



# College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

December 3, 2007  
Volume 13, Issue 13

FALL SEMESTER EDITION

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Event Schedule – click below  
[R25](#)

## Attachments

(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Guatemala Trip Poster
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Calendar

## ATTENTION:

Please plan ahead...there will be no *Crossings* publications 12/24, 12/31 & 1/7 due to the semester break. *Crossings* will resume with the January 14<sup>th</sup> edition.

## Blood Drive

December 5

## Meeting Minutes

Click below:

[http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting\\_minutes.html](http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html)



## Mark Your Calendars...

~ Annual Holiday Reception ~

Thursday, December 13, 2007 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

As you begin your holiday shopping, don't forget about the "Teddy Bear Drive." Anyone wishing to contribute may place a teddy bear under the tree in the RCTC Office of the President (SS 202) or drop one off at the Holiday Reception.



### Academic Accolades

The UCR Learning Center personnel will be making their state-wide conference debut Friday, November 30, at the first-ever "Tutoring Summit" to be held at North Hennepin. They will be offering three sessions: a panel discussion entitled "Together, Separate, and Equal: A Learning Center Model That Works" with Don Baldus, Julie Rodakowski, Pam Whitfield, and Jodeen Wink; a session entitled "Training Writing Tutors" presented by Pam Whitfield; and a session entitled "Student Mentoring Through Service Learning" presented by Don Baldus.

The 'Words and Music' program on November 28 at the Jon Hassler Theatre in Plainview featured three English faculty members. Bob Sanborn, Pat Costello, and Pam Whitfield who performed poetry, short essays and original music with a bluegrass/blues bent. Guitar riffs, Southern accents, poems about dogs, friends, and crazy women, and a mean harmonica were in the mix during this home grown evening of story and sound.



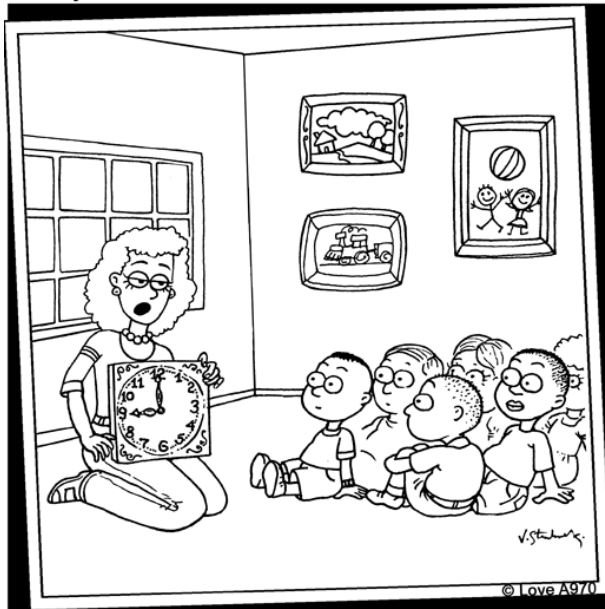
## Holiday Party and SSSP Basket Challenge Auction

December 5 ~ Room CF206/208, UCR Campus

Sponsored by TRIO Student Support Services &, Upward Bound, Disability Services, Perkins, International Advisor

Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"And when the little hand gets to the *nine*, it means ... ah, just check your cell phones."

**Crossings Classifieds**

**WANTED:** Thomas Train Table and/or Train Set (or similar). Please email [chris.wolf@roch.edu](mailto:chris.wolf@roch.edu)

**FOR SALE:** Pearl Percussion Kit - like new. Comes with bell keyboard, practice pad snare drum, drum sticks, 2 mallets, stand, beginner book, carrying case. Purchased from Welhaven Music 2 years ago, great for students' in band. Used seldom, \$195.00. LeaAnn Pederson 507-356-4250.

