

The Official Newsletter of
NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Where Success Starts...and Continues

Summer 2008

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2008

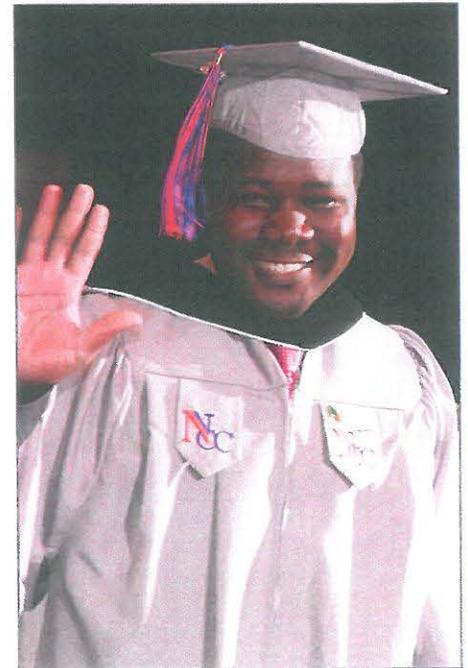


SPIRITS WERE HIGH AS ALMOST 10,000 PEOPLE—including graduates, family members, friends, faculty, administrators and staff—attended Nassau Community College's 48th annual graduation, which took place on May 20 at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. NCC President Dr. Sean A. Fanelli addressed those assembled, congratulating the graduates, summing up the year's accomplishments, outlining examples of graduates he felt were especially indicative of this year's class and offering his advice to the graduates.

This year, Nassau had 3,059 graduation candidates, one of the largest graduating classes for a community college in the State of New York. Graduates ranged in age from 18 to 75 years old, with an average age of 27. In the class of 2008, there were 291 graduate candidates with honors, seven sets of twins and five sets of parent/children combinations.

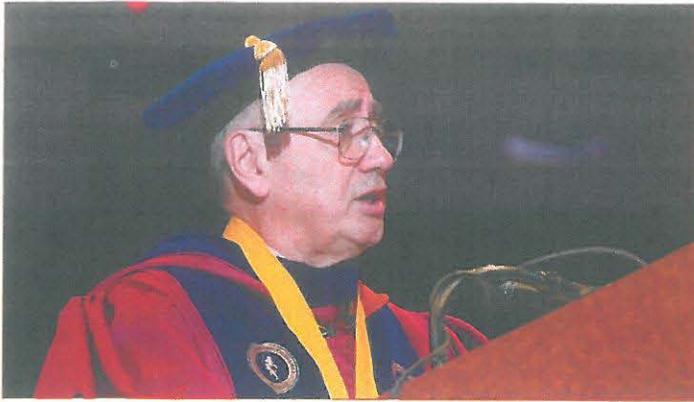
Class valedictorian was Chris Ball, who in his speech spoke about the fact that while results matter, of course, in life it's the journey and the lessons learned through experience that are the

most important. Chris went on to quote *Desiderata*, an inspirational prose poem about attaining happiness in life. Regina Barreca, a feminist humorist and professor of English Literature and Feminist Theory at the University of Connecticut, gave the commencement address. Her talk was entitled "Class Acts: Laughter, Learning, and Life on Long Island." A graduate of Oceanside high school, Barreca advised the graduates to think of their graduation from Nassau as a celebration of the beginning of the rest of their lives—as well as an opportunity to find and use the greatness within each one of them.



