

MCCS Trustees and Presidents to visit

Members of the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees and the presidents of NMCC's sister colleges across the state will be on campus on Wednesday, November 14, for a MCCS board meeting. Joining them will MCCS President John Fitzsimmons and several members of the MCCS staff.

Serving on the 13-member board of trustees from Aroostook County are Bob Clark, executive director of the Northern Maine Development Commission, and Kris



Robert Clark

Doody, CEO of Cary Medical Center.

The Board will be considering several policy revisions.

The board meets six times annually,

typically at one of the seven colleges in the System. "It's important for members of the Board to visit the colleges; it helps them to get a better understanding of each school and of the role individual colleges play within their regions. Although part of a System, each of our colleges is unique. By meeting on campus, the Board gets to experience that first hand," said MCCS President John Fitzsimmons.



Kris Doody

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation makes \$100,000 contribution to establish allied health simulation center on campus

A first-of-its kind simulation center for nursing and allied health students and medical professionals in the northern part of the state will be located on the NMCC campus. To help make that happen, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation awarded the College a \$100,000 grant to establish the facility and to purchase the initial equipment.

"This center will serve not only our nursing, emergency medical services and medical assisting students, but will also be made available to other healthcare providers who wish to practice or learn new techniques.

This is a significant development in healthcare education for our part of the state," said NMCC President Tim Crowley. "Our goal is to enhance the educational opportunities of health care providers in Aroostook County."

It is that overarching goal and the future potential of the center to positively impact the level and quality of healthcare delivered in the County that prompted the Anthem Foundation to support the project through a directed contribution to the *Campaign for the County's College*.

Mark Ishkanian, director of corporate communications for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Maine, was on campus on October 15 to make the announcement that the health insurance provider will be a major partner for the project.



NMCC President Tim Crowley (left) receives a ceremonial check for \$100,000 from Mark Ishkanian, director of corporate communications for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, to help establish an allied health simulation center on the College's Presque Isle campus.

"Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is pleased to fund this exciting project that will create a first class learning simulation facility that will help teach the next generation of nursing and allied health students key skills," said Ishkanian. "We're also pleased that the allied health simulation center will be available for current health professionals for their continuing education – this will truly be a much needed resource for Northern Maine."

Ishkanian followed his comments with the presentation of a check for \$100,000 to College officials, as NMCC Foundation board members, community leaders and representatives of the County's four hospitals who gathered for the event looked on.

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Students and Faculty to thank senior citizens at Tea

The NMCC nursing and allied health department will hold their annual Well-Elder Tea on Thursday, November 29, in the Edmunds Conference Center. The tea is held for senior citizens from area communities to thank them for participating in the “well elder” program at the college.

The program connects first-year nursing students with healthy seniors in their community who volunteer to allow the students into their homes over a period of time to practice their assessment techniques. Students take vital signs and review medications, home safety and general health lifestyles. Students also gain valuable experience practicing their interview and listening skills.

“The focus of our first semester students is the adult and older adult,” explained Betty Kent-Conant, nursing and allied health department chair. “The clinical experience for these students is scheduled in long-term care facilities and nursing homes. However, residents in these type of facilities represent only about five percent of the total elder population, so this is a wonderful chance for the students to observe and experience ‘normal’ aging in the individual’s own environment.”

According to Kent-Conant, the program has also allowed the students to see that elderly citizens contribute to the community and can be very active.

The tea is an opportunity to thank the participants in person and to present each one with a small gift.

Aroostook County’s own **SOUND FRIENDSHIPS**

will perform at the Northeastland Hotel
Saturday, November 10

for a benefit dance to support the Aroostook County Branch of the American Red Cross’ Disaster Relief Fund Campaign. The dance will be held from 8:00-11:00 p.m. and donations will be accepted at the door. For more information please call 762-5671 or email arc.arostook@ainop.com.

NMCC and UMPI to relay torch across Star City to raise awareness for Questions 2 & 3; “bond” fire planned for Election Night

A torch that will be used on Election Night to light a “bond” fire and celebrate regional awareness efforts by the County’s college and universities about bond questions 2 and 3 will be ceremonially lit and relayed across the Star City on Monday, November 5.

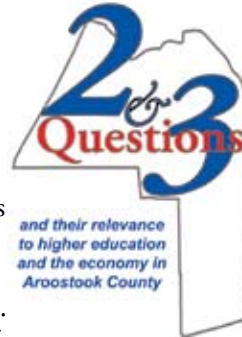
Students, faculty and staff at NMCC and UMPI will participate in the torch relay that will officially get underway at 10 a.m. with a brief ceremony and rally on the NMCC campus in the courtyard area just outside the Christie Complex. The event will kick-off with the lighting of the torch and first leg of the relay.

“Aroostook – and specifically the three public institutions of higher education in the County – have a lot at stake on the November 6 ballot,” said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. “The torch relay across Presque Isle will serve both as an election-eve reminder of the importance of getting to the polls on Tuesday, and the significance of these two measures to the communities and people of the region.”

Escorted by emergency response vehicles from the Presque Isle Police Department and Presque Isle Fire Department, NMCC representatives will carry the torch to the corner of State and Main Streets in the downtown.

