

## New Academic Year Underway

NMCC opened its doors for the college's 46th academic year on Monday, August 25. In addition to greeting new and returning students to campus, the College community welcomed Pamela Buck of Mapleton, a new full-time faculty member in the trade and technical occupations department.

Buck is the lead instructor for the College's computer-aided drafting program, taking on the role left vacant when veteran instructor Roger Crouse retired last spring after 30 years of service at the College.

"While it is always a challenge to fill the shoes of such an accomplished and experienced instructor as Roger, I believe that Pam Buck is the right person to help us meet that challenge," said Alan Panches, NMCC vice president/academic dean. "With her industry and teaching experience, she brings numerous strengths to the position. She is an exciting addition to our faculty, and I look forward to working with her in the years to come."

Buck has twenty years of experience in residential and commercial architectural and engineering design and drafting. A licensed professional civil engineer with a background in structural design and a Certified Construction Specifier, Buck's background includes projects ranging from planning and design of building expansions, renovations and new developments to construction administration and inspection.

Buck is the president and project manager of Buck Engineering, Inc., an engineer-

*cont. on page 8*

## Opening Enrollment Up Six Percent; NMCC Attracts Nearly 1 of 7 2008 County Grads

Preliminary figures released by Northern Maine Community College after the first week of classes show an enrollment increase of six percent over the same time last fall.

Among the leading areas of growth has been realized in NMCC's liberal studies program. The associate degree offering, which mirrors the first two years of general education course offerings at most four-year colleges and universities, saw an increase of 17 percent.

"As an institution, we are committed to educating and training a workforce to meet the needs of employers in our region and state and to serving students who are beginning their journey in higher education," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley. "We are pleased that increasing numbers of students are turning to us as a gateway to higher education. In these challenging economic times it is more important than ever that Maine people and Aroostook County residents have the opportunity to earn post-secondary degrees. The word is out there that we offer an affordable, high quality start to a baccalaureate education."

Growth has also been realized in a number of the trade and technical occupations programs. Demand in the electrical construction and maintenance program prompted college officials to add an additional cohort of freshmen students. Enrollment in that associate degree program has risen by 18 percent over last fall.

An increase has also been realized at NMCC's two off-campus centers in Houlton and the St. John Valley, where com-



New and returning students at NMCC enjoyed a Welcome Breakfast courtesy of the Student Senate on August 27.

bined enrollment is up 12 percent over fall 2007.

"Individuals are coming to our off-campus centers, in part, because they recognize the value of having a post-secondary credential. The barriers of distance, time and, now, the high cost of transportation, are able to be overcome at the off-campus centers and have positively been reflected in our enrollment growth," said Dr. William Egeler, NMCC dean of students and acting director of admissions.

In addition to growth in the incoming class, the results of retention efforts at the College are evident in the higher number of returning NMCC students this fall. Students classified as "second year" are up 23 percent over last year.

"The College has focused on student persistence for many years and that effort continues. Last year noted the completion

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## Constitution Day to Be Celebrated; Community Invited

On September 17, 1787, the U.S. Constitution was signed by thirty-nine brave men who changed the course of history. Now Constitution Day, held annually on September 17, is a time for us to continue their legacy and develop habits of citizenship in a new generation of Americans.

To mark the occasion, students and employees at NMCC have planned a series of activities on campus that are free and open to the public.

At 2:30 p.m., NMCC humanities instructor David Raymond will deliver a presentation on the Constitutional powers of the president, a fitting topic in light of the upcoming presidential election. Raymond will discuss the debate of the presidency at the Constitutional convention, the powers enumerated in Article II of the Constitution, the subsequent amendments to the Constitution which affect the presidency, and a brief historical overview of the presidents who have helped define the office.

"In light of the upcoming presidential election and the multitude of generous promises that will be made, it is useful to review the powers of the president, as outlined in the Constitution, to square the candidates' promises with the presidential power to carry out those promises," said Raymond.

Both prior to and immediately following the presentation, NMCC student volunteers will be staffing a table to both register people to vote and to provide resident students with information about voting via absentee ballot.

Light refreshments will be offered following the presentation, which is taking place in the Edmunds Conference Center.

Also in celebration of Constitution Day, the College is sponsoring a crossword puzzle challenge. All students will have the opportunity to complete a crossword puzzle testing their constitutional knowledge. Everyone who turns in a sheet that has been successfully completed will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate from the

bookstore. The winning name will be announced at the September 17 event.

To wrap up the day of activities, the campus community is invited to a National Treasure double feature in the Edmunds Conference Center. Showing at 7:00 p.m. will be *National Treasure*, an action/adventure movie, starring Nicholas Cage and featuring a treasure hunt revolving around several historical aspects of American history, such as the Declaration of Independence, the Liberty Bell and more. *National Treasure: Book of Secrets* will play at 9:00 p.m.

The College library will also help mark Constitution Day with an exhibit of books in the College collection that have to do with the Constitution

and, in keeping with Mr. Raymond's presentation, with the executive branch of government. Members of both the campus and local community are invited to stop in the library anytime on Monday, September 15, through Friday, September 19.

