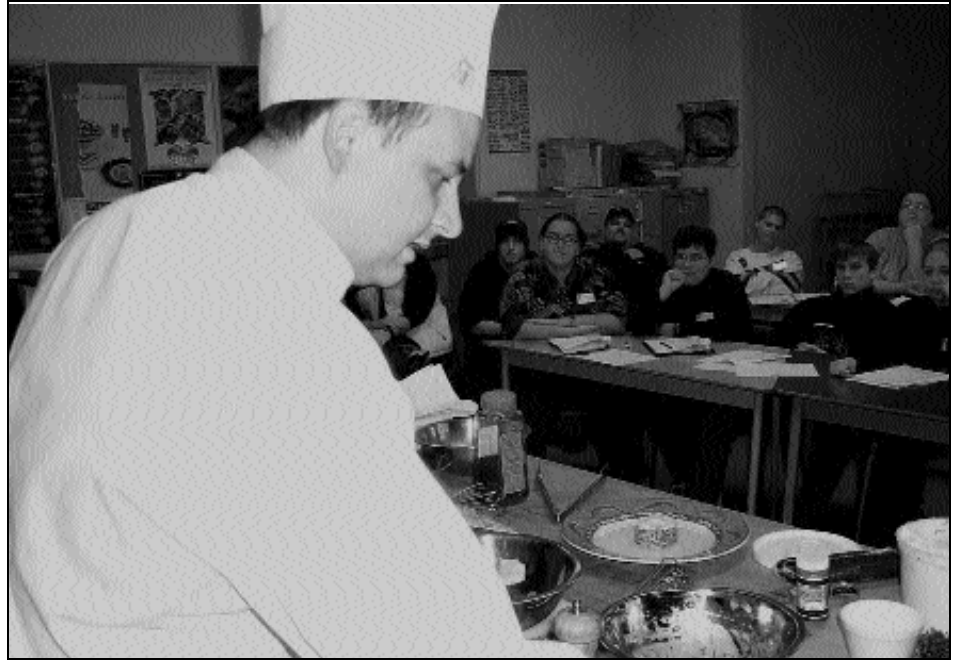


Instructor elected to CAYC board

Dr. Wayne Eastman, an instructor at the Corner Brook campus, was elected as a national director for the Canadian Association for Young Children during their annual general meeting which took place in Calgary, Alberta in April. He is only the third Newfoundlander to be elected to this position in the association's 27-year history.

The Canadian Association for Young Children (CAYC) is the only national association specifically concerned with the well-being of children, birth through age nine at home, in preschool settings and at school. Members of the multidisciplinary association include parents, teachers, early childhood educators, administrators, students and all those wishing to share ideas and participate in activities related to the education and welfare of young children.

The CAYC Board of Directors is composed of a president, past-president, and three national directors as well as one provincial director from each province and territory. The Executive Committee is composed of the president, past-president and three national directors who manage the day-to-day business of the corpora-



What's for dinner?

Dean Byrne, chef at the Fairmont Hotel in St. John's, was at College of the North Atlantic's Bay St. George campus recently to help deliver a full-day seminar on various cooking methods. Also taking part in the seminar was Chef Bill King from the Deer Lake Motel. More than 40 people attended the seminar.

tion and report to the Board. Dr. Eastman's election as national director took place in Calgary at the annual general meeting of CAYC in April.

In a related matter, Dr. Eastman has also been invited to present a paper on School Readiness at the fourth World Forum on Early Child Care and Education being held in Auckland, New Zealand in April of next year. This is the second year in a row Dr. Eastman has been asked to present at this prestigious international event.

What's Inside

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Stranded passenger donates \$750 scholarship

By Glenda McCarthy

One of the passengers from a plane diverted to Stephenville during the September 11 terrorist attacks has donated a \$750 scholarship to the College of the North Atlantic's Bay St. George campus.

Jim Crane of Atlanta contacted the college to donate a \$500 US cheque for any scholarship the college chooses.

In a letter he wrote to Associate District Administrator Cyril Organ, Crane expressed his astonishment at the treatment he received while stranded.

"During my short stay at the College of the North Atlantic, I was treated far beyond what I would have ever expected in situations like this to make my stay as comfortable as possible."

In his letter, Mr. Crane sent a special thank-you to students for giving their rooms, giving a free concert, and for their kindness. He also sent a thank-you to Organ for his constant work to make sure everyone's needs were met.

Crane says the scholarship was a way he could express his gratitude for the students' willingness to help strangers out on a moment's notice.

"This was a personal gift from me to express my gratitude for the fantastic hospitality I was afforded during my stay at your college," says Crane.

