By John S. Adams

Shahin Shahmir, or Shane as he prefers to be called, immigrated to the United States from Iran one month before his 12th birthday. His mother, Fetneh Agah, had applied for a green card back in 1978, one year before the Iranian Revolution and the American hostage crisis. It took her 16 years to get that card and settle in Houston, Texas, closer to her family. Her father had been begging her to join him in America for a better life.

Shane got his American citizenship in 2007; the next day he turned 18, joined the Army, and served eight years with three deployments.

“I wanted to be independent, serve my country and to use it as a stepping stone to a better life,” Shane said.

Shane’s first deployment was to Iraq, followed by two to Afghanistan where he went on maneuvers and served in artillery. Still fluent in Farsi, his mother tongue, spoken by 51 percent of Afghans,

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Shane put his linguistic skills to good use.

He served as a check on the Army’s translators, listening to hear if our translators were telling the truth to commanding officers, and listened to locals to see if attacks were planned. He even read graffiti on the walls that might hint at the presence of the enemy.

Shane was stationed at Ft. Drum, Watertown, when he separated from the Army and ended up staying here in Central New York. He came to Bryant & Stratton last January and will graduate with a degree in Paralegal Studies in the Spring of 2017. He will then pursue a bachelor’s degree in Business Analytics and pre-law at LeMoyne College beginning next fall.

Among Shane’s favorite teachers are Steven Kempisty and Bill Rava. Kempisty, he says, is very thorough, right to the point, informative and intelligent, while Rava is “patient” and an “excellent teacher,” “well organized,” and teaches math in a “step-by-step, easy to follow” manner. Steven C. Kempisty, ESQ, is a program director and William Rava is a full-time instructor.

Shane loves America, his adopted country, because he knows what the rest of the world is like. “I believe in what America used to be,” he said. “Now we are a laughingstock. Everyone wants someone else to do it for them rather than fight for it. So would you put your life on the line, or fight for someone who has the means for themselves?”

Student Shane Shahmir was inducted into the ABG Honor Society Nov. 17, 2016.

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As an immigrant, who has seen how the rest of the world lives, Shane takes nothing for granted, especially his freedom to get an education, and make a better life for himself. He can usually be found studying in an empty room or the library constantly pushing himself to be the best he can be.

Just last week Shane was inducted into the ABG Honor Society, a recognition of his outstanding dedication to scholarship and excellence.

I wanted to be independent, serve my country and to use it as a stepping stone to a better life.

Shane Shahmir

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 24
Thanksgiving

November 30
New Student Registration

December 9
Graduation Breakfast

December 17
Last Day of Campus Classes

December 19
Online Session II Classes End
Eight inducted into Alpha Beta Gamma Honor Society, Nov. 17, 2016

Clockwise from above: Patricia Corrice and Victoria Wheeler show their certificates of membership and Dicsia Dorta-Seijas carries a white candle, a symbol of cooperation.
Joining ABG is a real honor for me. After 3 semesters of maintaining a 4.0 GPA I decided that I would look into joining. After attending the meetings and reading about what ABG offered nationally I decided that I definitely wanted to be part of this organization.

ABG offers scholarships and national recognition of all the hard work I have put into my education. Being recognized for that means the world to me.

ABG is giving me the opportunity to help raise money and services for local non-profit organization and be part of something that is bigger than the local community. Being part of ABG is encouraging to go out and help as many people as possible.

**Nancy R. Counterman**

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I joined ABG to proclaim my academic achievements at Bryant & Stratton. Also, I joined to benefit my future in potential career(s), opportunity for networking and leadership.

With my academic achievements, I hope to inspire others, who may have challenges personally or academically; to achieve their goals, that despite those challenges in their lives, you can be successful!

As an ABG member and a business owner, I hope to instill those same principles to the love of my community and college peers.

**Anne Sorrendino**

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I chose to join ABG because as a student that has been attending this school and participating in the Student Ambassador Program for a while I still wanted to do more for the school by volunteering and raising money for the club and the community.

The best way I hope to be of service for the campus and the community is to be as involved as possible and volunteering as much as possible.

When you want to join a club, you want to be part of something because you love it and enjoy it.

**Allison Hemingway**

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I joined to be part of something bigger than myself, and utilize my membership to serve the school and my community when I’m needed.

**Shane Shahmir**
Graphic Design students visit the Met in New York City

Instructor Lee Shelton and student Lucas Bloss, above, were among the BSC group who visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, Nov. 3, 2016.
As we are sure you are aware, you will have the opportunity to complete an unpaid internship in your final semester. It is a minimum of 90 hours for all majors with the exception of Medical Assisting (160 hours to include 80 clerical and 80 clinical). The internship will allow you to utilize your classroom experiences in a workplace setting. Some things to keep in mind when you are at your particular site are as follows:

Dress professionally— inquire about the dress code when you have received an internship offer or at the interview.

Coordinate a set schedule with your supervisor.

Always ask questions to demonstrate your interest in the particular industry where you complete your hours.

Arrive on time each day that you are expected to be at your site. If you find yourself running a few minutes behind on a certain day, call as soon as you have the opportunity. Allow for extra time to get to your site in the event of inclement weather and/or construction.

Act professionally and maintain a positive attitude. Use proper language and manners, address your supervisor as Mr. or Ms. unless they indicate otherwise; use “please” and “thank you.”

Ask for additional tasks and projects to complete when you have completed what is asked of you. Proofread your work.

Avoid using the Internet unless you are asked to do so for research.

Send a thank you letter when you’ve completed your hours.

Ask your supervisor if you can use them for a reference or obtain a letter of recommendation upon completion of your hours.

Please stop by Career Services regarding any questions.

Chris Godleski          Kristine Perkins