





Agreement provides UW-P, Gateway transfer option PAGE 2



Mapping your future

Gateway maps your career destination, no matter which on-ramp you take

Gateway strives to accomplish its mission to help address our community's workforce needs.

That mission becomes even more critical in a changing economy. More of our neighbors are seeking retraining to upgrade their current skills to be successful in

A word from the president



Gateway Technical College President Bryan Albrecht

their current career, find a more stable career or face the task of a embarking on a new career because they've found themselves dislocated from their cur-

We offer training and services in a number of ways to fit your needs. We meet you where you're at and take you where you need to go.

Gateway offers a full array of training and education opportunities for dislocated

workers to return to the workforce. Those seeking to earn their GED/HSED; need English Language Learning services; looking to take short, intense training to return to the workforce quickly; or earn their associate degree, can discover their career at Gateway.

Gateway provides you with the tools to upgrade your skills. We offer a number of workshops to solidify your success in a changing workplace, whether it's learning new computer skills or honing your current skills.

Destination continued on Page 4



Stronger Skills GED/HSED Technical Diploma Associate Degree

GED®/HSED at Gateway

- Earning your GED®/HSED is an option if you've not finished your high school degree
- Practice tests, evaluations, and tutoring are available free of charge in the Adult
- Learning Centers on each campus Contact the Gateway Adult Learning Center closest to you to sign up

Gateway/Workforce Development Center Short-term training courses

- · Need to get back into the workforce quickly
- · Classes offer 300 hours of instruction Entry-level skills get you back on your feet and foot into the door of a new
- Applicants need to go through their local Workforce Development Office to enroll in a program

Gateway Adult Learning Center

- Been away from school a while? The center can help you brush up on your basic education skills.
- · Didn't graduate from high school? Here is a place to start your education. GED®/HSED testing is administered through the centers
- There is a center on each campus: Elkhorn, (262) 741-8184 Kenosha, (262) 564-2796 Kenosha County Job Center, (262) 967-4582 Racine, (262) 619-6218 Burlington, (262) 767-5090

Validate your skills

- · Get an edge on the fellow applicants - validate the skills you have through a Gateway gateway certificate
- Manufacturing Skill Standards Council training and certification shows employers you have the strong skill set for your chosen industry.
- Gateway offers the courses, www.gtc.edu/wedd

Technical Diploma

- · Learn skills to a new career quickly
- Many courses are about a year long
- Twenty careers from which to choose www.gtc.edu/degrees

County Workforce Development Centers

- A first-stop option
- Center for professionals, skilled and unskilled workers
- Resumé writing, access to computers · lob-seeking, career and training advice
- Center officials will help you begin your journey - whether it's training, federal education funding, short skill
- training sessions · The center can direct you to Gateway training resources Kenosha County: (262) 697-4500;
- Racine County: (262) 898-7432; Walworth County: (262) 741-5275

Associate degree

- More than 50 Gateway careers from which to choose
 - Generally, programs last about two years for full-time students
 - · Transfer agreements allow graduates to continue their education at a four-year college www.gtc.edu/degrees

Job Training New Career Upgrade Skills Adult Learning Center **Short-Term Training**

'I have the confidence to do anything I want'

A Gateway Technical College Human Services degree fueled a life change for Katherine Wemmert that brought her from the ranks of displaced workers to the graduation

Katherine Wemmert, 57, Racine ceremony and a

career field. "I enjoy my new career. What really amazes me is that I would come home tired and sometimes cranky from my factory job. I don't feel that way after my job

"I graduated from Gateway and I now feel I have the confidence to do anything I want to in my life."

Wemmert thought she was a couple years away from retirement when the factory she worked at for 33 years closed. "It was a big shock to the system," she said. "I thought I was going to retire there. I thought, what am I going to do now?"

Workforce Development officials came to her factory and told Katherine and fellow workers about a federal program that would pay for up to a two-year

associate degree program and full unemployment during those two years. "I knew I had to take them up on the offer," she said.

While initially apprehensive about going to college because of her age, Katherine realized quickly Gateway is set up to help anyone at any age receive the training they need, and truly meet the student where they're at.

"It was hard to go back. I was 55 and thought I was going to retire. It was very scary, knowing you would be the oldest one in the class. But, after a while, that

goes away – you are just one of the group. "I just love Gateway. I love the instructors, the programs, the entire college. In two years, I didn't have one bad experience."

