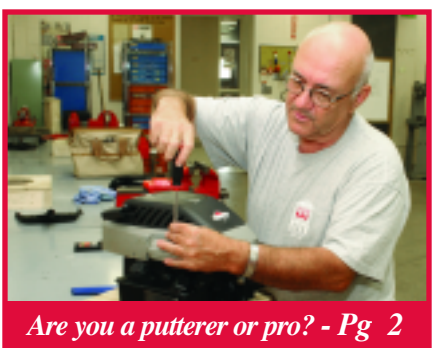




Captivating Prison Opportunity - Pg 2



Are you a putterer or pro? - Pg 2

Good News!

Salaries of technical college graduates climb

Earnings for recent technical college graduates in Wisconsin have jumped six percent over the past year. That's according to a survey of the technical colleges' graduates in the 2006 academic year. The new grads are presumably hired into entry-level positions and are, according to the survey, being paid a median salary of \$29,991 within six months after graduation.

The data is from the annual Graduate Follow-up Report by Wisconsin's Technical Colleges, which examines graduates' progress in all types of degrees six months out of college. Associate degree earners showed the highest salaries with a median of \$32,760, followed by two-year technical diploma graduates at \$30,184. Graduates with one-year technical diplomas combined for a median salary of \$27,662, followed by short-term technical diploma graduates at \$23,508.

Gateway Technical College, which tabulates its District figures, shows an average wage for graduates employed full time in their field of training of \$16.96 per hour for Associate Degree holders (an annual salary of \$35,276) and \$16.51 (\$34,340) for one-year Technical Diploma holders—which may be reflective of higher wages in Southeastern Wisconsin relative to other parts of the state. The majority of Technical College System graduates remain working in Wisconsin.

"We expect these salaries to continue rising," said Dan Clancy, president of the Wisconsin Technical College System. "These

respectable wages accompany strong job placement, as demand increases for Wisconsin's technical college graduates, especially in areas such as health care and advanced manufacturing," Clancy said.

According to the report, the number of occupations where new graduates' median salaries are above the \$30,000 threshold has risen 37 percent to 108. There are now 29 occupations where new graduates' median salaries are above \$40,000; a 164 percent increase from the previous year.

The study also found 92 percent of the graduates were employed within six months and 97 percent of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the education they received from their local technical college. The study showed that the state only loses seven percent of its technical college graduates to other states.

The Graduate Follow-up Report was sent to 22,819 graduates from 2006 and had a 74 percent response rate. (In the Gateway District, the survey was mailed to 1745 associate degree and technical diploma graduates; 1403 graduates responded for a response rate of 80 percent locally). The survey examines employment status, earnings, and other factors approximately six months after graduation. The report is available at www.wtcsystem.edu/reports/fact/graduate/index.htm.

The Wisconsin Technical College System has 16 technical college districts throughout



Gateway graduates serve our community in business, service, engineering & manufacturing, and health occupations.

Wisconsin, which offer more than 300 programs awarding two-year associate degrees, one- and two-year technical diplomas, and short-term technical diplomas. In addition, the System is the major provider of customized training and technical assistance to Wisconsin's business and

industry community. More than half of all adults in Wisconsin have accessed the technical colleges for education and training. Find more about Gateway educational programs at www.gtc.edu.

Gateway opens engineering technology center of excellence

Gateway Technical College's Engineering Technology programs will become centralized at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI), Sturtevant, beginning this Fall Semester. Gateway offers engineering technology associate degrees in Civil Engineering Technology (three concentrations to choose from: Architectural/Structural, Public Works, Surveying), Electrical Engineering Technology (Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics), Mechanical Design Technology (including Mechatronics), and an advanced technical certificate in Telecommunications.

