

# 7 from Armstrong County newest members of BC3's honor societies

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(Ford City, PA) Five Butler County Community College students from Armstrong County this spring have accepted membership into BC3's Rho Phi chapter of an international academic honor society, and two into BC3's Delta Kappa chapter of an international honor society for business students.

Members of both societies, which recognize scholarship and promote development and leadership, must have a minimum grade-point average of 3.5.

Rho Phi, a chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, this spring will have 18 members from Armstrong County and one from Indiana County.

"By receiving an invitation to join Rho Phi, it shows students' commitment to their academics," said Morgan Rizzardi, BC3's associate director of admissions and primary adviser to Rho Phi, which formed at BC3 in 1968. "To have a 3.5 grade-point average or higher is something that should make students proud."

Delta Kappa, a chapter of Kappa Beta Delta, this spring will have three members from Armstrong County and one from Indiana County.

"They have shown a lot of hard work to be selected to join Kappa Beta Delta," said Ramin Hajave, a BC3 business instructor and adviser to Delta Kappa, which formed at BC3 in 2019.

## New Rho Phi members are ...

Students who have completed at least 12 credit hours toward an associate degree or six credit hours toward a one-year certificate and who meet academic requirements are eligible for membership into Rho Phi.

New Rho Phi members from Armstrong County are Kittanning residents and general studies majors Cierra Dinger, Jaysa Ditty and Shannon Stewart; Dayton resident Silas Bruno, park and recreation management; and Cowansville resident Emily Maurer, biological science.

Current Rho Phi members from Armstrong County are Kittanning residents Crystal Bowser, general studies; Natasha Kline, early childhood education (Pre K-4); Jennifer Parisi, business administration; Ethan Smeltzer, criminology; and Jayna Sturgeon, Nursing, R.N.

The chapter also includes Ford City residents Eric Johns, psychology; Andrew Johnson, business administration; Matthew Lerner, general studies; and Savannah Weight, homeland security; and Madison Garia, Freeport, early childhood education (Pre K-4); Megan Holbein, Karns City, psychology; Maggie Lewis, Adrian, psychology; and Lauren Wyant, Manorville, Nursing, R.N.

Brittany Wells, of Smicksburg, Indiana County, a business administration student, is also a member of Rho Phi.

## New Delta Kappa members are ...

Students who have completed at least 15 credit hours in BC3's business division, who are pursuing an associate degree in business and who meet academic requirements are eligible for membership into Delta Kappa.

Joining BC3's Delta Kappa chapter and Kappa Beta Delta's 14,000 members this spring are Armstrong County residents Bernard Bailey, Kittanning, computer information systems-programming specialist; and Johnson, of Ford City. Wells, of Indiana County, is also a new Delta Kappa member.

The chapter also includes Keith Szalankiewicz, Ford City, a computer information systems-network administration student.

## Rho Phi reaches pinnacle of Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa, with 3.2 million members representing 10 countries, has recently recognized Rho Phi as an ultimate five-star chapter for the fourth consecutive year following Rho Phi's first four-star rating in 2015 – and for membership acceptance rates.

To reach five-star status, a chapter must, among other requirements, develop an honors in action project that combines academic research, problem-solving and action-oriented services to address real-world challenges in communities.

To be honored with a Phi Theta Kappa Reach Reward, chapters must increase membership acceptance rates by at least 15 percent.

Rho Phi's rate in 2019 was 30.1, double the international rate of 15 percent.