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This publication is produced by the Marketing & Public Relations Office at Jefferson Community College.

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A Message from the President

At Jefferson, we are about half way through our 50th anniversary celebration year and what a year it has been! We have had many activities and events with several yet to come. So many people have participated – alumni, current students, retirees, faculty and staff, community members, former and current trustees, elected officials, and more. And while the events themselves have been a wonderful way to look at where we have been and where we are going, what I have most treasured is hearing all of the stories about the people who are part of this great institution and its history. The stories are funny, poignant and moving. They are filled with people who overcame obstacles. They are filled with people who wouldn’t take no for an answer. They are filled with people who believed in the value of education. And they are filled with some incredible characters – passionate, driven, fun-loving, quirky, pioneering and dedicated being just a few of the words that I have heard over and over again.

The stories that mean the very most to me are when students talk about how Jefferson changed their lives. I love these because they are about both the student and the people who work at the college. For students, the life changing moment sometimes was because of the opportunity to go to college – the financial aid, receiving a scholarship, the variety of courses and the times they are offered, the distance learning program, or being encouraged to apply. But most often, the stories are about the people who taught them, helped them, and inspired them: a professor who shared his love of nature, a financial aid specialist who explored every possibility to help a student afford to come, a counselor who helped a student through some difficult personal issues, a professor who held a student to high standard, or a professor who tutored a student outside of the classroom. Students talk about the people who cared, who went the extra mile, who became a mentor, and who they still turn to for advice. Faculty and staff talk about the student who overcame adversity, who wouldn’t give up, who had an “ah ha” moment, who had incredible talent, and who came to learn. Who wouldn’t be moved by these stories?

Jefferson Community College is a community asset because of the people who have been a part of this institution. It is impossible to go anywhere in our county and not be surrounded by those who have either benefitted from the college or who have contributed in some way to the college. As you read the pages of this publication, I encourage you to listen to the stories that are being told. They are the foundation for our next 50 years.

Carole A. McCoy
President, Jefferson Community College
In May 20, the McVean Student Center Gymnasium at Jefferson was filled to capacity with smiling children, parents, siblings, spouses and grandparents, who watched their family members walk proudly across the stage and receive their degrees during the College’s 47th annual commencement exercises. The Class of 2011 is one of the largest in the College’s history with 628 students who either completed degree requirements in December 2010 or were candidates for graduating in May or August of 2011. It is also one of the most diverse classes with close to half of graduates considered adult learners, at age 25 and older, and nearly one third active duty soldiers or family members.

During his keynote address, Congressman William L. Owens (NY-23rd) empathized with non-traditional students as he likened his 2009 election to Congress at age 60 to being a freshman all over again. He commended the Class of 2011 for choosing to make education a priority for their families and acknowledged the work required to pursue an education. “But, working hard also means building a life for yourself that has meaning and purpose,” said Owens (pictured above right). In closing, he advised graduates to find a job they enjoy, laugh every day, stay in touch with friends and mentors met at JCC and learn to listen, a skill “that you must have in order to continue to learn throughout your life.”

Student commencement speaker Nolan R. K. Bodah (at right), Watertown, began his address to his classmates by quoting Thomas Edison, “opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.” "JCC is often envisioned in overalls. We’ve all heard ‘high school on the hill,’ the second choice or last resort,” continued Bodah. “For those of us here tonight, this is far from what we know to be true. Tonight, we gather to become the newest alumni of Jefferson. All of us here were given a great opportunity, and if not now, someday we will all realize that.”

Bodah readily admits he floated through high school and did the bare minimum required to achieve satisfactory grades. He just wanted to play baseball and hang...
out with his friends. Despite warnings from his parents that all would change in college, Bodah says he “had no idea how hard it was going to be, and knowing everything I do from here on out matters.”

What he found at Jefferson was a caring faculty and staff who encouraged and challenged him to not only reach his potential, but exceed it. At JCC, Bodah excelled as a student athlete, completed the Honors Program, and earned President’s List each semester. He will continue his studies at Binghamton University with plans of becoming a dentist.

