

County to see \$3.5 million investment with passage of bond questions 2 and 3

Passage of questions 2 and 3 on the November 6 ballot would have significant positive impact on Aroostook's economic development efforts and the County's three public institutions of higher education. That is the message several regional business and community leaders and the presidents of Northern Maine Community College and the Universities of Maine at Fort Kent and Presque Isle delivered at an October 3 press conference at the Northern Maine Development Commission.

The event served as the official start of efforts in northern Maine to build public awareness for the bond questions that address research and development and public higher education statewide. Robert Clark, NMDC executive director, hosted the press conference and led the discussion on the two ballot initiatives.

Question 3 calls for \$43.5 million for interior and exterior building renovations, improvements and additions at all campuses of the Maine Community College System, Maine Maritime Academy and the University of Maine System. The three County campuses would see an investment of more than \$3.5 million in infrastructure.

Through the bond package, a total of \$758,000 would assist NMCC in funding needed renovations in the Mailman Trades Building and the A.K. Christie Complex. The Mailman facility houses many of the

cont. on page 9

Pilot program brings laptops & changes in teaching practices to the classroom

An exciting new pilot program involving laptop computers and wireless technology is underway this year in NMCC's business technology department. "Mobile computing is available anytime, anywhere. The convenience and efficiency with which students can conduct academic, administrative and personal activities is empowering," said Dwight Clayton, chair of the department.

"Research shows that utilizing educational technology, such as mobile computing, encourages critical thinking and analytical skills, improves grades, improves pass rates, and truly makes a difference for students, from developmental to advanced," said Clayton, citing an article in the April/May 2007 *Community College Journal*.

The Mobile Integrated Technology pilot program is being implemented in one section of three different business classes, requiring students in those particular sections to have a laptop computer. Students taking Principles of Accounting I, Introduction to Business or Introduction to Computer Applications had the option of taking the course either in a traditional classroom/computer lab environment or of taking advantage of the laptop section.

"The MIT Program is more than a laptop initiative...it's about wireless class-



Students in one of Nancy Cowett's Principles of Accounting I classes work on a practice session on-line to help them better understand the day's topic.

rooms, technology, and the evolution of classroom instruction," said Clayton.

Thanks to a combination of corporate donations and collaborations, faculty enthusiasm and College commitment, these three areas have all come together to make this exciting pilot program possible.

Wireless technology was made a reality on campus last year, thanks to a donation by Katahdin Trust Company to the College's on-going major gifts campaign. The donation was designated to establish a wireless network in the Edmunds and Christie Buildings. NMCC was able to extend that infrastructure over the summer to the entire campus, including residential life areas.

cont. on page 8

INSIDE

- | | | | |
|--------|---|---------|--|
| Page 2 | Careers in Construction Week Activities Scheduled, including opening of new Construction Hall of Fame | Page 9 | ►Community Invited to <i>Breakfast of Champions</i> Falcons Soaring this Season |
| Page 3 | Medical Assistants Week to Be Celebrated
Gene Haas Foundation to Award \$15,000 in Scholarships | Page 10 | Constitution Day Celebrated |
| Page 4 | Photos from the Fall & Winter Sports & Recreation Show | Page 11 | Student Nurses Take Health Fair to Community
Grant Component Features Community Education |
| Page 5 | Maine Quality Center Agreements Signed | | Bill Casavant to be Honored |
| Page 6 | Coca-Cola Contributes \$18,750 to Campaign | Page 12 | Continuing Education Offerings |
| Page 7 | Allied Health Programs Benefit from TAMC Gift | | |

Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame official opening and honoring of first five inductees planned as part of NMCC Careers in Construction Week celebration

Aroostook County will soon be home to the Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame, as faculty in the construction trade programs at Northern Maine Community College make final plans for the official opening and induction of the first five honorees on Tuesday, October 16, at 5:00 p.m. at a ceremony in the Mailman Trades Building at NMCC.

The Hall of Fame reception is planned as part of the College's celebration of National Careers in Construction Week, which this year falls October 15 through 19. Governor John Baldacci and his counterparts in more than 30 states across the nation have signed official proclamations designating the week as one to raise public awareness of the work of our nation's craft professionals and to emphasize the role construction industry partners play in helping youths and adults achieve career success.

"We wanted to create more than just an event to celebrate the designated week, but rather something that would recognize, on an ongoing and consistent basis, the invaluable and immeasurable contributions of professionals in the construction trades here in Northern Maine and across the state," said Brian

McDougal, chair of the trade and technical occupations department at NMCC. "The concept of creating a 'Hall of Fame' to recognize key individuals who have contributed both to the profession and as mentors to others entering the profession, provides an ideal opportunity to honor the legacy of these individuals and is reflective of the teaching and learning that happens in our programs and across the NMCC campus each and every day."

The Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame will be located inside the main entrance of the Mailman Trades Building in the long corridor that students, faculty, staff and visitors use to enter and exit the building daily.

According to McDougal, the space is ideal, because of the fact that students and prospective students of the college will regularly have the opportunity to see the faces and learn the stories of some of the "legends" in the construction trades, and in turn better understand that similar career success is possible for them.

