

# KVCC TOPICS



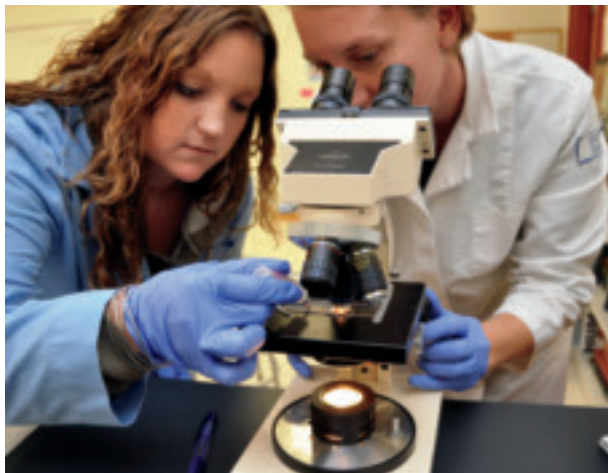
A Newsletter Published Biannually for the Friends of KVCC

## Campus grows with addition of KVCC Annex

Kennebec Valley Community College's acquisition this spring of the former Thomas M. Teague Biotechnology Center on the northeast corner of the campus has opened up a new chapter in the growth and development of the College.

Renamed the Annex, the modern and well-equipped facility is being steadily developed this fall as a math and science center as well as a home for offices and personnel displaced by the reconstruction of the Muriel P. Frye Building.

The purchase of the building from the town of Fairfield adds another 3.4 acres to the campus, bringing total acreage to 68.49 and giving the College full use of the 14,065 square foot building after many years of leasing portions of it for classes and laboratory space.



Biology students at work in the Science Laboratory at the KVCC Annex this fall. The modern lab facilities of the Annex are providing new opportunities for KVCC students.

"The KVCC Annex has enabled us to reduce crowded conditions in the King Building and the long-term vision is to create a math and science center there for the College," KVCC President Barbara Woodlee said. "The labs are designed as science labs and in the future we hope to develop a math lab in the building as well. We are very fortunate to have acquired the building at a time when our continued growth has made additional space a priority for KVCC."

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## Upgrades to KVCC web-site underway

Kennebec Valley Community College has gone to great lengths to upgrade its campus and programs in recent years to better meet the needs of students and area employers. Now the College has begun another upgrade that is equally important.

The KVCC web site is at the center of everything the College does. It is the online face of KVCC and the primary connection between students, staff and faculty. It has been years since the site was upgraded, but that began to change this year with the launch of a new Student Information System (SIS) in early August.

Now plans are underway to upgrade other portions of the site over *(continued on page 11)*



## Presidential search update

The search for the next President of Kennebec Valley Community College is continuing this fall. The goal, according to MCCC President John Fitzsimmons, is to have a nomination ready for the Board of Trustees' consideration at its December 1, 2010 meeting.

The presidential search committee-made up of representatives from the KVCC community and chaired by Merle Nelson, a member of the MCCC Board of Trustees-has worked over the past several months to review applications and narrow the field of candidates.

President Fitzsimmons thanked the search committee for its hard work as the process moves forward. "I have every confidence that together we will be successful in finding the right

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## KVCC President Barbara Woodlee retiring this fall

By Earl Smith, President of the KVCC Foundation



Barbara Woodlee has many chances to speak to audiences of young people, and she almost always reminds them of their broad career opportunities and encourages them to plan their lives in deliberate ways. It is a powerful message from an exceptional role model, but what Woodlee does not say is that her advice comes not because she carefully planned her own career, but instead, because she didn't.

Born in Fort Worth, Texas, Barbara Warren grew up in southern California in the 1950s. Her father was an executive with General Dynamics, and her mother gave up her job after the children arrived. Barbara was more inclined to follow in the footsteps of her housewife mother, but she also wanted an education beyond high school and in 1966, befitting one who would become a community college president, received a two-year degree at Cazenovia College, near Syracuse, N.Y.

Her quest for learning had only begun. After moving to Maine in the early 1970s, she promptly earned her bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of Maine at Farmington, and began her unplanned career by teaching adults to read. In the fall of

1976, as fate would have it, she became director of adult education at the fledgling Kennebec Valley Vocational-Technical Institute in Waterville.

Founded as an educational experiment in borrowed space at Waterville High School, KVVVTI was by then in its sixth year and still struggling to survive. Barely 100 students were taught by a handful of faculty members, mostly part-timers, on an annual budget of \$163,000. Despite the slow start, there were many - like Barbara Warren - who passionately believed in the experiment. Three years later, the believers acquired the Institute's present day 60-plus acre campus in nearby Fairfield.

In 1980, Barbara married Jimmie Woodlee, a physician's assistant at Mid-Maine Hospital who later made a career at the Colby College Health Center. In the coming years, they juggled busy lives as devoted parents of three girls and a boy. In the midst of it all, Woodlee completed her master's degree in adult education at the University of Southern Maine in 1982.

Bernard King, the founding director of KVVVTI, died in 1984. It was a devastating blow for the school that had, in large part, succeeded through his sheer determination. The State Board of Education needed to find someone who could match his vision and energy, and they didn't have to look far. At age 36, Woodlee was named director, and later president, of the growing Institute.

Woodlee's promotion came at a crucial moment. The demand for skilled workers in Maine's ever-struggling economy was growing along with the Institute's reputation for filling that need. Working always with constrained budgets, the new president filled the gap with creativity, optimism, and a boundless "can do" attitude. She added many new programs and, with them, new students. In 1989, the once tiny, experimental institute became Kennebec Valley Technical College.







