



Northwest Iowa  
Community College

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**May 18, 2011**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*May be published  
when received.*

### **RECORD BREAKING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES HELD AT NORTHWEST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE NEW LIFELONG LEARNING AND RECREATION CENTER**

Commencement exercises at Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon, Iowa were held on Friday, May 13, 2011. There were a record breaking number of two hundred and seventy four graduates that walked across the stage and accepted their degrees.

The Associate Degree Nursing Pinning Ceremony was held in Building A at 10:30 a.m. The Student Keynote Speakers were Becky Staab, Remsen, and Jill Sand, Marcus, both Associate Degree Nursing graduates. The Guest Speaker was Judy Blauwet, Senior VP of Hospital Operations/Chief Nursing Officer at Avera McKennan. Judy is an RN and served on the NCC Board of Directors for two years before moving to Sioux Falls.

The Spring Commencement ceremony was held in the Northwest Iowa Lifelong Learning and Recreation Center (LLRC). This was the inaugural event for the LLRC. The commencement address was given by Kim Reynolds, the Lieutenant Governor of Iowa. The Student Keynote Speaker was Clazina Blom, Doon, Associate Degree Nursing graduate. The Outstanding Faculty Award was also presented to Dawn Recher, Instructor-Nursing. The NCC Student Leadership Award was presented to Lori Adrian, Hartley, Computer Science & Networking Technology graduate.

Dr. Giddings, President of NCC, stated, "For the past several years, including this year, NCC has had a record breaking number of spring graduates. This has caused the College to hold two commencement ceremonies because we did not have facilities large enough to accommodate all of the people who wanted to join in the celebration. This year, with the opening of the Northwest Iowa Lifelong Learning and Recreation Center, we are very excited to combine the two commencement ceremonies into one inaugural event. I think it was appropriate that the first event in the LLRC is a student celebration of achievement and excellence. The LLRC allowed all of our graduates to enjoy the day with their families, friends, faculty and staff."