



News Release

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NMCC library initiates book giving program

Aroostook County - Do you have a colleague, friend or loved one who is celebrating a milestone, such as an anniversary, birthday or retirement, and you just don't know what to get for a gift? The library staff at Northern Maine Community College may have the perfect solution for you.

"Purchasing a book in honor of someone is a great tribute to that person and creates a lasting legacy," said Gail Roy, NMCC assistant dean of learning resources. "Whether you are honoring someone for a special life event or if you are remembering a loved one, the donation of a book is a two-fold gift. Not only does it honor or remember that individual, but it supports education and our students, most of whom come from communities throughout Aroostook County."

According to Roy, donations can be made in several ways. People can select a specific book that is particularly appropriate for the individual being honored, such as a favorite read, the newest gardening book for someone who loves to garden and so forth. In this case, they may opt to purchase the book itself and then donate it to the library, or they may donate the funds for the specific book they want purchased. Others may prefer to simply identify a certain type of book, such as a children's book or a biography, and have the library staff select a book that meets the criteria. Still others may have no preference and allow the staff to use the funds to purchase a book where it is most needed.

Once the book or books have been purchase, a book plate will be placed in each one designating whom the book is honoring or remembering.

While the library has accepted random donations of this nature for a number of years, staff members are hoping to initiate a concentrated effort that will allow them to add to the collection despite recent budget cuts. "Despite a tight budget, our students still need access to current information. We also need to grow our collection in new directions to accommodate new programs and courses as they are offered at the College," said Roy.

Roy is currently trying to establish a Maine section to support the new Maine history class, providing an opportunity for donations of a wide range of books that have anything to do with Maine. She notes that the library will also need books to support the new Wind Power Technology program, providing an ideal donating opportunity for people who care about wind power, clean energy, conservation, or other relevant topics.

Those wishing to make a donation to the NMCC library in honor or in memory of someone may send checks, along with any criteria for the donation, directly to the NMCC Library, 33 Edgemont Drive, Presque Isle, ME 04769. For more information about making a donation, contact Gail Roy at groy@nmcc.edu or at 768-2734.

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During a ceremony held last fall on campus, Gail Roy from the Northern Maine Community College library unveiled some new books which were purchased to expand the Irish section in the library. The books have been identified as being in honor of the three NMCC students who have been named Mitchell Peace Scholars and spent a semester in Ireland. The three students are: Lucas Ireland of Mapleton (above), who was selected in 2008 and is currently in Ireland; Kent Corey of Washburn who was chosen in 2003, and Jill McGlaughlin of Fort Kent, chosen in 2001.