



News Release

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Forty-three new nurses celebrate entry into profession at NMCC pinning ceremony

Aroostook County - The healthcare profession welcomed 43 prospective new registered nurses May 15 as Northern Maine Community College held its annual pinning ceremony, which signifies the official entrance into the nursing field for members of the graduating class. The graduates are now eligible and prepared to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination to obtain licensure as registered nurses.

More than 400 family members, friends and college personnel gathered for the ceremony held at the Presque Isle Middle School. The event was highlighted by the presentation of a pin to each graduate by relatives or close friends who were selected for their important role as members of the student nurse's support network.

"The role your faculty and the College community have prepared you to fill is one that will present many challenges. However, with those challenges come many rewards," said NMCC President Timothy Crowley in his remarks to the graduates. "When I think about nursing care, I reflect on the commitment those in the profession have for the patients they care for. As you go forth to work in the hospitals and other healthcare settings, remember your important role as advocates for your patients."

Crowley's comments to the student nurses followed remarks by Betty Kent-Conant, chair of NMCC's nursing and allied health department. Kent-Conant spoke on behalf of the faculty in congratulating and advising the County's newest associate degree nurses.

"The pinning ceremony represents the culmination of two rigorous years of nursing education. It has been a long-standing tradition which symbolizes the true entry into the profession of nursing. This year's pinning celebrates the level of achievement of 43 seniors into the nursing profession and is, indeed, a wonderful recognition of the graduates' accomplishments as we welcome them as colleagues," said Kent-Conant.

Keynote speaker for the event was Daryl Boucher, coordinator of the College's emergency medical services program and instructor in both the EMS and nursing programs. As a popular and respected member of the faculty, Boucher was named NMCC Instructor of the Year earlier this year, as determined by student vote.

“Nursing has changed so much in the last thirty years, and we will continue to see dramatic changes in how nursing care is delivered. My message for the graduates is simple; regardless of what future changes occur, nursing will always be about caring. As long as this attribute is maintained, you will have long and successful careers” said Boucher.

Among the senior nursing students recognized during the May 14 ceremony were: Chelsae R. Cambridge, Janna R. Johnson, Jennifer R. Knowles, Shannon R. Marquis, Megan McHatten, Kelley L. McLaughlin, Wendy L. Samaroo, Joshua W. Tompkins, and Heather J. Trainer, Presque Isle; Nikki R. Dailey, Amanda M. LeTourneau, and Jaymie F. St. Peter, Ashland; Laurie G. Hartley, Julie A. Ellis, and Charles C. Zappone, Caribou; Charles R. Ouellette and Vicky L. Ouellette, Van Buren; Damon L. Stone and Clarissa E. Webber, Houlton; Malissa M. Boynton, Mars Hill; Stephanie M. Burt, Washburn; Nancy L. Kinney, Danforth; Lynn T. Levesque, Crystal; Lisa M. Savage, Limestone; Christina A. Stadig, Oxbow; Jennifer N. Voisine, Fort Kent; and Heidi S. Warman, Linneus. Also receiving her nursing pin was Kirsten E. Dobson of Rockland.

Several nursing graduates from the Washington County area were also recognized: Katelyn H. Chadwick and Melanie D. Howard of Calais; Elizabeth L. Gaug and Tarrah M. Hall of Perry, Jennifer L. Hill and Brittany J.F. Seeley of Baileyville; Beth A. Curtis, Edmunds Township; Nicole E. Daye, Lubec; Stacey D. Doten, Baring; Bethany E. Johnson, Machiasport; and Tracy L. Parker, Jonesboro.

Canadian graduates pinned during the ceremony were: Amber M. Broome, Summerside, PEI; Joyce A. Burgoyne, Perth-Andover, NB; Holly C. Corlett, Woodstock, NB; and Pamela S. Shoemaker, Plaster Rock, NB.

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Northern Maine Community College students completing their associate degree nursing program on the Presque Isle campus and recognized during the May 14 pinning ceremony were (front row, left to right): Chelsae R. Cambridge, Janna R. Johnson, Jennifer R. Knowles, Shannon R. Marquis, Megan McHatten, Kelley L. McLaughlin, Wendy L. Samaroo, Joshua W. Tompkins, and Heather J. Trainer of Presque Isle; (second row, same order) Nikki R. Dailey, Amanda M. LeTourneau, and Jaymie F. St. Peter, Ashland; Laurie G. Hartley, Julie A. Ellis, and Charles C. Zappone, Caribou; Charles R. Ouellette and Vicky L. Ouellette, Van Buren; (third row, same order) Damon L. Stone and Clarissa E. Webber, Houlton; Malissa M. Boynton, Mars Hill; Stephanie M. Burt, Washburn; Nancy L. Kinney, Danforth; Lynn T. Levesque, Crystal; Lisa M. Savage, Limestone; Christina A. Stadig, Oxbow; Jennifer N. Voisine, Fort Kent; and Heidi S. Warman, Linneus; (back row, same order) Kirsten E. Dobson, Rockland; Amber M. Broome, Summerside, PEI; Joyce A. Burgoyne, Perth-Andover, NB; Holly C. Corlett, Woodstock, NB; and Pamela S. Shoemaker, Plaster Rock, NB.



Northern Maine Community College students completing their associate degree nursing program on the Presque Isle campus and recognized during the May 14 pinning ceremony from southern Aroostook were (left to right) Damon Stone and Clarissa Webber of Houlton, Nancy Kinney of Danforth, Lynn Levesque of Crystal, and Heidi Warman of Linneus.



Northern Maine Community College students completing their associate degree nursing program on the Presque Isle campus and recognized during the May 14 pinning ceremony from the St. John Valley were (left to right) Jennifer Voisine of Fort Kent, and Charles Ouellette and Vicky Ouellette of Van Buren.



Northern Maine Community College students completing their associate degree nursing program at a distance on the Washington County Community College campus and recognized during the May 14 pinning ceremony in Presque Isle were (front row, left to right) Katelyn H. Chadwick and Melanie D. Howard of Calais; Elizabeth L. Gaug and Tarrah M. Hall of Perry, Jennifer L. Hill and Brittany J.F. Seeley of Baileyville; Beth A. Curtis, Edmunds Township; (second row, same order) Nicole E. Daye, Lubec; Stacey D. Doten, Baring; Bethany E. Johnson, Machiasport; and Tracy L. Parker, Jonesboro. Joining the students were their instructors from Washington County Tammy Brown Preston and Teena Dominee.



Northern Maine Community College students completing their associate degree nursing program on the Presque Isle campus and recognized during the May 14 pinning ceremony from Canada were (left to right) Amber M. Broome, Summerside, PEI; Joyce A. Burgoyne, Perth-Andover, NB; Holly C. Corlett, Woodstock, NB; and Pamela S. Shoemaker, Plaster Rock, NB.