

▶ MINNESOTA STATE
COMBINED CHARITY
CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISER TO
BE HELD IN OCTOBER2

○ ISSUE 3

○ VOLUME 14

FALL SEMESTER EDITION

September 7, 2009

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IN THE ART GALLERY.....4

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Fall Semester COLLEGE Crossings

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

Thought for the month...

If nothing ever changed, there'd be no butterflies.

~Author Unknown

Service Learning

The Atrium was once again full of students seeking information on Service Learning from 22 area non-profit agencies. Hosted by "The Blood Clots" Service Learning Co-ordinators, Lynn Guenette - Sociology Instructor and Colleen Landherr Maddox - Community & Youth Program Director. Over 175 students visited at least four agencies, turned in their "passport" and received a goody bag full of treasures. Several students also participated in the Mayo Clinic Blood Bank Donation as they proudly showed off their "bandage of honor." Thanks to the faculty who encouraged their students to attend the Fair and donate blood. There were 57 donors who donated at the blood drive, of which 30 were first time donors! If you have any questions about Service Learning and how it can enhance learning in your classroom, please take a look at our RCTC web site or contact Lynn or Colleen.

Annual Calendar Report

If you did not get a copy of the Annual Calendar Report (distributed at Staff Development Day), you can pick one up in the mailroom on the main campus or at Heintz Center. If you need a larger number of calendars, contact Gloria Dockter and she can put in your mailbox for pick-up. The Annual Calendar Report to the Community is published annually and distributed by the College Relations and Effectiveness Office in August/September. To include photos for consideration in future calendar reports, send high-resolution digital photos or picture originals for scanning to Jenee McGurren at box 25 or jenee.mcgurren@roch.edu.

Academic Accolades

Kathleen Dahl attended the fourth biennial AROHO Writers' Retreat in August. AROHO, A Room of Her Own Foundation, accepts a final group of sixty-five women writers who gather amid the stunning red canyons, high mesas and desert skies of Georgia O'Keeffe's famous Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, New Mexico. Over six days, workshop participants discuss and practice the craft of writing with award-winning writers and professionals in the publishing field. Kathleen was selected to participate in a private workshop with memoirist Meredith Hall, author of *Without a Map*, as well as intensive workshops with Rita Dove, Ellen McLaughlin, Dana Levin, and Kate Gale.



ATTACHMENTS

*CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP
ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN*

*Homecoming Celebration on
Saturday, September 26th at the
Eagles...hog roast...music...
CLICK HERE for more details.*

*Understanding Muslim practices
and Beliefs Article by Ricki
Walters, Regional Diversity
Trainer CLICK HERE*



Parenting Workshop

At the link below you will find a brochure announcing a Parenting Workshop available to RCTC employees. RCTC is a business partner with the Rochester Area Foundation's First Steps Program which offers a variety of parenting education opportunities and topics in our community. Our partnership with First Steps is an important effort to support those of you who have child care responsibilities as a parent, grandparent or through any other relationship. In working with the First Steps Program, we will be conducting a short employee survey in the near future to ask you what other parent education topics you would be interested in. Stay tune and begin thinking of what topics might be interest to you. If you have any questions, contact Renee Engelmeyer at x7183.

<http://www.rochestermnchamber.com/images/090917StressandtheWorkingParent.pdf>

Best Bee

Do you consistently observe a colleague or co-worker who demonstrates the RCTC Values of Innovation, Fun, Learner-Centered, Teamwork, Respect and Excellence... and goes the extra mile in their position, willingly volunteers to serve on RCTC committees or gives generously of their time and talents to the community? Please consider nominating this person(s) for the Best Bee of the Month. Nominating a co-worker is very easy. Just follow this link <http://www.rctc.edu/hr/bestbee/index.html>. Please follow the instructions and briefly explain how our values are displayed, the exemplary work performed and why the nominee(s) merit being named employee or work team Best Bee(s) of the Month. Please give specific examples of how your nominee demonstrates our values. Nominations received by the 10th of the month are eligible for consideration of the following month's award.

