A new era is set to begin in Bedford County with the establishment of a Practical Nursing (PN) Program. The program will be created and administered by the Somerset County Technology Center's School of Practical Nursing.

The PN program is seen as a major step forward for students in Bedford County because it will provide a bridge between two levels of instruction already being offered. The Bedford County Technical Center currently offers a certified health-assistance program. The Allegany College of Maryland offers a Registered Nurse program.

"By offering a Practical Nursing program in Bedford County, the Somerset County Technology Center hopes to bridge the gap and offer students another avenue in the healthcare industry," said Heidi Petrosky, adult education coordinator for SCTC.

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Bun Air Avionics is ready to extend an invitation to the aviation industry from throughout Pennsylvania and the mid-Atlantic region now that the Federal Aviation Administration has designated the company as a source for the installation, testing and repair of aircraft equipment.

This designation is certain to provide an economic boost to Bedford County. The services will be delivered under Part 145 of the FAA certification process. Services will focus on installation and testing of Avionics, which include the communication, navigation, autopilot and display equipment used to fly an airplane.

"The avionics certificate allows Bun Air to expand our services from primarily airframe and engine services to include the installation and testing of communication, navigation and flight management systems in airplanes and helicopters. This will bring more

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Bo Pratt, Chair of the BCDA Board of Directors, recognizes the new program as a major step forward in both workforce development and health care delivery in Bedford County. “This is a significant addition to BCDA’s efforts to help our workforce acquire the skills and experiences needed to land family-sustaining jobs in local communities,” said Pratt.

Petrosky explained that demographics -- including an aging population -- indicate that PNs graduating from the SCTC program will find many opportunities for employment.

The program will be located in the Hess Business Center. “The Bedford County Development Association has been an integral partner in our quest to open a new Practical Nursing site,” said Petrosky. “Their support and willingness to help grow our program is a major advantage for us.”

Bun Air Corporation currently operates six corporate aircraft and has been flying for more than 50 years. BCDA has a Business Park located adjacent to the airport offering 3-5 acre lots. There is a second Business Park, with a 70-acre site, located within 2 miles of the airport. Both parks are designated as tax-free Keystone Opportunity Zones and are fully permitted. For more info, see www.bceda.org.
In the past two years, Corle Building Systems, Imler, has experienced incredible growth. As business has grown, the company has increased its facilities to meet the demands of the marketplace.

“Our business grew 35 percent last year,” said John Corle, president of Corle Building Systems. “Our goal for this year is 12 percent.”

An addition of 41,000 square feet will mean that the manufacturer will be more efficient in its supply chain getting its products to customers.

“This addition will also help us in production,” Corle said. “And the materials will be stored inside, which is best.”

Corle Building Systems is a national leader in the manufacture of metal buildings. “We are creating far bigger buildings now than before,” said Corle.

Founded in 1990, Corle Building Systems now serves all of North America from its Bedford County headquarters.

Demonstrating the very best in “growth from within,” Corle was able to hire an additional 25 to 30 people last year, bringing total employees to nearly 200 people. New hires are expected this year to meet increases in building construction.

John Corle’s five-year vision for the company is clear: continued growth and improvement. “We’re on the right track. We get better every day, every week, every year,” he said. “We constantly look to improve the products and processes we use.”

Corle attributes the company’s phenomenal success to one thing: a great workforce. “It’s the good people here that create our success, from sales to engineering, drafting to construction,” he said. “They’re all good people.”

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John Corle, President of Corle Building Systems
To help meet the demands of Bedford County manufacturers, the Bedford County Technical Center recently received a $103,500 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to upgrade its welding program. BCTC matched the grant.

"Local businesses have been asking for this," said David DiPasquale, administrative director, BCTC. "It has also helped us improve our workforce training facility. I feel great about this expansion. It feels right. Using the grant, and matching funds, we were able to purchase a Haas CNC mini mill, several Haas tabletop trainers, a CNC plasma cutting table and new welding equipment."