The department chair and five construction trade instructors: Dennis Albert (welding and metal fabrication), Roger Crouse (computer-aided drafting), Guy Jackson (residential construction), Charles Kelley (electrical construction

and maintenance), and Alan St. Peter (plumbing and heating) served as the selection panel for the inaugural inductees. As a group, they decided to honor one individual representing each of the related trades for this first year. In years to come, plans are to induct between one and three outstanding construction workers to the Hall of Fame in a ceremony held annually during Careers in Construction Week.

The first five inductees represent prominent construction business owners and industry leaders, as well as alumni and retired faculty of NMCC and its forerunner Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute: Stanley "Bub" Anderson, Hollis Burgess, Tim Doak, Rick St. Peter, and Richard West. They will be honored through tributes prepared by the current construction trade faculty at the October 16 reception.

Family members and friends of the inductees, College and community friends, and members of the advisory committees of all the trade and technical occupations department have been invited to participate in the official opening and first induction ceremony for the Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame.

Stanley "Bub" Anderson



Bub Anderson of New Sweden is a 1974 graduate of NMVTI. Anderson is the co-founder and an owner of County Electric, an

Aroostook County-based electrical contracting firm which has employed as many as 15 people at a time, including many NMCC graduates, since it was established in 1978. Anderson has been active on the NMCC electrical construction and maintenance program advisory committee for two decades and is also involved in various civic and community activities.

Hollis Burgess



Hollis Burgess, a former long-time instructor in the residential construction program, will be honored posthumously. Burgess, who taught at NMVTI

from 1965 until his retirement from the College in 1987, is credited as the driving force behind the Sinawik Project, a now three-decade old initiative established collaboratively by NMCC and the Presque Isle Kiwanis Club, which engages students and faculty in all of the construction programs at the College in the building of a home each year. A native of Vinalhaven, Burgess passed away in January of 2001.

Tim Doak



Tim Doak is co-owner and president of B.R. Smith Associates, Inc. Surveying and Engineering in Presque Isle. He is a 1986 graduate of the

automotive technology program and a 1988 graduate of the drafting technology program at NMVTI. Doak recently obtained his professional engineer's license and is a bachelor of university studies candidate at UM, majoring in surveying engineering with an emphasis in boundary law. His firm has hired a number of NM graduates, and he is an active member of the College's computer-aided drafting advisory committee.

Rick St. Peter



Rick St. Peter is the owner of Patrick St. Peter and Sons, a Caribou-based family business specializing in plumbing, heating and cooling contracting. He is a 1975 NMVTI graduate of the

plumbing and heating program, as well as a former instructor. He taught first part-time, then full-time in the program from 1977 through 1988, when he resigned to take over the family business. His two sons, Ryan and Adam, also graduated from the plumbing and heating program at NMCC in 1999 and 2001 respectively and became partners in Patrick St. Peter and Sons in 2003.

In addition to the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, the College is hosting two community presentations to mark Careers in Construction Week.

The first will take place on Tuesday, October 16, at 3:00 p.m. in the residential construction lab. Parker Hadlock of Cianbro, one of the largest construction and construction services companies on the East Coast, will speak about the current state of the industry and future outlook in Maine and beyond. He will also speak to more than 80 members of the various trade and technical occupation program advisory committees at a meeting later that night.

On Thursday, October 18, at 1:00 p.m. in the residential construction lab, Mark Goodin and Rodney MacDougal of N.H. Bragg will conduct a seminar on fall protection and personal protective equipment. In addition to College students, trade and technical occupations faculty are opening the session up to local contractors and their employees.

Careers in Construction Week is coordinated country-wide by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). This year marks the third anniversary of the celebration nationally, and the first year NMCC officially joins in the festivities by hosting local events.

Questions on these events can be directed to the college relations office at 768-2809.

Richard West

Richard "Dick" West of Holden was first a sheet metal (present-day welding and metal fabrications) faculty member and then department chairperson for the trade and technical occupations department at NMCC.



He is the longest-serving chair of the department, having assumed his responsibilities as leader in 1973 and continuing through his retirement in 2001. West is credited with providing strong leadership to the department during the transition from NMVTI to Northern Maine Technical College in the late 1980's and laying the initial foundation for the transition to NMCC in earlier part of this decade.

NMCC to mark national Medical Assistants Week with luncheon celebrating new program's first semester

For two decades the third week of October has been designated nation-wide as Medical Assistants Week to honor and acknowledge the 350,000 medical assistants working in the field and the many of thousands of medical assisting students attending programs. This year, the commemoration holds special significance at NMCC, where students are in their first semester of the College's new associate degree medical assisting program.

Festivities will get underway on Monday, October 15, at 12:00 noon in the Edmunds Conference Center with a luncheon that will begin with the signing of a proclamation by Presque Isle City Council Chairperson Walt Elish and City Manager Tom Stevens officially declaring the week as *Medical Assistants Week* in the Star City. Following the signing, two dozen medical professionals from throughout Aroostook County will gather for the first NMCC Medical Assisting Advisory Committee meeting.

"We are very excited that NMCC will be having its first Medical Assisting Advisory Committee as a kick-off to Medical Assistants Week. It will provide

an opportunity for all of us to meet now that the program has been approved by the Maine Community College System and as we welcome our first students this fall," said Susan Dugal, coordinator of the medical assisting program at NMCC. "I know many in the healthcare community worked very diligently to assure that a quality program was developed that would serve the needs of the medical office practices, the students, and, most importantly, our community members who will be using these services. It is wonderful to see the outcome of teamwork between NMCC and the community it serves."

