



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

November 12, 2007
Volume 13, Issue 12

FALL SEMESTER EDITION

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Attachments

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ATTENTION:

There will be no *Crossings* publication on November 26th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday Break. Please plan ahead to include any events the week of November 26th in the November 19th edition.

Blood Drive

December 5

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html

FREE Buses STILL HAVE ROOM for Riders!

The RCTC Yellowjacket football team beat Rainy River 75 to 26 to advance to the MCCC State Championship Game being held this Sunday, November 11th at 1:00pm at St. Cloud State University. **3 FREE COACH BUSES (sponsored by RCTC Student Life)** will be at the Sports Center ready to take Yellowjacket fans to St. Cloud State University. **Leave time for the buses is 8:00am** and a free tailgating party (also sponsored by Student Life) will begin at 11:00am at SCSU. There is still plenty of room on the buses, so **PLEASE just show up at 7:30am on Sunday morning at the Sports Center to catch a ride to the game.** Hope to see you there! GO YELLOWJACKETS!!



Academic Accolades

Congratulations to the Medical Office Programs staff who have just completed another Mayo Clinic Medical Transcriptionist training program and once again had 100% successful employment of their students. Kudos to Mary Olson, Kathy Olson, Tara Hammill, and Sheryl Scholer! This department has been training students for Mayo Clinic for 25+ years.



Congratulations to Scannell McCormick who has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize for his poem "Lot (Hermes in Tulips)." This poem appeared in Bayou Magazine's first edition after Hurricane Katrina, and it was Bayou Magazine that nominated him. It's an honor for RCTC to have a Pushcart nominated poet among our ranks!

Congratulations to RCTC Digital Arts student Kody Swanson, who is one of the finalists (in the student division of which there were approximately 300 entries) for the Rochester Independent Short Film Festival competition! You can see/hear Kody's work and other independent films at this weekend's festival. For more information see their website at:

<http://www.rochfilmfestival.com>.

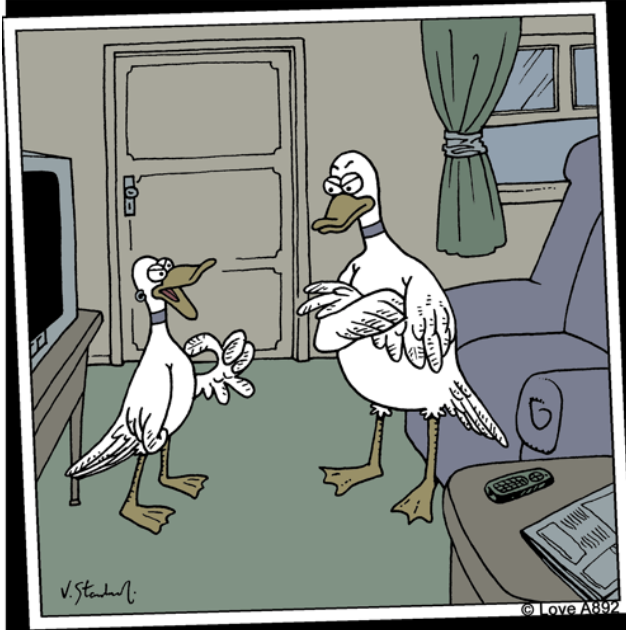
Grand Opening!

Greetings Everyone! Next week we will celebrate the opening of UCRs' wonderful new Cafe Express coffee shop. If you haven't been there to see it now is the time. All week long we'll be giving away snacks, drink samples, 4 ipod shuffles, 4 \$25.00 gift cards, Coffee mugs and MORE! Also, since the Cafe Express is open until 7:30 pm this would be a great time for instructors to let their evening classes know about us. Located on the first floor of the new Health Science building.

~ Gary Peterson, Taher Food Service



Weekly Funny Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"Or maybe I'll never grow up to work for Aflac or Looney Tunes. Huh, Dad? Have you ever thought of *that*?"

Crossings Classifieds

FOR SALE: GE free-standing full-size dishwasher with wood block top. Lightly used, sparkling clean - \$200.; Samsung microwave - \$20 (or best offer); Haier 5200 BTU window air conditioner. Used for approximately 6 months - \$50. Contact Jeremy Leitzen at 272-7005 or Kimberly Leitzen 280-5007.

FOR SALE: Amana white clothes washer and dryer (dryer is gas) bought in 1994. Pair for \$150. Contact judy.gust@roch.edu.