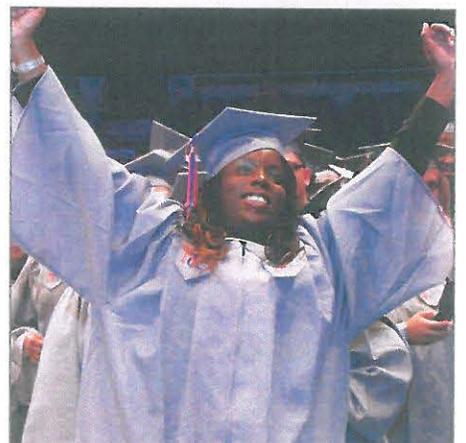
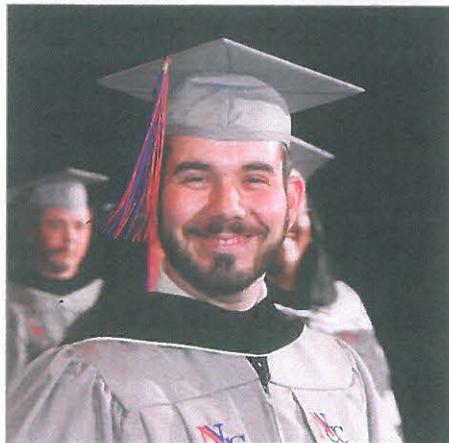
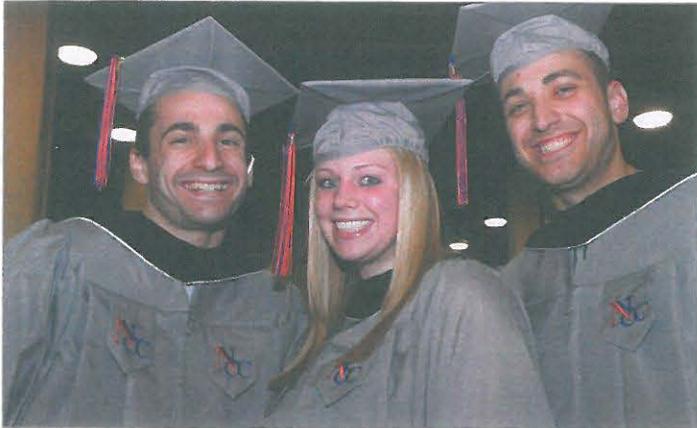
Photos: Nassau graduates celebrate the day.

Photography by William Baker



OVER 10,000 ATTEND
NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMENCEMENT 2008

Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President of Nassau Community College, addresses the Class of 2008.



NCC Debaters Win Top Awards at the National Junior College Championships

The Nassau Community College debate team participated this spring in the 2008 National Junior College Debate Championships, held at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois. Professor Trent Webb, Director of the team, reports that students Kristina Dawkins and Vernon Byrd won the national championship gold medal in Duo Interpretation, one of the toughest events at the competition. Freshman Robert Stahl won a bronze medal in Persuasive Speaking. Rounding out the team, which placed fourth overall, were Brandon Hornishny, Danielle DiTomasso and Steve Blake. Seventy-five schools participated in the event.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS AGAIN! NCC Lacrosse Team Captures 21st Title

The Nassau Community College men's lacrosse team is the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) champions. Rated number four going into the tournament, which was played at Mitchel Field, the Lions beat two-time defending NJCAA champion Onondaga 15-11 on May 10. The next day, they bested the Community College of Baltimore County-Essex by a score of 11-6 to seal the championship. This is the team's 21st overall championship. With hard work and dedication, team members upheld the winning tradition of NCC's nationally recognized lacrosse program.

Prof. Richard Speckman has coached more national lacrosse championship teams and more junior college championship teams than any other coach in the United States. Both the men's and women's teams at Nassau are often ranked among the top teams nationally.



Photograph by Patrick McCarthy

A GOLF TEAM PAR EXCELLENCE Nassau Community College Men's Golf Team National Champions for Second Straight Year

The NCC men's golf team is the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) national champions. The team locked up a victory with a 1214 stroke performance, four strokes better than Louisburg College of North Carolina, which finished in second place. The Lions went into the tournament—which was played on the Lake Course at Chautauqua Golf Club in early June—as Division III, Region XV champions, ranked number one on the final poll. They also went in as defending national champions. In fact, three members of this year's team played in 2007 as well. Congratulations to Coach Larry Dellaquila and the members of the 2008 Nassau Community College men's golf team: All Americans Matt Livolsi and Juan Sanchez, Dan Carr, Colin Dolph and Jim McLaughlin. Dellaquila was also named Coach of the Year for 2008 by the NJCAA.



Kneeling: James McLaughlin and Juan Sanchez. Standing: Dave Stieglitz, Colin Dolph, Coach Larry Dellaquila, Matt Livolsi and Dan Carr.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Lorraine Alston Elected Student Government President at Nassau Community College



Lorraine Alston, the new Student Government Association (SGA) president at NCC, is a positive person who believes in taking action. As soon as she came to the College last year, she says, she “fell in love with Nassau” and became involved in student life. Lorraine was a freshman senator and parliamentarian of the SGA. She’s also president of the honors club. In fact, one of her goals as student government president is to encourage other students to take action too—in campus life and in the world around them. An effective way to do that, according to Lorraine, is “to find things that spark students’ interest and have them want to become involved, rather than to try and force them to.”