The move will allow for advanced technology lab space and will be more accessible to businesses in the Renaissance Business Park (2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant) and others located along highway I-94 for cooperative projects or skill upgrade training. **The public is invited to see their new labs and classrooms at an Open House on August 9, 5:00-7:30 p.m.**

Gateway's Engineering Technology programs have undergone an almost complete curriculum upgrades over the past five years. Now, several agreements exist between Gateway and Milwaukee School of Engineering and Marquette University's engineering program that allow Gateway engineering technology graduates to transfer all of their Gateway credits into their four-year bachelor's degree engineering programs with sophomore or junior standing (depending on the agreement). These agreements offer many benefits to the engineering bachelor's degree seeker:

- Study locally for the first couple of years
- Save tuition money on a four-year engineering degree

- Gain engineering technology career skills so one can work in industry while finishing bachelor's degree
- The Engineering Technology program instructors are very involved in utilizing new technology in their teaching and leading a number of outreach activities with the Gateway District high schools and the Wisconsin Technical College System schools.

Some recent examples:

- Use of new computer-based technology, with computer mounted cameras, allowing students at the Elkhorn Campus to take Civil Engineering classes along with those in Racine.
- Blackhawk Technical College students will be getting the opportunity to participate in the future.
- Organizer and host of Sumo-Bot contest for high school teams from throughout the district. Students have the opportunity to apply math and science to fun projects solving real engineering problems and engage in competition.
- Organizer and first host of Robotics Competition (similar to above) for Engineering Technology Students from other WTCS colleges.
- Developed partnership with Belden, a world leader in the design, manufacture, and marketing of signal transmission solutions for data networking and a wide range of specialty electronics markets. Gateway, and the college's Telecommunications instructor Randy Reusser, will provide all corporate training in the Midwest. Belden donated cutting edge telecommunications lab equipment that will be used for the Belden training as well as Gateway telecommunications courses.



Industry leader donations vastly expand Gateway's Telecommunications instructional capabilities

Belden is a world leader in the design, manufacture, and marketing of signal transmission solutions for data networking and a wide range of specialty electronics markets. This Spring, Belden formally announced its partnership with Gateway Technical College, which will serve as the company's Midwest training center for its client base. Gateway instructor Randy Reusser, through the college's Workforce and Economic Development Division, will teach new and existing users of Belden products how to work with the latest and most cutting-edge products.

To implement this agreement, Belden has provided an in-kind donation of more than \$20,000 in classroom equipment, which has been installed in a telecommunications lab at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation in Sturtevant, Wisconsin. In addition, Belden has provided training that led to Belden certification of instructor Reusser—an estimated \$3,000 investment.

These donations will provide benefits far beyond current Belden customers. The most up-to-date lab equipment and training of a Gateway instructor will positively impact Gateway's degree-seeking students by expanding telecommunications training. (see story on addition of a Telecommunications Advanced Certificate). It also benefits area telecommunications companies who require customized training for their workforce to keep pace with ever-changing technology.

Only 65 trainers have been certified by Belden in the world—Gateway's Reusser is one of those. "We have invested in Mr. Reusser because of his background as well as his enthusiasm," says Guylaine Boisvert, manager of Belden Training, Technical Support & Certification. "Client satisfaction requires us to make sure they have the best understanding of our product features and proper usage. Training is the key."

The cutting-edge Belden technology will constantly be updated so its Midwest clients have access to it for both training and potential purchase. This same equipment will be available to Gateway Technical College telecommunications students, along with other brands and configurations. Reusser will teach traditional Gateway degree-seeking students, as well as through Gateway's customized training program.

For more information about Gateway's Telecommunications ATC, contact Randy Reusser: reusserr@gtc.edu



Gateway Human Services graduate Graciela Mares learned a great deal from her internship in prison.

Grad is captivated by prison intern opportunity

Thanks to her experience at Gateway Technical College, Graciela Mares ended up in prison. Unlike many of the occupants she shared time and space with, it is an experience she hopes to repeat again as soon as possible.

The 2007 Gateway graduate of the Human Services program came by her prison experience completely honestly, with some help from her instructor Brad Hompe. The Gateway educator is also a deputy warden at the Racine Correctional Institution, a medium security prison in Sturtevant. Thanks to Hompe's help, the prison is also a frequent destination for Human Services students who wish to gain practical experience in the helping professions.

