

Foundation Receives \$519,000 from a Special Friend

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Friends may come and go, but Dakota County Technical College has fostered a friendship that will last forever. Although DCTC's friend Carl Eastvold passed away last fall, his legacy will live on through the worldly lessons he



Carl Eastvold

instilled in the hearts of those who knew him, the financial contributions he left for the college, and the students who will benefit from his generosity.

mon sense to make a comfortable living for himself. Through the years Nancy and Carl became friends. He would reminisce about his adventurous days, when he was a tour guide in the Boundary Waters canoe area and got paid to do the thing he loved most -- canoeing.

After Carl's death, Nancy got to know him even more as she went through his estate. Nancy was already aware of Carl's caring and giving nature, but the more she learned about him, the more her respect for him grew. "It is very suiting that Carl leaves his legacy with DCTC," said Nancy. "Mechanical tinkering was his labor of love, and DCTC's technical programs are right up Carl's alley."

"Carl was an amazing person to get to know," said Nancy Ludwig, DCTC Foundation Executive Director. "He believed that every individual had the ability to make an honest living." In addition to his strong work ethic, he believed a person should earn a living, not just be entitled to one. Carl proved that a little hard work can take you far. Carl was a self-taught mechanic. The highest level of education he completed was the eighth grade, but he had enough technical skills and com-

mon sense to make a comfortable living for himself. Through the years Nancy and Carl became friends. He would reminisce about his adventurous days, when he was a tour guide in the Boundary Waters canoe area and got paid to do the thing he loved most -- canoeing.

Carl's contribution will continue to provide DCTC students a chance to be successful in a career, while in return, DCTC will remember Carl as a friend and an inspiration.

41 New Members Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Students and faculty celebrated together during a candlelight ceremony when 41 new outstanding students were inducted into DCTC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society on November 11. Chapter President Michelle Snesrud provided a welcome, and guest speaker Johnnie Mallery gave a spirited speech on the benefits of being a Phi Theta Kappa member.



DCTC's new Phi Theta Kappa inductees

Golden Apple Awards were given to faculty and staff members who made a difference in an honor society student's life. A total of 11 faculty and staff members (Ray Ackerman, Matt Brooks, Bill Eilers, Susan Johanson, Jeff Kleinboehl, Ed Plaster, Jean Roberts, Claudia Rose, Suzanne Starks, Judy Suddendorf, and Michael Wroblewski) received a special gift and certificate from their nominating student.



Business and Industry Partners Support DCTC

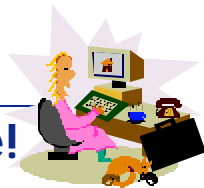
In these challenging budget times, DCTC increasingly depends on its more than 200 business and community partners to help provide the highest quality education affordable to its students. Every donation is important to the students. From the donation of change found each night by two of our maintenance workers as the building is cleaned to the donation of a \$675,000 switch to our Telecommunications program, every little bit helps.

This type of partnership with AT&T Broadband helped DCTC to build a state-of-the-art IT Training Center in Eagan. "The value that DCTC's IT Training Center brings to the relationship with AT&T Broadband is that they understand the technological requirements necessary to train our employees. This shortens the students' time to proficiency after leaving the class, which increases their productivity back on the job," said Steve Dahlin, AT&T Broadband Director of Learning and Development.

DCTC to Receive More than \$800,000 in Training Grants

In a partnership with Alliance Hospitals and Clinics, Fairview Health System, and Regina Medical Center, DCTC has received a \$500,000 grant from the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership (MJSP) to prepare public assistance recipients for employment in the healthcare industry.

The MJSP also awarded a \$331,154 grant to DCTC to assist the ConAgra plant in Lakeville to improve its efficiency by training operators and technicians.



DCTC's Online!

You got home from work, made dinner for your family, helped the kids with their homework, and tucked them into bed. You are all snuggly in your sweats, and the 10:00 p.m. news is just finishing up. Time to go to class.

Dakota County Technical College's online course offerings provide busy students the flexibility they need to squeeze in class time around family and work responsibilities. Currently, Dakota County Technical College offers almost 50 courses online, including General Education, Marketing, Supervisory Management, Interior Design, and Computer classes. These courses run on the same semester schedule as traditional courses with assignments, reading, and discussion each week, but students do not need to come to campus to complete the coursework.

Many of the students in our online courses are also in programs at DCTC and see the online courses as an option for accelerating their degree completion without having to be on campus. Students also take the courses because they do not live near the college. Students from as far away as Vietnam have participated in online courses offered at Dakota County Technical College. We also have had faculty take vacations or attend conferences during the semester and check in with their online classes from Germany, Ireland, England, and Hawaii. One of our adjunct biology faculty members moved to Arizona last year, but we didn't let her get away - she will be teaching two biology classes online during spring semester.

Student Profile



Duane Prather, a second-year Machine Tool Careers program student, serves as DCTC Student Senate President.