"In some small way, I wanted to say thank you to a great group of people that took in complete strangers to make us comfortable in our time of stress and need."

Organ says he was surprised to hear someone would like to reward the college for helping people in need.

"We didn't expect anything from anyone but the cards of thanks and the letters have been coming in, and it seems like people appreciated what we did to help," he says.

"We certainly didn't expect money. This came completely out of the blue, but it's greatly appreciated and we'll put it to great use."

Students win awards at NAMRT conference

Students from the Medical Radiography program attended the National Association of Medical Radiography Technicians conference held in May.

Several awards were presented during the conference including one to former student Robin Normore for winning the essay competition. Normore's essay was entitled "Darkroom Disease: Fact or Fiction."

Kenneth Ralph of Port de Grave was given the NAMRT 50th anniversary Academic Achievement Award for having the highest Grade Point Average in the second year of the Medical Radiography program.

Melanie Murphy from Parker's Cove was the winner of the Student Paper award for her entry "The Invisible Enemy – Occupational Radiation Exposure to St. Lawrence Miners."

And Nicole Budgell of St. John's accepted the Best Student Exhibit award for the class exhibit "Caught in the Web", an electronic directory of URLs related to the field of medical radiography.



Left - Jacqueline Lundrigan (sitting) and Chantelle Wall, both Medical Radiography students, demonstrate educational software currently being employed in Medical Radiography program delivery at the college during the NAMRT conference. Right - The NAMRT and the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Radiologists purchased a new computer for the MRT program at College of the North Atlantic. From left are Clarence Coffin, RTR, provincial director of NAMRT, Cheryl Snooks from Corner Brook, an MRT student, and Dr. R. Reddy, FRCP(R), advisory committee chair and honorary NAMRT member.

At the end of the conference the national and provincial associations joined together to purchase a new computer for the college's MRT program.

Topsail Road campus holds reunion

Thursday, October 25, was a busier than usual day at the college's Topsail Road campus in St. John's. Even the students could tell there was something in the air, for both faculty and staff were noticeably excited and more than a little preoccupied, albeit for totally legitimate reasons.

In the spring of 2000, it had been announced that a new \$6 million wing of the Prince Phillip Drive campus was to become home to the college's Health Sciences programs, and today was the day that a plan which had been in the making for months was about to come together - a Topsail Road campus reunion! The general office staff had done their homework on this one, and invitations had been sent to literally anyone who had ever set foot over the doorstep of TRC.

Gerry Crewe and his students of the commercial cooking apprenticeship program had agreed to cater the event. Tables, chairs, refrigerators, hot food trolleys, bar supplies and balloons were all marshalled together under the watchful eye of campus ADA Dr. Donna Henderson. All hands pitched in to make last minute preparations for the big event. By 4 p.m. things were "good to go" and the first guests began to trickle in. By 5 p.m. the corridor, staff lounge and library were overflowing with invited guests who had come to renew old acquaintances and say a final goodbye to the old building.

After a superb buffet supper, Dr. Henderson entertained those present with a trip down memory lane, highlighting the various college names, past presidents, TRC directors, programs and special events over the years. The many different proposals to relocate the TRC programs were the source of much good-natured ribbing, and a glimpse of the new facility brought cheers from



Above left - Everybody lent a hand getting the Topsail Road campus ready for the reunion.



Above right - Past and present Nursing Assistant instructors had a blast at the Topsail Road campus reunion. Below - Andrea Foote and Mike Pelley sample some of the great food prepared by Gerry Crewe and his students at the TRC reunion.



everyone. Moya Cahill, chair of the college's Board of Governors, Pam Walsh, president and Dr. Ron Sparkes, past college president, also addressed the gathering. Dr. Sparkes highlighted the significant role played by Dr. Vince Withers, former board chair, in obtaining the funding for the move.

The entire evening from start to finish was a stellar event, with hugs and laughter and storytelling a part of each encounter (not to mention photo ops galore!). As the evening wound to a close, a shared sense of past accomplishments merged with sincere wishes for all future endeavors of the Health Sciences programs as they make final preparations to take up residence in their much anticipated, much deserved new home.

Sold!

Marion Cheeks' documentary bought by CBC/Vision TV

It is Sunday afternoon on the waterfront in St. John's, October 21. A beautiful day with the sun shining and a warm breeze blowing on us as we sit on the low concrete wall, chatting amongst ourselves, waiting to go inside the colourful doors of Eastern Edge Gallery. We're watching our friend Marion Cheeks, an English as a Second Language instructor with the college, walk toward us with uncharacteristic speed and spring.

