

NMCC and U-Maine Sign Agreement that Benefits College Students and Preschool Teachers

An agreement signed between NMCC and the University of Maine at Orono will provide opportunity for both NMCC students and for pre-school teachers throughout Aroostook County, who recently learned they need to meet additional state certification requirements.

Officials with NMCC and U-Maine signed the articulation agreement recently in a classroom of a dozen early childhood education students taught by NMCC instructor Heidi Broad-Smith. The understanding will provide NMCC students in the early childhood education program with smooth transition into U-Maine's baccalaureate options in child development/family relations and early childhood education.

In addition, the agreement will be significant for pre-school, pre-kindergarten and Head Start teachers throughout northern Maine, who last year, as the result of a bill passed by the legislature, learned they would need to earn an additional endorsement to continue teaching in a public program for four year olds. Prior to the signing of the agreement, County teachers would have had to travel outside of the region to complete most of the necessary coursework to meet the certification requirements.

The bill recognized public four year old programs as distinct from a two-year kindergarten program. They are now defined as a "public preschool program." As part of

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175 Students Graduate from NMCC; Two Students Deliver Addresses to Graduates

One hundred seventy-five students were awarded associate degrees, diplomas and certificates at the 45th commencement exercises at Northern Maine Community College on Saturday, May 17, in the College gymnasium. President Timothy Crowley presided over the event and welcomed more than 1,000 family members and guests of the graduates.

"The time and effort you have invested in your education puts you in a position to move forward at a very challenging time," said Crowley. "I want you to enjoy today but understand that your tomorrow will be determined by how well you use the investment you have made to improve your life and the lives of others. I hope you have learned from your time here that hard work and persistence pays off. The return will be a more rewarding life."

In a ceremony designed to celebrate what Crowley called "an historic and extraordinary year for 'The County's College'," two students took the podium to deliver addresses to their fellow graduates in lieu of a traditional commencement speaker.

Kristina Kenneson of Presque Isle, who earned associate degrees in both accounting information systems and business administration, and Scott Morgan of New Sweden, who graduated with an associate of applied science in electrical construction and maintenance, challenged their classmates to apply the same determination and perseverance they called upon to complete their degrees toward the next chapter in their lives.

"Today is not an end, but a new beginning. Each of us worked hard to get to this



Graduates gather in the Christie courtyard and celebrate their accomplishment at NMCC's commencement on May 17.

point," said Kenneson, who was selected by her classmates to deliver the student address. "Cherish the moments you've had. Look forward to what the future holds. There are opportunities all around us. Learn from each of them. Learn from the people who are wiser than you. Learn from your own trial and error. Continue to learn and you will continue to grow."

In his address, Morgan spoke of the unique challenges he faced in working to earn his degree. He first enrolled at NMCC six years ago, and in that time twice had his education and family life interrupted by separate tours of duty in Iraq. Morgan was asked by Crowley to share his story at commencement.

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Twenty Celebrate Entry into Nursing Profession at Pinning Ceremony

The healthcare profession, which faces a shortage of workers at both the state and national level, welcomed 20 prospective new registered nurses recently as NMCC held its annual pinning ceremony, which signifies the official entrance into the nursing field for members of the graduating class. The graduates are now eligible and prepared to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination to obtain licensure as registered nurses.

More than 200 family members, friends and college personnel gathered for the ceremony held at the Presque Isle Middle School. The event was highlighted by the presentation of a pin to each graduate by relatives or friends.

"There is a tremendous crisis in this state with a shortage of care at the bedside," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley in his remarks to the graduates. "The role your faculty and the College community have prepared you to fill is one that will present many challenges. However, with those challenges come many rewards. When I think about nursing care, I reflect on the commitment those in the profession have for the patients they care for. As you go forth to work in the hospitals and other health-



Twenty senior students in the associate degree nursing program at Northern Maine Community College received their pins signifying their entry into the profession recently. The members of the Class of 2008 are (front row, left to right) Andrea Jane Pratt; Trudi J. Smith; Heidi Dawn Carmichael Smith; Amy Nicole Savage; Alison M. Willette; Shelli D. Sanders; and Rebecca L. Palmer-Bugby. Also entering the nursing profession are (back row, same order) Erik J. Vaughn; Nick Taxiarchis; Nicole Elizabeth Bennett; Tonya Donniel DuVal; Louise Albert Hamlin; Tammy MacDougall; Mallory Laura McKeil; Abby Rose McLaughlin; Jillian Alyse Miller; Jane Oliver-Moody; Jolene Marie Paul; and William R. Milliard (Missing from photo: Tracy Marie Rossignol).

care settings, remember your important role as advocates for your patients."

Crowley's comments followed remarks by Betty Kent-Conant, chair of NMCC's nursing and allied health department. Kent-Conant spoke on behalf of the faculty in congratulating and advising the County's newest nurses.

"I join the nursing faculty in congratulating these men and women in their success in reaching this point in their careers. We welcome you into the profession as colleagues, and as people we will be working side-by-side with from this point forward. We will look forward to working beside you in the clinical settings, as preceptors for future nurs-

ing students, and as members within the wonderfully rewarding and special profession of nursing," said Kent-Conant.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Maureen McLaughlin-Grant of The Aroostook Medical Center.

"You are parents, you are spouses, you work other jobs. It wasn't easy to get through this," McLaughlin-Grant told the graduates. "You have embarked on an amazing journey. Nursing is as honorable a profession as you can get. You can't change the music of your soul – so do what your heart sets you to do. Take pride in what you do and be respectful of the people you work with."



DISCOVER AROOSTOOK SUMMER

June 16 - 20

Experience a number of outdoor activities, learn the heritage of Aroostook State Park and the North Maine Woods, and take part in team building exercises in this one-week course.

Adventure-Based Learning

Day 1: Meet to discuss experience, allergies, medications, etc. and check equipment.

Days 2-3: Learn the basics of tenting, fishing, canoeing, and outdoor cooking at Aroostook State Park. Includes guest speaker Scott Thompson, who will talk about the flora, fauna and history of the park.

Days 4-5: Travel to Deboullie for camping, hiking, and canoeing Gardiner Pond. Includes a discussion on the North Maine Woods and its impact on the culture of the County.



