

# TECH TIMES

*Alumni*

October 20, 2009



## SAVE THE DATE

### ■ K-14 SYMPOSIUM

Career Pathways for Adult Learners  
October 27 - 28

## ANOKA TECH AND STEP CELEBRATE A 10 - YEAR PARTNERSHIP

A decade ago, a partnership between a technical college and a school district profoundly and positively affected the way technical education was delivered in Minnesota. On Wednesday, October 7, 2009, Anoka Technical College hosted a garden dedication and luncheon honoring people who recognized the need and took action to launch a partnership between Anoka Technical College and Anoka-Hennepin School District's Secondary Technical Education Program (STEP).

Prior to the garden dedication, Anne Weyandt, president of Anoka Technical College, recognized the visionaries who fought for the funding to support the alliance and who were the driving force behind the Anoka Tech/STEP success. Weyandt acknowledged legislators, college foundation board members, members of the Anoka-Hennepin School Board and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system for recognizing the importance and value of technical education and for supporting the partnership.

During the program, Anoka-Hennepin School District #11 Superintendent Dennis Carlson spoke of how the partnership provides high school students a seamless transition to technical college, how two different levels of education can work together to successfully provide hands-on technical education to applied learners and how technical education stimulates economic growth.

Board of Trustee James Van Houten of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, concluded the lunch program by proclaiming how the partnership exemplifies the Board of Trustees' four strategic directions. The partnership serves as a model that increases access and opportunity, promotes and measures high-quality programs and services, provides programs and services that enhance the economic competitiveness of the state and region, and meets current and future educational needs.

After lunch, students from Anoka Technical College and from STEP planted a tree on a site shared by STEP and the technical college. The tree commemorates the lasting success of the 10-year partnership. Students in the horticulture program at Anoka Technical College worked with faculty to design and construct the garden. Next spring, students will pour a patio under the pergola, install benches around the garden and plant additional shrubs and bushes.



## JUDICIAL REPORTING STUDENTS HELP PRESERVE HISTORY - AGAIN

For the second consecutive year, the Judicial Reporting program at Anoka Technical College will record narratives from wartime veterans for the Veterans History Project, a project of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress. The mission of the Veterans History Project is to collect and archive personal recollections of U.S. wartime veterans to honor their service and share their stories with current and future generations.

On Saturday, Nov. 7, from 1 to 4 p.m., Judicial Reporting students will interview veterans from World War II, the wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf and the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. The veterans will talk about enlisting, the actions they witnessed, their emotional state during combat and about returning home. Second-year Judicial Reporting students and volunteer working reporters will record the historical stories using steno writers.

If you know a veteran who is willing to share his/her story and have it recorded for the Veterans History Project, contact Deb Longley at [dlongley@anokatech.edu](mailto:dlongley@anokatech.edu).

## ANOKA TECH WINS REGIONAL MARKETING AWARDS

Anoka Technical College's communications department recently won three Medallion Awards from District Five of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR). The awards include two gold medallions representing first place finishes in the logo design category and in the print ad series category. Anoka Tech also received a bronze medallion in the annual report category.

The first place logo design was for a logo that identified Next Step - a college initiative that provides dislocated workers the skills and knowledge they need to get back into the work force. The college also received a gold medallion for a series of print ads that appeared in restaurant restrooms across the north metro. The general college information ads targeted teens, dislocated workers and veterans. The bronze medallion was for the college foundation's annual report. The annual report is on the college Web site.

The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations is an organization for communicators working in college communications on two-year campuses. District Five of the NCMPR consists of schools from Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba.



## GREAT RIVER ENERGY PROVIDES CRISIS GRANTS TO STUDENTS

Great River Energy recently awarded the Anoka Technical College Foundation \$1,500 for student crisis grants. Crisis grants offer financial relief to students experiencing a sudden and unexpected financial crisis for which no other sources of assistance are available. An ongoing supporter of the Anoka Technical College and the college foundation, last year Great River Energy funded a grant of \$2,500 for digital multi-meters for the electronics department. "We deeply appreciate Great River Energy's leadership in supporting technical education. It is through ongoing support from community partners like Great River Energy that we are able to continue to serve our students and area employers," said Tess DeGeest, director of resource development at Anoka Technical College.