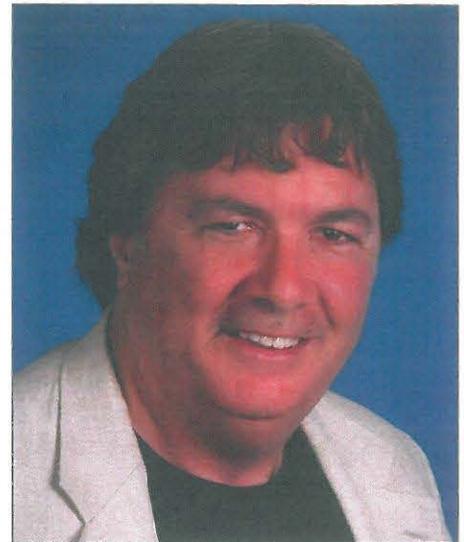
In her classes, in student government and in her other activities, Lorraine has been especially excited by having the opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds. She believes that it’s important for all of us to learn about each other. Lorraine hopes to facilitate more events on campus celebrating diversity so that students have exposure to a wider world. The 19-year-old Uniondale high school graduate wants to eventually attend Hunter or CUNY and then pursue a career in criminal psychology.

“I’m very grateful for the opportunities I’ve gotten at Nassau, both in the classroom and in student government. I hope I can help provide those opportunities for other students as well,” says Lorraine.

Chris Ball Named Valedictorian of the Nassau Community College Class of 2008

Chris Ball, the valedictorian of Nassau Community College’s class of 2008, is nothing if not determined. By his own admission, the 52-year-old was used to working 70-hour weeks and “going through life at 1,000 miles an hour.” All that changed, unfortunately, when tragedy struck and he had a stroke several years ago. At first, doctors told Chris that he would never walk again, much less live independently. He was determined to prove them wrong. After much hard work and rehabilitation, Chris today walks with the aid of a cane and lives on his own in New Hyde Park.

Another part of Chris’ rehabilitation—one which had its own skeptics—was returning to school. In the summer of 2006, Chris signed up for some summer classes at Nassau. More hard work on his part made that experience go so well that he enrolled full-time the following fall. Chris graduated this May with a perfect grade point average. “I started a whole new life after being disabled, and Nassau has given me the encouragement, confidence and the tools to succeed in my new life. It’s amazing that so large a college is so much like a family,” he said. Chris isn’t finished yet. In the fall he’s going to study psychology at the Derner Institute at Adelphi University. Chris hopes one day to work in psychology with foster children. There’s little doubt that the same determination that has brought him this far will help him realize more of his dreams.



Esther Obisakin Appointed Student Trustee at Nassau Community College



As the daughter of a diplomat, Esther Obisakin, the new Student Trustee at Nassau Community College, has lived in many places. She was born in Nigeria. While still a young girl, she moved with her family to Brazil. Four years later, Esther was living in Israel, a country in which she resided for three years. Her family then came to the U.S. and settled in Houston, Texas, where she went to high school. Still another move took them to New York. Esther currently lives in Elmont. Living in so many different places provides for a variety of experiences at a young age. Now, Esther is ready for yet another new experience as she takes on the role of Student Trustee at NCC. A passionate student advocate who is not afraid to speak her mind, Esther intends to represent students on the Board of Directors to the best of her abilities and wants to enhance the quality of student life. “Attending Nassau was a very positive experience for me,” says Esther. As student trustee, I hope I can help make other students’ experiences similar to mine.” Esther also feels that she can use her experience as a freshman senator towards her new position.

In the honors program at Nassau and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Esther plans to pursue her bachelor’s degree after graduating from Nassau, go on to graduate school and perhaps pursue a career in education administration.

NEW SOCIAL WORK ORIENTED DEGREE PROGRAM AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work Department at Nassau Community College is pleased to announce a new two-year social work oriented degree program in Human Services. The degree, the full name of which is Human Services: Community Service and Social Welfare, is intended for those who wish to ultimately obtain a four-year degree in social work or social policy.