At that point, Crowley – who will serve as the final NMCC torchbearer – will hand it over to UMPI President Don Zillman, who will lead off the University section of the relay. University students and personnel will guide the torch to campus, and place it in a stand near the Gentile Hall parking area – the site of the “bond” fire that will be held at UMPI on Election Night.

The “bond” fire will begin at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 6 in the open area behind Gentile Hall. Together, Presidents Zillman and Crowley will use the torch relayed from NMCC to UMPI to light the fire.



The evening’s activities will be divided between the bonfire outside – hot chocolate and desserts will be served – and the lobby area of Gentile Hall, where participants can warm up and watch Election Night coverage.

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. Altogether, County institutions would see an investment of more than \$3.5 million in the infrastructure of the three local campuses.

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.

UMPI stands to see \$1.4 million for renovations in Folsom/Pullen Hall, the main classroom and laboratory building on campus. UMFK would also receive \$1.4 million to construct a new classroom building extension adjacent to Nadeau Hall.

Statewide approval of Question 2 would provide \$50 million to the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), which would award – on a competitive basis – research grants for projects related to advancing Maine’s economy. An additional \$3.5 million would be directed to the Finance Authority of Maine, and \$1.5 million is earmarked for the Maine Rural Development Authority.

Faculty, staff and students at Maine’s public universities could apply competitively for grants through MTI that would provide funding for innovation that will help Maine companies stay ahead of the global competition with new products, better and more efficient processes and the development of new materials that are sustainable.

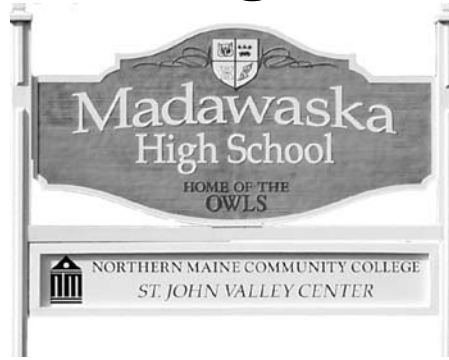
NMCC to expand program offerings in the St. John Valley

Within the coming weeks, NMCC will open a new off-campus center in the St. John Valley at Madawaska High School as the College continues to expand its service to the northernmost part of Aroostook. As final preparations are made to open the center, NMCC campus leaders are turning to the local communities to hear what program and course offerings would best meet the needs of the region.

As steps in that process, the College has held two community meetings in Madawaska, first a community information night at Café de la Place in August, followed up by a forum for community and business in the Madawaska High School library on October 25.

The purpose of the sessions was to hear directly from those in the Valley about the current and anticipated future needs for education and training and to better learn how NMCC, in partnership with the St. John Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative, can help ensure the region has a vibrant and viable workforce moving forward.

“We are interested and committed to delivering more programs and services to the people of the St. John Valley in the Valley,” said NMCC President



Timothy Crowley. “We enjoy a strong relationship with the adult and community education centers in the local communities who have, for many years, delivered our courses and facilitated some program offerings for us in the region. Collaboratively, we are working to do more in the area. We are working to gather the necessary information we need to move forward and plan for new offerings in the area that will have maximum positive impact on the Valley’s workforce and economy.”

Toward that end, the two-dozen business and community leaders who came together at the October forum shared, from their perspectives, what courses and programs provided by NMCC are most needed in the Valley.

“One of the areas identified as a Valley-wide need by the group of leaders

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Residential construction students & faculty help construct heroes wall to honor local Veterans

Students and faculty in the NMCC residential construction program are pitching in to help build a wall that will honor area Veterans and service members, and at the same time support a County-wide effort to stock food pantries throughout the region.

The Heroes Wall, a project coordinated by WAGM-TV to pay tribute to Veterans and soldiers currently serving in the military, will be unveiled at a ceremony on November 11 (Veteran’s Day), at 2:00 p.m. in the Aroostook Centre Mall, which will serve as the temporary home for the wall until a permanent venue is located.

The wall, now under construction in the residential construction lab on the NMCC campus, will feature dozens

of granite etched photographic images of individuals who have served or are currently serving the nation. Over the past few weeks, area residents have been logging on to the WAGM-TV website to upload photos of their loved ones to be included on the Heroes Wall.

The photos are being etched on granite plaques that measure either 5 inches high by 7 inches wide or 8.5 inches high by 11 inches wide. In addition to the photo, the Veteran or service member’s name and home town are etched on each plaque. The granite work is being completed by County native Mike Roy, who operates Get-Etched.com, a custom laser etching company.

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Area Heroes to be honored at the Annual Real Heroes Breakfast

The American Red Cross-Pine Tree Chapter, Northern Maine Community College and WAGM TV are joining together to recognize six 2007 Real Heroes and three Honorary Heroes for the 10th Annual Real Heroes Breakfast Thursday, November 8, at 7:30 a.m. in the Edmunds Conference Center at NMCC.

The heroes selected include those who have assisted others during an emergency situation or provided incredible assistance that made a difference in someone else’s life. These brave individuals were each nominated by the public and later selected by a group of community leaders because they went above and beyond the call of duty to exhibit a true act of selflessness, and their heroic acts embody the principles and ideals of the Red Cross’ humanitarian mission.

