

COLLEGE Crossings

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

Thought for the week...

“Perhaps the best Yuletide decoration is being wreathed in smiles.”
~ Author Unknown

CHINA Town Hall

RCTC hosted the National CHINA Town Hall webcast on December 8th despite blizzard conditions! The audience was first entertained by students from the Chinese School with dance and instrumental music. The national webcast featured Kurt Campbell, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, answering questions from 40 different venues across the United States. The webcast was followed by a presentation from Henry Levine, Senior Director for Albright Stonebridge Consultants, Washington DC. Mr. Levine answered questions from the audience in relation to business and educational opportunities between China and the United States. Rochester Mayor Ardel Brede showcased several items he brought back from his recent trip this summer to Rochester’s sister city in China. The Chinese School, which meets here at RCTC on Saturdays, also had a display. Special thanks to Lynn Guenette, who, as a result of her Fulbright Scholarship and trip to China this past summer, gave RCTC the opportunity to host this event, sponsored by the National Committee on United States-China Relations. Thanks to Don Supalla as master of ceremonies and Greg Frana for his superb technical assistance.

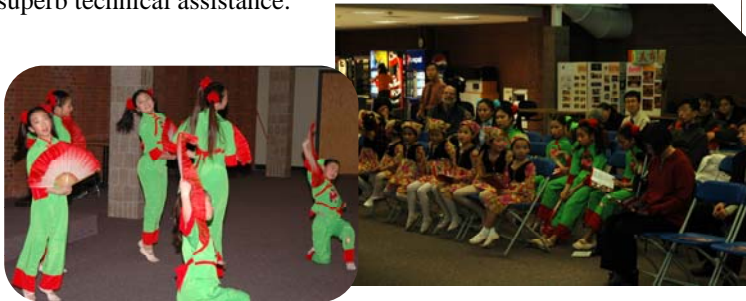


Photo Credit: Greg Frana

ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

None

College Crossings Publication

There will be no College Crossings publications until Spring Semester. The first issue will publish on Monday, January 11th and the deadline for inclusion in that issue will be the preceding Thursday at 3:00pm.



ATTENTION - RESCHEDULE

Due to the college closing on December 9, the business division has rescheduled Darlene Voeltz's retirement reception:

DATE: Monday, December 14, 2009

TIME: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Atrium – 3rd Floor, AT 302

Please join us in wishing Darlene the best in her retirement!



RCTC Upward Bound Scholarship Fundraiser



Start saving **Kwik Trip MILK MOOLA** caps and bag tops found on your favorite Nature's Touch Milk, Orange Juice, Water and Kwik Quencher products or the price ovals from Dozen or Half-Dozen boxes of Glazer donuts. Upward Bound will earn 5c for each Nature's Touch cap or bag top and 10c for each Glazer Donuts price oval turned in for redemption. Upward Bound is also collecting **KEMPS "Nickels for Schools"** milk caps. These collections will continue until next August 2010. If you have any questions, contact the Upward Bound office at 507.280.5002 or email kathy.richardson@roch.edu

Learning Center Receives Certification

The UCR Learning Center has received an early holiday present: it has achieved national certification through CRLA. This certification is not an easy process, and it means the Learning Center can now formally offer tutors Level I Tutor Certification Certificates

- to enhance their resumes,
- to supplement their ability to transfer to an institution of their choice, and
- to allow them to move with ease into high-paid tutoring positions at their transfer institution

In order to achieve this certification, the tutors

- must have gone through a formal selective application process,
- must have been formally trained for a minimum of 10 hours,
- must have covered a minimum of 8 tutor-training topics,
- must have worked a minimum of 25 hours tutoring with students, AND
- must have been formally evaluated.

It is not an easy process, but Learning Center will, no doubt, have several officially certified CRLA Level I tutors by the end of the year since the above aspects of the Learning Center Tutor Training Program are already in existence. In other words -- the Learning Center has highly trained student tutors helping your students. Celebrate with the Learning Center! Annie Clement -- LC coordinator; Pam Whitfield -- writing coordinator; Don Baldus -- math coordinator; Heather Sklenicka -- science coordinator; Olha Ratushko -- science tutoring staff trainer

UCR will be going
TOBACCO FREE
January 1, 2010!

*Happy
Holidays!*





SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Some believe this week's snowstorm was Mother Nature's reminder that official start of winter is just over a week away. The snowstorm provided an opportunity to test a new notification process and experiment with snow removal around the Stadium bubble. Most television and radio stations have moved to a Web-based cancellation notification system. Judy Kingsbury, working from home, was able to communicate our campus closure notice in record time. She was also able to change the main switchboard voicemail message, reprogram the hallway monitors, and activate the STAR Alert notification system. If you subscribed to STAR Alert, you received both a text message and e-mail

regarding the UCR closure. If you haven't signed up to receive emergency notification messages, I encourage you to do so by clicking on the STAR Alert link on the RCTC home page. Darin Hoffman updated RCTC's Web site home page to reflect the closure. Thanks to Judy and Darin for getting the campus closure message communicated in timely fashion. Even though classes were cancelled, RCTC's maintenance team and "essential employees" had a learning experience of their own. They did a wonderful job dealing with the high wind and heavy snowfall challenges as they learned how best to remove mountains of snow cascading off the Stadium bubble. Please join me in thanking all of those who keep the campus operating smoothly on inclement weather days when many employees have an opportunity to stay safe and warm at home.