What really helped her were industry-savvy instructors. "They have such an extensive industry background and they go out of their way to help you succeed. They are just out of this world.

Katherine Wemmert continued on Page 4



Katherine Wemmert used Gateway to fuel a life change after she was displaced from her job at a local factory. Wemmert graduated with a Gateway Technical College degree in Human Services and now works as an advocate for the elderly.



Peggy Nelson looks at a patient chart, discussing laboratory or doctor's orders with nurse Gary Krause. Nelson received the training and qualifications she needed from Gateway Technical College's Health Unit Coordinator program to re-enter the workforce.

'The world is changing and you need that training and credential'

began

After being out of work for more than a year when her employer closed and moved overseas, Peggy Nelson

Peggy Nelson, 47, Kenosha

her journey to Gateway Technical College for training to help her land a job quickly after her graduation. She is a health unit coordinator for Wheaton-Franciscan Health Care/All Saint's in the cardiovascular institute in Racine.

Peggy says certification and college training is required to advance in today's labor market which has changed even in the past two-plus decades she's been in the workforce.

"I have the certification to tell employers I do have the skills they're looking for," says Peggy. "I was out of college quickly and got hired quickly. It has been a positive experi-

ence. I really enjoy what I do for a

Peggy says instructors gave her a realistic look at the career she was entering and sometimes a little bit more – the computer training she received was still being introduced to the industry when she graduated. "They did a real good job of explaining what I would do in the workplace," says Peggy.

Peggy left her job as a receptionist from the factory after company officials announced they would be soon move to Mexico.

She said time and again employers asked her during the interview whether she had technical college training and certification. "They stressed they needed someone to have the training they were

Peggy Nelson continued on Page 4

looking for in an employee," she said.

Gateway News Briefs

Gateway launches student blogs

Want a cool way to keep connected with Gateway events and what students are saying about the college? Gateway is taking its campus community online with Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and a student

Social media is a great way to keep students and the community updated on Gateway news and happenings.

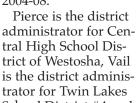
The Gateway student blog features current students sharing their thoughts, experiences, and blogging about their program of study and campus life at Gateway. Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube share program information, news updates, and information about events on campus.

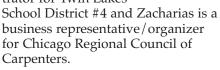
Follow the blogs at www.gtc.edu/blogs and join Gateway networks on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

Three sworn in as board members

Rebecca Vail, Roger Zacharias and R. Scott Pierce were appointed as members of the Gateway Technical College District Board of Trustees.

Pierce is a newly appointed board member, Zacharias is a returning board member after a one-year absence, and Vail was reappointed to her seat. The three were appointed to threeyear terms to run from Zacharias 2009-12. Zacharias served on the board 2004-08.





Gateway to offer diesel program this fall

Gateway will offer Diesel Technology this fall. The program will deliver highly proficient and much-



needed diesel technicians to local employers. The job outlook and wage earning potential for this career field remains strong in

Southeastern Wisconsin, particularly as the Interstate 94 reconstruction project progresses. Diesel technicans are required for on- and off-road vehicle and power generation equipment maintenance and repair.

The demand for trained diesel technicians has risen recently across the globe as diesel technology has advanced in leaps and bounds.

www.gtc.edu/horizoncenter

Real-world skills learned through student club competition

Gateway students take first-place honors at international competition



Laura Funk and Keli Mielke pose with their first-place awards shortly after being presented with them at in the Advertising Campaign category at the 48th Annual Delta Epsilon Chi's International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif. Keli and Laura said the competition gave them real-world skills they could apply in their career field and give them an advantage over other job-

Gateway provides

Student groups

at Gateway

42 student organizations, ranging from professional groups to volunteer groups to student government. There are organizations on all Gateway campuses. The clubs provide a way to meet fellow students, gain professional experience, be a leader and give back to the Gateway communities through volunteer efforts.

For more information

Student clubs and organizations: www.gtc.edu/clubs

Gateway's **Marketing** associate degee program: www.gtc.edu/marketing

Gateway's Graphic **Communications** associate degee program:

www.gtc.edu/graphic

Keli Mielke and Laura Funk "I realize it's a student learned a lot more than how to prepare and win a competition organization, but the through their work on Gateway's competitions are structured to mimic real-world work."

- Keli Mielke

Mielke will continue her Gateway Marketing degree this fall and plans to take part in another competition. Funk, though, graduated in Graphic Communications and has moved on to a four-year college, helped by Gateway's transfer policies. Funk says she's "saddened" that she can't compete with the Gateway Marketing and Management Association, which has a reputation at the events as being one of the teams to beat, she said.

