The newest addition to the campus is the Health Science Center. This building houses the Nursing-Associate Degree, Nursing Assistant, Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Direct Entry Midwife, and Clinical Laboratory Technician programs as well as several online and shared programs. Features of this center include the Human Patient Simulator Lab, Dental/Medical Clinic, and the Fitness & Aerobics Center. Pictured are current students Brooke Ritschard, Dental Assistant, South Wayne; Tom McCall, Nursing-Associate Degree, Platteville; Cheryl Astle, Medical Assistant, Cazenovia; and Louise Thuku, Nursing-Associate Degree, Madison.

My most memorable experience in that role was the purchase of the first instructional computers on the campus. These computers were to be used in the accounting program and we debated where to locate them within the division to provide the most student access. An additional highlight was the startup of the Data Processing program that has since been replaced with several Information Technology programs. An asset of the Wisconsin Technical College System is its ability to change and change quickly to meet the needs of the state and region.

From there I became an academic vice president at a sister technical college returning to Southwest Tech in 1999 as President. It seems impossible that I have been in this position for a dozen years. Over those twelve years the College has grown the number of students it serves; modified, added and discontinued program offerings; incorporated new technologies; assisted in business recruitment and retention; grew the number of credit transfer agreements; celebrated its 40th anniversary; and passed a capital referendum for building remodeling. There are many great memories but the best is listening to student graduation speakers sharing their stories of how Southwest Tech has played a positive role in their life.

Southwest Tech’s service theme “We change lives by providing opportunities for success,” applies to staff as well as students. Southwest Tech has provided me with many opportunities to be of service on the local, state, and national level. I have enjoyed my time here at Southwest Tech and I thank you for placing your trust in me.

Sincerely,
Karen R. Knox, Ph.D.
Southwest Tech President
## Southwest Tech 2010–2011 Budget Summary

### Revenues
- **Local Government**: $15,918,000
- **State Aids**: 4,645,000
- **Program Fees**: 3,900,000
- **Material Fees**: 340,000
- **Other Student Fees**: 640,000
- **Institutional**: 6,747,000
- **Federal**: 6,271,000
- **Borrowing for Capital Projects**: 2,000,000

**Total Revenues**: $40,461,000

### Expenditures
- **Instruction**: $15,293,000
- **Instructional Resources**: 541,500
- **Student Services**: 8,334,000
- **General Institutional**: 3,372,400
- **Physical Plant**: 5,090,100
- **Auxiliary Services**: 5,090,000
- **Referendum Capital Projects**: 2,780,000

**Total Expenditures**: $40,501,000

$40,000 of expenditures in excess of revenues is a budgeted reduction in fund balance.

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## Wisconsin TechConnect

Wisconsin TechConnect, a collaborative effort of the 16 technical colleges that comprise the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS), is a statewide, online employment information system for recruiting WTCS students and graduates. Employers can post jobs in only a matter of minutes free of charge. Start using TechConnect today! Visit [www.wisconsintechconnect.com](http://www.wisconsintechconnect.com).

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## About Our Sponsors

**Jim's Building Center, Inc.**, in Fennimore can do it all! Located on Hwy. 18 East between Dodgeville and Prairie du Chien, Jim's Building Center, Inc., has been serving the Grant County area for over 30 years. At Jim's Building Center, Inc., no job is too big or too small. Visit [www.jimsbuildingcenter.com](http://www.jimsbuildingcenter.com) or call (608) 822-3741.

**Sielaff Corporation** partners with its customers to design, engineer, and manufacture flawless steel furniture and furniture components. Their factory in Mineral Point produces exclusive private-label products for retailers throughout the United States. The company's hallmark is to work with every customer with a spirit of openness and cooperation. Sielaff strives to manufacture all of its products to the highest quality standards. Visit [www.sielaffcorp.com](http://www.sielaffcorp.com).
Southwest Tech recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly opened Health Science Center. Pictured are (l. to r.) Troy Marx of Upland Hills Health, Katie Garrity, Dean of Health Occupations, Kay Kingeter and Don Tuescher, District Board members, Karen R. Knox, Southwest Tech President, Jim Zylstra, WTCS office, Dean Isaacson, District Board Chair, Chuck Stemmer, Fennimore Mayor, and Jim Kohlenberg, District Board member.

