WHERE ARE THEY NOW: A Q&A WITH 2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Each year, Copper Valley Telecom gives out $20,000 in scholarships to hard-working, qualifying, high school seniors in school districts of Copper Valley, Valdez, Cordova, Tatitlek, and Mentasta. Isaac Watson was a 2019 recipient of a CVT scholarship. We caught up with Isaac recently, via email, to see how he is doing now. Here is his interview response:

Q: Where are you attending college currently?
A: I am currently attending Idaho State University.

Q: How did receiving a CVT scholarship help you meet your educational goals?
A: It helped pay for my school, which allowed me to purchase other things such as nicer tools for my school.

Q: What are your future goals regarding your education?
A: I hope to receive my Associates degree in Electrical Engineering Tech and then possibly go to school for another two year in Cyber Technology and get my bachelors.

Q: What are you hoping to do after you graduate from college?
A: I hope to go straight into the workforce after I graduate.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW:

CVTC Board Members: Mike Rego (P), Mike Britt (VP), Trish Stowe (Sec/Tres), Tami Jindra, Karen Linnell, Ryan Morgan, Jennie Sodergren, Joey Virgin
Shannon Saavedra retired from Copper Valley Telecom in late March, after 40 years of employment with Copper Valley Telecom. In that time, she's culminated a vast amount of skilled work experience through a series of promotions, extensive education and training, hard work, and a lot of dedication.

Initially hired as a Customer Service Representative and Plant Records Clerk, which she worked for 18 years, Saavedra earned a promotion to Network Support Facilitator & Line Assigner, a position she stayed at for seven years. Saavedra continued her way up, working another seven years as an Outside Plant Engineer. For the last eight years, she's worked as a Plant Engineer II.

“One of the best things is that I am able to design high-quality communications and lightning-fast Internet access to our member/owners,” Saavedra said in a recent email interview. “Some of these members have never had such amazing connectivity before or maybe never had any service at all in the past.”

Upon retirement, Saavedra said the most important thing she will be doing is spending more time with her loved ones, gardening more, hunting, and fishing more often and planning a trip to Machu Picchu.

“I also want to take up my old hobby of photography again,” Saavedra said. “I will do a great deal more volunteer work in the community and try to give back to the people here. I plan to always have my home in the Copper River Valley, where I was born.” The things Saavedra said she would miss the most is designing fiber connectivity for CVT members and her coworkers, which are some of the very best.

Copper Valley Telecom sincerely thanks Shannon Saavedra for her years of dedication and expertise that she's given to our company. We also thank her for the countless times she volunteered for the various CVT sponsored events throughout her employment at CVT. We wish you all the best, Shannon! You will be missed.

The Copper Wire Quiz
Enter to Win a $50 Account Credit

Answer all three questions below correctly, tear off, then mail or drop off at the Glennallen or Valdez business office. Return by the 10th of the month to ensure your entry is included in the monthly drawing. Congratulations to the last issue's winners, Barbara Charley (Glennallen) and Elizabeth Covington (Valdez). REMEMBER TO FILL IN YOUR NAME!

1. Name one of the ways to do business with CVT?

2. Where does Mr. Watson go to college?

3. How long has Shannon Saavedra worked for CVT?

Name: __________________________________________ Phone: __________________________________________