"Gaining all the experience from the competition allowed me to gain an even better understanding of the concepts being taught in class," says Funk. "I think it will help me in my career because I will become more confident in knowing how to do a big project. The format we created can be used in the real world."

They took the cutting-edge approach of combining two separate and appealing products to the consumer: selling quality and affordable Snap-on tools, a major manufacturer of tools now sold only though distributors, to the consumer through Home Depot, and to encourage customers to

use "green" and sustainable products in their do-it-yourself projects.

The pair directed many hours to prepare their competition presentation. They produced and wrote a marketing plan, posters, wrote and shot TV commercials, created a budget, set up a news conference and then delivered a 20minute marketing presentation.

Mielke says the soft economy helped drive their idea to sell the "Cadillac of tools" at Home Depot to the consumer.

The two proposed coupon offerings, setting up at trade shows and producing do-it-yourself videos to accompany the new

Funk and Mielke say the competition not only helps students strive for excellence in their work, but also through tips and feedback provided by the business professionals who judge their performance. Students gain hands-on career skills in the competition through interviews, tests, roleplay scenarios, online simulations and written project reports.

By competing in the student group, the two were also able to better determine what they wanted to do for a living.

"It helps you to get in front of real people, and showing them what you've got," says Mielke. "Also, if you still are unsure of what you want to do for a living, going out and competing helps you to find your direction. I found out that this is something I want to do."

student marketing club - they gained valuable insight into how their future career really works and skills through creating a marketing plan targeted to work in today's marketplace. They say they will use the suc-

cess and skills they obtained from the competition in any workplace setting they encounter after graduation. And the skills and success from this endeavor were great – the pair took home first-place honors in the Advertising Campaign category at the 48th Annual Delta Epsilon Chi's International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif. The pair and other Gateway students were part of contingent of 1,300 two-year and four-year college and university competitors.

Mielke and Funk say they worked many hours on the competition before the state and international competitions. Their work gave them insight into how an actual campaign works, how to pitch a marketing plan and how to work as a team to accomplish a goal at the highest level.

"I think it definitely will translate into my career," says Mielke. "I know how long producing a campaign takes and how the process works, because I've already done it. I realize it's a student organization, but the competitions are structured to mimic real-world work."

Historic transfer agreement provides new, less expensive option

Student educational opportunities expand with credit transfers

A historic transfer agreement between Gateway Technical College and UW-Parkside gives students a new, less expensive pathway to a fouryear degree, through Gateway.

The agreement expands a student's education opportunities by allowing a block of 30 approved general education credits to be transferred from Gateway to UW-Parkside. The 30-credit General Studies Transfer Certificate offers students a less expensive way to earn a four-year degree. Once a student earns credits at Gateway and completes the certificate, they are guaranteed to transfer to UW-Parkside.

This is the first time a block of courses can be transferred to UW-Parkside without the student having completed a Gateway degree.

"Our philosophy on transferring

For more information

For a full list and information on the agreement, go to www.gtc.edu/genstudiescert

credits is one of quality, not quantity," said says Zina Haywood, Gateway Executive Vice President/ Provost Academic and Campus Affairs. "We want options for our students which give them the most credit possible for their success in our rigorous general studies curriculum."

The agreement appeals to many different types of students. Today's economy calls for many folks to tighten their budget, and this is one way to reduce costs for those looking to obtain a four-year degree. It also gives





students still unsure of their career field the ability to begin their education as they consider those career options – they can stay at Gateway to receive the training they need, or have the portability of the certificate if they choose to go to UW-Parkside.

Seven General Studies areas are involved in the certificate, depending on the specific program students are seeking to transfer into at UW-Parkside. Approved classes come from the

- Social Science, 9 credits • Composition, 6 credits
- Foreign Language, 3 credits to 6 credits
- Math, 4 credits to 5 credits Natural Science, 4 credits
- Humanities, 3 credits

Application and Performance, 3 credits

Students would enter as a UW-Parkside sophomore if they complete the 30-credit General Studies Certificate at Gateway and meet the admission requirements at UW-Parkside.

Students, at the time of registration, must notify a Gateway counselor of their intent to follow this option. They will also be assigned a UW-Parkside counselor who will guide them through the proper general studies courses to take for their intended bachelor's degree.



Flexible scheduling options and a mix of younger and older students brought Anna Bauer to Gateway Technical College and helped her to earn her degree in Graphic Communications.

