

April 03, 2026

VET TECH FRIDAYS
Knowledge, News, and Updates



THERE ARE NO CLASSES ON FRIDAY, APRIL 3.

Enjoy your Weekend

**WE HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYS THE LONG WEEKEND, GETS SOME REST,
AND SPENDS TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

WE'LL SEE YOU BACK ON MONDAY!



Student Voices
Connor Johnson
03DV26

My name is Connor Johnson, and I am a member of the new 03DV26 cohort. So far, I have absolutely loved my experience here at the Vet Tech Institute of Indiana. The thing that has stood out to me the most is just how passionate everyone is about animals. Throughout lectures, the instructors have used their own animals in examples and anecdotes, which makes learning the material both easier and more entertaining for me. One of my favorite aspects of this place is how approachable everyone is. From the teachers and administrators to Dr. Ritz, I feel like I could walk up to anyone and have a conversation.



I think what has surprised me most about being a student here is the sense of community. At larger institutions and universities, like those I am used to, it is very easy to get lost in the crowd. But here, the smaller class sizes create a much more personal environment that allows you to truly get to know your classmates and teachers. Because of the focused nature of the program, I know that all my classmates and I share at least one important thing in common: a love for animals.



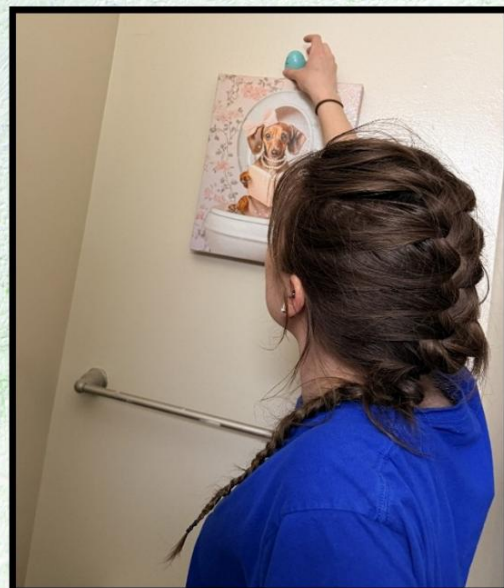
Additionally, the support provided by the teachers is fantastic. They are always willing to answer questions and provide a variety of study resources, including Kahoot, lecture slides, and study guides. It is clear to me that they genuinely want us to succeed.

These first few weeks have truly been amazing, and I cannot wait to see what the rest of the program has in store for me.

HAPPY Easter



The Easter Bunny delivered early thanks to some very thoughtful roommates!



Photos Around Campus

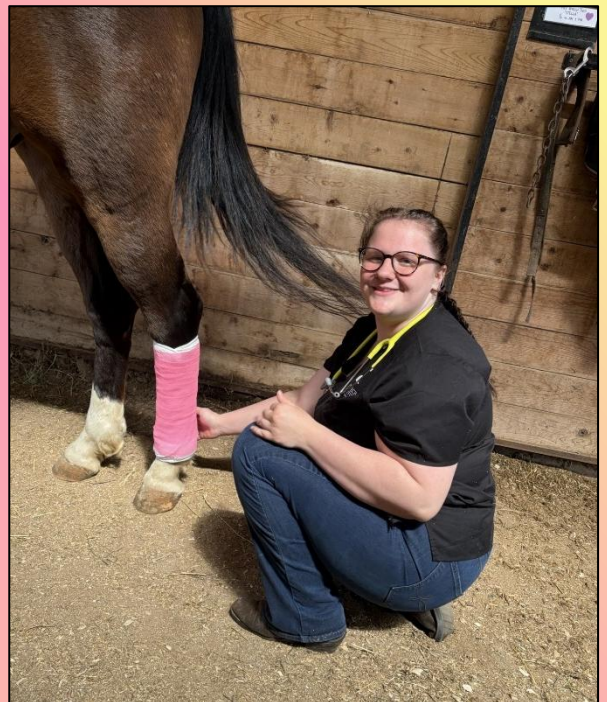


A quick photo with one of the adorable farm horses for 03DV25 students Jane Guest, Miranda Silvestre, Arianna Dunn, Constance Baniaga, Robert Huckins, Elizabeth Dodd, Lucy Jones, and Bonnie Rexroat.



07DV25 students Cheyanne Black and Jaclyn Jackson proudly showing off their new pennants. We love VTI!

A well-deserved break in the sunshine at the farm.



Cast complete! 03DV25 student Jane Guest displays her handiwork after placing a leg cast on a horse at the farm.

Photos Around Campus



Constance Baniaga and Miranda Silvestre



Bonnie Rexroat and Liz Dodd

These 03DV25 students paused for a quick photo after gowning up and scrubbing in for the first time. One step closer to surgery term!



Lexi Lloyd and Taylor Anchor



Lucy Jones and Jane Guest

Underrated Animals

Desert Edition: Sand Cat, Camel Spider, & Thorny Devil

Sand Cat

The sand cat is one of the only wild cats that lives almost entirely in the desert. It is found in the Sahara Desert, the Middle East, and parts of Asia.



Sand cats are small, but they are tough and perfectly built for desert life.

They have thick fur on the bottoms of their paws that protects them from hot sand and helps them walk quietly while hunting. Sand cats are nocturnal and spend the hot daytime hours resting in burrows. They can survive without drinking water because they get moisture from the animals they eat.

Even though they look like cute kittens, sand cats are skilled hunters and can catch rodents, birds, insects, and even snakes.