“All of us have had that faculty member who has made us feel that our individual learning experience was as important as anyone else’s,” said Bodah. “Whether it’s biology, psychology, sociology, or whatever ‘ology’ we took, the faculty and staff took great pride in their discipline. JCC has the most outstanding faculty we students could ask for, and we thank them.”

Bodah also acknowledged the diversity of his class, another benefit to a community college education. From the maturity brought to the baseball team by a 22-year old captain, to the wisdom of mothers, fathers and grandparents sitting beside Bodah in the classroom, to the more global perspective shared by soldiers and their family members, each enhanced the collective learning experience for all in the classroom.

“High educational standards, personal attention from an outstanding faculty and staff, an option to live at home and save money, playing a college level sport, a diverse student body, and of course a head start to the future are opportunities a four year college could not offer us,” concluded Bodah. “I’m proud of all of us who were able to see beyond the overall, and complete the work that made us graduates of Jefferson Community College. Congratulations to the Class of 2011.”

SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Student Excellence

The SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence acknowledges students who have best demonstrated the integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives: community service, athletics, creative and performing arts, leadership and career achievement. Gunjan V. Udeshi and Stacey L. Upton, both of Watertown, were chosen by SUNY for the 2011 Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence.

Gunjan graduated with an A.S. degree in business administration in December 2010. She earned President’s List honors each semester at JCC and was vice president of Jefferson’s Tau Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa national honor society. Gunjan

was a campus orientation guide, active in the Business Club and was a member and tri-captain of the Lady Cannoneers intercollegiate basketball team. A devoted volunteer, she helped on campus with the biannual blood drive, cultural fair, and the end-of-the-year banquet, and off campus at a local retirement community, child care center, Habitat for Humanity and Cornell Cooperative Extension. Gunjan transferred to Binghamton University where she is studying finance.

Stacey graduated with an A.S. degree in human services. She earned President’s List honors each semester at JCC and is a member of the Tau Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa national honor society. While at JCC, Stacey assisted in the Welcome Center as both a shadow guide and as a student ambassador and she served as secretary of the Human Services Club. In the community, Stacey assisted in the development and implementation of a Parent/Teacher Guild at Immaculate Heart Central Junior/Senior High School and is a dedicated volunteer for Hospice. An already busy mother to three children, Stacey plans to transfer to Keuka College and pursue a bachelor’s degree in social work on Jefferson’s campus through JCC’s Higher Education Center initiative.

Gunjan and Stacey were among an elite group of 249 students from across all SUNY campuses honored April 5 at a ceremony at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany. Awards were presented by SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher.

Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Academic Team

Congratulations to Christopher D. Coles of Evans Mills who joins Gunjan V. Udeshi of Watertown, pictured top right with JCC President Carole A. McCoy, on the All-New York 2011 Academic Team for Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for community colleges. To be chosen for the All-New York academic team, students must have a grade point average of at least 3.25 and a history of scholarly achievement and outstanding service to campus or community.

Chris graduated with an A.A. degree in liberal arts - humanities and social sciences. He earned Dean’s or President's List honors for each semester at JCC and was president of Jefferson’s Tau Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Chris also completed JCC’s Honors Program and Honors Seminar. On campus, Chris was an active member of Student Government and served on the Faculty Student Association board of directors. Chris plans to pursue a degree in physical education at SUNY Cortland this fall.

Honors Program Graduates

Jefferson’s Honors Program offers students with exceptional academic skills the opportunity to receive enriched instruction during their senior year. Honors program students select three courses and enhance them as Honors Options by choosing a project for each and working directly with a faculty member to provide a unique and rewarding educational experience. Successful Honors Program completion is noted on official college transcripts. Congratulations to Honors Program students pictured below.
uch attention has been paid to the fact that 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of Jefferson Community College, but another significant milestone took place on May 19. On this evening, the 40th class of Jefferson Community College nursing graduates took part in the time-honored tradition of a Pinning Ceremony. The Pinning Ceremony, which signifies the transition from student to professional, ends with the graduates reciting Florence Nightingale's pledge by candlelight. Including the class of 2011, more than 1,331 nursing students have made an impact in our community and beyond as JCC alumni working in the healthcare field.