A campus-wide open house held in conjunction with the Health Science Center Ribbon Cutting allowed visitors to see all of the College’s expanded facilities. Gin Reynolds, Human Patient Simulator Technician, is shown above describing the features of one of the training simulators.
Human Patient Simulation
With the new Health Science Center, Southwest Tech is now able to offer live scenario training and skill assessment testing using Human Patient Simulation. Through grant funding and referendum support, Southwest Tech has established an advanced Human Patient Simulator Laboratory and Mobile Simulation training capabilities.

The 4-room high fidelity laboratory suite mimics the acute care setting with “real life” interactive emergency, medical, and pediatric patients exhibiting symptoms of disease, distress, labs, medication reactions, respiratory changes, and cardiac changes. Participants in the simulation lab are able to act and react without negative repercussions as patient presentations and scenarios are revealed. Participants are then able to review and analyze actions taken for improvement of skills overall. The simulation laboratory suite also contains a hospital-like floor unit complete with electronic charting and multi-disciplinary chart additions from multiple health occupations (labs, orders, specialty areas, x-ray, etc.). Southwest Tech’s mobile simulation training includes an ambulance and two human patient simulators that will allow for field training for the entire district’s volunteer emergency medical service personnel and rural healthcare providers. Mobile simulation can now be delivered to training sites throughout the 3,800 square mile southwest district. This mobile simulation capability allows Southwest Tech the flexibility to bring training to participants from multiple facilities and disciplines to provide consistent, competent care from occurrence, to transport, and to the acute care setting.

Southwest Tech looks forward to continued expansion of simulation capabilities throughout the district in the near future. We welcome our constituents to a tour and demonstration of this newest addition to healthcare training excellence and look forward to a continued partnership with our providers.

Dental/Medical Clinic
Southwest Tech’s commitment to the community continues with the establishment of a state-of-the-art dental and medical clinic. The clinic houses 4 dental operatories, an exam room, digital x-ray equipment, and lab. The medical side of the clinic offers exam rooms, special intake areas, ECG equipment, electronic charting areas, and is conducive to the delivery of health services as well as educational offerings in health occupations programming.

Southwest Tech is committed to the district and will continue to explore ways to best serve the district, healthcare delivery systems, and our student populations. Healthcare professionals trained at Southwest Tech will have a great head start in care delivery systems and realistic healthcare environments provided by the new Health Science Center.

Health Science Center
The new Health Science Center was built to:

- Expand current facilities to train nurses and other high-demand healthcare professionals.
- Allow space for new programs such as Clinical Laboratory Technician and Physical Therapist Assistant in response to healthcare industry needs.
- Allow Southwest Tech to educate regional healthcare professionals who have roots in southwest Wisconsin communities.
- Offer students enhanced clinical experiences through human patient simulation technology.
- Expand and update labs to maintain current industry standards and technology for Southwest Tech students.
**Child Care Center**

The new Child Care Center is designed not only as a training ground for Southwest Tech students, but as a safe daytime venue for infants through school-age children of students and college staff.

**Ag/Auto Center**

The Ag/Auto Center accommodates laboratories, classrooms, offices, and storage for the programs that train students in the expanding fields of agricultural equipment, automotive services, and auto collision repair.

The new Ag/Auto Center was built to:
- Enable students to train indoors on larger modern agricultural equipment.
- Allow Southwest Tech ag programs to respond to evolving needs for agriculture training created by advances in farming technology.
- Expand Automotive Technician and Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing Technician programs to feature a broader curriculum and state-of-the-industry equipment used to maintain and repair today’s complex vehicles.
- Increase the level of lab safety by providing larger work stations capable of accommodating student projects that often involve the complete disassembly of ag equipment, trucks, and other vehicles under repair.

**Coming August 15, 2011! Public Safety Complex**

The new Public Safety Complex is being built to:
- Create a comprehensive facility to train more volunteer firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, and law enforcement.
- Expand training available to firefighters and other rescue personnel in tactics such as fire suppression, ventilation, search and rescue, rope rescue, advanced extrication, and hazmat mitigation.
- Provide a safer, more controlled training environment for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety professionals.
- Allow more multi-agency training.
- Hold certified firefighter examinations in this region and better serve local volunteers.

This center was built to:
- Create a child care training center that will qualify for national accreditation by providing numerous large windows that allow outdoor viewing and natural light; a big indoor play area for large motor skill development; and special rooms for the care of sick children.
- Improve hands-on clinical learning for Child Care Services and Early Childhood Education program students.
- Provide convenient day care for an increasing number of students with small children.
- Incorporate the latest safety features and create a child-friendly environment.