"Flowers - the Missing Ingredient"

Spice up the turkey with a bountiful Thanksgiving Centerpiece! On Wednesday, November 14 starting at 5:30pm the Horticulture club will be teaching a floral design workshop in HH113 at the Heintz Center. Attendees will go home with a beautiful Thanksgiving centerpiece (retail value \$35 - \$40). This class will be taught by Janette Dragvold and Luke Dieser. I highly recommend NOT missing this class! Space is limited so register early by e-mail to Robin.Fruth-Dugstad@roch.edu or by calling 529-6112. \$40 fee.

~ Robin, Doug, & Horticulture Students

Club Meeting

Martial Arts Club meets 6-8pm in SC108 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Marketing Corner

Our Marketing Outreach Coordinator, Anna Hanson, will have a busy schedule for the Week of November 12th! She will be visiting 14 high schools including: La Crescent, Alma, Wabasha-Kellogg, Plainview-Elgin-Millville, Stewartville, Hayfield, Blooming Prairie, Northfield, Faribault, Houston, Caledonia, Spring Grove, Mabel and Fillmore Central. On November 13th she will be attending the Counselor Appreciation Breakfast; a Century HS College Fair; Presenting for the CRAFT group and then attending the Houston College Fair in the evening. On November 15th she will be presenting for the YMCA LINK group.

Holiday Weight Challenge

The holiday season is around the corner and soon begins the family fun and feasting! This year, take the Holiday Weight Challenge and avoid gaining weight in the months to come. The challenge focuses on maintaining your current weight and offers tips to keep in shape throughout the holiday season (not to forget, a chance to win a prize at the end)! The Holiday Weight Challenge involves taking your baseline weight and tracking your progress weekly for the next couple months. You won't have to share your weight with anyone! All you have to do is put in some effort and send an e-mail when you maintain or lose weight! Doing this allows you the opportunity to be entered in the drawing for a prize at the end! The challenge starts November 16th and continues through January 11th. A flyer with more information is attached to this week's *Crossings*.

~ Chellyne Hoepfner, Student Health Services Secretary

Concert Tickets on Sale NOW!

RCTC Music's annual fall concert, "Fall Premiere", the first concert of the 2008 season, will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, November 14 and 15 at 7:30pm in the Hill Theatre. This concert will showcase all 4 of our performing ensembles, the Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Band, and our dance choir, known as the Aires. Tickets are 5.00 each, one low price across the board. Refreshments will be served at intermission. As usual, RCTC/WSU students get one free ticket with valid student ID. All seats are reserved seating. We accept cash or check. Checks may be made out to RCTC Music. If you wish to order tickets, let me know and I'll send them to you. You can order by responding to this email, calling me at 507-285-7200 or if you wish to order in person, stop by my office in the Hill Theatre Box Office.

~ Rhonda Jensson

Mark Your Calendar – Faculty Lecture Series

Rana Mikati, who teaches Arabic at both RCTC and WSU, will be speaking on *Women in Islam*. The lecture will be held Thursday, November 29 at 9:00 in Hill Theater, with a reception to follow in the Quiet Lounge. A flier with more information is attached.

Supalla Scribblings



On November 12, the University of Texas will release the report, "Reflections on CCSSE's (Community College Survey of Student Engagement) First Five Years." The CCSSE this year celebrates five years of helping community colleges better serve students. With a focus on using data to improve students' educational experiences, CCSSE has established itself as a leading voice in community college improvement efforts. CCSSE has helped a growing number of colleges, including RCTC, change the way they think about their work. College faculty and administrators who once made decisions based on their personal perceptions now increasingly base decisions on evidence. The CCSSE information is embargoed until November 12, but expect to see more information about RCTC's participation and results in future editions of CROSSINGS.

At a special October Board meeting, MnSCU trustees authorized Minnesota colleges and universities and the Office of the Chancellor to schedule events on March 4 (formerly scheduled as a precinct caucus night), while encouraging higher education institutions to refrain from scheduling activities during the February caucuses. Both major parties have moved their caucuses to Tuesday, February 5. In light of this Board action, after consulting with MSCF leadership, RCTC will not hold classes or activities after 6 p.m. on February 5, but will hold classes and activities on March 4. Please don't hesitate to contact Judy Kingsbury if you need further clarification regarding this one-time Board policy.