Mares was surprised and pleased to find that her RCI internship involved far more than merely a tour and a bit of low-level involvement with the prison's staff. Interning was a four-week experience that included face-to-face contact with prisoners, hands-on administration work, and concluded with attendance at a "graduation" ceremony for inmates about to be released.

Prison Surprises

The entire experience was an eye-opening one for the Racine resident. "It was definitely not what I expected," she recalled. "I was very surprised at the level and variety of involvement we had, and even more surprised at how involved the inmates were with addressing their issues. I thought the prisoners would be mean, harsh, and negative, but 80% to 90% were positive about treatment."

The Gateway students were definitely not delivered a sanitized experience inside prison walls. Mares worked with inmates undergoing alcohol and drug treatment, therapy for psychological problems, and treatment for sex offenses. She was welcome to participate in group sessions and experience direct contact with inmates. "It was really amazing," she remembered. "I learned so much!"

The most challenging part of the experience happened before Mares even stepped

inside the walls of RCI. "I'd never even been in a jail visiting room before, much less inside a medium security prison," she said. "I was really nervous...I mean, you never know what might happen. It was a little scary going through the metal detectors. But once I got inside there, I didn't want to leave!"

One of the first surprises came from RCI's surroundings, which were unlike the gray, cold, walled environment she expected. "It was like a small community, or like a college campus," she stated. "It's not gloomy at all. There are gardens, and plenty of outdoor space. It's surprisingly relaxed."

The second surprise was the inmates themselves, who didn't fit the stereotyped image of the hardcore criminal seen on prime time TV. "Most of them seemed just like regular people, at least until they started talking about their crimes," said Mares. "That was a little shocking. To hear that on a TV program is one thing, but to hear it from a person you're sitting across the room from is another."

School makes sense

The biggest benefit to Mares was the chance to see the techniques she learned in Human Services classes at work in practical application. "It's really nice to attach the learning you do to something real...not just in the classroom," she said. "Sometimes when you're in class learning about a process like an interview technique, you wonder whether you're ever going to use this in the real world. So many times when I listened to an actual interview, I thought, 'hey, I recognize that question from class!' It definitely makes you want to take your class work more seriously."

Mares' Racine Correctional experience was one reason she decided to go on for a bachelor's degree after graduating from Gateway in June 2007. "When I started at Gateway, I just had a general idea that I wanted to help people," she said. "Now that I've seen what the possibilities are, I want to go as high as I can."

A new Horizon advances transportation technology

Gateway automotive students will have the opportunity of a lifetime when Gateway Technical College's Horizon Center for Transportation Technology opens Fall Semester 2007. The Horizon Center, formerly the Aviation Center on Hwy H, just north of 52nd Street, will be home to all transportation programs—the Automotive programs and Aeronautics-Pilot training. Utilizing leading-edge technology, the center will prepare students for careers for the attractive field of automotive technology. They will be prepared for the most sophisticated operations, such as the luxury vehicle service environment.

Gateway Technical College's Horizon Center for Transportation Technology will open for the Fall Semester. A Grand Opening / Open House planned for September 20.

Horizon Center is a community venture to support the advancement of transportation—vehicular and aeronautic—technology training in southeastern Wisconsin. The Horizon Center will deliver benefits to Gateway students, high school students, the vast regional transportation industry, and those of us who seek high quality vehicular service.

The interior of the building has completely been gutted and rebuilt to accommodate state-of-the-art equipment and programming for automotive as well as aeronautics-pilot training. The exterior of the building is undergoing a facelift. **(continued on page 4)**



Small engine course fits putterers and pros

Some Gateway Technical College students look to their college for the power to change lives or to open up opportunities for a new career. Others are just as happy with a little help cleaning out their garage.

