



Toward Excellence

Fall 2010

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your opportunity

Inside:

Folks in the News 2

County Connection Prominent in MCCS Leadership

Fitzgerald Named Interim Academic Dean

Two New Department Chairs Named

Faculty & Staff Join Campus

Parent Named Nexter

News of Note 4

Efficiency Maine Grant Helping to Green Campus

NMCC Ensures Students Are Prepared for WP Program

NMCC & ACAP Collecting Children's Books

Wind Power Students Gain Experience with Internships

Foundation News 6

Couple Endow Scholarship

Golf Tournament Raises Scholarship Funds

Fall & Winter Expo Draws Record Crowd

Cowett Family Contributes to Scholarship

Alumni Highlights 8

Alumni Group Holds First Annual Meeting

Homecoming A Success

Worth Noting 10

Donations to Library

Twin Rivers Donates Equipment

NMCC Gets Grant Funding

Red Cross Brings Disaster Training to County

NMCC Campus Facilities Undergo "Green Transformation" to Maximize Energy Efficiency

Efforts to maximize efficiency on the NMCC campus are showing impressive early returns on the most significant investment in energy conservation in the institution's physical plant. Several projects, designed to both reduce energy costs and the College's carbon footprint, have been undertaken by the campus, representing an investment of more than \$2.25 million.

"Energy efficiency and taking steps to make our campus facilities more environmentally friendly have been among our top priorities over the past few years. As a campus community we take very seriously our role and responsibility to be good stewards of both the public funds we receive to support the work of the institution and the planet. We believe that the recent projects we have

undertaken are good examples of how we are achieving both," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "The investments we have made in our buildings and around campus in recent months will pay dividends for years to come."

To implement NMCC's Energy Conservation Plan, College officials sought a \$1.36 million loan from the Maine Community College System. A component of the plan involved entering into a performance contract with Honeywell. Under that agreement, following a comprehensive energy audit and resulting work to help maximize energy efficiency, the campus is guaranteed a minimum dollar amount in savings each year for the next 15 years. Savings in the first year are projected at 12 percent or above.

cont. on pg. 4

NMCC Provides EMT Recertification Course to Border Patrol Agents

A dozen Border Patrol agents assigned to the Houlton Border Patrol Sector's Medical Response Team are better prepared to respond to medical emergencies as a result of a 36 hour recertification course offered through NMCC's Continuing Education Division.

The refresher class was designed to assure participants have current knowledge and skills to work at the basic emergency medical technician (EMT) level. Agents completed coursework in areas including trauma assessment, CPR, cardiac assessments and treatments, airway and breathing, and operations and rescue. The agents participated in lab sessions in NMCC's Allied Health Simulation Center, which includes adult and pediatric mannequin patient simulators, capable of replicating most human vital signs, conditions and ailments.

"Our agents are trained as first responders to help make our communities safer," said David Astle, assistant chief patrol agent for the Houlton Border Patrol Sector of the Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection. "They are also trained to assist other state and local law enforcement agencies to respond to emergencies. Some of our agents work in extremely remote areas



The College's EMS program coordinator and lead instructor Daryl Boucher (left) leads a lab session in the NMCC Allied Health Simulation Center during the recent Border Patrol refresher course hosted by NMCC's Continuing Education Division.

where EMS response time is critical."

Astle says his agents protect 611 miles of border 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can end up being first responders at the scene of an emergency when an immediate medical response is needed.

"We provide organizations a great training experience. NMCC has so much to offer the businesses and organizations in the County...we are close, we can provide employees with training customized to the needs

cont. on pg. 10

County Connection Prominent in MCCS Leadership

The leadership of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees includes two familiar Aroostook County faces. Kris Doody of Caribou and Robert Clark of Fort Fairfield will serve for the next two years as chair and vice chair respectively of the 13-member board that oversees Maine's seven community colleges. Both were elected during a MCCS board meeting at NMCC in June.

The County leaders were congratulated by another Aroostook native Daniel Wathen, the outgoing chair of the board and former chief justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, who was raised in Easton. Before calling the vote, Wathen asked directors if there were any other nominations "before we have a complete Aroostook County sweep."

This does not mark the first time that Doody and Clark have teamed together to help advance community colleges in Maine. In 2007-2008 the two joined former MCCS trustee board chair and current NMCC Foundation board chair Brian Hamel as tri-chairs of the NMCC Foundation's major gifts campaign, which raised over \$2.5 million.

Doody, the CEO of Cary Medical Center in Caribou, and Clark, the executive director of the Northern Maine Development Commission, headquartered in Caribou, were both appointed by Governor Baldacci to serve as system trustees in 2006.



Among those taking part at a Maine Community College System Board of Trustees meeting at NMCC earlier this year were, from left: NMCC President Tim Crowley, Daniel Wathen (outgoing chair), Kris Doody (new chair of the board), Robert Clark (new vice chair), and MCCS President John Fitzsimmons.

Interim Academic Dean Named

A respected faculty member and administrator who has served NMCC for the better part of three decades has been appointed to the top academic post on campus. Ronald Fitzgerald, who first joined NMCC as a general education and math/science instructor in 1981, has assumed the post of interim academic dean for the 2010-2011 academic year.

In addition to his 29 years in the classroom, Fitzgerald is an experienced administrator, having served as chair for the arts and sciences (formerly general education) department since 1988, as trade/tech area coordinator for four years, and as acting dean for adult and industrial education for a year. He co-chaired the most recent and highly successful self-study effort undertaken by the college for its 2008 accreditation review by

the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). In addition, he has served as an evaluator on regional accreditation teams for NEASC at visits to other colleges in Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and at an international school accredited by the same body in Luzern, Switzerland.

Fitzgerald earned his Master of Education degree from Antioch New England Graduate School in Keene, New Hampshire in 1994. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 1969.



Two Faculty Members Named Department Chairs

NMCC nursing instructor Dr. Kimberly Esquibel has been appointed by President Crowley to serve as chair of the nursing and allied health department. She succeeds Betty Kent-Conant, the long-serving chair of the department who retired in May. Esquibel has been on the faculty at NMCC since 2000. She has also served as an adjunct faculty member for St. Joseph's College in Standish, Maine.

