

March 2014

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### College Transitions: A Look Back . . .



"While studying for my G.E.D. with Madawaska Adult Ed in 2008, I also enrolled in College Transitions. I then pursued a Bachelor's Degree at UMFK. I am now employed as a Residential Counselor at AMHC . . . The Adult Education programs **prepared me for success at the college level.**"

**Kass Michaud**

"The College Transitions Program gave me a **solid foundation on which to build.** Thank you! I originally studied nursing at NMCC and then transferred to Porter and Chester Institute in Sharon, CT. I graduated as an LPN . . . in 2013. I have been working as a nurse in Sharon, CT, since. I love my job!"

**Mary Pelletier**



"I joined College Transitions to succeed in college and get my degree. It made my transition so much easier and **gave me the confidence I needed to make this work** . . . I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Nursing from NMCC and am currently working as an RN at St. Joseph Nursing and Rehab in Frenchville and at Forest Hill Manor in Fort Kent."

**Jackie Lacourse Barriere**

"I joined College Transitions for the extra class time . . . At first, I saw Madawaska Adult Ed a barrier because I wanted to immediately enroll in college. **I soon realized how important and beneficial the Transitions classes [were].** . . They provided a sound foundation for college. I am a graduate of NMCC with an Associate's Degree in Plumbing & Heating. I was also honored as NMCC's "Student of the Year" in 2010. I am presently employed at County Plumbing & Heating in Caribou, ME."

**Bob Gagnon**



### YOUR FUTURE IS CALLING!

To learn more about College Transitions programming:

Madawaska Adult Education 728-6314



"I joined College Transition in 2009 because I wanted to better prepare myself for college . . . to become a nurse. Because I was **not a traditional student, my academic knowledge**

**needed to be refreshed** . . . I graduated from UMFK with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing in 2013 . . . I recently passed my nursing exam and am applying for positions in the medical field."

**Olena Yermak**

**DID YOU KNOW ?**

**Goal - College:**

Middle School students - 93% say yes;  
44% Enroll; 26% Graduate within 6 years



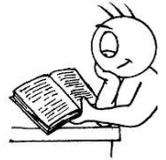
**Linda Roussel**





**DID YOU  
KNOW . . .**

Since 2012, the St. John Valley Small Business Seminar Series has served over 150 participants from 35 valley businesses.



### **College Transitions:**

**Have you ever said "I will go to college . . . Someday? Is now the time?"**



**Dan Bosse**

"Joining Adult Education's College Transitions was intimidating for me. I was out of work and looking to further my education, but it had been forever since I was in school and honestly was not looking forward to "playing school." This is where things get interesting. The teachers are not there to judge or fail you. They are there to help you succeed . . . **The classroom is a friendly atmosphere that is geared to get you ready for college . . .** Moving forward, this course really did get me ready to face the college environment, especially in the case of algebra and essays. I attended UMFK and earned a degree in Business Management. Although at times it was a struggle, I am not sure that I could have achieved what I did without the Madawaska Adult Ed courses and the help of its teachers. **They are always ready to lend a helping hand and to help you achieve your goals, even when you have that not-so-intelligent feeling.** I have since gotten rehired by the local mill in the offices. This is not possible without a college degree; a degree is not possible unless you are ready to face the challenges college life provides. Adult Education is that first stepping stone to launching your career. Do not be afraid to take advantage of what adult education has to offer and to tap into the resources the teachers have to give you. **After all, it is all about you.**

### **Customer Service: A St. John Valley Small Business Collaborative**

The **St. John Valley Career Pathways Initiative** is a 20-member group of local Adult Education programs, colleges, businesses, and local workforce development service providers. This collaborative offers day-long seminars, open to the public, that are focused on topics of need identified and targeted by valley employers. Seminars have also been designed to fit the needs of a particular business.

In the Spring 2014 session, curriculum was prepared for 2 workshops: **Customer Service: Becoming a Service Star** and **Human Resource Strategies for Small Businesses**. Key partners include Madawaska Adult & Community Education, MSAD #27 Adult & Community Education, the Local Workforce Investment Board, & the University of Maine at Fort Kent, who often hosts these seminars.

The Customer Service workshop, **Becoming a Service Star**, was held on February 5, marking the 13th seminar delivered by the Career Pathways Initiative in two years. There were 29 participants that represented 11 county businesses. Kelley Lizotte, a valley businesswoman who operates the Allagash Guide Service with her husband, facilitated this day-long workshop.

The next session, **Human Resource Strategies for Small Businesses**, will be facilitated by Richard Marston and held on March 26 at UMPI's Nadeau's Hall.



**NMCC Off-Campus  
Center  
Summer Schedule**

**\* Available for Early College**



High school Juniors & Seniors may be able to take a class tuition free & transfer credits to the college of their choice.

Call Merilda Plourde,  
the

Off-Campus Center advisor:

**551-5781**

#### **English Composition (ENG 111)**

Instructor: Jen Graham

Tuesday 6-9 PM 5/20 - 8/19

St. John Valley Tech. Center

Basic writing course intended to strengthen the student's ability to think logically and write clearly. The course will cover grammar, paragraphing, the essay and the research paper emphasizing revision.

**Classes are available to the public. Try a college class at a Community College price! \$86/credit**