**Primary Training Elements**

- Fire Burn Building
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC)
- Outdoor Firing Range
**Engineering Technologist**
The Engineering Technologist program combines the foundational skills related to industrial engineering with the skills of computerized manufacturing. The program has been enhanced from its original design to now allow students the ability to study how integrated systems can improve efficiency in a manufacturing environment. Campus renovations created a new lab space for learning about automated controls and a complete computer numerical controlled (CNC) shop that is shared with the CNC Setup/Operator program.

**New Technology in the Classroom**
A new generation of high technology classrooms has become a reality on the Southwest Tech campus thanks in part to the team at Lifeline Amplification Systems, located in Platteville.

Driven by technology trends and faculty requests, these state-of-the-art classroom designs make it easy for faculty to show computer or video output to a room full of students with the push of a button. The objective of the new classrooms was to make audio-visual equipment use in the classroom as simple, friendly and non-intimidating as possible.

**Bricklaying & Masonry**
Students in the Bricklaying & Masonry program learn to use brick, mortar, and block to build walls, arches, corners, fireplaces, and paving surfaces. Like most Southwest Tech trades programs, applied hands-on learning is a cornerstone of the learning process. This often times means creating large student projects that can take up a lot of space in a laboratory. The new Bricklaying & Masonry lab offers plenty of room for student projects and an updated classroom for instructor lectures.

**Esthetics/Spa Services**
Working in a fully functioning spa has been an integral part of the Esthetician/Spa Services program. In the program students explore the exciting world of health and beauty with a special emphasis on skin care, facial treatments, wraps, electrotherapy, aromatherapy, massage, retail operation, product chemistry, hair removal, and makeup application. Classroom learning is reinforced with students applying their skills in the Creative Elements Spa which is open Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Electric Power Distribution**
The referendum allowed the College to open new programs. Southwest Tech recently started a new Electric Power Distribution (EPD) program which quickly filled with 20 excited students. Regional demand for power line technicians is high as the industry experiences retirements. Southwest Tech started the new EPD program after receiving requests from the energy industry to meet existing and anticipated workforce demands. In the one-year EPD program students practice the installation, maintenance, and operation of electrical systems to supply electricity to residential, commercial, and industrial customers, and joint gas and electric generation facilities.

**Welding**
Before the campus renovation, the welding lab was the very definition of the referendum campaign slogan “Things are Cramped at Southwest Tech!” Students had little room for their welding projects and needed a larger laboratory. The new welding labs are a much needed addition to the campus as students develop their skills at 19 different welding processes.
“The best part of being on the Southwest Tech District Board is attending graduation. Seeing people achieve their goals is why we exist as a College.”

Darlington native Don Tuescher has served on the Southwest Tech District Board for over 15 years. When asked why he promotes Southwest Tech, Don replied, “One of my favorite moments being involved with the Wisconsin Technical College System was hearing a very proud alumna stating that she now pays more in taxes than she used to earn in an entire year before getting her degree. Southwest Tech is not only helping people achieve their personal and professional goals, but is a driver for positive economic prosperity in Wisconsin.” Pictured with a 15,000 volt Jacob’s Ladder that he built, Don Tuescher is the owner of Tuescher Electric. Founded in 1983, Don’s company provides commercial and industrial electrical, refrigeration, and automation integration solutions.
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www.facebook.com/southwesttech
Tom and his family have owned and operated Carroll’s Plumbing and Heating located in Lancaster since 1986. For 25 years, the Carroll family has supported the apprentice program at Southwest Tech. Now, Tom’s son Mike, a third generation tradesman, is a current student in the program. “There has been and will continue to be a lot of retirements in the trades, which means great career opportunities for anyone willing to put the work in,” states Tom. Southwest Tech offers apprentice programs in Construction Electrician, Industrial Electrician, Maintenance Mechanic, and Plumbing.
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**February Is Career & Technical Education Month!**