In addition to her work as a nursing instructor, Esquibel has considerable experience as a practicing nurse. She worked for eight years as a per diem staff nurse in the inpatient psychiatric unit at The Aroostook Medical Center and has held several nursing positions at Cary Medical Center, including emergency room/phone triage nurse manager, staff educator, nurse manager in the medical/surgical, oncology and specialty clinics unit, and senior nursing supervisor/intensive care unit charge nurse.

Last year Esquibel earned her doctor of philosophy in psychology from Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She also holds a master of science degree in nursing education from St. Joseph's College of Maine, a master of public administration with an emphasis in health services management from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, and a bachelor of science in nursing from Auburn University.



David Raymond has been appointed by President Crowley to the department chair position recently vacated by Ron Fitzgerald. Raymond, who has been a full-time faculty member at NMCC since 1990, is highly regarded as a leader on campus, having served as president of the faculty senate and president of the faculty union. He has chaired several committees, including strategic planning and curriculum, as well as an accreditation subcommittee during NMCC's most recent accreditation review.

Raymond has been a key figure in the evolution of NMCC to a community college, including his leadership role in the development of the associate of arts degree in liberal studies and his work on the assessment of the general education core offering of courses. He has written a number of professional papers and conducted several presentations during his years as a classroom instructor. He has also researched and authored a number of articles that have appeared in regional and national publications.

He holds a Master of Arts in Humanities from California State University in Dominguez Hills (2001) and a Master of Arts in History from the University of Maine (1985), as well as a Bachelor of Arts in History from UMPI (1980).



New Faculty and Staff Join Campus Community

NMCC welcomed two new instructors to campus this year to fill positions left vacant by retirements in the Arts & Sciences and Trade & Technical Occupations Departments.

Eric Pelkey of Presque Isle has been selected to serve as a new English/communications instructor. Since 2005, Pelkey has been an adjunct instructor at UMPI, where he taught English and philosophy courses. As part of his duties, he also created course curricula and held student conferences.

In 2007, Pelkey served as a volunteer with the U.S. Peace Corps in Bilasuvar, Azerbaijan in the Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) program. He observed and co-taught English language classes to students in grades 6, 7, 9 and 10.

Pelkey has also previously held positions as a residential advisor at the Loring Job Corps Center in Limestone and as an English instructor at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, also in Limestone. He earned a Master of Arts in English from the University of Rhode Island in Kingston in 2003 and a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from UMPI in 2001.

Joining the trade and technical occupations faculty as a welding instructor is Richard Taggett of Woodland. Taggett worked as a welding instructor for the College's continuing education division in 2007-2008, training employees on-site at both Pattison Sign in Limestone and Louisiana Pacific in New Limerick.

Since 2000, he has worked as the welding instructor at the St. John Valley Technology Center in Frenchville. He was responsible for developing a welding curriculum for secondary level students and training entry level welders in shielded metal arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, gas metal arc welding, metal fabrication and equipment repair.

He is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program in education through the

University of Maine and holds a welding and fabrication certificate from Technical Careers Institute.

In addition to the new faculty members, new staff members have been hired to fill vacancies in the admissions office, financial aid office and facilities management area.

Robbie Krul of Caribou, a familiar face on the NMCC campus who has served as the College's head men's soccer coach, assumes a new position as assistant director of admissions. Krul, who owns and serves as the director of coaching for the Dutch Soccer Academy, which enrolls over 1,500 students age four through 19 annually, has also worked as a physical therapy aide at County Physical Therapy since 1997.

He earned a Master of Science in Business degree from Husson University in 2009. Krul also earned a Bachelor of Science in Sport and Leisure Management from Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, New Hampshire in 1997, and the equivalent of a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture from Tinbergen Techniek in The Hague, Netherlands in 1993.

Heidi Graham of Mapleton joins the NMCC financial aid office as a financial aid representative. Graham began working at Advantage Payroll in 1984 upon graduating from Northern Maine Technical College, a forerunner of NMCC. She began as a customer service representative and worked her way up to vice president and part owner of the branch over the course of 25 years with the company before it closed in 2009. She currently sits on the NMCC Alumni Board, serving as vice president.

Terri Thibodeau of Presque Isle filled a vacant custodial position. Thibodeau most recently worked in housekeeping at both Cary Medical Center and for the Maine Veterans Home in Caribou.

Jason Parent Named to MaineBiz's Next List



Jason Parent, NMCC's director of development and college relations, was recently named by *Mainebiz* as one of 10 people shaping the future of Maine's economy.

He was recognized as a "Nexter" in great part due to his role as president of the Maine delegation organizing the 2014 World Acadian Congress. The event, scheduled for August 8-24, 2014, is estimated to draw in as many as 50,000 people and generate up to \$50 million in economic impact across northern Maine, northwestern New Brunswick, and southeastern Quebec.

In addition to his professional duties at NMCC, Parent has given of his time and talents generously not only with the World Acadian Congress project, but in several areas that benefit the local community. He currently serves on the board of the P.I. Rotary Club and co-chaired their Special Projects Committee last year. He also serves on the board of Leaders Encouraging Aroostook Development (LEAD) and recently coordinated and moderated the only gubernatorial debate in northern Maine on their behalf. He is involved with the United Way's Northern Star project and is a past president of their board.

He has previously been recognized as a United Way of Aroostook Volunteer of the Year (2004 & 2006), as well as an Outstanding Young Alumni (2000) from the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

For those who have not seen the article, you can view it on-line at www.mainebiz.biz/news47032.html.

Parent was formally recognized at a reception in Augusta on October 27. A number of employees and members of the General Advisory Council and the NMCC Foundation had the opportunity to congratulate Jason in person at a surprise reception held on campus on October 28.



Efficiency Maine Grant Helping to “Green” Curriculum at NMCC

Plans to revise the building energy systems curricula across the construction trade programs at NMCC to include green energy building methods, energy audits and weatherization of existing structures got underway in August.