And then, finally, the doors of the gallery opened on the Women's Film Festival and one audience left to make room for another. Marion Cheeks' documentary *Now It's Our Turn: Spirit of the Labrador Creative Arts Festival* was ready to begin. We were not aware that we were about to see the colours of emotion, hope, life, love, and spirit painted on the screen in the textures and hues of the young people of Labrador. For many, this would be a very moving experience. Many of us left with a better appreciation of the fragility of the human spirit and a pride in the strength of it. I

think it was the "human-ness" of the film that was its success - and its biggest risk.

This heartwarming documentary has been sold to both Vision TV and CBC. It is the story of the young people of Labrador and their Creative Arts Festival which has been delighting audiences, including themselves - the young people of Sheshatshit, Nain, Hopedale, Davis Inlet, Makkovik, Goose Bay, and Labrador City - for 25 years.

"Why, Marion?", I asked as the final editing process was taking place, the bloodshot eyes now carrying their own baggage. Why do it?

"I like the story and I like the medium of film," she replies. "I like how versatile film is and I felt I needed to do this particular story. I think it is an important story because it (the festival) impacts directly on the people; I think, perhaps, that the festival now helps shape the community, as compared to the early years when the community 'made' the festival. Also, I think the time was right

See Sold! on 5

Placentia programs accredited

On September 17, Mervin Andrews, Chair of the Provincial Apprenticeship Board, presented the Placentia campus with Accreditation certificates for three of its industrial trades programs.

Programs receiving this accreditation status are Heavy Equipment Service Technician, Millwright and Machinist. A fourth program, Welding, is currently involved in the accreditation process.

The purpose of apprenticeship accreditation is to provide an auditing mechanism to ensure that provincial apprenticeship training programs are meeting requirements set down by the Provincial Accreditation and Certification Board (PACB).

The objectives of apprenticeship accreditation are to ensure that programs conform to the standards as identified in the National Occupational Analysis and reflected in the Provincial Plans of Training established for specific occupations, and that graduates have the required level of competence to enter the industry job market. Placentia campus programs are meeting these standards.



In September several programs at the Placentia campus received accreditation. Taking part in the accreditation ceremony were, from left, Ed Costello, Heavy Equipment Service Technician instructor, Mervin Andrews, Chair of the Provincial Apprenticeship Board, Gerald O'Reilly, ADA Placentia campus, Darrel Evely, Machinist Advanced instructor, Gord Jewer, Machinist Entry instructor and Walter Thorne, Millwright Entry instructor. Missing are Al Healey, Millwright Advanced instructor and Ray Collier, Millwright instructor.

Sold! continued from 5

for me. I have done a lot of theatre, especially the production and direction aspects, and some film work, and of course workshops and courses in film. I was lucky, too, to have had the opportunity to take a leave of absence from the college to go off and do something totally unrelated to my work there. Stop looking at the bags under my eyes!"

At the Labrador Arts Festival, all the plays and presentations in the annual event are written and performed by the students; teachers are mentors only, for the most part. Marion believes that this festival allows the young people of Labrador the opportunity to explore their communities and issues, and to become articulate in theatre and arts, and on community issues and social history. In thinking back to the early years of the festival, when she was teaching in Hopedale, she can see the impact of this unique event on the people of Labrador. The full community is behind the student efforts for this event and it is quickly becoming a tradition in the communities, a community event, not a school event. Marion's documentary shows just how far a good idea can go toward breaking down the social and cultural barriers that can be felt when living in isolated communities.

"I had quite a wonderful teaching experience in Hopedale in the early 80's. My background is theatre, and my students' participation in the early years of this Labrador festival were a large part of that positive experience. When I returned to Labrador for the 20th anniversary celebration of the Creative Arts Festival in Goose Bay in 1995, I recognized the impact that the festival had on the participating young people, but also on the communities that they represented."

Marion started the project in 1995, collecting film and video footage from archives and starting her own filming of the Creative Arts Festival in Labrador.

One of the things that will strike you as you view the documentary is the high level of articulation of these young people on the issues and concerns that they have about their lives and their communities, sometimes, unique because they are specific to (some) isolated parts of Labrador; many other times, they are problems that are common to young people anywhere in the world. Marion believes that this high level of articulation is due in large part to the opportunities afforded by the festival.

Bonavista Awards Night



Several students at the Bonavista campus received awards recently. Left photo, Rhonda McNamara (right) received the Sylvia Ford Memorial Award for proficiency in keyboarding, from Lynn Cuff, coordinator of Student Services for District 4. Top right, Connie Street was the winner of the Governor General's Medal for Placentia campus. Ms. Cuff, also presented the award. Bottom right, Corina Ryder was the winner of the Howard Little Memorial Award. Presenting her with the award plaque is campus ADA Chris Turpin.