**Free:** BF Goodrich Tire, P205/65 R15 92T M+S. Call Sue Bunton at 281-3224.

**Toy Drive by Veteran's Club**

In the spirit of giving, the RCTC student veterans are sponsoring the Marine Toys for Tots 2007. During the week of December 10th through the 14th, student veterans will be accepting monetary and un-wrapped gifts in the Atrium from 11 am to 1 p.m.. If you are not able to make it to the Atrium, you can bring these items to room CC 401, the Veterans Resource Center, located above the cafeteria at UCR. The Law Enforcement Club will also be a drop off at Heintz Center...donations can be dropped off in HB110 or HB112.



**Club Meeting**

RCTC Martial Arts Club meets Thursday from 6-8pm in SC108.

**Marketing Corner**

Our Marketing Outreach Coordinator, Anna Hanson, wrapped up high school visits this week and they went very well! The first Preview Day of the season is on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3:30pm in CF206/208.

**Book Sale**

The annual Student Senate sponsored book sale will be on Tuesday, December 4, from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm in the Atrium. These are new books at great discounted prices. The books are brought to you by Imagine Nation Books, LTD. The Student Senate receives a percentage of the sales and donates the money to a local charity. Stop down and get some shopping done!

**Flower Workshop – Back by Popular Demand!**

Luke, Janette, and their elves are back by popular demand! Below is a picture from November's class! The theme this time will be "Decorate your life" or "Create a great gift". This workshop will cover the basic centerpiece. (see picture below) Luke and Janette will demonstrate ways to personalize the design with color, accessories, and bling!

**Wednesday, December 19 from 5:30-7:30pm  
HH113 at the Heintz Center ~ Cost: \$40**

*Growing for you,  
Robin, Doug, and Hort students*



# Supalla Scribblings



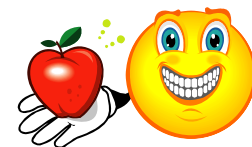
After a two week hiatus to attend our Higher Learning Commission AQIP Strategy Forum in Lisle, Illinois, and then some time off for Thanksgiving, it's good to be back updating you on campus happenings and higher education news. Although you'll be hearing more about the strategy forum in upcoming weeks, do know that the team representing RCTC was awesome and much accreditation work was accomplished. Thanks to **Teresa Brown, Julie Christie, Raam Mohan, Stacey York, Holly Bigelow, Beth Arntson, Bret Fuller, Manny Lopez (Office of the Chancellor rep) and Dave Weber (Team Leader)** who joined me for the four-day session. The group reached consensus that the College had satisfactorily fulfilled our institutional assessment project goal, but will retain and continue to work on both assessment of student learning and human resource planning. The team also agreed to add a new project focused on customer service satisfaction. Stay tuned to future updates and information about all three of RCTC's strategic priority projects.

MnSCU received an award for innovation and effective uses of technologies in supporting students through Minnesota Online, the system's gateway to more than 4,700 course sections and 200 programs offered via the Internet. The Outstanding Work Award from the Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications, an association of nearly 300 members in 46 states and nine countries, recognized the system's Online Support Center for delivering high-quality student services, particularly to veterans and military personnel.

This fall, community college tuition and fees rose by a national average of 4.2 percent, according to the annual survey of the College Board. At public two-year institutions, tuition and fees average \$2,361, \$95 more than last year. This increase was the lowest percentage increase of any sector in higher education. The College Board also calculated an average "net tuition" of \$320 for full-time community college students. Net tuition is the average amount a student actually pays when all grant and tax benefits are considered. This is only an average and does not include non-tuition expenses. Tuition at Minnesota institutions tracks significantly higher than the national average, typically second to fifth highest in the nation.