In her remarks to the graduates, Science Division Dean Linda Dittrich looked back upon the nursing profession forty years ago.

“The most obvious change is the nursing uniform,” said Dittrich with a smile. “In the 1960s it was suggested RNs wear a nurse pin, a practical watch, white nylons, light makeup, and a nurses’ cap.” A very clear hierarchy existed as nurses stood when physicians entered the room and only talked to doctors when spoken to first. By the end of the decade, nurses’ caps were beginning to disappear and discussions of diploma schools, associate degrees and bachelor degrees began and continue to this day. The 1970s were marked by a trend toward autonomy. “Nurses struggled to take on more decision-making responsibilities,” continued Dittrich. “The upgrading of nursing education symbolized this trend as nurses entered the profession with at least a college-level degree in nursing.”

Jefferson quickly addressed this trend in healthcare training and initiated the associate of applied science in nursing program, which prepares students to become registered nurses. Students were first admitted to the program in 1969. The program was accredited by the National League for Nursing in 1970 and the first class of 26 nurses graduated in 1971.

Since that first class, Jefferson’s program has continued to serve the community by preparing students to meet the ever-changing demands of the nursing profession. “While some of the earliest nursing principles are still with us, nursing has become a technically skilled profession,” said Dittrich.

Jefferson’s nursing program is one of the top programs in New York State, as evidenced by consistently higher than state and national average National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) pass rates. Jefferson students have excelled on the exam with a greater than 90% average pass rate and the class of 2009 can even boast of a 100% pass rate.

Later this year, Jefferson will write a new chapter in the history of the nursing program. With the support of a U.S. Dept. of Labor grant, Jefferson began offering a weekend format nursing A.A.S. program in January of 2010. Students attend class every other weekend, on Friday evenings and all day on Saturdays and Sundays for two years. A Pinning Ceremony for the first class of weekend scholars is tentatively scheduled for December 21, 2011.
Class of 2011 Perseveres through Life's Challenges

The majority of Jefferson's nursing students are 'adult learners.' Typically, they do not enroll in the nursing program right out of high school, but rather they work in the healthcare field for awhile and then pursue a degree so they can advance. Or, it’s a change of careers. As a result, JCC’s students are often married, mothers or fathers, and they want to maintain their job while they earn their degree. This is a rigorous program that requires vast amounts of time and dedication in order to succeed.

In her class reflections given during the Pinning Ceremony, graduatate Rhea Horner talked about the past two years and the challenges faced by her and her 31 classmates with both humor and a resounding sense of well-deserved accomplishment. She talked of the 17,000 pages of textbook materials, chicken scratch as an official language, hours of prep work and even more hours studying, and the consumption of vast amounts of sugar, and more than a few tears. But through the humor, it was clear that for Horner and her classmates, their dedication to becoming nurses never wavered.

"Some of us have always known that this is where our passions lie. For others of us, who were still wondering what we wanted to be when we grew up at 30—something, there was the proverbial ‘light bulb’ moment. But no matter what the reason, we all started on this path because we thought we would like it. We finished because we learned that we LOVE it."

Horner’s ‘light bulb moment’ came when she least expected it. Rhea was a stay-at-home mother to her three sons for the first seven years of motherhood. She had her first thought of becoming a nurse when her second son was undergoing treatment for leukemia. Watching the nurses, she thought “I could do this…I would like this.”

A few years later with her family once again healthy, Rhea began waiting part-time and when her youngest son started kindergarten she went back to college to become a high school math teacher. For someone who loved algebra and wanted summers off with her children, becoming a math teacher seemed a natural fit for Rhea. But, after earning her liberal arts degree she realized she was less than enthusiastic about becoming a teacher. One day, while sitting in class with a friend who also worked at the Clipper Inn, the friend mentioned she was applying to the nursing program. “Aha! That’s what I want to do!” said Horner and the proverbial ‘light bulb’ illuminated.