The Small Engine Repair course offered at Gateway's Kenosha Campus offers new life to the broken lawn mowers, weed whackers, snow blowers, and garden tractors cluttering up garages across Southeastern Wisconsin. At the same time, it serves to teach an important job-related skill to students earning an applied science degree in a variety of areas.

The mix of students...serious professionals sharing a workbench with weekend warriors...is a big reason students find the program so satisfying, according to the course's instructor Mike Renzoni. "I've had people who work on small engines for a living sitting next to people who have never laid their hands on an engine except to pull the starter cord," said Renzoni. "It gets to be a real friendly atmosphere, and the experienced people say they get as much out of it as the beginners do."

"It was a fun group," added course participant and Salem resident Lenny Weiss. "We had men and women, young and old, all races and ethnic backgrounds. It was cool that we were able to work together so well."

Powered by practicality

All involved appreciate the hands-on quality of the Small Engine class. An hour of lecture time is followed by three hours spent at the workbench. Students are required to bring engines that need repair, and participants commonly finish the semester with a handful of once-broken power equipment returned to running shape. **(Continued on page 4)**



Lenny Weiss enjoys the senior citizen discount available at Gateway while learning to restore an engine in his Small Engine Repair class.



amaze yourself

enroll now for Fall...classes begin August 21

class schedules
available at www.gtc.edu
or call 1.800.247.7122





Officer John Shanning is glad to be working and smiling after CPR saved his life.

CPR Training: Preparation for the unexpected

For Waterford police officer John Shanning, it was just another Sunday morning. He had played three games of racquetball and was feeling just fine. He was walking through his house when he dropped down to the ground. The deputy on duty was called, he was rolled over, and they still found a pulse. He was alive, but barely. By the time the paramedics arrived, his heart had stopped. He was clinically dead for two and a half minutes.

Through a combination of CPR and a defibrillator, he was resuscitated and sent by ambulance to the hospital in Burlington, where he died in the emergency room. Again, through CPR and a defibrillator, he was brought back. Four days later, John was diagnosed with “sudden death syndrome,” meaning his heart had stopped for, according to him, “no real reason.”

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, is an emergency procedure for someone who is in cardiac or respiratory arrest. The procedure keeps blood flowing to the brain and increases oxygenation throughout the body, limiting the damages and delaying death. It played a huge part in saving John Shanning’s life. Without it, he could have suffered extreme brain damage, or even more likely, he would have remained dead.

CPR training through Gateway Technical College can train any average person the ability to administer CPR in an emergency situation. If trained, you could help save a life like that of John Shanning. And, according to Wisconsin state law, “anyone who renders emergency care at the scene of an emergency or accident in good faith is immune from civil liability for his or her acts or omissions in rendering such emergency care.” CPR training can also teach you techniques to limit the risk of catching contagious diseases. A barrier mask can also be used while administering CPR.

Emergencies like this happen every day. It is important to be prepared for similar situations. Because of this, Gateway Technical College is offering a CPR training event in August. This event is geared toward every average person who may want to be better prepared for an emergency.

Today, John Shanning continues to serve on the Waterford police force. He can because CPR helped keep him alive, without suffering any brain damage. Those around him were prepared for the emergency. Gateway wants you to be prepared, too.

IS CPR EASY TO LEARN?

Yes, CPR is a fairly simple skill that involves pressing down forcefully on the chest and providing rescue breaths, or “mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.” The American Heart Association continues to simplify its recommendations for CPR so that it’s easy for rescuers to learn and perform.

CAN YOU DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD WHEN PROVIDING CPR?

That is very unlikely. When someone suffers a sudden cardiac arrest, their heart stops circulating blood. Without CPR or defibrillation, brain damage begins to occur in 4-6 minutes and death is likely within 12 minutes. A victim’s chances for survival drop 7-10 percent for each minute that goes by without CPR and defibrillation. Minor injuries can occur, but they are preferable than permanent brain damage or death.

WHAT ABOUT CONTAGIOUS DISEASES?

