There was a groundbreaking ceremony held on November 6 for the new Diesel Technology addition that will be attached to the Tony Noel Agricultural Technology Applications Center.

Speakers at the ceremony included representatives from Case New Holland and Birkey’s Farm Stores, strong supporters of the diesel program; Parkland President Thomas Ramage and Board of Trustees member Linden Warfel; and Diesel Technology Program Director Mark Ziegler. A Diesel Technology program student-run excavator performed the actual “groundbreaking.”

Construction bids on the 14,000-square-foot addition to the Noel Center were due on December 1. The project, a vital addition to Parkland’s Diesel Technology program, will allow the college to answer current demand for highly trained diesel technicians, which has continued to grow in the district. Parkland will be able to double the number of diesel graduates through the increased training space.

The addition is expected to be ready for classes by fall 2010.

Parkland’s Diesel Technology Addition will support the curriculum of a Case New Holland brand-specific program. Birkey’s Farm Stores, an area distributor/dealer of Case IH and New Holland agricultural equipment, was instrumental in garnering support from the nationwide manufacturer for the program upgrade. Case New Holland support will include sponsoring some Diesel Technology program students and providing free use of CNH equipment.
Seasons Greetings
from the
Parkland College Foundation

May the new year be the best!
WISHING YOU THE BEST THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

The Partners for Parkland Annual Campaign for 2009 is coming to a close and we want to thank you for your generous support of Parkland College and our students. Although the Victory Reception for the campaign was held on September 30, the campaign does not officially end until December 31 of this year.

Thanks to you, our donors and friends, for contributing close to $2 million this calendar year. Your contributions are a driving force in keeping Parkland a top-rated community college not only in Illinois, but also in the nation.

Again, we wish to thank this year’s Co-Chairs Anne and Wayne Weber for their tireless efforts to provide leadership to our volunteers for the Partners for Parkland Annual Campaign. Their commitment to Parkland is graciously appreciated.

Please consider Parkland in your end of year giving. Giving on-line is easy at www.parkland.edu/foundation. Your gift will assist in educating thousands of Parkland students who contribute to the quality of life we enjoy here in east central Illinois.

NEW SPACE!

Although the Parkland College Foundation offices have moved to 1806 Round Barn Road across the road from Famous Dave’s restaurant, our mailing address remains the same. Please direct all mail for the Foundation to:

Parkland College Foundation
2400 W. Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821
Dear Parkland family,

Your generous and continued support of Parkland College and its mission never cease to both amaze and inspire me. As you will read in this issue of the Update, increasing numbers of students now have a chance to change their lives for the better because of your contributions of time, talent, resources, services, and equipment, as well as pledges of support from faculty, staff, and the communities we serve.

Our fall 2009 Foundation Gala raised thousands of dollars for new scholarships in coming semesters! While our wonderful corporate sponsors, auction donors, and volunteers (you’ll find a list of them within these pages) provide the foundation, our gala fundraiser would never fully reach its goals without your attendance and participation. We greatly appreciate your having been there, and we encourage you to join us again in 2010.

Community partnerships are a lifeline to Parkland’s progress, and recent support from the Case New Holland Corporation and Birkey’s Farm Stores is no exception. The company’s efforts will soon allow us to upgrade our Diesel Technology program—even as we’re ready to build a new addition for it by fall 2010—through student sponsorships and access to Case New Holland equipment.

Time and again, efforts like these prove that this community believes in the service Parkland College provides to its workforce and residents. Because you believe in us, many people, both young and old, are afforded the opportunity to invest in themselves as they achieve academically and professionally. Thank you.

In support of Parkland,

Thomas Ramage
President

VISIT US ONLINE!

Want information on Foundation scholarships that are available? Thinking of making a gift to support your favorite Parkland College program? Wish to view past newsletters? Want to contact us by e-mail? Then visit the Foundation’s webpage at www.parkland.edu/alumnifoundation/foundation.

You’ll find details, criteria, and deadline dates of all the scholarships that the Foundation offers to Parkland students. As well an on-line donation form, information on our measurable successes, a snapshot of the Alumni Association, and past issues of the Parkland Update.

We’re just a click away!
THE GLORIA VALENTI COMPASSIONATE CARE AWARD

Mr. Martin Wagner, a former director and professional emeritus at the University of Illinois Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, was a very accomplished leader and highly regarded and respected in the labor-management relations field. He received many honors and awards throughout his lifetime. In addition he was thoughtful and had a zest for life.