Growth and change were far from over, for the college or for Woodlee. In 1992, working around the daunting demands of a college presidency, a full plate of community service, and her welcomed role as mother and wife, she earned her capstone degree, a doctorate in higher education administration by taking courses she might well have by then taught at Vanderbilt University.



Over the next decade, the college added liberal and education studies to a curriculum that already included broad programs in allied health and nursing, business and computer science, and trades and technology. In 2003 it became Maine's sixth and fastest growing community college.

At the end of the current year, after more than 34 years of service including 26 as president, Woodlee will retire. She will become a part-time adviser in the Maine Community College System office, but she will also find more time to enjoy her children and three grandchildren, read many books that have been waiting, and, she hopes, "beat Jimmie in golf."

As her colleagues and many friends in the community look back upon her full career, they are invariably astonished by what she has achieved. Her legacy is seen everywhere on the campus, most impressively in the growth of the total student body from 100 to 3,300 in less than three decades, and while she rejects accolades, she does not disguise her pride that three-quarters of today's students are first in their families to attend college, or that almost all of them find work or continue their studies soon after graduation.

While Woodlee's admirers cite many examples of her achievements, their reflections share a single, familiar refrain: How on earth has she been able to achieve so much, and do it all with such grace, charm, and good humor?

Greg Fletcher, veteran chair of the Trades and Technology Department, shared the sentiments of his colleagues when he observed that her office door is always open. "She invites you in for a chat, no matter what else is going on," he said, "and makes you think she has nothing to do but talk with you."

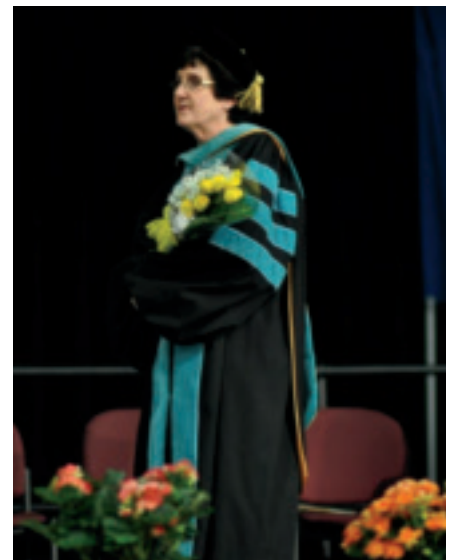
Chief Financial Officer John Delile, an associate for 21 years, admires her way of seeing problems as opportunities, of supporting her colleagues, and encouraging them "to think outside the box."

Students will miss her, too, as they are accustomed to seeing her on the campus walkways, in classrooms, and as an occasional participant in pick-up games where she endures endless kidding about her height (5'3"). Her administrative assistant, Gloria Taylor, says that, "every decision Barbara makes is with the needs of students in mind." The evidence leaves no doubt of that.

Community leaders know that Woodlee's retirement will be felt far beyond the campus. She has been a leader in countless civic organizations and a willing partner with captains of Maine's business and industries who have frequently turned to her for help in training workers. With ample and solid proof that community colleges are the greatest engines in the growth of Maine's economy, she routinely answered requests for help – developing programs, finding qualified instructors and space, and seeking funds in an arena of scarce resources.

Professional and civic groups have profited as well. She has been a director of the American Association of Community

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## Campus grows with addition of KVCC Annex

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The KVCC physics lab has been relocated to the Annex this fall, and with the number of students, staff and faculty using the building on the rise, parking areas there will expand soon. An existing walking trail from the main campus to the Annex is also being improved.

Thanks to extensive efforts by Information Technology and Maintenance staff, the building's interior and its communications infrastructure have been upgraded to meet the needs of the College.

Kathy Englehart, Chair of KVCC's Math and Science Department, said the long-term vision for the building includes four science labs; a multi-use lab for biology, chemistry, and microbiology; a physics lab; and a pair of anatomy and physiology labs. Additional classroom space for math and science instruction is also part of long-term plans.

In the meantime, the Annex is housing a variety of KVCC offices and programs including many that were displaced by the ongoing reconstruction of the Frye Building, and it will not be until retrofitted space in Frye is available for use again this winter that shifts in personnel and final decisions on how the Annex will be used can be made.

For Englehart, who was the first to begin teaching KVCC classes in the building a number of years ago when it was used by Jackson Laboratories, the growth in KVCC programs there has been phenomenal.

"When I first came here we offered two sections of anatomy and physiology and now we offer 13 sections," Englehart said. "Approximately 150 students are enrolled in the six science courses offered at the Annex."

Though relatively isolated from the main campus, the modern and bright interior and many features of the former biotechnology center have been popular with students, Englehart said.

"The student response to the new classroom space has been positive," Englehart said. "We were concerned for students who did not have their own transportation, but several of the students walk to their Annex classes daily and report that the walk takes less than 10 minutes."

Eventually the Annex's relative isolation from the main campus will likely change as additions are made to KVCC. The open space between the Annex and Lunder Library may eventually contain new buildings, a road, improved pathways, and other features.

Meanwhile the Annex is a place of great activity and change for KVCC, and the latest piece of an ever-expanding and improving college campus.



## Solar Heating and Cooling Instructor Training Project moving forward

Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield, Maine is gearing up to launch an ambitious solar heating and cooling training initiative across the entire Northeast and New York beginning in January 2011.