Women's BB Fundraiser

The RCTC Women's Basketball team are selling Rochester Discount Coupon Booklets for \$20! First coupon is good for a Free Pizza from Papa Johns!!!! Contact Steve Hucke through email or x6298. You can also send your check made out to: RCTC Women's Basketball with your order. Thanks for your support!

Department News

Please welcome back Anna Hanson our Special Needs Advisor and feel free to start directing students to see her once again. (Please refer to the advising list on the web for the programs she advises: http://www.rctc.edu/counseling_career_center/pdf/AdvisorList-2009.pdf) We are very glad to have her back and I get a sense the students are to.

On September 9, 2009 Glen Saponari will be returning after being called up to military service. We are excited to have him return and look forward to him jumping back into the swing of things. Before Glen left a few changes occurred to his role here at the college and I feel I need to share that information again. Besides advising programs (see link above) and international students, Glen will also be RCTC's Veteran's Benefits certifying official. During Glen's absence these responsibilities were performed by Janell Holter and Othelmo da Silva. I what to thank both of them for taking on these added responsibilities and making sure the students were served.

~ Alex Kromminga, E.J.D.

Director of Academic Services/Coordinator of Student Conduct



BBQ Fundraiser and Craft Sale

To raise money for the Minnesota State Combined Charity Campaign, there will be a BBQ fundraiser and craft sale on Thursday, October 8 from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Atrium and at Heintz Center. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).





SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

I bet you're looking forward to a long Labor Day weekend – I am! The first couple frantic weeks of fall semester tend to wear me out (and I won't admit it might be my age). Thanks to everyone for your good work in making this year's start a positive experience for record numbers of students. Although the enrollment numbers dropped slightly during the drop add period, just as expected, we ended the first week with 6,240 students enrolled, a 7.35 percent increase over 2008. This record number of students purchased 67,682 credits, a 7 percent increase over last year.

In addition to the normal chaotic activities that accompany the start of an academic year, during the past two weeks we've also hosted the Director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (Pawlenty's commissioner of higher education), two dozen members of the Senate Capital Bonding Committee, a host of non-profit agencies interested in service learning opportunities, the ground breaking for the "Green Pipes" project, Learning is ForEver (LIFE) garden party, faculty art gallery exhibition, athletic competitions and more. I know that all our schedules are jammed packed. But I also know how much our students and colleagues appreciate it when faculty and staff show up for events on campus. I hope that you'll join me this year in making a commitment to attend at least a few new events you've never participated in before. It will be time well spent and your presence will be noticed and appreciated.

Terry Knight will periodically be providing you with excellent information regarding the H1N1 flu virus. Please review the information already available and make it a point to continue to stay updated as additional information is made available, both internally and via public media. Initially, I encourage you to consider getting a flu vaccination, take preventative actions to reduce the risk of infection and stay home when you're sick. RCTC will share Minnesota Management of Budget, Department of Administration and Office of the Chancellor information regarding best practices and useful resources as these materials become available. Please don't hesitate to take advantage of on-campus expertise by contacting **Terry Knight, Katie Swegarden or Renee Engelmeyer**.

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education recently released "Minnesota Measures – 2009 Report on Higher Education Performance." Now in its third year, the publication provides policymakers and educators with a statewide look at higher education effectiveness. The good news...Minnesota is a leader among states in many areas important to the state's vitality, workforce and quality of life.

- **College participation:** Nearly 7 out of 10 Minnesota high school graduates are enrolling directly in college.
- **Educational attainment:** Minnesota leads the nation and many developed countries in the percentage of its population with an associate degree or higher.
- **Economic responsiveness:** Minnesota's higher education sector is responding to employment demand in many critical and growing fields by producing graduates to fill high demand/high paying occupations.
- **Participation in learning assessments:** On measures of student learning, many public and private institutions are implementing learning assessments and surveys to gauge the value added by higher education.

Areas of concern...feedback from policymakers pointed to areas where performance is low and improvements are needed.