Flexible scheduling, student age diversity draws student to Gateway

Worked in industry a year while still a student

Anna Bauer says Gateway Technical College's flexible scheduling options, industry-savvy instructors, solid focus on job training and mixture of younger and older students gave her the opportunity and skills to a career in Graphic Communications.

"I feel Gateway is tailored to giving students the training and skills, to get a job once they graduate – which was my ultimate goal," says Anna. "It's all very well following your passion and bliss, but at the end of it all, you need to have a career. Gateway was very good at keeping you focused on achieving that."

Anna's Gateway journey came after choosing to leave the workforce for eight years to be a stay-athome mom for her two children. After those eight years, some parttime jobs in-between, and her children now in school, Anna decided to return to the workforce. She graduated in Graphic Communication Summer 2009 and is operating a freelance business from her home after working in the industry for

more than a year while a student.

"When my children went off to school, I thought I wasn't qualified for anything," says Anna. She quickly turned that doubt into a degree. "I started looking at my education options, and Gateway clearly was the most feasible and flexible for someone in my situation.

"I began looking at the course curriculum sheets which outline each of Gateway's more than 65 career options. When I read about at Graphic Communications, I realized it was my future.

"My courses began to click with me immediately. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to find something I love doing, rather than just having a job.



Anna Bauer's design was selected as the promotional piece for the 2009 Gateway student art show.

For more information

For more information on Graphic Communications, go to www.gtc.edu/graphic

"I also appreciated the mixture of students. Gateway, as a whole, embraced alternative or older students. I wasn't a 40-year-old trying to fit in with a bunch of 19-year-olds having their first college experience. I think it's a real help to all the students to have a mixture of characters from age 18 to 60. It made it easier to voice your opinion and participate.

"The courses and the instructors were fantastic. They helped me in a very holistic way. Their advice went beyond that of graphics, they were available to help with whatever career and education decision I had to make.

"I was in my second semester and I knew our family would need a second income. I was looking at some graphics job opportunities and brought a few to my instructors. 'You can do better than that – try this company.' They were right on – I was hired and worked for that company for a year and a half.

"During that time, I could apply at my job what was taught in the classroom. Instructors were telling you exactly how it was in the working world. I used it at my job then, and when I freelance now. I took the summer off to be with my children and freelance from home.

"I think my Gateway experience has helped me to better realize the opportunities available. I think sometimes you get blind to what else might be out there. Gateway is good about taking those blinders off – you get a good view of what you should be doing, what you should have been doing and how to do it. I'm very happy with my situation and would tell others who may be looking for work that a Gateway education is a great step. It will lead you to a career and, in general, broaden your outlook on life."



Gateway leading pack in green career training

Some training programs can only be found at Gateway

Be among the first in the country to gain skills and credentials in one of several emerging "Green" technology careers. Gateway is offering courses in three growing fields, and in some cases is the only provider of training in the state and even the country.

Geoexchange Technology

Geothermal heating (using the heat of the earth to heat and cool homes and businesses) is gaining popularity in the Midwest thanks to technological advancements. This "green" energy source requires skills you can only learn at Gateway – the first college in the nation to provide this training. Courses provide hands-on training on geoexchange systems' drilling, installation, and maintenance. The drilling techniques taught at Gateway allow geoexchange units to be placed nearly anywhere – including smaller, urban lots.

Students will be able to sign up for entry level classes in Geoexchange technology beginning in Fall 2009. The courses are being offered through our Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Technology associate degree program.

Wind Energy

More wind turbines are being constructed throughout the country every day. Numerous skills are required to support this growing "green" industry. Gateway's Wind Energy courses introduce students to the wind energy industry and developing skills for maintaining and refurbishing wind turbine equipment used in the production of electricity.

Fresh Water Engineering Technology

The need for fresh water resources will continue to grow. Gateway's Fresh Water Engineering Technology program, the first of its kind in the state, will provide training to become a dynamic and effective water quality technician. A technician's work may take the individual out into the field, inside a lab, as well as the office. Program graduates will have the skills to be effective in a wide range of potential job areas.

The program is a part of the Construction Sciences degree group in Gateway's Engineering programs. Courses will be held at the Engineering Tech Wing located at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation.

