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HCC in the News: Build Jobs of the Future

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http://www.hcflgov.net/en/newsroom/2017/04/03/build-jobs-of-the-future [1]

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Chris Van Pelt hopes to launch a successful career in the wake of the "silver tsunami," the outgoing wave of retiring welders in their 50s and 60s that has built everything from skyscrapers and bridges to aerospace parts and metallic works of art.

The Riverview High School graduate is enrolled in a welding course at Hillsborough Community College. This summer, he will take a qualifying exam at HCC's new testing site certified by the American Welding Society (AWS), the industry's standard-bearer.

Without a local testing center, trainees and industry workers have had to go elsewhere to take the basic welding skills exam and other AWS tests. The county's first testing site, at 5610 E. Columbus Drive, will change that when it opens to the public in July.

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