Those involved in CPR training are made aware of protective devices, some that fold up so small they can be attached to a key chain, that can be used to minimize potential germ transfer between the rescuer and the victim. Could I be found liable if my efforts are unsuccessful or a complication arises? Anyone acting in good faith to provide CPR is protected under Good Samaritan laws.

The Gateway Marketing Program: Confidence through experience

Rita Davis just wanted her degree. She already had a full-time job, and she felt a marketing degree would benefit her career. But after she went back to school at Gateway Technical College, she was convinced to join the Gateway Marketing and Management Association (GMMA). The organization provides leadership training and marketing skill development to prepare students for competition at state and national levels.

“I didn’t want to do it,” she says. “I had a full-time job and was going to school. In the weeks during competition, you were working forty hours a week on your projects to get them done.” But as Davis worked, she grew to love the program and the benefits she received through it. “It gave you a taste of the ‘real world.’ It built confidence in yourself that you can sell, despite having no background at all. I got to work with real professionals who assisted me in that.” At competition level, it paid off for her. In her first year of competition, Davis placed third in state competition and in the top ten at the national level. Her second year won her first place in both.

Now, Rita Davis is working in consumer relations for Walgreens, specializing in product quality concerns. A graduate of Gateway’s marketing program, she looks back on her experience fondly. “Gateway’s teachers were an incredible support team. Teachers like Michael Vernezze and Nancy Williams helped everyone bring in their everyday lives to their projects. There was so much diversity in participation. Classes had groups of people in their sixties, young people just starting out, or people like me – twenty-six years old and going back to school. Everybody had their own story that they brought to the table.” Everyone learned from their mistakes and the need for more practice was continually emphasized, she says.

Today, Davis gives presentations on a regular basis. Before presenting, she thinks back to some of the things she learned at Gateway Technical College. She credits much of her success to Gateway’s marketing program. “It was uplifting. It gave me pieces for my portfolio to take along on interviews, and gave me the ‘real world’ experience needed to succeed.”



Marketing graduate Rita Davis credits Gateway with her success.

Painting vs. Patient Care: One woman’s choice

Art or science, creativity or technology?

Many students struggle with the choice between the two when planning an educational and career path, but Sarah Rescigno isn’t one of them. She had the confidence to choose both, and she’s glad she did.

To an outside observer, Rescigno’s choice to leave Carthage College in her senior year as an art major and begin a new course in Surgical Technology at Gateway Technical College might seem odd. Rescigno definitely doesn’t see it that way. “Everything that I’ve been through I wouldn’t change at all,” she said. “I didn’t view going to Gateway as starting over...it was just a different avenue.”

Now that Rescigno is putting her 2005 Gateway degree to work as a surgical technician for Aurora Health Care, she can see how insights from both educational paths have enriched her working life. On Tuesdays and Thursdays Rescigno can be found in an Aurora orthopedic surgery suite, assisting surgeons in the technicalities of replacing hips, knees, and rotator cuffs. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays she works with patients preparing for surgery, using all the creative skill she can muster to help them come to terms with the emotion-packed experience.

“Working with patients and assisting in the surgical suite satisfies both sides of me, and I feel very blessed about that,” said Rescigno, who still takes time to paint in the hours she isn’t working or caring for her 9-week-old son A.J. “I think my time as an artist gives me a sensitivity that I might not have been able to contribute otherwise.”

Best of Both Worlds

Rescigno’s uniquely two-sided educational experience also gives her special insight on the differences between a technical college and a four-year university. “The way Gateway organizes things is completely different,” she observed. “They get you out into the world really fast, which is what I was looking for when I decided to change my focus.” It felt good, she added, to gain skills and put them immediately to work through the field learning and internship programs Gateway offers. “There’s a time for learning theories and a time for putting them to use. I think Gateway does a good job of balancing the two.”