Medical Assistants week is sponsored annually by the American Medical Technologists, who have selected "Medical Assistants: The Heartbeat of Healthcare" as the theme for this year's celebration to emphasize the commitment of the professionals as vital members of the healthcare team.

Medical assistants perform routine administrative and clinical tasks needed to keep the medical offices and clinics

cont. on page 8

Gene Haas Foundation to award students \$15,000 in scholarship funds

The only certified Haas Technical Education Center (HTEC) for precision metals manufacturing/machine tool technology in Maine and one of only two in New England, located on the NMCC campus, has received a \$15,000 grant from the Gene Haas Foundation to award scholarship funds in each of the next three years.

Students enrolled or enrolling in either the precision metals manufacturing associate degree program or certificate level machine tool technology offering are eligible to apply for the funds. College officials were recently notified of the grant funding by Peter Zierhut of the Gene Haas Foundation.

"The support we continue to receive from HAAS Automation, Inc. (Oxnard, CA), and their New England distributor

Trident Machine Tools, LLC (Windsor, CT) is unprecedented. Like NMCC, HAAS is committed to training the future workforce as well as making this training accessible to all," said Dean Duplessis, NMCC precision metals manufacturing instructor.

The Gene Haas Foundation was established by the founder of Haas Automation, Inc., the largest computer numerical control (CNC) machine tool builder in the world. Haas manufactures a full line of CNC vertical and horizontal machining centers, CNC lathes, rotary tables and other state-of-the-art machines.

The NMCC precision metals lab houses a number of pieces of Haas equipment, and has been reviewed by the

cont. on page 5

FALL & WINTER Sports & Recreation Show

Sponsored by the NMCC Foundation on September 29-30 at the Forum.

For more details on the health fair held at the show by NMCC nursing & EMS students, see page 11.

Daryl & Stacy Boucher and their children Hana & Hilary, check out some of the equipment displayed by Harry's Honda.

Right: Catherine Packard from Maine Winter Sports Center shows Anthony Carbone how to work a laser target rifle so that he could see how many targets he could hit.



NMCC nursing student Holly Scirambo takes the blood pressure of Mike Amero, while his son Lewis watches. Several first year nursing students were on hand on Saturday to provide free blood pressure screenings for attendees.



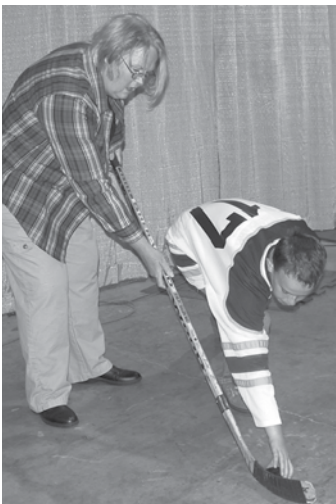
Below: Bonnie Harris gets a lesson in how to shoot a puck from her son Ross, a member of the P.I. Youth Hockey League. Hockey players and several parents were on hand at the show to talk about local hockey opportunities, as well as give attendees to try their luck shooting a puck while they used a radar gun to gage how fast the puck hit the goal.



Above: Becky Maynard and her son Tyler prepare to go on a humvee ride with Mike Pendergast of Maine Military Authority. Left: Cindy, Dennis & Austin Albert get a humvee ride.

Left: Glenn Daigle (right) from Uncle Buck's Archery discusses bows with one of the attendees to the Fall & Winter Sports & Recreation Show.

Below: Mike Eisensmith from the Northern Maine Development Commission talks about the new GPS mapping system for snowmobile trails.



Left: Jody Haines from Spinney Color & Design Center gave faux finish demonstrations throughout the weekend.



NMCC & Maine Quality Centers sign training agreements with BurrellesLuce & Pattison Sign Group

The skilled workforces of two Aroostook County businesses received a boost recently with the signing of two separate agreements that will provide state funding for NMCC to coordinate education and training programs for over 40 new employees between the two organizations. At a signing ceremony, an official with the Maine Quality Centers program joined College leaders and representatives of the Presque Isle facility of BurrellesLuce and the Pattison Sign Group facility located on the Loring Commerce Center to announce separate training partnership agreements with each firm.

The collaborative efforts of NMCC and the Maine Quality Centers with BurrellesLuce and Pattison Sign represent a \$53,500 investment in the local workforce. Customized training will be provided to employees at each business at no cost to the company or its workers.

“The partnerships with both BurrellesLuce and Pattison Sign Group, made possible through the Quality Centers program, represent a critical component of NMCC’s overall efforts to meet the workforce and economic development needs of Northern Maine. For many years NMCC has worked with businesses and organizations throughout Aroostook to meet the continuing education needs of regional employers. These two agreements are indicative of our strong and continued involvement in business retention and expansion efforts,” said NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

“NMCC has long been an active participant in Maine Quality Centers, proving it is not only an important resource for higher education services in Northern Maine, but also an effective partner for businesses looking to be more competitive,” said James McGowan, state director of the Maine Quality Centers.