The Minnesota High Tech Association is partnering with the Minnesota Department of Education to facilitate a series of forums to better prepare students for post-secondary education programs and careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The Association has requested, and we have agreed, to host a Rochester STEM Summit on February 14, 2008, in the UCR Sports Center. The event is expected to draw more than 1,000 7-12 grade students to the campus in hopes of helping them make connections from secondary education to higher education. Stay tuned for details.

Campus Kudos

- Scannell McCormick has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize for his writing. The Pushcart Prize is recognized as the most honored literary project in America. Hundreds of presses and thousands of writers are represented in the pages of the annual collections. Congratulations to Scannell on this most prestigious recognition!
- IBM's Al Larson has sent a note to "express appreciation for the work that Sara Bunge, Allan O'Brien, Savita Katarya, Pam Whitfield, Ivonne TjoeFat, and Abbey Hellickson have done in working with us on the \$247,000 Minnesota [Job Skills Partnership] Grant. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with them. They are very responsive and very willing to accommodate changes to the classes that were developed. In July, we piloted the Business Acumen class that Allan O'Brien taught. The class hit the mark and was a success. The next Business Acumen class will be held the week of November 12th. The class is already full and we have enough people enrolled on standby to hold at least two more classes. In September, we piloted the Chinese Culture class. Like the Business Acumen class, the feedback from student was very positive. There is tremendous interest in this class because we in IBM work so closely with our friends in China. Your team is also working on a pilot class for the Indian culture. We are very impressed with your team and we look forward to working with them in the future. Pass along our thanks!"
- Kathy Olson and her BTEC colleagues achieved a milestone recently when they completed another Mayo customized training program for medical transcriptionist students who again achieved 100 percent successful completions and employment. RCTC and Mayo have enjoyed this ongoing training partnership for more than a quarter century.
- Rochester's Committee on Urban Design and Environment recognized the RCTC/UCR Amphitheatre as the recipient of its annual award for Institutional Development. Representatives of the architectural firm, landscape designer, general contractor, MnSCU facilities department and RCTC accepted the award at a Tuesday morning celebration at the Rochester Art Center. Congratulations to Craig Knox and the grounds crew for their efforts in the project.
- If you missed seeing "Tommy," you missed a terrific production. Taking on a play like "Tommy" is a significant challenge for a community college, especially one that hadn't produced a musical in decades. Congratulations to Jerry Casper and his RCTC colleges and the cast and crew who delivered a marvelous production.
- Thanks to Jessie Martinez and his faculty colleagues and RCTC administrators who have wrapped up the first round of Faculty Awards for Excellence. An impressive \$316,900 in approved projects was awarded to RCTC faculty members. The excellent work of these instructors is reflected in the quality of the projects completed. The dollars allocated to the Faculty Awards for Excellence has to be one of the State's best investments in innovation. Thanks to all who participated in Round #1. A second round of Awards has commenced with \$178,399 earmarked for RCTC awards.
- Congratulations to Marilyn Treder and her math colleagues who played a major role in the success of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges conference held recently in Minneapolis. When New Orleans, who was originally scheduled to host the event determined it couldn't accommodate the attendees, Minnesota math teachers stepped up and took on the task. All reports indicate that they did a super job. Thanks to all from RCTC who had a role to play in the success of the event. You made us proud!



Thought for the Week from Harris Miller, Career College Association President ...

Among higher education issues in America, transfer of credit is the skunk at the garden party.

Enjoy your reprieve from Scribblings next week. I'll be in Lisle, Illinois, with the RCTC AQIP delegation.

Don

On Wednesday, November 14th students of the Retail Merchandising Program will present a look at women's seasonal apparel trends to spice up your winter wardrobe, plus some holiday looks to shine in. Come join the fun in CF 206/208 at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 14.

3rd ANNUAL SSSP BASKET CHALLENGE SILENT AUCTION

Proceeds benefit the SSSP Iris Fried Scholarship

December 5, 2007

CF206/208

A few facts about last year's basket challenge:

- \$1,593 was raised from 41 baskets donated by
 - 11 departments
 - 9 individuals
 - 2 clubs
 -

Winning basket: \$80 for "Night Out" donated by the Counseling/Advising Center staff



Breakfast in Bed, donated by the RCTC Business Office, 2006

A variety of baskets in all price/size ranges is needed for this event.

R.S.V.P. to Deb at 285-7230 with your intent to participate in this fundraiser.

(Last day to submit baskets is Monday, December 3, 4 p.m., SS159)

We look forward to your creations!