The presentations will be given at the Thursday morning breakfast, where their amazing stories will be recounted. The doors will open at 7:00 a.m., with the program beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Community and business members are invited to celebrate the heroism of these local individuals, while at the same time supporting the local disaster relief and preparedness efforts of the Aroostook County Branch of the American Red Cross. Table sponsorships are available at various recognition levels. Individual tickets can be purchased for \$25 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call 762-5671 or stop by the Red Cross office at 141 State Street.

The Aroostook County Branch of the American Red Cross – Pine Tree Chapter is a non-profit, humanitarian organization, which provides services for the residents of Aroostook County. All Red Cross disaster assistance is FREE and made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from Aroostook County people. For more information on disaster preparedness, health and safety classes, volunteer opportunities, and financial contributions, contact the office at knorrij@pinetree.redcross.org or call 762-5671.

Life after Fraser: Madawaska man who accepted early retirement from downsizing paper mill about to embark on new career that will literally take him places

Gerry Martin of Madawaska is about to embark on a new career, and the 57-year old former Fraser Papers veteran employee of 29 years is literally going places.

Martin was one of the dozens of Fraser employees who, this summer, accepted an early retirement offer from the company in the wake of the shutdown of two papermaking machines at the company's Madawaska mill. On November 2, two months after his final week as day foreman in the shipping department at Fraser, Martin will graduate from the Commercial Driving Academy at NMCC – and the offers of employment are already pouring in.

"There are people calling our instructor here at NMCC everyday for drivers – none of us will have problems finding a job," said Martin. "I have spoken with a number of trucking firms in the Valley and have been told to give them a call back as soon as I graduate. They are especially anxious to hire drivers who have gone through the professional program at NMCC. The Commercial Driving Academy here has a very good reputation. The firms I have spoken with about going into the field highly recommended the NMCC program."

For Martin, becoming a commercial truck driver is as much about pursuing a life-long dream he has shared with Carol, his wife of 28 years, as it is a new career opportunity. The two have always wanted to travel and see other parts of the country.

The downsizing at Fraser, coupled with a major health issue that Carol is currently facing and the subsequent desire to spend more time with family, convinced Martin that the time was right for a change.

Determined, Martin took the first official step toward his new life on August 15, which also happened to be the day of two important sessions in Madawaska. The first was a late afternoon meeting at Madawaska High School where Martin and other Fraser employees learned they

could apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance monies to defray the expenses of education and training for a new career. Immediately upon leaving that meeting, Martin went downtown to Café de la Place, where NMCC officials were hosting a community information night for Valley residents.

"There I talked with Dennis Dyer and was very impressed. Although I was nervous about the program, as it had been many years since I had regularly been in a classroom, he immediately made me feel very comfortable and we kept in touch," said Martin.

Dennis Dyer is the lead instructor and program coordinator for NMCC's Commercial Driving Academy. He has been a CDL instructor for over 10 years, and has worked closely on numerous occasions with people like Martin, who are turning to truck driving as a new career later in life.

"The statistics for this program show that the highest numbers of our students are in the 41-50 year old category. They come here for a career change, because of a life circumstance like a lay-off, or to fulfill a dream they have always had to learn to drive an 18 wheeler. These students do very well in the class and are usually the top pick for employers because they have a solid work history and the determination to succeed at this new career," said Dyer.

"It has been a challenge, yet enjoyable. The classroom atmosphere was laid back but structured. The instruction was superb. Any questions or concerns brought up were addressed immediately. The instructors have been wonderful. Their patience is top notch and 'safety first' is stressed at all times," said Martin. "I have nothing but positive things to say about NMCC. From day one I was welcomed – even by the students who knew I was old enough to be their father. It has just been such a great experience."

The soon-to-be professional commercial driver is quick to point out that he passed his recent commercial driver



Gerry Martin, who accepted an early retirement package from Fraser Papers this summer, will officially begin his new career as a truck driver after he graduates from the Commercial Driving Academy at NMCC on November 2.

permit exam with flying colors. Their permits in hand, Martin and his fellow classmates are now out on the road with their instructors and with the end of the eight-week program in sight, it is time to look ahead.

"I'm looking to work part-time to supplement the family income, but, more importantly, I'm looking forward to traveling and seeing the country while getting paid to do it. On longer trips when I have a lay-over, I plan to take Carol along and we can check out the sites," said Martin.

The state-licensed Commercial Driving Academy at NMCC teaches students how to handle a Class A commercial vehicle safely and efficiently with hands-on experience on the driving range and on the road.

Classroom instruction covers areas essential to professional drivers, including logbooks, trip planning, and in-service air brake adjusting. Students are also offered the opportunity to earn additional endorsements such as hazardous materials, tank vehicle and double/triple trailer, which make them even more marketable in the workforce.

As a benefit for participants in the Commercial Driving Academy, students

Valley Center, from page 3

at the recent meeting, as well as with the prospective students in August, was that the Commercial Driving Academy offered by the NMCC Continuing Education Division be delivered locally in the Valley," said Jason Parent, NMCC director of development. "There is a clear need for commercial truck drivers in the region and an apparent high level of interest on the part of residents in the region for the program."

In addition to the need for commercial drivers, individuals attending the forum expressed a desire to see offerings in the region in the business related field from entrepreneurship to administrative support. A considerable part of the discussion centered on the need to ensure a strong work ethic and the marketable customer service skills of the region's workforce are reinforced.