Now Rhea, along with her fellow graduate from the Clipper, Wendy Casler, can bask in the feeling of great accomplishment.

Nursing school was, she says, her biggest challenge. Even before applying, Rhea divorced and became the sole provider for her children. All three of her boys play hockey ("a lifestyle in itself," laughs Horner) and she continued to work while studying until she couldn’t balance it all. Like her classmates, she relied on extended family and friends for support and assistance.

Rhea says her boys were her motivation. “In deciding between teaching and nursing, I weighed vacations with the boys against my happiness in a career,” said Horner. “But ultimately, a happy Mommy makes a happy family.”

Rhea’s story is not unlike those of her classmates, of whom all but two are adult learners, who earned their degrees in the face of life’s challenges. Through it all, they never lost sight of their goal of becoming a nurse. Horner paid tribute to her classmates’ dedication as she concluded her class reflections:

"Every one of us was committed to becoming a nurse. And so we studied…through everything. We got married…and we studied. We got divorced…and we studied. Our kids were sick…and we studied. We had kidney stones…and we studied. We gave birth….and we studied. Our spouses deployed….and we studied.

We are here tonight to celebrate the culmination of our hard work. But more than that, we are here to celebrate who we are. WE ARE NURSES."
In commemoration of Jefferson's 50th Anniversary, the Jefferson Community College Foundation sponsored an essay contest inviting community members to tell how Jefferson has changed their lives or the life of someone they know. In 250 or fewer words, writers were asked to complete the phrase ‘Thank you, JCC, for...’ Entries were divided into three categories: current student, alumni, and friend of the College.

The JCC Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the essay contest to be Annamarie DeStefanis of Hammond in the current student category; Kelly Adsit of Lowville in the alumni category; and Suzanne Wadhams of Chaumont in the open friend of the college category.

“We were so pleased with the response we received from the community,” said Chrissie Rizzo, executive director of the JCC Foundation. “Our panel of judges faced a very difficult decision, as all of the stories were so moving! Clearly, JCC played an important role in helping so many people to achieve their goals.”

Each first-place winner will receive a gift basket and $500 to present to the JCC department of their choice. The $1,500 prize money was generously donated by college president Carole A. McCoy and her husband Donald. Additionally, the JCC Foundation is sponsoring three $500 scholarships for the Fall 2011 semester. Each scholarship will be named for a winning essayist and awarded to a student enrolled in an academic degree program of the essayist’s choice.

Over the past 50 years, Jefferson has touched the lives of many including 18,000+ alums and over 90,000 people who have taken a class or workshop, or attended an event at the college. Many JCC stories have been told and many have yet to be written. Email Karen Freeman at kfreeman@sunyjefferson.edu or Mary Kinne at alumni@sunyjefferson.edu and tell us YOUR story!
Thank you, JCC, for allowing my childhood dream to come true.

Upon graduating from high school, I was offered 2 scholarships: a small one to a local nursing hospital and a larger one to the teachers' college. Needing the scholarship, I chose teaching.

Teaching allowed me, as a single mom, to take my sons with me to school and be right down the hall so they could show me their art masterpiece. We had days off and camping summers together. I loved children and got to be that one "special" teacher for so many of my students. I was blessed to care for so many. But still, at odd times, the dream resurfaced. Nursing.

At middle age, I soul-searched what was working in my life. What mattered. What I might regret if I did not try.... I was never so scared, walking in that large auditorium where I was not the teacher but the pupil. After 40 years, I was putting myself on the line. Driving three hours roundtrip at night. Taking placement tests. Working. Studying, memorizing bones and muscles. Wrestling with chemistry.

Clara Barton was 60 years old when she founded the Red Cross and led it for 23 years. If she could do that in 1881, then I could do this now.

I am proud to be a member of the fall, 2011 nursing class at JCC. It is never too late to become the person you always wanted to be. Thanks, JCC!