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

For more information on any of the Constitution Day activities, contact the college relations office at 768-2809.

## NMCC Student to Study in Ireland with George Mitchell Scholarship

Residential construction senior Lucas Ireland of Mapleton will be traveling to County Cork, Ireland later this year to attend the Cork Institute of Technology for one semester. Ireland, 19, is one of two Maine Community College students selected as a recipient of this year's George Mitchell Peace Scholarship.

The Scholarship fund was created in 1998 to honor former U.S. Senator and Maine native George Mitchell for his work and dedication in helping to establish peace between Northern and Southern Ireland. The selection process is very competitive, with many students from Maine's community colleges applying.

"I actually didn't expect to be chosen," Ireland explained. "This is really exciting." Students were evaluated based on their academic abilities, leadership qualities, and commitment to community service.

"Students who apply for this scholarship have to write an essay explaining why they would like to travel to Ireland and they must supply references and be interviewed several times. It is a pretty rigorous screening, and I am ecstatic that another student from NMCC has been chosen to represent Maine and our community colleges," said William Egeler, NMCC dean of students. "They



NMCC student Lucas Ireland (left) is congratulated by Dean of Students William Egeler on his selection as a Mitchell Peace Scholar. Ireland will travel to Ireland for a semester of study this academic year.

return with this tremendous perspective on the world, and they learn to be more self-reliant. This is an extremely valuable experience." Kent Corey, a graduate of NMCC's business program received the scholarship in 2003.

Ireland will leave Maine sometime during the college's winter break to spend the spring semester studying construction and construction management at the Cork Institute. Although this will set him back one year in terms of graduating, he feels that this is an extraordinary

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## Expo to Feature Energy, Entertainment and Seasonal Info

County residents considering alternative sources of energy to heat their homes in the wake of high oil prices will find a wide array of information and products available in the region at the Fall and Winter Expo at The Forum in Presque Isle on September 27 and 28.

Regional vendors offering residential and commercial solutions in solar, wind and geothermal energy, as well as the latest in wood pellet stove and biomass burning technology, will be prominent at the two-day event.

“With record energy prices and widespread concern throughout the area about how County residents will stay warm this coming season, we are excited that a number of our exhibitors will feature products and services that will help inform attendees about the available options right here in northern Maine,” said show coordinator Aimee Wilkins.

Altogether, more than 50 area businesses and organizations will take part in the Fall and Winter Expo. Beyond alternative energy, products and services featured will focus on other seasonal concerns including how to move the snow this winter to the best ways to enjoy the seasons, both outdoors and indoors, .

“The Fall and Winter Expo will make it possible for attendees to find everything from home heating solutions to snowmobiles and recreational opportunities under one roof,” said Wilkins.

The Expo’s theme is also evident in the valuable prizes show attendees will be eligible to win with their \$3 admission fee. The County Stove Shop of Caribou has donated a pellet stove, and Aroostook Door & Window is providing an Ariens Snowblower. There are also four NASCAR tickets to Loudon, New Hampshire, complete with access to the NAPA tent, lunch, and a meet and greet with a driver courtesy of LeVasseur’s NAPA Auto and Truck Parts of Presque Isle.

The show is being organized by WAGM-TV and the Northern Maine Community College Foundation.

“This show is poised to be not only an exciting and fun event, but an informative one as well,” said Kelly Landeen, WAGM-TV sales manager. “With the challenges facing County residents this winter, this

show will have answers to those alternative energy solutions, ways to stay healthy, and of course ways to have fun.”

Attractions planned for the show are designed with individuals of all ages and families in mind. Among them, a stage, featuring fashion shows by Expo exhibitors, as well as entertainers at various times

during the weekend. Employees of the Maine Military Authority will provide free Humvee rides and a children’s bouncy house will provide entertainment for younger show attendees.

For more information on the event, contact Wilkins at 760-1188 or Landeen at WAGM-TV at 764-4461, ext. 253.



**Saturday, September 27 - 9 am - 8 pm**  
**Sunday, September 28 - 10 am - 4 pm**  
**The Forum - Presque Isle**

**\$3 Admission**  
enters you into  
drawings for:

**Pellet Stove**

*Donated by The County Stove Shop*

**Snow Blower**

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**Four Loudon  
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**Shows, Entertainment,  
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for the seasons ahead!**

- How to stay warm**
- How to have fun**
- How to dig out**

**Featuring many of  
The County's Top  
Businesses!**

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To Reserve Space Call 760-1188

## Enrollment Up, from pg. 1

of a major initiative where the Academic Success Center was redesigned to better meet the current needs of NMCC students. Concurrently, the College's major gifts campaign helped increase the number of scholarships available to students. By better meeting the needs of our students, we are better able to help more of them meet their goal of graduating," said Egeler.

The community college continues to do well attracting students graduating from secondary schools in the region. Nearly one out of every seven seniors attending Aroostook County high schools last year is a member of the entering class at Northern Maine Community College, according to the preliminary enrollment figures.