Before concluding the session, Crowley updated attendees on the recent progress of the College and St. John

Life, from page 4

are now being offered the opportunity to reside on-campus and purchase a meal plan in the college dining hall during the eight-week program at a modest additional cost.

"Other driving schools in Maine are charging \$6,000 or more for this training. At \$3,495 we are indeed a lower cost option and having on-campus housing now available has helped us accommodate those from other parts of Maine and beyond who realize that being a professional driver is a good career choice," said Dyer. "Good paying jobs are out there for anyone who has a CDL and wants to work."

The two upcoming eight-week day sessions of NMCC's Commercial Driving Academy will begin on November 19, 2007 and January 28, 2008 respectively. An evening and weekend course is also offered periodically to accommodate individuals who cannot participate in the day program.

For more information on the Commercial Driving Academy, contact the NMCC Continuing Education Division at 768-2768.

Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative to expand the College's associate degree in nursing program to the Valley.

A recent survey conducted by the Collaborative indicates a high need for associate degree nurses in the northern region. As a result, discussions between NMCC officials and area healthcare and education leaders concerning possible delivery of the NMCC ADN program in the Valley are ongoing.

"We are enthused that the work of the stakeholders involved in the St. John Valley allied health initiative will likely result in NMCC allied health program offerings facilitated by the St. John Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative at the St. John Valley Technology Center and other locations in the region," said Peter Caron, director of adult and community education for MSAD 27, who has served as convener of the discussions on the education and training needs of the allied health sector.

A meeting is planned on November 19 at the St. John Valley Technology Center in Frenchville for parties interested in possibly enrolling in a nursing program offered in the Valley. Participation in the session will determine how the project proceeds in the coming months.

"We are thrilled with the expanded collaboration between the St. John Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative and Northern Maine Community College and enthusiastic about the prospect of increasing the availability of NMCC courses, programs and services to adults and high school students in the St. John Valley," said Christine Cowie director of adult and community education for the Madawaska School Department.

NMCC has also been involved in discussions at both the local and state level concerning training and other educational opportunities with Fraser Paper in the wake of the recent company downsizing. The College is prepared to work collaboratively with Kennebec Valley Community College, to deliver pulp and paper technology courses and curriculum as requested by the paper company.

Heroes Wall, from page 3

Residential Construction Instructor Guy Jackson and his students are hard at work completing the wall in time for the November 11 unveiling.

"Our Veterans and those currently serving our country deserve every recognition and honor that is given them. I am pleased that our students have the opportunity to work on this important project. It not only provides them with a great chance to learn by doing, it also involves them in the community in a project that will be seen by thousands of people. It certainly goes a long way toward helping instill a sense of pride in their work," said Jackson, himself a Vietnam-war Veteran

The wall is being constructed in three separate sections. The larger 4 foot by 8 foot center section, that will be unveiled on Veteran's Day, will be filled with granite tiles ordered through the WAGM website prior to November 2. Two smaller 4 foot by 4 foot sections will have tiles, ordered after November 2, added afterwards.

Project coordinators approached Jackson about working on the project because they both appreciated the great quality work for which his program is renowned and saw great benefit in involving students in completing the project.

"Just like the individuals featured on the wall represent some of the finest examples of County folks that serve, the team building the wall represent some of the region's finest future professionals in the construction trade," said Kelly Landeen, WAGM local sales manager.

Aside from honoring local Veterans and service members, proceeds from the sale of granite etched tiles for the project will benefit the "Feed the County" program, which helps supply food to the 21 food pantries in Aroostook from Fort Kent to Houlton.

Those wanting to order a plaque to honor a Veteran or service member can log on to www.wagmtv.com and click on the Heroes Wall link, where they will be prompted to select from three options.

The November 11 ceremony is open to the public. As part of the ceremony, the Don Campbell Band will be performing to entertain those gathered.



CAMPAIGN NEWS

James McBreairty establishes scholarship fund for local students to attend NMCC

During his 12-year tenure representing Aroostook in the Maine Legislature in the 1970's and 1980's, James McBreairty and his wife Doris annually funded a one to two week visit to the state capitol for four area high school students. The purpose of the project was to provide the young people in his district with an up close and personal education on the workings of state government.



President Tim Crowley speaks to James McBreairty (seated) during the reception held in his honor at the College on October 19.

It was but one of many ways in which the long-time Perham residents gave to their community – particularly in areas that supported the pursuit of education. Family members recall numerous occasions when the McBreairty's privately and quietly provided financial assistance to area residents attending college.

The quiet passion became a formal legacy on October 19, when 92-year-old James McBreairty announced, at a reception in his honor at NMCC, that he has established a \$60,000 scholarship fund through the *Campaign for the County's College* that will provide three \$1,000 scholarships annually to first year NMCC students, one each from the communities of Perham, Wade and Washburn.

The Dickinson-McBreairty Memorial Scholarship fund is named in honor and memory of James and his late wife of 70 years Doris (Dickinson) McBreairty, who passed away in September of this year, as well as the couple's parents, Hampton and Sarah McBreairty and Harry and Leona Dickinson.

"When I ran for office, I never lost an election. The people gave that to me. When I retired from elected office I wanted to give something back. This is one of the ways that I have to give something back to the people who gave so much to me over my years," said McBreairty. "We've always supported education."

