



Beverly Tarnowski
celebrates the opening
of Tarnowski Hall.

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Tarnowskis' heart for education provides means for students to gain real-world skills



Otto Tarnowski

Otto Tarnowski had a heart for education and knew the need for today's youth to obtain the training and skills needed to succeed in their careers.

His commitment to students was illustrated through the gifts he and his wife, Beverly, gave to Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. through the years. Those thoughtful efforts helped ensure students would be given additional opportunities to pursue family-sustaining careers. While Otto passed away on Christmas

Eve 2012, his and Beverly's generosity and foresight will continue to assist future generations of students to come through scholarships and at a training facility named in his honor, Tarnowski Hall.

"Otto and Beverly Tarnowski's many years of thoughtful giving is inspiring," says Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Charpentier. "Their dedication to career and technical education and to the community will help generations of Gateway students, employers and the community. We are grateful for their support."

Otto was a skilled and talented sheet metal craftsman in the Racine community, working his entire career for George J. Meyer Manufacturing. A World War II veteran serving as a Seabee in the Navy, Otto was a journeyman trades professional. He and Beverly have been longtime friends of Gateway. Together, they provided substantial financial support to help build the SC Johnson iMET Center expansion

which will meet the training needs of many students and area employers. Otto believed that through training and education, young people could find success. He also believed that work was the cornerstone to a strong family.

“Otto strongly believed in young people obtaining an education, and was very proud to help in any way he could,” says Beverly. “That is what we wanted, for the funding to help these young people obtain an education. We felt it was important to help students in their training — and that is exactly what is happening at the center. We felt strongly that Gateway education was the way to go.”

Tarnowski Hall features the region’s first flexible manufacturing training center, including training in computer numerical control (CNC) machining, welding, metal fabrication, automated manufacturing systems, a quality measurements lab and industrial robotics.

Otto loved and valued his career and education and his and Beverly’s foresight will help Gateway students and the community for many years to come.



Industrial Mechanics instructor Dan Neuman demonstrates the industrial troubleshooting trainer to a group of boot camp students at the SC Johnson iMET grand opening.

Pictured on the front: Gateway Technical College Board of Trustees President Ram Bhatia, Beverly Tarnowski and SC Johnson Chairman and CEO Fisk Johnson celebrate the grand opening of Tarnowski Hall.