The College has just hired a full-time Solar Thermal Instructor in preparation for the active training phase of this "Northeast Solar Heating and Cooling Instructor Training Project."

Vaughan Woodruff, an engineer who has operated his own solar thermal system design and installation company, has extensive experience working, teaching, and writing in the field of sustainability. Mr. Woodruff will lead the instruction efforts for the project.

Once begun, KVCC will provide training to high schools, colleges, businesses, and other partners across the region to introduce the latest solar heating and cooling system design and installation techniques to those best-equipped to pass the knowledge on to a wider audience through a top-down "train the trainers" approach.

The goal is to increase the quality and availability of instruction related to the installation of these solar systems in the following states: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Professional development activities, supported by a state-of-the-art solar heating and cooling lab on KVCC's campus, as well as a mobile training lab, will target instructors from community colleges, career & technical education centers, apprenticeship programs and private industry training incubators in the Northeast Region who are looking to enhance their existing plumbing; heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC); pre-engineering, and environmental technology programs. The course will be tailored towards the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners' (NABCEP) solar thermal task analysis and participants will be eligible to pursue NABCEP certification.

"Utilizing the sun to create heat for hot water, space heating, and air conditioning is essential to reducing our carbon footprint and our reliance on fossil fuels. However, to make sure this vision becomes reality, it is essential that this technology is installed properly and cost effectively. To do this, it is critical that instructors are trained properly on the most up to date technology and installation methods," said Dana Doran, Director of Energy Programs at KVCC.

For more information on the KVCC Northeast Solar Heating and Cooling Instructor Training Project go to <http://www.kvcc.me.edu/NESolar/> or contact Dana Doran at [ddoran@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:ddoran@kvcc.me.edu) or 207-453-5157.







The 2010 “Evening of Jazz” gala was a resounding success, raising thousands of dollars for student scholarships thanks to the generous support of sponsors and donors. The 2011 gala is scheduled for 6-10 p.m. February 4th and will include dinner, a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, music by the KVCC Faculty Band, and a special appearance by Maine Humorist Gary Crocker. A special alumni table will be added to the event this year for former students of the College to reconnect with KVCC and their classmates.

## Ways to be involved

**Attend the event with a seat purchase:** Individual table seats will be sold for \$100 each. Each table seats eight, and full tables may be reserved.

**Donate an auction item:** Donated items will be auctioned by a live auctioneer. 100 % of auction sales will go directly to student scholarships.

**Match a scholarship:** Auction participants will have the opportunity to purchase and name a scholarship fund. Public or anonymous scholarship match sponsors provide an incentive to bid.

**Make a scholarship gift:** Scholarship contributions will be used directly to support students with financial need attending KVCC.

**Note:** All sponsorships and donations are tax-deductible charitable contributions with the exception of table, seat, and auction item purchases.

For more information contact Gloria Taylor at (207) 453-5129 or [gtaylor@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:gtaylor@kvcc.me.edu).

## Golf Tournament raises funds for students

The 15th Annual KVCC Foundation Golf Tournament, June 28th, was the most successful at raising funds for student needs to date in spite of rainy conditions that forced a cancellation of play. The tournament raised \$23,700 for endowed student scholarship funds thanks to strong support from donors and sponsors. KVCC and its students are grateful for their continued generosity and wish to thank all who made the event a success.

KVCC is pleased to welcome four new members to the College’s Foundation and the General Advisory Council (GAC). The generosity and expertise of the volunteers of these two organizations is vital to the success of the College, and it is with sincere thanks that the College welcomes the following new members:



John Picchiotti,  
Picchiotti Enterprises, GAC



Clarence Bickford,  
Vice President,  
Merrill Bank, GAC



Thomas Depeter,  
Director of Electrical  
Distribution,  
Central Maine Power,  
KVCC Foundation



David Leach,  
President, D.L. Electric,  
KVCC Foundation

## Alumni Association news

Kennebec Valley Community College is forging ahead this fall with an ambitious effort to establish a strong KVCC Alumni Association. The Association would draw on the experience and expertise of former students to promote the opportunities and successes of the College and to create and nurture mutually beneficial relationships between KVCC and its alumni and friends.

The rapid growth of the College over the past decade and its move from a technical college to a full community college have greatly expanded not only the number of alumni in the community, but also the need for the services an alumni association would bring to KVCC.

Plans include upgrading the alumni page of the KVCC website, establishing ways for alumni to interact freely with one another on the Internet, gathering updated contact information, planning special alumni events on campus, and finding ways to locate KVCC alumni in the workplace.

A special alumni table will be included at the 2011 Jazz Gala on February 4<sup>th</sup> for alumni of the college to reconnect with the College and classmates.

If you are interested in working on the initial committee that will develop an alumni program/association, or even a FUTURE alumni, please contact Gloria Taylor at [gtaylor@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:gtaylor@kvcc.me.edu).

## Faculty feature: Kathy Englehart, Math and Science Department Chair

Kathy Englehart has no doubt she belongs at the front of a classroom filled with science students.

"I always wanted to be a teacher but my father encouraged me to major in engineering or a science. After graduating from college one of my neighbors mentioned that KVCC was looking for an adjunct science instructor," Englehart said. "I was hired to teach biology and I have never left."

"Now it is clear to me that I was meant to be a teacher." Englehart added. "I love to take a difficult science concept and explain it in a way that students can understand."