- **College readiness and preparation gap:** Vast disparities persist in the academic achievement among select groups of high school students. On average, low-income students and students of color posted dramatically lower than average scores.
- **College completion for students of color:** Students of color are completing two- and four-year degrees at lower rates than their White counterparts.
- **Productivity and completion:** Among states, Minnesota's three-year, four-year and six-year graduation rates are at the national average.
- **Affordable college options:** Minnesota's gross and net tuition and fees were higher than the national average for most public and private institutions.

More information and a copy of the report are available at <http://www.ohe.state.mn.us>.

Instead of a thought for the week, I'll conclude this edition of Scribblings with "The President's Prayer" authored by Pamela Cox-Otto, Ph.D., Interact Communications, Inc. I hope it's your prayer, too.

Let the community discover my college, and not instead be its best-kept secret. Let the community see that it is a greater challenge to move a not-ready-for-college student, a single mom, a displaced worker, or a veteran to an Associate degree than it is to move a high school "B" student to a 4-year college degree. Let us be the college that students choose first and not their last resort. Let the leadership of our state and nation see, that given support we can and will train the workforce of the future. And just once...let people say, "It's a great college"...and not follow it with the qualification..."but."

Continue your good work and enjoy a safe and relaxing long weekend.

~ Don

Open Gym Has Now Started!

If you would like to participate you must present a valid RCTC/WSU student or staff ID. We will have basketball, table tennis, soccer, volleyball, badminton and tennis available. Hours: Monday- 9:00am to 4:00pm; Tuesday- 12:00pm to 4:00pm ; Wednesday- 9:00am to 4:00pm; Thursday- 12:00pm to 4:00pm' Friday- 9:00am to 4:00pm

*****Times are subject to change without notice***
YOU MUST PRESENT A VALID RCTC/WSU
STUDENT OR STAFF ID**



Martial Arts Club

RCTC Martial Arts Club meets on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 PM in SC 108, and Thursdays from 8:00-10:00 PM in SC108. Learn kickboxing, jiu-jitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE club T-shirt! (While supplies last.)

Crossings Classifieds

COMMUNITY EVENT: Pancake breakfast at Applebee's North September 26 benefitting Elder Network from 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For tickets, call Elder Network at 285-5272 or e-mail Kathy Richie at kathy.richie@roch.edu.

COMMUNITY EVENT: ABWA Networking Expo – Monday, October 19th at 5:30pm at the Ramada Hotel. For more info, [CLICK HERE](#) or Rose Conway at 285-7260.

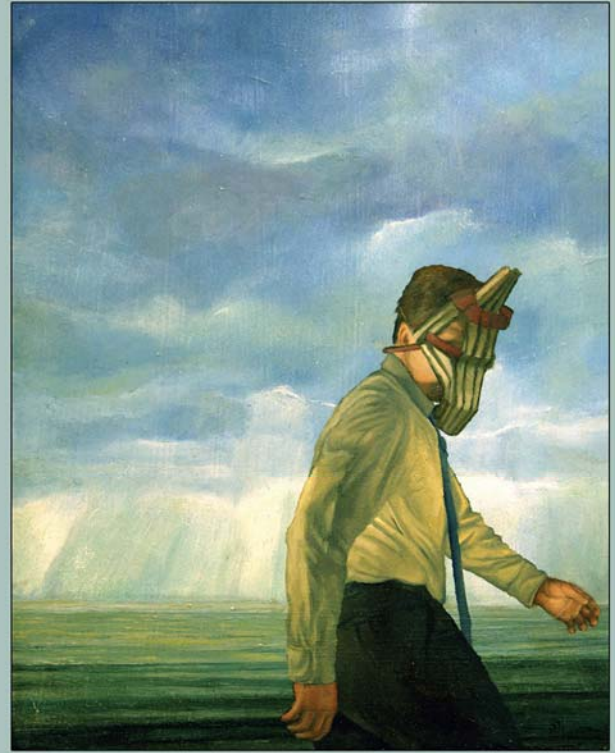
SAVE THE DATE: Rochester Regional Equestrian Center is having a basket auction/wine taster at the Rochester Athletic Club on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 6:00p.m.to 9:00 p.m. Donation of \$10.00 covers everything. To view some of the baskets (including four horses that will be auctioned off and do NOT fit in baskets) go to <http://www.rrec.info>. RREC supports the equine program at RCTC.

