



Northeast
community college

SPOTLIGHT

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SPOTLIGHT, an electronic newsletter to the friends and patrons of Northeast Community College, will be published 10 times a year, with a hard-copy version published twice a year. Please forward it to your colleagues and neighbors. You are all partners in our efforts to provide quality, affordable, close-to-home educational opportunities to students and training for area businesses, industries, and organizations. Northeast Community College serves residents of 20 counties in north-east Nebraska.

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NORTHEAST/WAYNE STATE COLLEGE MAKE HISTORY WITH PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Northeast Community College and Wayne State College made educational history recently with a unique partnership agreement!! **Dr. Bill Path**, president of Northeast (NECC), **Dr. Richard Collings**, Wayne State College (WSC) president, and **Stan Carpenter**, executive director of the Nebraska State College System (NSCS), signed a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the proposed construction of a campus where students can take their freshman- and sophomore- level courses from Northeast and then take junior- and senior-level or graduate-level courses from Wayne State College, all in the same location in South Sioux City.

The Board of Trustees for the NSCS and the NECC Board of Governors voted in support of the partnership the day before the memo was signed. The proposed NECC-WSC campus will be located on a 55-acre site along Highway 77 next to the planned Wal-Mart SuperCenter in South Sioux City.

NORTHEAST DEANS, DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

The academic deans and director of business, industry and economic development at Northeast Community College will be honored in early March with the 2005 International Exemplary Leadership Award from the Chair Academy. Those being honored include **Donna Niemeyer**, dean of Northeast's liberal arts division; Wayne Erickson, dean of continuing education and distance learning; **John Blaylock**, dean of business, math and technology; **Lyle Kathol**, dean of applied technology; **Chuck Pohlman**, dean of agriculture, health and sciences, and **Joe Ferguson**, director of business, industry and economic development at Northeast. The Chair Academy provides worldwide leadership training for post-secondary leaders. **Niemeyer** and **Erickson** will travel to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to accept the international leadership award on behalf of the entire academic leadership team at the college at the Chair Academy's 14th Annual Conference for Community College Leaders. The team was nominated by **Dr. Bill Giddings**, vice president of educational services at Northeast.

NORTHEAST OFFICIALS MONITOR LEGISLATIVE BILL

College officials are closely monitoring the progress of Legislative Bill 38 through the Nebraska Legislature. LB 38 was introduced by Senator **Ron Raikes** of Lincoln to extend the special tax levying authority of all six Nebraska community colleges and allow for the use of local property taxes to make up for anticipated shortfalls in state aid over the next three years. A bill introduced by Senator **Doug Cunningham** of Wausa, designed to address a longstanding funding issue at Northeast Community College, was amended to LB 38 within the Revenue Committee of the Legislature. This bill language was co-sponsored by Senators **Mike Flood** of Norfolk, and **Matt Connealy** of Decatur. To further help Northeast, Senator **Pat Engel** of South Sioux City has identified this as his priority bill. On February 23rd, Senators on the Revenue Committee advanced this bill, as amended, on a 7-0 vote. One committee member abstained. The next step for this bill is floor debate and a vote of the full Legislature. If successful there, it will be sent to the Governor's desk for his signature.

VIDEOTAPE BY NORTHEAST BROADCASTING STUDENT SENT TO JOHNNY CARSON FAMILY

The "Celebration of Johnny Carson's Life," held shortly after Carson died in January, was videotaped by the Northeast broadcasting-radio and TV department and sent to the Carson family. The video includes credentials naming Northeast Community College student **Nick Warm**. Instructor **John Skogstoe** also assisted. Warm and Skogstoe also provided an audio feed of the program to other Norfolk radio stations and some TV stations. Warm stood shoulder-to-shoulder with working broadcasting professionals taping the special two-hour program held in the Johnny Carson Theater at Norfolk Senior High School. Portions of that special memorial program taped by Warm will eventually be for sale at the Elkhorn Valley Museum and Research Center. Carson donated \$1,000,000 to the Lifelong Learning Center on Northeast's campus.

EXPLORE NORTHEAST-WEEKEND EDITION ATTRACTS POTENTIAL STUDENTS AND GUESTS

According to organizers, our first-ever Saturday recruiting event, Explore Northeast-Weekend Edition, attracted more prospective students, their parents or guests than ever before. Nearly 400 visitors heard a welcome by Northeast President **Dr. Bill Path**, attended break-out sessions of special interest, visited academic programs of their choice, toured campus and enjoyed a lunch in the cafeteria. Now faculty and staff are hoping to see every one of those potential students return next summer or fall as Northeast students.

FOOD SERVICE AND LODGING CAREER AND JOB EXPO ATTRACTS HUNDREDS OF VISITORS

The first-ever Food Service and Lodging Career and Job Expo held recently at Northeast attracted several hundred. Designed to attract new employees to the food and lodging/hospitality industry, organizers called this event a great success. Plans are currently being made to offer culinary workshops at Northeast beginning in March. International master chef **Domenico Berardicurti** will offer an "Everything Put In Place" Workshop on Saturday, March 12th, from 9 a.m.-noon. Call 844-7000 to register.

CAMPUS BLOOMS WITH ACTIVITIES IN SPRING

Always a busy place, activities on campus reach a fevered pitch in the spring. Here are just a few:

March 2-District III, IV, X Ag Education Contest. Over 1,000 students from 30 area high schools will compete in 12 different contests all over campus.

March 5-8-Region IX Women's Basketball Tournament. Come see our version of March Madness when 13 women's basketball teams from Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana vie for a spot in the NJCAA National Tournament in Salina, Kan., later in March. After earning a bye, the Hawks, Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference and East Sub-Region champs, will tip off Sunday, March 6th, at 8 p.m. It's great basketball...let's fill the gym.

March 10-13 & 17-19-"Much Ado About Nothing." Several Northeast Community College students have been cast in this William Shakespeare comedy that is a co-production of the Northeast Drama Department and Norfolk Community Theater. Reservations for the play can be made by calling (402)844-7360 beginning Monday, March 7th.

March 29-23rd Annual Jazz Festival. Approximately 3,000 high school and junior high musicians will compete in jazz band-swing/jazz choir competition in this day-long event at Cox Activities Center. The public is invited to come see about 85 different performing groups from throughout the Midwest. No admission.

March is also **Women's History Month** and Northeast will observe it with special presentations by Northeast's **Amy Ries** and **Kara Kathol** on Wednesday, March 2nd, at 7 p.m. in Burkhardt Hall; former Nebraska Lieutenant Governor **Kim Robak** on Monday, March 14th, at 11 a.m. in the Cox Activities Center Theater; Investment representative **Paula Pflueger** on Thursday, March 17th, at noon in Maclay, Room 100B, and former Northeast literature and writing instructor **Barbara Schmitz** on Wednesday, March 23rd, writing workshop at 11, reading of her poetry at 7 p.m., both in the Cox Activities Center Theater.

DID YOU KNOW???????

Northeast Community College pays \$15 million annually in salaries and benefits which turns into \$21 million in earnings as those dollars are spent in the 20-county service area.

Source: CCbenefits Inc Economic Impact Study

WANTED: MORE ADDRESSES FOR NECC "SPOTLIGHT"

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