A native of South Portland, who graduated from the University of Maine with a bachelor's of science degree in microbiology in 1984 and who also did her graduate work at Umaine, Englehart loves Maine and her job teaching science to classrooms filled with KVCC students.

She first taught at what was then Kennebec Valley Vocational Technical Institute in 1988, teaching biology, anatomy and physiology, and microbiology. All are subjects she continues to teach to this day.

In 1992 Englehart moved up to a half-time instructor position and then became full-time in 1994. Over the years she worked her way up to Department Chair in 2002.

She has seen many changes at the College over the years.

"When I taught my first KVCC course I was 25 years old," Englehart recalled. "I essentially grew up with the institution as it evolved from a technical institute to the community college it is today."

"In the 80's, my science classes were predominantly filled with non-traditional students. Now my classroom has a higher percentage of recent high school graduates, and this younger population changes the dynamics of the classroom," Englehart said.

As the demographics of the student body have changed, so has total enrollment at the once-tiny college.

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## ANNUAL DONOR REPORT 2009-2010

The 2009-2010 fiscal year presented many challenges for KVCC, as it did for the rest of the State of Maine, the United States, and beyond. However, with every new challenge, there is opportunity.

In what has proven to be the most challenging economy since the Great Depression of the 1930's, the value of KVCC has clearly resonated with the local community more than ever. This year, our partners, staff, alumni, and friends contributed generously to KVCC and the KVCC Foundation in cash and equipment donations, once again assuring a highly successful year. This charitable giving provided scholarships for needy students and much needed equipment and resources to strengthen our academic programs.

KVCC and the KVCC Foundation truly appreciate the generosity of our many donors, listed below, for the opportunities they create for KVCC students.

### GIFTS TO THE BARBARA WOODLEE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The 2009-2010 Kennebec Valley Community College Foundation Annual Appeal was dedicated to creating an endowed scholarship to honor KVCC President Barbara Woodlee for her many year of public service. This scholarship established with the generous donations of those listed below will now help students access the many opportunities available at KVCC. Donations to this scholarship fund will continue, and the College thanks all who have contributed to make it a success.

Ms. Barbara Allen & Mr. Lenny Reich  
Ms. Paula Beach  
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Beaupre  
Mr. Clarence "Chuck" Bickford  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Borman  
Mr. Jim Bourgoin  
Ms. Michaele Bourque-Bardsley  
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Boyink  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bullock  
The Honorable Marilyn Canavan Care & Comfort-Mr. & Mrs. Leo Giguere  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Carnrick  
Mr. and Mrs. James Clair  
Mr. Alex Clifford  
Ms. Linda Clutterbuck  
Mr. Earl Coombs  
Ms. Barbara Conner  
Ms. Anne Connors  
Mr. James Cook  
Dr. Keith Cook  
Ms. Regina Coppens & Mr. Steven

Buchsbaum  
Mr. and Mrs. John Dalton  
Ms. Ann Davis  
Dr. and Mrs. Glen Davis  
Mr. Steven Davis  
Dr. And Mrs. Steven Diaz  
Ms. Sara Donovan  
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Doran  
Ms. Jodi Elias  
Ms. Kathryn Englehart  
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Farr  
Ms. Lila Finlay  
Dr. John Fitzsimmons  
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Fletcher  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fletcher  
Ms. Muriel Frye  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gallagher  
Ms. Michelle Gayne  
Mr. Bruce Godin  
Mr. David Gordon  
Ms. Jacqueline Greene  
Mr. Michael & Dr. Margaret Griffin  
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Grover

Ms. Juliette Guilmette  
Ms. Karen Hamilton  
Dr. Allyson Hughes Handley  
Mr. Mark Harmon  
Ms. Judy Harris  
Ms. Karen Heck  
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Mr. & Mrs. Cass Hirschfelt  
Ms. Jill Hodsdon  
Ms. Nicole Holden  
Interim Nighttime Club  
Dr. Theodora Kalikow  
Ms. Allyson Karter  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Kelleher  
Ms. Jana Lapoint  
Ms. Barbara Larsson & Mr. Ronald Slater  
Ms. Kimberly Lindlof  
Mr. and Mrs. Owen Logue

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Longstaff  
Ms. Michelle Luciano  
Dr. and Mrs. John Macklin  
Dr. Lewis S. Maisel and Dr. Patrice Franko  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marden  
Ms. Catherine Marden  
Marden Realty  
Mr. Joseph Mattos  
Mr. Warren Maxim  
Mr. Jay McLeod  
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Megna  
Ms. Suzanne Uhl-Melanson and Mr. Jeffrey Melanson  
Mr. Peter Michaud  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mitchell  
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Miller  
Dr. Kathleen Moore  
Dr. Martha Naber  
Mr. and Mrs. Denis Normandin  
Ms. Kathleen O'Halloran  
Mr. Gerge Orestis  
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Parker

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Parkhurst  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Peacock  
 Dr. Ruben Perez  
 Plum Creek  
 Dr. John Poirier  
 Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Priest  
 Redington-Fairview General Hospital  
 Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Roberts  
 Ms. Joan Sanzenbacher  
 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Saulter  
 Ms. Diane Sauter-Davis  
 Ms. Tobi Schneider  
 Ms. Pamela Seeley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith  
 Ms. Teresa Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Smith  
 Sukeforth Charitable Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Sutton  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tarbuck  
 Mr. Douglas Tatham  
 Ms. Gloria Taylor  
 Mr. Paul Thompson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Tipper  
 Ms. Verla Ubert  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ken Walsh  
 Ms. Alice Warren  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Washburn  
 Waterville AAUW-Mary Ellen Dennis  
 Ms. Dianne Whitney  
 Mr. Jimmie J. and Dr. Barbara Woodlee  
 Ms. Marjorie York

## **GIFTS TO THE EARL SMITH BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FUND**

The individuals below made generous donations to a new endowed fund providing much needed aid for students to purchase required books and supplies for their courses of study. These gifts help students afford what has become a very burdensome cost that most are not prepared for.