For the former lawmaker and veteran Aroostook County treasurer, establishing the scholarship is as much about giving

back as it is a personal mission to ensure that individuals who want to empower themselves by obtaining an education are able to do so without any barriers. It is a cause that holds special and personal significance.

"When I was growing up, I faced many challenges when it came to attending school. I would begin classes each year in Woodland in the fall, where my parent's worked on a large farm. In the winter, we would move to our home in Perham, where my parent's owned a woodlot. I would complete my school year there each year," said McBreairty.

It worked that way until the winter of 1928. The previous fall McBreairty had begun his school year in Woodland, as he had done since the family had moved to central Aroostook from Allagash in 1921. However, when the family moved back to Perham, the McBreairtys learned that the schoolhouse had burned down and the books were destroyed in the fire. As a result, the family was told schooling would be suspended for the remainder of the year.

"It set me back and forced me to repeat my eighth grade year, which delayed my entry into high school," said McBreairty.

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
Anthem Foundation	\$100,000
James McBreairty	\$60,000
MMG Insurance	\$50,000
Davis Foundation	\$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
Ensignes 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 S&L	\$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



Several faculty members from the NMCC nursing & allied health department took part in the press conference announcing the Anthem Foundation gift to the College. Speaking in a roundtable format were (left to right) Eileen McDougal, senior nursing student coordinator; Susan Dugal, coordinator of the medical assisting program; Daryl Boucher, coordinator of the EMS program; and Betty Kent-Conant, chair of the nursing and allied health department.

Once up and running next academic year, the allied health simulation center will house a human patient simulator, which will provide students and other users simulation-based education to enhance clinical and decision making skills during realistic patient care scenarios.

The Anthem Foundation grant will provide for the purchase and installation of simulation and other needed equipment for implementation. Funds will also allow NMCC to refurbish and transform existing space in the nursing wing of the A.K. Christie Building to house the technology and instructional space.

NMCC enrolls an average of 150 students annually in nursing and allied health related programs, which include emergency medical services and medical assisting. College officials estimate that an additional 200 to 300 health care professionals working throughout the region in hospitals, long-term care facilities, medical offices and on emergency responder teams will take advantage of the technology.

“Use of this simulator will allow nursing and allied health students to experience many client situations which might not present themselves in the clinical settings at the times when they are there. It will also provide a safe way for students to employ critical thinking skills and problem-solve without risk, and it will give faculty opportunities to use ‘teachable moments’ for groups of students with one scenario as opposed to working

Anthem Grant

from page 1

only with one student at a time,” said Betty Kent-Conant, nursing and allied health department chair.

Instructor Daryl Boucher has visited the simulation facility at the University of New England. At the press event, he presented a video clip demonstrating the human patient simulator technology that NMCC

anticipates purchasing and spoke about its capabilities.

“This simulation center opens up many new possibilities and learning opportunities for NMCC students, as well as for community healthcare providers,” said Boucher. “This is a safe way to learn difficult technical skills and to get immediate feedback. I am amazed at how a student’s confidence improves by using simulation technology. There is a tremendous amount of research that demonstrates the effectiveness of this type of learning.”

Faculty intend to use the simulation center as the primary arena for student hands-on learning prior to, and in conjunction with, clinical experiences in hospitals, other healthcare facilities, and in emergency settings.



Representatives from the County’s four hospitals spoke about the benefits of the simulation center to their institutions. Joining in the event were (left to right) Martin Bernstein, CEO of Northern Maine Medical Center in Fort Kent; Kris Doody, CEO of Cary Medical Center in Caribou; Lynn Turnbull, Vice President of Nursing at The Aroostook Medical Center in Presque Isle; and Janene Stewart, Health Care Recruiter for Houlton Regional Hospital.

Davis Family Foundation supports simulation center with \$50,000 grant

A second Maine-based foundation has come forward with grant funds to support the establishment of the first allied health simulation center in northern Maine on the NMCC campus.

The Davis Family Foundation, a public charitable foundation established by Phyllis C. Davis and H. Halsey Davis of Falmouth, Maine, has contributed \$50,000 to support the establishment and operation of the simulation center. The news comes just two weeks after the announcement that the Anthem Foundation has committed \$100,000 to get the project off the ground.

The grant from the Davis Family Foundation to NMCC’s *Campaign for the County’s College* will support the first year of center operation for project coordination, technical support, curricula design, professional development for faculty, equipment, and technology upgrades.

“There has been a great deal of excitement generated both on campus and in the community concerning the establishment of an allied health simulation center in our part of the state. We are most appreciative to the Davis Family Foundation for this most generous contribution,” said President Timothy Crowley. “This commitment will provide the margin of excellence for ensuring the center most effectively meets the needs of our faculty and students, as well as our partner healthcare organizations throughout Aroostook County that will utilize the facility to assist in the development of their current workforce.”

The allied health simulation center will house both an adult and pediatric human patient simulator, which will provide students and other users simulation-based education to enhance clinical and decision making skills during realistic patient care scenarios.

The Davis Family Foundation exists to support educational, medical and cultural/arts organizations located primarily in Maine. The foundation was established following Mr. Davis’ retirement as president and chairman of Shaw’s Supermarkets, Inc. The overriding goal: “to make grants where they will do the most good and where our gifts make a real difference.”

Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame honors first five inductees at celebration

Aroostook County is now home to the Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame, as faculty in the construction trade programs at NMCC held an official opening and inducted the first five honorees at an evening ceremony on October 16.