The initiative, made possible through a \$225,000 grant from the Efficiency Maine Trust funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide for new classes and significant revisions to existing courses that will stress energy efficiency in construction and renovation practices.

“The need for improving building energy proficiency is evident through new codes and building standards, as well as the public’s demand for a reduced dependence on fossil fuels and to improve overall energy efficiency,” said Brian McDougal, chair of NMCC’s trade and technical occupations department.

“Whether the buildings are older existing structures or a building that is presently being designed for construction, there are numerous incentives to evaluate and improve a building’s energy performance.”

Under the first phase of the grant, faculty earned their building analyst certification through a week-long course offered through the Building Performance Institute (BPI). It covered the basic principles of building science to assess energy efficiency in a home while also monitoring conditions that have a direct impact



Howard Vics (left) of CleanEdison leads NMCC construction trades faculty through a hands-on energy audit as part of the training the faculty undertook to earn their building analyst certification. Instructors participating were (from left) Pam Buck, computer-aided drafting; Todd Maynard, electrical construction and maintenance; Al St. Peter, plumbing and heating; Donald Hanson, adjunct instructor for building science courses; and Brian McDougal, chair of the trade and technical occupations department.

on human health and safety. Training included a series of hands on exercises in home energy auditing and efficiency.

Moving forward, faculty members in the construction trade programs will begin developing new curriculum, which will include the addition of courses in Energy Auditing and Solar Domestic Hot Water. The Energy Auditing class will be based on the BPI certification standards as required for Efficiency Maine and Maine State Housing. It will be required of all plumbing and heating program

students and offered as a technical-related elective for other construction programs.

The Domestic Solar and Hot Water course, the only one of its kind offered in the region, will be added to the plumbing and heating program as a graduation requirement. The curriculum will follow the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) principles for solar water heating.

Aside from new courses, plumbing and heating curriculum will be enhanced by adding instruction modules in energy control and management techniques into existing heating and refrigeration courses.

The Electrical Construction and Maintenance I and II courses will be revised with additional focus on designing and managing electrical systems, particularly energy efficient systems, efficient motors using alternative and renewable electrical energy sources, retrofits and energy audits. Blueprint Reading for the Construction Trades will be strengthened with green energy elements, including isometric and orthographic drawings to show green building materials and energy systems. The Building Science I and II courses will be expanded to four credits with the addition of more lab work.

Aside from the curriculum enhancements in the construction trade programs, a small portion of the grant will be used to purchase equipment for NMCC’s wind power program.

Energy Efficiency Project, *from page 1*

Work on the facilities began in early April during spring break with a targeted effort to better insulate buildings across campus. The energy audit showed large areas of air infiltration in all buildings on campus. Many needed to have the area where the roof and wall join together sealed to prevent heat loss.

Energy efficiency upgrades resumed following commencement with work on extensive updates to the building control mechanisms across campus. As a result of the new computer systems installed, the College will have better control of the heating and ventilation in all buildings.

Individual rooms can now be scheduled for heat as needed as opposed to the former method of heating a whole wing or floor. The system will allow the College to trend building temperature and

equipment operation over long periods of time.

Interior and exterior lighting projects were completed over the summer. All of the interior lighting was reviewed and inefficient lighting was replaced with new high efficiency lighting. The college added motion detectors and day light harvesting controls, which turn the lights off if there is no motion in the room or enough natural light. Exterior lights were replaced with light emitting diode, or LED, fixtures, which will provide a significant reduction in electrical usage and maintenance costs. The upgrades have also provided more lighting in the parking lots and walkways, enhancing security.

In addition to these projects, two other building upgrades at NMCC, funded through the American Recovery

and Reinvestment Act, will result in energy savings on the campus.

A \$419,839 project allowed insulation in the roof of the Mailman Trades Building to be doubled, along with exterior repairs to correct many air infiltration issues. The project included the installation of new solar tubes in the main corridor that harvest daylight and will help reduce the amount of energy for lighting.

The final project, a \$477,979 renovation to the mechanical systems in Andrews Hall, a residential facility, was completed this fall. A new high-efficiency boiler was installed along with a new domestic hot water system. A heat recovery unit was installed to capture approximately 60 percent of heat that is normally exhausted out of the building.



Jared LeBlond of New Sharon, an entering student in the wind power technology program at NMCC this fall, completes one of the tasks of a 17-step physical assessment that is required of all prospective students in the program. Monitoring LeBlond's progress is Adam Simoes, director of industrial rehabilitation and an occupational therapist at County Physical Therapy.

NMCC Ensures Students Are Prepared for Wind Power Program

Climbing a 250 foot wind turbine is an essential part of the curriculum for students in NMCC's power technology program. It's just one of the physical rigors campus officials are looking to ensure entering students are both prepared for and capable of undertaking.

In partnership with County Physical Therapy, a new assessment has been developed to make certain students are physically able to fully participate in the hands-on work involved in the curriculum of the program and of their future profession.

"Our goal is the make sure that our graduates are the highest quality, best prepared technicians in the field," said Dr. William Egeler, NMCC dean of students. "Wind power technology students are in a hazardous environment with requirements to climb hundreds of feet in the air, work at heights, and lift heavy weights. We wanted to ensure that the students wouldn't hurt themselves or endanger fellow students."

The College partnered with County Physical Therapy to develop and conduct

the actual assessment to determine whether prospective students can meet the standards set by the U.S. Department of Labor for wind power technicians.

Paul Marquis, vice president of clinical operations and a physical therapist at CPT, along with Adam Simoes, director of industrial rehabilitation and an occupational therapist, climbed up the wind turbine at UMPI last fall with NMCC students and instructors. They then put that experience to use to develop a 30 to 40 minute-long evaluation that is specific to NMCC's wind power program.

The 17-step screening includes a vertebral artery test, a 55 pound two hand carry, a 50 step climbing test on a Versaclimber – which simulates a ladder climb, and a 33 inch step-up exercise to simulate stepping from inside the turbine to the top of the turbine.

Most of the tasks are performed while the student is in a harness and while wearing gloves to simulate the actual work/climbing environment. Throughout the screening the student's heart rate is measured and monitored.