On the other hand, Rescigno noted, the academic rigor of her Gateway education definitely didn’t take a backseat to her university studies. “When I told my parents about my decision to change, they asked me, ‘do you really want to go to a technical school?’” the lifelong Kenosha resident recalled. “But some of the most challenging academic classes I’ve ever had were at Gateway. Some of the job-specific classes were so advanced I couldn’t imagine a four-year college giving you as much.”

While each institution has its strengths, Rescigno believes in the value of both...so much so that she is now back at Carthage College part time to complete a business degree. “Of course I’m interested in the fact that a bachelor’s degree will be useful as far as jobs are concerned,” she said, “but I’m not doing it just for my career. I think college is a way to grow as a person, and I definitely don’t think I’m through growing yet.”



Surgical Technician Sarah Rescigno is putting her degree to work at Aurora Healthcare.

CPR Saturday

Saturday, August 25, 2007
Gateway Technical College
Kenosha Campus
Madrigrano Auditorium

(3520 - 30th Avenue, Kenosha,WI)

\$10 fee (includes course materials)

More Information at: (262) 767-5166



Breathe Easy...

All Gateway buildings and grounds will become tobacco-free August 1, 2007. In an effort to support a healthy lifestyle for all Gateway students, employees, and visitors, Gateway will ban use of any tobacco products within its property lines. Gateway Technical College is the first institution of higher learning in the tri-county area to prohibit use of tobacco not only in or near its buildings, but on its grounds as well.

To support students and employees who are looking for help in quitting, workshops have been held and additional sessions are planned as we near the start of the start of Fall classes. Many online support resources also exist and Gateway is developing a collection of these to make available to students and staff.

Gateway thanks all visitors to Gateway facilities for respecting our tobacco-free environment.



Register now for Fall classes at Gateway

Registration is in full swing for Gateway’s fall semester. Classes begin August 21, with a number of late-start classes as well. But don’t wait for the last minute! The best class selection is available prior to August 10. After that, classes with low enrollment are cancelled—so don’t miss your opportunity to Amaze Yourself with learning new skills and finding a career you can love.

Through July 27, 2007, Registration is open Monday-Tuesday from 8am-7pm; Wednesday through Friday from 8am-4pm. From July 30-September 28, Registration is open Monday –Thursday from 8am-7pm; Friday 8am-4pm; Saturday August 11 and 18 from 9am-1pm. Gateway is offering several new programs for you to choose from. Talk with a Gateway counselor for more information. To schedule an appointment, call the campus of your choice:

Racine Campus: 262-619-6300
Kenosha Campus: 262-564-2300
Elkhorn Campus: 262-741-8300
Burlington Center: 262-767-5300

Business Management Associate Degree program is designed to prepare students for entry level management positions such as supervisor, assistant manager, team leader, or management trainee. The 68-credit program includes a broad array of courses touching on human resource management, budgeting and accounting, business decision making, marketing, and more.

Telecommunications Advanced Technical Certificate offers specific telecommunications technician industry-standard training. The curriculum is aligned with the Electronic Technicians Association (ETA) International’s telecommunications requirements, and prepares students for successful completion of ETA’s telecommunications certification. The program is appropriate for graduates of related Gateway associate degree programs (such as electronic technician) or for those currently working in the telecommunications industry who wish to achieve certification. Classes will be taught at newly constructed labs at Gateway’s Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI) in Sturtevant.

Psychosocial Nursing Advanced Technical Certificate is appropriate for any Registered Nurse who wishes to better understand working with patients’ emotional difficulties associated with their illness or hospitalization... or for nurses who wish to work in medical facilities that deal with patients suffering mental illness.

Alumni Association is formed

Gateway Technical College Alumni, through a steering committee comprised of Gateway alumni and staff, have formed the Gateway Technical College Alumni Association. The purpose of the Association is to keep alumni and current students connected and involved in the promotion of Gateway Technical College’s educational mission.

The groundwork (bylaws, membership structure) has been set and the Association is now accepting memberships. There are two levels of membership: Graduate—for those who have graduated with an Associate Degree or Technical Diploma, and Collegiate—for those who want to support the college’s mission in their community, including those who have attended Gateway for skill upgrade or personal enrichment classes but were not seeking a degree or diploma.

