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1. Letter to the editor (see instructions at right).
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disagree?

Communities, tech colleges face perils

There's no question about my support of, and advocacy for, the 34 communities in this state. I am a graduate of Clark College, and served six years as a member of the Centralia College board of trustees. Currently, I am in my third four-year term as a member of the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

The learning found at Clark is typical of education offered at the state's 34 community and technical colleges. Technical colleges concentrate on specialized skills training. Skills training is one of many specialties. If a special study needs to be put together, the college will put a class together. That indicates the "turn-on-a dime" flexibility of these community institutions.

Of all those who receive bachelor's degrees, 44 percent start at community colleges, said Loretta Sappington, research and analysis director for the board.

Enrollment boom

When times are tough, young people and adults find that a two-year college can be a stepping stone to success. But the enrollment at the state's colleges, as shown by Clark College's statistics, is a high 86 percent of full-time students.

Tom Koenninger

Letters to the Editor

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