Gander visit

Right - During a recent meeting in Gander Board Chair Moya Cahill got a chance to check out a Bell 47 helicopter. Below - College President Pamela Walsh chats with Gander ADA Mac Moss and Gander Mayor Claude Elliott.





Colourful experience

Members of the office administration executive were in a colourful mood for Halloween (original photo in colour!). The group got together to construct their own costumes – a colouring book and crayons – and proceeded to spread cheer – and colour – at PPD campus and the daycare centre.

\$1,000 donation

Cooking students at the Bay St. George campus helped make the Music Industry Association of Newfoundland and Labrador's annual conference and awards show a success. To show their appreciation, the MIA presented the college with a cheque for \$1,000 to be used to help the Cooking students attend an international cooking competition in Mexico in April. From left, Eric King, cooking instructor, accepts the cheque from Cyril Organ, campus ADA.



Going once, going twice...



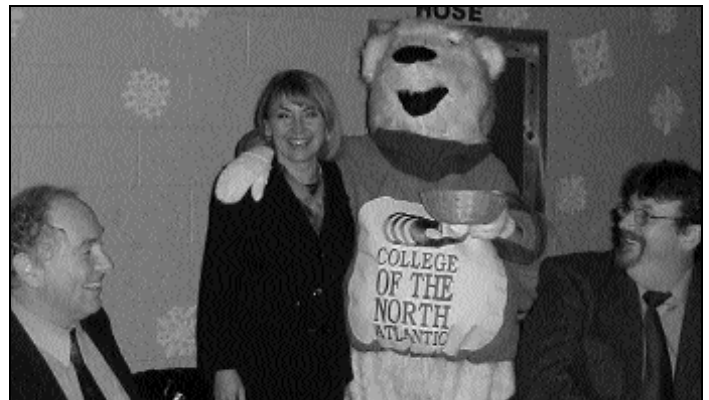
Cooking instructor Gerry Crewe is famous around St. John's, and indeed the entire province, for his excellence in the culinary arts. So just imagine having him and a group of his five advanced students come into your home to prepare a dinner party for you and your guests. That's exactly what Mr. and Mrs. Rex Parsons got as they were the highest bidders at a St. John's Rotary auction where a dinner for six catered by Gerry and his students was the item up for bids.

Druken appointed to national technical committee

Brian Druken, an autobody repair instructor at the Prince Philip Drive campus in St. John's, has been appointed to the Skills Canada National Technical Committee for the Atlantic Provinces for the trade of Auto Body Repair.

Brian was appointed to the position for a three-year term in early November and attended the Technical Committee's national meeting in Vancouver on November 17-18.

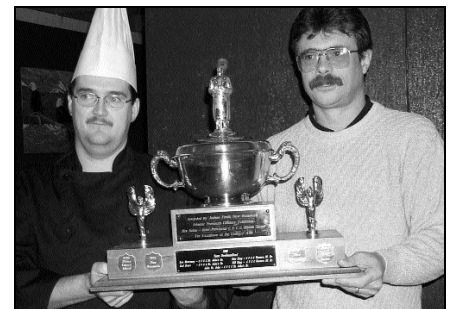
Brian has become very familiar with the Skills Canada competitions over the past couple of years. One of his students – John Herlidan – won the provincial and national competitions and went on to compete in the world event in Korea last year.



Dinner in Burin

On December 4, the Burin campus held their annual Christmas dinner. Santa Claus didn't show up, but the college's mascot Nanuk was more than happy to spread Christmas cheer to all, especially President Pamela Walsh.

Trophy donated for student award



When the Atlantic Culinary Competition trophy was retired from service in 1996, a decision was made to turn the old trophy over to the winners of that year's competition. The Newfoundland team won the event and recently donated the trophy to the Bay St. George campus to be used for future student competitions. Bill King, left, a member of the winning team, presents the trophy to Cyril Organ, campus associate district administrator.

Do you remember where you were when John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy or Martin Luther King were assassinated? Do you recall listening to reports that Apollo 13 was in trouble? How about when Paul Henderson scored the goal in 1972? What were you doing as Nelson Mandela walked to freedom, when the Berlin Wall came down, and when Princess Diana died?

Where were you on September 11, 2001?

We can all identify personal touch points, those experiences that shape our unique sense of history - births, deaths, traumatic events, tragedies, marriages, divorces, jobs, vocations - that script our life's story. For each generation, that story is complemented by the impact of global events. In our parents' generation, it may have been World War 2, Pearl Harbour, Confederation, the Cold War or even flower power. For our generation, it will most likely be September 11, 2001.