Wind Power Students Gain Career Experience

Eleven wind power students got a glimpse into their future profession and the career opportunities that exist once they become the first in New England to earn associate degrees in the field in May.

After the summer working in paid internships on wind development projects for four different companies, the students returned to the classroom to complete their final academic year in the NMCC program. The time spent working hands-on in the wind industry has the students excited about careers in alternative energy and prospects for employment.

"Before I began the internship I had a feeling that I was going in the right direction. Now I am certain that I've made the right decision. This is definitely the right career choice for me," said student Ben Dutil of Winslow. "I absolutely feel that

there is a place for the graduates of this program in the wind industry."

Dutil, along with six other wind power students, worked for Larkin Enterprises on the Kibby Mountain wind power project in western Maine. Larkin is a Maine-based international corporation that offers field engineering, maintenance, commissioning, and supervision in the energy industry.

Dutil and classmate Justin Foran worked with electricians wiring the erected turbines and helping with such jobs as installing aviation lights and wind sensors and pulling transmission line cables.

Kibby Mountain is project owned by independent power producer TransCanada, which hired NMCC student intern Jeffrey Cropley. Cropley worked with the

cont. on pg. 11



NMCC Collaborates with ACAP for Annual Children's Book Drive

NMCC students and employees are partnering with the Aroostook County Action Program to brighten and enrich the lives of area children through what has become a signature service activity for the campus during the Holiday season.

During last year's children's book drive, NMCC volunteers collected and distributed a record 6,000 books to youth during the Holiday Light Parade in Presque Isle. The campus is once again planning to accept book donations in advance of the parade and is hoping for help from the community.

This year's efforts got a big boost in the form of a partnership with ACAP, who will help in the collection of books in the coming weeks and assist with distribution at the parade on December 4.

The collaboration will make donating books more convenient for community members throughout the region by offering more drop-off locations. In addition to NMCC's Presque Isle campus, ACAP has identified a number of their facilities in Aroostook County where people can donate new or used books.

Individuals or organizations with new or used children's books to donate toward the project may drop off books to the information window in the main lobby of the Christie building at the College; ACAP Main Office, 771 Main Street Presque Isle; ACAP Park Street Center, 44 Park Street Presque Isle; ACAP Employment & Training, 91 Military Street Houlton; ACAP Fort Kent Child Care Center, 40 Alfalfa Avenue; or ACAP Caribou Child Care Center, Bowles Road Caribou.

The book collection effort will continue through the month of November. For more information, or to arrange for a pick-up of a larger quantity of books, contact the NMCC development and college relations office at 768-2809.

Fort Fairfield Couple Endow Scholarship Fund

A Fort Fairfield couple with deep County roots that can attest to the value students receive from an NMCC education is giving back to an institution that has had “a significant impact” on their lives.

Tom and Betty K. Conant have established an endowed scholarship fund in their names with the NMCC Foundation that will benefit future generations of students attending the College. The fund will annually provide assistance to students attending NMCC and who are pursuing a degree in nursing or a related allied health field, or in electrical construction and maintenance.

Betty Kent-Conant served on the faculty at the Presque Isle College for 30 years, half of that time as nursing and allied health department chair, before retiring in June of this year; and Tom Conant graduated from the automotive program in 1968 and the electrical construction and maintenance program in 1996.

“As most of my professional career has been devoted to the education of health care professionals at NMCC, I feel very strongly that it is vital to support those who wish to pursue careers of high-

er learning. To that end, it is imperative to lend that support whenever and however we can,” said Kent-Conant.

“I value the education I received at NMCC and the opportunities those degrees have allowed for me. The education has made it possible for me to have achieved my Master Electrician license and the career path that I have so enjoyed. I want to be able to help students from Aroostook County have those same opportunities at NMCC.” said Tom Conant.

The Tom and Betty K. Conant Scholarship focuses on, but is not limited to, rewarding academic achievement and community involvement, assisting students who have a demonstrated financial need, and providing an educated and skilled workforce for the local region. It will be used to provide scholarships to NMCC students to fund tuition, books, tools and equipment.

Recipients will be residents of Maine, with preference given to students from Aroostook County. Scholarships are to be awarded after completion of the first semester to students in good academic standing enrolled in a degree program.



Tom and Betty K. Conant (from left) present a contribution to establish the Tom and Betty K. Conant Scholarship with the NMCC Foundation to Brian Hamel, NMCC Foundation Board chairperson, and Jason Parent, executive director of the NMCC Foundation.

In the first year, the scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in nursing or in a related allied health program. In the second year, the scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in the electrical construction and maintenance program. The scholarship award will alternate between the two programs in subsequent years. At the point when the fund balance has reached a level such that more than one scholarship can be awarded annually, awards will be distributed evenly to students in each of the aforementioned programs.

Golf Tournament Raises More than \$16,000 for Student Scholarships



Michael J. Kelley (left), regional vice president of TD Bank, NMCC Foundation board member and key organizer of the annual TD Bank Golf Tournament to Benefit the NMCC Foundation, presents the winning tournament trophy – the TD Bank Cup - for first low net to (center left to right) Dan Foster, Dan Ayoob and Tom Towle of Fort Fairfield. Tournament organizer Ray Hews (right) of TD Bank joins in congratulating the team.

NMCC students will benefit from more than \$16,000 in scholarship funds raised through the *TD Bank Golf Tournament to benefit the NMCC Foundation* held on August 12 at the Aroostook Valley Country Club in Fort Fairfield. Just over one hundred golfers teed off for the annual scramble. An additional dozen people joined the golfers for a dinner and silent auction that followed play at AVCC.

“TD Bank is extremely pleased with our continuing partnership with the NMCC Foundation. Our annual golf tournament provides a wonderful opportunity to join together for a day of fun with our customers, employees, NMCC staff, sponsors, and NMCC Foundation donors to raise much needed financial support for the Foundation. What is exciting is the great sponsor support we get, not only from the local area, but from our friends from southern Maine as well,” said Michael J. Kelley, TD Bank regional vice president. “Our sponsors and supporters have remained very generous. The proceeds from this tournament are all about the future of our youth and we all remain proud and honored to be a small part of that future.”

