



# Service & Learning

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## Where's the Property Line?

Walking through a dense forest looking for evidence of a boundary line can be like seeing a ghost; sometimes you think you saw something, but in the end it's not there. Vanishing boundary lines were what the Caledonia Conservancy was facing when they purchased a 15-acre tract near Five Mile and Short Road. The Caledonia Conservancy is non-profit organization in the Village of Caledonia committed to preserving land for green space, for outdoor activities, and for educational purposes.

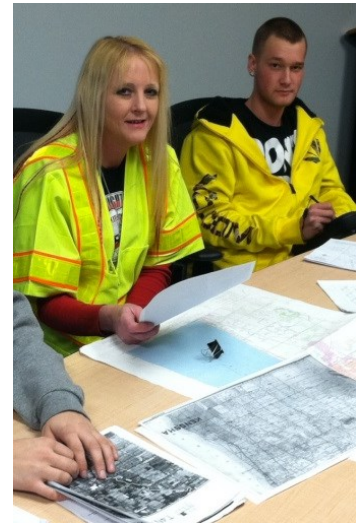
Sandy DeWalt, Vice President of the Conservancy, contacted Gateway's Land Survey Club with the challenge of revealing the hidden lines of the conservancy's new wooded property.

Upon several reconnaissance and fact finding trips to the new property, the Gateway Land Surveying Club determined that several of the new property boundary corners were missing and that to find those corners

would mean locating the distant outside boundary framework of the property, the township section corners. To do that, the Gateway Land Surveying Club used extremely accurate *Survey Grade GPS*.

Today's surveying and geomatics industry demands people who can deal with multiple technologies (GPS, GIS, Lidar, robotic total stations, CADD), take initiative, work independently yet get along well with others, and work comfortably at a desk and in the field, all while managing complex projects.

It's not all about technology. It's also about being enough of a detective to know what evidence to gather to complete the story. "Revealing a boundary line can be like working a jig saw puzzle," said Jennifer Brennecka, President of the Land Surveying Club. "To know where to put the missing center pieces, sometimes you have to start with the outside border."



Students Jennifer Brennecka and Vincent Dodulik during a mission planning session.

The Land Surveying Club's saw the project to fruition this semester, serving their community and an organization dedicated to land conservation and creating a better place to live.

-Written by Jonathan Hardbarger,  
Land Survey Instructor.

## Upcoming: Service Learning Course Design Workshop

March 2014—The Service Learning Center is proud to announce the next Service Learning Course Design workshop for March 2014!

When: March 7 and 21, 2014

Time: 8:00am—3:00pm

Location: Burlington 122

This workshop delves into the questions, how-to's, and challenges of implementing service learning into your existing courses. This course is also required if you are planning on leading an international service learning trip.

Within a group of peers, faculty are able to sample ideas, brain-

storm solutions, and discuss the boundless opportunities that exist in our community.

To sign up, please go to WebAdvisor: **997-462-3BDA**

Questions? Contact Madeline Carrera, Service Learning Coordinator  
Carreram@gtc.edu | 262-564-3138

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## Money Matters at VIP Services

Joanie Beinecke's Pre-Technical Writing class took on a different type of learning activity this semester in Elkhorn. Partnering with VIP Services, the class of 17 students tackled the proposed project of creating documents to be used in VIP's Money Matters workshop series. Students formed groups to create documents addressing a variety of money matter issues.

The completed documentation packet was received with resounding approval by VIP Services.

Although the project involved more photo use than written words, "it exceeded my goals of applying collaboration, time management, and critical thinking skills," Beinecke said. "More importantly, this assignment allowed the students to interact and form bonds with others. The re-

sult [was] a more interested and engaged class of students who look forward to attending and participating in class each day."

The project was such a success that VIP Services has expressed an interest in ongoing partnership with Beinecke and her Pre-Technical Writing classes in upcoming semesters.

*"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." -Aesop*

## Introduction to Nursing Clinicals

A number of Introduction to Nursing Clinical instructors utilize service learning as an interactive and less-stressful way to integrate students into the community. This semester, these projects involved vision screenings, immunizations clinics, blood pressure

screenings, workshops, and an assortment of other tasks and projects. They partnered with many different community partners, illustrating the great need for nursing talent and skills in many not-so-obvious places. Places such as the Moose Lodge, ELCA

Outreach Center, schools, and homeless shelters may not occur to beginning nursing students as applicable places to practice their skills.

"All [students] found their experiences to be very beneficial and rewarding," Instructor Elizabeth Wolf said.

## Advanced Nursing Clinicals



Susan Willing's advanced nursing clinical students broke into three groups this semester to facilitate workshops and seminars on a variety of topics at a number of local community organizations. Her students created age appropriate, interactive

curriculum to teach educational seminars as well as demonstrative activities with children at Kiddie Care Academy in Kenosha and the Columbus House in Kenosha.

A third group, made up of one 4th semester student, Elizabeth Steimle, SN partnered with a 2nd semester

OB class. She demonstrated information on concept maps, care plans, and study tips based on her own experiences here at Gateway.

