



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

January 7, 2002
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SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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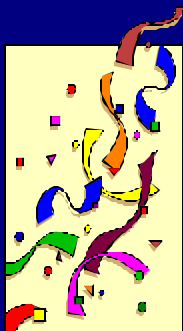
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Event Schedule – see web
<http://www.roch.edu/rctc/about/html/weeklysched.htm>

Attachments

- ❖ Student Life Events
- ❖ Respiratory Therapy
- ❖ Benefit Dance



Happy New Year!

Evening Administration

Jan. 7-10, 2002–Ellen Nelson
Jan. 12-17–Judy Harris

The evening administrator can be reached at x7262.

Year end giving increases

The RCTC Foundation is gratified at the response from faculty and staff in support of our request for contributions to our scholarship funds. Many have taken advantage of the payroll deduction option, pledging to have a certain amount deducted from each paycheck. You won't even miss it and it is such a great way to give generously to a very worthy cause – RCTC Students!

If any of you did not get the opportunity to give a year-end gift to the Foundation, do so now! Your contributions will be an investment in this year's scholarship effort and make a difference for our students. Thirty-four staff members responded to our year-end appeal. The RCTC Foundation goal is to double the number of employees who give to the Foundation this year.

Everyone has special causes that are near and dear to their hearts. Please consider RCTC as one of those causes. During the year, the Foundation is the recipient of many gifts made in memory of a loved one who was close to a co-worker. It is a wonderful way to show your support and sympathy to a fellow employee. Please keep the Foundation in mind when a co-worker experiences the death of a loved one. These gifts truly speak of your care and concern and also do so much good for the school and students.

If you did not receive the RCTC Foundation Annual Report and wish to have a copy, please e-mail or call the Foundation office. Payroll deduction forms are available in the Foundation office and Human Resources office. For all of our "internal" donors who have given gifts to RCTC Foundation throughout the year, an annual listing is being prepared for tax purposes and you should receive yours before the end of January. Thank you for all of your support and we look forward to growing our supporters throughout the upcoming year.

2-4 on Tuesdays in January...

- Jan. 8th: Program Leader/Division Coordinator Meeting Charter Room
- Jan. 15th: Curriculum Council President's Room
- Jan 22nd: Faculty Union Meeting
- Jan. 29th: 5th Tuesday Faculty Development Activity Room TBA

(Watch for announcement of exciting activities and also Faculty Meet and Confer!)

Weekly funny...



"I hope you don't mind, but the size of that file I just sent you is 12,683 gigabites."

RCTC Chiropractic Clinic

Massage appointments available on:
 Wednesdays from 2-6pm
 Appointments to see Dr. Elder are on
 Monday and Thursdays from 2-6pm
 To set up an appointment, please call 529-2736

Attention Blue Cross Blue Shield policyholders:
 As of Jan 1, 2002, we are required to receive a copy of your new insurance card. If you have the state health plan coverage has changed. Level 1 will now be required to pay a \$5.00 co-pay, Level 2 is a \$10.00 co pay, and Level 3 is a \$20.00 co-pay. This information will be printed on your insurance card.

New student health and wellness group

With the objective of using peer education to encourage positive, healthy lifestyles and healthy decision-making skills for our students, a new student group is being formed. The Student Health and Wellness Group will plan and carry out 1 or 2 events/semester that address health and wellness issues important to college students. Your help is requested to recruit potential members for this group. If you know a student who may be interested in participating in a group like this, please send me (Katie Swegarden, box #5) their name. The student will receive a personal invitation to join me and other students for an informational meeting. Students will also be invited through flyers and Stinger announcements. Please contact Katie Swegarden (2887) with any questions or comments.

Project to promote patriotism and peace



Four of your co-workers are participating in the Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Greater Rochester (LGR) 2002. They are Dan Thompson (x3133), Nirmala Kotagal (x2816), Dale Amy (x7332) and Janell Holter (x7567). Each year the LGR class takes on a project. This year we have chosen two projects to promote patriotism and peace. With the events of September 11, we elected as a group to give Rochester residents the opportunity and the convenience to purchase quality American flags and accessories at a discounted price. The proceeds will be used to construct a Peace Garden at Assissi Heights that will be open for the public's enjoyment. Orders can be placed with any of the class members.

The four flag kits are priced from \$45 to \$2.50. Please join us in our efforts to show our national patriotism and support a local, community project. For more information, contact Janell Holter at x7567 or call (507) 951-1616. The flag kits can be viewed via the web at: <http://www.ventures.com/LGRFlags>

UCR Teddy Bear Drive a success!

100 teddy bears were delivered to the Olmsted County Sheriff's Department last week. These bears will be shared with the Rochester City Police as well as local small-town law enforcement officers. These agencies extend their thanks and gratitude to UCR employees for remembering others this past holiday season.

Supalla’s Scribblings

I hope that you enjoyed a joyous holiday season and offer you my best wishes for a happy new year! During the holidays, I had a chance to catch up on some reading materials that had piled up on my desk during the final weeks of fall semester. I’m relinquishing most of my space in this first issue of the new year to share portions of the article, “Finding the Answers,” by Paul Houston, Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators.

