

ACC Unveils \$8.7 Million Renovation Plan

Alpena Community College Board of Trustees approved an \$8.7 million renovation project to repurpose Van Lare Hall during a special meeting held on March 28, 2018. The renovation plan was developed by Cornerstone Architects of Traverse City, Michigan, and the construction manager is Oak City Contracting, L.L.C. of Alpena.

Built in 1957, Van Lare Hall occupies 37,000 square feet on the College's most picturesque property and is the oldest building on the main campus. It currently houses administrative and academic support functions along with a dozen multi-purpose classrooms.

For more than 60 years, Van Lare Hall has served as a central piece of ACC's legacy and is a solid, functional building that has served as the focal point of higher education in Northeast Lower Michigan.

Approximately 5,760 square feet at the east end of Van Lare Hall will be renovated and designed specifically to house ACC's nursing program. The Center for Health Sciences will include a \$1 million state-of-the-art simulation learning laboratory and control room to better prepare students for real world experiences when caring for patients in a variety of clinical settings.

Also included is an eight bed basic nursing lab, two debriefing/conference rooms for interactive learning, and an advanced home-style lab for in-home care training. ACC's nursing faculty will welcome students in nine new centralized offices for one-on-one guidance along with two offices for the director and secretary of the Nursing Department. These renovations will ensure

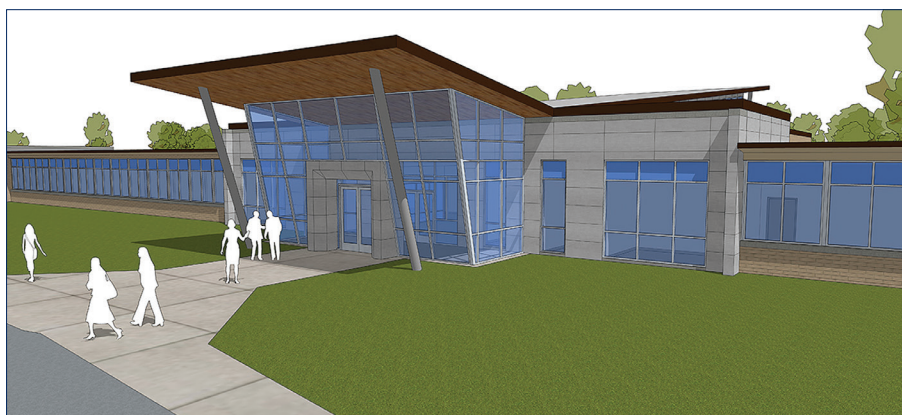
that ACC's Nursing program attracts, recruits, and retains the best students and faculty.

A remodeled Van Lare Hall will also include a 2,188 square foot community space overlooking the Thunder Bay River, seven multi-purpose classrooms, renovations to existing restrooms, an updated exterior of the building including the front entrance, a new Admissions Office, a fire suppression system, and an energy-efficient HVAC system including high-efficiency hot water boilers and air conditioning.

"We are excited about the Center for Health Sciences project and the renovation of Van Lare Hall," said ACC President Don MacMaster. "Virtually every ACC student over the past six decades has connected in a significant way with

Van Lare Hall. Faculty and staff have as well. It remains an essential building on ACC's campus and we look forward to building on this tradition. We believe that investing in the Nursing program with upgraded simulation technology will make the Center for Health Sciences wing a vibrant regional resource for health care education and training. We are also excited about the expanded community and student space extending toward the Thunder Bay River. We think that will take advantage of one of ACC's top assets—the beautiful view overlooking the river."

The renovations are scheduled to begin in January 2019 and be completed in January 2020. Funding for the project will come from the State of Michigan, Besser Foundation, College resources and fundraising efforts by the ACC Foundation.



Rendering of the \$8.7 million renovation project planned for Van Lare Hall.

President's Message



*Dr. Don MacMaster
ACC President*

Renowned 20th century American novelist William Faulkner once observed about the power of legacy: "The past is never dead. It's not even past." While it's unlikely Faulkner was referencing a community college Capital Outlay project with this timeless aphorism, the notion that legacy shapes the present and future resonates at ACC today.