The Hall of Fame reception was part of the College's celebration of National Careers in Construction Week, which this year fell October 15 - 19.

The Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame is 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.

Trade and Technical Occupations Department Chair Brian McDougal and the five construction trade program instructors served as the selection panel for the inaugural inductees. 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 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 the College. "These individuals have all added significantly to the construction trade," said McDougal in his remarks during the ceremony. "I could not think of five folks who would be any more deserving."



Electrical construction and maintenance instructor Chuck Kelley (left) helped to unveil the photo of inductee Bub Anderson (right), with the help of Bub's wife, Kristie.

"I have worked with County Electric on several municipal projects, and I have found the workers to be accommodating, professional and eager to get the job done right—that work ethic is no doubt inspired by their leader," said Chuck Kelley, NMCC's electrical construction and maintenance instructor, as he introduced the first inductee, Stanley "Bub" Anderson of New Sweden. Anderson, a 1974 graduate, is the co-founder and an owner of County Electric, an Aroostook County-based electrical contracting firm. He has been active on the electrical program's advisory committee for two decades.

Hollis Burgess, a former long-time instructor in the residential construction program at NMCC, was honored posthumously. Burgess is credited as the driving force behind the Sinawik Project, which



Residential construction instructor Guy Jackson unveiled the photo of Hollis Burgess, with the help of Hollis' daughter, Susan Burgess. Hollis, who passed away in 2001, was recognized posthumously.

engages students and faculty in the construction programs in the building of a home each year. "He always pushed you to do better," said Guy Jackson, the College's current residential construction instructor. "He was a mentor and like a father to me and to a lot of students. I wouldn't be where I am today without him."

Tim Doak of Caribou, co-owner and president of B.R. Smith Associates, Inc. Surveying and Engineering, was the



Computer-aided drafting instructor Roger Crouse (left) recognized Tim Doak with the help of Tim's wife, Cheri.

third inductee. He is a graduate of both the automotive technology and drafting programs. "Tim exemplifies the qualities you would want to recognize as a role model," said Roger Crouse, NMCC's computer-aided drafting instructor. "He is actively involved in his community, volunteering his time and energy for community service. He is also a life long learner, currently taking classes at the University of Maine in surveying engineering, and maintains several professional affiliations. He recently became a professional engineer, a huge accomplishment." Doak's firm has hired a number of NMCC graduates, and he is an active member of the College's computer-aided drafting advisory committee.

"He has established a legacy of craftsmanship," said NMCC plumbing and



Plumbing and heating instructor Al St. Peter (left) and Claire St. Peter unveiled the photo honoring her husband, Rick.

heating instructor Al St. Peter upon introducing inductee Rick St. Peter of Caribou. "The students he worked with

here at the College were well served, and he did a great job setting up the plumbing and heating lab for the first time in this building. This program was in great shape when I came, thanks to his work." Rick St. Peter is the owner of Patrick St. Peter and Sons. He is a 1975 graduate of

Fame, from page 8



President Crowley speaks to guests during the Hall of Fame ceremony.

the plumbing and heating program, as well as a former instructor.

The final inductee of 2007 was Richard "Dick" West of Holden. West was first a sheet metal (present-day welding and metal fabrication) instructor and then department chairperson for the trade and technical occupations department at NMCC. "Dick was a teacher, a referee, an administrator, and a priest," quipped Dennis Albert, NMCC's welding and metal fabrication instructor. "He always had a calmness about him and was always looking out for the students when he was here." West retired in 2001.

Photos of each inductee were unveiled following their individual recognition. Approximately 75 family members, friends, College employees, and members of the College's building construction trades program advisory committees were on hand to celebrate the occasion.



Welding and metal fabrication instructor Dennis Albert (left) helped to recognize inductee Richard West (right), with the help of Dick's wife Carolyn.

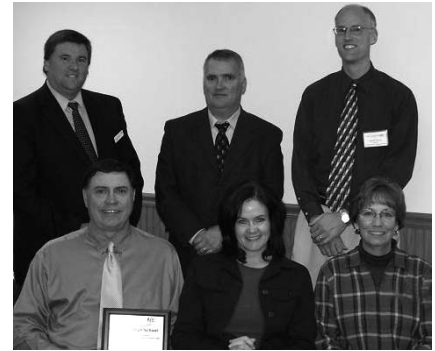
Early College for ME celebrates five years and recognizes three County schools

A luncheon was held at NMCC on October 15 to celebrate the fifth anniversary of Early College for ME and to recognize Aroostook County's three pilot schools in the program, St. John Valley Technology Center, Caribou High School, and Houlton High School.

Early College for ME is a comprehensive college transition program designed for students who are undecided about college and are in good standing in their high school as a junior. ECforME offers a combination of support, advising, Early College courses, scholarships (up to \$2000) and assistance to help students prepare for and be successful in college. The program started five years ago with 25 pilot schools statewide.

A commemorative plaque was presented to representatives of each of the three Aroostook County pilot schools by Charlie Collins, state director for Early College for ME, and Ruth White, the regional director.

"These three schools grasped the vision we presented to them five years ago and worked with us, guided us and made suggestions as we tweaked and fine tuned the program," said White. "They are as excited about the program now as they were when we first walked in the door. Students from these schools have received \$57,500 in scholarship monies through 2006. It has been a great partnership and continues to strengthen."