When a colleague first told me about the incidents at the World Trade Centre, I waited for the punch line, as it surely had to be a joke. It was no joke. As I found first a radio, and then a TV to confirm very vividly what had happened, it still all seemed so unbelievable, so surreal. It really wasn't until I first heard and then watched as the first, second and eventually eighth and final jet rumble to a stop on the tarmac at the Stephenville Airport (while I watched the newscasts out of the corner of my eye) that the shock of this terrible affront to humanity finally hit.

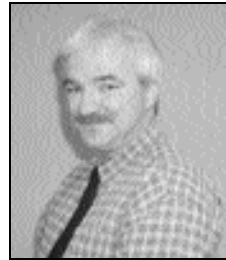
The next 80 hours were pretty much a blur, as HQ and Campus staff and students mobilized to receive and accommodate over 200 of 1100+ accidental tourists from around the world. The College's ad hoc but extremely effective reaction to a request for assistance, in Stephenville as well as at other campuses, has received highest praise from all quarters, and most significantly from our guests.

You might ask what this has to do with workplace learning. This question will be addressed at both the organizational and the personal levels of learning (there may indeed be additional perspec-

Continuous Learning in the Workplace

By Sheldon Brown

Professional Development Coordinator



tives from which to address this issue).

Try as they might, organizations cannot plan for every contingency; they cannot anticipate every conceivable type of crisis. In the absence of a specific protocol to guide a response to a particular event, the

organization must react first (using common sense, logic and knowledge of its capacity, and grounded in humanistic principles). Subsequent to the event, the experience gained is used to develop protocol to guide future responses to similar events. This procedure for organizational learning is called critical incident analysis. It involves a) reviewing the 5WH (who, what, where, when, why and how) of, in this case, the College's involvement, b) identifying what worked well, c) identifying challenges that arose and discussing how they were or could be addressed, d) recognizing the contribution of participants, e) providing an avenue for debriefing or personal intervention, and f) documenting the process so that it becomes part of organizational culture and the College's Knowledge Management system.

As well as providing an opportunity for internal learning and organizational growth, a critical incident analysis could also prompt a dialogue with external agencies to discuss how the College and its resources could be more formally integrated into community emergency response planning. This in turn might generate a broader discussion on how college campuses can provide extended service to groups and communities, as part of our commitment to social development. The crisis is turned into a learning experience.

In terms of personal learning, events such as those of September 11th encourage us individually to reflect on what's really important and to put things into perspective. I've come to believe that perspective-taking is a skill, which can be learned but which must be reinforced or reaffirmed from time to time.

To illustrate, I invite you to accompany me on a short journey. Our trip begins 60 kilometers outside Port aux Basques, two winters past, in the infamous wind tunnel known as Wreckhouse. I'm

Learning continued from 7

en route to the Gateway Town to facilitate a workshop when the storm hits: 139 km/h winds and blowing snow. We (you and I) are travelling in a physical vortex, in which the snow is swirling in such a bizarre pattern that we have no visual frame of reference; it's impossible to tell if we're right-side up or upside down (you can get the same sensation if you close your eyes and turn around in circles quickly for two hours). On at least three separate occasions, we realize that the car has been moved at least three feet (by the wind) from where we know we had stopped. We limp into Port aux Basques two hours later (and promptly postpone the workshop). What goes through your mind during those two hours?

We move on to St. John's Airport in March of this year. It's midnight, and we're meeting Rich, a guest from Wisconsin, who is here to participate in a faculty development workshop early the next morning. He is readily identified, but we eventually discover that his luggage has been left in Montreal. After some delay, we proceed to the hotel, where he is advised that because he didn't show up earlier (it is now 1:30 a.m.), they've given his room to someone else. If you are Rich, what's going through your mind now?

My experience at Wreckhouse forever re-defined my perception of risk, and more specifically, what work-related risks I'm willing to take, relative to what's really important. Also, whenever I'm in a tight spot, I "remember Wreckhouse", which reminds me that everything is relative.

As for Rich, he exemplifies the motto "Don't sweat the small stuff". He reasoned that the hotel staff would find him a place to sleep (they did), that his luggage would eventually show up and that in any event, there was no purpose to be served by being upset (other than increasing his blood pressure). Again, everything is relative.

Fast forward to September 12, 4:30 a.m. to the lobby of the Stephenville campus. We're talking to two young ladies who are on their way home to Mexico from Paris. After sitting on their plane for 20 hours, they are delivered to the campus, where like all of our guests, they ask for directions to the bathrooms, telephones and the cafeteria (in that order). We're looking at a map, and showing them where they are in the world. They are completely at ease, as are most of our visitors. When this observation is noted, their response is at the same time simple and overwhelming: "We are alive, and

we are safe". This sentiment is expressed by every traveller with whom you interact. It is a very humbling experience when you recall how you may have made a mountain out of a mole hill at work a few hours or a few days ago. Everything is relative.

