STATE SENATOR KIBBIE HONORED AT STATEHOUSE EVENT

DMACC President Rob Denson speaks highly about State Senator Jack Kibbie (second from right) at a special event hosted by the Iowa Association of Community College Trustees (IACCT) at the Iowa Capitol honoring Kibbie, the man who many call “the Father of Iowa Community Colleges.” Others joining in the ceremony include (left to right) IACCT Executive Director M.J. Dolan, IACCT Board Chair Jan Lund and Kibbie’s wife, Kay. Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal, State Representative Linda Upmeyer and others also spoke at the event.

In 1966, Senator Kibbie sponsored the bill to create Iowa’s community colleges. He has continued to support our state’s community colleges for the past 46 years. Kibbie has announced he will not run for reelection in 2012.

DMACC STUDENTS MEET WITH AREA LEGISLATORS

DMACC Ankeny Campus students Gabriel DeLaCerda (second from left) of Urbandale, Michelle O’Connor of Williamsburg, Lexi Gabel (second from right) of Bondurant and Alyssa Wilson (right) of Bondurant pose for a photo at the Iowa Capitol with Ankeny Campus Student Activities Coordinator Erin Wheat (left) and Political Science Professor Bradley Dyke (fourth from left). Dyke and Wheat were showing the students the correct procedures for visiting with their legislators while at the statehouse. The students were able to meet one-on-one with several representatives and senators to talk about issues pertinent to Iowa’s community colleges.

SNAKES ALIVE—ANKENY CAMPUS

The DMACC Alumni Association is once again partnering with the Ankeny Campus Student Activities Office to host Snakes Alive, a fun and educational program about reptiles the whole family will enjoy. Mark your calendar for Sun., Feb. 5, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. #5 on the Ankeny Campus to spend an afternoon with the reptiles.
GOVERNOR DESIGNATES FEBRUARY AS OPPORTUNITY IOWA MONTH

DMACC President Rob Denson (second from left) speaks prior to Iowa Governor Terry Branstad (seated) signing a proclamation declaring February as “Opportunity in Iowa” month. Others taking part in the ceremony include (left to right) Iowa Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds, Denson, Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines CEO Barry Griswell, National Executive Director of Opportunity Nation Mark Edwards, AARP State Director Kent Sovern and DMACC Board member Kevin Halterman.

Opportunity Nation is a national, bipartisan campaign that includes hundreds of public and private sector leaders, celebrities and others from across the country who are focusing their collective attention on reenergizing the American Dream. Their bottom line is that the ZIP code a person is born into shouldn’t predetermine their future.

President Denson’s DMACC trailer is wrapped with the Opportunity Nation logo. Denson drove the vehicle to the Iowa Capitol where (left to right) Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates (IJAG) President/CEO Laurie Phelan, National Executive Director of Opportunity Nation Mark Edwards, Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines CEO Barry Griswell, Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, Iowa Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds, Denson, State Senator Scott Raecker and AARP State Director Kent Sovern pose for a photo.

Denson and Griswell were part of an Iowa delegation that launched Opportunity Nation in New York in November.

ICCAC NAMES COLEMAN STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

The Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) has named DMACC sophomore Joscelyn Coleman of Shenandoah, Scholar-Athlete of the Week for the week of Jan. 25. On Jan. 21, Coleman, a forward, led the Bears to a 73–57 win over North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) with 18 points and 11 rebounds. Coleman is averaging 12 points and eight rebounds a game in helping DMACC to a 15–4 record overall and a 4–2 mark in the ICCAC.

Coleman also excels in the classroom. She is majoring in liberal arts and carries a 3.6 grade-point average. Coleman plans to continue her academic and athletic career at a four-year college or university.
G.M. DONATES VEHICLE TO DMACC’S AUTOMOTIVE PROGRAM

DMACC Automotive Service Education Program (ASEP) students stand next to a 2012 Buick LaCrosse that General Motors is donating to DMACC’s ASEP program so the students can learn about the latest technology on today’s G.M. vehicles. The 15 ASEP students will graduate in May. The Buick, with an estimated value of $42,500, is equipped with a six-cylinder engine that uses a spark-ignited injection system, some of the automotive industry’s most current technology.

JOB OPENINGS

Orientation Coordinator, Ankeny Campus

Bookstore Specialist I, Urban Campus
Application Deadline: Feb. 5, 2012

If interested in the above positions, please visit this DMACC website: http://jobs.dmacc.edu.

BLOOD DRIVE—ANKENY CAMPUS

The DMACC Blood Drive is coming up on Feb. 10 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Quiet Lounge at Student Lounge—Bldg. #5. Blood donors are needed to make lifesaving donations. Your donation of just one pint of blood could help save the lives of up to three different hospital patients.

Schedule your appointment to save a life today! Click on the following link: https://www.donorsaves.org/index.cfm?group=op&expand=20039&zc=50021 or call LifeServe Blood Center at 800-287-4903.

THANK YOU

A HUGE “thank you” to all my wonderful friends at DMACC for the cards, emails, phone calls, gift cards and the awesome candy bouquet following my emergency surgery on Christmas Day. I would also like to thank everyone in the Industry and Technology Department for your understanding as I missed the first two weeks of spring semester. Your care, concern and friendship truly helped in my recovery!!!

Sincerely, Sue LaZella
PIONEERS CONNECTION

FEBRUARY MEETING

At 11:30 a.m. on Thur., Feb. 9, in the Oak Room, Bldg. #7 on the Ankeny Campus, please join us to celebrate Valentine’s Day as we treat all DMACC Pioneers to a special lunch in the Bistro. This will be an informal social meeting and a time to catch up with your Pioneer family as we share our heartfelt memories. There will be a board meeting at 10 a.m. Please call in your reservations at 515-964-6868.

THANKS TO

Lyla Maynard (Pioneer Vice President) for heading up the January meeting. The Viticulture instructors, Randall Voss and Michelle Rodgers, were there to enlighten the group on the wine production program at DMACC.

FINAL NOTES

We just finished up a weekend at a high school class reunion in Santa Barbara with my "old" classmates who live out here and those who traveled here to escape the Des Moines 50s! WOW! It is beautiful out here, too. Gas prices exceed $4 a gallon though and all of the signs and buildings are under a strict code to look alike. I’m looking forward to reconnecting with my "old" friends at the February meeting at DMACC.

Pioneer President, Dee Johnson—Traveling
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515-710-2298