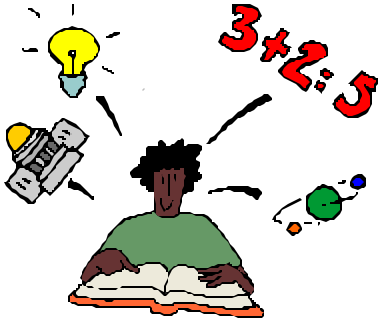


“Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall. Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. All the king’s horses and all the king’s men, couldn’t put Humpty together again.” I doubt if there is one American who does not relate to that simple nursery rhyme right now. Our country has had a great fall and our national psyche is broken. The question becomes how do we put the pieces back together again. There are great similarities between what the school shooters did to Columbine and what the terrorists who hijacked four aircraft for the purpose of making them flying bombs did to the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Those of us in education know what the rest of our country is in for as we adjust to our new reality. Each act succeeded in reverberating well past the actual target. Madness followed by mayhem and chaos changed the psychological landscape of America forever. Schools are no longer places where horrible things can’t happen. America is no longer a place safe from the madness of hate and zealotry.

After Columbine, many schools chose the path of providing better counseling, peer mediation, and creating more personalized spaces so that students would not feel so isolated. Perhaps there is a clue for America in that as well. Certainly we can expect major changes in the way security in this country is handled. Air travel will be different. Security at public events and in public places will be greater. We can expect the inevitable military response as we hope to wash away our pain and sorrow in a bath of terrorists’ blood. While that is understandable and probably necessary, it will not put Humpty together again. It’s time to reexamine our thoughts about and emphasis on two increasingly important concepts: globalization and character development. First, we have to take a hard look at helping Americans understand that we live in a global society. We cannot afford to continue believing that what we do and say does not have ramifications beyond our borders. Our children must learn to see the world through multiple lenses. Everyone does not see things the way we do or share our values. How can we help our citizens grow in an environment that honors our own culture while honoring others as well? Patriotism is an important value, particularly at a time like this, but there is a line between feeling good about your country and feeling superior to others. We have to stop with the “We’re number one” mantra. We are the most powerful, most blessed country in the world. When you are in that situation, you don’t have to rub others noses in it by continually announcing it. That means we can grow up now. We have to be responsible because we are the biggest kid on the block. And part of that responsibility is to honor others, as we would honor ourselves – even if they are different from us. To do so, first we must understand others.

The second need for emphasis is on character development. Without strong character, alienation turns to hatred, which leads to violence. Whether it is a school shooter or a terrorist hijacker, a lack of concern and reverence for life leads people to believe that others are expendable in pursuit of selfish ends. I was haunted by a child’s question after the bombings. He said, “You mean they did that on purpose?” His confusion was poignant and appropriate. We must always question acts of madness aimed at others. But we must also remember that the seeds of terror are planted on playgrounds when one child bullies another. Why does anyone hurt another on purpose? That question should be part of our core concerns and it should be the center of what our students learn.

We are a powerful country – and a rich one. Our lifestyle is the envy of the world and envy creates dislike and disdain. We have to understand that “to whom much is given, much is required.” Perhaps we should consider that as long as we eat up the bulk of the world’s natural resources, and wallow in a culture of consumerism, where will be those who don’t like us. Perhaps we need to revisit the lessons of kindergarten and learn to share our toys with others. Will all this put Humpty back together again? I doubt it. But it is a start and it does give us something to think about as we face the unthinkable in the days, weeks, and months ahead.



Make my day... The last day of fall semester I received a letter from a student that made my day. In part it read...

I rarely take time to send out a letter on good customer service, but the experience I just went through at RCTC was outstanding. I'm referring to the math class I just completed. I'm a non-traditional student taking day classes over my lunch hours. I'm 37 years old, I have a wife and a nine-month-old daughter, work full-time for a bank and I'm also the music director at my church. Life is very busy for me. I have taken classes off and on over the past 18 years and I am very close to completion.

ViAnn Olson, my teacher was absolutely the finest instructor I have ever had at RCTC. In all my years as a student, I never got a good grasp on math. My math grades were always C's and D's. Today, I just received my first "A" ever in math. Because of ViAnn's excellent teaching style, I learned, I enjoyed and I was challenged! The first day of class, she informed us of her expectations and then got right down to business. She never wasted a moment of time and she was completely prepared from day one. She always kept us informed on our grade status and let us know what we had to do to keep the grades up. This was by far the best instructor I have ever had at RCTC. Thanks for having such a great teacher on your staff. Yes, I'm still flying high from my "A"...but I just had to get this letter off to you!

Way to go, ViAnn! Keep up the good work. This student made your day...and mine!

Have a great semester!
Don

Spring Semester hours (Library & LTC)
 1/7 – 5/19, 2002 - (breaks and holiday hours subject to change)

Monday-Thursday	7:30 AM-10 PM
Friday	7:30 AM-4:30 PM
Saturday	9 AM-5 PM
Sunday	1 PM-5 PM

CLOSED: January 21 & Marcy 31

Thank you

Thank you to everyone for your expressions of sympathy at the recent death of my mother, Mabel Olson. Your cards, e-mails, plants, flowers, and caring thoughts were all deeply appreciated.

Ellen Nelson and family

Dance for America
Sunday January 20, 2002

University Center Rochester
 "Rockenbach Gym"
 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Sponsors: **SE Region Federation and University Center Rochester**
Welcome All Dancers, Callers, Cuers, and General Public
 All Proceeds to be given to the families of the victims of the
 September 11, 2001 World Trade Center tragedy

See the attached flier for more details!