The agreement with BurrellesLuce represents a \$16,200 investment and provides for the College’s continuing education division to facilitate training for up to 26 employees in various areas identified as critical to the company’s growth. Sessions will cover Microsoft

Windows, Newsclip software training, media reader software training, productivity and work ethics.

“BurrellesLuce relies upon a highly trained workforce to provide media relations and measurement services to our Fortune 1000, university, government and non-profit clients,” said Becky Frost, general manager at the BurrellesLuce facility in Presque Isle. “We are very pleased to receive training support from NMCC through the Maine Quality Centers as we expand employment at this location.”

The Pattison Sign Group project, totaling a \$37,300 investment in education and training at the Loring facility, involves fifteen new employees hired since January 2007. Among the areas covered include a ten-hour OSHA course, welding, industrial ergonomics, first aid/CPR, a basic computer offering, and a session in lean manufacturing.

“Our objective with this training is to deliver customized training to our new employees, helping them to work safely, acquire new skills and increase competency levels,” said Hermel Landry, director of human resources for Pattison Sign Group. “The Maine Quality Centers program allows a company like Pattison Sign to stay and grow in Maine and to provide a safe work environment for our employees.”

Since the Maine Quality Centers program was established by the Maine Legislature in 1994, 198 expanding Maine businesses have been served, creating 10,729 jobs. In Aroostook County, more than 20 businesses have benefited from training agreements since 1997, totaling an investment of more than \$1.5 million dollars and over 1,000 new hires.

Below: Taking part in the signing ceremony at NMCC to establish training partnerships between Northern Maine Community College, the Maine Quality Centers and two local businesses were, from left: Becky Frost, general manager at the BurrellesLuce facility in Presque Isle; Timothy Crowley, president of Northern Maine Community College; James McGowan, state director of the Maine Quality Centers; and Hermel Landry, director of human resources for Pattison Sign Group.



Haas Grant *from page 3*

company and approved as one of only 60 colleges, universities and technology centers in the Country to earn designation as an official Haas educational site for machinists.

“If you’re going to train the future workforce, it must be done with modern equipment and best practices. Our students are future CAM programmers, quality assurance personnel, machine operators, machinists, mechanical engineers and manufacturing engineers; they must have access to same technology their future employers currently use. Our designation as HTEC guarantees students will have access to the latest technology in machine tools and training second-to-none,” said Duplessis.

Haas is headquartered in Oxnard, California and employs more than 1,000 people. To date, the company has sold more than 53,000 rotary products and 72,000 CNC machines. The company ships more CNC machines than any other manufacturer in the world.

The scholarship grant will provide assistance to as many as 30 entering and returning students over the next three years.



CAMPAIGN NEWS

Coca-Cola of Presque Isle makes \$18,750 contribution to Campaign

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
The Aroostook Medical Center	\$45,000
Katahdin Trust Company	\$25,000
KeyBank, NA	\$25,000
McCain Foods USA	\$25,000
Coca-Cola Bottling Co.	\$18,750
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



Coca-Cola of Presque Isle General Manager Alton Hartt presents NMCC President Timothy Crowley with the first installment of a five-year pledge totaling \$18,750 by Coke to the Campaign for the County's College. Joining Hartt and Crowley are (left to right) Kris Doody, tri-chair for the major gifts campaign, Raynold Gauvin, chair of the NMCC Foundation and Sandra Gauvin, secretary of the NMCC Foundation.

Officials with the Coca-Cola of Presque Isle have pledged \$18,750 to the Campaign for the County's College, the major gifts campaign currently being undertaken by Northern Maine Community College and the NMCC Foundation.

"Coca-Cola is a strong supporter of higher education. We are extremely proud to be a part of NMCC's *Campaign for the County's College*. Affordable higher education is very important to our region, and we at Coca-Cola are happy to be a part of it," said Alton Hartt, general manager of the Presque Isle facility.

The Coke pledge of \$3,750 annually for five years will be directed to the area of greatest need. Hartt recently presented the first installment of the contribution to representatives of the College, NMCC Foundation, and volunteer leaders with the major gifts campaign.

"We are most grateful to Coca-Cola, its local management and employees for their generous contribution to NMCC. Coke is the latest in a growing list of area businesses and organizations that are recognizing the many important contributions of our first-rate community college to our region, its people and the economy through a financial contribution to the *Campaign for the County's College*," said Kris Doody.

Coca-Cola has been operating in Aroostook County for over 70 years. The

regional facility, located in the Skyway Industrial Park in Presque Isle, employs 22 full-time and five part-time employees.

The local operations cover a large geographic service area, which includes all of Aroostook County and a portion of Washington County. The region served represents the largest per capita consumption of Coke products in the State of Maine.

In addition to the Coca-Cola brand, other beverages handled by company include Dasani water, PowerAide, Nestea, Minute Maid, Dr. Pepper, and Sunkist, among others.

The *Campaign for the County's College*, is the first-ever major gifts campaign conducted by NMCC and the College Foundation. The goal is to raise \$2 million by February of next year to both support student scholarships and instructional technology, as well as to assist the College in new and ongoing efforts to respond promptly to community needs.

Named to reflect both the impact of the campus in the region as well as how the College community mirrors the aspirations of Aroostook and its people, the campaign is designed to support the outstanding tradition of teaching and learning for which NMCC is known. It also provides an opportunity to invest in positioning the College to meet the community's education and workforce demands for years to come.