The numbers for this year's freshman class at NMCC show that of the students entering the College directly from high school, 106 come from high schools in the County. Aroostook County's 16 high schools graduated 756 students this spring.

"Many of the students attending our College from the County directly out of high school will be the future employees of companies throughout our area. They will start and operate businesses of their own and become leaders in this community," said Crowley.

Recent graduate surveys conducted by the College support that assessment. The numbers indicate an average of 65 percent of NMCC alumni find employment in Aroostook County. The number of NMCC graduates who remain in Maine to work is 87 percent.

Although the College enrolls students from all 16 Maine counties, from out of state and from Canada, 85 percent of those enrolled at NMCC this fall are residents of Aroostook County.

Final fall enrollment figures for NMCC and the Maine Community College System will be available on October 15.

## NMCC Seeking Nominations to Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame

Nominations are being sought from the community for individuals who have made a significant impact on the construction industry in the region for this year's induction into the Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame was officially opened on the NMCC campus last October during National Careers in Construction Week. The opening celebration featured the induction of the first five honorees. This year's ceremony will again take place during the week set aside to honor construction workers, which falls between October 13 and 17.

"The Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame was established by the trade and technical occupations faculty to honor 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 wall of honor featuring the inductee photos is located in the Mailman Trades Building, in the corridor that students, faculty, staff and visitors use to enter and exit the building daily. According to McDougal, the space is ideal, because students and prospective students regularly have the opportunity to see the faces of the "legends" in the construction trades, and in turn better understand that similar career success is possible for them.

The first five inductees honored last fall 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. They included Stanley "Bub" Anderson of New Sweden, co-founder and an owner of County Electric; Hollis Burgess, a former long-time instructor in the residential construction program at NMCC, who was honored posthumously; Tim Doak of Caribou, co-owner and president of B.R. Smith Associates, Inc. Surveying and Engineering in Presque Isle; Rick St. Peter of Caribou, owner of Patrick St. Peter and Sons; and Richard "Dick" West of Holden, first a sheet metal (present-day welding and metal fabrication) faculty member and then department chairperson for the trade and technical occupations department at NMCC.

Anderson, Doak, St. Peter, West and a member of the Burgess family will serve as the panel to determine the 2008 inductees based upon the nominations submitted by the public.

Careers in Construction Week is coordinated country-wide by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) to raise public awareness of the work of the country's craft professionals and to emphasize the role construction industry partners play in helping youths and adults achieve career success. This year will mark the fourth anniversary of the celebration nationally, and the second year NMCC officially joins in the festivities by hosting local events.

For more information on the Northern Maine Construction Hall of Fame or to receive a nomination form, contact the college relations office at 768-2809. Forms are also available on the College website at [www.nmcc.edu](http://www.nmcc.edu).

### Inaugural Inductees - 2007



Stanley "Bub" Anderson



Hollis Burgess



Richard West



Tim Doak



Rick St. Peter

### Inductees - 2008



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Northern Maine Community College  
Pat's Pizza  
Reno's Family Restaurant  
Slopes Restaurant  
Swamp Buck Restaurant  
Denise Sock  
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## Golf Tournament Raises more than \$17,000 for Student Scholarships

NMCC students will be the beneficiaries of more than \$17,000 in scholarship funds raised through the TD Banknorth Golf Tournament to Benefit the NMCC Foundation held recently at the Aroostook Valley Country in Fort Fairfield.

One-hundred-twelve golfers teed off for the annual scramble. An additional two dozen people joined the golfers for a dinner and silent auction that followed play at AVCC.

"TD Banknorth, Inc. is extremely pleased with our partnership with the NMCC Foundation to host this annual tournament. It is a wonderful opportunity to join together for a day of fun with our customers, employees, NMCC staff, sponsors, and NMCC Foundation donors to raise much needed financial support for the Foundation. What is exciting is the great sponsor support we get, not only from the local area, but from our friends from southern Maine as well," said Michael J. Kelley, TD Banknorth executive vice president. "The proceeds from this tournament are all about the future of our youth and we are proud to be a small part of that future."

This marked the third year TD Banknorth has partnered with the NMCC Foundation to host a golf tournament to raise scholarship funds for students attending the College.

"We are most grateful to Mike Kelley, Ray Hews, and many others at TD Banknorth for their work on this annual event. The funds raised help 'open the doors' of higher education and of NMCC in particular, to a number of deserving students each year," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley.

Overall winners of the scramble were Todd Hedrich of Presque Isle and Jason Woollard of Mars Hill who had a low gross of 57.

The honor was announced at the dinner following the tournament. Aside from presenting awards to the top golfers, the event featured a silent auction, which raised over \$7,000.



NMCC's Bill Egeler lines up his shot.



Michael J. Kelley (left), executive vice president of TD Banknorth, NMCC Foundation board member and key organizer of the annual golf tournament presents the winning trophy for first low gross to (center left) Todd Hedrich and (center right) Jason Woollard. Tournament organizer Ray Hews (right) of TD Banknorth joins in congratulating Hedrich and Woollard.

One hundred twelve golfers took to the course for the annual tournament on August 14 to raise funds for the NMCC Foundation. The weather cooperated, and it was an outstanding day to be outside for a great game of golf.



