

NEXUS

Where success Starts ... And Continues

New Food Court At Nassau is Tops

Are you in the mood for a burrito? How about a personal pizza, a nice ice-cream sundae from Friendly's, or, if you're in a healthy mood, a create-your-own salad from J&B Salad Selects? Now you can satisfy all those needs and more at NCC's new "Top Flight" food court. Students, faculty and staff alike are delighted with the long-awaited 12,000-square-foot food court, which opened this fall.

Now there's no reason to leave campus for breakfast, lunch, dinner or a snack – not with Taco Bell, Pizza Hut Express, Nathan's Famous, Friendly's, Foodji's Japanese Grill, J&B Deli Market or J&B Salad Selects to choose from. The 400-seat food court is the result of a \$2 million renovation to the College Center Building. It is operated by Joseph Vitrano and William Murphy of J&B Restaurant Partners of Nassau College.

"The addition of the Top Flight food court to our campus is great for our students, faculty and staff. We are excited to work in partnership with Joe Vitrano and J&B and look forward to an ongoing, successful relationship," said NCC President Dr. Sean Fanelli, who can often be seen partaking of the food court's offerings.

Kyle Rudich, J&B's Director of Operations to the food court, welcomes the chance to become involved with the people of Nassau. "So far, the food court has been a great success. We are extremely pleased with the positive feedback we have received from the College community. Everyone at NCC has been so supportive. We look forward to serving the College for a long time to come," he explained.

The dining area was named Top Flight because the College is located on the grounds of the former Mitchell Field, an air base that served as one of the nation's early centers of aviation. In 1927, Charles Lindbergh took off



from nearby for his historic cross-Atlantic flight, an event that today is celebrated at the adjacent Cradle of Aviation Museum. Carrying through with the aviation theme, the food court is decorated in an aviation motif, ranging from models of vintage airplanes which "fly" from the ceiling to enlarged photographs of the U.S. Air Force's famous "Blue Angel" squadron.

During its first months in operation, the Top Flight food court has won rave reviews from both students and staff. The new dining area has truly become the campus gathering place.

See more food court pages 4-5

Nassau Community College: It's More Than Just the Obvious

By

Reginald Tuggle

When people think of Nassau Community College, they almost immediately have images of low college tuition, high quality education, and having the ability to attend college at one's own pace while remaining close to home. While all this is obvious, it does not come close to representing the full value that can be found at Nassau.

Yes, tuition at Nassau Community College is very modest. The tuition is set so that a college education is affordable and, therefore, accessible to more students. It also means that one can begin their college career at Nassau before continuing at a four year institution and thereby reduce the overall cost in earning a baccalaureate degree. This is critical when one considers that approximately one of every four Nassau County high school graduates begin their college career at NCC and that 67 percent of our graduates will go on to four-year institutions. What's not obvious is that Nassau Community College students can transfer to any institution in the State University of New York (SUNY) system without loss of credits earned at NCC. Also, NCC has joint admissions and transfer agreements with such colleges and universities as Adelphi University, Dowling College, Hofstra University, Long Island University (C.W. Post), Molloy College and New York University.

And while it's obvious that the mission of the College requires that it maintain an open admissions policy, that does not suggest that a college education is easy or that any academic requirements have been minimized. All applicants are given reading and math competency exams and when necessary students are provided appropriate remedial classes before regular college courses can be taken for

credit. When students graduate from Nassau, they are more than equipped to successfully compete at any four-year institution. Nassau has had graduates go on to such colleges and universities as Harvard, Yale, Oxford and Columbia, as well as hundreds of other institutions. Nassau has the highest student retention and graduation rate of any SUNY institution. Ninety-five percent of our Honors Program students continue their education at a four-year institution, 80 percent of them earned a baccalaureate degree, and one-fourth of them went on to earn advanced degrees.

It's also obvious that Nassau has more than 20,000 full- and part-time students enrolled, but what's not so obvious is that they are taught by one of the best faculties anywhere. While 33.9 percent of NCC's 1,100 faculty members have doctorates, only 16.6 percent nationally do.

NCC is more than the obvious. It brings a wealth of benefits to the region as a whole, as well as to the students who come to learn and the dedicated faculty who teach.

Traditionally, community colleges have provided a gateway to a better life for immigrants, minorities, and students from families without prior experience in higher education. This is obvious. What often goes unnoticed, however, is that Nassau currently has more than 1,000 English-as-a-Second-Language students, representing 60 countries. Combined with other minority students, they represent more than 35 percent of the NCC student population, adding to the rich diversity of the campus. The



exchange of ideas, culture, and traditions add immeasurably to the total educational process. Our neighborhood communities are made stronger as these students take back with them the importance of being tolerant and accepting of others.