Campus Kudos...

- Congratulations to the 65 gifted students who were inducted into RCTC's Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa last Monday evening. These students and their guests were treated to an orientation about this highly-recognized two-year college international honor society by Advisor Allan O'Bryan and Chapter Past-President Peter Moehnke. After the formal induction, current Chapter President Misty Schutterle introduced this year's officers and invited all to stay for a reception. During the program, each inductee introduced him/herself and shared current program of study and future plans. As usual, I was struck with the cultural diversity of the inductees, the variety of programs of study represented and the ambitious educational and career plans of this special group of students. Thanks to all who participated in the program.
- Kudos to Michelle Pyfferoen and her team who garnered still another Minnesota Job Skills Partnership grant. RCTC was one of eleven in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to receive grants. MnSCU grants awarded in this round of MJSP funding amounted to \$2,582,569, or 92.7 percent of the total awarded.
- Sara Kling-Punt has been working tirelessly with the Olmsted CAP agency to garner American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus) funds for RCTC scholarships. Originally, the CAP agency was planning to award up to eight \$1500 scholarships. However, following review of the applicants, all 12 eligible students were deemed worthy of funding and all were granted full scholarship funding. Thanks for your good work, Sara.

Did you know...

- Minnesota's college participation rate hit an all-time high in 2008 with 70.2 percent of the state's 65,220 graduates enrolling immediately in a public or private college after high school. Minnesota's college participation rate has gradually increased over time and has been consistently among the highest in the country. But 2008 was the first year 70 percent of the state's graduates enrolled immediately in college. A copy of the full report is available at the Minnesota Office of Higher Education Web site (<http://www.ohe.state.mn.us>).
- It was reported in the *Inside Higher Ed* edition of December 9 that midnight classes "are gaining currency at a growing number of community colleges as student demand for specific courses increases and available classroom space for those courses decreases." The article describes the introduction of "graveyard welding classes" at Clackamas CC (Oregon) as well as the success of two late-night introductory courses in English and psychology at Bunker Hills CC. The article lists examples of colleges across the US experimenting with late-night offerings, noting that not all are the result of overcrowding issues; some are experiments in outreach to those "who might not otherwise be able to attend classes" and non-traditional students.

Thought for the holidays...

As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same.

- Donald E. Westlake

If ice conditions are deemed safe, I'll be away on my annual fishing trip to Lake of the Woods from December 14-18. Since this is the last Scribblings before semester break, let me take this opportunity to wish you the merriest of holidays and the happiest of New Years! I hope that you'll find time for rest, relaxation and family during the coming weeks.

Don



Edith told Hank that if he gained any more weight, she'd leave him. Hank just wanted the cake and Edith too.



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.) Questions? E-mail Dr. Steve Bein at steve.bein@roch.edu

Crossings Classifieds

FOR RENT: Available now; 3 BDRM home NW Rochester. Washer/dryer included; Family room w/fireplace lower level; 2 car garage; NS/NP. \$850/ month. Contact Rose Conway/ Joe at 272-8864.

FOR RENT: 2 BD apt for rent. Available Feb 1st. Secure bldg, laundry, and garage. 640.00 plus electric. Close to RCTC Deposit 500.00. Call Gina Christie at 507-358-7774.

FOR RENT: 3 BD 2 BA rambler home for rent. Garage and fenced yard. Close to RCTC. Available Jan 1st. 1100.00 plus utilities. Deposit is 1000.00. Call Gina Christie at 507-358-7774.

Technology Support Center, (TSC)

Hours Dec 19th, 2009 – Jan 3, 2010
Monday – Friday 7:30am – 4:30pm
Saturday Closed

Hours Jan 4th – Jan 9th, 2010
Monday – Thursday 7:30am – 6pm
Friday 7:30am – 4:30pm
Saturday Closed

(After hour's messages: tech.help@rctc.edu
<<mailto:tech.help@rctc.edu>> or 507.536.5555)

Resume Regular hours
Monday Jan 11th

Business Office Hours

Dec 24, 2009 the Business Office and Mailroom will be closed.
Dec 31, 2009 the Business Office and Cashier's Office will be closed. However, on line services are available during that time.

New Human Resources Office Assistant

Please join the HR Team in welcoming Anna Holst to RCTC. Anna started in the Position of Human Resources Assistant on December 7, 2009. Anna has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resource Management and has worked in the field since 2007. She will be responsible for supporting the college with classified position searches, employee benefits support, payroll support, employee on-boarding, and HR generalist support for employees and the department. Please stop by to introduce yourself and welcome Anna.

~ Renee Engelmeyer

Condolences

Condolences to Anne High whose grandmother, Laura Bianchi, passed away on December 4th. Our thoughts are with Anne and her family.

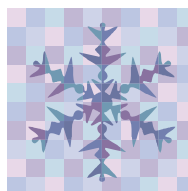
Duplicating Winter Break Hours

Dec 21st thru Dec 25th
(Monday only-closing at 11:30) thru Thursday, – 8:00a – 4:30p
Friday, December 25th - CLOSED

Dec 28th thru Jan 1st
Monday thru Friday — CLOSED

Jan 4th thru Jan 8th
Monday thru Thursday - 8:00a – 4:30p

Resume Regular hours
Monday Jan 11th



ENJOY THE WINTER SEMESTER BREAK!