

# communityconnections



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November 2010

Previous Issues:

- **A promising connection**
- **U.S. assistant secretary of Ed. tours Gateway facilities**
- **Gateway taking submissions for Humanitarian award**
- **Kathy, Joe Madrigano Jr. donate \$100,000 to new center**
- **Apprentice winner speaks at Gateway summit**
- **Gateway group holds annual chair-ity auction**
- **GACTION to hold annual gift art and craft show**
- **Gateway honors veterans, hands out 1,000 flags**
- **Gateway releases Summer dean's list**
- **Gateway holds annual health care job fair**
- **WEDD holding technical training workshops**
- **Employer assistant program offered, paid for through Kloss Grant**
- **Professional development courses still available**
- **Albrecht tells YLink: Nothing out of reach with teamwork**
- **Racine Student Center opens**
- **Racine mayor, administrators tour Racine Campus**
- **Gateway will begin teaching RAMAC training offerings**
- **WGTD Radio Theater to broadcast holiday show**
- **Program to help health occupation students continues**

## A promising connection

Recently, University of Wisconsin-Parkside Chancellor Debra Ford and I attended the national leadership summit on civic engagement at Georgetown University. The event was sponsored by Campus Compact, an organization which fosters student community development through service learning.

Gateway and UW-Parkside are active campuses in the Campus Compact organization. Two- and four-year colleges as well as K-12 schools are intentionally linking dimensions of civic engagement with learning to educate students for civic life. Research demonstrates that connecting the classroom to the community is an effective pedagogical strategy.

College students who participate in civic engagement learning activities not only earn higher grade point averages, but also have higher retention rates and are more likely to complete their college degree. Gateway is proud to have a partner like UW-Parkside partnering with us to foster civic responsibility throughout both of our student bodies.

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

## U.S. assistant secretary of Ed. tours Gateway facilities

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, U.S. Department of Education assistant secretary for the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, toured Gateway's facilities Oct. 18 to learn about the many career pathways available to students as well as the benefits of strong partnerships forged between the college, its communities and area businesses.

Students and college officials spoke with Dann-Messier about the hands-on, realistic learning that technical colleges such as Gateway offers its students, and the trained graduates it provides to areas businesses. K-12 school district officials were also part of the meetings to highlight what they see as the positive role Gateway plays with their students and districts through partnerships in specific career programs and general education.

"I'm impressed with the partnerships between education, business and Gateway," said Dann-Messier. "These partnerships are working out great."

Officials from several businesses who've partnered with



**Bryan Albrecht**

President, Gateway Technical College



Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier visits the HERO Center.

Gateway – including Snap-on Incorporated – spoke with Dann-Messier about those efforts.

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

## Gateway taking submissions for Humanitarian award

The deadline for submitting nominations for Gateway's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award is 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 1. Honorees will be recognized at Gateway Technical College's 17th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration program noon January 17.

The honorees will receive an award at the annual event for exemplifying the daily principles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and serving the causes of equality, justice, freedom and peace. To qualify for the honor, recipients need to be residents of Kenosha, Racine or Walworth counties.

Other criteria include ensuring equal opportunity and career advancement options for underrepresented ethnic groups, demonstrating a strong and growing commitment to service and serving as a role model for disadvantaged or underrepresented groups. Nomination forms are divided into two categories – Youth and Adult.

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

## Kathy, Joe Madrigrano Jr. donate \$100,000 to new center

Kathy Madrigrano and attorney Joseph Madrigrano Jr. donated \$100,000 to Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. for programming at the new Center for Sustainable Living. The \$100,000 was donated to the foundation to establish an endowment to support youth education programs at the Center for Sustainable Living, located just west of the Conference Center on Gateway's Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave.

"This donation represents the continued commitment that my wife and I have to education in the city of Kenosha," said Joe Madrigrano Jr. "We already have a foundation scholarship in place at Gateway Technical College, and this donation will further help the youth in our community through environmental education and career training offered at Gateway."

Gateway Technical College president Bryan Albrecht said the donation will benefit the community. "I'm honored that Joe and Kathy Madrigrano have donated so generously to



Bishop Elliott K. Cohen and Jim Drescher were the recipients of the 2010 Gateway Technical College Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award.  
[www.gtc.edu/Humanitarian](http://www.gtc.edu/Humanitarian)



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benefit youth through the programs to be offered at the new center.”

Madrigrano is a Kenosha business attorney who’s practiced law here for nearly 40 years and is a partner with the firm Madrigrano, Aiello & Santarelli, LLC.

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

## Apprentice winner speaks at Gateway summit

Bill Rancic, winner of the first season of “The Apprentice,” was the keynote speaker of Gateway Technical College’s first entrepreneurship summit Nov. 5.

Rancic spoke to the audience about his experience on “The Apprentice” and the ingredients needed to be a successful entrepreneur. Rancic spoke of starting up his own company – prior to competing on the show – and the moves he’s taken since then in business.