According to Dr. Pat Halcrow, L.C.S.W., of the NCC Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work Department and coordinator of the program, Human Service majors take social work oriented classes and a course on alcoholism and addictions in addition to their general coursework. They also have one semester of field placement in a social work internship. While some social work courses were available in past semesters, until now, Nassau did not have a social work oriented degree

program. "We have wonderful students who are committed to helping others," says Dr. Halcrow. "This program has every piece in place for success in transferring to a four-year social work program." Nassau's first Human Service majors will graduate in the spring of 2010.

The NCC Human Services program has transfer agreements with Adelphi University, C.W. Post and Molloy. That means that upon completing their Associate of Arts degree in Human Services at Nassau, students can seamlessly transfer to a four-year social work bachelor's degree program at one of these schools, provided they meet the particular school's requirements.

For more information about NCC's new two-year degree program in Human Services, call Dr. Halcrow at 516.572.7452.

ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR FOR THE NCC THEATRE & DANCE DEPARTMENT



NCC students perform in the children's musical *Free To Be ... You And Me*.

This has been another exciting year for NCC's Theatre and Dance Department—it presented over 75 performances and drew over 7,000 patrons to the Mainstage and Little Theatres during the 2007-2008 season—including sold out public performances of the children's musical *Free To Be ... You And Me* and free shows for nearly 2,000 Nassau County elementary school children.

The 2007-2008 season also featured Irwin Shaw's classic play *Bury The Dead*; *The Moonlight Room*, by highly regarded new playwright Tristine Sklyer; the Broadway musical *The Pajama Game*; a well-received joint production

with African American Studies called *An Evening With Langston Hughes and Friends*, featuring African American poetry, music and song; the thriller *Wait Until Dark*; and an attendance record-breaking *Spring Dance Concert* in May.

Nassau will kick off its 2008-2009 season with *Really Rosie*, the popular children's musical by Maurice Sendak, with music by the incomparable Carole King.

For more information about Theatre and Dance productions at NCC, call 516.572.7508.

Nassau Community College Publications Win National Awards

Nassau Community College recently won two awards from Admissions Marketing Report at the 23rd annual Admissions Advertising Awards. The summer 2007 issue of *Nexus* won a silver award in the newsletter category. In addition, a bronze award for "search pieces" was given for a four-color piece entitled "You Deserve to Reach Your Goals."

The Admissions Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country. This year, two thousand entries were received from more than one thousand colleges, universities and secondary schools from all fifty states and several foreign countries.

TEN NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVE 2008 SUNY CHANCELLOR AWARDS

The State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor Award for Excellence was presented to ten Nassau Community College faculty and staff members at a ceremony held on April 3. This prestigious award provides statewide recognition for superlative performance and outstanding professional achievement. Chancellor's Award recipients are professionals who have repeatedly sought improvement in themselves, their campus and ultimately the State University system. These individuals serve as professional role models for a university system in pursuit of excellence.

The Chancellor Awards program was created 34 years ago to honor the distinguished performance of SUNY's teaching faculty, librarians and members of the professional service. "The committee is constantly amazed by the creative, innovative work our colleagues exhibit. We truly have an exceptional faculty and staff," said Associate Vice President Carol Farber, Chair of the NCC Chancellor's Award Selection Committee.



Nassau Community College SUNY Chancellor Award Winners for 2008—Dr. Edward Boyden, History/Political Science/Geography; Dr. Florence Boodakian, English; Dr. Paul Rosa, English; Prof. Eugene Brown, Chemistry; Prof. Linda Gorman, Library; Dr. Judith Kaplan, Nursing; Dr. Pattianne Murphy, Nursing; Dr. Ronna Feit, Foreign Languages; Prof. Mohammad Javadi, Mathematics /Statistics/Computers. Not pictured: Prof. Helene Guttenberg-Menco, Student Personnel Services.

FACULTY/STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Betty Borowsky, Biology, was recently elected chair of the Asthma Coalition of Long Island. The mission of the coalition is to reduce the burden of asthma and improve the quality of life for patients, their families and the community.

Dr. Sally Ann Drucker, English, led 15 book discussions at the Merrick, Syosset and Port Washington public libraries this year, sponsored by Nextbook/American Library Association for its "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature" series. Dr. Drucker's topics were "A Mind of Her Own: Fathers and Daughters in a Changing World" and "Neighbors: The World Next Door."

Prof. Emeritus, Renée Kaplan, Psychology, received an award as a Woman of Distinction from the Assembly of the State of New York. Presented by Assemblyman Bob Barra, the award was given to Prof. Kaplan for her contributions to the community and for being a positive role model for young women.