NMCC nursing and allied health programs to benefit from \$45,000 TAMC gift to Campaign

The Aroostook Medical Center has pledged its support to the students, faculty and staff in the nursing and allied health programs at NMCC by announcing a \$45,000 gift to the *Campaign for the County's College*. The donation, pledged over three years, will provide funding to upgrade instructional technology for the nursing and allied health programs, as well as fund scholarships for students in the related programs.

The first \$15,000 installment will support the establishment of a mobile computer lab for students enrolled in allied health courses.

“The Aroostook Medical Center is committed to continuing our long and mutually beneficial relationship with Northern Maine Community College to develop future healthcare professionals in The County,” said David Peterson, TAMC president and CEO. “We see this contribution to the *Campaign for the County's College* as an investment in workforce development for our community. The healthcare workforce is fragile and will need constant attention in the coming years to ensure services will be available where and when needed. Therefore, TAMC understands the importance of expanding local educational opportunities in order to build a local skilled workforce.”

The remaining \$30,000 of the pledge has been designated by TAMC to support student scholarships through the already established TAMC/Marge Haines Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The scholarship was initially funded in 2003 by a group of nursing professionals and TAMC’s medical staff and board of directors in memory of Marge Haines, a nurse at TAMC for many years. Eligible students must be enrolled in the NMCC nursing program with a minimum 3.25 grade point average and have plans to practice in Aroostook County upon graduation.

“The Aroostook Medical Center has long been a supporter of our Community College and the NMCC Foundation. The TAMC gift to the *Campaign for the County's College*, and the areas where the



Carl Flora, chair of the board of directors for The Aroostook Medical Center and NMCC Foundation Board member; Bruce Sandstrom, senior vice president-finance at TAMC and NMCC Foundation board member; and David Peterson, TAMC president and CEO; present the first year pledge of the healthcare organization’s \$45,000 three year commitment to NMCC to representatives of the College, NMCC Foundation and Campaign for the County’s College leadership. Accepting the gift are NMCC President Timothy Crowley; Raynold Gauvin, chair of the NMCC Foundation Board; and Brian Hamel and Robert Clark, two of the three chairs for the NMCC major gifts campaign.

gift has been designated, will benefit students both in the immediate future and for generations to come,” said Raynold Gauvin, NMCC Foundation Board chair. “We are most grateful to TAMC, its administration and board of directors for supporting the college, specifically the students in nursing and allied health programs.”

Collectively, the largest percentage of registered nurses caring for patients at the County’s four hospitals are NMCC graduates. Just over 50 percent of TAMC’s nursing staff hold associate degrees in nursing from NMCC.

“The mutually supportive relationship we enjoy with healthcare providers in our region including TAMC is critical to ensuring the very health and wellbeing of the people of Aroostook County. As our region’s population continues to age, the demands on local providers will only increase in the coming years. Partnerships such as this will be critical to ensuring these needs are met,” said NMCC

President Timothy Crowley. “With the support of community leaders such as TAMC, this campaign will provide new resources that will enhance the College’s ability to better serve students and the healthcare community in Aroostook County.”

TAMC, a fully accredited not-for-profit healthcare organization, provides access for Aroostook County residents to a wide range of primary and specialty care services. As a member of the Eastern Maine Healthcare System, TAMC is able to offer services not commonly found in rural areas, including hemodialysis, sleep medicine, and acute inpatient rehab.

A.R. Gould Memorial Hospital, an 83-bed hospital in Presque Isle, offers a wide range of acute care services. Horizons Health Services, a physician practice group providing both primary and specialty care services, has health centers in eight Aroostook County communities.

TAMC is one of the region’s largest employers, with a staff of 1,059.

Laptops *from page 1*

The College retrofitted a business classroom over the summer, hardwiring the tables with electrical power so that students would be able to plug in their laptops and adding ergonomically correct chairs. The changes have resulted in several advantages, according to accounting instructor Nancy Cowett, who is among those who teach in the retrofitted room and is teaching one of the classes using laptops this semester.

By converting the classroom for laptop use, her accounting students have the benefit of having access to computers during each class, whereas previously they only had access to a computer lab during one class each week. "This gives us the ability to try something in 'real' time," explained Cowett. "On-line, I can show them information on a concept as it is introduced, instead of having to wait for the day that we are in the lab."

As an added benefit, since the pilot laptop classes no longer need to have access to a computer lab, computer lab time, which is always in high demand, is freed up for other classes or student use. Also, because students take their laptops with them after class, this retrofitted room can still easily serve as a 'regular' classroom for other courses.

"We would be doing a disservice to our students to not educate them in technology, because we live in a world of technology," said Cowett. "For instance, no one does manual accounting anymore. When our students are entering the workforce, they are going to be using software, and it is critical that they have experience with that software."

In her class, Cowett is using software that is integrated with the course textbook, allowing students to do homework and practice sessions on-line. "They submit their homework and get immediate feedback. Without having to wait for the next class meeting time, they know what answers are right and, more importantly, what the correct answers are for those that are not right. This way they can start practicing the right way, instead of learning it wrong and having to re-learn it later."

In addition to having the grades reported to her, the software allows Cowett

to track when a student accessed the homework, how long he or she worked on it, and if the class is having problems in any particular area.