Thus, the personal learning resulting from our involvement in this crisis comes from our ability (skill) to put things into perspective. David Posen defines anxiety as "the overestimation of danger divided by the underestimation of coping resources." In everyday life, we tend to perceive situations as more dangerous, threatening or stressful than they really are. In his book *Staying afloat when the water gets rough*, Posen (1998), suggests the following steps for putting things into perspective in everyday life (please note: steps denoted with an * have been added by yours truly). Ask yourself:

1. What's the worst that can happen? (What is your biggest fear?)
 - 1.1 Is what's upsetting me really important in the big picture?*
 2. How likely is it to happen? (It's important to keep things in perspective)
 3. What would you do to handle it?
 - 3.1 Is what I'm thinking, feeling and doing appropriate?*
 - 3.2 Is what I'm thinking, feeling and doing helping?*
 4. What can you do about it right now (to prevent or prepare for it)?
 5. Is action worth taking?*
 6. Will this matter in a month from now? A year?

Where were you on September 11th, 2001?
Where are you now?

Students win scholarships

Three students in the Fish and Wildlife program at the Burin campus recently received Centenary Scholarships. Ross Collier, Everett Crewe and Mervin Langdon were each awarded \$1,000.

Welding accredited

The Welding Entry Level program at the Burin campus was accredited in February, 2001.

The Welding faculty would like to thank George Anderson and Blake Cryderman for their support, specifically for the purchase of four new pieces of equipment for the program.

Library Services Report

By John Whelan

As mentioned in the last issue of *Currents*, the college has recently purchased a new computer system to integrate library services on a province-wide basis. The Integrated Library System (ILS) chosen is from SIRSI Corporation, a company which specializes in providing library systems to the academic market in both the United States and Canada.

This new ILS will have numerous advantages over what is currently in place. Using the new web-based Online Public Access Catalogue or OPAC, persons both within and outside the college community will be able to see what library resources are available at each of our campus libraries and learning resource centres. As the system is integrated, furthermore, staff will also be able to use it to circulate materials, to catalogue new items or revise existing records, and to manage serials.

Integrating all these library functions in one web-based system will ultimately serve to create a college-wide library system. While many of the college's libraries currently operate somewhat independently, the ILS will lead to greater cooperation, improved efficiency, and cost-saving. Improved resource sharing will also be an inevitable consequence: as the ILS unites these individual libraries into a single college system, their resources will become part of a total college collection.

Staff training on the new system took place in October in both St. John's and Stephenville. The East Coast training took place from October 15-19 with West Coast training on the following week from October 22-26. Hollie Sparks, with SIRSI Corporation in Huntsville Alabama, delivered the training at both sites.

It is planned that the new system will go "live" on January 2, 2002, with an official announcement either later in January or early February.

Other news of note concerns staff turnover. Jeff Mercer, who was on a one-year contract, has left the Librarian position in Gander and returned to Halifax. This position is in the process of being filled. Rowena Rice, Library Technician at Grand Falls-Windsor, will be taking a year's leave of absence effective December 30, but no replace-

The West Coast (Stephenville) participants (top) were, front from left, Cathy Ash, BSG, Barbara King, BSG, Hollie Sparks, SIRSI trainer, Karen Bennett, Labrador West. Back, Kay Keeping, PAB, Marian Burnett, Corner Brook, Glen Howell, GF-W, Lynn Cuff, Clarenville, and Lenora Furey, Baie Verte. The



participants for the East Coast (St. John's) training were, front from left, Tracy Mouland, Bonavista, Deanne Hickman, PPD, Jean Mullowney, PPD, Hollie Sparks, SIRSI trainer, Kelly Matheson, Carbonear, Bonnie Morgan, Seal Cove. Back, Sandra Shallow, Burin, Janet Fraser, PPD, Donna Crann, Placentia, Glen Howell, GF-W, John L. Whelan, GF-W, Stephen Green-Dowden, Topsail Road.

ment has yet been named. Mike Bannister (Librarian) and Tina Foote Houston (Library Technician) have left the Bay St. George campus to take positions with the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board, the head office of which was recently relocated to Stephenville. Mike and Tina's departures created openings at the DSB Fowlow Building at the Bay St. George campus. Barbara King and Cathy Ash, who formerly worked as Library Technicians at the Stephenville Crossing and L.A Bown buildings respectively, are now in those positions. Lynn Cuff, currently employed as Librarian at the Clarenville campus, will soon occupy the same position at Bay St. George. The Library Technician positions at the Stephenville Crossing and L.A. Bown buildings have been filled by Michelle Fry and Theresa Hynes respectively; but as of yet, no new Librarian has been appointed for the Clarenville campus.