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NMCC to Host Aroostook County Relay for Life to Raise Funds for the American Cancer Society

This year's annual Relay for Life for Aroostook County will be hosted at Northern Maine Community College on Friday, June 6, through Saturday, June 7. Sixteen area teams will walk throughout the night to help raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

Relay for Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to bring together those who have been touched by cancer in our community. More than 200 Relays are being held throughout New England in 2008, all celebrating survivorship and raising money to help the American Cancer Society in its mission to save lives, help those who have been touched by cancer, and empower individuals to fight back.

"The funds raised enable us to continue our investment in the fight against cancer through research, education, advocacy, and patient services," said Mike Hart, community executive for development for the American Cancer Society's New England Division. "The money raised by participants locally at this event goes directly to the American Cancer Society's lifesaving programs which happen right here in Aroostook County as well as throughout Maine."

The Relay for Life will be kicked off with an opening ceremony at 6:00 p.m., followed by a survivor/caregiver lap at 6:15 p.m., in which area cancer survivors and those who have cared for loved ones battling cancer are invited to participate.

"This is our opportunity to show our support and provide some recogni-

tion both for those who are cancer survivors, as well as those who have worked so hard caring for loved ones in the battle against cancer," said Becky Maynard, NMCC bookstore manager and captain of the NMCC Relay for Life team. Maynard has walked in that lap for the past six years as a caregiver for her father, Harold Jones, Jr. of Easton. Although Jones lost his battle to cancer last year, Maynard continues her efforts to raise money and support for the American Cancer Society.

Cancer survivors and caregivers are also invited to the Survivors Reception being held at 7:00 p.m. on campus.

Walkers for the Relay for Life will officially get underway at 6:30 p.m. with a parade of teams. Northern Maine Community College and The Aroostook Medical Center both have two teams taking part this year. In addition to an overall team from each organization, the Student Nurses Association at NMCC and the Oncology Unit at TAMC will also have teams. Other businesses and organizations with teams in this year's Relay include: ACAP, Ashland School Department, Caribou & Presque Isle Inn & Convention Center, Cary Medical Center, Maine State Employees Association, Maurice's, McCain Foods, MicMac Health Department, Doctor Silber's office, Teague Park, University of Maine at Presque Isle, and WAGM-TV.

The public is invited to come and "Pack the Track" at 8:00 p.m. to show their support in this effort to step up the fight against cancer. There are numerous special activities planned that will keep the whole family entertained. Live entertainment from 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. will feature local performers, including Aroostook Idol winners Erin Buck (2008) and Annie Charles (2007).

There will also be many children's activities throughout the evening. Kids will be decorating t-shirts, making and playing with sock puppets, decorating cookies, making kites and flying them if weather permits, making Fruit Loop necklaces, coloring and making cards, practicing their golf putting, playing board games, and more.

At 9:00 p.m., a Ceremony of Hope will be held, during which all of the

Six Years and Two Tours in Iraq Later, Proud NMCC Student and Soldier Earns Degree and Addresses Fellow Graduates

In September 2002, when Scott Morgan of New Sweden first began taking classes in the electrical construction and maintenance program at NMCC, the national average price for gasoline was \$1.42 a gallon. When he completed his associate degree and graduated on May 17, the price locally hovered around \$4.

The stark difference is symbolic in terms of the dramatic changes in Morgan's own life since he first began on the path toward his college degree six years ago. A long journey to what is traditionally a two-year degree, the 28-year-old NMCC student, husband, father of two, and squad leader in the 488th Military Police Company, took a couple of detours along the way – namely two tours serving his country in Iraq.

Morgan was able to complete his freshman year in 2002-2003 without interruption. In the fall of 2003 he completed the first semester of his senior year. With graduation in sight, plans changed in January of 2004 when he and his fellow soldiers in the Maine Army National Guard 152nd Field Artillery Unit were deployed to Iraq for a mission that would forever change his life.



Scott Morgan in the electrical construction and maintenance lab at NMCC prior to graduation.

"I was located at Abu Ghraib just after the news of the prisoner abuse made international headlines. My duty was custody and control of the Iraqis interned. We pretty much made sure they were safe and did not escape," said Morgan. "It was a difficult time for us in Abu (as we called it). My unit took hundreds of mortar rounds in retaliation for the detainee abuse. We were on constant alert. We were engaged by small fire often."

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NMCC Home to Aroostook County Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction; First Four Inductees Recognized During Ceremony

Four leaders in the health care profession that either currently work and live in The County or have ties to the region comprise the inaugural class of the Aroostook County Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction.

The wall of honor, the concept for which was developed by faculty in the nursing and allied health department at Northern Maine Community College, was unveiled to the public for the first time during a reception and induction ceremony on May 5. More than 80 people attended the event held in the mezzanine area just above the lobby of the Christie Building at NMCC, which serves as the entry to the nursing and allied health wing at the College. The ceremony also marked the start of National Nurses week.

“The nursing and allied health department faculty desires to honor persons who have been associated with the healthcare programs of study and have made vital contributions to the education of students and to the healthcare profession at large. It is an opportunity to publicly thank those individuals who have given back to the community through their many acts of professional service,” said Betty Kent-Conant, chair of the nursing and allied health department at NMCC. “Honorees are role models to emulate for both students and practitioners alike. In the spirit of completing accomplishments, they bring pride to the profession and to those with whom they work.”



Betty Baulch speaks fondly about her days as chair of the nursing department at NMCC.



The first four honorees into the Aroostook County Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction gather just prior to their induction at NMCC on May 5. They are (left to right) Betty Baulch, Kris Doody, Jane Matilla and Dianne Raymond.

The first individuals to have their photos added to the wall were Betty Baulch of Washburn; Kris Doody of Caribou; Jane Mattila of Pinewood, Minnesota; and Dianne Raymond of Mapleton.

Betty Baulch, formerly Betty Clark, led the nursing and allied health department at NMCC for more than 12 years before her retirement in 1994. It was during her tenure as department chair that the associate degree nursing program was approved as a pilot program. Prior to that, the College had offered only a diploma-level program for practical nursing.

She was presented the Director's Award (forerunner of the President's Award) partly as a result of her efforts in making the program a reality. Baulch began her employment at the then Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute in 1968, teaching and providing clinical supervision to practical nursing students in Houlton. When the Houlton program closed in 1973, she moved to the Presque Isle campus. Baulch earned her BSN from Bates College in 1957, in a five year program that included two years of clinical experience in Boston hospitals. She additionally earned a masters in education degree in 1980 from the University of Maine. While at NMCC, she served on the Maine State Board of Nursing for more than 10 years, taking on the role of president three times, and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for eight years.