## Campus Notes:

- Minnesota State University – Mankato is conducting a Web-based, confidential, staff development survey. The survey only takes about ten minutes to complete, but provides important information for both the system and each MnSCU institution. If you received an electronic survey invitation and haven't already completed it, I encourage you to do so now. Thanks!
- Thanks to each of you that have contributed to the State Employee Combined Charities Campaign. Although the official portion of the Campaign is over, state employees can still pledge to the charity of their choice with a payroll deduction using the State Employee Self Service Web Site (where you get your paycheck advice). All pledges made during November will count toward this year's total and bring us closer to the state goal of raising a \$1 million (\$900,000 has been pledged). Special thanks to **Rose Conway** for coordinating the RCTC campaign. Your contribution makes a difference!
- The American Legion believes a strong education is important and significant in maintaining American traditions and instilling in our young people a sense of personal obligation and responsibility. Again this year, The Rochester American Legion Post 92 and Auxiliary Unit 92 teamed up to present an apple to each Rochester educator as a token of appreciation for your work. This year's theme, "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility" should remind each of us that we have a duty and a responsibility to see that our young people are prepared to take up roles of citizens and leaders in the years to come. If you get the opportunity, please take a moment to thank the American Legion or a legionnaire for their tradition of recognizing teachers during American Education Week.
- Many thanks to **Paula Carlson and Jean Musgjerd** who worked with their colleagues, Rochester Amateur Sports Commission staff, and volunteers to host a very successful National Junior College Division III Women's Volleyball Tournament in Rochester. The two Minnesota teams in the tourney, Ridgewater and Central Lakes, battled it out for the National Championship. Ultimately, Central Lakes took home the first place trophy. The national tournament returns to Rochester and the UCR Sports Center in November, 2008. Later this winter, watch for information about the National Junior College Wrestling Championships that will be held in the UCR Sports Center in March.
- Governor Pawlenty has written agency heads that early indications are that Minnesota will continue a 13 year trend in declining workers' compensation claims. This is good news and reflects positively on the importance we in state government place on reducing injuries in the workplace. Sadly, more than four out of every 100 employees are suffering on-the-job injuries. Although the number of injuries continues to decline, the direct losses associated with these injuries continues to grow, primarily because of increased medical care costs. More than \$20 million in direct losses were paid this past year, with another \$111 million in potential future liability for existing open claims. The Governor has indicated that we must do more to reduce our risks and eliminate injuries that lead to losses. He noted that it's time to move beyond supporting workplace safety; and that we must all work to actively ensure a safe workplace for employees and visitors. So, if you see potential safety concerns at RCTC, please notify **Terry Knight**, Safety Officer, immediately by calling Terry at 280-5033 or e-mailing him at [terry.knight@roch.edu](mailto:terry.knight@roch.edu).



**Thought for the Week...***Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.*

– Helen Keller

Teamwork is one of RCTC's values. Thank you for working together to make Rochester a better place to live, work and learn.

**Don**

**The RCTC Equine Science End-of-the-Semester Horse Show**

This show will be held on Friday, December 14th from 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.

**Silent Auction Fundraiser**

A silent auction for flood recovery will be sponsored by RCTC Service Learning Students in CC409 on the following dates:

**Monday, December 3rd 12:00-4:00 PM**

**Tuesday, December 4th 10:00-6:00 PM**

**Wednesday, December 5th 10:00-2:00**

All proceeds will go to the American Red Cross for flood recovery. Come and do some Christmas shopping and help people affected by the flood. There will be many interesting items to bid on!

**Holiday Decoration Sale!**

The 2007-2008 RCTC Softball Team has been busy all Fall raising funds for the Spring Training Trip this year. The most recent endeavor is our Christmas Holiday Decorations Sale. We have a few items remaining to sell and these will be available immediately as you let me know your interest. The following is available:

- 6- 25" Wreaths w/ pine cones and red velvet bow \$18.00/ea
- 13- 24" Door Swags w/ pine cones and red velvet bow (nice!) \$12.00/each
- 4- 13" high Centerpieces w/ decorative bow/basket (nice pine scent for the season) \$22.00
- 2- 44" Cross w/ red velvet bow \$23.00/each.

These will be on a first RESPONSE, first DELIVER basis. Please email or call with your request and I will be sure to reply to you and have arrangements made for delivery or pick up...again these are available now. Paula Carlsen - (507)-285-7561 (office) - [paula.carlsen@roch.edu](mailto:paula.carlsen@roch.edu)

**Catering Notice from Taher, Inc.**

RCTC requires an approved purchase order number (not a cost center number) for all catering requested made to Taher Inc. that will be paid for by RCTC. In the past, we have booked some catering events without first having the approved PO#.