Dr. Lorraine Findlay, Allied Health Sciences, an appointed member of the Public and Scientific Affairs Board of the American Society for Microbiology, attended a board meeting of the society in Washington, D.C. in February. The 14-member board linked with the Director General of the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland via live satellite. The two organizations developed a joint ASM/WHO three-year policy on communicable diseases.

Dr. Arthur Friedman, Coordinator of Distance Education, was a presenter at The Written Word Committee's April 11th meeting. He spoke about "Distance Learning: Past, Present and Future."

Dr. Dorotea Litvak, English, will appear in the 2008-2009 edition of *Montclair Who's Who in Collegiate Faculty*.

Profs. Anti Liu, Mena Romano and Bill Shillalies, Art, presented at the Potters Council-Island Clay Conference, which was held at the two Adelphi University campus galleries June 27 through June 29. The professors are also part of another exhibit that runs at the galleries through August 11.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing/Retailing /Fashion, appeared on the April 24th edition of *News 12 Long Island Talks* to discuss the effect taxing Internet purchases will have on Long Island's economy. He also contributed to a *Newsday* business article titled "Today's Special: Higher Prices," which appeared on May 5. Finally, Prof. Mandel was a featured speaker at the 2008 Long Island Library Conference held at the Crest Hollow Country Club. His topic was "Library Marketing That Works."

Prof. Marcia McNair, English, discussed the novel *Aloft* by Chang-rae Lee at the Peninsula Public Library in Lawrence in April.

Prof. William O'Keefe and Colleen Lamb of the Allied Health Sciences Department were recently elected as the Long Island District's Chair and Vice Chair respectively for the New York Physical Therapy Association (NYPTA). Both attended the delegate assembly for the NYPTA in May and were Long Island delegates for the American Physical Therapy Association's House of Delegates in June. Prof. O'Keefe also participated in the Association's Lobby Day in Albany in April.

Dr. Anne Romano, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, published an ethnography on the emigration of her parents and others from the town of Itri, Italy to Cranston, Rhode Island. Entitled *Distant But Loyal, Cranston's Italian Americans*, it's published by Inkwater Press.

Dr. Stella Russell, Prof. Emeritus, Art, returned to Key West, Florida for the third time to judge the Key West Fine Arts Outdoor Exhibition. Sponsored by the Key West Art Center, the exhibition was expanded to national prominence by one of Dr. Russell's first students, Florence Recher. More than 100 artists showed their work at the exhibit.

Dr. Neela Saxena, English, presented a paper, "Dance of the Dual Self," at the DANAM/American Academy of Religions conference in San Diego. She was also a guest speaker at the Kazi Nazrul Islam conference organized by California State University at Northridge.

Dr. Mario Susko, English, had his 26th poetry collection, *Closing Time*, published by Harbor Mountain Press. He is also a recipient of an Editor's Choice for Poetry Award for his poem "There and Here," which is published in *Relief: A Quarterly Christian Expression*.

Prof. Scott Walden, Philosophy, has published a book entitled *Photography and Philosophy*. It's published by Blackwell Publishing.

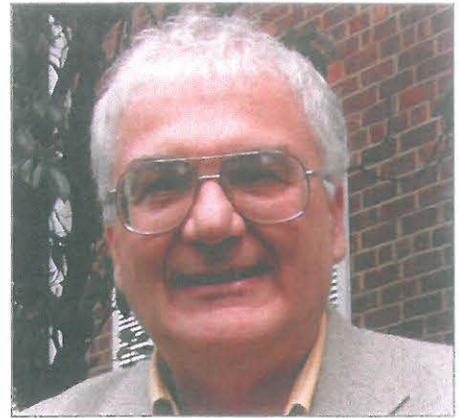
Note: All members of the College are invited to send articles pertaining to professional and community activities for inclusion. Call College Relations at 516.572.9634.

NCC PROFESSORS CHEIFETZ AND VARACALLI RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIP AWARD FROM SUNY

Two longtime Nassau Community College professors—Dr. Philip Cheifetz, a professor in the Mathematics, Computer Science and Information Technology department, and Dr. Joseph Varacalli, a professor in the Sociology department and the director of the Center for Catholic Studies—have been granted by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees the honor of “Distinguished Service Professorship” as a result of their extraordinary professional service. The Distinguished Service Professorship is conferred upon individuals at SUNY’s campuses who have achieved national or international



Dr. Philip M. Cheifetz, Professor of Mathematics.



