

## New Academic Year Underway

Students and faculty returned to campus as the fall semester got underway on Monday, August 27.

"This is always an exciting time of year," said NMCC President Tim Crowley. "The students are the reason we are here, and it brings a whole other level of energy to campus having both the students and the faculty back."

One new full-time faculty member has joined the College campus this semester. Jennifer Graham joins the arts and sciences department as an English/communications instructor. She is teaching sections of Introduction to Communications, Speech, Introduction to Composition, and English Composition.

"It's been a very good week. The students and my co-workers here at the College are all very nice," said Graham. "I am glad to have the first week behind me, though, so I can get settled into a routine with my students."

Graham, who has been teaching part-time for a number of years, says she is glad to now be in the classroom full-time. Graham has been an adjunct English instructor at NMCC since 2003, teaching at the College's off-campus site in the St. John Valley. She served as an adjunct English instructor for the University of Maine at Fort Kent during that same time. She has also taught English over the years for MSAD 27 Adult and Community Education in Fort Kent, at Fort Kent Community High School, and at Washburn District High School.

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## Harding Announces \$1 Million Gift to NMCC

At a dedication ceremony for a new gazebo erected on the NMCC campus in memory of his late wife, B. Jean Harding, Presque Isle attorney Floyd Harding announced a \$1 million gift to NMCC – the largest individual private contribution received to date by a Community College in the state or any institution of higher education in northern Maine.

The charitable remainder trust, established through the NMCC Foundation as part of the *Campaign for the County's College*, will benefit student scholarships, specifically the Jean and Floyd Harding Scholarship Fund. College officials anticipate more than 150 deserving NMCC students will receive financial assistance annually as a result of the gift.

"One day, in fact for many days, these people who are benefiting from the Jean and Floyd Harding Scholarship Fund may well ask: 'Who was that Jean and Floyd Harding anyway?' On this day I would tell you that I hope they would know that we were two people that tried to give love and hope to both the old and the young," said Harding immediately after announcing the donation.

The announcement was met with applause by the NMCC faculty, staff and students, state and local political leaders, dozens of family members and many friends of Floyd and (the late) Jean Harding who gathered for the dedication ceremony.

"Floyd and Jean were an outstanding couple. As I have gotten to know Floyd, I have been amazed at the history he has lived and the contributions he has made. He has met presidents and leaders. He has given to his community in many ways," said NMCC



During the August 24 ceremony, Presque Isle attorney Floyd Harding announced a gift of \$1 million to NMCC's *Campaign for the County's College* to endow the Jean & Floyd Harding Scholarship.

President Timothy Crowley. "The donation to the college is very significant and it will help hundreds for years to come. It is his commitment to his fellow human beings that we should be most impressed with. It is an honor and a pleasure to know Floyd and to know that he believes in the work that has been done and is being done at NMCC. The people of the County will be forever in Floyd and Jean Harding's debt. We are grateful and humbled by your generosity."

The establishment of the scholarship fund is not the first significant contribution Floyd Harding has made to the Presque Isle college. In the early 1960's he was among

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## Constitution Day to Be Celebrated; Community Invited

Monday, September 17, will mark the 220th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. To mark the occasion students and employees at NMCC have planned an afternoon of events and are inviting community members to join in the celebration.

Constitution Day is an American federal holiday that recognizes the ratification of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787. Festivities to mark the occasion are planned throughout the country.

The Aroostook County celebration at NMCC will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the College library located in the E. Perrin Edmunds building. Members of the Aroostook County Veterans of Foreign Wars color guard, led by well-know Veteran Peter Miesburger of Caribou will present the colors to start the celebration, while NMCC student Alysa Snow performs the national anthem.

Following the opening ceremony, David Raymond, NMCC arts and sciences faculty member, will deliver a presentation on the changing views of the Constitution through history.

“Despite our veneration of the Constitution, it is useful to remember that it has not always been celebrated as the culmination of a great democratic revolution. Some historians have viewed it as an undemocratic document that was devised to thwart the will of the people. Was the Constitution the result of economic conflict or democratic consensus? In my presentation I will try to sort through the varying interpretations by providing a brief overview of the shifting views of the Constitution held by American historians,” said Raymond.

Following Raymond’s presentation, NMCC student activities will host a Community Constitution Day reception featuring red, white and

blue refreshments in the lobby of the Edmunds Conference Center.

At 3:00 p.m., student activities will sponsor a College Constitution Jeopardy contest in the Edmunds Conference Center. The game show will feature trivia questions relating to the Constitution and will pit teams of students against teams comprised of NMCC faculty and staff.

As part of the September 17 event, the College library will mark Constitution Day with an exhibit of books in the College collection that are listed as

*We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

“banned books.” The books that have been challenged on the national level by one group or another will be on display through the week of September 29 through October 6, which has been designated by the American Library Association as Banned Books Week.

The law establishing Constitution Day was enacted in 2004 with the passage of an amendment by Senator Robert Byrd (D-West Virginia) to the Omnibus spending bill of that year. Before this law was passed the holiday was known as Citizenship Day. The act mandates that all publicly funded educational institutions provide educational programming on the history of the American Constitution on that day or an adjacent weekday.

For more information, contact the development office at 768-2809.

## Snowe & Collins Champion Proposed Bill that Includes \$150,000 for NMCC

Students and faculty in NMCC’s nursing and allied health programs, as well as hospitals and healthcare organizations throughout Aroostook County, stand to benefit from a proposed \$150,000 in federal funding championed by U.S. Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins.