Among those taking part in the Early College for Me luncheon were, seated from left: Martin Gallant, guidance director at Caribou High School; Sherrill Campbell, secretary; and Judy Bougie, guidance counselor for the Caribou Regional Applied Technology Center. Back, from left: Charles Collins, state director for Early College for ME; Ralph Conroy, director of CRATC; and David Morse, director at the St John Valley Technology Center in Frenchville.

The pilot schools were selected based on their geographic location within the County, as well as their indication of interest in the program when the concept was presented five years ago, according to White.

A plaque was also presented to NMCC for being a supportive partner of ECforME, which is a Maine Community College System program. The northern Maine regional ECforME office, which works with schools throughout both Aroostook and Washington County, is housed on the NMCC campus.

The ECforME program has continued to grow over the past five years. A total of 74 schools across the state are currently participating in the program, seven of those from Aroostook County.



Receiving a five year plaque on behalf of Houlton High School for being a partner with the Early College for ME program are Holly McPartland, guidance counselor, and Jon Turner (right), guidance director. Presenting the award is Charles Collins (center), state director for Early College for ME.

Addressing Prescription Drug Diversion with the Community & Workplace

Findings from a recent countywide assessment completed by Aroostook Substance Abuse Prevention conclude that prescription drug abuse is a countywide problem. The County Health Education Resource, the Power of Prevention and Aroostook Substance Abuse Prevention are sponsoring a workshop focused on providing relevant information on how to address prescription drug diversion.

Presenters will provide information about the Maine Prescription Monitoring Program, implications and expectation related to drug diversion,

effective patient assessment, and workplace prevention strategies and resources. The workshop is open to the public and is free of charge.

It is scheduled from 5:00-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 7. It will be offered on-site at Cary Medical Center and via video conference at Houlton Regional Hospital and Northern Maine Medical Center. Dinner will be provided at all three locations.

For more information, contact Shanna at 834-3195 or Shanna.Morin@nmcc.org.

McBreairy Gift

from page 6

He persevered and entered Caribou High School as a freshman in the fall of 1930. To attend school required him to find boarding in Caribou. His parent's provided wood from their lot in Perham to a Caribou family who would use it to heat their home in the winter months in exchange for providing James a place to live during the school year.

"That worked out until the end of my junior year when that family moved from the area, and I was without a place to stay while attending school. As a result, I ended up going to work and not finishing high school," said McBreairy. "It is largely because of this, that Doris and I so strongly encouraged our own children and others to further their education, and why I have established this scholarship fund."

In accepting the scholarship contribution on behalf of NMCC, College President Timothy Crowley thanked and praised the veteran lawmaker and County leader for assisting others in achieving their dreams.

"Over the years Aroostook County has benefited from having great public servants. Jim's service to the County has been outstanding. His ability to work in the legislature, across party lines, has allowed hundreds of Aroostook County students to receive an education at NMCC," said Crowley at the reception. "His generosity continues today with the establishment of the Dickinson-McBreairy Memorial Scholarship."

The celebration and recognition event for McBreairy was held in an electronics laboratory, situated in a wing off of the College gymnasium. The location holds special significance for the former two-term member of the Maine House of Representatives and four-term member of the State Senate, since he played a pivotal role in 1977 in helping the College get the money to construct the electronics wing.

Prior to his legislative career, McBreairy's desire to better educational opportunities for all inspired his more than two decades of service representing the Town of Perham on the local school board. He was instrumental in building

a new elementary school in the small community; forming SAD 45, which includes the communities of Perham, Wade and Washburn; as well as building Washburn District High School.

McBreairy's grandson, Michael McIntosh, who now serves as chairperson of the SAD 45 school board, spoke at the reception on behalf of the school district and the grandchildren.

"It is particularly appropriate that he has chosen to establish a scholarship at NMCC. He has always believed in the value of hard work and the benefit of practical knowledge," said McIntosh. "He understands and values the skills promoted by NMCC and knows that just as no one would have predicted the impact he has had on our state, no one can predict which NMCC student will lead us in the future."

Community leadership has long been a part of James McBreairy's life. He has held nearly every municipal office in Perham, including selectman, treasurer and tax collector, all the while working side by side with Doris running a successful family farm for 30 years.



James McBreairy

"He became a highly respected state representative and then state senator, admired by friend and foe alike, who came to understand that his word was his bond, that the people came first – before party or politics – and that he would fight to the finish for his constituents," said daughter Noreen McIntosh.

When he returned from Augusta, he was elected to the office of Aroostook County Treasurer, a position he held for eight years.

In 1996, he retired from the County position and from publicly elected office, having never lost an election.

James and Doris McBreairy's legacy extends far beyond his illustrious career as an elected official. The couple played an instrumental role in forming the first official snowmobile club in Maine – the Snow Drifters of Caribou. They were charter members of the Washburn Trail-runners Snowmobile Club.

Earlier this year, Doris McBreairy passed away at the age of 87. The couple proudly raised four children: Noreen (McBreairy) McIntosh of Washburn, Linda (McBreairy) Seward of Perham, Marvin McBreairy of Brewer, and Molly (McBreairy) Stevens of Eddington. The family includes 13 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Course to update electricians on important changes in the electrical code

In an effort to keep up with the advances in the electrical industry, the National Electrical Code is often updated to meet industry needs. With these changes come new questions as to what the rules mean and how they can be applied. NMCC is offering a 2008 National Electrical Code Update course for electricians and associates regarding these changes.