Dr. Joseph A. Varacalli, Professor of Sociology.

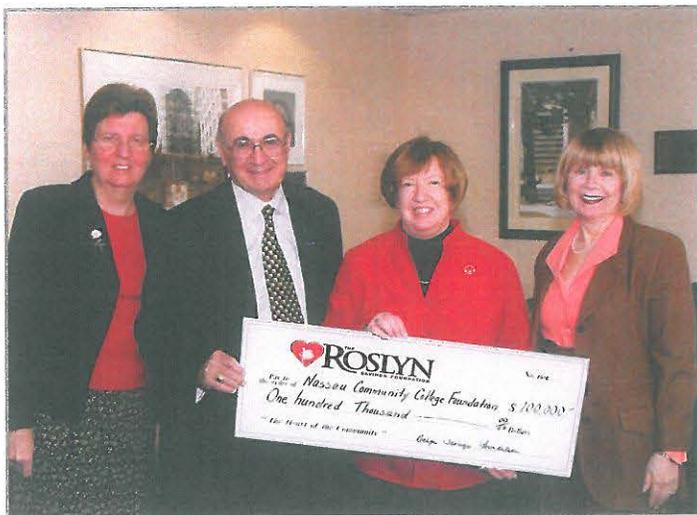
prominence and a distinguished reputation within the individual’s chosen field. Dr. Cheifetz and Dr. Varacalli are two of only 13 professors statewide to attain this honor in 2008.

“SUNY faculty who receive appointment to the distinguished ranks are truly representative of the broad service contributions and the career achievements being made by faculty on each of our

64 campuses across New York State,” said SUNY Interim Chancellor Dr. John B. Clark. In addition to the selection criteria for the Distinguished Service Professorship, to be nominated a faculty member must have held the rank of full professor for five years, have three years of full-time service at the nominating institution and have completed at least ten years of full-time service for SUNY.

NASSAU RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT FROM ROSLYN SAVINGS

The Roslyn Savings Foundation has awarded a four-year, \$100,000 gift to NCC’s Department of Nursing that will be earmarked to expand existing group tutoring/mentoring programs. Sessions will be added on Friday evenings, Saturdays and two evenings per week. The additional sessions will help students achieve greater clinical skills.



Pictured left to right are Dr. Carol Mottola, Nursing Department Chairperson; NCC President Dr. Sean A. Fanelli; Marion Conway, Executive Director, The Roslyn Savings Foundation; and Ann Wolf, Advancement Associate Vice President, NCC.

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION
HOSTS 7TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 2008
MEADOW BROOK CLUB
JERICHO, NEW YORK

Honoring **BRIAN BALDINGER**
Nassau Community College Alumnus
and Fox Television Network NFL Commentator

Schedule of Events at the Meadow Brook Club
 Registration and Brunch 10:30 a.m.
 Shotgun Start 12:30 p.m.
 Cocktail Reception and Awards. 5:30 p.m.

PROCEEDS FROM THE OUTING WILL BENEFIT
THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For more information, please contact:
 Nassau Community College, Office of Advancement
 One Education Drive, Garden City, NY 11530-6793
 516.572.8972; or e-mail advancement@ncc.edu

REGISTRATION & APPLICATION INFORMATION FOR FALL 2008



**DAY CLASSES BEGIN ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**

**EVENING CLASSES BEGIN ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

**WEEKEND COLLEGE CLASSES
BEGIN ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

NEW APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH AUGUST 25

Call the Admissions Office at 516.572.7345 or check us out online: www.ncc.edu/admissions

CURRENT STUDENTS MAY BE ABLE TO REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.NCC.EDU/BANNER

or in person at the Registrar—Call the Registrar's Office at 516.572.7355

ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Academic Advisement is available through the Academic Advisement Center (Building U). Please call the center at 516.572.7118 for the schedule of advisor availability for your major or visit www.ncc.edu/registrar

CURRENT AND ADMITTED STUDENTS SHOULD REGISTER FOR FALL 2008 BY THE FOLLOWING DATES

Day classes – Friday, August 29

Distance Education & Evening Classes – Thursday, September 4

Weekend College – Friday, September 5


NASSAU
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A unit of the State
University of New York

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This newsletter is published by:
The Office of
College/Community Relations
TEL: 516.572.9634
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