VETERANS HONORED AT NEWTONCampus

Iowa Army National Guard Colonel Gregory Hapgood (right) presents a plaque to Marvin Sobotka of Diagonal for participating in the Veterans History Project held November 7 on the DMACC Newton Campus. Sobotka and 15 other veterans were interviewed about their wartime experiences. These interviews were transcribed by members of the Iowa Court Reporters Association. Transcripts and video recordings of the interviews will become an official record in the Library of Congress. Transcripts will also be provided to the Iowa Gold Star Museum in Johnston, Iowa, and added to the DMACC Library collection. Sobotka was in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served in World War II. Following the interviews, the veterans and their guests were honored during an awards luncheon held on the DMACC Newton Campus.

The 16 veterans who were interviewed include: (left to right) Jean Gillaspey, Dean Ward, Daniel Colbert, Robert Reynolds, Donald Polzin, Charles Frederick Kuntz, Donald Gildersleeve, Brian Pfeiler, Donald Hummel, Michael Murphy, Edward Pagliai, Noel Friday, Virgil (Ted) Johnson, Wayne Shireman, James Adkins and Marvin Sobotka.
Christopher Lopez of Mad Science of Iowa demonstrates a chemistry experiment leading to a booming explosion at the recent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Festival held in the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Nearly 650 people attended the free, family-friendly event.

Hannah Kittelson (right) from the Blank Park Zoo speaks on the zoo’s “Plant, Grow, Fly” program to some of the attendees at the STEM Festival. Presenters from local businesses, high schools, colleges and student and professional groups were on hand at the two-hour interactive festival.

DMACC Physics students Brandon Campbell (second from left) of Bondurant, Sory Soumare, originally from Mali, Africa and now living in Des Moines, and Garrett Witzenburg of Altoona assist with a demonstration at the STEM festival.
STEM FESTIVAL AT ANKENY CAMPUS (CONTINUED)

Cindy Hall (left) of the Iowa Ag Literacy Foundation helps youngsters conduct an experiment to see if germinating soybean seeds can generate enough force to crack plaster of Paris. She was one of the 139 presenters at the STEM Festival.

DMACC first-year University College Transfer (UCT) students Madison Miller (left to right) of Woodward, Hannah Downey of Johnston and Alexis Slade of Waukee volunteer at the UCT booth at the recent STEM Festival.

DMACC Ankeny Campus Honors Student Danielle Christofferson of Ankeny works with DMACC Chemistry Professor Chandana Karunatilaka on a demonstration at the STEM Festival.

A group of middle school girls apparently enjoy their free backpacks handed out at the STEM festival.

Middle School Students sporting DMACC STEM backpacks.
HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

DMACC Dean of Health and Public Services, Sally Schroeder (right) does the “Happy Dean” dance with Ankeny Campus Student Activities Council (SAC) Officer Randy Chestnut for winning the faculty/staff division of the annual SAC Halloween Costume Contest. Schroeder, in costume as Pharrell Williams, took part in her tenth consecutive DMACC SAC Halloween Costume Contest.

DMACC Ankeny Campus student Andrew Tressell of Ankeny won the student competition and a $50 gift certificate for dressing up as Stephen Hawking.

Cole Johnson of Maxwell took second place and received a $35 gift certificate for portraying “Slender Man.”

Jasmine Smith of Correctionville dressed up as a “scarecrow” and captured third place and a $25 gift certificate.
DMACC CARROLL CAMPUS FALL FESTIVAL

Brooks Anderson, son of Lindsey Anderson of Carroll, shows his dance moves at the recent DMACC Carroll Campus Fall Festival.

Seven-year old Kaia Neumann of Carroll decorates a pumpkin at the event. There was also free face painting, cookies and cider for anyone who attended the free event.

HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ON THE ANKENY CAMPUS

Several DMACC staff members from Bldg. #1 on the Ankeny Campus donned their best costumes on Halloween. Admissions Record Specialists April Leach (left to right), Jo Lorenzen and Linette Connell came to work as the “Three Blind Mice.” Yes, that is the bloody remnants of a former tail.
HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ON THE ANKENY CAMPUS (CONTINUED)

Over in registration, the staff dressed up as farmers. Those participating included: Andrea Jacobsen (left to right, front row) and Meridel Weitz, June Weltha (back row, left to right), Kris Keller, Carol Bethards and Charity Watson.