Students were given the option of providing their own laptops or leasing one from the College. The computers from the College were preloaded with the software necessary to support a student's education in his or her business program. Under the agreement, students received a discount on their laptops and were able to have the cost charged to their student account, to be paid in four semester payments.

While under lease, the laptop has accidental damage protection, with the vendor repairing or replacing the unit and the College's IT department providing support services. A security/theft prevention system is also in place. The College retains ownership of the laptop during the lease term. Ownership is transferred to the student upon graduation,



Instructor Nancy Cowett teaches a group of accounting students in the classroom that has been retrofitted for laptop use.

tion, or the student may opt for an early buyout option.

Forty students took advantage of the College's new laptop lease program this year, the majority of whom were first year students in the business administration and accounting information systems programs taking part in the pilot program.

Next fall, all students entering the accounting information systems, business administration and nursing programs will be required to have a laptop. Other programs under which students may soon be required to have a laptop are medical office administration and diesel hydraulics technology.

Medical Assistants Week *from page 3*

of physicians, podiatrists, chiropractors, and other medical professionals running smoothly and efficiently. Others in the profession may work in outpatient surgical centers, laboratories, or hospitals.

The services provided by medical assistants include both the office administrative and clinical aspects of their place of employment. Administrative duties include keeping patient records, managing financial matters, handling insurance arrangements, processing correspondence, and overall office management. Clinically, the medical assistant prepares and assists in patient examination, records laboratory data, assists with office surgical procedures, performs basic physical assessment and measures vital signs.

The development of the NMCC program is in direct response to the request of regional healthcare practices and professionals, who are looking to fill

positions throughout the County in what is identified as one of the fastest growing professions by several key organizations, including the U.S. Department of Labor.

In developing the medical assisting program, NMCC followed the guidelines and standards delineated by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. College officials are now pursuing accreditation through CAAHEP.

A key component for the new program will be the continued collaboration with area partners in delivering the education. Several area medical practices and hospital departments have already been identified as sites for student clinical externship sites.

Students enrolled in the NMCC program will be involved in hands-on learning at a variety of sites with experienced medical assistants.

Community invited to Breakfast of Champions

Campus and community members are invited to the annual Breakfast of Champions being held at NMCC on Thursday, October 11. This year's event will engage the community in discussion about strategies for easing the work and family crunch.

A morning panel and discussion will bring important family care issues to the forefront and make the case for why family friendly public policies and practices are a priority. Panelists will surface economic policies and practices that support the well-being of our families, our businesses and our communities. All are invited to join the conversation.

Speakers and panelists will include: Laura Fortman, commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor; Laura Harper, director of public policy for the Maine Women's Policy Center; Wendy Riopelle, an NMCC student balancing

family and college; Suzanne Senechal-Jandreau, regional manager of Women, Work and Community.

Most of us will engage in childcare, elder care, or will care for a sick friend or family member during our lives. But how can we be responsible employees *and* good family members? What does it take to attend school, work and care for family members, too? The discussion will address these questions and others.

The event is free, and a light breakfast will be served; however, pre-registration is required. Please contact Karen at 768-2809 or info@nmcc.edu.

This event is sponsored by the Maine Women's Policy Center, Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community, Northern Maine Community College, and the American Association of University Women's Houlton, Caribou and Presque Isle branches.

Bond from page 1

college trade and technical occupation programs. The Christie complex serves as the primary campus classroom facility. Work would include upgrades to heating and ventilation systems. Students in all programs will also benefit from new classroom technology.

"The funding that would be provided under Question 3 is directed in areas that are critically important to the College's mission of providing an educated and well-trained workforce for the Aroostook economy," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "The energy efficiencies will allow us to redirect limited funds that have been used in recent years to offset increasing fuel and related costs. The investment in new technology will ensure that we continuously meet the needs of employers in the region who rely on us to meet their staffing needs, and that their future employees are learning on the current technology and equipment used by the businesses."

UMPI would see \$1.4 million for renovations in Folsom/Pullen Hall, the main classroom and laboratory building. Work would include an update of the heating and ventilation system, installation of new energy efficient windows, ADA accessibility improvements, and consideration of air to air heat pumps and solar panels as part of the university's carbon neutral commitment.

In the St. John Valley, \$1.4 million would be directed to UMFK to construct a classroom building extension adjacent to Nadeau Hall. The facility would provide modern classrooms for student instruction and office space where faculty can prepare weekly lectures, as well as offer students and faculty alike with state-of-the-art laboratories for research and experimentation.

The County leaders also spoke about the benefits of Question 2 and its potential impact on the region. Statewide approval would provide \$50 million to the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), which would award competitive research grants for projects related to advancing Maine's economy. An additional \$5 million would be directed to the Finance Authority of Maine and the Maine Rural Development Authority.

Falcons are soaring this season

The NMCC Falcons have been having a great season. They defeated UMPI in their first game of the season, with a score of 1-0, and then went on to defeat Unity College, 2-0, in a game later that same week. They had an outstanding home game against Hesser College of New Hampshire this past weekend, winning 8-0. Their record so far for the season is 4 wins, 3 losses in a combination of both conference and non-conference games. They will travel to Central Maine Community College in Auburn on October 10 to play their last game of the regular season against Vermont Technical College. Kudos to Coach Robbie Krul and his team for their outstanding efforts!