Instructor Paula Antlfinger indicated that "this was one of the very best 4th semester student-led teaching experiences [that has worked with her class]."

# BPA Kenosha - Holiday Meal Box Preparation



**BPA Kenosha poses for a picture after a job well done!**

On Saturday, November 16, 2013, members of Gateway's Business Professionals of America (BPA) Kenosha Chapter participated in the Racine Food Bank's annual Holiday Meal Box Assembly Event.

This is a popular volunteer event with corporate and institutional volunteer programs throughout the community. This year, student clubs at Gateway were asked to volunteer their time to contribute to the effort. Chapter advisor Manoj Babu strongly encouraged the club take advantage of this opportunity to promote the Kenosha chapter of BPA as well as develop themselves as a group of caring individuals. Work responsibilities included packing food items into boxes that will be distributed to low-income individuals.

According to staff at the Food Bank, this event typically draws 20-30 volunteers and lasts until the middle of the afternoon. However, thanks to the increased participation of BPA this year, the event was able to be completed by noon.

"It was a joy and great feeling to know I was able to participate in helping our community have a wonderful holiday dinner with their loved ones," Chapter Secretary Mary Gonzalez said.

-Written by Mark Short, Chapter Vice-President

## International Education Week

Three classes from the English Language Department on the Kenosha Campus came together to provide visuals, conversations, and educational material for their classmates. Each ELL student compiled information about their home country and created documentation or an outfit for the International Fashion Show.

Students who created documentation held fairs on each campus where they displayed the information, photos, clothing, artefacts, and music from their home countries.

Students who participated in the International Fashion Show wore outfits either inspired by or from their home countries. Countries such as India, Nigeria, China, Ja-

pan, and Mexico, among others, were displayed to an adoring crowd on November 21st, 2013.

It was the student's intention to practice their written and spoken communication skills by discussing something they all hold very dear: their homes.

We look forward to seeing what they bring to the table next year!

## Reflection Activity: Group Writing Exercise

### Truth is stranger than Fiction!

Best used toward the middle and end of a course, this exercise has students divided into groups of no more than three. Faculty ask students to write the most unusual story that happened to them during their service learning experience and to be prepared to share it with their small group at the

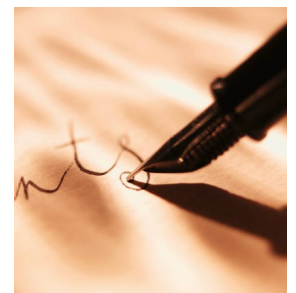
next class session.

At the next class, have students share their stories in small groups and then come together as a class. Ask representative group members to share some of the stories and what it meant to group members. Open up the discussion to the rest of the class.

Faculty should be prepared to prompt students if needed.

Students learn valuable writing skills, group communications skills, and have the chance to explore what situations/knowledge affects them.

With student permission, faculty can collect stories and send them to the Service Learning Center.



**Group writing activities can be more exciting and rewarding than individual exercises.**



## SERVICE LEARNING Gateway Technical College

Available on all Campuses.

Kenosha Campus

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E-mail: [carreram@gtc.edu](mailto:carreram@gtc.edu)

### Service Learning Center's Mission

Service Learning at Gateway Technical College creates mutually beneficial partnerships among students, faculty, staff, and our community.

Through active learning, meaningful service, and reflection, students develop deeper awareness of the diverse communities in which they live and the value of civic engagement among community members.

### Service Learning Center's Vision

Through Gateway's learning programs, individuals internalize the value of civic engagement and actively transform their communities.

# Upcoming Service Learning Opportunity

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** provides income tax preparation services for low-moderate income individuals and families.

Free and flexible IRS training is available. No prior experience is necessary!

Don't want to complete tax preparation for someone else?

Volunteers are needed to greet clients, provide interpreter services, review returns, and organize the tax sites.

These free tax sessions will run from February 1, 2014 through April 8, 2014.

#### VITA Opportunities in Kenosha

Hosted by United Way of Kenosha County, sites in Kenosha County will

be in the City of Kenosha, Salem, and Twin Lakes. VITA Sites will be in operation on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings.

Last year, volunteers brought back 1.368 million dollars to Kenosha County!

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Laurie McDonald at 262-658-4104 or [lmcdonald@kenoshaunitedway.org](mailto:lmcdonald@kenoshaunitedway.org)

#### VITA Opportunities in Racine

Hosted by the Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency (RKCAA) in partnership with United Way of Racine County,

Racine Public Library, Racine County Workforce Development Center, Racine County UW-Extension, and Educator's Credit Union.

Volunteers must: (1) enjoy helping people, (2) be patient and understanding of others, (3) be committed to providing a community service, (4) keep the confidentiality of our clients, (5) want to learn new skills and be part of a fantastic team.

Interested volunteers should contact: Janice Jordan at 262-637-8377 ext. 117 or [jjordan@rkcaa.org](mailto:jjordan@rkcaa.org)