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# News Release

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## **NMCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event April 11 to feature dinner and presentation of campus and former Army Air Base**

**Aroostook County** – The community is invited to join in the celebration of Northern Maine Community College’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and National Community College Month with a unique historic presentation, social and dinner on April 11, 2011 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Edmunds Conference Center.

The event will feature a special talk on the history of the campus as well as the Presque Isle Army Air Base. The presentation, given by Kimberly Smith of the Presque Isle Historical Society, will offer alumni, friends, and community members a chance to hear about NMCC’s rich history and provide the opportunity for people to learn more about the former Army Air Base, which was located where the College sits today.

The presentation entitled “*The Rich Heritage of NMCC*” will feature a variety of historic photos from the base as well as the college through the years. The special event will showcase the history of the grounds that now serve as home to the campus.

“It is my hope that attendees walk away from the event with a revitalized goal and renewed appreciation for serving as both alumni of the institution as well as friends of this organization. Northern Maine Community College continues to make an important contribution to Presque Isle and surrounding communities, and I hope this presentation will remind everyone of just how important its history is to this region,” said Smith.

The land and buildings for the College were acquired after the base closure notice was issued by President John F. Kennedy in October 1961. NMCC and its forerunners Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute and Northern Maine Technical College have served the Aroostook County region for five decades.

The evening will conclude with the brief annual meeting of the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization and the naming of the 2011 Torchbearer Award Recipient. The honor is bestowed annually by the NMCC Alumni and Friends Organization on an individual who, consistent with the definition of the word torchbearer, is someone in the forefront of a campaign, crusade, or movement.

The public is invited to join in the evening filled with friends, good food, and storytelling. The cost for the evening, including dinner, is \$15. To reserve a seat, contact Shannon Cook in the NMCC Foundation and Alumni office at (207) 760-1188.

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