Kris Doody is the CEO of Cary Medical Center in Caribou. She earned a master of science in business from Husson College in 1997, a bachelor of science degree from the University of the State of New York in 1994, and an associate of science degree in nursing from the University of Maine in 1983. Doody is well known throughout Maine as a leader in the healthcare industry. She currently serves on the executive committee of the Maine Hospital Association and as a trustee on the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees.

Jane Matilla is a lieutenant commander with the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. She currently works as senior staff nurse at the Red Lake Indian

Health Service Hospital in Red Lake, Minnesota. A native of Minnesota, Matilla lived in central Aroostook for several years and during that time earned her associate degree in nursing from Northern Maine Technical College, a forerunner of NMCC, in 1997 and a bachelor of science in nursing degree from the University of Maine at Fort Kent in 1999. She also worked as both a psychiatric and float nurse for The Aroostook Medical Center between 1997 and 2000.

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Richard Mattila (left) and his wife Lillian (right) of Caribou unveil their daughter-in-law Jane Mattila's (center) photo that hangs in the Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction at Northern Maine Community College.

Kenneson Named Student of the Year; Selected to Speak at Graduation

Kristina Kenneson, who graduated in May from both the accounting information systems and business administration programs, was named the College's 2008 Student of the Year during a luncheon ceremony held in Augusta on April 23. She was joined by the student of the year from each of the other six community colleges across the state, as well as the college presidents, members of the Maine Community College System board of trustees, and several legislators.

"I came to NMCC after going to a university for a year. I didn't know what I wanted to do, and I had heard really good things about the College, so I thought I'd give it a try," explained Kenneson. "It has been a perfect fit...the size of the school, the location near my friends and family, and the instructors who have made it easy to learn and easy to get help."

It has indeed proved to be a good fit for Kenneson, a 2004 graduate of Presque Isle High School. She has excelled at the College, consistently earning a spot on the Dean's List as well as having the distinction of being named a President's Scholar

for having achieved a perfect 4.0 semester. She is a member of Alpha Beta Gamma, the honor society for business students at two year colleges.

Kenneson completed her course requirement work in accounting last year and worked this year to complete her business administration requirements. Meanwhile, with her AIS credits completed, she was able to transfer to Husson College and begin work on her bachelor of science degree in accounting. She took classes simultaneously at both institutions, taking advantage of the Presque Isle branch of Husson located on the NMCC campus. Ironically, she graduated with her bachelor's degree from Husson on May 10, one week earlier from graduating with her dual degrees from NMCC.

"It has really worked well for me. Not only did my two years of classes for



Kristina Kenneson (center) was named NMCC Student of the Year during a luncheon in Augusta with members of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees. Among those on hand to congratulate her from the College were, from left, Dean of Students William Egeler and President Timothy Crowley.

accounting transfer to Husson, but many of my classes which I am taking for business administration transferred as well. It really counted for a lot, which is why I was able to complete my four year degree so quickly. Having Husson classes and their office right here was extremely convenient and really made the difference in enabling me to take classes at both colleges simultaneously."

In addition to her academic accomplishments, Kenneson was a resident assistant, living in the residence halls and providing guidance to resident students. She served as a spokesperson for the College and her peers, presenting the student viewpoint during the internal kick-off of the major gifts campaign as well as being in television and radio commercials for the College during the past few years.

"I've been given a lot of opportunities to meet other people and to represent the school. It has helped me be more confident in myself and my abilities," said Kenneson.

Independent of being named as the Student of the Year, Kenneson was voted by her fellow seniors to speak on their behalf at NMCC's commencement. The top two students of each of the College's four academic departments were nominated, with seniors voting on their choice.

Kenneson is pleased by both honors, considering them among the highlights of her college career. "To be selected as Student of the Year among all of the accomplished and capable students here is incredible, and it means so much to me to be chosen by my fellow students to speak at graduation."

Students Named President's Scholars for Achieving a Perfect 4.0 Semester



Twenty-one Northern Maine Community College students were honored at the annual President's Scholars Luncheon held at the College in April. These students earned the distinction of obtaining a perfect 4.0 semester during either the Spring or Fall 2007 semesters. Being honored for their achievement were, seated from left: Teena McCarthy, Janet Tang, Melinda Clark, Suqi Yu, Marina Grivois, Louise Hamlin, and Trudi Smith. Also named President's Scholars were, standing with NMCC President Timothy Crowley (far left), Charles Zappone, Erin Farley, Jennifer Knowles, Lisa Dickinson, Helen Fox, Kemuel LaChance, Mitchell Pruett, and Justin McBreairty. Absent from photo: Justin Boucher, Angela Howe, Whitney Dick, Diane Landeen, Joshua Parent, and Heidi Warman.

Toward Excellence

Student Honors & Awards 2008

More than 60 students had an opportunity to shine in early May as they were recognized in front of family members and College faculty and administrators during the annual Student Honors & Achievement Awards Ceremony. Students were recognized for academic excellence as well as for campus involvement.

“For many of our students, this is the first opportunity for them to receive recognition at this level,” said Bill Egeler, dean of students and coordinator of the event. “It is critically important that these

students be recognized for the accomplishments, not only because it is so well deserved, but also because it sets a benchmark for other students. When excellence is noticed and celebrated by the institution, it motivates and raises aspirations for others. We know our students value their education and that they oftentimes have to go through a lot of struggles personally to balance work, family and school, making their success all the more impressive.”

Faculty from each of the College’s academic programs typically pick one senior

to recognize with the Academic Achievement Award for their respective programs. This award is based on numerous criteria, including overall academic performance, degree of improvement, participation and attitude in the classroom, and more.

Please see the photos below for this year’s academic achievement award winners.

Nursing senior Heidi Smith was the recipient of this year’s Falcon Spirit Award, which recognizes students who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help make the NMCC campus a better place



Achievement award winners from the Business Technology Department were, from left: Misty McMinn, accounting information systems; Paige Corbin, business administration; Sandra Albaugh, information technology; Gretchen Delong and Helen Fox, office administration.



Mark Goodale (left) is presented the achievement award for liberal studies from Ron Fitzgerald, chair of the Arts & Sciences Department. Also receiving an achievement award from that department was Suqi Yu for the early childhood education program.