Duane is a returning student, having received a degree in mechanical drafting from Hennepin Technical College in 1990. Unable to find a position in the field, he entered the Army Reserve and served six years. Duane currently works for Northwest Airlines as an equipment service employee and hopes that his degree in Machine Tool Careers will enable him to move into the machine shop at the airline. With the recent layoffs in the airline industry, he may have difficulty; however, he says, "At least a degree in Machine Tool Careers will be more transferrable to other positions."

Duane and his wife Tracianna have two sons (Darrien, 8 and Dyllin, 6) and a daughter (Joslyn, 3). He enjoys hunting, fishing, and aviation, and is currently working on his pilot's license.

The legacy that Duane feels that he will leave for future DCTC students will be the completion of the new, comfortable, and student-oriented Student Life Center and student union commons area. This will bring services such as the bookstore and cafeteria together with space for studying, visiting, relaxing, or just enjoying a cup of java while catching a favorite soap opera.

DCTC's Cruising!

DCTC's newest means of promoting the college and its transportation programs is the *DC Cruiser*. The *Cruiser* was made possible with the support of Dupont, Fury Motors of South St. Paul, and Fastsigns of Burnsville, and the help of DCTC Auto Body instructors Scott Logan and Larry Boser, as well as the Auto Body students, who designed and customized the car.



Admissions Representative David Miller, Auto Body Repair Instructors Larry Boser and Scott Logan, and the DC Cruiser

The vehicle is displayed at community events, county and state fairs, and city parades, and is used for high school demonstrations. It is also driven to all recruitment activities by the admissions staff. The *Cruiser* was entered in the "wild card" category for a National Council for Marketing and Public Relations Paragon Award by college admissions staff members in

DCTC Faculty Going to China

Two years ago, President Thomas traveled to China as part of the inaugural Dakota County Partnership team. One of the goals of this visit was to develop a faculty exchange program.

This spring, Landscape/Horticulture program instructor Matt Brooks and Travel and Tourism program instructor Judith Sparrow will journey to Chengde Technical



President Ronald E. Thomas with representatives from Chengde, China

College in China to further develop the faculty exchange program.

"This is an incredible, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see and experience a part of the world so few of us ever will. I am honored to be directly involved in such an exciting project that will some day allow others this same great opportunity," said Landscape/Horticulture program instructor Matt Brooks.

Highlighting Two New Successful Programs

DCTC's new Exercise and Sports Science program was unveiled this fall and has been received with record-breaking enrollment. Sara Woodward, the instructor for the program, has developed a unique program that has been well received and is the only one of its kind in the metro area. The comprehensive curriculum includes core courses in Exercise and Sports Science, as well as classes in supporting academic areas such as health, science, and physiology. Students receive hands-on experience in fitness centers and wellness centers, which provides them with the education and experience to secure positions in fitness, sport, and health occupations.



Sara Woodward helps a student with a free weight exercise.

Bob Voss, a former successful business executive, has been hired by DCTC to expand the college's new Entrepreneurship program. According to the instructor, this program will provide a great opportunity for individuals who are planning to work in a small business or are thinking of starting and operating their own business. Bob states, "With over 22 years of experience in starting and growing businesses, I know that entrepreneurship is the wave of the future, the best way to make your fortune in America today. I also believe that the technical college is the environment to motivate, train, and grow the next generation of successful small business owners."



Bob Voss works with a student on a business plan.

To learn more about either of these two program please contact DCTC Student Services at 651-423-8301.

1300 145th St. East • County Road 42 • Rosemount, MN 55068

Phone: 651-423-8000

Fax: 651-423-8775

E-mail: admissions@dctc.mnscu.edu

Web Site: www.dctc.mnscu.edu

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F.O.C.U.S. Golf Tournament

On September 27, the DCTC F.O.C.U.S. (Focused On Creating Unique Scholarships) Team hosted its first annual golf tournament, "Hit 'Em Straight," at Emerald Greens in Hastings. The tournament was a huge success and raised more than \$3,000 for the F.O.C.U.S. scholarship fund. Fifty-seven golfers came out on a beautiful fall day to enjoy themselves. Fourteen holes were sponsored by various businesses and organizations.

Rilar Marine of Rosemount sponsored the Hole-in-One Contest giving every golfer the opportunity to win a \$14,000 G3 boat. Unfortunately, the hole was surrounded by water, an island green. Nate Holm, DCTC Customized Training Representative, was closest to the pin, leaving his shot about two feet from the hole.



Pictured left to right are Melissa Hehr, Reggie Perkins, DCTC Student Life Director, and Tony Fuentes.

The Hittners of Edina Realty had a Putt-Putt Contest on their hole, which was a great place to practice putting for the Long Putt Contest. Jim Sheehan sank a putt from 25 feet to win the Long Putt Contest. Brad Riebel with US Bank and Anne Eilbracht with the City of Minneapolis were the Longest Drive Contest winners.

The team first-place trophy went to Team Radisson Riverfront from St. Paul with a blind hole score of 5 under par, and second place went to the American Office System and Web Cut & Design Team.

DCTC Student Life Director Reggie Perkins stated, "We hope that this tournament continues to grow so we can continue raising funds that will promote student success."