



## **Belmont Technical College Now Offering Day and Evening Classes at GMN Broadband Center in Monroe County**

**St. Clairsville, OH (September 9, 2010)**—Belmont Technical College (BTC) will begin offering both day and evening classes at the GMN Broadband/Black Walnut Center in Woodsfield, Ohio beginning with the start of Fall Quarter on September 20. The classes are the result of a partnership between Belmont Technical College and the GMN Tri-County Community Action Commission. The partnership offers expanded access to higher education for residents in and around Monroe County.

The first series of classes to be offered are:

- Keyboarding I—3:30-5:20 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday
- Introduction to Computers—1:30-3:20 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday
- Payroll Accounting—1:30-3:20 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday
- Composition I – 4:00 – 7:50 p.m. on Thursday Evenings
- Student Learning & Success – 5:30 – 7:20 p.m. Tuesday Evenings
- Sentence Writing – 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

“After looking at the course needs of Monroe County students attending BTC over the past few years, we chose to begin with these most popular classes so that students in the area could take advantage of these classes closer to home,” said Tim Houston, Dean of Off-Campus Operations at BTC. “We’ve also coordinated the schedule so that classes at the GMN center will take place in the afternoons following those at the Washington Career Center, to accommodate students who opt for classes at both locations.”

Ms. Janell Comstock, will serve as the Belmont Technical College Monroe County Liaison. Janell is currently working on a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction and holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Ecology and an associate of arts degree. She will oversee the center, advise students and assist with coordinating instruction between the BTC main campus and the Monroe county locations, and with other educational entities offering classes at the facility.

“We look forward to growing enrollment at the GMN center as we add more courses, and more students become aware of the opportunity to complete day-time coursework close to home,” Comstock said. “We also have plans to add distance learning opportunities here as well, allowing students to participate in courses at the main campus over the Internet from here at the GMN.”

BTC continues to offer evening classes at the Swiss Hills Career Center, where Houston says the college has seen record enrollment.

"When we began offering classes at the Swiss Hills Career Center in the spring of 1997, we had one class with just twelve students," he said. "Since then, the curriculum has expanded quite a bit and we conducted 68 classes here during the last academic year."

The partnership between GMN and BTC, which kicked off in April, is part of the county's overall Higher Education Plan enacted by BTC last year and approved by the Monroe County Commissioners. Overall the program is designed to provide local and convenient access to high-speed internet service, online course materials and BTC programs for students and residents in Monroe County and surrounding areas.

BTC manages the day-to-day operations of the GMN computer lab for course delivery and makes the facility available for students and residents to use for course work, research and other activities.

For more information about BTC's programs at the BTC Monroe County Center, visit [www.btc.edu](http://www.btc.edu) or call Tim Houston, Dean of Off Campus Operations at 740-695-9500, Ext. 1158.

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