

## Staff and students work to pass millage

■ **Community labors to educate voters about the issues before the February 1 election day.**

By DENISE KONWINSKI  
COPY EDITOR

Due in large part to the one mill levy approved by voters in May of 1989, "we [ACC] are a very different place today than we were five years ago," says Director of Public Relations Carlene Przykucki.

Since that time, ACC has seen a variety of improvements, including a constant upgrading in lab technology, new programs such as Utility Tech, and a new boiler.

The original levy of one mill, equivalent to approximately \$500,000, has expired, and now ACC officials are asking voters in the community to renew it.

The money is needed to cover operational costs.

"It's critical" that the millage pass, said Donald Newport, president of ACC. He is very optimistic that area citizens will pull through Feb. 1 when it comes time to vote.

Between now and then, Newport hopes students will help with the phone bank between 4-9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays in the basement of the GTE building downtown.

"It can be fun," said Przykucki. "We have recent graduates and students on our lists of people to call," she encouraged. Przykucki also suggested getting a few friends together and participating for an evening.

Numerous faculty and staff members are also volunteering their time to man the phone bank.

Newport and Przykucki don't expect students to make all the contacts. They have been working since before Thanksgiving to bring information to the

public, and all was going smoothly until Jan. 4.

That's when Newport found out the ballot language originally adapted by the Board of Trustees was obsolete under a new law.

"I accept that perhaps I should have known about the changed requirements - but I didn't," Newport said. "... Our ballots had not been printed yet, so at least we didn't have to do them over."

The board met in special session Jan. 5 to ratify the new required ballot language, which divides the one mill into two components.

The first consists of .8916 of a mill representing the reduced millage rate levied due to growth of the district's assessed valuation during the past five years.

The remaining .1084 of a mill restores the portion of the one mill not levied.

## Ballot Language Modified

By DENISE KONWINSKI  
COPY EDITOR

The ACC Board of Trustees met in special session Jan. 5 to approve two new ballot proposals for the Feb. 1 election when voters decide on the renewal of a one mill - five year levy for college operating expenses.

The meeting resulted when ACC President Donald Newport consulted with Lansing Jan. 4. Newport learned of new provisions in the state law, requiring a break down of the amount being levied.

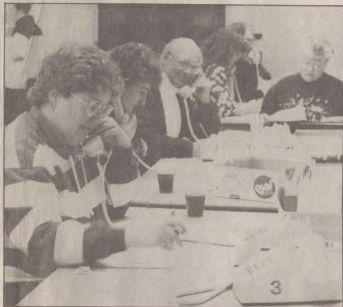
"These requirements for

Newport stresses the renewal is nothing new as far as additional taxes go.

It is also not related, in any way, to the new Student/Community/Business/Learning/

Resources Center that has been started, as some people tend to believe.

If the millage fails, programs may be cut, and tuition will likely climb, said Newport.



Faculty and students are placing calls during phone bank.

Photo by Linda Simpson

## Action Line

Action Line is a regular, informational column which answers questions posed by students. Questions dealing with Alpena Community College may be dropped off at *The Polemic* office in BTC 110, placed in the mailbox located in the lobby of BTC or they may be given to any staff member.

Action Line questions, letters, articles and correspondence must be submitted to *The Polemic* office at room 110 in Besser Tech, no later than the following dates during the spring 1994 semester:

■ Feb. 2 for Feb. 16 distribution

■ March 2 for March 16 distribution

■ April 1 for April 13 distribution

■ April 20 for May 4 distribution

Unfortunately there are no Action Line questions this issue. Perhaps it was the cold weather or the start of a new semester that left the Action Line question box empty.

Send your questions in and read yours answers in next issue of *The Polemic*.

## Second director resigns within one month

By SCOTT REED  
STAFF WRITER

On January 4, Donna Mullen resigned after one year of being the Director of Educational Talent Search here at ACC. Her resignation takes effect January 28.

Prior to this, Mullen was the director of ACC's Upward Bound program. Both of these programs are federally funded, and their objectives are to assist high-potential, low-achieving high school students in completing their high school educations and in obtaining secondary education degrees. They also assist adults who have "stepped out" on their educations.

Mullen's association with ACC began in 1969, when she was a young mother of six. She graduated a year later with an associate's degree.

Mullen left Alpena to go to Michigan State University where she graduated

with a bachelor's degree in teaching in 1973.

From there she went straight to teaching at the Traverse City Intermediate

School District until 1983. That year, Mullen graduated from Central Michigan University with a master's degree in Counseling Education.



Donna Mullen is packing to leave to another position.

Photo by Linda Simpson

At Mid-Michigan Community College, Mullen directed a program for special needs students until September, 1986, when she returned to ACC as the Upward Bound director.

During the seven years as UB director, Mullen saw the program grow in numbers and the addition of Posen High School as a second service area school. Grant writing increased the UB budget from \$173,000 to \$250,000.

In January, 1993, Mullen was assigned as director of the Educational Talent Search Program, where she instituted the first advisory board, smoothed relationships with area high schools and authored a new grant application.

Mullen has specialized in working with culturally diverse and special populations of students and adults for twenty years.

On leaving ACC, Mullen says she is resigning "because changes in administrative structures have restricted my abilities to work creatively, to take the risk to live more authentically, to work at something which brings a fullness of purpose and

joy. Because of the changes there's no longer an opportunity for me to grow professionally."

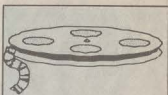
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up her feelings. "Without work all life goes rotten. But when work is soulless, life stifles and dies."

Mullen wishes to thank ACC for giving her a position which required many diverse roles and opportunities to be self-directed, and allowing her to direct a program which positively affected the lives of so many youths in this area.

On January 29, Mullen will join her husband at home in Plymouth, Michigan.



Now Playing

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**Don't forget to vote for the millage on Feb. 1**