Veteran Services Coordinator Don Enright dressed as a marathon runner.

The Information Desk area supported a feline-look. Dressing as “Psychedelic Kitties” were Lisa Olk (left to right), Jill Ryan, Megan Ueltschy, Ashlie Lee, Jenn Ewalt and Sherry Dianne holding the pumpkin.

Trolls were found wandering on the east side of Bldg, #1. Academic Records and Operations Specialist Stacey Green (left to right), Academic Records Specialist 1 Ida McIntyre, Credentials/Graduation Specialist Karen Fieg, Credentials/Graduation Specialist Megan Mohrhauser, Academic Records Specialist 2 Kim Spitzig and Credentials/Graduation Specialist Kerri Yost wore the brightly colored wigs throughout the day.
DMACC EXHIBIT AT FFA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

DMACC President Rob Denson led a delegation that included Business-Ag Professors Craig McEnany and Dwayne Faidley, along with eight DMACC students to the National FFA Convention and Expo held last week at the Louisville Expo Center in Louisville, KY. The national conference drew 60,000 people from FFA chapters, high schools and colleges from all over the country. This year’s theme was “The Future of Agriculture” and included workshops on Food Science, Pest Management and Elements of Innovation, among many others. President Denson said many of the students who stopped by the DMACC exhibit were particularly interested in DMACC’s Ag, Welding and Diesel programs.

DMACC HOSTS 2014 EXPLORE ADVANCED MANUFACTURING FAIR

DMACC second-year Industrial Electro-Mechanical Technology student Eric Sinnwell (left) of Des Moines visits with DeeZee Human Resources Assistant Lacey Leichliter at the 2014 Explore Advanced Manufacturing Career & College Fair held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Representatives from 16 central Iowa businesses were on hand for the four-hour event.

DMACC first-year Computer Aided Design Technology student Matt Claus (right) of Des Moines visits with Accumold Human Resources Coordinator Mindy Fritz at the 2014 Explore Advanced Manufacturing Career & College Fair held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Nearly 150 people attended the event.
NETHERLANDS YEAR PRESENTATION

Dordt College Emeritus Professor of English and Author James Schaap delivered a Netherlands Year presentation on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. His presentation was titled: "Creeping Treachery: The Nazi Occupation, the ‘Dejudification’ of the Netherlands, and the Legacy of the Holocaust.” He said 100,000 Jewish citizens from the Netherlands died at the hands of the Nazis. He said the Netherlands suffered the highest percentage of Jews killed among all European countries in World War II.

VISITORS FROM KAZAKHSTAN LEARN ABOUT CONSTRUCTION

A delegation of nine construction professionals and vocational educators from Kazakhstan visited with a team of DMACC administrators in the Maple Room on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. The Iowa International Center (IIC) is hosting the delegation for a three-week program called Community Connections. The delegation is in Iowa to learn about construction and volunteerism. They listened to Scott Ocken, Dean of Technology and Industry; Jenny Foster, Associate Dean of Technology and Industry; Erin Smith, Coordinator of Student Activities; Jeremy Austin, Academic Advisor for DMACC’s Building Trades program; and Tara Connolly, Foundation Executive Director.

Later in the day, the delegation from Kazakhstan received some hands-on experience in construction and volunteerism at the Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity and DMACC Youthbuild program construction site at 1408 Hutton in Des Moines. Some of the delegation gained experience in caulking, while others were shingling.
AMERICAN LEGION OF IOWA MAKES DONATION TO DMACC FOUNDATION

D.J. Hall (center), Sixth District Vice Commander of the American Legion of Iowa, hands a $2,000 check to Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Foundation Board Treasurer Mike Grandgeorge (left) and DMACC Foundation Finance Manager David Abegglen. The donation will provide scholarships to veterans attending DMACC’s “One Book, One College, One Community” project. More than 1,600 copies of the book are being used in 75 classrooms across DMACC’s six campuses and five learning centers. The book was on the New York Times best seller’s list for 31 weeks. The book, and later an award-winning movie, depicted an eyewitness account of the death penalty in the United States. Sister Prejean also spoke at the DMACC Boone Campus.