- Groundhog Day
- Chinese New Year

- Valentine’s Day
- No Southwest Tech Classes

- President’s Day

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**Southwest Tech**

www.facebook.com/southwesttech

swtc.edu
Southwest Tech communications instructor Brooks Ott taught at the College for 25 years. When he started teaching the only programs offered were Account Clerk, Auto-Tractor Mechanic, Clerk Typist, Welding, and Farm Training. Southwest Tech currently has over 40 career choices and is always adding new programs. Originally from Milwaukee, Brooks came to southwest Wisconsin on visits to his Great Grandfather’s house and would later serve as the Bloomington Elementary School Principal before teaching at Southwest Tech. Pictured with his friend Freckles, Brooks now resides in Bayside, Wisconsin, but returns to Fennimore for the annual Southwest Tech Foundation Retirees Event and supports student achievement with scholarships.
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Southwest-Tech Foundation’s Scholarship & Awards Ceremony
Ash Wednesday
St. Patrick’s Day
Southwest Tech Spring Break–No Classes
Southwest Tech Spring Break–No Classes
Southwest Tech Spring Break–No Classes
Dickeyville native Tatum Kruser began her career with a Dental Assistant certificate from Southwest Tech. Tatum went on to earn a Dental Hygienist associate’s degree and her career progressed as she attained more education. “My success as a dental hygienist started at Southwest Tech,” says Tatum. Licensed in both Wisconsin and Iowa, Tatum works with Dr. Matt Andrews, providing general dentistry and orthodontics services at Cuba City Family Dental, and also works part-time in Iowa dental offices.
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- Palm Sunday
- Passover
- No Southwest Tech Classes
- Earth Day
- Southwest Tech Closed
- Easter
- Administrative Professionals Day
- Arbor Day

**April 2011**

www.facebook.com/southwesttech
Raquel "Rocky" Shinee
2006 Graduate, Nursing-Associate Degree

Raquel has put her nursing degree from Southwest Tech to work as a registered nurse in the emergency room at Southwest Health Center in Platteville. Rocky has also served her community for seven years as an Emergency Medical Services provider and five years as a firefighter in Lancaster. Southwest Tech is the regional training partner for the thousands of emergency response volunteers and law enforcement professionals in southwest Wisconsin. Rocky enjoys encouraging others to get involved with volunteer service critical to the region.

"If you enjoy helping people in your community, have some spare time, and want to learn new skills, consider joining your local team of fire and EMS volunteers."
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Southwest Tech Foundation’s ‘A Day for Southwest Tech’

Cinco de Mayo

Nurse’s Week, May 6–12

| 8      | 9      | 10      | 11        | 12       | 13     | 14       |

Mother’s Day

| 15     | 16     | 17      | 18        | 19       | 20     | 21       |

National EMS Week, May 15–21

Southwest Tech Graduation Ceremony

| 22     | 23     | 24      | 25        | 26       | 27     | 28       |

Southwest Tech All School Picnic

Last Day of Southwest Tech Spring Semester Classes

| 29     | 30     | 31      |           |          |        |          |

Memorial Day

Southwest Tech Closed

- "www.facebook.com/southwesttech"
- "swtc.edu"
“Your career needs a basis to start and Southwest Tech is the school to help get you that solid starting point.”

When Roger Case graduated from the Ag Power program, he might not have realized that he would be involved with helping Southwest Tech stay current with ag machinery technology for nearly four decades. Roger has served on program advisory boards and on the quality review process team that all Southwest Tech programs go through regularly. “When I went to school, who knew you would have to understand computers to work on combines, planters, and tractors.” Finney Implement, located in Lancaster, was established in 1890 and is the oldest Case IH dealership in Wisconsin. As a long-time member of the Case IH team, Roger is proud of the difference the dealership makes in the lives of local farmers.
There has consistently been a strong industry demand for welders and a lot of job opportunities for graduates of the Southwest Tech welding program.”

Eric Vesperman

Co-owners Eric and Vernon Vesperman and former-owner Larry Vesperman have supported the Southwest Tech Welding program since opening up shop in 1978. Helping Southwest Tech welding students includes serving on the Welding program advisory board, speaking to classes, and donating over 60 tons of steel and other metals that students have used to develop their welding skills. “The students need to learn how to weld a variety of metals and we are happy to help develop local welders,” stated Vernon. Located in Lancaster, Larry’s Welding & Manufacturing provides custom metal fabrication for commercial, industrial, agricultural and residential customer needs, from hand railings to large rail loader towers.
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**July 2011**

- **31st**: Independence Day, Southwest Tech Closed
- **12-14th**: Wisconsin Farm Technology Days, Marathon County, July 12–14

**Canada Day**
We support Southwest Tech because we believe you should help people pick themselves up by their bootstraps and encourage them not to be stuck. Southwest Tech helps people to find their focus towards a better life.