Kelly has selected the English Department to receive the $500 Award. A $500 scholarship in Kelly's name will be given by the JCC Foundation to an eligible Liberal Arts – Humanities and Social Sciences major for the Fall 2011 semester.

Thank you, Jefferson Community College, for helping me find my voice to express myself confidently and to share the gift of learning. I remember walking through JCC's doors and timidly asking how to register for a class, not completely certain that I was college material as a thirty-something mother of three. After all, I had tried the college track fresh out of high school years before and one semester was all I could muster. I departed with overheard words from my grandfather's lips resonating in my head, "Don't fill her head with illusions of grandeur, there simply isn't enough money to send her to college. College is for other people."

One class at Jefferson was all it took, the muffled voice within me began to emerge. Each class thereafter nourished me with supportive instructors who intellectually challenged me while providing support and insight until my voice cried out victoriously, "This is my time, I am a college student, I can do this...I will do this!"

Now, as a teacher, when I encounter a struggling student in danger of dropping out, I tell them the story of a girl who once almost let the voices of others drown out her own. I remind them they are capable of doing anything they dare to dream, a lesson that I learned with the encouragement of my immediate family and the literal words of wisdom from Jefferson Community College that helped guide me to where I am today—Thank you!
Do you recall how you spent your college spring break? Perhaps you went on vacation somewhere sunny or visited family members or maybe just relaxed and caught up on personal projects. For eight JCC students, spring break in March 2011 took on an entirely different meaning as they embarked on a life-changing humanitarian mission to Haiti.

On March 26, Allan A. Dobransky, Maci A. Kepler, Drew G. Laemmermann, Jennifer R. Marriam, Marissa J. Moore, Nicholas T. Multari, Barbara E. Roberts and Tori A. Ward, accompanied by JCC staff members Gail W. Miller and Yvonne M. Brown, flew into Port au Prince and traveled 25 miles in the back of a pick-up truck to Leogane, the epicenter of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck in 2010. They carried an extra suitcase each and seven trunks purchased with their own money and jam-packed with donated clothing, shoes, school supplies, toys and soccer balls collected prior to their trip. The students, some of whom had never traveled on a plane or ventured outside of New York State, paid for all travel expenses out of their own pockets. In Leogane, they were hosted by the Delaney Bay Fund, a private charitable organization based in Watertown. Delaney Bay Fund provided tented shelter in a secure compound, food, transportation and on-site coordination of volunteer work.

For six days, students helped those in Leogane in their efforts to rebuild their community, one small step at a time. Students worked alongside Haitians building benches, tables and small structures for sleeping. Others helped remove steel rebar, cement, stone and other rubble from sites so that rebuilding could begin. Several students visited orphanages, playing games, interacting with children and helping to prepare the only meal served during the day. Using their own resources, a humbled group of JCC students bought one orphanage, running desperately low on food, a month’s supply of rice, beans, cornmeal and pasta.
While traveling in Leogane, students were struck by the contrast between the natural beauty that remains part of the coastal community and the deplorable living conditions that exist more than a year after the catastrophic earthquake. Perhaps even more awe-inspiring, however, was the spirit of the Haitian people.

"Nothing could prepare me for the destruction and devastation I saw people living in while in Haiti," said Barbara Roberts. "You see people walking through rubble and garbage in the streets. And yet, you see smiles when they see you: Some people of course, are angry, don't want the outsiders there. They feel exploited with people taking pictures of their misery and their struggle to live."

"I was surprised by the atmosphere," agreed Nicholas T. Multari. "I expected to see distraught people, but instead they seemed happy and hopeful."

Drew Laemmermann had some previous humanitarian experience gained during two church mission trips to Mexico, but he found few comparisons with this trip to Haiti. "By the end of the week (in Mexico), we had a key to give to three families for their new homes," said Drew. In Haiti, "we were there to do anything and everything we could to help out the Haitians. This is much different from a set schedule and a deadline."