## Celebrating Service

## NMCC Campus Community Celebrates Years of Dedicated Service



From left: John Johnson, Sr., Brian McQuade, Betsy Harris, and Dennis Albert



Roberta Everett; absent from photo, Frank Boone



From left, Al St. Peter and Bob Collins; absent from photo, Chuck Brown, Joyce Campbell, Steve Caron



From left, Karen Gonya and Janice McDougal

Northern Maine Community College faculty, staff and retirees came together for a luncheon just before the start of a new academic year to honor their fellow colleagues who have reached milestones in their tenure. Altogether, the ceremony recognized a combined 375 years of dedicated service.

Twenty-one NMCC employees were presented thirty, twenty-five, twenty, fifteen, ten and five year service awards during the event, which featured touching and humorous tributes paid to honorees by fellow faculty and staff.

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

Thirty year service awards were presented to Dennis Albert, welding & metal fabrication instructor; Betsy Harris, registrar; Brain McQuade, maintenance mechanic supervisor; and John Johnson, Sr., maintenance mechanic.

Twenty-five year service awards were presented to Frank Boone, purchasing

assistant, and Roberta Everett, nursing instructor.

Twenty year service awards were presented to Philip (Chuck) Brown, business office manager; Joyce Campbell, senior administrative secretary; Stephen Caron, HVAC technician; Robert Collins, automotive collision repair instructor; Gail Gagnon, financial aid coordinator; and Alan St. Peter, plumbing & heating instructor.

Fifteen year honors were presented to Karen Gonya, associate director of development & college relations, and Janice McDougal, nursing instructor.

Ten year honors were presented to Daryl Boucher, nursing instructor/EMS and EMS coordinator; Dwight Clayton, business technology department chair and instructor; Paula Flora, nursing instructor; and Tammy Putnam, accountant I.

Karl Jackson, business & industry coordinator; Tammy Nelson, director of counseling; and Alan Punches, vice president/academic dean, were all honored for five years of service.

Several retirees also attended lunch, reminiscing with former colleagues and helping to celebrate those employees being honored for their length of service. Among those attending were: retired instructors Gene Michaud, Roger Crouse, and Bob White; Durward Huffman (former president); Patricia Sutherland (former director of development and college relations); Jerry Donovan (former director of finance); Judy Hilton (former computer programmer); Tony Palmer (former watchperson); and Jackie Nadeau (former supervisor of buildings and grounds).



From left, Daryl Boucher, Paula Flora and Dwight Clayton; absent from photo, Tammy Putnam



From left, Karl Jackson and Alan Punches; absent from photo, Tammy Nelson

## NMCC One of 20 Schools Nationwide to Get Equipment Grant from Fluke Corporation

NMCC is one of only 20 educational institutions in the United States selected to receive a grant of advanced electrical and electronic test instruments from Fluke Corporation, the world's leading supplier of handheld test and measurement equipment.

The two Fluke 289 Logging Digital Multimeters will be used by students in the electrical construction and maintenance program, as well as by students taking related electronics courses. The new equipment will expose students to the newest and most capable test instruments designed for the electrical and electronics industries.

"These new meters will allow students to gain hands-on experience with functionality not commonly found on less expensive test equipment. The troubleshooting capabilities of this equipment will help to enhance the electrical maintenance aspects of our program," said Charles Kelley, NMCC electrical construction and maintenance instructor.

Kelley who wrote the successful grant application that brought the state-of-the-art equipment to the College plans to use the Fluke 289 Logging Digital Multimeters in most of the courses he teaches.

The Fluke 289 high performance multimeter enables technicians to log data and review it graphically on-screen,



Charles Kelley, NMCC electrical construction and maintenance instructor, tests one of the Fluke 289 Logging Digital Multimeters his program was recently granted.

so they can solve complex problems faster in electronics, plant automation, power distribution, and electro-mechanical equipment. By downloading logged data to optional FlukeView Forms Software, users can create computerized reports. A single unit is valued at \$500.

The Fluke Education Grant Program, an-

nounced last fall, drew applications from high schools, community colleges, universities and training programs across the U.S. and Canada. Winners were chosen by a review committee of electronics professionals. They examined many program elements, including the breadth of course offerings and the types and numbers of certificates and degrees conferred. Fluke also supports teachers through the free Educator's Partnership Program.

"Even though Fluke has supported NMCC programs with equipment in the past, it is a great honor to be selected as one of the few schools to receive this grant," said Kelley.

An on-line homework assignment using the Fluke website introduced students to the advanced features of the model 289 multimeter last spring. The new equipment will first be used by students at NMCC during the current fall semester.

## Ireland, from pg. 2

opportunity. He plans to return to complete his degree at NMCC and afterwards pursue employment in the construction industry.

He believes that his time in Ireland will help him gain a better understanding of international relations and a greater perspective in life.

"It is very exciting, not just for me, but my whole family. We have always been interested in our Irish ancestry, and I will be able to learn about my family's history

and discover new things — really expand my horizons," said Ireland. "I am excited and a little nervous, this is a chance of a lifetime and I am thrilled and honored to represent Northern Maine Community College and the state of Maine."