The money, which is included in the fiscal year 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education spending bill as reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee, is designated to support the establishment of the Northern Maine Allied Health Education and Training Center on the NMCC campus.

“We are most grateful to Senators Snowe and Collins and members of their respective staffs who stood behind us on this initial request for federal dollars to support the College and this project in particular,” said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. “The need for expansion in the allied health related fields here in northern Maine is critical. We are pleased that our congressional delegation recognizes and has pledged their continued support behind this important initiative.”

“I am pleased to support the effort to establish the Northern Maine Allied Health Education and Training Center at the Northern Maine Community College,” said Senator Collins. “Like many other states, Maine faces a nursing shortage of critical proportions. I am hopeful that this center would help address that need and allow even more students to follow their dreams of a career in medicine.”

“This is great news for Northern Maine Community College and the many students who will directly benefit from this funding,” said Senator Snowe. “The Northern Maine Allied Health Education and Training Center will provide greater access to technology, training equipment, and enhanced classrooms to help students develop their skills. By providing students with these top-notch resources, we are giving them the tools they need to advance in the future.”

The appropriations bill which includes the funding for NM will now go to the full Senate. If approved, the plan is to establish a temporary space in the existing nursing and allied health instruction area that would allow faculty and students to use the new equipment immediately.

## Foundation to Sponsor Fall & Winter Sports & Recreation Show

The first annual Fall & Winter Sports & Recreation Show presented by the NMCC Foundation is coming to the Presque Isle Forum on September 29 and 30.

“With the burgeoning interest in fall and winter sports and recreation here in the County, and growing importance of the winter season to the region’s economy, and the numerous opportunities it provides to visitors and locals alike, an event of this kind is greatly needed,” said Angela Berry-Thompkins show coordinator.

Exhibitors participating in the show are expected to include representatives from the snowmobile and ATV recreation sector, including area retail dealers, local clubs and other organizations that benefit from the industries. Also taking part will be organizations and business that cater to other fall and winter sports including hunting, cross-country and alpine skiing, biathlon, snowshoeing and ice fishing to name a few.

Organizers are also turning to other businesses in Aroostook County and neighboring Western New Brunswick who cater to individuals who are looking for alternative ways to pass the long winter season. For example, Gene’s Electronics will be displaying their satellite system.

Some special displays of interest will include the trail groomer used by the Presque Isle Snowmobile Club, Can Am Crown video and souvenirs, a special needs sled used by Fort Kent Sno-Riders to give snowmobile rides to handicapped/special needs individuals. Aroostook County Tourism will also be displaying a new GPS trail system, which covers 2200 miles of trails.

For those who want to get a little more ‘hands-on’, Presque Isle Minor Hockey will have a net set up and a radar gun to record the speed of people taking shots.

Show attendees are also invited to have a ride in a humvee, courtesy of the Maine Military Authority.

Also, NMCC senior nursing students will be holding their annual health

fair during the event, focusing on topics of the season. Topics will include: prevention and treatments of both frost-bite and hypothermia; stress management/coping strategies; common winter illnesses; Seasonal Affective Disorder; winter sports safety; benefits of activity; and energy/nutrition and exercise.

Because of the wide variety of business, topics and displays being represented, Berry-Thompkins sees the show as an event that will have something of interest for the entire family.

“We are certain the diversity of exhibitors will reflect the myriad of things available for residents and visitors to our part of the world at this busy time of year,” said Berry-Thompkins.

The 2007 County Fall and Winter Sports and Recreation Show will be held on September 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, September 30 between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Some limited exhibitor space is still available. For more information on the event or to request a prospective exhibitor’s packet of materials, contact Berry-Thompkins at (207) 760-1188.

*Come join the fun...*



**Saturday, September 29**  
9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

&

**Sunday, September 30**  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

at the Forum



Proudly  
Coordinated by:



### Featuring:

- ◆ Regional Snowmobile Dealers
- ◆ ATV Dealers and Clubs
- ◆ Business & Organizations that cater to Biathlon, Alpine & Cross Country Skiing
- ◆ Numerous other regional businesses that offer products and services for just before and after the snow flies!

**September 29-30, 2007**  
**The Forum - Presque Isle**

To reserve space, call 760-1188.





## B. Jean Harding Gazebo Dedicated



State Senator John L. Martin served as master of ceremonies during the August 24 gazebo dedication at NMCC.

This gazebo built by NMCC residential construction students in May has been placed on campus and officially dedicated in honor and memory of B. Jean Harding during a ceremony held at the College.

## Harding Donation, *from page 1*

the driving forces and member of an ad hoc committee established to bring, what was referred to at the time as, vocational education to Aroostook County.

As a result of the group's efforts and those of area legislators, including Representatives Harold Stewart and Senator E. Perrin Edmunds, a bill was passed in 1961 to establish the Northeastern Maine Vocational Institute, a forerunner of NMCC.

Harding, a respected attorney and former State Senator who was elected to three terms in the Maine State Senate, has long been known as a leader and activist in the Democratic Party, having served as chair of both the Presque Isle and Aroostook County Democratic Committees and as an advisor and campaigner for numerous elected officials.