Borman Family Foundation  
 Lunder Foundation  
 Mr. Robert Strider  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Sutton

## **GIFTS IN MEMORY OF INDIVIDUALS**

The individuals below made thoughtful contributions in memory of an alumnus/a, relative, colleague, or friend. These gifts either created or enhanced endowed and unendowed student scholarships for tuitions and/or books, supplies, or equipment.

## **Harold "Mickey" Marden**

United Way of Eastern Maine

## **Alyssa Erin Bickford**

Ms. Kathryn Kelly

## **Steven Kadner**

Mr. and Mrs. Don Borman  
 Colby College  
 Mr. and Mrs. Justin Clark  
 Mr. Bruce Corson  
 Mr. Michael Corson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gerald D'Amico  
 Mr. and Mrs. Chris Davis  
 Ms. Donna Davis  
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Davis  
 Mr. Tom Davis  
 GHM Agency, Inc.  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Grad  
 J & S Oil Company, Inc.  
 Ms. Kimberly Hawkes  
 Mr. and Mrs. Greg Heikkinen  
 Kris-Way Truck Leasing, Inc.  
 Mr. David Leach  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leclair  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron Lowell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Poulin  
 Mr. and Mrs. Peter Prescott  
 Ms. Rebecca Somes  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Spinner  
 Mr. and Mrs. Clement Warren  
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Warren

## **GIFTS FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT**

The organizations and individuals below made generous contributions toward ensuring access to higher education in the Central Maine area. These gifts either created or enhanced existing endowed student scholarship funds.

## **Central Maine Power Company Scholarship Endowment**

Central Maine Power Company

## **KVCC Foundation Scholarship Endowment**

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Buzzell  
 Ms. Janet Cahoon  
 Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Fox  
 Mr. Bruce Godin  
 Ms. Joanna Jones  
 Mr. Peter Joseph  
 Mr. and Mrs. George Lemoine  
 Maine Community College System  
 Mr. Joseph Marcus  
 Reisert Foundation  
 Waterville Stamp Club

## **GIFTS TO THE ANNUAL FUND**

The Annual Appeal raised funds for a variety of critical needs at the College, including student scholarships, the Barbara

Woodlee Scholarship Fund, the Earl Smith Books and Supplies Fund, academic programs and related training equipment, and student support services including the Mickey Marden Center for Student Success.

## **Cornerstone Society (\$10,000 or More)**

Lunder Foundation  
 Sukeforth Charitable Foundation

## **Heritage Club (\$5,000 - \$9,999)**

Central Maine Power Company  
 On Target Utility Services

## **President's Club (\$1,000 - \$4,999)**

Mr. Clarence "Chuck" Bickford  
 Borman Family Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Douglas A. Carnrick  
 Care & Comfort  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Clair  
 Colby College  
 Ms. Susan Comeau  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Dalton  
 Dr. and Mrs. Steve Diaz  
 Dr. and Mrs. Peter C. Doran  
 Franklin-Somerset Federal Credit Union  
 Goold Health Systems, Inc.  
 Dr. Michael and Dr. Margaret Griffin  
 Inland Hospital  
 Kennebec Savings Bank  
 Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Longstaff  
 Maine Community College System  
 Marden Realty  
 Mr. Tom Martin  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lester Jolovitz  
 Mayberry Builders  
 Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Megna  
 Mid-State Machine Products  
 Redington-Fairview General Hospital  
 Reisert Foundation  
 Sebasticook Valley Hospital  
 Spring Brook Ice & Fuel Company  
 Mr. Robert E. L. Strider  
 Mr. and Mrs. John T. Sutton  
 Ms. Alice Warren

## **Benefactor (\$500 - \$999)**

Bangor Savings Bank  
 Mr. Zlatko Necevski and Dr. Helen Bell-Necevski  
 Mr. and Mrs. Don Borman  
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bullock  
 Ms. Regina Coppens & Mr. Steven Buchsbaum  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Corey  
 Eagle Rental  
 GHM Agency, Inc.  
 Dr. Mark Harmon  
 Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Herling  
 Mr. and Mrs. Cass Hirschfeld  
 Kennebec Technologies  
 Ms. Barbara Larsson and Mrs. Ronald Slater  
 Madison Paper Industries

Dr. Lewis S. Maisel and Dr. Patrice Franko  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Marden  
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marden  
 Marden's Surplus & Salvage  
 Ms. Catherine Marden  
 Mr. and Mrs. Denis Normandin  
 Northeast Bank  
 Oak Grove Living Center  
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael Parker  
 Plum Creek  
 Ms. Tobi Schneider  
 Mr. Tirunellai Shanker  
 TD Bank  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Washburn  
 Waterville Housing Authority  
 Mr. Jimmie J. and Dr. Barbara Woodlee

