



*SPOTLIGHT*, an electronic newsletter to the friends and patrons of Northeast Community College, is published 9 times 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 northeast Nebraska.

[ACCESS HAWKNET FOR APPLICATION/REGISTRATION INFORMATION, CLASS LISTINGS, AND FACULTY/STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

**THREE APPOINTED TO BOARD OF NEW FACILITIES CORPORATION**

Three individuals with long, illustrious histories at Northeast Community College were recently appointed to the new Facilities Corporation Board of Directors. Former Northeast President **Dr. Bob Cox**, former long-time Board of Governor **Jerry Petersen** of Battle Creek, and former Vice President of Educational Services **Larry Godel** will make up the new board. The Northeast Board of Governors approved the formation of the corporation, the articles of incorporation, and the new board at its February meeting. Purpose of the corporation is to acquire buildings, equipment and facilities and lease them to the College.

**SPRING 2005 ENROLLMENT FIGURES SHOW CONTINUED GROWTH**

Enrollment numbers for the Spring 2006 semester show continued growth at Northeast Community College. Registrar **Kathy Stover** reports that full-time student numbers are up over six percent while total number of credit hours (upon which state aid is based) is up 4.99 percent at slightly over 37,000 hours. Some 3,705 students, including part-time students, are enrolled at Northeast this semester.

**TYSON CLOSING SPARKS ACTION BY NORTHEAST**

The recent closing of Tyson Foods in Norfolk and West Point sparked immediate action by Northeast and its staff. At the direction of Vice President of Student Services, **Dr. Karen Severson**, these Northeast staffers participated in a Rapid Response event at the Nebraska Workforce Development-Department of Labor office: **Mau-reen Baker, Vickie Davis, Shelley Lammers, Anthony Faust, Maria Gibson, Nori Osorio, Mary Balaski, Russ Bowker, Joan Zanders, Sheila Tomjack, and Joe Ferguson**. Ferguson, as Northeast's director of business and industry and economic development, is involved in planning a Regional Job Fair on Friday, March 10th, at the Lifelong Learning Center. The job fair is sponsored by Northeast, Nebraska Workforce Development-Department of Labor, Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, Advance Services, Inc., Norfolk Area Recruiters, Norfolk Area Human Resource Association, Rudy Salem Staffing Services, Elkhorn Valley Economic Development, and StaffCo. The Career Services Department, under the direction of Rose Ann Rogers, will also host its annual Spring Job Fair on Wednesday, March 15th, in the Cox Activities Center gym.

**LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM AGAIN FINDS SUCCESS AT FT. WORTH SHOW**

The Northeast Community College Livestock Judging Team recently competed in the Junior College Livestock Judging Contest at the 110<sup>th</sup> Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in Fort Worth, Texas. A total of 18 teams and 94 individuals competed in the contest. Northeast team members included **Aaron Dinklage**, Orchard; **Tracy Neidig**, Madison; **Brent Nollette**, Nenzel, and **Cody Rasmussen**, Albion. **Mike Roeber** is the coach of the livestock judging team. The NECC team placed third in sheep judging, fourth in placings, fifth in swine judging, and seventh overall. The team was led by Nollette, who placed 14<sup>th</sup> overall, 10<sup>th</sup> in sheep judging, and 4<sup>th</sup> in placings. Rasmussen placed eighth in swine judging and 15<sup>th</sup> in sheep judging.

**WANTED: MORE ADDRESSES FOR "SPOTLIGHT"** Please email the name and email address to [janelle@northeastcollege.com](mailto:janelle@northeastcollege.com) to be included on distribution lists.