In support of Southwest Tech students, Dick and Nancy generously endowed the Big & Marion Laurie Scholarship in honor of Nancy’s Stepfather and Mother, strong advocates of technical education. To date, the fund has helped 14 students work towards achieving their educational goals. Pictured on their family farm “Turfan II”, the Piehl’s have enjoyed retirement in Crawford County, but are currently looking for the next stewards of the 221 acre property on the Kickapoo River that holds their home, 2 rental homes, state managed forest lands, fishing ponds, and a barn suited for entertaining which once held retreats and barn dances.
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First Day of Southwest Tech Classes–New Students
First Day of Southwest Tech Classes–Returning Students

www.facebook.com/southwesttech
swtc.edu
"I wanted to do more with my life but didn't have four years to go back to school. With my background and an associate's degree that I earned in two years, I knew that I could attain the career I wanted."

Tony Schwab
2002 Graduate, Mechanical Design

Potosi native Tony Schwab leveraged his Southwest Tech degree, machinist experience, and drive for a career in engineering to become the General Manager of Dillman Equipment in Prairie du Chien. Tony oversees plant operations for Dillman, an international company that engineers and builds huge asphalt production equipment. "Southwest Tech was a good fit for me because I was able to take classes during the day and work nights at Cuba City Machine. I had people helping me on both ends and I can't say enough about how thankful I am for such a supportive environment at work and in school," stated Tony. Renamed the 'Engineering Technologist' program, Southwest Tech recently made changes to the program Tony attended to place more emphasis on industrial engineering and computerized manufacturing while still maintaining a strong core curriculum in mechanical design.
“My Southwest Tech degree allowed me to make a career advocating for the causes I had passionately volunteered promoting for years.”

“I’ve been an advocate for someone or something all my life,” Deb said in her office at the Iowa County Courthouse in Dodgeville. After graduating from Southwest Tech, Deb’s credits transferred to Upper Iowa University where she continued on and completed her bachelor’s degree. She now works as a Disability Benefits Specialist providing benefits counseling to adults with physical disabilities, mental illness, and substance use disorders. “I see a lot of people who are down trodden and in pain come into this office,” she said. “Even the small things we do can make a difference. It’s a joy to see someone who is deserving get something that will help them through life.”
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- **October 2011**
- **SIEAFF CORPORATION**  
  Design, Engineer, Manufacture.
- **Southwest Tech**
- **www.facebook.com/southwesttech**
- **swtc.edu**
Andy

“When I started taking the Supervisory Management program, I was already in a management role. What I learned in my classes I could apply to work the very next day.”

Andy Archie
2006 Graduate, Supervisory Management

The thing Supervisory Management program alumnus Andy Archie liked best about his Southwest Tech experience was that course materials were applicable directly to his current career as a manager for Lerdahl Business Interiors in Middleton. “Honestly, I can’t think of one thing that our instructor taught us that I don’t use,” declared Andy. Strong value combined with convenient class times made choosing Southwest Tech the right decision for Andy. “You learn from other students in the class, too. The instructor does a great job of pulling those real world experiences from students to make the courses relate to your career.”
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www.facebook.com/southwesttech

swtc.edu
“The education I received from Southwest Tech still serves me in my career to this day. They provided individual attention that has helped me become the successful woman I am today.”

Having had her mom and several siblings attend Southwest Tech for their career choice and technical skill training, Dana decided to pursue her Accounting degree with the College as well. After graduating, Dana joined the Hartig Drug Corporate Office team as an Accounting Assistant where she has worked in several areas of the company doing accounts receivables and payables. A family-operated drug chain, Hartig Drug is corporately located in Dubuque, Iowa, where the first store was started by A.J. Hartig more than 100 years ago.
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**December 2011**

- **1 January 2012**: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- **11 January 2012**: Southwest Tech Winter Graduation Ceremony
- **18 December 2011**: Christmas Eve
- **25 December 2011**: Christmas Day
- **26 December 2011**: Kwanzaa Begins
- **27 December 2011**: Southwest Tech Closed
- **28 December 2011**: Southwest Tech Closed
- **29 December 2011**: Southwest Tech Closed
- **30 December 2011**: Southwest Tech Closed
- **31 December 2011**: New Year’s Eve

**www.facebook.com/southwesttech**
Greetings,

After a year of construction activity at Southwest Tech, the skyline once punctuated by tall cranes is clear again. The pounding of hammers and the buzzing of power tools has been replaced with the chatter of students inside and songs of birds outside. Open spaces have been replaced with beautiful edifices on campus and modern student housing next door.

The brick and mortar changes will enhance the College’s ability to deliver quality educational programming to the student body and will allow us to adapt to the changing needs of regional employers and area residents. The addition of the new student housing complex will result in the Foundation providing safe and secure residences for 92 Southwest Tech students, which makes the Foundation a leader in Wisconsin’s technical college system.