Ireland is an avid soccer player and plans to spend his free time playing soccer and learning about Ireland's rich cultural history. He also intends to take a Gaelic language class while he is in the country.

## Upcoming Events

*The following are some key events in which the College will be involved this fall. Details on the Fall & Winter Expo can be found on page 3 of this publication. Look for more details of the other upcoming events in coming newsletters. Questions regarding these activities can be directed to the college relations office by contacting info@nmcc.edu or 768-2809, or stopping by the office, located just off the Christie lobby.*

### Fall & Winter Expo

Saturday, Sept. 27 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, Sept. 28 ~ 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
at the Presque Isle Forum

### Unveiling of the Presque Isle Education Mural

Monday, September 29 ~ 1:00 p.m.  
Main Street, in front of the Key Bank Building

### Allied Health Simulation Center Opening

Tuesday, October 7 ~ 1:00 p.m.  
Presentation in the Edmunds Conference Center with a live remote demonstration from the Allied Health Center, followed by guided tours of the new center

### Job Corps ACT Press Conference

Wednesday, October 15 ~ 9:00 a.m.  
Loring Job Corps

### Construction Hall of Fame 2008 Induction

Thursday, October 16 ~ 4:00 p.m.  
Mailman Trades Building

### LEAD/APP Senate Debate

Monday, October 20 ~ 7:00 p.m.  
Presque Isle Middle School Auditorium

### NMCC Foundation Annual Dinner

Thursday, November 6 ~ 5:30 p.m.  
Edmunds Conference Center

### Business Technology Center Opening (MMG Classroom)

Thursday, November 6 ~ 2:00 p.m.  
Christie Room 208

## Sinawik "Moving Day" Made Possible by Houlton Company for Three Decades

For just over three decades, students in the construction trade programs at NMCC have built a home each year that is contracted by, and sold to, an Aroostook County family; and for just as many years, the homes have been delivered by a southern Aroostook company.

Since the very first Sinawik (Kiwanis spelled backward) home was constructed in 1976-1977, Crawford Homes of Houlton has volunteered their services, at a significantly reduced cost, to move the modular homes, which are constructed in two sections inside the residential construction lab in the Mailman Trades Building on the NMCC campus.

The 31st such moving day occurred recently at the College when a team from Crawford arrived to transport the latest home to the Castle Hill site selected by this year's homeowners, Rowell and Sandy McHatten. Leading that team, as he has each time, was Carl Crawford.

"I have employed a number of students from NMCC over the years. The students who graduate from the College are well prepared and well trained, and have been a great addition to our workforce. Moving the home each year is a way that I can give a little back to the college and community," said Crawford.

Giving back to the community has been the longstanding goal of the Sinawik partnership forged between NMCC and the Presque Isle Kiwanis Club in 1976. In addition to providing students in several trade programs at then Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute with a "real-life" practical experience, the project provided a way for Kiwanis to raise scholarship funds to invest in the local community.

Guy Jackson, NMCC residential construction instructor and the man at the center of the building project for the past 27 years, says the example shown each year by Crawford in moving the home is evidence that the community is not only receiving, but also giving back.

"The willingness of Crawford Homes to help us each year by moving the home from the Residential Construction lab to the permanent location saves the College and Sinawik program thousands of dollars. Their willingness to do this year after year



Carl Crawford of Houlton-based Crawford Homes guides one of his drivers in moving the second half of Sinawik House 31 out of the residential construction lab at Northern Maine Community College for transport to its permanent location in Castle Hill.

is greatly appreciated by everyone involved with the project."

The 1,248 square foot home was built over the past academic year by more than four dozen students and their instructors in five trade and technical occupations programs at NMCC.

Work on the 32nd Sinawik House begins this fall on the NMCC campus.

Rowell and Sandy McHatten are the proud owners of the new home.



Individuals interested in learning more about the project, or who would like to be considered as a future homeowner, should contact Presque Isle Kiwanis Club President Carolyn Dorsey-Durepo at 760-1176.

## New Year, from pg. 1

ing consulting business she began in 2002. Over the past five years, Buck Engineering has been responsible for many engineering projects in Aroostook County. Buck is responsible for all engineering design, drafting, construction specifications and inspection, as well as the administrative duties necessary to successfully operate a small business.

Prior to opening Buck Engineering, Buck was vice president and project manager for Langille Aroostook Engineering Group for more than four years. She also gained valuable experience with her ten-year tenure at Aroostook Engineers, Inc., first as an engineering technician and working her way up to project manager.

In addition to her breadth of professional experience, Buck has also taught in a part-time capacity at NMCC for the past three years, teaching classes such as architectural drafting, surveying and



technical math. "I have really enjoyed my time in the classroom, and I am looking forward to being here full-time," said Buck. "Being in a classroom, sharing knowledge with students, watching them learn...it's an incredible experience."

Buck earned her associate degree in

applied science in architectural engineering technology from Vermont Technical College in 1982. She went on to earn a bachelor of university of studies from the University of Maine in 2008.