"I absolutely feel our work in Haiti made a difference," continued Drew. "If anyone is considering doing volunteer work home or abroad, I would say don't think about it anymore, make it happen."

"I have never volunteered for something of this magnitude and would do it again if given the chance," said Roberts. "The experience of being in Haiti will stay with me forever. It has changed me, for the better. Every tragedy, every joy, and every experience helps make up the people we become. Me? I feel more humbled, more centered in my life. I wonder, will I ever see them again? Those who showed me a spirit of which I've never known."

"I think meeting the Haitian people, most so valiant and positive in the midst of severe devastation, was the most meaningful aspect of the experience," summed up Gail W. Miller, trip coordinator and (now retired) executive director of community outreach at JCC. "If you fully experience Haiti, even for a mere eight days, I don't think you ever see the world in the same way again."
Cyndy Adamczyk

Academic News

The academic degree program line-up at Jefferson has a different look for the Fall 2011 semester with the addition of two new transfer programs: Sports Management and Physical Education. Both are designed to be the first two years of a four-year degree or graduate education.

Sports Management graduates who continue with their sports management and/or business education may enter the exciting world of professional sports as team managers, personal agents, and executives in the spectrum of businesses that support professional and amateur sports including fitness centers, recreation centers and ice arenas, and sporting goods sales and marketing. Upon successful completion of the program, JCC students will be prepared for transfer to a baccalaureate program at many colleges and universities, including SUNY Cortland, SUNY Canton, SUNY Brockport and Cazenovia College.

The Physical Education degree program is also a transfer degree, leading to a career as a physical education or health education teacher, fitness instructor, athletics coach or recreational therapist. Those who complete the associate's degree only may find employment at state or city parks and recreation departments, resorts with activities or fitness facilities, wellness centers, YMCA's and fitness centers or become a personal trainer, youth coach or fitness equipment salesperson.

Jefferson has transfer agreements with SUNY Cortland and SUNY Brockport that provide a seamless transition for JCC students to these highly regarded physical education programs. Students may also transfer to out-of-state or private colleges and universities such as Pennsylvania State, Springfield College, Salisbury State University, Slippery Rock University, Canisius College, United States Sports Academy and University of South Carolina.

By taking the first two years of Physical Education or Sports Management coursework at Jefferson, students can significantly reduce the overall cost of their education, in some cases, cutting the cost in half.

Students who wish to enroll in either of these programs for the Fall 2011 semester are encouraged to contact the Admissions office, 315-786-2277, and the financial services office, 315-786-2355, as soon as possible to begin the application process.

For more information about these programs, please visit www.sunyjefferson.edu or contact Jeffrey L. Wiley, director of athletics/physical education, at jwiley@sunyjefferson.edu or 315-786-2248.

Evening Degree Programs Offer Flexibility

Are you juggling work and family commitments yet want to earn your college degree? Use your evenings to get ahead at JCC! Jefferson's two-year degree programs in business administration, criminal justice, early childhood* and human services* are offered in an evening format with classes beginning at 5:00 p.m. or later. Many courses are also available online for added flexibility. You may even have an opportunity to complete your bachelor's or master's degree without leaving Watertown through partnerships with colleges in Jefferson's Higher Education Center initiative.

If you are uncertain about a specific degree program or have numerous college credits to transfer, a degree in individual studies or liberal arts – humanities and social sciences might be right for you. Individual Studies is a flexible course of study designed to meet individual interests and needs. A Jefferson advisor will assist you with developing an appropriate curriculum to meet academic and career goals. The associate of arts degree in liberal arts-humanities and social sciences will provide a solid liberal arts foundation while giving you the flexibility to study subjects of personal and career interest and the preparation required to transfer to a four-year college or university. Career counseling may also help the truly undecided match academic and personal strengths with specific degree programs.

Jefferson offers 35 degree and certificate programs in a variety of majors including 6 degree programs completely online. For more information, visit www.sunyjefferson.edu or call the JCC Advising, Career and Counseling Center at 315-786-2271.