DiPasquale is pleased that the BCTC has been able to respond to the needs of local industry. "BCTC has always done a great job of preparing our students with solid skills for industry," he said. "As companies grow, the demand for skilled labor will also grow."

"BCTC has always done a great job of preparing our students with solid skills for industry."

David DiPasquale, Administrative Director, BCTC

Going forward, DiPasquale expects to see growth in the welding and CNC programs at the BCTC. "With the new equipment, we can prepare our students on a much higher level than before," DiPasquale said. "The plan going forward is to create a cohort of students that are willing to receive the training on the CNC machinery."

The BCTC has been discussing the possibility of connecting its program with the longer CNC program at the Allegany College of Maryland. Students in the ACM program can earn a National Institute (NIMS) for Metal Working Skills certification.

BCDA poised for growth.... from new and established businesses

This past year BCDA has celebrated the growth of many well-established Bedford County businesses. Economic development comes from many different sources including local business expansion as well as entrepreneurs who start businesses in the county.

BCDA is also proud to be able to offer its pad-ready Business Park II. Business Park II is a KOZ designated park that has infrastructure in place as well as the necessary permitting completed.

From the entrepreneur with an idea to a large corporation in need of a large tract of pad-ready land, BCDA is ready to assist. Its Hess Business Center is also available for risk takers and established companies alike. Call their BCDA staff at 623-4816.
During the past two years, BCDA has completed engineering, design, permitting and earthwork on nearly 80 acres in Business Park II. The project is now ready.

"We moved forward with this project knowing that it will eliminate months in site preparation for future buyers," noted Bo Pratt, BCDA Chair. "This is a tremendous opportunity given that the site is pad-ready, permitted and designed as a Keystone Opportunity Zone. Available utilities are in place, including an abundant and reliable electric supply."

The project engineer is H. F. Lenz, Johnstown; Glenn O. Hawbaker, State College, the contractor.

- 70+ Acres – Pad Ready Sites
- Keystone Opportunity Zone
  (10 year local property tax and state corporate tax abatements)
- Fully Permitted
- Can Accommodate a 780,000 Square Foot Building
- Great Location - Two miles from I-99 and I-70/I-76

This project is funded by the Business In Our Sites loan program (BIOS) administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Community and Economic Development.
BCDA ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Bedford County Development Association has named three new members to its Board of Directors. The new members joining the Board for 2015 are Jennifer DeLong, co-owner of Bun Air Corporation; James Wistar, President, Everite Door Company; and Brett Schoenfield, General Manager, Omni Bedford Springs Resort and Spa.

New Board Chair Bo Pratt, of Rockland Manufacturing, was pleased with the wide range of business and economic development expertise of the new members. "This is an excellent group of business professionals representing a wide variety of backgrounds and business experiences," Pratt said. "We feel fortunate that the three new directors have agreed to serve the BCDA."

DeLong has years of experience in the aviation industry, including earning her pilot's license and serving as flight instructor. James Wistar has an impressive business resume having served for 20 years as the Finance Director for Music Choice. He spends several days a week at Everite Door, the company's headquarters that he purchased in 2006. Brett Schoenfield has more than 35 years of experience in the hospitality industry. He worked for Hyatt Hotels for ten years, overseeing destination resorts. He has been with the Omni organization for 12 years.

"They are going to add a great deal to the BCDA Board," Pratt said. "We look forward to their ideas and suggestions."

"I hope to increase the marketing outreach of Bedford County," said DeLong. "This can be achieved by strengthening the BCDA through the advertising I do for Bun Air."

DeLong looks forward to working with and learning from the "extraordinary leadership already in place and to find, and present, new opportunities to the BCDA."

Through her involvement in aviation, DeLong is a leader in an industry that is critical to the future growth and prosperity of Bedford County. "Bun Air markets heavily at the regional and state level and can only go further when partnering with the BCDA," she said. "Bedford County has so much to offer. We can help its growth by making the choice to buy local."

Wistar believes that helping existing Bedford County businesses grow may be the best path to economic development success.

"I'd like to see the Board work with local companies to expand their opportunities in their markets. As an example, BCDA could help source low cost financing for companies to buy equipment to reduce manufacturing costs to make local products more competitive."

