

▶ FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS
IN THE AMPHITHEATRE ON
WEDNESDAYS BY BOB
SANBORN AND FRIENDS 2

○ ISSUE 2 | ○ VOLUME 13 | ○ FALL SEMSTER 2008-09

September 1, 2008

▶ HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
AND RAMADAN ARE
CELEBRATED IN SEPTEMBER.
READ ALL ABOUT IT! 2

CHECK UCR EVENTS
CHECK MEETING MINUTES

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GREECE AND TURKEY 3

COLLEGE *Crossings*

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE...EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

Thought for the week...

The best things in life are unexpected - because there were no expectations. ~Eli Khamarov

September Best Bee

Please congratulate Patty Stevens as being selected Best Bee for the month of September! We waited all summer to recognize Patty upon her return this Fall. Patty's nominator shared the following:

"Patty has given 27 years of service to RCTC. Throughout that service, she continues to go above and beyond for students who have requests, need assistance, and those that have an unexpected hardship or circumstance. There have been instances where I have witnessed Patty advocate for students who were trying to get into classes that were full or having difficulties with college processes. She went the extra mile by making personal phone calls and visits to other areas on the student's behalf. She has shined here on our campus for so many years and it would be more than appropriate to recognize her"

"Patty always consults her team in decision making, reviews outcomes of actions with her peers; assists with new staff training; and lives the college value of "fun" with her sense of humor and jokes. She balances a strong work ethic with the fun and really does so much for students."

Patty will receive the Employee of the Month parking space for the month of September. Congratulations Patty!



ATTACHMENTS

*CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP
ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN*

RCTC Green News

Rockin' Homecoming Week

PARKING PERMITS

Parking permits for the New School Year are here and available in the Cashier's Office. Year round full time employees the annual permit at \$168.00 is the best value. Please remember this is a required fee and ask that you stop in the cashier's office to purchase your permit.

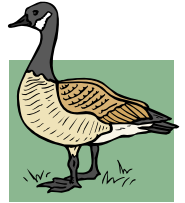
Hours 8:00 am - 4:30 daily, or send your payment through intercampus mail to Cashier's Office, Box 9.



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Thanks to all who made the start of the academic such a great success! I spent considerable time in the hallways during the first week, and both students and staff that I talked to indicated that they thought this was the best first week ever with no major room scheduling conflicts, parking problems, or technology snafus. If you have unfinished business that needs attention, please complete a maintenance electronic work order or make your supervisor aware of your needs. Enjoy what looks like it could be the last of this summer's beautiful weekends.

Did you know that Rochester has embarked on "The Goose is Loose" statue project? A limited quantity of 4.5 foot goose statues uniquely designed and decorated by southeast Minnesota artists will be placed throughout Rochester from June through September, 2009. RCTC has agreed to sponsor a goose and the Art Department will design and decorate the statue. Look for the Loose Goose to appear on campus sometime in early 2009.



Economic uncertainty has long been a certainty in much of the Midwest. The financial fortunes of the farm states can change, literally, with the weather. And several Midwestern states that rely heavily on manufacturing have been losing factories and jobs for decades. Half of the 12 states in the region are projected to experience population declines over the coming decade. State officials throughout the Midwest have come to see public colleges as key players in the long-term transformation of their economies, and look to them to provide needed workforce training and spawn new industries. Rather than regarding spending on higher education as discretionary enough to be slashed when times get tough, lawmakers are beginning to come around to the view that pulling their states out of economic trouble requires putting more money into public colleges and student aid. Although Minnesota suffered extensive flood damage, a burst housing bubble bore much of the blame for an economic downturn. With the state facing a budget deficit approaching a billion dollars in the last year of the biennium, lawmakers trimmed spending on public colleges by one percent, while slashing appropriations to other agencies by four percent.

This week, THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION released its annual state-by-state almanac. Some very interesting facts and figures are available on the CHRONICLE Web site. You can review the latest Minnesota numbers by clicking on:

<http://chronicle.com/weekly/almanac/2008/states/mn.htm>

On August 14, President Bush signed into law HR 4137, a massive six-year reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The legislation, formally known as the Higher Education Opportunity Act, has far-reaching implications for community colleges and contains many new programs as well as new institutional mandates and reporting requirements. Some of the most significant measures included in the Act include:

- The Pell Grant maximum is set at \$6,000 for the academic year 2009-10 and increases \$400 each year, reaching \$8,000 in 2014-15. A year-round Pell Grant is established for students who complete more than one year's academic work in a single year and will be available to part-time and certificate students. No student may receive a Pell Grant for more than the equivalent of 18 semesters.
- The period during which cohort default rates are measured is extended to three years from the current two years. Colleges with default rates above 30 percent will be subject to sanctions, including loss of eligibility if the default rate exceeds 30 percent for three consecutive years.
- The government must develop a new "net price tuition calculator" and public institutions must make it available on their Web sites for public use.
- Colleges are required to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a "significant emergency or dangerous situation," unless issuing a notification will compromise efforts to contain the emergency.
- Institutions must notify students of their policies to combat illegal downloading and certify they have such plans.
- Institutions must report the types of employment obtained by their graduates.
- A number of new rules are imposed on college textbook publishers, bookstores, and institutions. Colleges will be required to disclose on their Internet course schedules the ISBN and retail price of each required and recommended textbook and supplemental materials for each course.
- Colleges must publicly disclose their transfer-of-credit policies, including the criteria used to evaluate credits earned at other institutions. The institutions with which a college has articulation agreements must also be listed.
- Accreditors must ensure that institutions with distance education programs establish processes by which they ensure that the student who registers in a distance education or correspondence education course or program is the same person who participates in and completes the program and receives the credit.

Thought for the week...If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging. – Will Rogers

Hope you had a great Labor Day weekend!

~ Don



Martial Arts Club

The RCTC Martial Arts Club trains from 7:00-9:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays all semester.

Join us in SC108 (the Wrestling Room); if you work out with us for a month, you get a free T-shirt!

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"But how does it feel to misunderstand how you might think about not knowing what to believe?"



CROSSINGS CLASSIFIEDS

COMMUNITY EVENT: ABWA presents: A Limited Reserve Library Tasting To benefit the Rochester Area Habitat for Humanity Women Build. Click [HERE](#) for more details. Rose Conway is selling tickets for \$75 each. 285-7260

COMMUNITY EVENT: Pancake Breakfast Benefitting Elder Network's Faith in Action Transportation and Friendly Visitor Programs. Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 8:00 – 9:30 am at Applebee's North - \$5.00 per person. To purchase tickets, call Elder Network at 285-5272. Tickets must be purchased in advance.



Fall 2008 FITNESS CENTER HOURS

Monday: 9am – 9pm
(Closed 11-noon for class)
Tuesday: 1pm – 9pm
Wednesday: 9am – 9pm
(Closed 11-noon for class)
Thursday: 1pm – 9pm
Friday: 9am – 6pm
Saturday: 10am – 4pm
Sunday: Noon – 5pm

*Subject to change without notice!

TRAVEL!

Have you always wanted to visit Greece and Turkey?

During Spring Break 2009 there will be a trip: **From Athens to Istanbul**".

For more details go to <http://www.eftours.com> tour number 466711

For more info, contact Ivonne TjoeFat ivonne.tjoeFat@roch.edu