Most people, understandably, think of NCC only as a good college. However, Nassau Community College contributes significantly to the overall economic health of the County. The economic impact of Nassau Community College in Nassau County over 1994-95 was \$338 million in jobs, purchasing power of faculty and students, and general operating expenses. It grew to \$461 million in 1998-99, and was no doubt higher still in 2001, although those statistics are not yet available.

Nassau Community College is more than the obvious. It brings a wealth of benefits to the region as a whole, as well as to the students who come to learn and the dedicated faculty who teach.

Nassau Community College Receives \$85,000 Technology Grant for E-Commerce Lab

The Office Technology Department recently opened a new e-commerce lab, funded by an \$85,000 Perkins III New York State Department of Education grant. The grant enabled NCC to establish this cutting-edge lab, which is furnished with the latest computers and software needed to prepare the next generation of office professionals for the e-commerce dominated business world.

The lab was designed by Office Technology Professor Grace Kelly, who also wrote the grant. According to Professor Kelly, virtually all small businesses today are developing web sites. "With the web dominating the future of commerce, the traditional employee will need to adapt. This lab provides students with the tools needed to meet this surge in demand for technologically qualified professionals," she said. In this way, the e-commerce lab not only benefits traditional students, but is also of assistance to current professionals looking to retool their skills to better fit their job.

Dean Anne Emmerson added that the Long Island business community in



NCC student puts new skills to work in new E-Commerce lab



From (L-R): Professor Barbara Halpern; Professor Tina Wenzel, Chair of the Office Technology Department; Associate Dean Anne Emmerson; Dr. William A. Atkins; Professor Grace Kelly; Dr. Sean Fanelli; Professor Marilyn Curry; and Ms. Lynn Bergin participate in ribbon cutting ceremony for the e-commerce lab.

particular is rapidly becoming a leader in the areas of bioscience, advanced electronics and information technology. Through NCC's new e-commerce lab, she explained, the Office Technology department is able to offer students the state-of-the-art skills required to confidently enter the Island's ever-changing technological work force.

Developed to resemble a professional office, the lab has individual workstations, including one for physically challenged students. Students are taught to create and maintain web sites (content management) and conduct on-line business, among other skills. The objective is to ultimately place graduates in businesses that require integrated computer skills.

Professor Kelly hopes that in addition to providing such skills for existing students, the new e-commerce lab will also open the department doors to those who might not have previously considered taking Office Technology courses, including professionals looking to work their way up the corporate ladder with high-tech skills.

New Food Court is Tops At



The Top Flight Food Court is conveniently located in the NCC College Center Building.



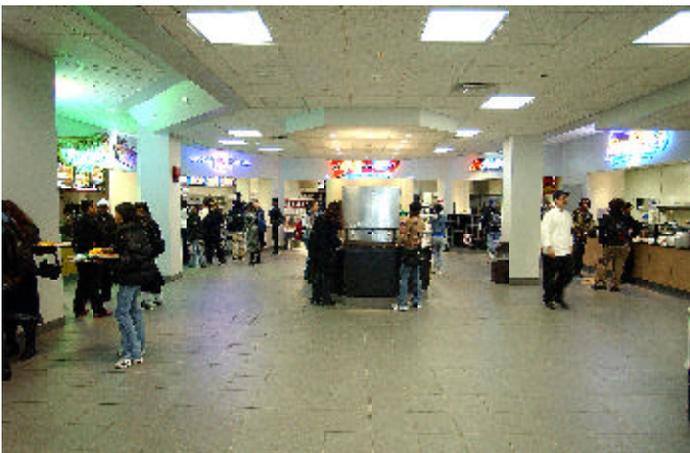
Victor from Nathan's Famous provides courteous service to all.



NCC President Dr. Sean Fanelli enjoys a conversation with a student.



Create your own salad at J&B Salad Selects.



The Food Court offers a wide variety of choices.



Students gather together during a well-deserved break.

