

# communityconnections



[Subscribe & Connect](#) | [Archives](#) | [Current Issue](#)

May 2008

Previous Issues:

- **Gateway takes safety seriously**
- **Nearly 500 job-seekers participate in Walworth County Job Fair**
- **Attendees "green up" at sustainability conference**
- **School's in for summer**
- **Gateways hosts community Celebrate Earth Day**
- **Community, partners use Horizon Center facilities**
- **Fellner named board member on business incubator association**
- **Articulation agreement signed with George Williams College**
- **More than 650 participate in annual Tech Expo Day**
- **Secretary Morgan visits Gateway Technical College**
- **Gateway co-hosts Pinewood Derby event**
- **Gateway students host, fare well in robotics competition**
- **Gateway breaks ground for Gateway Prairie**

## Gateway takes safety seriously

One of the most important things any organization can do is work to ensure the safety of its workers and customers. Gateway is no different.

Our customers are students, employers, and the community around us. Gateway offers training in fire protection, emergency medical technician, and criminal justice – which ensures communities are safe and emergency situations dealt with quickly, professionally and, most importantly, lives are saved.

We also offer professional development classes to help those graduates and other professionals in the field.

Our police academy held a ceremony for its first-ever graduates this month. The academy will help local residents and law enforcement agencies by offering quality training right here in the Gateway district.

Gateway has also taken steps to help keep students safe by establishing the AlertMe messaging system that will alert



Bryan Albrecht - President

subscribers to the service in the event of a life-threatening emergency. Students and staff would receive an alert by e-mail or a text message on their cell phone.

Looking outward to our communities and inward to our staff and students, Gateway takes safety seriously and is working to train the best emergency responders we can.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Nearly 500 job-seekers participate in Walworth County Job Fair

Nearly 500 job-seekers came to Elkhorn Campus in early April to meet and apply for jobs with 39 employers at the 17th annual Walworth County Job Fair.

Gateway Technical College and the Wisconsin Job Center partnered to put on the fair which resulted this year in about 12 percent of the employers meeting with more than 100 applicants. A total of 44 percent of the employers said they saw 25 to 50 applicants and 36 percent said they saw 50 to 75 applicants.

The community and employers benefit from the event – about 64 percent of employers report they hire applicants they see at the fair and 60 percent say they have hired Gateway graduates in the past three years.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Attendees “green up” at sustainability conference

Gateway continued its commitment to green practices and sustainability by co-hosting the Energy and Sustainability Conference in May with the Association for Career and Technical Education and Siemens.

The conference was a success, drawing participants from across the nation. The conference benefited educational leaders from K-12 districts, two-year, technical, and four-year colleges. The focus of the conference was twofold: It offered workshops for those educational decision-makers who wish to add a green component to their curriculum as well as offering discussion of how the leaders can make their operations – facilities and otherwise – more sustainable.

Curricular workshops took a look at how educators can add to their existing programs to teach students about new energy resources and provide them with the foundation so

### Gateway Technical College



Gateway Technical College and the Wisconsin Job Center partnered to put on the 17th annual Walworth County Job Fair. More than 500 job-seekers came to the event which featured 39 employers.



they will become wise stewards of the resources we have now.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## School's in for summer

Enrollment has begun for Gateway's first full summer semester which will be held this year.

The new semester will add opportunities for students to take more classes during a calendar year as well as training needs in popular programs such as nursing. Students under the new format could possibly graduate within a year and a half if they take full credit loads four consecutive semesters.

The new calendar means three, full 15-week semesters. Gateway is the only technical college in the state to offer this format, which even some four-year colleges don't offer.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateways hosts community Celebrate Earth Day

Kenosha and Gateway Technical College rolled up its sleeves and helped make the city a little greener – while learning about green practices at the Celebrate Earth Day event.

The college, Snap-on Incorporated, Green Kenosha, and local community groups came together to help increase environmental awareness and offer information to help everyone to become better stewards of the environment.

The community event featured community clean-ups, workshops, demonstrations, and informational booths. The event will likely become an annual celebration.

[\[back to top\]](#)



Enrollment has begun for Gateway's first full summer semester which will be held this year.



Many community members disposed of their computers and other electronics by dropping them off to volunteers during the Celebrate Earth Day event held at Gateway's Kenosha Campus.

## Community, partners use Horizon Center facilities

More than 1,000 non-Gateway folks attended meetings at the facilities located within the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology.

A mixture of community groups and Horizon Center corporate partners used meeting rooms and other areas of the building from September 2007 through March. Uses included corporate meetings, public meetings, certification classes, and community organizational meetings.

The use has increased greatly compared to the use prior to remodeling done to that building.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Fellner named board member on business incubator association

Therese Fellner, Gateway Technical College's director of Business Development, has been named to the board of directors for the Wisconsin Business Incubator Association (WBIA).

Fellner's new responsibilities include attendance and representation at quarterly meetings and leadership on association initiatives such as incubator surveys and data collection, Web site development, and conference planning.

Gateway and the communities it serves will benefit from Fellner's new position because it has a direct link to her current role of overseeing the business incubator program at Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI). Fellner's presence and representation on a state board offers the opportunity to network and learn about statewide business incubation initiatives and strategies, in addition to sharing Gateway's own accomplishments and successes.