A native of central Maine and one of twelve children, Harding grew up on a dairy farm before attending Colby College in Waterville in 1941, where he earned his first degree. In 1949, he graduated from Boston University Law School and subsequently passed the Maine and Massachusetts bar entry exams.

"For me, this is also payback because anonymous people made a contribution to Colby College that made it possible for me to attend that wonderful school. The generosity of those wonderful benefactors

has made it possible for me to better serve my community, county, state and nation," said Harding.

Between his years at Colby and Boston University, Harding served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II in Europe. In the early days of the Battle of the Bulge, he was captured by the Germans and became a prisoner of war. During his internment, he was held in Dresden and was present during the fire bombings of the German city.

He first came to the County in 1950 to work as Maine Potato Grower's credit manager and assistant general counsel. After working for MPG for four years, he established a private law practice and began a life of civic involvement and leadership.

In 1950, Harding became a charter member of the Presque Isle Kiwanis Club. He was elected president in 1957 and is still an active member today. He served on the board of directors of the Presque Isle hospital for many years, including serving as its president from 1963 through 1964.

Another organization benefiting from his involvement is the Presque Isle Chamber of Commerce, of which Harding has been a member since starting his law practice, serving as president in 1958. He has also been involved in raising funds for his church, Grant Memorial Methodist.

The legacy of the first woman elected to the Presque Isle City Council, who remains the longest serving individual ever to hold the post, was remembered at NMCC on August 24, as the institution officially dedicated a gazebo in honor and memory of B. Jean Harding.

State and local leaders, community members, as well as family and friends of Floyd and Jean Harding joined with NMCC faculty, staff and students to pay tribute to the woman who made her mark at the college and in her community.

"We are here today to celebrate the life and countless contributions of a woman who gave selflessly to her community, county, state and country. So many of us here today – certainly all of us at NMCC – owe a debt of gratitude to this staunch advocate, supporter and friend. The evidence of her drive and dedication, her very passion to help others better their lives, and her compassion for her fellow man, woman and all living things is very visible all around us," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

Crowley's comments were followed by other distinguished speakers, who included State Senator John Martin, who served as master of ceremonies; Maine State Chamber of Commerce President Dana Connors, a former Presque Isle City manager who worked closely with Jean Harding and who delivered the keynote address at the dedication ceremony; Daniel Donovan, Jean Harding's son, who spoke on behalf of the family; and Floyd Harding himself.

A recurring theme in the presentations was the appropriateness of the structure that was constructed by the NMCC residential construction class of 2007, faculty member Guy Jackson and his lab assistant Nathan Gardiner. The physical location of the gazebo was also noted as fitting.



Danny Donovan

"You needn't look far in this city, or from this very spot, to find the beneficiaries of her decades of service and civic engagement. The bike path, which encircles Presque Isle and passes here just behind me; the

Sister Mary O'Donnell Homeless Shelter and Central Aroostook Humane Society – around the corner; and this fine College, the shadow of which we sit this afternoon, are but a few examples of my mother's passionate advocacy for the people of this area," said Donovan in tribute to his mother.

The 12 foot wide octagonal shaped gazebo and surrounding landscaping were constructed and planted to resemble that on the Presque Isle Hillside Street property on which Jean Harding enjoyed spending time working and relaxing. A marker by the gazebo, which was unveiled at the end of the dedication ceremony, encapsulates Jean Harding's achievements.

"It is fitting that this gazebo be dedicated in her honor, surrounded by flowers that she so loved and the opportunity for people to gather here and chat about nothing of importance except the importance of love and friendship. It is also fitting that this gazebo sit just yards away, and in view of the bike path she advocated for, and what became one of the jewels in her crown of nearly two decades of service as an elected official in this city," said Harding in his remarks.

In his remarks, Dana Connors spoke about how effective Jean was at being the 'voice of the people of Presque Isle.'

"I'm proud to be a part of this special moment that celebrates the life of a woman who showed so much love for the people she served. Jean was not only an inspiration in her dedicated service as an elected official and a community advocate, she was the most caring public servant I have ever had the pleasure to work with. She cared, with unparalleled passion, for the people of this area," said Connors.

Jean Harding served a total of 18 years on the Presque Isle City Council in the 1970's and 1980's. During her tenure she worked tirelessly on numerous issues and committees, including as a staunch advocate for the city's recreation department and in support of the Presque Isle Industrial Council in their efforts to secure new business for the community.

She also represented the city on various county and state committees, including serving on the Aroostook Finance Committee and working with the Maine Municipal Association on behalf of the City of Presque Isle.

Aside from her work in city government and her advocacy on behalf of



NMCC President Tim Crowley welcomed state and local leaders, community members, family and friends of Floyd and Jean Harding, and NMCC faculty, staff and students to the ceremony dedicating the B. Jean Harding Gazebo. Approximately 120 people braved the rainy weather to come and celebrate the memory of this remarkable woman and to hear the announcement by her husband, Floyd, of a gift of \$1 million to establish the Jean & Floyd Harding Scholarship fund.

NMCC and its forerunners Northern Maine Technical College and Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute, Jean Harding was actively engaged in numerous civic organizations and fundraising initiatives.

She worked side-by-side with Sister Mary O'Donnell to secure funds for the County's only homeless shelter and with other community volunteers to establish the Central Aroostook Humane Society's animal shelter. In addition Harding worked to support the efforts of the Opportunity Training Center in the Star City.