## **Trustees' Club (\$250 - \$499)**

Ms. Barbara Allen and Mr. Lenny Reich  
 Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Boyink  
 Mr. Ryan Connon  
 Mr. and Mrs. Glen Davis  
 Downeast Energy  
 Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Farr  
 Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas G. Fox  
 Ms. Muriel Frye  
 G & E Roofing, Inc.  
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 Huhtamaki Foodservice, Inc.  
 Kennebec Federal Savings Bank  
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 Mr. David Leach  
 Ms. Carolyn McCaughley  
 Ms. Suzanne Uhl-Melanson and Mr. Jeffrey Melanson  
 Mr. C. Patrick Michaud  
 Mid-Maine Marine & RV, Inc.  
 Dr. Kathleen Moore  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Reisert  
 Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric Stram  
 Mr. Douglas Tatham  
 Ms. Gloria Taylor  
 Thirsty Mule Sports Bar  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ken Walsh  
 Ms. Sharon Woodward

## **Century Club (\$100 - \$249)**

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Baker  
 Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Beaupre  
 C.O. Beck & Sons, Inc.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Parker Beverage  
 Mr. Mark Bradstreet  
 Dr. Diane Brandt and Dr. David Landry  
 Ms. Judith Brody  
 Mr. Chuck Calkins  
 Cianbro Corporation  
 Mr. Stephen Hill and Ms. Candace Hill  
 Mr. and Mrs. Earl Coombs  
 Ms. Anne Connors  
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven Davis  
 Mr. Dana Doran



Ms. Lorraine Dufour  
 Ms. Sara Dyer  
 Mr. Michael Fitton  
 Dr. John Fitzsimmons  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Fletcher  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fletcher  
 Fortin's Home Furnishings  
 Fred's Vending  
 Ms. Maria Fuentes  
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gartley  
 Mr. Peter Godin  
 Ms. Kristie Grant  
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### **GIFTS OF EQUIPMENT, SERVICES & SOFTWARE**

The KVCC community gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their donations of equipment, contract services, and/or software. Their generosity helped the College to improve and support academic programs.

Blackdog Graphics  
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### **PROGRAMMATIC GRANTS**

The generosity of the following organizations is greatly appreciated. Their support assisted the College in offering innovative programs that help area high school students and adults prepare for and enroll in college, as well as in enhancing academic programs and student support services.

Betterment Fund  
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### **PROGRAMMATIC SPONSORSHIPS**

We gratefully acknowledge our hospital partners for their continued financial and clinical support for KVCC's Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Programs. Eastern Maine Medical Center  
 MaineGeneral Health  
 Penobscot Bay Medical Center  
 Seabasticook Valley Hospital



## Alumni Feature

*From the railroad to Information Technology, a career track made possible by KVCC*

Gerald "Gerry" Cates, '88, knows firsthand that education pays off, and he doesn't mind saying so.

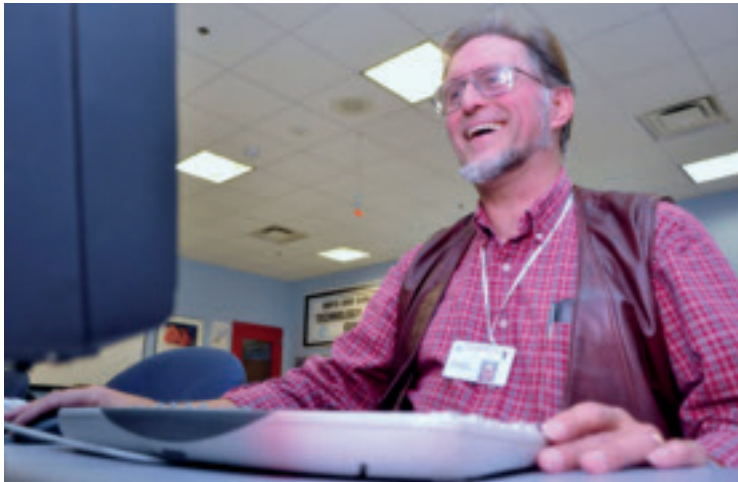
"Education absolutely pays, and I am living proof of that," Cates said recently during a break from his job as Information Technology Coordinator for Waterville's Alford Youth Center.

For anyone who doubts the value of education, Cates suggests listening to his story.

The 1988 graduate of Kennebec Valley Vocational Technical Institute (KVVTI) grew up in East Vassalboro in the 1950s and 1960s and admits he was "a mediocre student at best" during those years. He always thought he might go on to college at some point, but after he graduated from Erskine Academy he instead went to work for Maine Central Railroad.

The railroad provided good jobs in those days and Cates worked his way up to a position as a clerk by the 1980s. By that time, Maine Central Railroad had become part of Springfield Terminal Railway, and times for railway workers were getting tougher.

"We had two major strikes back in 1986 and 1987," Cates recalled. "One of them was six months and one of them was eight months, and I



looked at my job and everything that was going on and I thought - if we lose this strike where do I go to use my railroad experience?"

The answer seemed to be nowhere, so with time on his hands as the strike dragged on, Cates went to KVVTI, the school that would later become Kennebec Valley Community College, and discovered the Industrial Electronics program.

Industrial Electronics had just been expanded into a two-year associate degree program, and Cates was immediately impressed with both the instructors at the school and the program itself.

"The first half of the program was electrical and the second half was focused more on electronics," Cates recalled. "I've always been interested in that kind of stuff, I like working with my hands, and with all that KVVTI had to offer that was the program that fit what I liked the best."

As a clerk at the railroad Cates had also seen the rise in importance of computers and thought electronics skills might improve his employment prospects there and elsewhere, so he enrolled. When the strike ended he kept going, balancing work and education as so many other students at KVCC have had to do over the years.