Sister Helen Prejean (right) signs a copy of her book, “Dead Man Walking,” for second-year Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Criminal Justice student Kate Merrell of Norwalk following her presentation at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. More than 400 people attended Sister Prejean’s presentation, which was part of DMACC’s “One Book, One College, One Community” project. More than 1,600 copies of the book are being used in 75 classrooms across DMACC’s six campuses and five learning centers. The book was on the New York Times best seller’s list for 31 weeks. The book, and later an award-winning movie, depicted an eyewitness account of the death penalty in the United States. Sister Prejean also spoke at the DMACC Boone Campus.

AUTHOR VISITS URBAN CAMPUS

Rebecca Janni, an author of six books, including the children’s book series, Every Cowgirl, speaks at the DMACC Urban Campus. She encourages writers to find other writers to work with and if working on a children’s book, keep illustration notes to a minimum. Janni said nearly every editor she has worked with asks her to add humor, add conflict and cut the word count.
MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL AT THE URBAN CAMPUS

Amer Mohammad (left) and Wissam Jeber, both second-year DMACC Urban Campus students living in Des Moines and originally from Iraq, serve food to DMACC Urban Campus Liberal Arts student Stephanie Tobeshat of Des Moines at the Multicultural Festival recently held at the DMACC Urban Campus. Hundreds of students enjoyed the ethnic food, fashion show and exhibits at the Multicultural Festival.

Norwalk resident Kendra Sinn (left), who is taking the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) from the DMACC Urban Campus, receives a scoop of noodles from first-year DMACC Nursing student Khu Soe of Des Moines. Soe is originally from Thailand. Soe was serving food at the Multicultural Festival held at the DMACC Urban Campus.

DMACC Urban Campus student Manal Alhalaki, originally from Yemen and now living in Des Moines, adds a henna tattoo to the arm of Tamara Thaleefa of Des Moines. Thaleefa is originally from Iraq. The activity took place at the Multicultural Festival recently held on the DMACC Urban Campus.

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL AT THE URBAN CAMPUS (CONTINUED)

DMACC Urban Campus student Ernestine Lumeh of Des Moines poses in a colorful outfit from her native country of Sierra Leone at the Multicultural Festival recently held on the DMACC Urban Campus.

DMACC Urban Campus student Nazret Shadin of Des Moines also models clothing from her native country of Eritrea at the Multicultural Festival recently held on the DMACC Urban Campus.

AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND CAREER DISCOVERY DAY EVENT

DMACC Urban Campus Surgical Technology Professor Betty Baker (left) gives an operating room demonstration to Des Moines East High School student Katy Gregg, Des Moines Roosevelt student Tazeion Doyle and Des Moines East High School student Robert Kokke. The students were attending a Career Discovery Day event at the DMACC Urban Campus.
DMACC INFORMATIVE SPEECH CONTEST WINNERS

DMACC students recently competed in the annual informative speech contest held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Aalyshah Zaragoza (left to right) of Ankeny and her dog, Indie, won the contest. Her speech was on therapy dogs. Zaragoza received a $100 gift certificate from the DMACC Foundation for winning the contest. Other place winners include: Cassidy Brown (second from left, left to right) of Ellsworth in second place, Karey King of Des Moines in third, Kimberly Stratton of Des Moines in fourth, Sarah Pearson of Johnston in fifth and Madison Noble of Ankeny in sixth. The second place finisher received a $50 gift certificate, third place received $30 and fourth through sixth each received a $20 gift certificate.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Kendra Everest is the new Student Services Specialist at the Urban Campus. Her phone number is 697-7763.

She earned an A.A. in Business Administration from Hawkeye Community College, a B.A. in Marketing/ Business Communication from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master’s degree in Higher Education from Iowa State University.

Kendra previously worked at Hawkeye Community College in Recruitment and Admissions.

Kenda enjoys sports, particularly soccer, art, swimming and spending time outside.
NEW EMPLOYEES (CONTINUED)

Erin Lee is the new Web Development/Marketing Specialist in the Marketing and Public Relations Department. Her phone number is 964-6486.

She received an A.A.S. degree from DMACC in Graphic Design with a Web Emphasis.

Prior to coming to DMACC, Erin had a cleaning business in the Des Moines area. She has worked at hotels and wrote a book, trying to become a published fiction writer. She said that wasn’t working, so at age 28, she went back to school.