Jean Harding also worked to raise funds for several groups, including the Maine Veteran's Home in Caribou and area cancer support organizations, and she was

an instrumental force in raising funds to rebuild the Grant Memorial United Methodist Church in Presque Isle after it was destroyed by fire more than a decade ago.

Amongst all of her civic and community involvement, Jean Harding and her husband Floyd together raised nine children.



The ceremony included two musical selections, chosen by Floyd because of their special significance to his late wife. "The Green, Green Grass of Home," was performed acoustically by Aimee Wilkins, a 2007 NMCC graduate, and her husband Bruce (left). The second selection, "Amazing Grace," was performed as a vocal musical interlude by 2007 Aroostook Idol winner Annie Charles (above) of Limestone, who was accompanied by the Wilkins.





## CAMPAIGN NEWS

### Houlton Regional Hospital Pledges \$45,000 to Support Nursing Program

The following is a listing of all of the donations which have been announced to date for the Campaign. Special thanks to all who have contributed!

**NMCC Family** \$127,094  
(Students, employees, Foundation board members, General Advisory Council members)

**Lead Gifts**

Floyd Harding	\$1,000,000
MMG Insurance	\$50,000
Houlton Regional Hospital	\$45,000
Katahdin Trust Company	\$25,000
KeyBank, NA	\$25,000
McCain Foods USA	\$25,000
Enseignes Pattison Sign Group	\$15,000
Machias Savings Bank	\$12,500
United Insurance Group (UIG)	\$12,500
Aroostook Beverage	\$10,000
Maine Potato Growers	\$10,000
Patriot Mutual Insurance Co.	\$10,000
S.W. Collins	\$10,000

**Community Supporters**

Daigle & Houghton	\$7,500
F.A. Peabody	\$7,500
Aroostook County Federal Savings & Loan	\$5,000
Dead River Company	\$5,000
Maine Farmers Exchange	\$5,000
Soderberg Construction	\$5,000
Betty and Jack Holder	\$5,000
Harold and Bea Mailman	\$5,000
Rick and Nancy Duncan	\$5,000
Connect North America	\$3,800
County Federal Credit Union	\$3,000
Aaron Carlson	\$3,000
B.R. Smith Associates, Inc.	\$2,500
Powers Roofing & Sheet Metal	\$2,500
Marilyn and Art Thompson	\$1,500
Academy General Dentistry	\$1,000
Craig Green	\$1,000
James and Laura Mills	\$1,000
Chester M. Kearney	\$750
Mike and Carol MacPherson	\$500
Richard Schmidt III	\$500
David J. Madore	\$300
Anonymous gift	\$300
Michael and Mary London	\$200
Alexandra Weeks	\$200
John Weeks	\$125
Cheryl Duperry	\$100
Emmaleen C. Lynch	\$100
Kevin Plourde	\$100



Thomas Moakler, CEO of Houlton Regional Hospital (right) met with NMCC College officials to discuss the hospital's support of the associate degree nursing program NMCC delivers in Houlton. Participating in the discussion were (left to right) Raynold Gauvin, president of the NMCC Foundation; Robert Clark, Maine Community College System Trustee, and Timothy Crowley, NMCC president.

Houlton Regional Hospital has committed \$45,000 over the next three years to support the nursing program offered by NMCC in southern Aroostook County. The funds, committed to NMCC's *Campaign for the County's College*, are designated to support the nursing courses delivered by NMCC via distance technology at the Houlton Higher Education Center.

"Houlton Regional Hospital is pleased to collaborate with NMCC and the nursing program at the Houlton Higher Education Center. This is a tremendous opportunity for Houlton area residents to attend their nursing classes locally and to do their clinical rotation at HRH. This also provides the hospital with potential employees and for graduates to work near their homes," said Thomas Moakler, CEO of Houlton Regional Hospital. "NMCC is a great community college and the Houlton community has certainly benefited from their presence here."

In May, the students currently enrolled in the NMCC nursing program in Houlton completed the first year of the extensive two-year degree program. After successfully completing all courses, they will earn their associate in science degree and be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN national licensure exam. Upon successful completion of the exam, they are able to apply for licensure in Maine and/or any other state.

As part of their educational experience,

the students train in a variety of clinical settings, including many learning opportunities at Houlton Regional Hospital.

"We have been very fortunate to work cooperatively with Houlton Regional Hospital in the delivery of our nursing program in southern Aroostook and are so pleased that the hospital has made this key contribution to support the program," said Timothy Crowley, NMCC president. "Tom Moakler and his entire staff have been great resources and partners in our efforts to expand allied health education offerings in the greater Houlton area. This contribution underscores their commitment, not only to nursing education, but to the people of the region."

NMCC initially ran a pilot program for providing distance education in nursing, working with HRH, a few years ago. That effort has been extended with the current cohort of student nurses

HRH employs over 425 people and serves a wide geographic area with a population of approximately 17,000 people. The hospital is licensed for 25 acute beds and 28 skilled nursing/nursing home beds. Services are typical of those of an acute care hospital and include a 24 hour physician covered emergency room, comprehensive medical/surgical services and a multitude of out-patient services, including pulmonary and cardiac rehabilitation, physical, occupational and speech therapy to name a few.

## MMG Makes Largest Corporate Donation to Date

MMG Insurance has committed \$50,000, to NMCC's *Campaign for the County's College*. The gift represents the single-largest corporate donation announced since the major gifts campaign was launched by NMCC and the NMCC Foundation in February.

