TECH PATHWAYS

Under the Hood Journal

March 2025

From Shuttle Van to Community Hero: A Hands-On Restoration Journey.

Tech Pathway's Pre-Apprenticeship is always looking for meaningful ways to connect training with real-world impact, and this year's van project is a perfect example.

Our dealerships recently retired an old shuttle van that faithfully served our customers for years, transporting them to and from work, restaurants, and other local spots while their vehicles were serviced. Rather than sending it off for scrap, we saw an opportunity to give the van new life—and to give our pre-apprentices valuable hands-on experience.

Throughout the year, students have tackled key repairs on the van, including steering, suspension, driveline, and bodywork. Pictured here is Aaron and Kidd repairing cup holders on the interior. Additionally, Zach is restoring the headlight lenses to better than new condition!

Once fully restored, this van will be donated to a local non-profit, providing reliable transportation for their community efforts. We're proud of the hard work and dedication our students have put into this project—a true win for both their growth and our community!

Stay tuned for the final outcome in a few weeks!!

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Learning Leadership Through Core Values

This month, our pre-apprentices are learning more about **Hanover Auto Team's Core Values**: Integrity, Excellence, Service Before Self, Community Impact, Innovation, and Fun! But instead of just discussing these principles, they're learning about them firsthand.

Each student is tasked with interviewing a Hanover Auto Team staff member who exemplifies one of these values. Through these conversations, students gain real-world insight into how these values are lived out daily in a professional setting. The experience culminates with a 3-5 minute presentation where they share what they've learned and how they can apply these values in their own journeys. Followed up by a question and answer session from their classmates.

By connecting with those who model these principles, our pre-apprentices are building a deeper understanding of what it means to lead by example.

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What Our Current Apprentices Are Up To

Rodents can be a major pain in our homes, but they can also wreak havoc under the hood of a car! Last month, Matthew discovered a wiring harness that was chewed up by a rodent, which can lead to all kinds of malfunctions. After he diagnosed the issue, he removed the damaged wiring and installed a whole wiring harness. Fortunately, he didn't find any furry surprises in the process.

Collision Success: Learning Beyond the Classroom

One of the highlights of this year's van restoration has been the incredible work done by **AJ Lankford**, one of our pre-apprentices. Over the winter, AJ secured part-time employment in our collision center, where he's been a tremendous help with various tasks. His strong work ethic and eagerness to learn didn't go unnoticed. The collision technicians were so impressed that they began teaching AJ advanced skills in bodywork. Thanks to his dedication, AJ took the lead in repairing, prepping, and painting the van's front bumper and hood. His hard work in both the classroom and on the job is paying off, and we couldn't be more proud of his growth and accomplishments!

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Thank YOU For a Successful Recruitment Season!

During the fall of last year and this spring, we welcomed over 60 High School students interested in Tech Pathways - 30 of which joined us to shadow for a morning, and roughly half of *those* students interviewed for a seat in the Class of 2026 classroom. We want to extend a very heartfelt "THANK YOU!" to everyone who helped with our introduction events, shadowing, and interviews… And of course give a huge "CONGRATULATIONS!!" to those students who were accepted into Tech Pathways 2026!

Exciting Upcoming Dates

- **At-Home Study Days:** April 11
- **Driven to Serve Event:** April 16
- **Tech Pathways Closed:** April 17, 18, 21
- **Important End of Year Days:**
  - Interviews for Employment: May 12-13
  - End of Year Celebration: May 15
  - Selections and Notifications sent: May 16
  - Sign Day Event: May 21

Stay Connected

Feel Free to send this to friends and family, and encourage them to sign up to stay informed: FOLLOW THIS LINK

For any questions or further information, please contact us at futureofauto@hanoverautoteam.com.

We look forward to another fantastic year of learning and growth together!