Southwest Tech and the Foundation also have experienced changes on the people side of the equation. As with every year, students graduate and enter the workforce while new students arrive with their own sets of goals and aspirations. Staff and administrative personnel also change and the Foundation certainly will miss the expertise and professionalism of Susan Allen and Dr. Karen Knox. Both Ms. Allen and Dr. Knox were important contributors to the successes achieved by the Foundation. We also have experienced turnover in the Board of Directors as long serving members have chosen to retire from the Board and have been replaced by talented new individuals with fresh perspectives.

Amidst the backdrop of these many changes at Southwest Tech and the Foundation, there are constants. First and foremost is the need for donations to support scholarships—the major focus of Foundation efforts on an annual basis. The Foundation remains steadfast in our commitment to reach out to business, industry and private individuals to solicit scholarship funds to assist students with educational expenses. A Day for Southwest Tech is the most well-known of our fundraising efforts and also helps raise awareness of the College. Despite economic challenges, the Foundation will continue to rely on the generosity of donors to assure as many students as possible are assisted; whether through endowed scholarships, annual giving, sponsorship of events, or other contributions.

Another constant at the Foundation is the commitment to realize our vision statement on a daily basis; namely, to ensure the success of Southwest Tech by serving as the foundation for the highest quality technical education. Through retention of dedicated and professional staff, continued service by motivated and invested Board members, and a sharp focus on the Foundation’s roles and responsibilities, we will be successful in fulfilling our mission and realizing our vision. Thank you to everyone who has supported Southwest Tech and the Foundation in the past and a special expression of gratitude to those who will assist with financial contributions this year. Collectively, we can assure yet another constant remains true; that being, Southwest Tech and the Foundation’s commitment to excellence…Here. Now.

Best regards,

Mark Cupp
Southwest Tech Foundation Board President
Growing Futures
This year the Foundation celebrates 30 years of providing support to Southwest Tech staff, students, and the communities it serves. Throughout our 30 years, the Foundation has seen substantial growth and the 2009-2010 fiscal year was no different. As the College was expanding, so was the Foundation. Funded through a loan from Rural Development, the Foundation undertook a building project to increase the number of students that could live in on-campus student housing. We will now look forward to welcoming 92 students to on-campus housing each year!

As the Foundation looks forward to increasing current avenues of support, we can only do so with the continued generosity of our benefactors. These individuals, businesses, and organizations plant the seeds that help grow futures. Whether the support is through scholarships, emergency loans, the gas card program, or other projects, the aid the Foundation provides to students has far-reaching roots. At times the support students receive from the Foundation is the only financial resource available. Without this support, they may not be able to reach their educational goals. Students are grateful this support is available and often give back after graduation to allow future students these same opportunities.

Supporting technical education is a wonderful way to enable students to succeed and contribute to the good of their communities where they live and work. Everything that grows needs a solid foundation. Please help the Southwest Tech Foundation provide the roots from which students can grow futures…Here. Now.

Foundation Celebrates 30 Years: Everything That Grows Needs a Solid Foundation
December 2010 marked the 30th Anniversary for the Southwest Tech Foundation: thirty years of changing lives by providing support for the students and staff of Southwest Tech through scholarships, special projects, staff development, and more. We have done great things through 30 years of service!

Since inception, the Foundation's assets have grown steadily to over $3.8 million today. And our endowment base has grown to nearly $1 million dollars ensuring that the endowed accounts will continue to provide support in perpetuity.

An important focus of the Foundation is scholarship opportunities for students. Scholarship awards have climbed from a few thousand dollars awarded each year to nearly $100,000 awarded annually! The Foundation's total cumulative giving through scholarships is over $1.1 million. The scholarship awards are made possible through the generosity of businesses and individuals who value the impact technical education can make in a student's life.

One of the Foundation’s most notable accomplishments was the purchase of existing apartments and land adjacent to campus in 1997. These apartments became the on-campus student housing facility. We have since added a duplex donated by Design Homes and completed additional building projects in 2003 and 2010 to respond to demand for on-campus living. The Foundation is proud to be able to house 92 Southwest Tech students annually.

As the Foundation Board of Directors looks to the future, it anticipates another 30+ years of growth and providing support for Southwest Tech and the communities it serves. Through the generous support of businesses, organizations, and individuals, the Foundation will continue to create opportunities that positively change the lives of our students.