The MMG Insurance gift will be applied to the campaign's College and Community Advancement Fund to support the transformation of a classroom in the Christie Building into the "MMG Insurance Business Technology Classroom." The renovation will include an upgrade of furnishings, wall and floor coverings, lighting, ventilation and technology to replicate, to the extent possible, a modern business office environment.

"NMCC graduates have made an impact throughout MMG and contributed greatly to the success of the company, including MMG's technology advances," said Larry M. Shaw, CPCU, president & CEO of MMG Insurance. "On a broader scale, the success of our company and other employers in Aroostook County depends upon a skilled workforce and NMCC's ability to provide a varied curriculum that is accessible both in terms of time and affordability makes the college a key component. We thank

NMCC for the opportunity to contribute to upgrades to the business technology classroom. Certainly, technology drives our business and is a vital part of effective educational programs."

"MMG Insurance has long been a friend and supporter of the County's College. We are so pleased that they have stepped forward in such a critically important manner," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "The donation, and more importantly what the gift provides for, will have a profound impact on our students, the way they learn, the way our faculty teach, and, of course, ultimately on the numerous Aroostook County businesses that rely on our institution to provide the most technologically proficient, well educated and capable workforce."

"The replication of a state-of-the-art business office will prove to be an invaluable,



MMG Insurance President/CEO Larry Shaw (seated left) and NMCC President Timothy Crowley (seated right) sign the memorandum of understanding that stipulates the \$50,000 donated by MMG will be designated toward the establishment of the "MMG Insurance Business Technology Classroom" on the NMCC campus. Joining in the signing ceremony were (standing, from left) Matthew McHatten, MMG Insurance senior vice president of external operations; Robert Clark, Kris Doody and Brian Hamel, campaign tri-chairs; and Raynold Gauvin, NMCC Foundation president.

hands-on learning experience for NMCC students, which will in turn provide a great deal of comfort to our employers that its future employees will arrive at the workplace prepared to take on the challenges of a technology-based business world. We are extremely grateful for the corporate citizenry exhibited by MMG Insurance," said Brian Hamel, tri-chair for the campaign.

## KeyBank Invests \$25,000 in Campaign for the County's College

KeyBank NA, one of Maine's largest financial services companies with nine branches in Aroostook County, has pledged \$25,000 to the major gifts campaign at NMCC.

According to regional officials with KeyBank, the corporate commitment by the financial services institution to NMCC represents both the organization's strong commitment to Northern Maine and to promoting education, specifically education in the financial arena.

"Northern Maine Community College is a valuable asset to the community and KeyBank is proud to be able to support the Campaign for the County's College with the five-year pledge totaling \$25,000. NMCC offers programs that support Key's efforts to promote financial literacy and Key's Back-to-Work Initiative," said Steve Gagnon, senior vice president and business banking team leader for KeyBank. "It is important for us to give back to the community in which we work. We hope that our investment will support NMCC and Aroostook County for some time to come."



Accepting the gift from KeyBank were (from left) Bruce Sandstrom, Foundation treasurer and member of the leadership team for the major gifts campaign; Richard Engels, Foundation board vice chair; Robert Clark, tri-chair for the major gifts campaign; and Timothy Crowley, NMCC president. Presenting the gift were Steven Gagnon, senior vice president and business banking team leader for KeyBank and Cheri Doak, vice president and area retail leader.

The KeyBank commitment to the Campaign for the County's College was designated evenly between the Investing in Innovation Fund, a technology endowment fund to purchase instructional technology

for college academic programs, and the College and Community Advancement Fund, which will provide an immediate source of funding to allow NMCC to launch new curricula and respond promptly to evolving community need.

"KeyBank's contribution to both the instructional technology endowment and the community advancement fund will provide valuable assistance in our delivery of academic programs and ongoing efforts to meet the needs of expanding and new businesses in the County. It will ensure that our students continue to train on and work with the technology that employers in our region expect and require, as well as assist with our efforts to support the region's economic development," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

KeyBank has established itself as an active and committed corporate citizen that invests in Maine, contributing both financial and volunteer resources to economic and community needs.

## Fitzsimmons Explores Rural Initiatives

Aroostook County was amongst the first stops for Maine Community College System President John Fitzsimmons, as he travels across the state to explore with focus groups of business and community leaders how Maine's community college system can further assist in strengthening Maine's rural economy. A session was held at NMCC on July 20.

The goal: to learn from local leaders about the workforce and educational challenges of their region and to identify ways in which the state's seven community colleges can play a greater role in helping to address those challenges.

In announcing the initiative, Fitzsimmons noted that more than a half million people live in rural Maine and that an estimated 12.2 percent of rural households live below the poverty line. Between 2000 and 2005, Maine saw the largest percentage increase in rural child poverty of any state in the nation. According to 2005 U.S. Census data, 22.4 percent of rural Maine children under 18 live in poverty.

"Steady job losses in traditional manufacturing and natural resource based industries have contributed to poverty and unemployment in many rural areas of the state," Fitzsimmons noted. "The economic and educational gaps between our urban and rural communities are deeply troubling. Without focused intervention they are likely to continue to grow. We need to explore how Maine's community colleges—working in partnership with local businesses and communities—can do more to strengthen and sustain rural areas of Maine."