Members of this year's NMCC soccer team are, front from left: Trent Legassie, Nate Manning-Harris, Dave Whitman, Sam Petrie, Juan Loubier, Mike Condon, Andrew Poland. Back row, from left: Sean Daigle, Jake Graham, Jon Poisson, Justin St. Claire, Luke Ireland, Brandon Boulware, Aaron Putnam, Matt Wright, and Coach Robbie Krul. Absent from photo: Mitchell Panati

Constitution Day celebrated

September 17 marked the 220th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. NMCC students and employees celebrated the occasion by hosting a presentation on the Constitution by humanities instructor David Raymond, as well as fun round of “College Constitution Jeopardy” with a team of employees competing against a team of students.

The first event was open to both the public and the campus community. Peter Miesburger, Joseph Gaston and Douglas Michaud of the Caribou Chapter 9389 Veterans of Foreign Wars color guard presented the colors to start the celebration, while NMCC student Alyssa Snow and UMPI student Isaac Raymond performed the national anthem.

Following the opening ceremony, instructor David Raymond delivered a presentation on the changing views of the Constitution through history, showing how historians are influenced by what is happening around them. Views on the Constitution have varied over the years, depending on other factors taking place in the economy and the world that can drive what kinds of questions historians are asking.



presentation on the changing views of the Constitution through history, showing how historians are influenced by what is happening around them. Views on the Constitution have varied over the years, depending on other factors taking place in the economy and the world that can drive what kinds of questions historians are asking.



Competing on the student team were, from left, Matt Turnbull, Alysa Snow and Ryan Sanders.

Getting the ceremony started on the right note were, from left, NMCC student Alyssa Snow and UMPI student Isaac Raymond, who performed the national anthem. Members of the Caribou Chapter 9389 Veterans of Foreign Wars color guard were on hand to official begin the ceremony. They are, from left: Peter Miesburger, Joseph Gaston, and Douglas Michaud.



Following Raymond’s presentation, NMCC student activities hosted a Community Constitution Day reception featuring red, white and blue refreshments in the lobby of the Edmunds Conference Center.

Student activities also sponsored a College Constitution Jeopardy contest, a game show format featuring trivia questions relating to the Constitution which pitted a team of students against a team of NMCC employees. Despite a rough start by employees, who ended up 900 in the hole after a daring bet on a daily double, the team came back to defeat the students. There were a lot of laughs from some of the team actions as well as a few technical glitches.

The College library also marked Constitution Day with an exhibit of books in the College collection that are listed as “banned books.” NMCC’s collection includes nearly three dozen books that have been challenged for their

content. In addition to these books, the library display featured publications on the first amendment.

“Particularly in a library setting one has to be conscious of the right of free speech,” said Peggy O’Kane, NMCC assistant dean of learning resources. “Each of us has a right to choose what we want to read and what we will allow our minor children to read. But none of us has a right to determine what other adults read. The American Library Association tracks challenges to books and advocates for free expression. Since September includes both Constitution Day and Banned Books Week it makes sense to highlight both.”

The law establishing Constitution Day was enacted in 2004; it mandates that all publicly funded educational institutions provide educational programming on the history of the American Constitution on that day or an adjacent weekday.



Competing on the staff team were, from left, Tammy Nelson and Johna Lovely from the counseling office and Wendy Bradstreet from the business office. Student Denise Sock served as a scorekeeper.

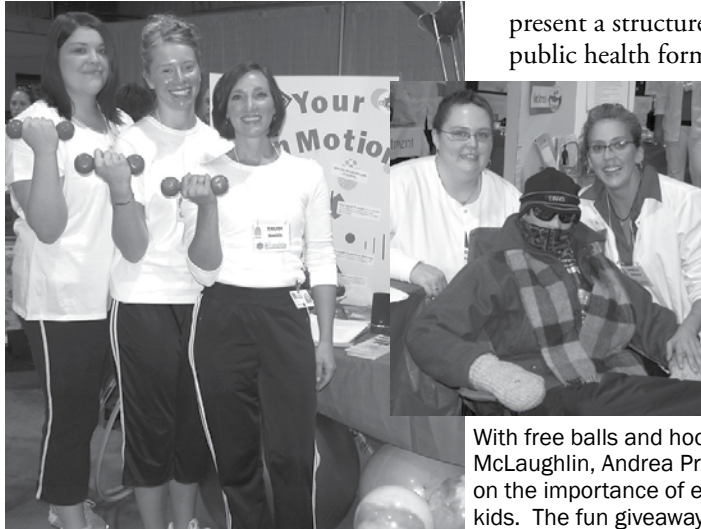
Student nurses take health fair to community

NMCC senior nursing students took their annual health fair, traditionally held on the College campus, out to the community this fall, presenting it in conjunction with the first annual Fall and Winter Sports and Recreation Show at the Forum on September 29 and 30.

The students prepared educational displays on eight different health education

topics, including frostbite prevention and treatment, stress management and coping strategies, hypothermia prevention and treatment, common winter illnesses, benefits of activity, seasonal affective disorder, winters sports safety, and energy, nutrition and exercise.

The health fair was added to the nursing curriculum to provide the senior students with an opportunity to plan and present a structured teaching project in a public health format.