As noted on the front page, ACC is investing in the future while honoring its past by building on a cornerstone piece of College legacy. The \$8.7 million Center for Health Sciences project will relocate one of ACC's premier occupational programs—Nursing—into a fully renovated Van Lare Hall. Upgrading technology to incorporate simulators and distance learning opportunities will enhance an already strong Nursing program, sharpening our competitiveness with neighboring community colleges that have embraced this technology. With MidMichigan Medical Center - Alpena next door and the demand for well-trained health care providers on the rise, we believe the Nursing program will continue to thrive and has room to grow.

The other main feature of the renovation forms in the center of the building, from the front entrance back toward the water, where a multi-purpose community and student collaboration space will be constructed. As even its ardent supporters will concede, Van Lare Hall could benefit from an exterior facelift that creates a more compelling architecture and a lighter, more inviting central space. The community and student gathering space will accomplish both objectives.

Over the past 18 months, College staff has focused on aggregating in an electronic database approximately 100,000 student records going back to the first graduating class at ACC. Nearly 10,000 of these student records pre-date computers. We intend to reach out to as many ACC alumni, students and staff as we can locate, inviting all to contribute to the Center for Health Sciences – Van Lare Hall renovation project. Van Lare Hall has touched nearly everyone who has attended ACC over the past 60 years. We think building on this legacy makes sense. Please consider extending your support to moving this legacy project from vision to reality.

ACC Opens Food Pantry

In January, Alpena Community College opened a food pantry in response to a growing need to combat student hunger on its campus. ACC's food pantry is located in room 126A of the Besser Technical Center and is open to registered students Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Like many colleges and universities, ACC's food pantry relies solely on donations. The pantry is well-stocked with a variety of items donated by faculty, staff, and the ACC Foundation, including cereal, soup, macaroni and cheese, tuna, peanut butter, juice, vegetables, and much more.

In April, the pantry received a huge boost when a local non-profit, Hunters Harvest for Charity, donated \$1,300 worth of food to ACC for its food pantry.

There are no rules or limitations placed upon students who come to the pantry, and their identities remain anonymous.

The ACC Foundation recently received a thank you note from a student which read, "The food bank has been an

invaluable help to me, and I thank those who are supporting it."

ACC Biology Instructor Deb Hautau said, "As faculty, we see hungry students in class every day, and as a result, it's difficult for them to pay attention." Over the years she has always had extra food on hand in her office to assist hungry students. Deb shared that many of her colleagues were experiencing the same thing when it came to student hunger, and the idea came about to create a food pantry.



The ACC Food Pantry.

This College initiative will help to ensure ACC's students have enough to eat and can focus on their academics. ACC President Don MacMaster said, "It's gratifying to see how seamlessly the faculty, staff, and Trustees stepped up to meet the challenge of helping students who don't have enough to eat.

Our mission is to help students succeed and sometimes that extends beyond the classroom. When ACC came together to create a food pantry, it was a proud moment. Student success is a community accomplishment."



Cindy DeRocher

Cindy DeRocher Returns to Alma Mater

Thirty-five years since her graduation from Alpena Community College, alumna Cindy DeRocher returned to her alma mater to serve as the Director of Student Life and Campus Housing. This new position was created in conjunction with ACC purchasing the College Park Apartments in May 2017.

As an ACC student, Cindy played women's basketball for Coach Frank McCourt from 1980-82 and credits him for guiding her into coaching. Following her graduation from ACC, Cindy transferred to Lake Superior State University where she earned a Bachelor in Science Degree in Sports and Recreation Management in 1986. During her academic career, Cindy served as a student women's basketball coach at ACC and at LSSU.

Cindy began her professional coaching career as the assistant women's basketball coach at Tri-State University (now Trine University) in Angola, Indiana. In addition, she was also responsible for managing student life and campus housing activities.

In 1988, Cindy assumed the head coach position and under her leadership, guided her Thunder team to four National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes final appearances in nine years. In addition, Cindy was instrumental in bringing NAIA Women's National Championships to Tri-State University in 1995 and 1997 and league championship titles in 1996, 1997, and 1999.