Maine's community colleges are uniquely situated to help address some of the major workforce challenges confronting rural parts of the state. The seven colleges and their nine off-campus centers are located within 25 miles of 92 percent of Maine's population. Their programs of study are the most affordable in the state. And both their credit and non-credit offerings are focused on creating a skilled labor force that is responsive to the changing needs of the Maine economy.

Fitzsimmons will hold meetings in all 16 Maine counties. By late fall, he intends to issue a report that summarizes findings from the meetings and details recommendations on how to move forward.

## Campus Community Celebrates Service

NMCC employees and retirees came together for a luncheon in August to honor their colleagues who have reached service milestones. Altogether, a combined 265 years of dedicated service of 17 employees was recognized.

"We traditionally held this event at the end of the

academic year and decided to move it to just before the start of classes," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "Recognizing the members of the NMCC family who have reached important milestones of service to the College is a wonderful way to start a new school year. Time and again we hear from students, parents and alumni about how much of a difference NMCC has made in their life or the life of their child. Everyone who shares this sentiment with me also speaks of the individuals on the College faculty and staff who were instrumental in helping them to achieve their goals and realize their dreams. The devotion and dedication of our employees is extraordinary and important for us to celebrate."

Among those honored was Richard Duplessis, mathematics instructor, who celebrates three decades of service to NMCC this year. In recognition of his years at the College, a crab apple tree was planted in his honor in the residential life area on campus.

Twenty-five year awards went to Daniel Butts, assistant dean of instruction; William Egeler, dean of students; Miriam Gregg, mathematics and communication



Recognized during the annual employee/retiree luncheon for their length of service at the College were, seated from left: for 20 years, Kim Ferguson; for 25 years, Miriam Gregg, Dan Butts, Diane Peters and Bill Egeler. Standing, from left: for five years, Dean Duplessis, Carol McCleary, and Johna Lovely; for 15 years, Norma Smith, Alinette Morse and Wendy Bradstreet. Absent from photo: for 30 years, Dick Duplessis; for 20 years, Marilyn Willette; for 15 years, Sonja Fongemie; for 10 years, Bob Rice; and for five years, Elizabeth Crawford and Dave Wyman.

instructor; and Diane Peters, administrative assistant to the president.

Kim Ferguson, librarian I, and Marilyn Willette, senior office assistant in the nursing department, were recognized for 20 years of service.

Recognized for 15 years were Wendy Bradstreet, accountant III; Sonja Fongemie, dean of continuing education; Alinette Morse, custodial worker II; and Norma Smith, assistant director of financial aid.

Robert Rice, diesel hydraulics instructor, was presented a ten year award.

Recognized for five years were: Dean Duplessis, precision metal manufacturing instructor; Elizabeth Crawford, Tech Prep coordinator; Johna Lovely, evening advisor/gender equity officer; Carol McCleary, senior accounting assistant; and David Wyman, computer programmer.

The event featured touching and humorous tributes paid to honorees by fellow faculty and staff. Below, Dean Duplessis (center) is recognized by fellow instructors Guy Jackson and Joe McLaughlin.





## Golf Tournament Raises Scholarship Funds & Remembers Peter Hunt



From left, NMCC President Timothy Crowley and Michael J. Kelley, executive vice president of TD Banknorth, NMCC Foundation board member and key organizer of the annual golf tournament present the winning tournament trophy for first low gross to Bill Egeler, Steve Clark and Bill Casavant.

NMCC students will be the beneficiaries of more than \$18,000 in scholarship funds raised in the *TD Banknorth Golf Tournament to Benefit the NMCC Foundation* held recently at the Aroostook Valley Country in Fort Fairfield.

One-hundred-twenty golfers teed off for the annual three-person scramble. An additional two dozen people joined the golfers for a dinner auction that followed.

This marked the second year TD Banknorth has partnered with the NMCC Foundation to host a golf tournament to raise scholarship funds for students attending the College. "We are most grateful to Mike Kelley, Ray Hews and many others at TD Banknorth 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.

Two NMCC staffers, Bill Egeler, dean of students, and Bill Casavant, director of admissions, along with Steve Clark, owner of Acadia Medical Supply, comprised the team that took home the winning trophy for first low gross for the second consecutive year.

Aside from presenting honors to the top golfers, the event featured an auction with both a silent component, where participants tried to out-bid each other with written offers, and a live auction bids were taken from the room.

Items for the silent auction included: a hydrangea tree from My Mother's Garden, a gift certificate from Mojo, carwashes from Bradley's Citgo, a homemade afghan, and items donated by the Professional Golfer's Association.

Dinner auction items included:

Nascar tickets at Loudon, Celtics tickets, two three-month memberships to County Physical Therapy, four Boston Bruins tickets, gift certificates from Rum Rapids, a gift basket from Silver Basket, two round trip tickets to Boston on Colgan Air, autographed photos of Ray Bourque, Tim Thomas and Kevin Faulk, and two one-year supplies of Eddy's Ice Cream.

Special guests at the dinner were members of the family of Peter G. Hunt. Officials with TD Banknorth and the NMCC Foundation hosted the golf tournament in memory of Hunt, a well-known businessman and member of the Foundation board of directors, who passed away on June 28.

"We cannot thank you enough for honoring Peter this way," said Jane Hunt to those gathered for the tournament. "Peter loved the sport of golf and the many friends he played with here at this golf course. He also loved NMCC and believed very strongly in the difference the College made in the lives of the students who attended."