Association benefits will be implemented over this first year. The Association wants to give members opportunities to connect with former classmates and instructors through an online newsletter, alumni directory, and invitations to College events and Alumni Association events.

One of the purposes of the Association is to increase the connection between students and Alumni. Association members will have the opportunity to serve in a mentoring role for students, promote Gateway at community functions, and serve on Alumni Association committees to develop activities.

A number of additional benefits are also under development: career services, library privileges, community business discounts, discount on Gateway products/apparel, purchase of Alumni Association apparel, and travel opportunities.

Are YOU one?

Gateway’s new Alumni Association is open to graduates & those who took courses to upgrade their workplace skills.

Join us for our Kick-Off Picnic:

Friday, September 7
4 - 7 pm

Gateway Technical College-Kenosha Campus

Sign up by emailing gtcalumni@gtc.edu



Gateway Technical College and instructor win prestigious award

Gateway Technical College and Information Technology-Programmer/ Analyst instructor Jim Buck were awarded the IBM System i Innovation Award for Educational Excellence by IBM at its third annual IT Innovation Awards Ceremony in Anaheim, California. The awards are part of the COMMON (IBM System i user group) conference involving thousands of IBM System i users.

Gateway and Jim Buck were honored for their efforts in bringing together the regional System i user group with current students to increase job opportunities for graduating students and to educate businesses of the latest System i tools and technology.

“I saw the need to establish a crucial connection between users of System i, a major information technology development platform used by thousands of companies within a hundred mile radius of the Gateway District and trained workers,” says Buck. Companies need employees trained in the latest development tools for their platform. They need new employees to replace those hitting retirement age. No one was training incumbent workers or new

workers in the Midwest.”

Buck has forged relationships between IBM, the Wisconsin Midrange Computer Programmers Association, and Gateway that will yield both short- and long-term benefits. “I wanted to make sure there were jobs out there for my students. And I know of many companies hungry for talented new workers. I continue to do all I can to bring the parties together for mutual benefit,” says Buck.

The award was presented by Mark Shearer, international general manager for IBM’s System i set of products. In presenting the awards Shearer, who conducted a roundtable IT discussion at Gateway April 19, said, “The Innovation Awards showcase System i innovations that help our clients succeed, as well as deliver more value to their own customers.”

The other Innovation Award winners were: Bank of America Foreign Items Systems received the Infrastructure Simplification award; Walt Disney World Co., the i5/0s Focus award; FedEx Ground, the Business Resiliency award; and Angus the iT Chap, Community Service award.



Jim Buck

Small engine course *(cont. from page 2)*

One interest that unites the diverse classmates is the variety of unorthodox projects the class unearths. In addition to plenty of garden-variety mowers and snow removal equipment, the past semester’s students brought a fire department hovercraft and a vintage 1946 garden tractor back to life.

The hovercraft came courtesy of Bruce Schaal, a retired banker from Powers Lake who is active with his local fire department’s rescue team. “We had (the hovercraft) out on a training exercise and the motor locked up...we thought it was totaled,” Schaal recalled. The biggest challenge in repairing it proved to be getting the large rescue vehicle through the door of the Gateway small engine shop. “It’s purring like a kitten now,” he added. “We just pulled the pistons out in class, cleaned everything, put it back together and it started right up. The big lesson I learned is that a lot of small engine problems aren’t as serious as you think they are.”

The solution to fellow student Lenny Weiss’ project wasn’t quite as quick, which is just fine for the former Gateway adjunct professor and retired state agriculture inspector. Weiss is still working on the ground-up restoration of his 1946 Bolens Ridemaster garden tractor, whose 60 year old, 1 cylinder Wisconsin engine was a frequent target for kibitzing classmates. “That’s what makes the class so much fun,” Weiss said. “I’d say, ‘hey Mike, what do you think of this?’ and pretty soon the manuals are out and everybody is gathered around. Not everybody will need to learn how to work on an engine with a magneto, but it’s a great way to learn the fundamentals whatever you’re working on.”