He pointed to three specific strategies for entrepreneurs:

**Practicable execution.** “In the real world, it’s getting the job done,” said Rancic.

**Agility.** “Take the blinders off,” he said. “Sometimes, you have the change the game plan along the way.”

**Take risks.** “Many of those risks are needed to reach success,” he said.

He also told audience members that no matter the level they are in business, it all comes down to the core foundations of good business practice. “As an entrepreneur, if you can master the foundation of business – you can build up whatever you want.”

Rancic is a financial correspondent on the Rachael Ray Show and best-selling author, including “Beyond the Lemonade Stand,” written to help educate and motivate young people around the world about the value of money and how to leverage their skills, talents and abilities at an early age.

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



Bill Rancic speaks at Gateway’s first entrepreneur summit.

## Gateway group holds annual chair-ity auction

Gateway Technical College's Interior Design student organization held its Eighth Annual Chair-ity Auction Nov. 19 at the Southport Beach House, 7825 First Ave., Kenosha.

The silent auction featured home décor items and gift certificates from several local restaurants, salons, galleries and retail businesses. The student-designed chairs, as well as accessories and items donated by Kenosha-area businesses, were auctioned at the event at a live auction.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha and the Gateway ASID student chapter.

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

## GACTE to hold annual gift art and craft show

Last-minute shoppers can find that handmade or unique gift at the third annual Gateway Association for Career and Technical Education (GACTE) holiday gifting art and craft show fund-raiser 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 11 at Gateway's Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave.

Nearly 100 crafters and artists will be selling gifts, artwork and crafts of all types. Home-based vendors of home décor and personal care products will also be on hand.

The event is sponsored as a fund-raiser for GACTE. This professional organization donates the majority of its proceeds to the Gateway Student Emergency Fund, through the Gateway Foundation, which assists students in meeting short-term financial situations that may, otherwise, have terminated their ability to stay in college.

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

## Gateway honors veterans, hands out 1,000 flags

Gateway Technical College showed its support for students, staff and community members who are veterans by handing out on Veteran's Day 1,000 flags to staff and students in each of its facilities throughout the three-county district served by the college.

Gateway President Bryan Albrecht handed out several flags to veterans and current members of the military and



[www.gtc.edu/chairityauction](http://www.gtc.edu/chairityauction)



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[www.gtc.edu/veterans](http://www.gtc.edu/veterans)



thanked them for their service. Many Gateway students and staff members are veterans or are parents of children serving in the Armed Forces.

"Gateway is proud to honor service men and women on Veterans Day," said Albrecht. "Our flag is a symbol of freedom and we want every veteran to know we value their sacrifice to keep us free."

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

## Gateway releases Summer dean's list

Gateway Technical College has released its Dean's List for the Summer 2010 semester.

This award is reserved for those students who completed at least 6 hours of postsecondary courses and who achieved a grade point average of 3.75 or higher. This distinction recognizes the determination, dedication and effort necessary to attain this level of academic success.

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

## Gateway holds annual health care job fair

Gateway Technical College held its Annual Healthcare Job Fair, a way for those looking to land a job in the healthcare field to get solid leads and career guidance by talking directly to those who hire for their individual companies.

A total of 24 Southeastern Wisconsin's major healthcare providers, local health agencies and nursing home facilities were at the event as well four, four-year colleges seeking Gateway graduates and others who want to continue their education and earn a bachelor's degree.

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

## WEDD holding technical training workshops

Gateway's Workforce and Economic Development Division (WEDD) is offering a number of advanced technical manufacturing training courses this fall to increase the skills of incumbent workers in the area.

The two courses still open for registration are:

**GDT** – Held Monday and Wednesday at LakeView Academy beginning Nov. 22. This course stresses the basics of



[www.gtc.edu/summer2010deanslist](http://www.gtc.edu/summer2010deanslist)



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For more information on the courses and course numbers, go to **Training Workshops**

interpretation and use of geometric dimensioning and tolerancing. Cost: \$280

**Vibration Analysis** – Held Tuesdays, beginning Nov. 23, and another section begins December 7 at the HERO Center in Burlington and the Racine Campus. This course will provide a brief review of the basic principles of vibration analysis before moving on to more advanced material. Cost: \$140.

Grant opportunities provided through the Kloss Grant may cover some of the costs of training.

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

## **Employer assistant program offered, paid for through Kloss Grant**

Gateway's Workforce and Economic Development Division (WEDD) is pleased to announce the formation of the Employer Training Assistance Program which provides grants to qualified employers to help underwrite investments in employee skills training.

The program is paid for through the Kloss Grant and administered through WEDD. The grant pays a portion of the fees for tuition, books, software, supplies and applicable online courses.

The grant applicant must be an employer located within the Gateway Technical College District. The grant covers training for incumbent workers only. The applicant is responsible for matching the amount paid through the grant.