Cindy was named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1997 and was elected to the University's Hall of Fame in 2003. She ended her stellar career in 2000 with a record of 238-130, a winning percentage of 64%. Following her retirement from coaching, Cindy spent a number of years living in Key West, Florida, where she managed several historic hotels.

As the Director of Student Life and Campus Housing, Cindy manages 16 apartments with a total of 64 residents. "I'm grateful for the opportunity to be a support to the students during their collegiate experience and transitional challenges. Providing living solutions, an empathetic ear, or assisting with the right activities to balance the cognitive challenge is a role that inspires me every day," said Cindy.

ACC had been out of the student housing business since the closing of the Russell H. Wilson Dormitory in 1985 due to low occupancy and increased operational costs. However, out-of-district students were having difficulty finding suitable housing, and the College Park Apartments were built by Werth Development on ACC's property and the townhouse apartments were managed for 20 years by the Stratford Group.

Martinez Scholarship Established by ACC Alumnus

Keith Martinez was raised in Alpena and graduated from Alpena High School in 1995. He enrolled at ACC and earned an Associate in Arts degree in 1997, transferring to Michigan State University where he received a Bachelors in Accounting degree in 1999.

Keith began working with Plante & Moran, PLLC (Plante Moran), which is currently the 14th largest CPA firm in the United States. He became a Certified Public Accountant, licensed in Michigan, and later became licensed in Ohio. Keith has worked in Plante Moran's Macomb and Grand Rapids, Michigan offices and now works out of the firm's Columbus, Ohio office. He was promoted to partner on July 1, 2013, and leads the firm's Construction industry practice in Ohio and the Higher Education industry practice in Central Ohio.

Keith married Amy Whitman and together they are raising their two children, Micah and Oliver. Amy is a graduate of Michigan State University where she received

a Bachelors in Human Resources degree in 1999. She later received a Masters in Counseling degree from Oakland University in 2005. Amy currently works as the Admissions Recruiter for the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Ohio University's Dublin, Ohio campus.



Keith (Class of '97) and Amy Martinez with their children, Micah and Oliver.

Keith believes that his time at ACC provided him with a strong educational foundation at an affordable price and prepared him for a successful transition to Michigan State University. Creating a scholarship fund with the ACC Foundation is Martinez's way of giving back to ACC and providing opportunities to other students similar to the opportunity Keith was given. ACC students Julie Schultz and Kevin Baker each received a \$1,500 scholarship for their 2017-18 academic year.

For information on establishing a scholarship fund, call ACC Foundation Executive Director Penny Boldrey at (989) 358-7297 or email boldreyp@alpenacc.edu.

A Tradition of Nursing Excellence

In 1973, the first class of nursing students graduated from Alpena Community College, earning a Certificate in Licensed Practical Nursing. Since that first class of 28 graduates, ACC's Nursing program has continued its long tradition of excellence in nursing education.

Due to the success of the LPN program and responding to local demands, the Nursing program expanded in 1983 and an associate degree Nursing program began, with the first class of 24 graduates.

Before the creation of ACC's Nursing programs, individuals interested in nursing had to leave Alpena to pursue their educational goals. Once away, many would find employment in other communities, resulting in a shortage of nurses at Alpena General Hospital and other local healthcare facilities.

Over the years, ACC's Nursing classes have been held in a variety of locations, including a church, the previous Concrete Technology room, East Campus, the county's former poor farm, and the fisheries building. In 1995, the Nursing program found a permanent home and moved to the second floor of the Natural Resources Center.

The foundational part of the success of the Nursing program comes from the outstanding individuals including Nursing

directors, faculty, and administrative assistants who have worked diligently over the past 45 years to help students become nurses.