The course will provide the necessary 15 hours of continuing education required for license renewal in the State of Maine. Teaching the course will be Brian McDougal, who has been an electrical instructor at the College for more than 27 years and serves as chair of the trade and technical occupations department. McDougal is a master electrician

and licensed professional engineer. He serves as a member of the Electricians' Examining Board for the State of Maine, is a member and past president of the Electrical Associates of Aroostook, and maintains membership in the International Association of Electrical Inspectors.

The course will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m., on November 8 – 15. The cost of includes an IAEI Analysis of Change book, and all paid-up members of the Electrical Associates of Aroostook are eligible for a ten percent discount on tuition cost for the course. Participants must bring their own copy of the 2008 codebook, a calculator and a notebook.

For more information or to register, please call 768-2845.

Breakfast of Champions



Laura Harper, from Maine Women's Policy Center, discussed some innovative policy solutions on the horizon.

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.

Campus and community members were on campus for the annual Breakfast of Champions on October 11. The event engaged the community in discussion about strategies for easing the work and family crunch.



Laura Fortman, Commissioner of Maine Department of Labor, talked about successful policies and practices advancing women in the workplace, as well as shared some of her personal experiences as a working mom.



Above: NMCC student Wendy Riopelle (right) talked about some of her challenges and strategies managing school, work and family. Beside her is Pat Rathbun from the Presque Isle branch of AAUW.



Suzanne Senechal Jandreau from Women Work and Community discussed the challenges facing women on the career path and opportunities for advancement.

Medical Assistants Week celebrated

The third week of October is Medical Assistants Week, a time to honor and acknowledge the medical assistants working in the field and the many of thousands of medical assisting students currently attending programs. This year held special significance at NMCC, where students and faculty marked the inaugural semester of the College's new associate degree medical assisting program.



Presque Isle City Council Chairperson Walt Elish presents a proclamation officially declaring Medical Assistants Week in the Star City.

The luncheon, held on October 15, got underway with the presentation of a proclamation by Presque Isle City Council Chairperson Walt Elish declaring Medical Assistants Week in the Star City. Following the signing, the first advisory committee for the program was held.

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

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

Serving on the advisory committee are: Sandra San Antonio and Michelle Mathieu, Northern Maine Medical Center; Shawn Anderson and Lisa Caron, Pines Health Services; Doreen Smith, Cary Medical Center; Glenda Dwyer, Cam Hayward, Brenda Baker and Paulette Bell, The Aroostook Medical Center; Susan Deschene and Linda Mountain, the Aroostook County Action Program; Julie DeMeare, Polly Joslyn,



More than two dozen community leaders, faculty and students took part in the luncheon at NMCC on October 15 celebrating Medical Assistants Week.

Wendy Gagnon, and Janine Stewart, Houlton Regional Hospital; Tabitha Fagin, Health Information Services; Angela Bubar, Full Circle Health Care; Mary Beaulieu, a local practice manager; Susan Bouchard, Fish River Rural Health; Devin McHatten, Northern Maine Endoscopy; Linda Mastro, health clinic manager at NMCC and UMPI; and Dr. Lawrence Crystal and Dr. Carole St. Pierre-Engels.

Toward Excellence

Upcoming Continuing Education offerings...

Notary Course

A Notary Public is a sworn public official with the powers to perform a number of official acts. This class is designed to assist you in applying for a Notary Public commission in Maine. You will receive an INM student workbook, guidebook from the Secretary of State's office and a Notary application. Time will be allotted at the end of the day to complete the Notary application that will be forwarded to the Secretary of State's office.

BNI 600 ♦ Cost \$49 ♦ .8 CEUs
Friday, November 16 ♦ 8am – 4pm

Intermediate Microsoft Word

Take advantage of Word's WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editing capabilities to easily create flyers, newsletters and other heavily formatted documents. Set up columns and tables within your documents; insert, reposition, edit and resize graphic images; draw lines; surround your text or graphics with borders; achieve dramatic effects by varying the size, appearance, and orientation of your text, and more. Update your skills in this hands-on course.

CMP 623 ♦ Cost: \$99 – text additional ♦ .9 CEUs
Tuesdays, November 20, 27 & December 4 ♦ 6pm – 9pm

Excel Charts Made Easy

Learn how to create charts in Excel. This course is for the Excel user who wants to learn in depth knowledge of charts. Requires knowledge of Windows and Excel

CMP 870 ♦ Cost: \$39- no text ♦ .3 CEUs
Tuesday, November 13 ♦ 6pm – 9pm



Development Office
33 Edgemont Drive
Presque Isle, ME 04769

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 ♦ 8am – 4pm

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

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

Digital Photography Mastered

This course will help you master the art of digital image file management. Learn how to edit and crop out unwanted portions of your photos, resize them, adjust their colors, add special effects, print at the highest possible quality, email digital photos to friends and family, and use them to create cards or electronic photo albums.

CSA 612 ♦ Cost: \$79 – no text ♦ .8 CEUs
Saturdays, November 17 & 24 ♦ 8am – 12pm

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