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

## **Professional development courses still available**

Seats are still available for students interested in a number of professional development workshops provided by Gateway's Workforce and Economic Development Division.

Openings still exist for those seeking to upgrade their skills – or their workers' skills -- in barber/cosmetology, Snap-on automotive diagnostic equipment, Microsoft applications and Belden cabling systems.

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



[www.gtc.edu/klossgrant](http://www.gtc.edu/klossgrant)



[www.gtc.edu/page.asp?q=227](http://www.gtc.edu/page.asp?q=227)

## Albrecht tells YLink: Nothing out of reach with teamwork

Gateway President Bryan Albrecht recently spoke at Kenosha's Young Professional (YLink) CEO breakfast.

Albrecht spoke with community leaders and young professionals about taking risks, encouraging leadership attributes and stimulating innovation throughout organizations.

"No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care," Albrecht told the audience. "Serving on more than 35 community boards provides me with a unique perspective on community growth -- there isn't anything we can't accomplish if we all work together."

Albrecht said YLink is an organization he values highly as a transformational network of community leaders and advocates. "The success of your professional growth and our community development rests in how much effort we all dedicate to it."

Gateway supports YLink and the businesses that embrace its creative culture.

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

## Racine Student Center opens

Gateway has opened its Racine Campus student center which provides students and the community with access to the newly remodeled student commons, student activity center, Gateways' Culinary Arts food services and a new coffee shop.

The student activity area was created by remodeling existing space and made possible through student fees. A Gateway student-led team created the area on the south end of the commons which includes tables for study or board games, a pool table, foosball table and several gaming stations.

The student commons area was also remodeled and further expanded when the wall to the Culinary Arts room was removed and the area redesigned. The commons area has an expanded view of Lake Michigan.

The Culinary Arts kitchen and serving area was redesigned and remodeled to provide better access to the new salad



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bar and the lunch items prepared and served by Gateway Culinary Arts students. The coffee shop provides food and drink choices when Culinary Arts services are unavailable.

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

## **Racine mayor, administrators tour Racine Campus**

Racine Mayor John Dickert and city administrators recently toured Gateway's Racine Campus to see firsthand the changes to the Student Center, discuss future enhancements to the campus grounds and to see the commitment Gateway has to the campus and community.

Areas toured included the extensive work done to the Lake Michigan side of the campus and the inside and outside of the Lincoln Building – formerly the Main Building – and the Lake Building, including the student commons and nearby areas. Enhancements to the building and grounds make the campus even more desirable to be used students and members of the community.

Proposed program course offerings were also discussed, which will continue to equip students to enter the workforce as well as helping to attract industry to the area.

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

## **Gateway will begin teaching RAMAC training offerings**

The Racine Area Manufacturers and Commerce (RAMAC) and Gateway Technical College announced they have entered into an agreement to partner on future training offerings for RAMAC's membership.

Gateway will provide its expertise and teach RAMAC's catalog of training offerings. Classes offered this fall range from supervision training to human resource and effective planning.

"Gateway is proud to partner with RAMAC to enhance and support the training needs of our local community," said Gateway president Bryan Albrecht. "This new partnership will increase the service capacity for RAMAC members and strengthen Gateway's commitment to workforce education."

The move provides RAMAC with the opportunity to tailor course offerings and class sizes to meet the specific needs of its members and the business community.



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

## **WGTD Radio Theater to broadcast holiday show**

WGTD Radio Theater will broadcast a Christmas/holiday variety show for the second straight year in front of a live studio audience, 11:15 a.m. Dec. 11 in Room 120 of Gateway's Center for Bioscience and Information Technology on the Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave.

The 91.1 Players will present a radio version of "The New Ed Sullivan Holiday Variety Show," including the RSVP Senior Chorus, the Riverport Chorus, the Sweet Adeline Group and the Tremper Golden Strings. Characters include Jack Benny, Phyllis Diller and Topo Gigio.

The original script for the 47th broadcast of the radio theater was written by Steve Brown and Michael Ullstrup.

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

## **Program to help health occupation students continues**

The Healthcare Educational Attainment for Livelihood (HEAL) program will continue its second year, a program designed to provide assistance, resources and direction to Gateway students over age 18 and are underemployed or unemployed and/or a first generation college student.

Students in the programs of Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Assistant, Health Information Technology, Health Unit Coordinator and Medical Transcriptionist are eligible to apply for services. While HEAL offers assistance to prospective students in navigating the enrollment process, the program is also open to students already enrolled in classes.

The program benefits students by helping them deal with academic issues, assisting them to fill out required college paperwork, providing opportunities for networking and helping them adjust to the demands of college. They will also receive assistance in organizing their employment search prior to graduation, participate in mock interviewing and will continue to benefit from coaching for up to nine months of employment.

Project HEAL was designed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and offers an innovative approach to completing college and obtaining employment.



[www.wgtd.org](http://www.wgtd.org)



For more information:

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

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)

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