



**NORTHERN
MAINE**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

News Release

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Fall and Winter Expo Draws Thousands

Aroostook County - More than 2,500 community members from across The County and western New Brunswick attended the Fall and Winter Expo sponsored by the Northern Maine Community College Foundation and WAGM-TV at the Forum on September 26 and 27. Organizers and participants alike considered the event a great success.

“Our thanks goes out to all of those who attended this year’s Fall & Winter Expo,” said Vicki Smith, NMCC Foundation board member and chair of the committee that organized this year’s event. “We are also very pleased with the support we have had from the various vendors throughout the region, as it is the interesting products and services that they display which generates so much interest by the public in attending this show. The partnership with WAGM-TV has been a key factor in a successful Expo over the past couple of years; their sales team does a great job in lining up all of the various vendors.”

With the wide variety of vendors present, the show offered something for everyone. Vendors ranged from businesses that offer solutions to keeping you warm during the winter months to ones that sell indoor or outdoor “toys” such as snowmobiles and electronic gadgets to keep us entertained when the snow flies. Several non-profit organizations were also on hand featuring fall and winter activities, such as Aroostook Football and Presque Isle Youth Hockey.

Attendees could purchase a variety of locally made items and watch local artists at work through a collaboration of several small businesses in the “Made in Aroostook” section. They could also go for a free Humvee ride courtesy of the Maine Military Authority. A bouncy house, hands-on activities through the Caribou Children’s Discovery Museum, and a small floor hockey area provided lots of fun for the kids.

Also featured on Saturday at the Expo was a Community Health Fair put on by seniors in Northern Maine Community College’s nursing and medical assisting programs. They provided information on more than a dozen topics, including seasonal and H1N1 influenza, frostbite prevention and treatment, winter sports safety, and fall and winter driving safety.

While a large number of prizes were given out throughout the weekend courtesy of the various vendors, the Fall and Winter Expo featured several significant door prizes. The winners were: Jennifer Edgecomb of Presque Isle, the pellet stove donated by The County Stove Shop; Louise Saucier of Fort Fairfield, the snow blower donated by Aroostook Door & Window; Bev Gramour of Presque Isle, four NASCAR tickets to Loudon, New Hampshire courtesy of LeVasseur's NAPA Auto and Truck Parts; Laurie Boucher of Chapman and Donnie Hewitt of Wade, three cords of wood each donated by Caron's Lawn & Property Maintenance; and 56 lucky individuals won a Trollbead from Country Collectibles, as four winners were selected every hour throughout the two day event. Two area community members also won a flat screen television, courtesy of WAGM-TV

“The 2009 Fall & Winter Expo was a great success; the vendors and attendees were very pleased with the show and had nothing but positive things to say. We have vendors already signing up for next year's show—that says a lot all by itself,” said Kelly Landeen, WAGM-TV sales manager. “WAGM looks forward to continuing the partnership with the Northern Maine Community College Foundation to put on the Fall and Winter Expo for 2010.

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Tim Crowley (far right), president of Northern Maine Community College, along with (from left) Bob White and Vicki Smith, both members of the NMCC Foundation Board of Directors, were among the many volunteers from the College and the Foundation to greet people as they entered the Fall & Winter Expo on September 26 & 27. Volunteers welcomed community members and collected their tickets entering them into a drawing for several major prizes, including tickets to a Nascar race in Loudon, NH, a pellet stove, a snow blower, six cords of firewood, and more than 50 Trollbeads.



Ted Shapiro(center), meteorologist for WAGM-TV, was one of the station's 'celebrities' that attendees had a chance to meet and visit with during the Fall & Winter Expo. WAGM-TV was co-sponsor of the event and played a major role in making it such a success. Their booth was a popular stopping point, with those signing up eligible to win two flat screen televisions.



Floyd and Carolyn Adams of Limestone were among the many Fall & Winter Expo participants who enjoyed stopping by and checking out the items featured at the Country Collectibles booth. Country Collectibles helped to draw new attendees to the Expo this year with their generous donation of 56 Trollbeads for door prizes awarded throughout the two day event.



Community members check out some of the snow blowers on display from Aroostook Door & Window at the Fall & Winter Expo. The company donated a snow blower as a door prize for the event, which was won by Louise Saucier of Fort Fairfield.



From left, Nancy Chandler, a board member for the Caribou Children's Discovery Museum, shows a homemade lava lamp and describes how it was made to Jondalyn Brewer and her daughter Ashley (far right) of Mars Hill, along with her mother Janet Durgin of Presque Isle. The Caribou Children's Discovery Museum, whose booth was sponsored by the Caribou Rotary Club, offered several hands-on activities for children attending the Fall & Winter Expo.



Bruce White (left) of Center Farms Coal of Easton explains the advantages of a coal burning stove to attendees at the Fall & Winter Expo.



Jessica Stackhouse of Presque Isle was one of the artists featured in The Artist's Nook, one of the displays which made up a "Made in Aroostook" section of the Fall & Winter Expo. Stackhouse, who teaches art in Limestone, has been carving wood for nine years.



Michelle Cushman was one of several members of the Presque Isle Snowmobile Club on hand at the Fall & Winter Expo to show the plans for their new facility, thanks to a booth sponsored by the Presque Isle Rotary Club.



NMCC nursing student Elizabeth Pelkey shares tips about preventing frostbite and hypothermia with Expo participants. Pelkey and two of her fellow students were one of more than a dozen booths that were part of a Community Health Fair presented by NMCC nursing and medical assisting students.



Jason Parent, NMCC director of development and college relations and executive director of the NMCC Foundation; Richard Engels, chair of the NMCC Foundation Board; Ted Shapiro, meteorologist at WAGM-TV; and Kelley Landeen, sales manager at WAGM-TV draw the winning tickets for the door prizes awarded at the end of the Fall & Winter Expo.



Winning the “Best Booth” award this year was the ‘Made in Aroostook’ cooperative association of businesses. Kelly Landeen from WAGM and Dick Engels from the NMCC Foundation (front, right) presented the certificate to several of the vendors taking part in the ‘Made in Aroostook’ group including, front from left: Gert Thibodeau (Art 2 Heart Creations), Natalia Bragg (Knott-II-Bragg Farm), Janice Bouchard (Floral Designs by Jan’s Crafts and Bouchard Family Farm). Back, from left: Lloyd Archer (A Poet at Large), Judy Sherman (Oxbow Wreaths, Deep in the Woods Gift Shop), Thom Cote and Elizabeth Bencivenga (The Artist’s Nook), and Steve Sherman (Oxbow Wreaths, Deep in the Woods Gift Shop).