Hunt was owner and president of the Harry's family of businesses, including Top of Maine Insurance Co. as well as Harry's Honda and Harry's Motor Sports in Presque Isle. He was key in the organization of the first tournament hosted by TD Banknorth and NMCC in 2006 and, until his passing, was involved in planning this year's event.

In addition to hosting this year's tournament in his honor, TD Banknorth announced that the first scholarship given from the TD Banknorth Inc. Scholarship Fund in 2007-08 will also be in memory of Peter G. Hunt.

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NMCC Precision Metals Program  
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Rum Rapids  
Silver Basket  
Sure Winner Foods  
TD Banknorth  
UIG Insurance  
As well as: Gayle Dickinson, Mark Irving,  
Tom Kent, and Denise Sock



Members of the Peter G. Hunt Family were presented with a sign that greeted golfers at the TD Banknorth Golf Tournament to Benefit the NMCC Foundation. Photographed (left to right) are Peter Hunt Jr., Melanie (Hunt) LeShane, Alex LeShane, Jane Hunt, Michael J. Kelley of TD Banknorth, Robert Hunt, and NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

## NMCC Library Opens Children Section; Expands Offerings



NMCC early childhood education student Suqi Yu (left) and instructor Heidi Broad-Smith (center) are assisted by a child from Little Feathers headstart and one from ACAP childcare in cutting the ribbon for the official opening of the new children's section of the NMCC library at a May ceremony. Looking on are Peggy O'Kane (back, left), NMCC assistant dean of learning resources, and Richard Engels (right), chair of the Maine Community Foundation Aroostook County Committee. Approximately 40 children from ACAP and Little Feathers, along with numerous campus and community members, were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

Children and employees from two area childcare centers, advisors of the Maine Community Foundation's Aroostook County Committee, and NMCC officials came together in May for an open house and inaugural story time in the new children's section of the NMCC library.

The celebration marked the official opening of a recently completed area of the library to house the College's growing collection of children's literature. The furnishings and shelving for the section were purchased through a \$1,045 award to NMCC through MaineCF's Aroostook County Fund.

Since 2001 the NMCC library, through donations, regular book purchases and grant opportunities, has grown its collection of children's picture books and children's literature from non-existent to nearly 300 titles. The dedicated section

now houses these publications. Previously the books had been shelved alongside the library's general stacks, which are not designed to hold picture books.

The NM collection is unique in that purchased selections are either classics, such as Newberry or Caldecott prize winners, or bibliotherapy books. Bibliotherapy or issue books are designed to be used by parents or other caregivers with children who are experiencing stress. These issues include divorce, bullying, nontraditional families, death and/or disease.

The need for children's literature and a special section to house the material at NMCC was first identified in 2000, when the College expanded its offerings to include an associate degree program in early childhood education.

"The availability of high quality children's literature in a child-friendly and literacy-centered environment is exactly what the students are learning to create – what a great model and resource for our students. The community will have the benefit of the facility and materials and our students will have the opportunity to work with the children and materials as an embedded component of the program," said Heidi Broad-Smith, NMCC early childhood education instructor.

Aside from the benefit to ECE students and local childcare facilities, the collection is also heavily used by parents and grandparents in the NMCC community who have young children. The student body is comprised of a significant number of non-traditional students, an estimated 26 percent of whom have children.

Right: After a brief ceremony, the 40 or so small children present were divided into small groups and read to by students from the College's early childhood education program. The children then had snacks before returning to their respective daycare centers.



During the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new children's section in the library, Sandra Gauvin (far right), a local retired educator and board member of the NMCC Foundation, donated approximately 35 children's books that she purchased over her 25-year tenure as an educator in four central Aroostook schools. Accepting the books were, from left, early childhood education students Keilee West and Kyley Millett and NMCC assistant dean of learning resources Peggy O'Kane.

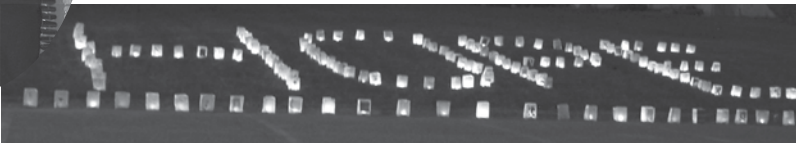


NMCC hosted this year's annual Relay for Life on June 1-2. Approximately 20 NMCC employees, students and their children formed one of the eleven teams who walked throughout the night to help raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Above are some of the team members as they take part in the parade of teams at the start of the event. In addition to NMCC's team, there were three teams from The Aroostook Medical Center, as well as teams from Aroostook County Action Program, Cary Medical Center, the Department of Health & Human Services/MSEA, F.A. Peabody Company, Maurices, McCains, and WAGM-TV. More than \$18,000 was raised during the event.



Left: The public was invited to come and "Pack the Track" on Friday evening to show their support in this effort to step up the fight against cancer. Entertainment featured local performers, including Aroostook Idol 2007 winner Annie Charles.

Below: During a Ceremony of Hope later in the evening, luminarias purchased in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of one who has lost that battle, were lit and, following a moment of silence, the names of these individuals were be read. The luminarias lined the track as well as spelled out the word Hope.



## NMCC Event Lauded Nationally as "Good Idea"

An event for NMCC students held last academic year on the campus was lauded by an industry publication for career counselors as a "good idea."