Most people starting out in college are not sure they can be successful, and he was no exception, Cates said, noting he was 40 when he finally enrolled at KVVTI.

"At 40 years old you're not really sure you *can* make it in college, but the teachers I had were of such high quality I just literally had a blast going to school - they really made the learning fun," Cates said. "I enjoyed it so much I did really well and I got through that first year and then the next fall I was on strike again, so I went back and started the second year."

Again the strike ended with Cates handling a full-time course load at KVVTI, but again he kept going to finish his second year.

"I was actually in the first class that graduated from KVVTI with associate's degrees," Cates said. "I was very proud to be part of that first graduating class."

It did not take long for his degree to pay off.

"After those strikes, every year for the next five years I was laid off for six months," Cates said. "And every time I was laid off I went out and got another job basically on that degree."

Cates worked for a company in Skowhegan that developed software and computer systems for municipal clients. He worked for Transco. He worked for Bath Iron Works. Each time, he could not have gotten the job without the degree from KVVTI.

After that period, which was a time of decline for the railroad, Cates eventually faced a permanent layoff from his job as a clerk. Wanting to remain with the company, he inquired about a job in the signal department and was told he needed a two-year degree in an electrical or electronics field.

"I said here it is, I just earned it," Cates laughed. "Two weeks later I was working in the signal department, again directly because of the degree I got at KVVTI."

It was a fortunate move for Cates, allowing to him to extend his time of employment with the railroad to 21 years. In 1998 he injured his back, and with the required 20 years of service, qualified for disability payments after surgery.

As soon as he qualified, and with the railroad now no longer an option, Cates took his two-year degree to the University of Maine in Augusta and was told all his credits would transfer, giving him the first two years of a four year degree in computer information systems.

The ability to transfer credits from what is now the community college system to the state's university system is one of the best financial deals available, Cates said.

"It makes a ton of sense, because the classes are of equal quality but they are priced lower," Cates said. "That worked extremely well for me."

After earning his degree, Cates went to work for Hammond Lumber Company for three and a half years, during which time his earnings were too high to qualify for disability payments. Then in 2008 the economy faltered and he found himself out of work again. The disability payments resumed, and he looked for a part-time job to supplement them. The position as IT coordinator at the Alford Center was open, and he applied and was hired.

"It's a good position and there are great people here," Cates said. "I am it for IT, and believe me there's a lot more work than I can efficiently do myself, however I have excellent resources."

He enjoys the feeling of giving back to the community that comes from working at the Alford Center, and the position also puts him in direct contact with many children, and this offers the opportunity to share a bit of wisdom.

"Earning that two year degree turned out to be one of the best decisions I ever made," Cates said. "So I tell people today, especially young people if they questioning whether they should go on to school, I am living proof that education pays."

## Faculty Feature

(continued from page 6)

"In 1988, we offered two sections of anatomy and physiology," Englehart said. "Now it is not uncommon to offer 12 sections of the course."

The other most noticeable change over the years has been in technology, Englehart said.

"It amazes me how far we've come in terms of technology both in and out of the classroom," Englehart said. "I used a typewriter to create tests when I started here. Now our students use computers in the science laboratories for simulations, data collection and analysis."

With the acquisition of the former Thomas M. Teague Biotechnology Center this spring and its refit as a developing center of mathematics and science instruction for KVCC, Englehart has been busier than ever planning for the future of her department and the students it serves.

Englehart expects her own future to include seeing many long-term plans for KVCC's Math and Science Department come to fruition, but also foresees a day when she may no longer be at the front of the classroom, at least for awhile.

"I will probably go to back to school at some point. I'm ready to go back to school, I'm just not sure when and I haven't decided what I would study," Englehart said. "I always think it's important to remember what it is like on the other side of the desk."



## TriO program funded for five additional years

Lynn Raymond breathed a sigh of relief on August 6, 2010 when she heard that the TRiO Student Support Services Project at Kennebec Valley Community College had been funded for another five years.

Raymond, 58, began KVCC's Nursing Program this fall. Without the support and guidance offered by TRiO, that likely would never have happened, she said.

"I have no doubt in my mind that I wouldn't have made it this far without the TRiO program," Raymond said. "Coming back to school after so many years was frightening, but TRiO helped me over the rough spots and showed me that I have what it takes to be successful." Since being established at KVCC in 1993, the program has played a part in hundreds of success stories like Raymond's, giving qualifying students assistance with:

- Academic advising
  - Financial aid counseling
  - Professional learning with math, science, and writing courses
  - Study skills enhancement
  - Transfer to four-year colleges and universities
  - Career exploration
  - Advocacy and learning for students with disabilities
  - Opportunities to participate in social events and cultural activities
- TRiO programs are designed to help students prepare for, enter, and successfully complete college. These programs were established to provide educational opportunity to all Americans regardless of race, ethnic background, or economic circumstances.

Although any student can apply for the program, there are a limited number of openings each year. To be eligible a student must be enrolled in a certificate or degree program, have a need for program services and meet one of the following criteria:

- neither parent has a 4-year (Bachelors) degree, or
- meet federal income guidelines, or
- have a documented disability.

The news that KVCC's program had received \$293,864 in grant funding under the Department of Education's Student Support Services Program was announced by U.S. Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins.