Fresh Water Resources www.gtc.edu/freshwater

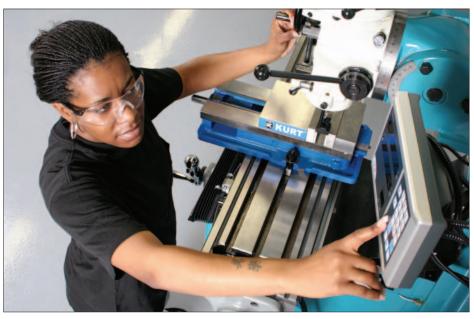
Gateway opens state-of-the-art mechanical technician lab

Short-term training held now; degree program opens Spring 2010

Gateway will begin offering a twoyear Industrial Mechanical Technician degree in Spring 2010 on the Racine Campus, a program that will help provide workers with the skills to land jobs in a soft economy – and for companies to obtain workers to keep their manufacturing lean and productive.

The program will be offered in a new, state-of-the-art lab which opened in Spring 2009. In the meantime, Gateway, in partnership with the Racine County Workforce Development Center, began holding Machine Repair Boot Camps in the lab to give unemployed and underemployed workers the skills to re-enter the workforce with a marketable skill in an indemand career field.

The two-year associate degree program will train technicians on manufacturing equipment repair. These graduates will possess the skills to go into an industrial setting and repair



Gateway will begin offering its two-year Industrial Mechanical Technician degree in a new, state-of-the-art lab which opened in Spring 2009. Gateway has already been holding Machine Repair Boot Camps in the lab to give unemployed and underemployed workers the skills to re-enter the workforce with a marketable skill in an in-demand career field.

equipment, from the large to the small and the basic to computer-operated

The two-year associate degree pro-

gram will train technicians on manufacturing equipment repair. These graduates will possess the skills to go into an industrial setting and repair

equipment, from the large to the small and the basic to computer-operated pieces.

"There is definitely a demand for the graduates who will be trained in this program," says Dennis Sherwood, Gateway dean of Manufacturing and Engineering. "Manufacturers are asking for graduates who possess these advanced skills."

Students will learn how to repair several types of manufacturing equipment including tools and assembly equipment. "Individual pieces of equipment

and entire automation systems are becoming more automated," says Sherwood.

A great deal of the maintenance techniques and procedures taught will be done on actual industrial equipment which provides real life experiences and will directly relate to the workplace. A thermal imaging camera and vibration analysis data collector will be used to provide condition monitoring training. Multiple axis machine tools and robots will be dissected and reassembled as part of the course.

Gateway partners with **Workforce Development** Centers to assist dislocated workers

- The Workforce Development Center should be a first stop.
- They will help you explore your options, including retraining.
- They would determine whether you're eligible to have your retraining paid for through the Trade Adjustment Act or American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or through state dollars.

Gateway Technical College services for dislocated workers

Smart Career Restart -**Resources for Dislocated Workers**

- Identifying your skill set
- Skill assessments
- Career counseling
- Training
- Smart Career Restart Training (see related story below)
- Bootcamp training intense, 14week skills training sessions, which serves the unemployed and underemployed. Seats have been filled through the Workforce Development Centers.
- Gateway certificates 11-to-13credit programs focused on a specific degree program section - increase your skills within your current career to increase your worth to your current employer. They help you if you have to look for a new position, too. www.gtc.edu/certificates
- Skills Workshops
- www.gtc.edu/skillsworkshops Academic programs: More than 65
- degree and diploma programs
- Academic development resources:

What is a dislocated worker?

You may be a dislocated worker if you have been laid off, received a notice of termination or layoff, or were selfemployed and are now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster. You were laid off for reasons other than job performance, most likely as part of a number of layoffs from your workplace.

Adult Basic Education, English Language Learner (ELL) services, General **Educational Development Certificate** (GED®) or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED). (See contact information below)

Important Gateway contact information

Gateway Technical College: (800) 247-7122, www.gtc.edu

Pay for college: www.gtc.edu/payforcollege

Gateway's more than 65 career options: www.gtc.edu/careers

Explore training options:

www.gtc.edu/wedd Adult Learning centers:

- Elkhorn Campus, (262) 741-8184 • Kenosha Campus, (262) 564-2796
- Kenosha County Job Center, (262)
- Racine Campus, (262) 619-6218
- Racine Workforce Development Center, (262) 638-6458



• Burlington Center (262) 767-5090 Gateway counselors can help map out your training and guide you to a career field.