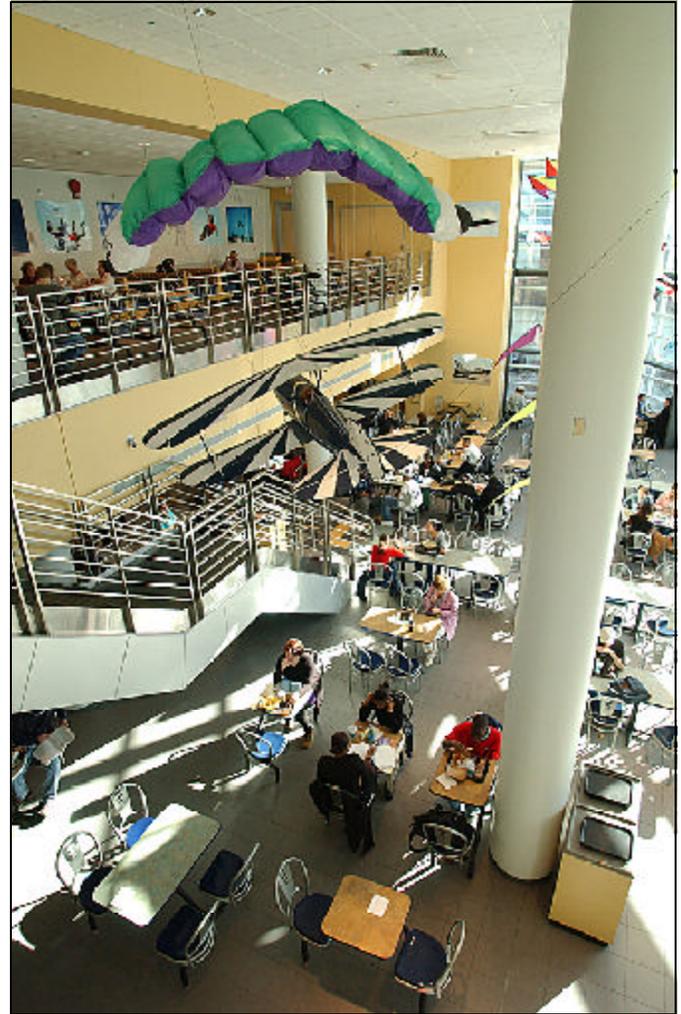
Jassau Community College



Many choices are available at the J&B Deli.



If you're in the mood for Japanese food, visit Foodji's Japanese Grill.



The 12,000 square-foot Food Court has seating for 400.



Students share some quiet time on the second floor.



In addition to the many express restaurants, Top Flight offers convenient pre-packaged food and snack items.

NCC Apparel Design Department Pays Tribute to the USA at International Competition in Paris

Apparel Design majors Marie Danielle Cassagnol, Akiko Miyata and Claire Sakellaris represented Nassau Community College at the 19th annual Air France Designers' Competition at the Louvre in Paris last month.

Each year, in an effort to promote new talent, this design competition draws entries from fashion schools worldwide. This year 110 students from eleven countries participated. They included Canada, China, Korea, the United States, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Russia and Taiwan. A professionally staged fashion show was held at the Louvre and one winner was selected from each country. The Air France Designers' Competition is the only international design competition of its kind. It gives design students worldwide a chance to meet their counterparts from other countries and to view how they approach the design process.

Photo: Marie Danielle Cassagnol designed a tribute to the United States with a red, white and blue velvet gown with leather stars. The points of the white leather stars are accented with rhinestones. She also designed a matching shawl with "United We Stand" written in white on a blue velvet background. Model Alexandra Harrelson is a first year Apparel Design major.



Nassau Community College Raises Record Amount at American Heart Walk



Over 100 walkers from Nassau Community College participated in the American Heart Association Walk 2001 on Sunday, October 21, 2001. This annual event, which is sponsored by the American Heart Association, was held at SUNY Farmingdale.

NCC has participated in the walk for the past five years, with President Fanelli serving as Vice-Chair and Evelyn Comer, Special Projects Coordinator, and Reginald Tuggle, Director of College/Community Relations, serving as Co-Chairs. This year, walkers from Nassau Community College raised over \$15,000 to aid in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

This year, the American Heart Association has graciously agreed to donate a quarter of a million dollars to the World Trade Center victims and their families.

NCC Campus Calendar

NCC Firehouse Art Gallery Hosts

Explorations in Clay January 22 - February 15



The Firehouse Art Gallery at Nassau Community College is hosting an exhibition of ceramic sculptures and objects entitled *Explorations in Clay*. The exhibit opened on January 22 and runs through February 2, with a reception scheduled for Saturday, February 2 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The artists in this exhibition, chosen by NCC Professor of Ceramics Bill Shillalies, employ ceramics in both traditional and non-traditional modes, using clay as a medium that can be both playful and utilitarian, whimsical and sincere. Among the artists represented are David Bogus, Susan Beecher, Bruce Dehnert, Barbara Grossman-Karyo, Tania Kravath and Bruce Morozko.

Firehouse Art Gallery hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The gallery is closed on Sunday. For more information about *Explorations in Clay*, please call 516-572-7165.

FACULTY/STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Prof. Arthur Friedman, Library, was selected as the 2002 vice president of the Long Island Library Resources Council Board of Trustees.

Prof. Merwin Kliman, Math, received an award for volunteer leadership from the New Hyde Park-based Goudreau Museum of Mathematics in Art and Science.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing, appeared in a News 12 Long Island story about holiday shopping trends in 2001. He also contributed an article entitled "Building Your Company's Image in the Local Community" to the November issue of *Long Island*, the official magazine of the Long Island Association.