"I started my education in a two year program, too, so I know that these students have a lot to learn and a short time to learn it. I really like being a part of the process of making that happen for them," she said. "I believe in this College, and I believe in the trade tech department. I think this is a good place to be, and it's a good time to be here."



## NMCC Adds Trucks to Commercial Driving Academy Fleet; Continues to See Growth in Program Despite Rising Fuel Prices

Two recently purchased commercial driving trucks have been added to the inventory of tractor trailers used by Northern Maine Community College to train drivers and for use by students in transportation-related trade programs.

The addition of the 2000 and 2003 Sterling trucks bring to five the total of number of units available to students in the Commercial Driving Academy, which is run through the College Continuing Education Division, as well as NMCC trade and technical occupation programs that focus on transportation. The two new units were purchased with funds raised through the *Campaign for the County's College*, the major gifts campaign conducted jointly by the College and NMCC Foundation, which concluded in late February of this year.

Aside from the Sterling tractor trailers, the College earlier this year received a 2000 International 9200I series truck donated by the Southern Aroostook Region Two School of Applied Technology. The truck was once used for the technology school's commercial driving license training program.

"This new equipment is critical to maintaining the quality of the training for our students. Our training vehicles were mechanically sound and have low miles, but many of the trucks were getting too old to represent the trucking industry and what our students use when they go to work," said Leah Buck, NMCC assistant dean of continuing education. "These new trucks are a great addition to our programs, both the Commercial Driving Academy and the diesel hydraulic technology program, and will serve us well for many years. We are so grateful for the donations that made this purchase possible."

Along with the addition of the new trucks, NMCC was also able to purchase a new box trailer, which according to Buck is also more representative of the industry standard.

The equipment comes at an important time for the Commercial Driving Academy, which has seen a steady increase in enrollment over the past three years. Buck

attributes the recent spike in numbers to changes in the local economy, including mill downsizing, closures and layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

"Despite the concerns caused by the price of diesel, goods will continue to be shipped to and from The County," said Buck. "There is an ongoing and high demand for commercial drivers in our region to transport both locally and long haul. Our very high placement rates for graduates are evidence that the need is great. There have been opportunities, in some cases multiple opportunities, for students who have successfully completed our two most recent sessions."

According to Commercial Driving Academy program coordinator and lead instructor Dennis Dyer, the program is also attractive to seasonal workers who are both looking for work to supplement their income and to "have something to fall back on."

"Many individuals who enroll in the program recognize that driving a commercial vehicle is a good way to earn a fairly high wage," said Dyer. "The new equipment we have purchased will make our graduates that much more marketable as the trucking industry is changing rapidly and newer trucks have technology that helps drivers be safer and better prepared. New units such as these also help keep costs down for fleet managers by maximizing fuel efficiencies and opportunities. These trucks are representative of what many trucking companies in the area use and what larger national fleets issue to drivers."

The next session of the eight week Commercial Driving Academy offered during the day will begin on November 10, and an evening/weekend session is also being planned for this fall. For more information or to register, contact the NMCC continuing education division at 768-2768.



Dennis Dyer, program coordinator for the Commercial Driving Academy at NMCC, stands with the two tractor trailers recently acquired by the College. The two trucks were purchased with funds raised through the major gifts fundraising initiative undertaken jointly by the College and the NMCC Foundation.

## QuickBooks Course to be Offered

NMCC will offer a 4-session course on QuickBooks for the beginning to intermediate user on Monday evenings, beginning September 22. QuickBooks is a popular and powerful computerized accounting software program used by both small businesses and personal users around the world.

QuickBooks features that will be highlighted include pre-tax deductions, expense reimbursements, salary advances, petty cash deductions, and credit card deposits. The hands on course, taught in the continuing education computer lab, will teach you topics to help set up and process payroll, reconcile checking accounts, create and print invoices, receipts, statements, track your payables, inventory and receivables.

The instructor for this course is Mary Williams CPA, partner with Chester M. Kearney in Presque Isle. "This course is a great opportunity for people who are already using the software and for those who want to begin using QuickBooks. We cover many specialized topics that will help area businesses, with lots of time for questions---it is a completely hands-on course," states Williams.

The course will run on September 22, 29, October 6 and 20 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The cost is \$129, which includes all training materials. For more information or to register, call NMCC's continuing education division at 768-2845 or 760-1155.



## Wilkins Joins Foundation Team

Aimee Wilkins, a 2007 graduate of the accounting information systems program, has returned to her alma mater to coordinate the activity of the

NMCC Foundation.

Jason Parent, NMCC director of development and college relations, announced that Wilkins has joined the NMCC family with her recent appointment to the position of Foundation and institutional advancement assistant.

"Aimee excelled as a student and is an outstanding and exemplary NMCC alumna. As a student she assisted with, and supported the efforts of, the 'Campaign for The County's College', the major gifts campaign

which concluded earlier this year and raised \$2.5 million for student scholarships and for other support of the College. Aimee's previous experience and academic training, as well as her positive can do attitude and keen understanding of the College and the region and people we serve, are key assets which she brings to her new position," said Parent.

