



*For Immediate Release*

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### **BridgeValley Adds Local Brewery Owner to Brew Tech Staff**

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(Montgomery, WV) - BridgeValley Community and Technical College has recently added brewer Ken Linch to its Brew Tech teaching staff.

Linch is the co-owner of Fayetteville's Bridge Brew Works and will be teaching BridgeValley's Introductory to Brewing Course. The business, which opened in January 2010, was recently named the top brewery in West Virginia by RateBeer.com. Prior to opening his business, Linch perfected his craft as a home brewer, a hobby he had been practicing since November 1996.

"Ken's brewing and entrepreneurship experience makes him the ideal person to provide students with the practical insight and technical skills necessary to fuel the growth of West Virginia's craft brewing industry," said Brian Bolyard, BridgeValley's Brewing Operations Technology Program Coordinator for Adventure Recreation Management Program. Linch has a bachelor of science in mining engineering from West Virginia University and a master of science in occupational safety and health engineering. For 23 years he served as a commissioned officer of the United States Public Health Service for the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health where he specialized in research and published his findings concerning occupational respiratory disease prevention.

#### **About Bridge Brew Works**

Opened in early 2010, Bridge Brew Works was created on the simple principle that owners Ken Linch and Nathan Herrold brewed beer they wanted to drink. Specializing in Belgian-style beers, which are primarily ales and heavily emphasize malts and fruity yeasty flavors, Bridge Brew Works provides year-round consistency through its seasonal and staple offerings. Bridge Brew Works beer is available at a variety of restaurants and retailers throughout West Virginia and at its taproom in Fayetteville. Learn more at [bridgebrewworks.com](http://bridgebrewworks.com)

**About BridgeValley Community and Technical College**

BridgeValley Community and Technical College promotes student success, prepares a skilled workforce, and builds tomorrow's leaders by providing access to quality higher education. BridgeValley Community and Technical College will be the college of opportunity for a diverse learner population, offering leading-edge technology, innovative ideas, and dynamic service to our students and our communities. BridgeValley Community and Technical College serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley Community and Technical College is a public institution of higher education independently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges and a member of the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia.

For more information about BridgeValley Community and Technical College financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education and events, call (304) 205-6600 or; or check the College's website:

["http://www.bridgevalley.edu"](http://www.bridgevalley.edu)