Dr. Julio Marzán, English, is author of "Ethnic Poetry," a poem originally in *Parnassus: Poetry in Review* and later reprinted in five Bedford/St. Martin's college readers. A second poem, "The Translator at the Reception for Latin

American Writers," was published in *The Massachusetts Review*, *Harper's Magazine* and the *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*. In addition, Arte Público Press published his translation of *Selected Poems/Poesía Selecta: Luis Palé Matos* and his essay "Pablo Neruda's Dilemma" appeared in the 40th anniversary issue of *The Massachusetts Review*. Dr. Marzán also lectured on Bicultural Aesthetics in the book *The Spanish American Roots of William Carlos Williams*.

Prof. Marcia McNair, English, received an honorable mention for nonfiction in the Twelfth Consecutive New Millennium Writing Awards.

Dr. Caroline Olko, Psychology, gave two presentations on Aromatherapy, one at Mineola High School and the other at Island Trees Public Library. In addition, Dr. Olko's work on the effects of olfaction on emotional development has been

included in the following publications: *Infants and Toddlers* (5th Ed.), *Scents and Scentsabilities: Aromatherapy Comes of Age* and *Infants to Adolescents: Research Update*. Dr. Olko and Dr. John Spano, Biology, have been awarded a grant from "The Conversations in the Disciplines Program" supported by SUNY Albany, entitled Aromachology: The Scientific Study of the Sense of Smell. A conference will be held and a journal will be published on the subject in 2002.

Prof. Mary Ann Pervelis, Nursing, has been appointed to the Human Rights Council of the New York State Nurses Association for a two-year term.

Prof. Michael Ritchie, Art, received a Queens Council on the Arts/New York City Department of Cultural Affairs award for the third year in a row. He used it to complete a large sculpture.

Note: All members of the College community are invited to send articles pertaining to their professional and community activities to Nexus for inclusion on a space availability basis. For more information call Gail Ignacio or Alicia Steger, Editor, at the College Relations Office at 572-9634 or 572-7249.

NCC Sports Highlights

NCC Lions Victorious in the 5th Annual Canon Empire Bowl Game

The Nassau Community College *Lions* pulled out a thrilling last-second victory in the 5th annual Canon Empire Bowl Game, held at Mitchel Field Athletic Complex in Uniondale on December 1. The season finale ended the *Lions*' season on a high note, as they beat the William Rainey Harper College *Hawks* 16 to 13 with a field goal in the last nine seconds of the game. Spectators enjoyed the spirited competition between two nationally recognized football teams.

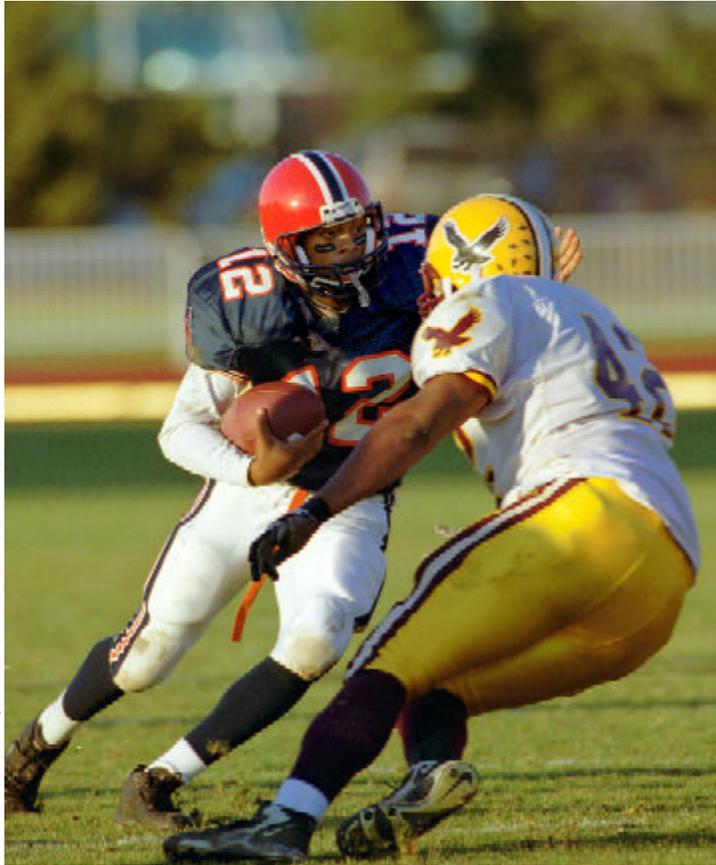


Photo by Howard Schnapp

NCC Lions quarterback Abbi Jones carries the ball against the Harper Hawks defensive man.

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