Fighting Carbo-o-phobia

In addition to resurrecting a few more pieces of power equipment, the course produces a new sense of confidence in participants. Instructor Renzoni reports that a dose of ongoing experience commonly melts away the average homeowner’s hesitancy to dig into the complexities of small engine mechanics. “A lot of people are intimidated by small engine repair, especially with carburetors,” Renzoni explained. “Once they get into it they realize, ‘My God, there was such a small thing that made it not run properly.’ The next thing you



Bruce Schaal saw an opportunity in the Small Engine Repair class to help Powers Lake Rescue repair its hovercraft.

know the neighbors discover you’re taking the course, and chain saws and generators start coming out of the woodwork.”

While it helps to save money at the repair shop, course participants often cite more personal reasons for taking the course. “I did it just for the personal fulfillment,” explained Bruce Schaal. “It was fun, and it’s important to keep learning no matter what your age.” Both Schaal and Weiss plan on taking the course a second time. “Gotta finish the Bolens,” said Weiss, “and I’ve got a chipper I want to start on.”

Renzoni is hoping the course attracts enough interest to justify a Small Engines advanced course for graduates who wish to tackle tougher challenges. There is only one aspect of the course that Renzoni sees as beyond hope. “One of these days I keep hoping I’ll have time to bring in my old snow blower and get it started again, but I never seem to...I’m too busy helping my students.”

Transportation technology *(cont. from page 2)*

Students Benefit

Students enrolled in automotive training programs at Gateway will experience great advancements. Racine and Kenosha campus training programs have been consolidated in the Center, are receiving NATEF certification (the highest industry standard for training programs) and will have the most state-of-the-art Snap-on Diagnostic equipment, the best technician training educational devices. Each student will receive a tool set upon graduation that will make them more marketable, and much more.

Some additional enhancements for the students’ benefit:

- Operations exactly simulating a Service Shop three days a week, all year long.
- Courses and training available throughout the entire year so students can complete their degree more quickly.
- The most up-to-date diagnostic and training technology used by technicians.
- Functionally comparable training as that of the recognized national automotive education leaders at:
 - One-tenth the cost.
 - A local location.

- Classes scheduled year-round from 7am-10pm to offer greater opportunity to meet students’ schedules. The program can be individually structured for accelerated full-time, conventional full-time, or part-time.
- Students will be assigned use of a master work station containing the latest in Snap-on technology.
- Advanced engineering provided by Snap-on Engineering experts will be integrated into the curriculum. Snap-on will have an office in the facility.

Other Gateway program developments in the planning stage include a Diesel-Biofuel program.

Advanced students and professional technicians will have the opportunity to take special courses that will lead to two different Snap-on diagnostic certifications—the first of its kind in the country.

Financial support

The Center has been attracting the support of major automotive-related industry such as Snap-on Incorporated, a primary partner in this training effort. Over \$1.5 million has been generated in community sup-

port from companies and individuals. They are supporting equipment, furniture, and student scholarships. Supporting entities range from automotive equipment manufacturers, automotive dealers, and individuals and organizations concerned with ensuring that a skilled technician workforce is available in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Work with High Schools

In a unique arrangement, Gateway is partnering with area high schools who wish to align their curriculum with Horizon Center. Advanced level high school students will take their automotive courses at Horizon Center, utilizing Gateway equipment, instructors, and earning college credit, at no additional cost to the parent. Upon graduation, they will face a much shorter and inexpensive path to an associate degree.

Kenosha Unified School District has been an enthusiastic partner in this endeavor, recognizing their students will benefit from earning college credit and working on state-of-the-art equipment. And the community need for highly trained automotive technicians will be addressed.



Gateway’s Horizon Center for Transportation Technology Community Partners Committed to Investing in Our Future (Donors as of July 1, 2007)

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