As President of Everite Door, Wistar understands the importance of a skilled, dedicated workforce.
“Everite has been a local employer for 50 years,” he said. “As such, I can help the county improve its services to companies like ours. The better the employees, the better my products and the more customers we have and retain.”

He noted that access to transportation, quality of life, strong workforce and low cost of living all make Bedford County an attractive place to do business.

Schoenfield has experience working with other economic development boards and expects to participate in BCDA’s activities at a high level over the coming year. “I want to assist the board in the accomplishment of short range goals while developing long range, sustainable strategies for the future,” he said.

Schoenfield feels his experience will add a new perspective to BCDA Board decision making. “I will continue to promote the county and continue to attract business and industry that supports growth.”

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**EXCELLENT BIO TECH PROGRAM LAUDED BY COMMONWEALTH**

**Partnership Between BCTC and Lampire Biologicals Nets Results**

“Programs, like Biotechnology, at the BCTC are vital for the sustainability of businesses because they cultivate the talent to work in this highly technical environment.” Gregory Krug, President, Lampire Biological Laboratories

The partnership between Lampire Biological and the Bedford County Technical Center has been recognized for excellence recently receiving the 2015 Education Workforce Leadership Award. The award was presented to Gregory Krug, President of Lampire, and David DiPasquale, Executive Director, BCTC.

Establishing a Bedford County presence in 1989, Lampire is a biotechnology company that produces a variety of products that save lives. The company’s need to ensure a qualified workforce in Bedford County led it to help establish a biotechnology workforce-training program at the BCTC.

Under the leadership of Lampire’s Gregory Krug, the company has been an active part of Bedford County’s economic development strategy and long range vision.

In presenting the award, Acting Secretary of Education Pedro A. Rivera said “The partnership between Lampire Biological Laboratories and Bedford County Technical Center demonstrates one of the multiple pathways to workforce success for Pennsylvania students. Partnerships like this benefit the company, the student, and the entire community.”

“Lampire Biological Laboratories and the Technical Center have had a long standing relationship,” Krug said. “Programs, like Biotechnology, at the BCTC are vital for the sustainability of businesses because they cultivate the talent to work in this highly technical environment. Students have options when they graduate from the Technical Center. They can go directly into the workforce or to college.”

“Another unique thing about BCTC is their partnership with Allegany College of Maryland, said Krug. “It is a wonderful resource to have a technical center and community college working side by side. Students can attend college and earn a degree, right here in their own back yard.”
A relationship that was forged between the Pennsylvania Beef Council and the Bedford County Development Association has entered a new era as the Beef Council moves to downtown Bedford.

Seven years ago, the Beef Council was looking for a location that would allow the organization to provide the best service to its members statewide. BCDA’s Hess Business Center was chosen and the Beef Council moved from Harrisburg to Bedford County.

Now, the Beef Council has “hatched” from the Business Center and moved to a facility in Downtown Bedford.

“We operate statewide,” said Bridget Bingham, executive director, Pennsylvania Beef Council. “We now have deep roots in Bedford County. This is a great location for us since we can services the entire Commonwealth very effectively from here.”

“The Beef Council exemplifies that top-performing statewide organizations can headquarter in Bedford County,” said Bo Pratt, chair, BCDA Board of Directors. “We were pleased to recruit them, lease a space to them and now have them join the downtown Bedford business community,” he said.

Bingham noted that working with BCDA has helped solidify the Beef Council’s relationship to Bedford County. “Our downtown Bedford facility is perfect as it allows us to connect to the business community. Our new office is wonderful and being part of the downtown community is great,” The Beef Council’s move enabled vacant office space to be renovated.

Bingham credited BCDA with the assistance necessary to attracting the statewide council. “BCDA provided a turnkey solution to our organizational needs and continues to be an excellent place for our board members and staff to meet. The location provides great access from all points in the state.”

The Pennsylvania Beef Council is a non-profit organization working on behalf of 25,000 beef, dairy and veal producers in the Commonwealth. It employs six people.