



Northeast  
community college

**SPOTLIGHT**

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*SPOTLIGHT*, an electronic newsletter to the friends and patrons of Northeast Community College, is published nine 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.

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**COLLEGE OF NURSING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PASSES \$7 MILLION MARK**

The capital campaign for the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Nursing Northern Division has surpassed the \$7 million mark, thanks in part to generous donations by the Northeast Board of Governors. John Winkleblack, a member of the Board of Governors, volunteered to solicit pledges from the Board for the project. "It gives me great pleasure to report that fully 100 percent of our Governors back this proposal with not only their words, but their hard-earned money too," he said recently. Winkleblack, general manager and co-owner of Greenline Equipment in Norfolk, Plainview, and Neligh, has served on the Northeast Board since 2001. He represents the Fifth District of Northeast's 20-county service area, which includes all of Madison County. Those interested in making a pledge for the facility to house Northeast's basic nurse aide, practical nursing, and associate degree nursing programs and UNMC bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degree programs in nursing should call (402) 844-7056 or email [healthylives@northeast.edu](mailto:healthylives@northeast.edu). For more information about the project, visit [www.healthy-lives.org](http://www.healthy-lives.org)

**OELSLIGLE'S DONATE WIND GENERATOR TO NORTHEAST**

A recent gift to Northeast Community College from **Ron** and **Janell Oelsligle** of Tilden provided a year-end learning experience for students enrolled in Northeast's electrical construction and control (ECC) program. The Oelsligles donated a Whisper 500, three-kilowatt, wind generator to the college last spring. Before the academic year ended, Northeast students rebuilt the generator and erected it near the Arlo Wirth Building on campus. It was then wired to provide power to operate the lights in the freshman lab in the Wirth Building.

**FORMER NURSING DEAN, OUTSTANDING ALUM HONORED**

The achievement and service of two individuals were recognized recently during a Board of Governors' meeting. Emeritus status was conferred upon **Anita Brenneman**, Norfolk, while **Jeff Braithwait**, Norfolk, was inducted in to Northeast's Hall of Success. Brenneman is the former dean of the health, science, and drafting division. She began her career with Northeastern Nebraska College, now Northeast Community College, in 1968 as the director of the new practical nursing program. She helped to implement the early childhood program, the associate degree nursing program (ADN), and the physical therapist assistant (PTA) program. Braithwait is a 1981 graduate of the then-Northeast Technical Community College's automotive technology program. Owner of Eastern Auto Service, Norfolk, the past 18 years, he has hired many Northeast graduates.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY PRESENTED AWARD**

Lance Hedquist was recently surprised by Northeast President Dr. Bill R. Path with a Distinguished Service Award. The award, presented at a meeting of the City Council of South Sioux City, recognizes individuals who have played important roles in the support and development of Northeast Community College. Hedquist, City Administrator for South Sioux City since 1980, was recognized for his continued support of the College Center of South Sioux City that will house Northeast's associate degree programs and Wayne State College's bachelor's and graduate-degree programs.

### **ROEBER IS OUTSTANDING AG TEACHER**

Northeast Community College animal science instructor and livestock judging coach **Mike Roeber** has been honored as the 2008 Outstanding Agriculture Teacher by the Nebraska Agricultural Educators Association (NAEA). Roeber has been on the faculty of Northeast Community College since 1998. After his NAEA award, Roeber competed against outstanding agriculture teachers from South Dakota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa for the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) Region III Ag Teacher of the Year award.

### **COLEEN BRESSLER IS NEW DEAN OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**Coleen K. Bressler**, Hoskins, has begun her new duties as Dean of Administrative Services at Northeast Community College in Norfolk. She replaces **Lynne Koski** who was elevated to Vice President of Administrative Services following the retirement of **Steve Schram**. Bressler has been Director of Accounting Services at Northeast since 1999. She holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration/management and a master of business administration with an emphasis in accounting from Wayne State College. As the new Dean of Administrative Services, Bressler will be responsible for the administration of the business and accounting functions at Northeast.

### **NORTHEAST'S RAMIG HONORED WITH FOUNDER'S AWARD BY MVAEA**

Terry Ramig, East Region Director for Northeast Community College in West Point, has been honored by the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association (MVAEA) with its prestigious Founder's Award. Ramig has been employed by Northeast Community College since 1988, when the Northeast Education Center in West Point was an office in her home. She recently oversaw the completion of a new 8,000-square-foot education center, the Shirley and Jake Weber Education Center, in West Point's new Donald E. Nielsen Community Center. The education center boasts six classrooms, a room for advising and testing, administrative offices, and a student lounge. The Founder's Award honors an individual within the seven states of the MVAEA (North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri) with a record of distinctive achievements. The highest honor which the Association can bestow, it is awarded only to individuals who have served MVAEA and the adult education profession with such distinction that their achievements are widely acknowledged by colleagues in the seven-state region.

### **CCPE APPROVES CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education has approved several certificate programs to be offered soon by Northeast Community College. They include: computer application specialist (18 credit hours), visual programming for personal computers (minimum of 19 credit hours), and renewable fuels technology (17 credit hours) certificate programs. These three certificate programs will begin this fall semester. Classes for the IBM iSeries Programming (at least 17 credit hours) certificate will begin during the Spring 2009 semester. Northeast's renewable fuels technology program is funded in part with a \$1,999,999 grant awarded under the Community-Based Job Training Grants (CBJT), as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

### **RENEWABLE FUELS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FEATURED IN NATIONAL PUBLICATION**

Northeast's renewable fuels technology program was extensively detailed in the July issue of *Ethanol Producer Magazine*, the nation's leading publication of the ethanol industry. The story, by Hope Deutscher in the Education section, also contained two photos from the Northeast program. One was of Statewide Renewable Fuels Trainer Randy Sigle with Student Tammie Suckstorf and the other photo is a class photo featuring the entire first class that began its course of study last fall. Suckstorf is the only female enrolled in that charter class. Northeast's renewable fuels technology program is funded in part with a \$1,999,999 grant awarded under the Community-Based Job Training Grants (CBJT), as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

### **ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM GRANTED CONTINUING ACCREDITATION FOR EIGHT YEARS**

Officials at Northeast Community College were recently notified that its associate degree nursing program has been granted continuing accreditation for 2008-2016 by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The NLNAC is nationally recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the accrediting agency for postsecondary and higher degree nursing programs. In the notification letter, Executive Director Sharon Tanner, Ed.D., R.N., noted that by choosing accreditation by NLNAC, Northeast's nursing program demonstrates a continued interest in having the program measured against the highest national standards of quality in nursing education. Continuing accreditation was based on a Self Study Report, the Northeast College catalog, the Site Visitors' Report (from February 2008 visit), and the Evaluation Review Panel recommendations.