Why this animal is underrated:

It looks like a house cat but survives extreme desert heat and rarely needs to drink water.



Camel Spider

Despite the name, the camel spider is not actually a spider and has nothing to do with camels. It belongs to a group called Solifugae and is more closely related to scorpions than spiders. They live in deserts in the Middle East, Africa, and the southwestern United States.

Camel spiders are extremely fast and can run up to around 10 miles per hour. They have very large mouthparts that they use to crush insects, small lizards, and other prey. They may look scary, but they are not venomous and are not considered dangerous to humans.

People often think camel spiders chase humans, but they are usually just running toward a person's shadow to stay cool in the desert heat.

Why this animal is underrated:

They are fast, strange, misunderstood, and incredibly well adapted to desert survival.



Thorny Devil

The thorny devil is a small desert lizard that lives in Australia, and it looks like something from a dinosaur movie. Its entire body is covered in sharp spikes that help protect it from predators. It even has a "false head" on the back of its neck to confuse animals that might try to attack it.

One of the most amazing things about the thorny devil is how it drinks water. Its skin has tiny grooves that collect water from rain, dew, or even wet sand. The water then travels through these channels directly to its mouth. It can drink without even lowering its head.

Thorny devils mainly eat ants and can eat thousands of ants in a single day. Their coloring also helps them blend perfectly into the desert environment.

Why this animal is underrated:

It looks fierce, drinks water through its skin and survives in one of the harshest environments on Earth.

FOR THE KIDS (FTK) - ZOO CREW -

CONCESSIONS @ INDIANAPOLIS ZOO

**WORK
WHEN YOU WANT!**

Students working FTK
CONCESSIONS -
Everyone loves it!

**NO LONG-TERM
COMMITMENT!**

- WHAT THIS IS: -



Serve Burgers & Pretzels



Scoop Ice Cream & Dippin' Dots

Work Fun Concession Stands

- MINIMUM PROGRAM DONATION:
\$75/DAY

- WHY PEOPLE LOVE IT:

- ✓ Pick Events YOU Want
- ✓ Evenings & Weekends
- ✓ Super Flexible Schedule!



THE VIBE:

- ✓ Fun & Fast!
- ✓

EASY MONEY!

SCAN HERE TO
SIGN UP!



FortheKidsinc5@gmail.com



FortheKidsinc5@gmail.com

INDIANAPOLIS 500!!!

CONCESSIONS CREW NEEDED!

Fast Cars. Fast Money. Big Impact!



LOOKING FOR 50 VOLUNTEERS!



Average program support
~\$250 per volunteer!



POUR BEER &
SERVE NACHOS!



SHIFT: 5AM - 5PM • SUNDAY, MAY 24TH • INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

- SERVE FOOD & DRINKS • Fuel the Fans
- Fuel the Fans • Have a Blast!

Secure the Bag!

Pour Beer. Serve Nachos.
Watch Races!



SCAN TO SIGN UP!
* Limited spots available!

SIGN UP NOW!

No Experience Necessary • Just Bring the Energy!

NEWSLETTER PHOTO SUBMISSION

We are looking to include more student life photos in our weekly newsletter, and we would love your help.

How to Participate:

→ Please make sure you receive permission from all students in the photo before submitting it.

→ Please include the names of the students in the picture if you can, but if not, I can figure them out.

→ You can email photos to me at any time at amiller@vettechinstitute.edu



Important reminder:

Photos must NOT include any Vet Tech Institute animals. This is very important for our animal partnership policies.

Good photo ideas:

- Studying with classmates
- Hanging out in the student lounge
- Working on homework together
- Housing/apartment life
- Campus events
- Group selfies with classmates
- Fun moments between classes



VTI STUDENT VOICES

We are excited to introduce a new section in our newsletter featuring YOU!

Students are invited to submit:

A short article (200-400 words)

An optional photo of yourself

Not sure what to write about? Here are some ideas:

A reflection about your experience

Advice for other students

Why you chose veterinary technology

A challenge you've overcome in the program

What has surprised you most so far

A meaningful moment in kennel or class

Study tips or time management strategies

What motivates you to keep going on tough days

Your goals after graduation

What being part of VTI means to you

If selected, your submission will be featured in the newsletter,
and you will receive a small thank-you gift as a token of appreciation.

Submit your entry by emailing Ashley Miller at amiller@vettechinstitute.edu.

Please include your name and cohort with your submission.

All submissions should be respectful, appropriate, and school-related.

Please note that submissions may be lightly edited for clarity, length, and professionalism.

No need to be a "perfect writer" – we just want to hear your voice and your experience.

Being featured is also a great addition to your resume or professional portfolio.

Let your voice be heard! We can't wait to hear your story.



IT'S TIME TO COMPLETE YOUR

26-27 FAFSA

FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!



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APRIL

Deadline

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT(S) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.

Please Join Financial Aid for

26-27 FAFSA WORKSHOPS



DEADLINE IS APRIL 15TH

Please have your FSA ID ready! Parents are welcome to join, BUT if they cannot make it, please have their email address available so we can invite them to your FAFSA.

[FINANCIAL AID WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP COMPLETING THE APPLICATION.](#)

If you have any questions, please see Kesia immediately. We look forward to helping you complete your FAFSA for the 26-27 academic year!

2:30 PM TO 4 PM

RM: 104

Time & Room

TUESDAYS &

THURSDAYS

Days

[IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THIS ON YOUR OWN, YOU AND YOUR PARENT\(S\) CAN FILE YOUR FAFSA AT HOME.](#)