This marked the fifth year TD Bank has partnered with the Foundation to host the golf tournament. “We are most grateful to Mike Kelley, Ray Hews, and many others at TD Bank for their work on this annual event. The funds raised help ‘open the doors’ of higher education, and of NMCC in particular, to a number of deserving students each year,” said NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

Special thanks to all of our sponsors:

Major Sponsors: Aramark, Coca-Cola, Northern Maine Development Commission, Quigley’s Building Supply, WAGM-TV
Lunch Sponsor: Maine Winter Sports Center
Hole-in-One Sponsor: Cruise One

Hole Sponsors: A&L Construction, Buck Construction, County Super Suds, Daigle Oil Co., Graves Supermarkets, Husson University, Lynox Welding Supply & Lynox Cleaning Systems, MMG, Sure Winner Foods
Half-hole Sponsors: Amanda Blade, LMT, Cary Medical Center, Frank Martin Sons, Griffeth Ford Lincoln Mercury, Huber Engineered Woods, Paradis Shop-n-Save, Pines Health Services, P.I. Rotary Club, Star City/Hillside/Mars Hill IGA’s, The Aroostook Medical Center, United Insurance-Hayden/Perry Agency



Nancy Chandler (right) shows Jacob Smart of New Sweden how to test his reflexes (with a device built by NMCC students in 2008 at the Caribou Children Discovery Museum's booth at the Fall & Winter Expo, while his parents, Travis and Shannon Smart (an NMCC alum), look on.



Jon Gulliver, news anchor for WAGM-TV, was one of the station's 'celebrities' that attendees had a chance to meet during the Fall & Winter Expo. WAGM-TV was co-sponsor of the event and played a major role in making it such a success.



Rick Taggett (NMCC welding instructor), along with his sons Jesse and Wyatt, check out the Riverview Homes booth at the Fall & Winter Expo.

Fall and Winter Expo Draws Record Crowd; P.I. Couple Wins Grand Prize

A new attendance record for the Fall and Winter Expo was realized this year as more than 4,100 community members from across The County and New Brunswick attended the show sponsored by the NMCC Foundation and WAGM-TV at the Forum in Presque Isle.

Perhaps the most excited individuals of those who attended is the Presque Isle couple who won the "Live Easy This Winter" grand prize package valued at more than \$3,000. David and Robertine Morrow won free groceries, heating oil and electricity this winter.

The unique prize package included vouchers for groceries, heat and electricity. The lead donation came from Scott Carlin, NMCC alumnus and owner of the Star City (Presque Isle), Hillside (Fort Fairfield) and Mars Hill IGAs. Carlin provided 12 \$150 grocery gift certificates redeemable at his three central Aroostook stores. The \$1,800 in groceries represents the average cost for a family of four through the winter season.

Joining Star City, Hillside and Mars Hill IGAs in providing the combined prize package is the County's electric utility, Maine Public Service Company, which donated three \$100 gift certificates to cover the average electrical costs for the three calendar months of winter.

Daigle Oil Company, Dead River Company and Maine Potato Growers Energy Services division each contributed 100 gallons of heating oil. Additionally, Northeast Pellets of Ashland and Center Farms Coal of Easton provided the equivalent of an average winter's supply of wood pellets and coal respectively. The grand prize package winner chose from amongst the oil, pellets and coal.

Morrow elected to take the heating oil vouchers. The winner of the wood pellets was Robert Gagnon of Westfield; the coal went to Betty Ellis of Castle Hill.

Other prize winners included: Tina Murphy of Westfield, a pellet stove donated by the County Stove Shop, Doreen McCarthy of Woodland, a snow blower donated by Aroostook Door and Window; and Shirley Doughty of Mapleton, four deluxe NASCAR tickets for Loudon, New Hampshire donated by Levasseur's Napa Auto and Truck Parts. In addition, 50 Troll Beads donated by Country Collectibles were drawn throughout the weekend.



The Grand Prize package from the Fall & Winter Expo was presented to the winner during a special gathering at Star City IGA on October 4. Taking part in the presentation was, from left: NMCC Foundation board members Richard Engels, immediate past chair, Vicki Smith, vice chair and chair of the Expo planning committee, and Brian Hamel, chair of the board; Kelly Landeen, sales manager at WAGM; Carol Kozlowski, WAGM's chief operating officer; prize winners David and Robertine Morrow of Presque Isle; Mileah Brown, store manager at Star City IGA; and Scott Carlin, Foundation board member, NMCC alumnus, and owner of Star City, Hillside and Mars Hill IGAs..

Cowett Family Contributes to Scholarship Fund



NMCC President Timothy Crowley (left) joined in thanking (left to right) Laura Doughty, daughter of Larry Cowett; Jensen Doughty, Cowett's grandson; and his wife Bonnie Cowett, who presented the family's latest contribution to the fund to Brian Hamel, NMCC Foundation Board chair.

Family members of the late Larry Cowett recently contributed \$500 to the scholarship that they established through the NMCC Foundation in his memory in 2004. The scholarship is presented annually to a second year automotive student.

The Larry Cowett Memorial Scholarship was established as an open fund and is capable of receiving gifts from members of the public at large. Bonnie Cowett hopes this most recent gift will encourage others to give to this and other student scholarship funds at NMCC.

8 Alumni Highlights

New NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization Holds First Annual Meeting, Elects Officers

A new organization formed to energize and engage alumni and others positively impacted by Northern Maine Community College and its forerunners, Northern Maine Technical College and Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute, held its first annual meeting earlier this year and elected a slate of officers to lead the group into its first year of active service.

The NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization, which is comprised of a board of directors more than 30 strong,



Executive committee members for the new NMCC Alumni & Friends Organization are (left to right) Scott Carlin, president; Heidi Graham, vice president, both of Mapleton; Gisele MacDonald, treasurer, of Caribou; and Tomi Henderson, secretary, of Mars Hill. Also on the executive board are directors at large from the organization's full board, Cheri Black of Caribou and Kerry Gordon of Fort Fairfield; student body representative Rose-Mary Williams of Fort Fairfield and President Timothy Crowley. Missing from photo are Gary Cleaves of Lascassas, Tennessee, who had served as the organization's provisional president; and director-at-large Mark Bouchard of Caribou.

has been working over the past year to get the association off the ground.

"This is an opportunity for those of us who have been so positively impacted by NMCC to celebrate the bond we all share and to help give back to the college," said Scott Carlin, who was elected the organization's first president, in his address to the 70 alumni and friends of the college gathered for the event. "As a graduate myself, as a local employer who hires current students and alumni, and as a member of the local

community, I can certainly attest to the important role NMCC plays toward the betterment of the economy and development of Aroostook County."

In addition to the election of officers, the dinner meeting featured reports from two of the standing committees of the group: homecoming and membership.



NMCC President Timothy Crowley (left) presents the "Torchbearer Award" to Richard Engels, immediate past president of the NMCC Foundation Board of Directors.

Also included in the evening was the presentation of the very first NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization Torchbearer Award. The honor is bestowed on an individual who, consistent with the definition of the word torchbearer, is someone in the forefront of a campaign, crusade, or movement.

The honor, which was presented by NMCC President Tim Crowley, will become an award given at the annual alumni event moving forward. It was presented to Richard Engels, the immediate past president of the NMCC Foundation Board, who during his tenure in the leadership role made the establishment of the Alumni and Friends Organization a key initiative.

For more information on the organization, contact NMCC at 760-1107 or check out the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization on Facebook.

Fall Enrollment at NMCC Reflective of Budget Constraints

Budget constraints and subsequent planned reductions at NMCC are impacting the number of students the institution can serve at a time when demand is high following a period of record enrollment.

The campus experienced a significant (18 percent) increase in enrollment last fall when the student body topped 1,100; that growth was maintained this year, with an enrollment of 1,116 students.

"The resources of the College are stretched thin given the record number of students we are serving," said President Timothy Crowley. "Our goal, first and foremost, is to provide a high quality education. We could just not sustain additional growth given the existing campus fiscal and human resource constraints. As a result, we initiated targeted enrollment management measures to ensure that quality to our students moving forward."

Among the changes instituted by College officials that impacted enrollment this fall was a planned reduction in the number of students admitted into two popular programs. After welcoming 36 students into the inaugural class of its wind power program in 2009, budget constraints forced college officials to limit the number of students entering this fall to 18. The number of students accepted into the nursing program was also reduced. The program, which is delivered on NMCC's campus as well as to distant sites in southern Aroostook and the St. John Valley, saw the number of student slots in the newest cohort at its off-campus center in Houlton decreased from the 15 who graduated in May to the eight accepted at that site this fall.

"Despite these planned programmatic reductions we made due to limited resourc-

es, we have essentially maintained about the same number of students," said William Egeler, dean of students. "We received a record number of applications for admission to the College for the entering class of 2010...a more than double-digit increase over the previous year."

NMCC's enrollment gains in recent years are credited to a combination of growth in both the traditional college age student population and the non-traditional age group, including many displaced workers looking for re-training.

The College has been successful in attracting better than 1 of every 8 Aroostook County high school graduates over the past several years. These students are seeking traditional programs to enter the workforce upon graduation, as well as turning to NMCC's liberal studies degree as an affordable start to a baccalaureate degree.



Students from the Southern Aroostook Vocational Education Region 2 in Houlton enjoy the barbecue lunch and music of the Presque Isle Middle School Jazz Band during NMCC's open house on September 10, part of the 2010 Homecoming activities.

NMCC Homecoming a Huge Success

The first Homecoming hosted by NMCC in over two decades is being called a resounding success by organizers. The NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization, which hosted the weekend celebration, is pleased with how events unfolded and their decision to pair the event with the Maine State Firefighters convention held over the same weekend.

"We couldn't be more pleased with our first time hosting a homecoming weekend," said Scott Carlin, president of the Alumni and Friends Organization. "Our events provided a great opportunity for old friends to reconnect and for new friends to meet."

The weekend, which was themed as "celebrating the past, present and future," began with a nod to all three as NMCC hosted a campus-wide open house on October 10. More than 250 guests visited the College, including 175 area high school students, who toured the campus.

One highlight of the open house was a noon-time barbecue and pep rally. The event featured the music of the Presque Isle Middle School Jazz Band and an introduction of the members of the NMCC Falcon soccer team.

The evening celebrated the accomplishments of outstanding alumni. Four honorees were presented with the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization's Shining Star Award at a banquet attended by more than 100 people, including Congressman Michael Michaud, in the Edmunds Conference Center.

The alumni, Robert Clark of Fort Fairfield, Robert Lilly of Scarborough, Nancy Putman of New Limerick and Ammie Toby of Houlton, will serve as the first of 50 individuals to be honored by the college in the coming years to mark the institution's 50th anniversary which will officially begin in 2011.

Saturday's highlights included the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization's participation in the firefighter's convention parade in downtown Presque Isle. More than two dozen alumni, current students and staff participated, handing out NMCC pencils and watermelon donated by Star City, Hillside and Mars Hill IGA's to parade goers. NMCC won first place in the civic category.

That afternoon, several NMCC alumni took part in the first annual NMCC alumni versus NMCC Falcons soccer game. The alumni team won the close match by a score of 3 to 2. On Sunday, the Falcons hosted Yankee Small College Conference rivals Eastern Maine Community College, falling in their official season opener by a score of 5 to 3.



Just over 100 alumni, college employees and guests attended the NMCC Alumni and Friends Dinner and Awards ceremony on September 10. Four alumni were honored during the evening as "Shining Stars." Among those taking part in the ceremony were, (left to right) Scott Carlin, president of the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization; honorees Robert Clark, Ammie Toby, Nancy Putman, and Robert Lilley; NMCC President Timothy Crowley; and Congressman Michael Michaud. The star awards presented were made by students in the welding and metal fabrication program.