Receiving the achievement awards from the Nursing & Allied Health Department were, from left: Amy Savage and Louise Hamlin, nursing; and Eric Mailman, emergency medical services. Absent from photo Kurt Soucy, emergency medical services.



Achievement award winners from the Trade & Technical Occupations Department were, from left: Erik St. Peter, computer-aided drafting; Rafe Longver, diesel hydraulics technology; Scott Morgan, electrical construction and maintenance; Justin McBreaity and Robert Underwood, precision metals manufacturing; and Curtis Harrison, residential construction. Absent from photo: Mitchell Pruett, automotive body repair; Michael Corella, automotive technology; Duane Whittle, computer electronics; and James Estey, welding and metal fabrication.

for both students and employees. Nominees typically have made campus contributions through activities such as tutoring, fund raising, volunteering, or athletics. Smith served as the president of the Student Nurses Association, as well as the secretary for the Student Senate. With her enthusiasm and willingness to volunteer, she has been involved in numerous campus activities during her time at the College.



Heidi Smith was presented the Falcon Spirit Award by Dean Egler for going "above and beyond" the call of duty to help make the campus a better place for everyone.

Kristina Kenneson, graduating from the business administration and accounting information systems programs, was recognized in front of her peers as NMCC's Student of the Year. Kenneson had been honored earlier during a ceremony in Augusta with the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees.

Also being recognized locally following a previous ceremony in Augusta was Steven Pierson. Pierson was named to the 2008 All-Maine Academic Team. This team is part of the national Phi Theta Kappa program, an international honor society for two year colleges designed to recognize academic excellence, leadership and community service. Each of Maine's Community Colleges can nominate no more than two outstanding students to the team.

Recognized for being nominated for inclusion in *Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges* were: Nicholas Bryant, Daniel Chute, Paige Corbin, James Day, Gretchen DeLong, Lisa Dickinson, Tonya DuVal, Jane Gagnon, Louise Hamlin, Curtis Harrison, Charity Keenan, Kristina Kenneson, Kemuel LaChance, Coleby Lamoreau, Rafe Longver, Justin McBairty, Rebecca Palmer-Bugbee, Jolene Paul, Henry Rauschnot, Daniel Robertson, Trudi Smith, Kurt Soucy, Alison Willette, and Suqi Yu.

The Award of Excellence is a cash award established by a donor to recognize two seniors who have demonstrated a high standard of excellence and the highest standards of honesty and integrity while being an inspiration to others. This year's recipients were Kemuel LaChance and Misty McMinn.



Dean of Students Bill Egler (center) presents the Award of Excellence to Misty McMinn and Kemuel LaChance .

The College's peer mentoring program encompasses a wide variety of activities in which

students can contribute enormously to the success of new students by helping them become a part of the college community. Students were recognized for volunteering their time, energy and knowledge about campus life to help new and prospective students by serving as mentors, tutors, tour guides or resident assistants. *See the photo below for those recognized.*

Also recognized for their activities on campus were the officers of the student organizations, including Patrick Beaulieu, Rebecca Palmer-Bugbee, Steven Pierson, Aaron Conroy, and Heidi Smith from the Student Senate; Steven Pierson and Kurt Soucy for Phi Theta Kappa; and Heidi Smith and Mallory McKeil for the Student Nurses Association.

Being named Sports Academic All-Stars for maintaining a 3.0 or greater grade

point average while playing on one of the College's sports teams were: Jacob Graham, Lucas Ireland, Rafe Longver, Nathan Manning-Harris, Mitchell Panati, Bradley Staples, and David Whitman.



The Student Senate recognizes an "Instructor of the Year" based on the votes of students across campus. Being honored this year was accounting instructor Nancy Cowett (center). Presenting the award was Senate President Patrick Beaulieu (left) and instructor Dennis Albert, Senate advisor.



Students recognized for their service in the peer mentoring program, whether it be as a mentor, a tutor, a tour guide, or a resident assistant, included, from left: Matthew Tribou, Evelyn Sock, Alyssa Murchinson, Rosemary Moody, Mallory McKeil, Kristina Kenneson, Holly Fulton, James Day and Sandra Albaugh. Absent: Peter Bernier, Stas' Ginish, Jacob Graham, Shannon Marquis, Kim Hammond, Brian Nadeau and Janet Tang.



"There are opportunities all around us. Learn from each of them."

Kristina Kenneson
Class of 2008



175 students graduated from NMCC on May 17, with more than 1,000 family members and friends on hand to cheer for them.



"How we deal with change determines the kind of person we become. Welcome the change that now lies before you."

Scott Morgan
Class of 2008



Faculty and staff in the College Chorale performed the American and Canadian national anthems, as well as *The Irish Blessing*.

from page 1

"The first time I left for Iraq – my oldest son Brandon wasn't tying his shoes yet and my youngest Bryce had just begun speaking a few words. They changed just as much as I have, perhaps more. Change is a part of life. How we deal with change determines the kind of person we become. Welcome the change that now lies before you. Whatever you pursue, rest assured it won't always be easy, but look for and enjoy the good times with your family and friends, embrace the positive, and don't dwell on the negative. You'll get far in life," said Morgan to his fellow graduates.

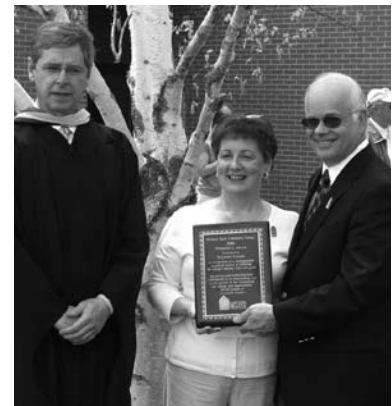
Following the conferring of 112 associate degrees, 27 diplomas and 50 certificates, Crowley announced the recipient of this year's President's Award. Raynold Gauvin of Mapleton, the immediate past chair of the NMCC Foundation, was presented the award for his outstanding service to both the College and Foundation.

"Mr. Gauvin has demonstrated a tremendous commitment to the youth of

Aroostook County and NMCC. He serves as an excellent role model not only to his children but to the people of our area and state. His creative vision and dedication to a goal and willingness to lead have allowed him to be a successful businessperson, father, husband and community leader. NMCC is a better place because of Mr. Gauvin's willingness to give of his time and talent. Generations to come will benefit from his work," said Crowley.