*How to Lose a Job in 10 Days*, a luncheon session sponsored and coordinated by NMCC's TRiO Student Support Services program, involved a panel of Aroostook County human resource professionals who shared their horror and humorous stories to help students and prospective employers know what not to do in a job interview or on their first days on the job.

The unique angle and title of the workshop caught the attention of the editor of the *Campus Career Counselor*, a publication mailed to career service professionals nationwide. The newsletter featured a story on the NMCC offering in a section entitled "Good Ideas."

"I was thrilled when I received an e-mail from the editor who picked up the story from a news release put out by the College," said Shelli Cronkhite, NMCC counselor and workshop coordinator.

Cronkhite is a member of the local Northeast Society of Human Resource Managers (NESHRM), a local group comprised of individuals responsible for making hiring recommendations and decisions at several area businesses. Members of the organization served on the panel and shared some of their experiences with the NMCC students.

"It's very exciting that NMCC and NESHRM are being recognized nationally. Sometimes it feels like we're very isolated in northern Maine – it's nice to let people know that there are unique and exciting things happening here," said Cronkhite.

## New Year,

from pg. 1



Graham is a 1996 graduate of Saint Michael's College in Vermont, earning her Bachelor of Arts in English, with a minor in gender studies. She earned her master's in English writing from Hollins College in Virginia in 1997.

She has had poems published in *Echoes*, *Delta Epsilon Sigma Journal*, *Into the Dark*, *Potato Eyes*, *Cymbals*, and *Vermont Literary Review*.

"Jennifer has been a great instructor for us for a number of years in a part-time capacity," said Alan Punches. "We're looking forward to having her on campus as a full-time faculty member. She is a great addition to the team of professional faculty we have at NMCC, working together to prepare our students for careers and for continued education."

As students and faculty returned to campus, they got their first look at some changes on campus, including a refurbished Christie lobby. In addition to cosmetic changes which brighten the lobby and make it more welcoming, better signage has made it much easier for those who are new to campus to find their way.

Also assisting in directing students and visitors is the addition of an information window in the lobby. Since the receptionist was reassigned last year to make better use of personnel resources, there had been some concerns. The new window gives people direct access to a friendly face for assistance, while allowing that person to still be situated in a working office and perform varied other tasks as needed.

"This was an area identified by both our employees and our students as needing attention," said Jason Parent, director of development and college relations, who is coordinating the information window services. "We engaged the campus last semester to get a consensus on what changes were needed and what would work best. We were then able to take action this summer, thanks primarily to a great deal of work from the College's IT, maintenance and custodial staffs." Parent also credits the financial aid staff in assisting to recruit workers to staff the information window.

So far, the service is working as intended, with many stopping by for directions and other requests for assistance.

# Toward Excellence

## Upcoming Continuing Education offerings...

### Microsoft PowerPoint

In this highly interactive hands-on class, you'll learn how to create dazzling multimedia presentations for just about any audience. You'll be able to create and display slides filled with formatted text, video, audio, animation, special effects, charts, outlines, video clips, images, and links to the Web. Learn how to work with task panes and the clip organizer and how to access the Design Gallery Live and Template Gallery Web sites to download clip art and templates for your presentations, as well as how to save your presentations in HTML so they can be shared with others over the Web.

CSA 651 ♦ Cost: \$79 – text additional ♦ .6 CEUs  
Tuesday & Thursday, September 11 & 18 ♦ 6 – 9 pm

### Computers for Beginners

This workshop is designed for people who are using computers for the first time. The following will be covered: the “must know” components of a PC, their names and what they mean and do; the Windows operating system—how to work with it to run the applications you want to install and use; the Microsoft Office Suite – a brief overview of the world's most popular word processor to create and save documents and the Excel spreadsheet program to create and save a financial statement/budget. *Spend some time with us and begin to learn more about computers!*

CSA 600 ♦ Cost: \$39 ♦ .3 CEUs  
Tuesday, September 25 ♦ 6 – 9 pm

### CRMA Recertification

This 8 hour course offers a complete review and update on the state regulations for the administration of medications. Participants must have a current CRMA 40 certificate to register for this course. Class enrollment is limited to 15 participants.

HLT 710 ♦ Cost: \$99 ♦ .8 CEUs  
Friday, September 28 ♦ 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

### New Hours of Service Workshop

The Hours-of-Service (HOS) regulations (49 CFR, Part 395) were revised in August 2005. The new rule applies to all “property carrying drivers” and motor carriers operating trucks in interstate commerce. HOS regulations can be complicated and require you to have a thorough understanding of the rules and how to properly apply them to your operation. Lack of knowledge and understanding of the regulations can result in citations, unsatisfactory safety ratings, and ultimately, fatigue-related collisions. Please bring a recent copy of the FMCSR handbook that includes the part 40 regulations and new hours-of-service rules.

CDA 680 ♦ Cost: \$30 – includes lunch  
Tuesday, October 2 ♦ 8 am – 4 pm

### Yoga: Beginner Level Yoga Class

In the 8 week session, we'll learn the foundational components of alignment and breathing, as well as the practice of basic stretches, balancing poses, strengthening exercises and relaxation techniques. Wear comfortable clothing - not baggy, not restrictive; bring a yoga sticky mat and a blanket. Blocks and straps will be provided. *Release form signature required of all participants.*

BNI 685 ♦ Cost: \$65  
Tuesdays, October 2 – November 20 ♦ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm



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