Nicole Bennett and Shelli Adams, both from the Houlton nursing section, provided details about hypothermia, including how to dress to prevent it, as demonstrated by their 'friend' Art (artificial life form).

With free balls and hoola hoops to give away, Abby McLaughlin, Andrea Pratt, and Trudi Smith's booth on the importance of exercise was a big hit with kids. The fun giveaways were courtesy of Walmart.

Final component of grant features community health education presentations

The last in a series of three projects outlined in a state grant awarded to NMCC to lay the groundwork for establishing a resource center for County medical and emergency care professionals engaged College students and the local community.

Included in the \$12,684 grant from the Emergency Medical Services for Children State Partnership – a division of the Maine Department of Public Safety is support for public education on pediatric care issues.

A total of 33 students, eleven enrolled in the emergency medical services program and another 22 taking the fall semester offering of NMCC's introduction to the healthcare professions course, prepared health education presentations and shared them with the community for during the Fall and Winter Sports and Recreation Show at the Forum.

"Community health education is a critical component in our curricula.



Dave Wyman, seated, has his heart rate checked by EMS students Jordan Baker (standing) and Eric Mailman, as they demonstrate how the equipment works.

Medical assisting student Clarence McPherson explains the sugar content in various food and drinks to instructor Deb Folsom.

Casavant Named Maine Sports Legend

William "Bill" Casavant, longtime educator, coach, official, umpire, director of physical education, athletics and intramurals, radio broadcaster, and presently director of admissions at NMCC is one of the newest inductees into the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Honor.



Bill represents the Northern Region in the shrine for 2007. This honor is presented to men and women for their extraordinary commitment and work behind the scenes to help students excel both academically and athletically. He will be officially inducted at the Maine Sports Hall of Honor Banquet in Waterville on October 7.

"It is fitting that Bill Casavant be recognized for his many years of dedicated service to students and student athletes," said Bill Egeler, NMCC dean of students. "He has guided and has been a positive influence to countless young adults. Most of all, however, Bill is an outstanding example of how the values of athletics can positively influence individuals long beyond one's days of being a competitive athlete. I congratulate Bill and celebrate his inclusion in the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Honor."

Though our graduates certainly are able to care for someone who is ill or injured, we feel it is equally important for our graduates to understand the importance of prevention, wellness, and safety." said Daryl Boucher, NMCC nursing and allied health instructor and coordinator of the EMS program.

A wide range of areas were covered, including childhood obesity, immunization, trampoline and playground safety, Halloween safety, and ATV and snowmobile safety equipment.

The community presentations follow two other components of the pediatric education grant. NMCC used part of the funding to purchase equipment for a local pediatric repository and worked to improve curriculum through public education to help meet a need expressed by area hospitals and emergency medical service organizations. Another component of the funding allowed NMCC to develop and administer 12 educational sessions in pediatric topics currently being held throughout the region. Funding has supported educational materials, lesson plan development, instructor time, and travel expense.

Toward Excellence

Upcoming Continuing Education offerings...

Microsoft Office Applications

If your current employees are not up to speed in their desktop computing skills, you are not fully leveraging your investment in computer technology. This is a hidden yet potentially enormous problem. A recent Microsoft survey found that an amazing 70% of the features that customers request for new product implementation are already built into existing versions of Microsoft Office. This means that many users are not using all of its productivity features to their fullest. Is your organization at top production? This course will help your employees expand their current knowledge of the software and help your organization maximize the tools you currently have.

Level 1 - Basic: *Microsoft Word* *Microsoft Excel Basics*
 Access for Beginners *PowerPoint Essentials*

CSA 660 ♦ Cost: \$275 – text additional ♦ 3 CEUs
Mondays, October 15 – December 17 ♦ 5:30pm – 8:30 pm

CRMA Certification

This 40-hour course is designed for individuals working in and responsible for administering medications in Residential Care Facilities. Participants will learn safe, accurate, and appropriate methods of administering medications as well as acceptable documentation techniques. Class enrollment is limited to 12 people.

HLT 705 ♦ Cost: \$299 ♦ 4.0 CEUs
Fridays, October 19 – November 16 ♦ 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Beginning Embroidery

This beginning primer of hand embroidery includes everything you need to complete four different projects. Join us for some fun...all you need is your creativeness and a willingness to learn! There's only as much "homework" as you want to do!

Cost: \$65 ♦ Thursdays, October 11 – November 1 ♦ 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Professional Bartending & Mixology

Looking for a full or part-time career? Become a professional bartender for less money and time than you would expect! Learn to identify a variety of brand names, how to mix hundreds of drinks and how to effectively handle every type of patron. This is a hands-on course that includes practice workshops and speed building.

MIX 600 ♦ Cost \$350 – includes text and bar kit ♦ 3.6 CEUs
November 6 – December 11 ♦ Tuesdays, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
& Saturdays, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

2008 National Electrical Code Update

NMCC is offering a 15-hour Electrical Code Update course for all electricians and associates to update the trade on 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 codebook, calculator and notebook.

ELT 605 ♦ Cost \$95 – text additional ♦ 1.5 CEUs
Tuesday & Thursdays, November 8, 13 & 15 ♦ 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

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



Development Office
33 Edgemont Drive
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #54
Presque Isle, ME 04769