She is single and has a cat named, Gemma.

Erin said she has a dream to be a fine artist and sell her work. She owns an easel and many supplies, which sit unused while she watches TV and checks Facebook.

Michael Maddalozzo joins DMACC as a Facilities Supervisor on the Urban Campus. His phone number is 248-7215.

He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Construction Management from Western Illinois University.

Michael previously worked as a Valve Analysis Engineer at NTN-Bower, a Construction Superintendent with United Contractors Midwest and as a sergeant in the U.S. Army for eight years.

He and his wife, Cassandra, have an 11-year-old daughter, Nallana, an eight-year-old son, Joseph, and an 18-month-old son, Elijah.

Michael enjoys working with Boy Scouts, assisting kids with martial arts, physical fitness and teaching firearms safety courses.
NEW EMPLOYEES (CONTINUED)

Tamara McLaughlin rejoins DMACC has a Scheduling Assistant at the Urban Campus. Her phone number is 248-7205.

She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology and Spanish from Central College. She previously worked at Central College as an Assistant to the Director of Study Abroad. Prior to that, she worked as a Library Specialist for five years at the DMACC Urban Campus.

Tamara and her fiancé live in Urbandale. She enjoys taking walks, antiquing, reading and playing with her six-year-old niece.

Donald Paul is the new Custodian on the Urban Campus. His phone number is 953-8402.

He is working on his A.A. degree in Business Administration.

Donald has previously worked at DMACC on the part-time over-night custodial crew.

He is married with a 24-year-old daughter and a 22-year-old son.

Donald enjoys spending time outdoors hunting, fishing, playing with his border collies, having friends and family over for BBQ. He is also an avid Hawkeye fan.
NEW EMPLOYEES (CONTINUED)

Nicole Stepleton Hardin has been hired as a full-time Academic Advisor on the Urban Campus. Her phone number is 248-7234.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies from Iowa State University and a Masters in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, also from ISU.

Nicole previously worked as a Career Coach for Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) and as an adjunct faculty member at the Urban Campus working with new student orientation, academic advising and the testing center.

She and her husband, T.J., have three kids, a seven-year-old boy and twin two-year-old girls.

Nicole enjoys sporting events, spending times with her family and attending any cultural events the area has to offer.

J. Alex Thompson is the new Nursing Instructor at the Newton Campus. His phone number is (641) 791-1736.

He earned a B.A. from Hendrix College, an M.Ed. from the University of Arkansas, a BSN from Indiana State University and a Master's in Nursing from Indiana State University.

Alex previously worked as the Clinical Educator/Staff Development Coordinator at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

He and his partner, Andrew Conner, have a two-year-old son.

Alex is a St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan, who also enjoys cooking, boating and reading.
NEW EMPLOYEES (CONTINUED)

Kerri Yost joins DMACC as a Credentials/Graduation Specialist on the Ankeny Campus. She can be reached at 965-7354.

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations from Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL, and is working on her Master of Public Administration degree from Drake University.

Kerri previously worked at Black Hawk College in Moline, IL, and at Ashford University in Clinton.

Kerri is single and has ten brothers and sisters.

She enjoys watching and playing baseball and softball, watching movies, listening to music, running obstacle races and 5Ks, and spending time with her family.

JOB OPENINGS

Academic Advisor, Urban Campus
Application Deadline: Nov. 16, 2014

If interested in the above position, please visit the DMACC website at http://jobs.dmacc.edu.
PIioneer Connection

Share Your Story
With our 2016 DMACC 50th Anniversary coming up, starting in 2015 we are seeking your personal stories about your time at DMACC. You can find a simple and easy-to-use form to fill out on the DMACC web site at dmacc.edu/pioneers or just write down your story and send it in to us.

December Meeting:
Once again, the Pioneers will team up with the DMACC Board of Directors to celebrate at our Annual Holiday Party. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for treats and fun on Monday, December 8, in the Lakeview - Building 7, Ankeny campus from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To all Pioneers: Start Baking & planning to bring your Holiday Favorites.

November is the time for families and friends to gather in celebration of Thanksgiving. May you and yours have a Wonderful Thanksgiving.

Dee Johnson
Past President & Communication Director - Pioneers