and lending a hand to staff members. Electrical: Matthew Balco.

June 2011 Awards


Student of the Month

Automotive (day) – David Schmitt
Diesel (day) – Michael Bialon
Electrical (day) – Jeremy Hepler

Extra Effort Award – This award recognizes students that consistently give 110%, arriving to school early, staying late, working on special projects, or going above and beyond. Automotive: Liatrall Hopewell

Most Improved Award – This award recognizes a student who has made a strong improvement in both grades and attendance, there is something to be said for making a comeback. Electrical: Marcos Ordonez

Helping Hand Award – The helping hand award recognizes students that go out of their way to offer assistance and support others through tutoring classmates, helping others with shop work and lending a hand to staff members. Automotive: Omar Williams-Penix, Diesel: Robert Zientara