The NMCC Alumni and Friends Float took home top honors in the Maine State Firefighter's Convention Parade on September 11. More than 25 alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of NMCC helped hand out watermelon slices and pencils to parade goers.



Members playing on the NMCC Alumni Soccer team during the recent Homecoming match were (front row, left to right) Andrew Pytlak, Shannon Cook, Shawn Lahey, Trent Legassie, Steve Thibodeau, and Glen Condon; (second row, same order) Lloyd Fortin, Dennis Martin, Joshua Gonsioroski, Christopher Dutil, Elizan McLean and Lee Erkel; (back row, same order) Robbie Krul (who coached the team), Brandon Boulware, Wade Trospier, Luke Ireland, and Sam Petrie. Missing from photo is Kevin Young.

Maine Humanities Council Grant Allows NMCC's Library to Host More Community Exhibits

A grant from the Maine Humanities Council to purchase exhibit display cases has made it possible for the library to host more community and historical exhibits.

The matching \$3,500 humanities infrastructure grant has provided for the purchase of three glass enclosed display cases that will greatly expand the types of collections and exhibits the library can house on a temporary basis. In recent years, the facility has hosted an increasing number of art and photography exhibits in an effort to both showcase the community to students, faculty and staff and to provide additional opportunity for community members to visit campus.

"We are very grateful to the Maine Humanities Council for this grant opportunity. The new display cases make it possible for us to expand the type of

material we can borrow from other institutions. The addition of exhibits gives visitors yet another reason to come to the library. Plans are underway to offer many interesting exhibits during the upcoming academic year," said Gail Roy, NMCC assistant dean of learning resources.

According to Roy, the cases will be used to display objects that will include books, letters, artifacts, and maps and atlases. The items will be loaned from local institutions initially, but future plans are to borrow from other museums, libraries, and historical societies throughout the state of Maine.

"We are looking to provide programs and displays that will engage our students and offer them information to encourage further reading and research on a wide range of topics," said Roy.

Life Story of County Resident Gets Second Printing; Family Donates Book to Local Libraries

A book that chronicles the life and times of a prominent central Aroostook County man and provides a glimpse into the region's past is again in print, 33 years after its original publishing.

Call Me Phin, is an autobiographical account of Phineas F. Ellis, a public servant whose career spanned six decades and included service in the Maine State Legislature, as Castle Hill's first town manager and as the first administrator of Presque Isle's A.R. Gould Memorial Hospital. The book includes historical recollections of people, places and events in The County from the turn of the 20th century through the 1970's.

Originally printed in 1977, a year after his death, the 1,000 copies sold quickly. With numerous requests for additional books over 30 years, family members decided it was time to introduce a new audience to the publication.

"I never dreamed there would be another printing," said Elaine Ellis Hotham, who worked side-by-side with her father to edit the original publication. "My son Tim and his wife Tracy, who live in North Carolina, took on the task of reformatting the text and getting the autobiography published a second time. There are a few more pictures and the style is different. There is also a forward that was added by Tim that talks about his grandfather's legacy."



Retired instructor Dan Hotham and his mother Elaine Ellis Hotham present the first copy of *Call Me Phin*, an autobiography written by their grandfather and father respectively, to Jason Parent, director of development and college relations. The book will become part of NMCC's library collection.

The first copies of *Call Me Phin* are being donated by the family to libraries throughout central Aroostook. The first book was presented to the NMCC library, where Ellis' grandson, Dan Hotham, taught for more than three decades.

"Above and beyond the personal experiences of my grandfather, this book really captures what life was like in central Aroostook at the time," said Dan Hotham. "By donating the book to area libraries, our intention is to make it available to all people who want to learn about the past and be inspired by the story of a life well lived."



Library Collection of Acadian and Franco-American Books Grows

An effort by the NMCC Library to expand its collection, specifically publications significant to the local region, received a boost recently with a donation of books from the Acadian Archives at the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

The gift of 16 titles is comprised of publications which detail the Franco-American and Acadian experience in northern Maine and beyond. Included are some locally produced materials which highlight the St. John Valley's unique culture and history.

The collection was presented by Lise Pelletier, director of the Acadian Archives to Jason Parent, NMCC's director of development and college relations at a recent meeting of the Maine Regional Coordinating Committee for the 2014 World Acadian Congress. Both serve as directors on the international organizing committee for the event.

"It is always exciting when the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes has the opportunity to disseminate information about Acadians and Franco-Americans. The timing could not be better as we move closer to the worldwide reunion of Acadians and Francos in 2014. We have been an invisible minority in this state for too long. We're pleased to associate with NMCC to increase our visibility," said Pelletier.

EMS Training, *from pg. 1*

of an organization. We also can bring the training directly to the company site if preferred," said Leah Buck, assistant dean of continuing education. "Of course, our greatest strength is that we can bring the knowledge and skills of the NMCC faculty to the project."

Scott Michaud, an instructor in the College's EMS program, coordinated the refresher course and was assisted in the instructional components by EMS coordinator and lead faculty member Daryl Boucher, as well as part-time instructors Matt Beil and Warren Grass.



Students Jared Reed of Washburn (left) and Lance Getchell of Milford (in arc flash gear) are two of the many students in electrical and electronics related programs at NMCC that are benefitting from the donation of equipment by Twin Rivers Paper Company of Madawaska. Featured in the photo between the two students is the programmable logic controller donated by Twin Rivers and the arc flash gear suit (worn by Getchell) also donated by the company.

Twin Rivers Donates Equipment to NMCC

An equipment donation from the Madawaska-based operations of Twin Rivers (formerly Fraser) Paper Company is proving to be extremely valuable to students in the electrical and electronics related programs at NMCC.

The programmable logic controller and arc flash safety gear previously owned by Twin Rivers have a combined value of nearly \$4,000. Altogether, purchase of similar new items would have cost NMCC more than \$10,000.

"This donation is very much appreciated and the equipment is being put to good use," said Charles Kelley, NMCC instructor. "Combined with a recent purchase of

new software, the newer technology has greatly enhanced the hands on learning opportunities for the electrical and electronics related fields."