Counselors:

- Elkhorn Campus: 400 County Road H, (262) 741-8300
- Kenosha Campus: 3520-30th Ave., (262) 564-2300
- Racine Campus: 1001 South Main St., (262) 619-6300
- Burlington Center: 496 McCanna Parkway, (262) 767-5300

County Workforce Development centers

Kenosha County: In Kenosha, 8600

Sheridan Road, Suite 122 (262) 697-4500; in Bristol, 19600 - 75th St., (262) 857-1967; www.co.kenosha.wi.us/ dhs/Divisions/DWD/

Racine County: In Racine, 1717 Taylor Ave., (262) 638-6312; in Burlington, 380 McCanna Parkway, (262) 767-5399; www.wdc.racineco.com/

Walworth County: In Elkhorn, 1000 East Centralia St., (262) 741-5180; www.walworthcountyjobcenter.com/

Are you a

dislocated worker

looking to restart

your career?

Smart Career Restart -

Training helps get dislocated workers on track quickly

Courses provide marketable skills for students

Dislocated workers can get back on their feet quickly through short-term training courses – Smart Career Restart - provided through an effort between Gateway Technical College and Workforce Development centers in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties.

Programs will provide completers with marketable skills the training to land a job in today's tough economy in in-demand career areas. Completers can also apply the credits they've earned in the programs toward a Gateway technical diploma or associate

The length of the intense courses

For more information

For more information on short courses offered by Gateway, go to www.gtc.edu/wedd

range from two weeks - such as Logistics - to 20 weeks – Machine Repair.

Several courses will be held in Racine County, one in Kenosha County and Wal-

worth County residents are encouraged to attend county courses, too.

Those looking to enroll in one of the short-term training offerings must apply to the Workforce Development Center, as they are handling readiness assessment and recruitment of partici-

Courses and locations of the courses

Racine Campus, 1001 Main St., Racine Machine Repair

- Office Assistant

Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd., Sturtevant

• Telecommunications

Horizon Center for Transportation Technology,

4940 88th Ave., Kenosha Logistics

• Medical Receptionist

Resources for Dislocated Workers In collaboration with Southeastern Wisconsin's Workforce **Development Centers.**

Contact: Debbie Davidson, (262) 564-3422, davidsond@gtc.edu

Destination

From Page I

We offer training that leads to Manufacturing Skill Standards Council certification, showing employers you

career. If time's of the essence, we offer Gateway certificates that get you on track to a job – but lay the foundation for a degree, too.

Gateway also provides you with the opportunity to continue your education upon graduation by transferring credits, or your entire associate degree, to a four-year college.

Whether you're a dislocated worker, underemployed, looking to upgrade or validate your skills or simply looking for a new career, Gateway has the ability and resources to provide you with a number of opportunities to start your new future.

have obtained excellence in the core skill sets of your workplace. Looking for a first career? Gateway offers that, too. From nursing and

firefighting to manufacturing and hospitality, Gateway provides more than 65 career opportunities. We give you many training and career options through associate degrees, diplomas and pathways to a new

mourning, anger, questions. Because I went to college right away, I bypassed a lot of that, and I am in a different chapter of my life."

Her advice to others recently laid off is don't hesitate - find a career you like and get the retraining at Gateway to a new career.

"My advice is to go back and get an education. If you have the chance to do something different, something you really want to do, then don't leave it on the backburner. Just do it."

Katherine Wemmert From Page I

Gateway counselors helped Katherine and "study buddy" Lee Mares at every step, giving them advice on their courses, college life and how to successfully re-enter the workforce. "They help you mentally, too, because when you lose a job – especially after 30 years – it's like a death. You go through all those same feelings -

Peggy Nelson From Page I

"I knew I had to go back to school to do well. That is the world today - you need that education and qualifications to get those higher paying careers."

She selected Gateway's Health Unit Coordinator program because it was a career she believed she would enjoy, the tuition was affordable and the short program allow her to get back into the workplace quickly.

Gateway gave Peggy – who hadn't been in the classroom for quite a while -- the opportunity to take a few courses such as math and composition to ready

for the program.

"When I started, I thought it would be way too much. But it was only the nerves of starting – it was better than I ever thought it would be. My instructors were great, they understood where I was at – nobody ever made me feel like I couldn't do the job or I wasn't a good enough student."

Peggy's advice to others looking for work focuses on the advanced skills needed in today's workplace.

"The world is changing and you need that training and credential. Taking the first step to coming back to school is hardest. Even at my age, I felt like I was just another student – I didn't feel old. Getting that education will help you in the long run."