During his tenure as Foundation chair, Gauvin was responsible for laying the groundwork for, and serving on the collaborative oversight team of, the *Campaign for the County's College*, the first major gifts campaign conducted by the College and Foundation. When the campaign concluded in February, the fundraising initiative had raised \$2.5 million for student scholarships, instructional technology and to assist the College in meeting community needs.

Gauvin and his wife Sandy themselves stepped forward during the campaign and



President Crowley with President's Award recipient Ray Gauvin and his wife Sandy.

contributed a gift of \$25,000 to establish the Ray and Sandy Gauvin Faculty Advancement Fund. Earlier this year, with the initial pledge payment of \$15,000, notebook computers were purchased and presented to 18 NMCC faculty members.

Gauvin has hired many alumni of NMCC and is quick to note they have "proven to be knowledgeable, dependable, and hardworking, exemplifying the quality of education that comes from NMCC."

A Look at Our Graduates...



For more graduation photos, see our website at www.nmcc.edu



Schedule of Activities

4:30-6:00 pm	Registration
5:00-7:00 pm	BBQ Dinner
6:00 pm	Opening Ceremony
6:15 pm	Survivor/Caregiver Lap
6:30 pm	Parade of Teams
7:00 pm	Survivor Reception
7:00-9:30 pm	Children's Activities
7:45 pm	Fight Back Ceremony
8:00 pm	Pack the Track event; Live Entertainment
9:00 pm	Luminary Ceremony
10:00 pm	Amateur Hour
11:00 pm	Team Activities Begin (Run throughout the night)
10:00 am	Closing Ceremony

Relay, from page 3

luminaries purchased in honor of cancer survivors or in memory of those who have lost that battle, will be lit and, following a moment of silence, the names of these individuals will be read aloud. The luminaries will line the track as well as spell out the word Hope. Everyone gathers around to remember those lost to cancer, support those fighting cancer, and rejoice with those who have fought the disease and won.

"Reading the names is the most touching and the most difficult part for me," said Lori Keith, co-captain of the NMCC team. "It brings back everything they [those fighting cancer] went through, everything you [caregivers] went through, and everything the whole family went through. It creates a bond between people that you don't know, because you are all going through variations of the same experience. This ceremony really brings the whole reason we are having the Relay to a head...why we are walking and why we are collecting money." Keith

was a caregiver for her father, Wayne Fuller of Presque Isle, during his ten-year struggle with cancer. Although he passed away in 1995, Keith continues to diligently work each year to support the American Cancer Society.

Luminary bags are available for a contribution to the American Cancer Society. They can be purchased from members of any of the participating teams, as well as at the NMCC bookstore. They will also be available for purchase during the June 6 event preceding the ceremony.

While the public activities will be winding down at about 10:00 p.m., many team members will be on hand throughout the night, with a representative from each team mandated to be on the track at all times until the closing lap at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Several fun activities are scheduled throughout the night to keep the team energized.

Morgan, from page 3

According to Morgan, a close eye was also being kept on the soldiers assigned to the prison. During his tour at Abu Ghraib numerous media agencies and dignitaries visited the prison, and he recalls his unit was "under the watchful eye of the Army to ensure that the previous abuse never happened again."

In February of 2005, Morgan returned home too late to enroll in his final semester. He was able to register for some classes in the fall of 2005, but since courses in the trade and technical occupations majors at NMCC run sequentially, the program specific classes in electrical construction he needed to graduate would not be offered until the spring semester. So he instead enrolled part-time and picked up a job working for R.L. Todd and Sons Electrical Contractors.

"I enrolled in the spring semester of 2006 ready to graduate that May, but I wasn't able to complete the semester as we were deployed halfway through March as part of the Security Force 2 Unit," said Morgan.

This time, Morgan served as a team leader and often times acted as squad leader in his new assignment with the 488th Military Police Company. Initially stationed at Camp Navistar in Northern Kuwait – less than a mile from the Iraq border, Morgan and his unit ran convoy operations throughout Iraq.

"I had a chance to go all the way to Mosul, which is one of the northernmost cities in Iraq. Eventually my unit moved to Camp Virginia Kuwait and we ran our convoy operations from there," said Morgan.

Returning from his second tour in July of last year, Morgan re-enrolled for classes in the fall of 2007, and this spring was finally able to complete the courses necessary to graduate with a degree in electrical construction and maintenance.

"The toughest part was coming back to school," said Morgan. "Not only was I a changed man, I struggled to relearn everything I had forgotten. So, at times I felt behind all of my peers academically, but I think I made a good adjustment."

Morgan's instructors certainly agree that he has not only adjusted, but has excelled in his studies. At the annual NMCC Student Honors and Awards Ceremony on May 1, he was honored with the academic achievement award for the electrical construction and maintenance program.

"I have noticed a tremendous change in maturity and attitude in Scott since his first two attempts at the program. Scott is very serious and focused with respect to his studies and has become the go-to-guy for many of his class mates who may need extra help with certain lab activities. He has a positive attitude, which he passes on to

his classmates, making him a real asset for me in the classroom," said Chuck Kelley, electrical construction and maintenance instructor.

Aside from his studies, Morgan's other focus has been on his family. His wife Amanda and the couple's two sons, eight-year-old Brandon and six-year-old Bryce, are both happy that their husband and father is home and safe, and that he will, at last, graduate from college.

"This has been extremely tough on them," said Morgan of the family's experience over past several years. "Both of my boys were young and couldn't understand why daddy had to go away. I told them 'I had to help fight the bad guys to make the world a little safer for them'. My wife stayed strong. She refused to fail. I would say it was tougher for her than it was for me. My family is the most important thing in my life."

Morgan spoke, in part, about the importance of family when he delivered one of two featured student addresses during NMCC's commencement on May 17.

"I can't say 'thank you' enough to everyone who helped along the way through this long process. It took a lot of patience and time. I know everyone was concerned for my well-being," said Morgan. "Without the people who helped me along the way and my family in my absence, I could not have done what I did."

NMCC's "Send 'em Off With Tools" Project Benefits Students and Community

A student-led initiative with the goal of putting tools of the trade into the hands of residential construction graduating seniors at Northern Maine Community College has reached a milestone in its fourth year.