FOR SALE: Portable adjustable basketball unit \$50 or B/O. Maple 60 year old baby dresser in great shape side door opens with hangers inside - \$50.00 or B/O. Maple drop leaf table, stripped and ready to stain (about 60 years old)..\$100.00 or B/O. Oversized stuffed chair (old and ugly but clean) good for college room, free. Contact Audrey Lidke x7469 or 288-8726..

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"You were doing the speed limit.
I found that suspicious."



Rochester Community & Technical College 2009 FACULTY EXHIBITION

EXHIBITION: Aug 31 - Oct 23, 2009 UCR GALLERY, CC 200
RECEPTION: Wednesday, September 23, 6:30-8:30
GALLERY HOURS: Monday - Friday, 10am-6pm

Don't Get Stuck at the Station!

Wright Express fuel cards no longer work! Minnesota State Fleet Services now uses Voyager Fleet Systems cards. Please pick up your new Voyager card in the Business Office and turn in the old Wright Express card.

~ Wanda Mettes

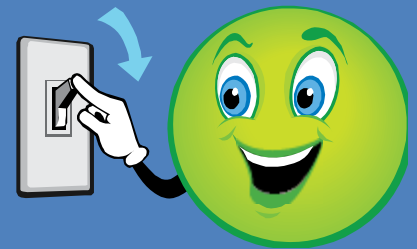
Help Prevent the Spread of Flu at UCR

As you may know, flu can be spread easily from person to person. Therefore, we are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu at University Center Rochester for as long as possible, but, we need your help to accomplish this. We are working closely with the Olmsted County Public Health Department to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning our institution. We will keep you updated with new information as it becomes available to us. For now, we are doing everything we can to keep our institution operating as usual. Here are a few things you can do to help:

- 1) Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners also are effective.
- 2) Practice respiratory etiquette by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder, not into your hands. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth; germs are spread this way.
- 3) Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. A fever is a temperature taken with a thermometer that is equal to or greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius. Look for possible signs of fever: if the person feels very warm, has a flushed appearance, or is sweating or shivering.
- 4) Stay home if you have flu or flu-like illness for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius) or signs of a fever (have chills, feel very warm, have a flushed appearance, or are sweating). This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications (any medicine that contains ibuprofen or acetaminophen). Don't go to class or work.
- 5) Talk with your health care providers about whether you should be vaccinated for seasonal flu. Also if you are at higher risk for flu complications from 2009 H1N1 flu, you should consider getting the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available. People at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 flu complications include pregnant women and people with chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, heart disease, or diabetes). For more information about priority groups for vaccination, visit:
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/acip.htm>
- 6) If this year's flu season becomes more severe, we may take the following additional steps to prevent the spread of the virus:
 - ❖ Allow students, faculty, and staff at higher risk for complications to stay home. These students, faculty, and staff should make this decision in consultation with their health care provider.
 - ❖ Find ways to increase social distances (the space between people) in classrooms such as moving desks farther apart, leaving empty seats between students, holding outdoor classes, and using distance learning methods.
 - ❖ Extend the time sick students, faculty, or staff stay home or in their residence. During severe flu conditions sick people should stay home for at least 7 days, even if they feel better sooner. Those who are still sick after 7 days should continue to stay home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have gone away. Symptoms of flu include fever or chills and cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms of flu can include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting.

For the most up-to-date information on flu, visit www.flu.gov <http://www.flu.gov/>, or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636). Also view <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/> for further information options. We will notify you by e-mail of any additional changes to our institution's strategy to prevent the spread of flu on our campus.

