

## Marketing Changes for TAACCCT Montana and New Website

The original name for the TAACCCT grant in Montana was "Strengthening Workforce Alignment in Montana's Manufacturing and Energy Industries (SWAMMEI)". As we have progressed down the road, marketing experts decided that this was probably not the best term to use. As the narrative is both correct and descriptive, the acronym is difficult to remember and quite a mouthful to pronounce.

As a result, we have re-tooled our name from SWAMMEI to RevUp Montana, which is more appealing and much easier to remember. The 13 college consortium now has a website that you should find interesting and informative at [revupmontana.com](http://revupmontana.com). Check it out!

OK dudes; no more surfing at SWAMMEIs...

Wow! I'm really going to miss SWAMMEIs

*End of the ride for SWAMMEI*



## Gianforte Family Foundation Awards Scholarships



Greg Gianforte and family announced just before Christmas 2014 a \$500,000 scholarship program for trade students in Montana. This scholarship program will be available to all trade students at two year colleges in Montana, through the spring of 2016.

Gianforte has an extensive background of successful business startups in the technology arena, including Right Now Technologies in Bozeman, which was subsequently acquired by Oracle. As a result of these business ventures, the Gianforte Family Foundation graciously awarded seven Helena College students \$1,000 scholarships who are enrolled in welding, diesel and machining disciplines. These scholarships have made significant, positive effects in the lives of the students who received them.

Thanks to Greg Gianforte for his continuing contribution to our students' successes and his efforts to provide educational training for trades and IT, which results in attracting higher wage jobs for Montana. Now Montanans will have good reason to stay home in the Big Sky state.



*Longing for the good old days*

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**Cincinnati Press Brake**

Welding instructor Glen Zeigler feels like a kid in a candy store: the new press brake not only weighs about 25,000 pounds, but it bends huge plates of steel and other materials with incredible accuracy. Combined with brute force are the high tech, programmable controls that are the latest available in the industry. The Cincinnati brand is a leader in the business for press brakes, therefore this model possesses steel construction, precision accuracy and touchscreen controls.

Helena College is excited to have this equipment in place for students to utilize for hands-on training. Not many other learning institutions in this region can offer this kind of learning and practical experience for their students. Working hand in hand with our industry partners, the RevUp Montana grant has purchased this piece of equipment which will give our students an added advantage when seeking employment. This further enhances their welding production experience, which they will be able to transfer to a wide range of jobs.



**Dan Dobyns**

## Introducing: Dan Dobyns

Dan was born and raised on the highline of Montana and grew up in a farming community playing sports and working hard. After finishing college, he moved to Africa to teach with a humanitarian mission focus. Later, he relocated to Helena and directed a non-profit organization specializing outdoor adventure, which focused on helping young people transition into adulthood.

Since then he has worked as a case manager for the Department of Corrections in the high security unit, been on the SWAT team, and spent time in the Army National Guard as a M1A2 Tank Gunner. Dan has a passion for anything outdoorsy and is busy with taking his four kids on adventures, no matter what the weather. He has enjoyed working for Helena College since February 2014, and looks forward to continually helping students.

## Tashina Waltz-On a New Road

Tashina Waltz was already well on her way to becoming a nurse, but the excitement of stock car racing and the lure of the family business drew her away. Growing up around an auto body shop spurred her interest in mechanics, so the evening diesel program presented a great opportunity for her to keep working during the daytime, while pursuing her dream of working on vehicles.

She is excited and enjoys working with the Amattol online curriculum and simulations, as well as finding the workforce navigator, Dan Dobyns, "totally awesome" to engage with. She says that she would like to spend more time in the shop as she enjoys the hands-on learning experience and the workshop environment.

Her goal is to complete her Associates Degree, then get a job with Caterpillar due to her agricultural background and interest. Helena College is excited that we can help Tashina reach her educational and career goals. If you have further questions concerning our evening trades programs, contact Dan Dobyns at 447-6377 for additional information.

**Tashina Waltz**



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