Supporting technical education is a wonderful way to enable students to succeed and contribute to the good of their communities where they live and work. Everything that grows needs a solid foundation. Please help the Southwest Tech Foundation provide the roots from which students can grow futures…Here. Now.
Celebrating Your Generosity!

Each year the Foundation is honored to add to the Donor Wall those whose lifetime giving has reached $10,000 or more. On March 9, 2010, the Foundation was proud to add the following to the wall: Cecil and Susan Allen, Grant Regional Health Center, and the family of Donald G. Marshall. These donors partner with the Foundation to proudly offer opportunities for student success!

10 Years of A Day for Southwest Tech

May 5th marked the 10th Annual A Day for Southwest Tech! Twenty teams of volunteers visited with local business and industry to raise over $40,000 in support of scholarships and special projects. These funds support students striving to obtain a degree in technical education. Helping to promote the day and ensure the success of A Day for Southwest Tech were Citizens Bank; Biddick, Inc.; and Zimmerman Architectural Studios, Inc. The Foundation appreciates the support of the corporate sponsors who help the Foundation ensure its mission of supporting the staff and students of Southwest Tech. For more information about A Day for Southwest Tech, please contact Heather Fifrick, Foundation Manager, (800) 362-3322, ext. 2366, or email hfifrick@swtc.edu.

Thank you for doing now, but Will you later?

More than 80 percent of Americans contribute to the nonprofit groups of their choice throughout their lifetimes. But, according to research, only around eight percent of people chose to continue this support through a charitable bequest.

At the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation, we value and appreciate every bit of your current support. We hope you have found that we are good stewards of the resources you provide to us to meet the community’s needs. We would, however, like to ask for your consideration to include the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation in your estate plans.

When developing a will or estate plan, of course the needs of your family and loved ones will always be of utmost importance. But perhaps you find yourself in a situation where once you have addressed those needs appropriately, you have something left – something you could use to pass along not just money, but your values and beliefs in the importance of providing access to technical education for future generations.

At the Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Foundation we want to honor your wishes and extend to you an invitation to open a discussion about the possibilities a charitable bequest could have on the people Southwest Tech serves and on you. Will you contact us about changing lives by providing opportunities for the success of tomorrow’s students?

To discuss the possibilities, please contact Foundation Manager Heather Fifrick by calling 800.362.3322 ext. 2366.
The Southwest Tech Foundation is fortunate to have benefactors who are passionate about supporting higher education. One avenue in which benefactors support Southwest Tech is through scholarships for students. The annual Scholarship & Awards Ceremony is a wonderful evening that brings benefactors together with scholarship recipients to see firsthand the positive results of their philanthropy. The 16th Annual Scholarship & Awards Ceremony on March 9, 2010, brought together over 300 people: donors, scholarship recipients and their families, and Southwest Tech staff. The 2010 ceremony was made possible through generous donations from Kramer & Brownlee, LLC and Miron Construction. Thank you for your generous support!
What NFL team has the most Super Bowl wins? What are the first 10 Amendments of the U.S. Constitution otherwise known as? Who coined the expression “15 minutes of fame?” These are just a few of the questions that the participants answered during the Foundation's Trivia Time Fundraiser held on Sunday, January 31, 2010. This fun team-based competition consisted of eight teams totaling 65 participants who competed for the title of Trivia Masters! Teams were tested on their knowledge of music, sports, television, and more! The Foundation also held a silent auction throughout the afternoon. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the auction; we appreciate your support! Participants were provided snacks to help them keep up their mental strength as the battle waged. Alexxus Entertainment from Dubuque provided the questions, entertainment, and a light, fun, and enjoyable afternoon for everyone! Mark your calendars: the next Trivia Time Contest is Sunday, January 30, 2011. For more information and to sign up your team, contact Heather Fifrick, Foundation Manager, at (800) 362-3322, ext. 2366, or email hfifrick@swtc.edu. Oh, and the answers to the above questions are the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Bill of Rights, and Andy Warhol. Did you get them right?!

Foundation Cuts Ribbon for New Apartment Building

On October 19, 2010, the Foundation held a ribbon cutting ceremony to open the newly constructed eight-unit apartment building at the on-campus student housing facility. The building will provide an additional 32 Southwest Tech students with on-campus living opportunities. This brings the total number to 92 students served through on-campus housing.