KVCC President Barbara Woodlee praised the announcement and emphasized the importance of TRiO to the College and its students. "This is certainly exciting news for KVCC and our students because of the important role TRiO has played in so many success stories here," Woodlee said. "With an additional five years of funding we are confident many more will succeed in achieving their educational goals through our continued partnership with TRiO."

Woodlee also noted TRiO has just launched a new initiative called The Edge for first-year students who hope to study Nursing or an Allied Health Program at KVCC. Edge students attend summer workshops and fall semester study groups specifically designed to help them in their math and science courses. Additionally, they receive careful academic advising to ensure completion of the entrance requirements for these highly competitive KVCC programs.

KVCC TRiO Director Teresa Smith said program staff at KVCC pride themselves on being innovative and doing whatever it takes to help students succeed, and were elated to learn the Department of Education would continue funding TRiO at the College.

"Simply put, TRiO changes lives, and for the past 18 years, the staff of the TRiO Project has been committed to helping students gain opportunities through education," Smith said. "Ask any of my staff and they will tell you that they have the best job in the world. We go to work each day and know we make a difference. We're thrilled that we can continue to do so."



## Presidential search update

(continued from page 1)

person to continue President Woodlee's good work and the college's impressive momentum," he said.

President Barbara Woodlee, who announced her retirement earlier this year after more than 34 years of service to the college, will remain in her position through the end of December.

President Woodlee has postponed her planned retirement until the end of the year in order to give the search committee time to identify her successor. She originally intended to retire at the end of July after more than 34 years of service to the College, and Fitzsimmons thanked her for her willingness to delay that retirement in order to meet KVCC's leadership needs.

## KVCC receives Health Information Technology training grant, launches new Electronic Health Record Training

**Fairfield, ME** – Kennebec Valley Community College has been selected to participate in a nationwide effort to educate health care professionals in the latest electronic medical record-keeping systems in order to improve health care and lower costs.

The College is receiving approximately \$440,000 over two-years to offer three new non-credit six-month certificate programs in Health Information Technology (HIT). The programs are mostly online with some lab components. They are:

- Practice Workflow and Information Management Redesign Specialist
- Clinician/Practitioner Consultant
- Implementation Support Specialist

The cost of the certificate programs is very reasonable and scholarships are available in certain situations.

Standardization and modernization of health records has long been seen as a way of improving patient care and lowering costs. Maine has joined in this effort but faces challenges including hospitals that use incompatible records-keeping software and private practices limited by outdated technology or even paper records.

"The opportunities for improvement are significant, and thanks to our strong partnerships with area hospitals and our status as the only community college in Maine with a fully accredited Health Information Technology program, KVCC is ideally equipped to participate in this exciting initiative," KVCC President Barbara Woodlee said.

Megan Landry has been hired as the project coordinator. Landry holds a Baccalaureate degree in Nursing with 12 years experience and has five years experience working with electronic health records including several full cycle implementations.

Efforts to improve, implement, and unify electronic health records across the nation come under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, as part of activities to increase access to healthcare, protect those in greatest need, expand educational opportunities and modernize the nation's infrastructure.

ARRA funding for the effort is being provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under the direction of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC).

For more information on these programs contact Megan Landry at [mlandry@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:mlandry@kvcc.me.edu).



## Upgrades to KVCC web-site underway

(continued from page 1)

the next year as the SIS is fine-tuned and expanded. It will be a lengthy process, but most agree it is long overdue.

"A college web-site should constantly evolve to meet the needs of students, staff, faculty, and the community, and we are committed to seeing an upgrade of KVCC's site move forward over the next year," President Barbara Woodlee said. "Our new SIS was the first step in that process, and we will soon begin work on other portions of the site."

The new SIS centralizes a huge body of student information and college operations data that was formerly spread out across many departments, systems, and formats. With the current push toward increasing accountability and retention in education, getting a handle on such information is critical, according to KVCC Dean of Technology Ryan Connon.

"It's a move toward getting everything into one system and putting it on technology that's more supportable," Connon said. "Now we've got a framework that we can really build on."

Focus groups representing a cross-section of the KVCC community have been tasked with identifying improvements for the main web-site's appearance and functions. Once the process of gathering ideas is completed – hopefully by year's end – plans for designing and implementing changes will be made.





## Kennebec Valley Community College

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### **KVCC President Barbara Woodlee retiring this fall**

*(continued from page 1)*

Colleges, co-chair of the Maine Higher Education Partnership Steering Committee, and is a member of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation and the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, which presented her with its *Distinguished Community Service Award*.

Her selfless “never say no” penchant has also led her to serve as chair of the board of MaineGeneral Health, a director of the Mid-Maine Global Forum, and a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Maine at Farmington, which awarded her with its *Distinguished Alumni Award*.

Of the many honors she has received, none is more appropriately named than Thomas College’s *Inspirational Leadership Award* that so accurately reflects what her life has meant to those whose lives she’s touched. For while her own career was in the main unplanned, it is certain there are thousands of working men and women, throughout Maine and beyond, who are grateful for the course it took.

*The KVCC Foundation has established a scholarship to honor Barbara and those who would like to donate may send a check to the Foundation at 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937*

## **Kennebec Valley Community College**

Fall/Winter 2010

### **Important Dates**

November 25-27, 2010..... Thanksgiving Recess

December 15, 2010..... Fall term ends

January 10, 2011 ..... Spring semester begins

February 4, 2011 ..... Evening of Jazz Gala

February 21-26, 2011 ..... Winter Recess

April 4-9, 2011 ..... Spring Recess

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