Wilkins served as resource coordinator for 2-1-1 Maine, covering the Aroostook County region. The nonprofit organization was formed in partnership with United Ways of Maine and Portland-based Youth Alternatives Ingraham to develop a health and human services information and referral service system to serve the entire State of Maine, every day and in times of crisis. She has also served as a bookkeeper, since 2004 for County-based Woodlot Management Services.

Before moving to central Aroostook in 2004, the St. Agatha native operated her

own music studio, providing private lessons to students of all ages.

Working with the NMCC Foundation is an opportunity which Wilkins embraces as both professionally rewarding and a way to give back.

"While a student, I was fortunate to have been a recipient of one of the Foundation scholarships and appreciate how local businesses and community members continue to generously support the Foundation. It is a privilege to come back to the College and work in this capacity--helping to make it possible for students to attend NMCC and receive the same quality education I did. I look forward to working with the Foundation board members and meeting various donors," said Wilkins

Wilkins' will serve as the primary staff member for the NMCC Foundation, a role which includes fundraising, coordination of Foundation activity and management of information. She will also be actively involved in NMCC's efforts to re-establish an active alumni organization.



## My-Role-Model-for-Teaching-Excellence

by Heidi Broad-Smith, NMCC Early Childhood Education Instructor

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

William Butler Yeats

My grandmother used this quote. A

Frost fan, she could be heard to say: "Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence." Robert Frost is still my favorite, but the one that I adopted for my own use is Sydney J. Harris-- "The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows."

Grandma was 14 when she was "sold" from across the border in New Brunswick to come to Mars Hill and work as a nanny for a wealthy family. Her older sister was originally supposed to be the one to come over, being all of 16, but septicemia had made her unable to maintain the physical stamina necessary for the demands of four small children. So, grandma was sent in her place. She would never go home again.

According to the "educational records" grandma had reached a level 6 in the reader, which would be equivalent to our third grade. I can remember her reading to me,

the same book over and over. If I requested a different book, she would remind me how much I liked the one we always read.

I can remember her sitting at the kitchen table, head bent over the morning paper, long before anyone else got up, "reading." She would often spend hours "looking over" a new recipe or a magazine article.

By the time I was out of kindergarten, we would play a game where she would spell a word and I would say it and tell what it meant. Sometime in grade four, it became my job to "practice" my spelling words with her every night. Each time she had a new game, usually with a movement component, now called kinesthetic learning. Every book chosen for a report was read aloud. Phonics was the work that took the longest. Sometimes grandma would keep the phonics book "just over the weekend" to look it over.

I was in high school when I finally understood. She had not taught me *to* read, we had learned to read TOGETHER.

She was not a certified teacher, but here is what I learned from her:

- Never take the chance to learn for granted.

- Learn everything you can about anything you can--you never know what may come in handy.

- If learning is not applicable to the needs of the individual, it will mean nothing.

- For some people, you need only show them the bar, and they will leap right over. For others, you will need to help them cut the wood, build the stool and provide the boost to reach the bar--that is your job if you are an educator.

- Everyone *can* learn. Not at the same rate and not at the same depth, but everyone can learn.

- Delivery, presentation, enthusiasm, and expectations are all important, but those things are technical. The critical aspect remains that the person doing the teaching must be willing to *learn from* as well as to *teach* others.

I have been blessed with many wonderful educators in my life. I have experienced some that taught me what NOT to do. I hope to continue to start fires and make windows.

# Relay For Life

## Aroostook County Relay for Life Is Most Successful One to Date

This year's annual Relay for Life for Aroostook County was held at NMCC in June. Thirteen area teams took part to help raise funds for the American Cancer Society. This was the most successful year in the history of the Aroostook County event, with more than \$27,000

Relay for Life is a fun-filled overnight event which celebrates survivorship and raises money to help the American Cancer Society in its mission to save lives, help those who have been touched by cancer, and empower individuals to fight back. This marked the thirteenth year that a Relay for Life was held in Aroostook County, and the second year that the event was hosted at NMCC.

"This was such an exciting year," said Becky Maynard, chair of the local Relay for Life planning committee. "We had the largest turnout of community members to date during the public portion of the evening, cheering us on during the survivor/caregiver lap and the parade of teams, and helping us to recognize those being honored and remembered during the luminary Ceremony of Hope. We also had the largest number of teams making the commitment to stay the entire night, with a record number of walkers on the track even in the early morning hours. Most importantly, we raised a record amount from our event for the American Cancer Society."

According to Maynard, last year's event had been the most successful one to date, raising more than \$18,000 and recognizing more than 600 people who were either cancer survivors or who had lost the battle. This year's event has raised more than \$27,000 and honored or remembered more than 1,200 people during the luminary ceremony.

"This year was totally amazing in way of community support," said Mike Hart, community executive for development for the American Cancer Society's New England Division. "We had more teams, more luminaria and more survivors than ever! The stories people were telling us were truly moving. It's about being a community that takes up the fight...and the

people of Aroostook County have definitely taken up the fight!"