Retail Merchandising students will set up a display in the Human Resources window on November 16. If you would like to have your basket considered for the display, please bring it to SS159 by November 15.

Upward Bound Fundraiser

RCTC Upward Bound is now selling tickets to *domino Celebrates Festival of Giving*, a private evening of holiday shopping at Apache Mall, which will take place on Sunday, November 18, 2007 from 7:30 - 10:00 pm. This special event for ticket-holders only will feature special offers and discounts from Apache Mall merchants as well as beverages and hors d'oeuvres, door prizes, and live holiday entertainment! Tickets for domino Celebrates Festival of Giving are \$5 in the form of a donation to the RCTC Upward Bound Program. In the last seven years of this charity event at Apache Mall, non-profit organizations successfully raised over \$100,000 though ticket sales, 100% of which went directly to the groups who sold the tickets. This will be the last year that Apache Mall will be holding this event! So purchase a ticket today, help RCTC Upward Bound raise money for scholarships, TI-83 graphing calculators, and our summer program, as well as getting a jump-start on your holiday shopping!

Tickets locations: Upward Bound office - Heintz Ctr - Rm HA116 - 280.5002
Student Support Services office - UCR - Rm SS159 - 285-7230

~ Suzanne Nordsving, Upward Bound Director

Equine Science News

The RCTC Equestrian Team has started their first full year of competition. With two Hunter Seat and two Western shows under their belts, they have proved they will be a team to reckon with. RCTC competes in Zone 9, Region 3 of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) which includes Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa, with 14 member colleges. Nationally there are more than 200 member colleges. Students compete for points which will qualify them for regionals. Members placing first and second at regions will move on to Zones and Semi-Finals, where again members placing first and second will move on to Nationals which this year will be held at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, Los Angeles, CA. The team has won many ribbons, including 6 first place ribbons and one student, Stephanie Madsen, has already earned a berth at the regional competition. Members of the Hunter Seat Team are: Angela Carroll, Lyle, MN; Pam Cook, Rochester, MN; Jacole Drinkall, Ostrander, MN; Molly Grabau, Spring Valley, MN; Jessica Lewis, Spring Grove, MN, Stephanie Madsen, Blooming Prairie, MN; Kateeri O'Brien, Minnesota City, MN. Members of the Western Team: Maxine Bach, Wells, MN; Angela Carroll, Lyle, MN; Pam Cook, Rochester, MN; Katie Deobald, Zumbro Falls, MN; Jacole Drinkall, Ostrander, MN; Molly Grabau, Spring Valley, MN; Hannah Haug, Fountain, MN; Mary Hurley, Grand Meadow, MN; Sarah Nienow, Elgin, MN and Emily Ruble, Austin, MN. The next Western Team competition is November 17 & 18 at North Dakota State University, while the Hunter Seat team will travel to UW River Falls December 1 & 2. Spring Semester competitions will resume in February. The RCTC Equestrian Team is coached by RCTC Equine Science Instructor Jonathon Holland.

The RCTC Equine Science End-of-the-Semester Horse Show is Friday, December 14th 1pm-4pm. This is the final exam for several classes in the Equine Science Program. There will be jumping classes, Hunt Seat Equitation, and Western Horsemanship competition. If you have any questions, contact Julie Christie (507) 398-2326

The Stables Equestrian Center (college stables)
6489 51st Street, N.E., Rochester

Directions: Head east on Viola Road from Century High School for about 5 miles. Turn north onto County Road 11. Take your first right turn onto 51st Street N.E. The Stables is the 4th driveway on the left - look for the red barn.

Welcome!

Welcome to our newest addition to the Security Office, Heather Jungclaus. Heather has accepted our offer to be RCTC's Campus Security Officer. Heather will be assisting Bob Morris with campus security. Heather has been working as a student security officer for the last two years and she'll be graduating from RCTC's Law program this December.

Rochester Author to Give Reading on Campus

Rochester author, Helen Chen will be on campus on November 14th at 7:00 p.m. in room Atrium 209 on the UCR Main Campus. Helen will give a reading from her young adult novel, "**Jin-Ling's Two Left Feet.**" In this story an American-born Chinese girl who has grown up with two cultures tries to define her own identity as her senior prom approaches. Helen Chen is the founder of the Rochester Library Writers' Group and sponsor of the annual Chi-Shu Writing Contest.

This event is free and open to the public. Peace coffee is also served free of charge.

~ Jodeen Wink