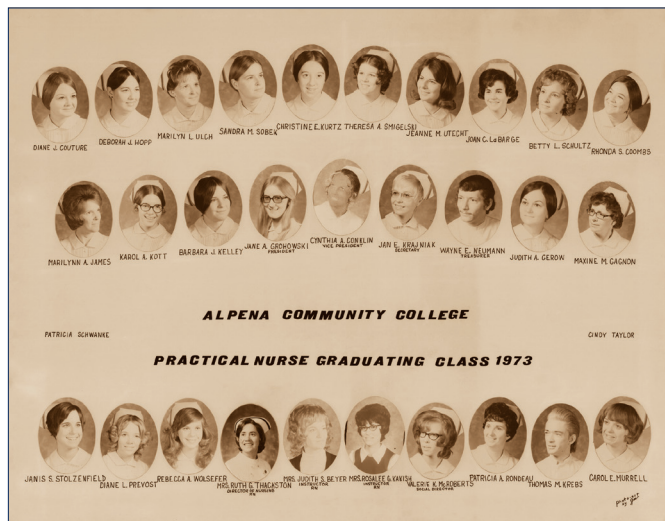
Since its inception, the Nursing program has graduated 1,282 LPNs and 797 RNs and they can be found working in a variety of capacities and various healthcare settings throughout the United States.

ACC alumna and Director of Nursing, Melissa Fournier,

reflects on the program's success and said, "Our graduates work across the globe and have a very strong foundation in nursing from Alpena Community College. The proud traditions of nursing will continue as we expand our program to the south and offer the LPN courses in Oscoda starting this fall."

ACC's Nursing program meets the strict accreditation requirements of the Michigan State Board of Nursing, and in 2017 received the prestigious Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), the highest level of accreditation.

Suitably proud of its achievements and the successes of its students, ACC's Nursing program will continue to grow and faculty will continue to train tomorrow's nurses in the new Center for Health Sciences.



The first graduates of ACC's Nursing program.



Thomas M. Krebs

a pharmacy technician until his discharge in 1966.

Returning to Alpena in January 1967, Tom was hired by the hospital and worked as an orderly. According to his sister Sylvia Stoinski, "Tom always wanted to be a nurse,

Alpena Community College alumnus Thomas M. Krebs enjoyed a deeply satisfying career in healthcare at Alpena Regional Medical Center. Tom, a lifelong Alpena resident, graduated in 1959 from Alpena Catholic Central and from ACC in 1961.

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1964 and was stationed in Germany for most of his tour, where he served as

but leaving Alpena to attend a nursing school was not an option for him. When ACC began its first Licensed Practical Nursing program, Tom was one of 30 individuals selected for the program and earned his LPN degree in 1973."

After a 30-year career of caring for others, Tom retired in 1996. Sadly, he passed away on December 29, 2015, at the age of 74. Leaving a legacy of caring with a \$25,000 bequest to the ACC Foundation, the Thomas M. Krebs Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund will annually provide two \$625 scholarship awards to Nursing students.

ACC Foundation Executive Director Penny Boldrey said, "Tom's immense gift demonstrates not only his passion for nursing, but his commitment to helping others pursue a career in nursing." For more information about this scholarship fund or to make a donation, contact Boldrey at (989) 358-7297 or email boldreyp@alpenacc.edu.

ACC Concrete Technology Program Celebrates Milestone

Alpena Community College alumni, students, staff, and friends gathered at the World Center for Concrete Technology on November 3, 2017, to celebrate 50 years of success of its Concrete Technology program.

The program was established in 1967 and is a partnership between ACC and the Besser Company. It provides students with a broad background in all phases of the concrete industry and the necessary skills to understand the processes of concrete production.

A two-year Associate in Applied Science Degree in Concrete Technology was created in the spring of 1972, and since that time, more than 600 individuals have earned this unique degree. The program is world-renowned and attracts students from all over Michigan and the United States.

ACC graduate and Concrete Technology instructor Kevin Sylvester said, "ACC is and continues to be considered by the industry as number one in concrete education throughout the nation." The Concrete Technology Program's stellar reputation is a result of

the efforts and commitment of many key individuals, companies, and program graduates.

Speakers during the anniversary celebration included ACC President Don MacMaster; Besser Company President and Chief Executive Officer Kevin Curtis; Past Chairman of the Board for Besser Company James Park; and ACC alumnus Phil Cariveau. ACC President Don MacMaster said, "It's a huge milestone and great credit to the instructors, students, employers, and everyone for making a vibrant occupational program."

Tim Onstwedder, a 1995 ACC graduate and Concrete Technology instructor said, "Due to such a strong alumni connection, we have between 100 and 150 jobs available for our graduates each year." He added, "We continue to reach out to more past graduates and companies to help us promote this unique program."