In July 2005, Mr. Wagner established the Gloria Valenti Scholarship for Compassionate Care in the Parkland College Foundation. It was his wish that this award be used to support students who demonstrate extraordinary potential to provide compassionate health care to individuals in their care.

Gloria Valenti, R.N., a Parkland alumna, is President of Diversified Health Care Services in Champaign. Her company, which serves individuals within a 30 mile radius of Champaign-Urbana, is a state-licensed home health agency that provides all levels of home health and rehabilitation care in a patient’s home. Care is coordinated with the patient’s physician and other community providers involved in care.

Diversified Health Care Services has a tremendous impact on east central Illinois, providing compassionate health care to those in need.

This November, Martha Wagner Weinberg, Mr. Wagner’s daughter, was pleased to present to the Foundation a check from her father’s estate in the amount of $105,000.00 to endow the both the Gloria Valenti Scholarship for Compassionate Care as well as the Gloria Valenti Scholarship for Compassionate Care in honor of Lillian Yahn, who is Ms. Valenti’s mother.

Donations to either of these awards may be made to the Parkland College Foundation in c/o the award, 2400 W. Bradley Avenue, Champaign, Illinois 61821. Please call 217/351-2464 for more information.

Martha Wagner Weinberg is seated on the left with Bobbi Scholze, Department Chair of Health Professions; and Gloria Valenti.
YEAR-END GIVING

As the end of the year approaches, many pause, reflect, and plan. Thoughtfully addressing your charitable giving priorities between now and December 31 can help assure maximum benefits for you and your charitable interests. Carefully considering what to give, and when to give it, can help increase the impact of your gifts while helping to meet personal priorities as well.

Enjoy Tax Savings – Federal tax laws and those of many states make it possible to reduce or eliminate taxes on funds you give for charitable purposes. For example, because funds used to make charitable gifts are deducted from the amount otherwise subject to federal income tax when you itemize your deductions, you may be able to give more than you thought possible. The amount and timing of your charitable gifts are totally within your control. This is why each year millions of Americans take advantage of the opportunity to make charitable gifts while also reducing their tax liability.

Gifts of Cash – While all gifts mailed or otherwise delivered by December 31 qualify for tax deductibility for 2009, gifts of cash or by check are the most popular giving methods. Through gifts of cash, it is possible to eliminate or reduce income tax on up to 50% of your gross income. Larger gifts may result in tax savings in as many as six tax years. Remember, the higher your tax bracket, the more you save.

Save More When You Give Other Assets – Gifts of property such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other appropriate assets that have increased in value since you have owned them can result in extra tax savings. If you have held assets for longer than one year, you can generally give them and deduct their current value, including any paper profits from your taxable income. Congress has provided in addition to regular tax savings, you do not have to pay capital gains tax on assets given to charity. This additional tax savings is one reason why some people choose to give their gifts in this way. Gifts of appreciated assets can eliminate tax on up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. The assets best to give are those that have increased the most in value and would result in the greatest capital gains tax if sold. Many also choose to give low-yielding assets, resulting in little or no impact on future spendable income.

Leaving a Legacy – Toward the end of each year, many people also review their long-range estate and financial plans. Wills, life insurance policies, retirement accounts, and other planning vehicles can offer exceptional opportunities for leaving a lasting legacy to charitable interests.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE GALA 2009

Over 200 attended this year’s Foundation Gala held on Friday, October 23, at the Round Barn Banquet Center. Lively entertainment was provided by Candy Foster and the Shades of Blue and guests had the opportunity to bid on some fantastic silent auction items.

Sincere thanks to Nancy Sutton, Department Chair of Fine and Applied Arts for her leadership in obtaining items up for bid such as a guitar signed by Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young; a movie poster from a “Touch of Evil” signed by Charlton Heston and Janet Leight; the book “The Halloween Tree” signed by Ray Bradbury; and a several other items including original artwork by local artists.

Extra special thanks to our Presenting Sponsor: Central Illinois Manufacturing.

We would also like to recognize our other sponsors Busey Bank and Illinois American Water Company. In addition we received support from The Andersons, Birkey’s Farm Store, BLDD Architects, Inc., Carle Foundation Hospital, Farm Credit Services of Illinois, First Federal Savings Bank of Champaign-Urbana, Fox Development Corporation, Golfview Village, Henneman Engineering, Inc., IGW Architecture, Isotech Laboratories, Inc., Marine Bank, Precision Graphic Services, Inc., Super Pantry, Tile Specialists, Inc., University of Illinois Employees Credit Union, and WDWS/WHMS Radio.

Over $34,000 was raised in proceeds from the event that will be used for scholarships for deserving Parkland students.