"Send 'em Off With Tools," an annual project undertaken by the second year students in instructor Guy Jackson's program at NMCC involves a significant fundraising effort, the proceeds from which are used by Jackson and his lab

assistant Nathan Gardiner to purchase tools for each of the graduates, based on a "wish list" prepared by the students themselves. Through the efforts of this year's graduating class, under the tutelage of Jackson and Gardiner, a record \$7,000 was raised, bringing the four-year total to just over \$21,000.

"It's a golden opportunity," said Jackson. "It teaches the students that if you put in a little extra effort there is a reward. It also helps the students learn time management skills and how to work with the public. The best part of it all is the sense of anticipation that is built at the end of the project when we present the tools. The students each wonder what they are getting."



Northern Maine Community College residential construction students pose with their new tools at the culmination of this year's "Send 'em Off With Tools" project. Receiving tools were (left to right) Taylor Lovely, Jim DuVal, Nickolas Gagnon, Dan Ford, David Riopelle, Niklas Roble, John Kennedy, Adam Bloom, and Brandon Smith.

According to Jackson, tool give-away day is much like Christmas morning for the graduating seniors. Typically held the week before commencement, the faculty and students involved hold a barbecue followed by the "big unveil".

This year, Jackson and Gardiner presented tools retail valued at more than \$8,000 to nine graduating seniors. The students had spent the past several months raising the funds used to purchase the table saws, power tools and numerous other items purchased.

"It was well worth it," said student Brandon Smith of Mars Hill. "We all needed everything we asked for and even got some smaller things we didn't ask for but that Guy and Nathan heard us talking

about and added to our list. This will be very helpful as we start our careers."

To raise money to purchase the tools, students put in to practice what they learned in the classroom. More than two dozen handcrafted items that ranged from an ornate garden swing to a paper towel holder were created by the students outside of class time and sold to the highest bidder in a silent auction held on the NMCC campus in early May.

In addition, the students constructed two storage sheds and a deacon's bench. One of the sheds was purchased by a community member. The students sold tickets on the second shed and bench both on campus and in the community, including at the annual Presque Isle Kiwanis Home and Garden Show held in April.

With both their recently earned degrees and new tools in hand, the students are prepared to enter the workforce.

"I love them already," said Nickolas Gagnon of Van Buren about his new tools. "With all that I've learned over the past two years and now with these tools, I am ready to go. I've already got a job lined up where I can use them."

Aside from benefiting the students, the "Send 'em Off With Tools" project has a positive economic impact in the local community. Jackson and Gardiner purchase all of the tools from local businesses including Advantage Gases and Tools and the S.W. Collins Company.



NMCC residential construction senior Jim DuVal (right) sells a raffle ticket on the storage shed (shown here) at the Presque Isle Kiwanis Home and Garden in April. The raffle ticket sales were part of this year's "Send 'em Off With Tools" project.



NMCC students (left to right) Shawn Lay and Kyle Nunley, along with instructor Robert White, test the “reflex reaction time tester,” which is the first permanent exhibit for the future Caribou Children’s Discovery Museum.

NMCC Students and Faculty Build First Exhibit for Caribou Children’s Discovery Museum

County residents can have a glimpse of what the future Caribou Children’s Discovery Museum will have in store thanks to the work of students and faculty at Northern Maine Community College who have constructed the first permanent exhibit for the facility.

Dubbed the “reflex reaction time tester” by CCDM Board President Nancy Chandler, the interactive display, which challenges users to test their reaction time, was a collaborative effort between the museum board and three of the trade programs at NMCC.

The final product, which museum officials are now using at trade shows and other public venues to build awareness and excitement for the Children’s Museum effort, features a numeric time clock, start and stop buttons and three lights: yellow, red and green.

Children (and adults) press the start button, which illuminates the yellow light signaling to the participant to place their hands on a painted set of handprints that rest on either side of the stop button. At the moment the green light illuminates, triggering the time clock to start, the participant presses the stop button; and once the button is pressed, the red light illuminates and time clock stops, revealing the elapsed time.

Participants can measure their reaction time against a set of humorous standards that are displayed above the time clock. The five classifications range from the quickest reaction time of “future NHL goalie” to the more delayed reaction time of “future gardener.”

“This project came about as the result of a conversation with NMCC metal fabrication instructor Dennis Albert at the first Fall and Winter Sports and Recreation Show at the Forum in Presque Isle last September,” explained Chandler. “Our booth was located next to the Youth Hockey booth that Dennis was staffing. He came over and looked at some photos I had taken at a science center in Manchester, New Hampshire and noticed an exhibit that tested reaction time. Dennis told me that he thought that he and some of his students and colleagues could build something similar.”

Albert, using only the two photos taken by Chandler of the New Hampshire display, took on the challenge.

“I knew that with the collaborative effort of some of my fellow faculty members and students in their respective programs that we could build something similar,” said Albert. “We wanted to help the Children’s Discovery Museum. At the same time a project of this nature would be beneficial to the campus, as it would provide both faculty and especially students with a unique real-life, hands-on project.”

cont. on page 14



Honorees, from page 4

Dianne Raymond

Dianne Raymond is a partner in Central Aroostook Psychiatric Services, LLC, which offers psychiatric services to residents throughout northern Maine. She earned a certificate from Husson College in April 2003 in the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program, a doctor of science in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1996, a master of science in nursing from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1987, a bachelor of arts in behavioral science from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 1983, an associate of science in nursing from the University of Maine at Augusta in 1982, and a diploma in practical nursing from Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute, a forerunner of NMCC, in 1976. Raymond has worked for The Aroostook Medical Center in several capacities and as a faculty member at both NMCC and UMFK.

“The inaugural honorees have been selected for their exemplary service to nursing, nursing education, the profession, and the healthcare recipients of their care. Whether in nursing service or education, they have risen above the bar and worked to make many dreams a reality. These four individuals have been positive change agents

and have worked tirelessly for the nursing program, the college, the region, state, and at a national level to improve nursing and healthcare,” said Kent-Conant. “It is both fitting and appropriate that they be given the proper recognition for their roles in fostering professionalism and lifelong contributions.”

Criteria for selection to the Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction include demonstrated commitment to health care, commitment to health care education, and contribution to the larger community of health care. Plans are to honor new inductees annually each May.



Lee Doody (left) and his wife Arlene (right) of Caribou help their daughter Kris Doody, CEO of Cary Medical Center, unveil her photo during the 2008 Health Care Professionals Wall of Distinction Induction at NMCC on May 5.