Please note that this will be my last report as Provincial Team Leader-Library Services. Janet Fraser at the Prince Philip Drive campus was recently appointed to this role for a two-year term. I know that I speak for all Library Services staff when I say that I wish Janet well as she takes on her new duties during a particularly challenging time. I know that she can count on the support of the whole Library Services staff as we work together, along with the new ILS, to create a twenty-first century College Library System.

Tragedy strikes campuses

On Wednesday, November 28th, a tragic car accident claimed the life of Clara Ball, a student enrolled in the College University Transfer Year (CUTY) program at the Grand Falls-Windsor campus of the College of the North Atlantic.

At 39, Clara was a mature student who felt the uncertainties that most mature students feel - Am I intellectually capable of succeeding in a first year college-university program? Will I feel out of place with a younger group of students?

Clara soon proved that she was more than capable of successfully completing a college-university program. During the semester, she proved to be one of the top students academically. She excelled in all courses, maintaining an overall 'A' average. Her ultimate goal was to pursue a career as a social worker. Those who knew Clara, would no doubt agree that she would have been a fine addition to this profession. This goal would have, in all likelihood, been realized had it not been for that tragic accident which claimed her life.

The impact that Clara had upon her fellow students she will never know. This year, the Grand Falls-Windsor campus had an unusually high number of mature students enrolled in the CUTY program. Clara found constant support from her new friends, and more than returned it in their times of need. She was admired and respected by the younger students for her determination and

willingness to share her life experiences with her fellow classmates when she felt it could benefit them.

Clara Ball will be sadly and forever missed. She was an excellent student and a wonderful addition to our campus. Even more important, she was a genuine and kind person. Her family and friends should be proud of her. We are. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this time.

Tragedy struck at the Carbonear campus on November 28 as staff members learned that their long-time friend

and former colleague Howard Strickland had died in a motor vehicle accident. Howard was an instructor in the Motor Vehicle Repair program at the Carbonear campus from 1972-

1994. He was 63 years of age and lived in Appleton. Left with loving memories are his wife Genevieve, and three sons.



Software improves learning for special needs students

By Bonnie Morgan

College of the North Atlantic recently purchased an important educational software package that will assist students with print disabilities at all campus locations.

The Kurzweil 3000 project, spearheaded by the Committee for the Enhancement of Library Services for Students with Disabilities (CELS), represents an important step forward in the college's goal to increase access to post-secondary education for people with special needs.

CELS was founded in November 2000, on the initiative of Stephen Green-Dowden, a librarian at the Topsail Road campus. Other committee members include: Dan Goodyear, Special Needs Co-ordinator, Lenora Furey, Library Technician at Baie Verte campus, Jean Mallowney, Library Technician at Prince Philip Drive campus, and Bonnie Morgan, Librarian at Seal Cove campus.

Recognizing the key role that college libraries play in the delivery of effective instruction, as well as in the encouragement of

independent, lifelong learning, CELS was established to improve disabled students' access to library facilities, services, and information. Members address any trouble areas within existing services, and oversee the development of new services, including the purchase of special equipment where necessary. To facilitate such purchases, members of CELS apply for special grants whenever possible.

In January 2001, Jean Mallowney informed other committee members that she was

See Software on 11

Software con't from 10

aware of grant money available from Arriscraft International Inc., a private company headquartered in Cambridge, Ontario. Mallowney was also aware, from personal connections with Arriscraft, that projects to assist people with visual impairments were of special concern to that company. On this basis, and after assessing the needs of students within the college, CELS submitted a formal proposal to Arriscraft for a grant to cover the purchase of the Kurzweil 3000, a software package designed to assist people with print disabilities to read the written word. The grant was successful, and CELS is now working to coordinate purchasing the software, installing it at every college campus, and providing training in its use to students, faculty, and staff.

Stephen Green-Dowden was instrumental in selecting the Kurzweil 3000. His expertise and experience helped other CELS members to appreciate

the extent to which this software would encourage students with special needs to become independent readers. The Kurzweil 3000 reads scanned or electronic text using synthetic speech, and words are highlighted as they are spoken. This unique combination of auditory and visual assistance means that this software will not only assist students with visual impairments, but also students struggling with reading accuracy, speed, and comprehension. In providing this software, CELS hopes to increase access to college programs for all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, and to assist current students with meeting their education goals.

CELS would like to express a special thank-you to Arriscraft International Inc. for making this initiative possible. The committee is especially grateful to Elinor Radcliffe, one of the owners of Arriscraft, and former resident of St. John's, who has been an enthusiastic supporter of this project from its inception.