### **STUDENT NURSES VISIT NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE**

Members of the political committee of the Northeast Student Nurses Association recently attended a gathering of the Nebraska Nurses Association in Lincoln. Northeast's **Kodi Nelson** of Wakefield was elected legislative chairperson of the Nebraska Student Nurses Association. The group sat in on a telephone conference call in District 19 **Sen. Mike Flood's** office and attended a Health and Human Services Committee hearing on a bill. The day began for the Northeast student nurses with a breakfast with Sen. Flood and District 16 **Sen. Matt Connealy**. **Angie Wagner**, West Point, committee chairperson; **Nelson**, Wakefield, co-chair; **Mary Liebig-Agostine** of Columbus; **Rhonda Lammers**, Fordyce, and **Mysti Kucera**, Norfolk, were accompanied by **Ann Oertwich**, Stanton, director of nursing programs.

### **NORTHEAST STUDENTS, STAFF AGAIN ROLL UP SLEEVES FOR A GOOD CAUSE**

The early February American Red Cross Blood drive netted 109 total units for this very worthy cause. Some 125 people attempted to donate. The Bloodmobile visits Northeast's campus four times a school year. According to **Carissa Kollath**, student activities coordinator, the visits require work from large numbers of people to be successful. **Mike Frank** and the building construction students unloaded the trucks and **Ann Oertwich** and the student nurses staffed the canteen and escorted the donors. Staffers **Rose Ann Rogers**, **Jessica Bryan**, **Melissa Elznic**, **Marcia DeLancy**, and **Margy Ehrenfried** donated sandwiches while **Mike Auten** and **John Skogstoe** assisted with promotion.

### **EXPLORE NORTHEAST-WEEKEND EDITION**

Light snow and blustery winds didn't cool the enthusiasm during our Explore Northeast-Weekend Edition on Saturday, February 11th. The annual recruiting event attracted some 150 prospective students. They were accompanied by 173 parents or guests. For the first time ever, a \$500 Ca\$h for College Scholarship was given away to a student who plans to enroll at Northeast in the fall. **Justin Jensen** of Wausa was the winner of the scholarship.

### **DR. PATH, GOVERNORS ATTEND AACC ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Northeast Community College President **Dr. Bill Path** and Board of Governors members **Don Oelsligle**, Tilden, and **Larry Poessnecker**, Atkinson, recently returned from the annual meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges in Washington, D.C. While there, they were briefed on federal legislative priorities of the second session of the 109th Congress that will affect community colleges. They also visited with **Sens. Ben Nelson** and **Chuck Hagel** and **Congressmen Lee Terry** and **Jeff Fortenberry** and a representative of **Congressman Tom Osborne**.

### **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR JERRY HOLMBERG RECOGNIZED**

Retiring athletic director **Jerry Holmberg** was honored at the final home basketball game of the season recently and presented a gift of appreciation for his six years of service as A.D. Holmberg retired from his full-time position as director of employment services in 1999, following 21 years at Northeast.

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH OBSERVED AT NORTHEAST**

**Vicki Harris** of Cozad kicked off our observance of Black History Month on February 1st, with a program, entitled "African-American Homesteaders and Cowboys of Nebraska." Her presentation was made possible by a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC). Other Black History Month activities included a presentation by the **Rev. Dr. Wayne Reynolds**, formerly of Norfolk and now of Lincoln, on diversity at a Multicultural Club potluck. The movie, "Remember the Titans," was shown to students at a Monday Night at the Movies. Urban pop singer and African-American feminist **Deidre McCalla** of the Atlanta, Georgia, area, wrapped up Black History Month and kicked off Women's History Month activities with a free concert on Tuesday, February 28th. Posters and banners were also displayed around campus.

### **AGRICULTURE EDUCATION CONTEST IS TODAY AT NORTHEAST**

The agriculture, horticulture, veterinary technology, welding and electrical construction and control (electrician) faculty and students are hosting the District III, IV and X FFA Agriculture Education Contest on campus today (Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>). Over 1,000 students from 30 area high schools are competing in 12 different contests, including ag mechanics, agri-science, ag sales, agronomic resources, envirothon, farm management, food science, floriculture, nursery and landscape, livestock management, meats identification, and welding.