For more information about this program, call Kevin Sylvester at (989) 358-7364 or Tim Onstwedder at (989) 358-7460.



The 2017 ACC Cross Country Team.

Cross-Country Team Excels

For a third year in a row, Alpena Community College's Lumberjacks cross-country team has been named an Academic All-American team. Nine student-athletes, Kolin Ghidoni, Dallin Toth, Azaiyah Bell, Oliver Rice, Austin Enns, Sheldon Elkie, Isaac Cross, Evan LeTourneau and Levi Goebel, earned individual Academic All-American honors.

"As a coach this is one of my most proud moments in 35 years of coaching," said ACC coach Mark Jacobs. He added, "I've never met a finer group of young men. These guys were like brothers

and looked after each other whether it was in practice or in the classroom. They defined the word team."

Out of 1,400 junior college runners in the nation, 90 were Academic All-American and ACC's cross-country team consisted of 10 percent of the Academic All-Americans in the nation with a cumulative grade point average of 3.85. On the course, the team finished another outstanding season as well. Out of 17 teams from Regions 12 and 13, the Lumberjacks finished 8th. "All I ever ask my guys is to give 100% and leave it all on the course," said Coach Jacobs. "That's exactly what they did this season."

At the Regional meet, six Lumberjacks ran career bests and one ran a season best during the brisk fall day. Jonathon Pischner (Charlevoix) ended his Lumberjack career by finishing as top runner for the second year in a row. Pischner ran a season best 28:05 on the 8K course. Following Pischner was Oliver Rice (Hale) who ran a 28.41. Kolin Ghidoni (Alpena) ran a career best by 30 seconds, finishing 3rd for Alpena with a time of 28:47. "Having three guys run under 29 minutes is incredible. These guys came ready to run today," Jacobs said.

Rounding out the top team were Austin Enns (Hart) 31:03, Isaac Cross (Alpena) 31:04, Levi Goebel (Alpena) 31:36, Dallin Toth (Alpena) 32:45, Sheldon Elkie (Hillman) 33:03, Evan LeTourneau (Alpena) 33:13 and Andrew Grabiell (Alpena) 36:36. Goebel, Toth, Elkie, LeTourneau and Grabiell all ran career bests.

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ACC Foundation Executive Director to Retire

Penny Boldrey, Alpena Community College Foundation Executive Director and the ACC Executive Director of Development, announced her plans to retire effective June 30, 2018.

Under her leadership and that of the ACC Foundation's Board of Trustees, the Foundation's assets have grown from \$2,837,314 in 2002 to \$6,175,704 as of January 15, 2018. In addition, the number of individually-named scholarship funds has increased 156% over the past 16 years and a total of \$2,023,393 has been raised for student scholarships.

"For 16 years Penny has been the cornerstone of the ACC Foundation," said ACC President Don MacMaster. "She's done wonderful work for students, the College, alumni and donors, representing their interests with integrity, energy, and professionalism. Her deep understanding of the community and her impeccable judgment have been invaluable to the past three ACC presidents. We'll miss her at ACC. She's built a great career full of impactful accomplishments."

During Penny's tenure, the ACC Foundation raised \$4,576,915 for college programs/projects, including three capital campaigns: \$1.2 million for the Pathways to the Future Campaign; \$300,000 for the 25th Anniversary Campaign, and \$600,000 for the Ferris H. Werth Electrical Power Technology Center.

The ACC Foundation is currently in the silent phase of raising \$2.2 million for the Van Lare Hall Renovation project and will be kicking off a capital campaign in the near future.

Penny said, "Together with the ACC Foundation's Trustees, we have built a solid foundation of philanthropy for the future of the College and its students. It's been an honor to serve ACC and its Foundation. The past 16 years have been the most rewarding work of my professional career. However, it's time for new leadership, new ideas, and new energy that comes from such a change."

The ACC Foundation Board of Trustees and College leaders have initiated a search committee to find Penny's successor.



*Penny Boldrey,
ACC Foundation Executive
Director and ACC Executive
Director of Development*