~ Terry Knight, Facilities Department Safety Officer
~ Renee Engelmeyer, Chief Human Resources Officer
~ Katie Swegarden, Student Health Services Registered Nurse



(CONSERVE!)



17 Days of Summer left – ENJOY!

Fire Alarm Sounding

To All UCR Faculty and Staff,

At approximately 2:15 PM on September 2nd the fire alarm system was sounded in the UCR Main Campus complex as a result of an unknown person pulling an alarm pull-station while exiting the building. The response to the sound of the fire alarm by the faculty and students was mixed. Some responded immediately to the alarm and began an orderly evacuation; while others failed to respond at all to the alarm, and remained in the building.

In this particular incident the alarm was determined to be false, and the system was silenced within minutes of the start of the event. In this case we were lucky. There was no immediate danger to the UCR complex occupants.....not this time.

Whenever a Fire Alarm is sounded it must be considered real and valid. To assume a fire alarm to be false, or otherwise unworthy of action, is extremely dangerous. Fire, toxic smoke, flammable gas leaks, and other dangerous elements can create a hazardous environment within a matter of minutes. To waste time debating whether an alarm is valid or false can be a fatal decision. Every fire alarm sounded must be considered as a threat to your safety. Without question, you must immediately begin evacuation of the building.

Do not assume that when the alarm signal stops in the area that there is no danger. Alarm may be silenced for a number of reasons. Fire systems can fail due to heat damage or power interruption, despite system battery backup. Alarms may be silenced to prevent explosion if there is a flammable gas leak. It is always best to evacuate the building, and wait in an emergency gathering location until you are instructed by a Facility Emergency Responder to re-enter the building. Do not block building entrances or roadways. Move back to a safe location away from the path of emergency response vehicles.

FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION

When a fire building fire detection/suppression system is activated, or a manual fire alarm pull-station is activated the in-building Alarm System will automatically begin to sound an alarm signal. The Fire alarm will be a STEADY horn, bell, or siren signal. When the alarm is sounded, faculty, staff, students and visitors are to immediately exit the building by the closest designated evacuation stairway and exterior exit doors. Faculty and Staff shall clear and secure their immediate area, to include closure of office and classroom door(s) before exiting the building. Report to either Security or Maintenance personnel any information you have regarding the emergency condition (location of fire, gas leak, activated pull-station, etc.), and the location of any persons in the building that require emergency assistance. Move in an orderly manner to the Exterior Evacuation Gathering areas located throughout the campus.

Exterior Evacuation Areas Are As Follows for UCR Facilities:

- ❖ *UCR East Parking Lot (Stay clear of roadway.): East Hall Building, College Center, Student Services Building*
- ❖ *UCR North Parking Lot (West Central Lot Area. Stay clear of roadway.): Science/Technology Building, Atrium, Goddard Library Building, Sports Center Building*
- ❖ *UCR West Parking Lot (South Central Area. Stay clear of roadway): Art Hall, Plaza Hall, Memorial Hall, Coffman Center, Singley Hall Buildings, Childcare Center*
- ❖ *Heintz Center East Parking Lot (East Central Area. Stay clear of roadway.): A-Wing, B-Wing*
- ❖ *Heintz Center West Parking Lot (Southwest Lawn Area. Stay clear of roadway.): C- Wing, Commons Area, Horticulture*

NOTE:

- *Do Not Attempt to Use the Elevators in the case of fire. Use stairways or ramps to the nearest available exit.*
- *Take wallet, purse, book bag, jacket, etcetera with you.*
- *Be alert to traffic, and give emergency vehicles the right of way.*
- *DO NOT attempt to leave in vehicles until authorized by Emergency Management. Uncontrolled vehicle traffic can cause danger to evacuates in the parking lots, and block the travel of emergency response vehicles.*

Please be responsible and act safely during emergency conditions. Your example of action may save a life!

*~Terry C. Knight, Facilities Department Safety Officer
Rochester Community and Technical College*