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For immediate release:

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION RECEIVES DONATION FROM MBANK TOWARDS HEALTHY FUTURES START HERE CAMPAIGN

ALPENA — The Alpena Community College Foundation recently received an \$80,000 donation from mBank for the ‘Healthy Futures Start Here’ capital campaign. This campaign will help fund renovations to Van Lare Hall and the creation of the Center for Health Sciences.

While the campaign is still in the early stages of soliciting donations, the project has been met with a positive response from the community. “We have received overwhelming support from local businesses and individuals that we have met with as early contributors to the project,” said ACC Foundation Executive Director Brenda Herman. “They see the need and understand the value it adds to the College and the community.”

The \$80,000 contribution from mBank will assist with the funding of the project and in return, mBank will have naming rights to four of the rooms in the new Nursing wing. “Alpena Community College is an invaluable asset in Northeast Michigan. This donation is an investment back into our community and in the ACC students to help them achieve their goals,” said Mike Mahler, mBank EVP Managing Director Community Banking & Administration. “When local businesses support the college through not only monetary donations but also mentorships, internships, and employment, we are all helping to build a brighter and more vibrant community together.”

Constructed in 1957, Van Lare Hall is the oldest building on the main campus of Alpena Community College and a central piece of ACC’s legacy. Occupying 40,000 square feet on ACC’s most picturesque property, Van Lare Hall houses key administrative and academic support functions along with a dozen general purpose classrooms. It is a solid, functional building that has served as the focal point of higher education in Northeast Michigan for more than 60 years.

The project will provide space and updated technology for the ACC Nursing program, including a \$1 million state-of-the-art simulation learning lab to better prepare Nursing students for real world experiences caring for patients in a variety of clinical settings. The project will also include a centralized student support services area, a community gathering space overlooking the Thunder Bay River, and improvements to Van Lare Hall’s windows, HVAC and electrical systems, and the building’s exterior. The projected cost of the project is \$8.7 million, with \$6.6 million in funding secured so far.



From left: Georgene Hildebrand, Healthy Futures Start Here Campaign Chair; Dr. Don MacMaster, ACC President; Mike Mahler, EVP Managing Director Community Banking & Administration; Brenda Herman, ACC Foundation Executive Director; Chris McCoy, First Federal/mBank Community Foundation Chairman of the Board; Marty Thomson, First Federal/mBank Community Foundation Board Member.

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