[\[back to top\]](#)



More than 1,000 non-Gateway folks attended meetings at the facilities located within the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology.

For more information on the Horizon Center and the facilities which can be used by the public and corporations, call (262) 564-3900.



Therese Fellner, Gateway Technical College's director of Business Development, has been named to the board of directors for the Wisconsin Business Incubator Association (WBIA).

## Articulation agreement signed with George Williams College

Gateway Technical College and the George Williams College of Aurora University signed an agreement giving students in business and nursing expanded educational and career opportunities.

The agreement provides a seamless opportunity for Gateway graduates to continue their education and complete a bachelor's degree in business and nursing science from George Williams College of Aurora University. Prior academic coursework will be fully recognized and transferable towards the completion of those degrees.

The articulation agreement extends an existing partnership with Gateway in other areas of study.

Gateway programs that will transfer to George Williams' business degree are Business Management, Supervisory Management, Administrative Assistant, Marketing, Hotel/Hospitality, and Culinary Arts. Gateway's nursing degree will transfer into George Williams' Nursing program.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## More than 650 participate in annual Tech Expo Day

Gateway again held a successful Tech Expo Day on the Elkhorn Campus, offering a great way for middle-schoolers to learn about the many technical careers available to them.

Nearly 650 students from Walworth, Racine, and Kenosha counties participated in the event.

Gateway faculty shared career and postsecondary education information, involved students in demonstrations, and offered hands-on in career cluster presentations of business, health, manufacturing, and services.

[\[back to top\]](#)



Gateway Technical College and the George Williams College of Aurora University signed an articulation agreement recently for students in business and nursing. Pictured are (L-R): Back, Linda Olbinski, dean, George Williams College; Diane Skewes, Gateway interim dean of Health Occupations; Grace Kragness, Gateway dean of Business, IT and Service Occupations. Front, Bill Duncan, George Williams vice president and Zina Haywood, Gateway executive vice president/provost.



Gateway again held its Tech Expo Day on the Elkhorn Campus. Pictured are Walworth Middle School students Sydney Racky, John Hodnick, EMS instructor Craig Schambow, and Jasmine McCoy.

## Secretary Morgan visits Gateway Technical College

Secretary Michael Morgan spoke with Gateway Technical College students and staff about Governor Jim Doyle's Clean Energy Wisconsin initiative and the steps the college is taking on toward this effort.

Morgan toured the Horizon Center for Transportation Technology and held a roundtable discussion with students and then staff on topics such as energy efficiency and renewable energy and how state and local officials can address these issues and challenges.

Clean Energy Wisconsin is Gov. Doyle's strategy to strengthen Wisconsin's energy future. The plan moves Wisconsin forward by promoting renewable energy, creating new jobs, increasing energy security and efficiency, and improving the environment.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway co-hosts Pinewood Derby event

Gateway teamed up with Dremel Inc. to put on the college's first-ever pinewood derby.

The derby was held at the Center for Advanced Technology & Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd. Twenty teams of mechanical engineering and engineering students had a little more than two hours to carve and build their pinewood car using Dremel tools, making sure to adhere to all Pinewood Derby race rules.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway students host, fare well in robotics competition

Several Gateway Technical College students placed well in the second annual Wisconsin Technical College System robotics competition held at the Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation, 2320 Renaissance Blvd.

Team Delta placed first in design documentation and second in design presentation, and Team Short Circuit placed third in design documentation at the annual event. Members of Team Delta include Jill Eide, Keith Boulanger,



Photo from: [Clean Energy Wisconsin](#)



Gateway student Abdeslam Chahir works on a car during the Pinewood Derby.



Joel Wakefield, Mark Studrawa and Brion Flaningam, members of Team Delta, work on

Brion Flaningam, Mark Studrawa, Kyle Freitag, and Joel Wakefield. Members of Team Short Circuit include Jonathan W. Helm, Brandon C. Sanders, and Robert Kelpine.

A total of 55 students from five teams across the state competed in the event pitting autonomous robots against each other to perform a designated task in the quickest time. Teams were also required to give a 9- to 15-minute presentation on their robot's design.

[\[back to top\]](#)

## Gateway breaks ground for Gateway Prairie

Gateway Technical College held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Gateway Prairie during the Celebrate Earth Day event in April.

The prairie will be located to the north of the auditorium parking lot. The area will be returned to its natural state and will feature a return to the native grasses and other plants of the area. The green space will continue to illustrate Gateway's commitment to remaining "green" in its practices and daily operations.

[\[back to top\]](#)

You may email questions or comments about Community Connection to Jayne Herring at [herringj@gtc.edu](mailto:herringj@gtc.edu) or Lee Colony at [colonyl@gtc.edu](mailto:colonyl@gtc.edu)

Get Connected! Tell a friend or colleague about Community Connection. [Click Here](#)

To unsubscribe, please [Click Here](#)

their robot at the second annual Wisconsin Technical College System robotics competition.



Gateway Technical College held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Gateway Prairie, located to the north of the auditorium, during the Celebrate Earth Day event. Children and staff dug in to the effort.