Beginning December 1st. all catering requests must have an approved PO# before we can book the event. If you have a standing PO# you must provide us with that number on each catering request. Please plan ahead, since we cannot book the event without an approved PO#. You may contact me or the RCTC business office if you have any questions.

**Condolences**

Condolences are extended to Patty Stevens (Admissions and Records) for the loss of her mother, Wilhelmina "Billie" Zincke. Mrs. Zincke was 91 years old and passed away on Monday, December 3. Our thoughts are with Patty and her family during this time of loss.

**Posting Reminder**

RCTC Policy 6.4.2.1. addresses the posting of notes, signs, flyers, posters, and all other general notices to students, faculty and staff. **Two particular areas to take note of:**

- Do not post on tech wall, vending Pepsi machines or on railings and columns in atrium.
- Use only masking tape. Please do not use scotch tape.

Also there is no posting in the bathroom stalls, on classroom doors, or on atrium windows. For the full text of the policy go to this website.

[http://www.rctc.edu/policies/facility/Campus\\_Posting.html](http://www.rctc.edu/policies/facility/Campus_Posting.html)

**See Campus Progress...LIVE!**

Webcam website: See the progress of the stadium start on 11/21 and go the present.

<http://www.rctc.edu/athletics/stadium/index.html>

**Date Change – Drama Club Fundraiser**

RCTC Drama Club has moved their "Unorthodox Holiday" Fund-raiser show to **Saturday, December 15 at 7:00pm**. Cost is 3.00 at the door....a portion of monies raised will go to the American Cancer Society. The remainder will stay with the RCTC Drama Club. Come support two great organizations!

## December Holidays

December is a time in which many of us look forward to the holidays. We celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa in December. Christmas is the Christian celebration of Christ's birth. Modern Christmas celebrations often combine the Christian commemoration with a variety of secular customs, like hanging holly, decorating Christmas trees with lights, giving gifts, sending cards, and Santa Claus visiting early on Christmas morning with presents.

Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish holiday beginning on the 25th day of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar. Kislev falls between late November and late December. Hanukkah commemorates the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem after its desecration by the military forces of Antiochus and the miracle of a container of oil that lasted eight days. Lights are kindled each night of Hanukkah.

Kwanzaa is a week-long Pan-African celebration commemorating the African American heritage. It is observed between December 26 and January 1 in the U.S. Kwanzaa is celebrated for seven days by activities such as candle-lighting and pouring of libations. It ends with a sumptuous feast and gift giving.

What runs through them all is thoughts of goodwill and peace, a celebration of faith, belief and history, lights and gift giving, and celebrations with food, friends and family.

*Ricki Walters*  
*Regional Diversity Trainer/Investigator*

### Horticulture Holiday Sale

Poinsettias (6 colors available)  
4.5" pot with 1 stem/pot for \$6.00  
7" pot with 3 stems/pot for \$14.00

Fraser Fir Wreaths \$16.00  
Boxwood trees \$20.00 (available 12/4)  
Kissing balls \$10.00 (available 12/6)  
Centerpieces \$15.00 (available 12/18)

#### Holiday Hours

**Tues. Nov. 27: 9-10:50am AND Noon to 4pm**  
Wed. Nov. 28: 2-4pm  
Thurs. Nov. 29: 10-11:50am  
Mon. Dec. 3: 2-4pm  
Tues. Dec. 4 & Tues. Dec. 11: 12-4pm  
Wed. Dec. 5: 2-4pm  
Thurs. Dec. 6: 10-11:50am  
Mon. Dec. 10 & Wed. Dec. 12: 2-4pm  
Mon. Dec. 17 & Wed. Dec. 19: 2-4pm

*Growing for you,  
Robin, Doug, and Hort Students*



### New Fed Ex Hours

Due to Maintenance's new dock hours of 7:30 am to 3:00 pm, you will need to have your Fed Ex Express packages to the mailroom by 2:00 pm. After this time, there is a Fed Ex drop box available at Crossroads, in the entry way of Office Max, until 6:00 pm.