In 2007 the Foundation Board of Directors decided to move forward with the building project after reviewing the feasibility of additional housing. With the College expanding program offerings and lowering out-of-state tuition costs, the Foundation Board believed the demand for on-campus housing would increase. The Foundation submitted a loan application to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development and was notified in October 2008 that the application was accepted. The low interest rate loans offered through the Community Facilities Loan Program are the real driving force behind the on-campus student housing facility. Thanks to the assistance from Rural Development, this housing opportunity has become reality.

The Foundation would like to thank all of those involved with the building project. Midwest Builders of Fennimore won the bid for the project and worked diligently with their subcontractors to have the building ready this fall. American Bank, Fennimore, also assisted with the interim financing for the project. The students are enjoying their new apartments!

It’s Trivia Time!

A “Peck” of a Good Time!

The leaves were changing colors, the sun was shining, and most of the apples were picked. October 6, 2010, was a gorgeous day for Southwest Tech Retirees to gather at Kickapoo Orchards in Gays Mills to reunite and spend time together! While the retirees enjoyed a warm slice of fresh apple pizza, Julie Meyer, co-owner of Kickapoo Orchards, regaled the group with apple talk and tales of orchard life. After browsing for apples and other goodies, the retirees enjoyed a tour of the orchard’s packing plant. They were able to see how the apples were washed, polished, and packaged for shipping to stores and produce stands. Then the retirees were off to Scooter’s Red Apple Inn in downtown Gays Mills for lunch and more conversation. The Retiree Reunion was generously sponsored by Design Homes of Prairie du Chien and Livingston State Bank in Livingston.

Retirees gather for “apple talk” and fun at Kickapoo Orchards in Gays Mills.
You Can Help Students Get to School

Did you know that the average Southwest Tech student travels 60 miles round trip to attend classes each day? That means that a typical student spends approximately $150 per month for gas just to get to class! In the Foundation we believe that the tough economic times are hitting our students hard. We are finding that more and more students are requesting money for transportation just to be able to attend college. The lack of money for transportation is causing some students to drop classes or even drop out of school.

You can help by supporting this already high-impact gas card program that has provided over 100 gas cards to students to help them afford transportation to attend classes. The students who receive gas cards are so appreciative of this assistance. If you would like to learn more about the gas card program or to make a donation, please contact Heather Fifrick, Foundation Manager, at (608) 822-2366. Your generosity can help change the life of a student at Southwest Tech!
**2009–2010 Gift Club**

The following individuals and businesses supported the Southwest Tech Foundation between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010. We invite you to join our family of gems with your contribution in support of technical education in southwest Wisconsin. A contribution to our Foundation is an investment in the economy of our area and the future of our citizens.

Southwest Tech through the Enterprise Matching Fund

A.Y. McDonald Manufacturing Company
Biddick, Inc.
Citizens Bank
Jim's Building Center
Doug and Dr. Karen Knox
Garrison L. Lincoln Trust
Zimmerman Architectural Studios

Southwest Tech through the Enterprise Matching Fund

Jan Bierman
Annette, Patrick, and Timothy Biggin
Emery and Elaine Bloyer
Don Borchert
Judith Borchert
Boscobel Area Health Care
Larry and Shirley Bowden
Dr. Virginia Bradford
J. Bruce and Margaret Bradley
Braundt Automotive Service Inc.
Tonia Breuer
Chris Budden
Randy Bussan
Cairns Equipment Inc.
Andrew and Brenda Calhoun
Carroll's Plumbing & Heating
Marvin Case
Charles Gochnaur Insurance
CLASS Club, Southwest Tech
Linda Collins
Collision Specialists SSE
Community First Bank
Ron Coppernoll
Michael and Norma Cornell
County of Grant
Cummins Emission Solutions
Custom Sight & Sound, Inc.
Grant and Barbara Cutting
Jim and Joyce Czajkowski
Derek and MJ Dachelet
Nancy Daniels
Darlington Dairy Supply
Mary Davis
Deer Valley Lodge & Golf Course
Nancy Devlin

Southwest Tech through the Enterprise Matching Fund

Sherry Kane
Bernard and Elaine Keller
J. Scott and Sheri Kennedy
Nancy Kies
Wyatt and Jaime Klein
Jill Knorr
Jenny Lane
Larry's Welding & Manufacturing, Inc.
Connie Larson
Vern and Suzann Lewison
Lori Knapp Companies
Rita Luna
M & I Bank
Majestic View Dairy LLC
Barbara McCormick
Florence McNett
Midwest Builders, Inc.
Julie Molek
Morris Newspaper Corp. of Wisconsin
Mound City Bank
MSC
Michael Mullikin
Estate of Velma Mullikin
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