According to Hart, the money raised locally at this event goes directly to the American Cancer Society's lifesaving programs which happen right here in Aroostook County as well as throughout Maine.

Several local businesses and organizations took on the cause this year and had teams of walkers for the event, including: NMCC, NMCC Student Nurses, The Aroostook Medical Center, ACAP, Ashland School Department, the Caribou and Presque Isle Inn & Convention Centers, Cary Medical Center, Fort Fairfield High School, Maine State Employees Association, McCain Foods, MicMac Health Department, Teague Park and UMPI.

Several area businesses helped sponsor the event. NMCC opened its facilities at no charge, coordinated all of the logistics involved in hosting such an event, and provided a wide level of staff support, both in planning for the event, the set-up and clean-up, and during the event itself. TAMC not only sponsored the barbecue, providing all of the food and personnel to make it happen, but they also provided food and support for other activities occurring during the Relay as well as staff support in organizing and running the event. Katahdin Trust Company provided assistance in promoting the event, providing an advertisement on local radio stations.

In addition to in-kind support, the following companies and organizations were financial sponsors at the \$1,000 level: Time Warner, Maine Tobacco Quit Line, and the Presque Isle and Caribou Inn & Convention Centers. Sponsors at the \$500 level were: FairPoint Communications, McCain Foods, North Country Auto, and UMPI.



Northern Maine Community College's team prepares to take to the track for the Parade of Teams, marking the official beginning of the Relay for Life on June 6.



Prior to the start of the Relay for Life, there was a lap dedicated to cancer survivors and caregivers. Among those leading this year's lap were Kevin Simmons (holding banner on right), owner of the Caribou and the Presque Isle Inn & Convention Centers, and his mother, Jean (beside him). Simmons has been fighting cancer for the past three years.



To make this an event for the entire family, a series of children's activities took place during the evening. These events were coordinated by Heidi Broad-Smith, NMCC's early childhood education instructor. Above, volunteers help children decorate cookies. Other activities included making sock puppets and kites, decorating t-shirts, and more.



Luminaries lined the track and lit up the word "HOPE" on the lawn adjacent to the track. During the Ceremony of Hope, the names of all of those being honored and remembered with luminaries were read aloud.

# Toward Excellence

## Upcoming Continuing Education offerings...

### Microsoft Word 2007

Learn tips and techniques that give documents a professional look. Topics addressed include: creating documents; formatting and aligning text; using the edit, cut, copy and paste features; changing margins; inserting page numbers and breaks; setting tabs; and setting up documents to print.

CSA 622 ♦ Cost: \$89 – text additional ♦ .9 CEUs  
Tuesdays, September 23 – October 7 ♦ 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

### Introduction to QuickBooks

QuickBooks is designed for the small to mid-sized business owner who enjoys Quicken's ease of use but prefers a more traditional approach to accounting. Learn how this well-designed program can make it a snap to set up a chart of accounts, reconcile your checking account, create and print invoices, receipts, and statements, track your payables, inventory, and receivables, create estimates, and generate reports. This course is taught by a local accountant with many years of experience using QuickBooks and helping her clients successfully integrate this software into their business.

CMP 670 ♦ Cost: \$129 ♦ 1.2 CEUs  
Mondays & Wednesdays, September 15 – 24 ♦ 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

### How to Use Your Handheld GPS

*Do you have a GPS and still aren't sure how to use it effectively?* This course is designed to introduce you to the fundamentals of GPS (Global Positioning System). Topics include navigational waypoints, latitudes and longitudes, physical features and their attributes, satellite tracking and positions, distance and bearing, mask angles, Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinators, and Selective Availability (SA) concepts. **Bring your GPS to class.**

BNI 745 ♦ Cost: \$99 – no text ♦ .9 CEUs  
Mondays, September 22, 29 & October 6 ♦ 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm



Development Office  
33 Edgemont Drive  
Presque Isle, ME 04769

### Service Information Workshop

Time is money and vehicle technology is changing rapidly. Do you have all of the information and tools you need to service the vehicles you want to attract? This workshop will help you manage the service information options available today from OE web sites to third party providers. Learn how to access the proper information to get the right fix. This workshop is designed for shop owners, technicians and service managers and will be facilitated by NMCC's instructor, Paul Lajoie.

BNI 645 ♦ Cost: \$45 ♦ .3 CEUs  
Thursday, September 25 ♦ 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

### DOT Safety Compliance Seminar

Avoid the common compliance issues by learning effective compliance procedures to help you more easily get and maintain a satisfactory review from the DOT. You will receive easy to understand directions on how to ensure your driver qualification files are up to date and in compliance and tips to identify and reduce driver logging violations. Representatives from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration will be on hand to answer questions about hours of service, driver qualification, accident reporting, alcohol and drug testing requirements and log audits. Are your records ready for a compliance review? Please bring a recent copy of the FMCSR handbook that includes the new part 40 regulations and hours-of-service rules.

BNI 645 ♦ Cost: \$30 – includes lunch  
Thursday, October 9 ♦ 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

*\*Discount: 50% discount for 3 or more individuals from the same organization*

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