A programmable logic controller is a digital computer used for automation of electromechanical processes, such as control of machinery on factory assembly lines or lighting fixtures. Arc flash gear is the industry standard in personal protective equipment when working in areas or in conditions that present a possible electrical hazard. The suit donated by Twin Rivers includes head gear and face shield, a flame retardant suit and insulated rubber gloves.

NMCC to Receive \$1.27 Million in Grant Funding from U.S. Department of Education

A U.S. Department of Education grant that will bring more than \$1.27 million in grant funding to NMCC over the next five years will benefit low income and first generation students, as well as students with disabilities, attending the campus.

NMCC was notified that its TRIO/ Student Support Services grant application to the Federal Department of Education has been approved in the amount of \$255,504 for the period from September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011. The money is renewable each year through August 31, 2015, depending on the College's performance in the previous year.

The purpose of the program is to provide academic and other support services to low-income, first-generation or disabled college students to increase students' retention and graduate rates, facilitate their transfer from two-year to four-year colleges and foster an institutional climate supportive of the success of low-income and first-generation college students and individuals with disabilities. Students must be enrolled or accepted in a program of study. In addition, low-income students who are first-generation college students and students with disabilities must have been determined to have academic need.

Internships, *from pg. 5*

team responsible for overseeing the contractors and overall construction of the wind farm. He completed the inspection of 16 of the 22 turbines erected in the current phase of the Kibby project.

Future job placement for graduates of the program is one of the key areas that NMCC wind power technology instructor Wayne Kilcollins has been working on since he was hired to get the program up and running. Nearly a dozen different companies who are involved in some aspect of growing the state's wind industry, and a number of others involved in wind outside of Maine, have been in regular contact with the College with interest in the training program.

A total of nine of the eleven NMCC interns worked on Kibby Mountain this summer. In addition those working for Larkin and TransCanada, Vestas also took on an intern.

The two other student interns went to work for Maine-based construction company Cianbro. Matt Melcher and Bradley Therrien worked with project managers and engineers on a 20-wind turbine project Cianbro is getting off the ground in Maryland. They spent the first half of the summer in Portland and the other half in Maryland completing pre-construction work for the project.

"Working with these companies gave our students an opportunity to see the diversity in career paths that are available in the wind energy industry. The students were able to experience activities from initial planning stages through turbine commissioning," said Kilcollins. "Their enthusiasm and first-hand experience has been valuable in the classroom to add further depth to our discussions."

American Red Cross Brings Disaster Preparedness Institute to The County

The Aroostook County Branch of the Pine Tree Chapter of the American Red Cross, in partnership with the Aroostook County Emergency Management Agency and NMCC, brought a first-of-its-kind Disaster Preparedness Institute to northern Maine in September.

The two-day training, on the NMCC campus, focused on numerous areas of disaster preparedness and was aimed at both training prospective new volunteers to respond in times of emergency and providing current volunteers and professionals

in related fields with up to date training to ensure the community's immediate response to emergency situations.

Mariah Lemieux-Lupien, an NMCC student senate member, worked with Joyce Knorr from the Red Cross to help coordinate the activity.

Courses offered the first day included Foundations of Disaster Mental Health and Health Services Response workshops. Both are designed for current licensed professionals to provide an overview of the disaster mental health function on

disaster relief operations and prepare certified healthcare professionals to work with their local chapter or be deployed to a Red Cross relief operation. NMCC nursing students also took part in the training as soon to be health care professionals.

Other workshops included: Services to the Armed Forces, Psychological First Aid, Shelter Operations and Mass Care, ICS/EOC Interface, Client Casework: Providing Emergency Assistance and Fulfilling Our Mission.



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Learn to create spreadsheets that help you do the math. Whether you are tracking a budget at work or tracking expenses at home, Excel software can help you organize and analyze data. Topics will include copying data, formulas, modifying, formatting, performing simple calculations, adding charts and working with multiple worksheets.

CSA-632-01 ♦ Cost \$89 – text additional ♦ .9 CEUs
Tuesdays, November 30 – December 14 ♦ 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Mastering Your BlackBerry

Do you have a BlackBerry but aren't sure if you are using it to its full potential? In this hands on course you will learn how to get the most out of your BlackBerry. We will cover many tips, tricks and short cuts that everyone will be able to take advantage of. Users will ultimately become more effective "on the road", dealing with clients and managing time and resources.

Some topics covered will include:

- Customizing your device
- Phone, Contacts and Calendar shortcuts and tips
- Managing messages and attachments
- Getting the most out of the internet
- Troubleshooting

Please bring your fully charged BlackBerry to class.

CMP-900-03 ♦ Cost: \$39 ♦ .3 CEUs
Wednesday, December 8 ♦ 5:30 – 8:30 pm

2011 National Electrical Code Update

Anyone involved with the electrical industry needs to keep up-to-date with the new 2011 National Electrical Code. NMCC is offering a 15-hour Electrical Code Update course for all electricians and associates to update the trade on these important changes. This course will provide the necessary 15 hours of continuing education required for license renewal in the State of Maine. Participants must bring 2011 codebook, calculator and notebook.

ELT-605-01 ♦ Cost \$95 – text included ♦ 1.5 CEUs
Saturdays, December 4 & 11 ♦ 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

NMCC will again offer all paid-up members of the Electrical Associates of Aroostook a 10% discount on tuition for this course.

COMMERCIAL DRIVING ACADEMY

This is a state certified Commercial Driving Academy, designed to train you to become a professional truck driver. Our training meets or exceeds all state and industry standards. The goal of the course is to teach you to handle a tractor-trailer safely and efficiently.

Admission Requirements: valid Maine driver's license with a copy of driving record; high school/GED diploma; personal interview; a copy of immunization records; DOT physical w/pre-entrance drug & alcohol screen; and steel toe work boots or shoes to meet OSHA regulations

Cost: \$3,495.00 - includes tuition, insurance & state testing fees
(Books \$85.00)

Monday – Friday, Nov. 29 – Jan. 21 ♦ 8:00 am – 5:00 pm