Students Find New “Beginnings” as They Launch On-line Literary Magazine

A hands-on assignment designed to be a final project for a creative writing class at NMCC has instead become new “Beginnings” for 20 students who took the course with instructor Jan Grieco.

The students are showing their best work from the semester to the world as they have become published authors in a very 21st century way – by launching an on-line creative literary magazine. Not only is the writing showcased that of the students, but the entire project from managing and editing to creative concept and web design is the product of the class. Even the e-magazine’s name “Beginnings” is the result of a group brainstorming session and holds special significance to those involved with the project.

“‘Beginnings’ means many things,” said Meggan Pratt of Van Buren, who was selected by her classmates as managing editor. “This was the first time Mrs. Grieco is teaching creative writing here at NMCC. Secondly, we are all beginning writers. In addition, where we are living and going to school is also home to a beginning – the start of Route 1. How great would it be to be discovered and say ‘I had my first work published in ‘Beginnings.’”

Generating that enthusiasm about writing with her students was among the many goals set by Grieco when she first spoke with them early in the semester about presenting their work in what she originally envisioned as a printed compilation.

“It is important for beginning writers to find an appropriate way of publishing, and to understand what that process is like. So, ‘Beginnings’ has a multi-fold purpose. First is to involve the student in the business of writing – that is to give them a hands-on understanding of how one’s work gets published. Second, this magazine has encouraged active peer interaction, and a reliance on each other as reliable critics, commentators on each others’ work.”

Classmate Robert Williams of Perham, served as the webmaster for the group, taking the written work and art work and creating a “dead page” with no active links to show to the author, so he or she had the opportunity to see what the page will look like when the site goes “live”.

“This project has given me a chance to continue exploring the development of a web site from scratch using previous knowledge of basic HTML coding. It has also given me, and my classmates, a chance to interact with different departments and students around campus,” said Williams.

“This project is like an all encompassing experience that shows what college is truly about, meeting new people and exchanging ideas freely without being put down for your beliefs. The greatest reward that has come from this project is that we, as writers and students, are able to have our works not only published for others to read, but that it is being published by fellow classmates who have an insight into what we want to accomplish with this entire project.”

Williams worked with the College’s information technology department to fine-tune some technical changes and to add the work to the College’s web-site.

“We hope that this will continue as an annual project for the next several years, and then become a twice yearly publication – once each semester,” said Grieco.



NMCC students (left to right) Robert Williams, Misty Robinson, Amber Hill and Meggan Pratt review a design draft of their on-line creative literary magazine “Beginnings.”

Plans for the future development of the e-magazine include expanding the scope of the publication outside of the creative writing class to include submissions from students across campus. Many of the students who began the project plan to stay with it as they continue their education.

“I hope that our work can be a model for other writing classes, so that other students from other colleges, or even high schools, who work hard and have poems and stories that are well written can make a site as well,” said Pratt.



Look for the new on-line journal on the College’s web-site at **www.nmcc.edu**

Agreement, *from page 1*

the newly enacted law, teachers currently holding what are known as a K-3, K-8 or Birth-5 #282 endorsement will need to apply for a new endorsement - #081.

To gain the additional certification requirement, both new teachers desiring to teach at the pre-school level as well as existing teachers already working in programs for four year olds will be required to take a number of courses. According to Broad-Smith, the classes include such topics as teaching early childhood special education, language development and early literacy, children's literature, numeracy for the young child, science for the young child, child development or developmental psychology and infant/toddler development.

"NMCC is in the unique position to help with the delivery of these courses as we already offer classes specific to the toddler and young child. By articulating with the University of Maine, NMCC will be able to deliver high-quality courses specific to the developing needs in the field," said Broad-Smith. "Teachers that are already teaching, with their existing certification, and need the specific classes to get the new endorsement, will be able to attend NMCC. Northern Maine, being so geographically large, will make taking these classes 'in their own backyard' much easier for already working teachers."

Under the articulation agreement the credits that current NMCC students, as well as the pre-school teachers from throughout the region earn at the Presque Isle College, will then transfer to U-Maine or be accepted by the State Department of Education for requirements toward the endorsement.

"A goal of the University of Maine is to foster collaborative agreements between academic units and community colleges. Early childhood education is a natural fit for our College and Northern Maine Community College," said Dr. Anne Pooler, interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development at U-Maine in a prepared statement. "On a personal note, I had the privilege of teaching in northern Maine as part of our Graduate Outreach Program for several years and was always pleased with the quality of the students and genuine 'County Attitude' and commitment to K-12 education."

Pooler was represented at the signing ceremony by Owen J. Logue, associate dean of academic services for the Universi-

ty's College of Education and Human Development.

"The signing of this agreement is significant as it will allow students graduating from NMCC's early childhood education program full transferability of credits into our bachelor of science degree," said Logue, who joined with Alan Punches, NMCC vice president and academic dean in making the agreement official.

"This Articulation Agreement between Northern Maine Community College and U-Maine will serve the people of the County and the surrounding area by allowing access to quality programming that can be used both before and after being certified in the teaching field," added Broad-Smith. "Students will benefit from the access to the coursework to receive the new endorsement, but the real winners



The articulation agreement is signed by Dr. Owen J. Logue, associate dean of academic services for the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development; Dr. Alan Punches, NMCC's vice president/academic dean; and Heidi Broad-Smith, early childhood education instructor.

will be the children of Maine. I know I speak on behalf of many educators when I say what a privilege it is that U-Maine has made this agreement with the College."

Museum Exhibit, *from page 12*

Recognizing early on that the project would include significant electronic components, Albert enlisted the help of Robert White, NMCC related electronics instructor, who also serves as treasurer of the CCDM Board. White, in turn, produced a detailed electronic design and construction sketch and enlisted the assistance of Charles Kelley, electrical construction and maintenance instructor in the process.

"Chuck and I selected the switches, lights, power supplies and other needed components," said White.

The next phase of the project was turned back to Albert, who using a sketch, designed and built the metal case or outer frame for the display with the assistance of his lab assistant, Bernard McManus.

Robert Collins, automotive body repair instructor, then designed the painting scheme and carried it out, which included adding the lettering by hand.

With the unique production and construction effort nearly complete, the remaining final assembly work was turned over to two senior electrical construction and maintenance students. Shawn Lay and Kyle Nunley put the finishing touches on the project and made it operational.