College orchestra records CD

The College of the North Atlantic Orchestra, which calls the Clarenville campus home, recently made its first CD.

The orchestra has been in operation since 1995 and more than 50 musicians have taken to the stage as part of it during that time. The orchestra is currently a 12-member ensemble directed by Rev. John Murphy.

Dave Lee, the purchaser at Clarenville campus, plays with the orchestra and was one of the people who decided they should record a CD.

"In June of this year we lost eight of our members so we felt that a CD of our music would be a great keepsake for them," he says.

"We only made about 30 of them. They were recorded during a year-end concert we did at the local United Church to try and raise some money to help cover the costs of creating the CD.

"We didn't really give it a name, as it was something we just pulled together at the eleventh-

hour. It was recorded and edited by Craig Trask who works at our Distributed Learning Centre."

Dave is the only college employee currently playing with the orchestra (although there is one former employee), but he's been scouping the Clarenville campus and DLC in search of new talent. He says he has found two – Mary Vaughan, an instructor who plays the trumpet, and Kevin Deveaux, who works at the DL Centre and plays sax.

"The group was started by Wiley Muise and since it started we have had members from all walks of life and many different countries," says Dave.

"We had a high school student visiting from China who played the French horn. We have an RCMP officer who plays trombone. We had a teacher from Holland who played flute, several local high school students, an optometrist and two United Church Ministers."

The orchestra plays for many local events and meets every Monday night to practice.



What's happening at St. Anthony campus

The St. Anthony campus began another academic year with approximately 77 students registering on August 27. Everyone participated in Orientation Week and kicked off the Fall Semester with a student and staff barbeque.

A Student Activities Council was formed and the executive elected for the year included: Patsy Loder, president, Byron Biles, vice-president, Regina Pilgrim, secretary and Jamie Connors, treasurer. Each class has a representative on the council.

The Community and Corporate office has run several Canadian Firearms Safety/Hunter Education courses, and expected much more activity in late November as hunters rush to beat the November 30 deadline. It also offered a week-long Forklift Operator training program in partnership with St. Anthony Seafoods to seven participants in July.

First Year Engineering students Byron Blake and Randy McGrath were awarded SABRI scholarships for the Marine Engineering Technology program.

College staff participated in the "Big Bike Ride" again this year. All proceeds from this event went to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Shinerama, held on Sept. 26, was very successful again this year. Student Coordinator Sheila Hillier (Office Admin. II) was pleased with both student participation and the support received from the community. The car wash, flea market and shoe shining realized a total of \$1,558 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Student Development Officer Vadney Tucker-Russell visited Harriot Curtis Collegiate on Oct. 17 to speak with the Level III students, and plans to visit the other Level III classes in District 2 later this fall. She then visited Level III students at Bayview Regional Collegiate to discuss their post-secondary options for next year. The campus is now accepting students for September 2002.

Community Relations Officer Joan Kinden attended the Operation ONLINE workshop and the BayBytes Rural Technology Forum in Clarendville during September. Both sessions focused on Information Technology and Community Economic Development.

Congratulations to Glen Hillier, Computer Support Technician and coach of the Bayview Collegiate softball team, and team members in recently winning the AAA Regional Championship.

The Student Activities Council hosted a Halloween party for the children of Riddles and Rhymes Daycare, and provided some Halloween entertainment for students at the campus.

Welcome back to the Advanced Carpentry students and their instructor, Dennis Davis.

The students, who registered under our Community and Corporate Department, will be with us until the end of April 2002.

Continuing Education courses, also under Community and Corporate, have commenced at two locations. In Conche, nine students have registered for Corel WordPerfect 8, Level I. In Roddickton, 21 adults registered to complete Adult Basic Education, Levels II, III and IV.

The campus is took part in "Addictions Awareness Week" and had a display set up in the lobby. We also partnered with the Grenfell Regional Anti-Violence Committee again this year to organize a march and program on Dec. 6, 2001, marking the anniversary of the "Montreal Massacre."

The Office Administration class would like to thank Todd May and Ken Carter from the Department of Industry, Trade and Rural Development for their presentation during Small Business Week. The campus would also like to thank Sam Stack for his presentation on "Getting the Message Out."

Congratulations to Trina Moores and Nadine Hillier who recently graduated from our Office Administration Diploma program.

This Christmas the students built a float for the Santa Clause Parade and collected non-perishable food items to donate to the local food bank.

Raffle raises \$500

Christmas is a time of tradition, and no tradition at the Grand Falls-Windsor campus of the college is any older than the annual Christmas Raffle, an event held every year since about 1965.

This year's raffle was held on Tuesday, December 4 and the campus Student Council raised over \$500 for charity.