"It allowed us to build something that will be used for years to come, rather than just a lab project that gets taken apart after we are finished," said Lay.

"Working on the reaction time tester was pretty cool," said Nunley. "I hope the children like it."

"Beyond the pride and pleasure of providing the museum with a useful exhibit, students and faculty alike shared a wonderful opportunity to exercise our professional skills on a meaningful, real-world project, from initial concept, to design, to delivery," said White.

"I'm so pleased we formed a partnership with NMCC on this project," said Chandler. "It is truly symbolic that the very first exhibit that will grace our museum, which for many children will serve as the center where they begin their education outside the home, was completed by College students and faculty. Really, it is representative of the future full-spectrum of education in The County."

Both White and Chandler see this as only the beginning of collaborative work between NMCC and the CCDM. White anticipates that other projects incorporating NMCC students and faculty will surface as the museum becomes reality.

Chandler is already working with Heidi Broad-Smith, early childhood education program instructor, on a project that will have her students creating packets of lesson plans and other information targeted for area school teachers to use in advance of future visits to the CCDM.

More than 200 Community Members Attend NMCC/Kiwanis Barbecue & Open House to Celebrate Newest, “Greenest” Sinawik House

The College and Kiwanis Club hosted a community open house celebration and barbecue on April 29 in the Mailman Trades Building, where the work of the students and the importance of the partnership between NMCC and Kiwanis on the home building project were recognized.

The 1,248 square foot modular ranch-style home sits in two pieces inside the residential construction lab at NMCC, where more than four dozen students and their instructors in five trade and technical occupations programs have spent the past six months making the home become reality, and at the same time getting a hands-on learning experience unlike any other.

For over three decades, the College and Sinawik (Kiwanis spelled backwards), a non-profit organization founded by the Presque Isle civic organization, have partnered to build a home each year that is contracted by, and sold to, an Aroostook County family.

“This project has been a win-win for both the College and Kiwanis Club,” said Guy Jackson, NMCC’s residential construction instructor, who has been key to the project for the past 27 years. “Over the years, hundreds of students have had the opportunity to work directly on the construction of a house that is placed in the local community and becomes a home for an area family. It has been an excellent teaching tool and great source of pride for both our students and for us as faculty.”

“This is a great project for both the Kiwanis Club and for the students enrolled in the building trade programs here at

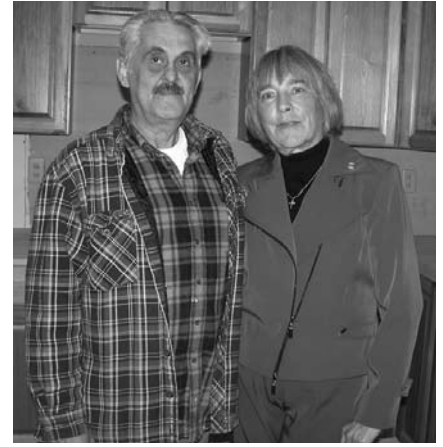
NMCC,” said Janet Kelle, vice president of the P.I. Kiwanis Club. “It is a model that has been catching the eye of other Kiwanis clubs around the country and I am extremely proud that it is the Presque Isle Kiwanis Club and Northern Maine Community College leading the way.”

The open house included tours of the home and an indoor barbecue, as well as the presentation of scholarships from Kiwanis to five students that worked on the structure. Kiwanis member Dan Lee, who serves as president of Sinawik Inc., awarded the scholarships.

Although each of the Sinawik projects built for the past three decades have been approximately the same size, due largely to the space available to construct them, each has been unique according to Roger Crouse, NMCC computer-aided drafting instructor.

“The house plan is a unique example of how we are able to adapt the modular home design to meet the customer’s desires. In the case of Sinawik 31, a home office area provides space for the owner to set up a computer and desk for business and personal use. The bathroom incorporates a solar light tube as well as an easily accessible shower. Plans were also provided to the owner so that they will be able to add a breezeway and garage once the house is placed on the foundation,” said Crouse.

In fact, Sinawik number 31 will be the “greenest” home completed. Among the features of the structure is radiant floor heating and window placement which has been designed to take advantage of passive



Rowell and Sandy McHatten of Mapleton take a look at the work of the NMCC students and faculty who have been constructing their new home for the past several months.

solar gain. As is always the case, extra care has been taken during construction to seal all penetrations in air and vapor barriers.

Owner Rowell McHatten plans, once the structure is placed on-site in Castle Hill, to install a state-of-the-art heating system that will attach to solar panels he will place on the roof that will heat the water for the home. “We wanted to make sure our home was as energy efficient as possible and the NMCC faculty and students that have been working on the home have gone to great lengths to help make this happen,” said Rowell McHatten.

Students in the computer-aided drafting, residential construction, plumbing and heating, electrical construction and maintenance and metal fabrication programs have worked on the project.

“Working on the Sinawik home is more relevant for our students today than it has ever been in large part because of the importance that is given to energy efficiency. As they enter the construction profession, they will find themselves working for customers who place energy conservation among the top priorities of their building projects,” said Jackson.



NMCC building construction trade students (left to right) Brian Nadeau, John Kennedy, David Riopelle, Matthew Tribou and Coleby Lamoreau were awarded the 2008 Sinawik Scholarships.



Computer-aided drafting instructor Roger Crouse (left) was presented with a framed set of floor plans for Sinawik #31 in honor of his three decades of work on the project. Presenting the honor is NMCC President Tim Crowley. Crouse retired at the end of the academic year.

Toward Excellence

A Fond Farewell..



Employees had the opportunity to share some memories and extend best wishes to Bob White (left), who has been teaching at the College for 15 years, during the annual end of year employee barbecue. Bob was initially the lead instructor of the electrical engineering technology program, and then, when that program was discontinued, went on to teach related electrical courses. President Tim Crowley presented Bob with a framed set of Steve Leighton photographs.



Employees also extended a fond farewell to Roger Crouse at the BBQ. Roger has been an outstanding instructor at the College for 30 years. He began teaching drafting at the then Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute. During his years here, he has seen the transition to first a technical college and now a community college. He has also led his program and students in the technological changes in his profession, restructuring his program to computer-aided drafting technology. In addition to teaching, Roger has played an integral part in the construction of new buildings on campus and in designing plans for 30 Sinawik homes.



Development Office
33 Edgemont Drive
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