* This degree program may contain courses that begin at 4 PM.

Become a Phlebotomy Technician

In collaboration with Boston Reed College, JCC will offer a Phlebotomy Technician training program beginning in September. An information session for prospective students will be held August 29 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 6-002 of the Jules Center.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the need for laboratory technicians, including phlebotomists, is expected to grow by 14% between 2006 and 2016. Laboratories rely on the phlebotomy technician to collect quality samples from the patient to produce quality laboratory results. To do this, a phlebotomy technician must create an atmosphere of trust and confidence with patients while drawing blood specimens in a skillful, safe, and reliable manner.

The Phlebotomy Technician training program will run September 27 through November 10, 2011 at JCC. The program consists of 48 hours of classroom training on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and a 40-hour externship in the local community. Upon successful completion of the program the student will receive a certificate of completion and be eligible to sit for the national exam to become a Certified Phlebotomy Technician. The course fee of $2995.00 includes books, course supplies, externship, and a course certificate of completion.

For more information, call the Continuing Education Division at JCC at 315-786-2233.
JCC Alum Returns to Pursue His Dream Career

Is it ever too late to chase your dream job? JCC alumnus, Seth L. Burdick (pictured below), doesn't think so. Nearly a decade after earning his first JCC degree and with two additional degrees under his belt, Burdick returned to Jefferson in pursuit of an animal management degree. Burdick holds an associate’s in mathematics and science from JCC, a bachelor’s degree from SUNY Potsdam, a master’s degree from the University of South Dakota and soon-to-be an associate’s degree in animal management from JCC. Seth is conducting his animal management internship at St. Augustine’s Alligator Farm in Florida, the last component required before completing the animal management program at JCC.

Q: What is your draw to work with reptiles?
A: I guess out of all the careers I could have pursued, the animal field has always held the greatest challenge and just plain interest for me. When you’re dealing with nature, there is literally nothing that stays static. My only regret is that I didn’t start this degree sooner! I was actually at Jefferson for Biology back in 2000 when they were first starting the Animal Management program.

Q: What did you do after earning your master’s degree from the University of South Dakota?
A: I bounced around for a bit, mainly between thinking of becoming a veterinarian or field biologist. In the end I liked the animal aspect, yet just was not personally cut out for in depth research. The zoo field I’m in now is a natural fit.

Q: What would you tell someone who is considering a career change?
A: We’re only here for about seventy five years on average! I’m not afraid of dying, really, I’m more afraid of not having lived. Being true to what I want and believe in is a big part of that. I have to do something that gives back a little to the world.

Q: Describe your current internship at St. Augustine Alligator Farm.
A: They basically train everyone in the professional zoo field who’s going for their crocodilian specialization. We do more hands on here in one day than a lot of facilities will do all month. I hope to wind up in a facility with an extensive reptile collection.

Q: What advice do you have for future animal management majors?
A: Be prepared to work, both physically and academically. You may think working in a zoo is about as demanding as owning a few cats or dogs. It is not. The field is becoming more technical every day, with a serious emphasis being placed on biology and behavioral studies. You have to have a real understanding of science to do well, as well as the ability to work really, really hard. Zoo keeping is not for wimps. Most importantly though, you have to be able to communicate effectively. The animal you deal with most in the zoo field? Humans!

Higher Education Day on October 3

Anyone thinking of furthering their education won’t want to miss Higher Education Day at JCC on Monday, October 3 in McVean Gymnasium. Formerly known as Higher Education Night, this year’s event includes a day program from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and an evening program from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Representatives from nearly 100 two and four year colleges, both public and private along with representatives from the Armed Services will be available to meet with students and parents. Admission is free. For more information, call 315-646-3329 or JCC Admissions at 315-786-2277.

Sponsored by the Jefferson-Lewis Association for Counseling and Development and Jefferson Community College.

IN THE CLASSROOM

During the College’s 50th anniversary, history is in the minds of many on campus and students are getting more than a lecture when guest speakers awaken their senses to another time and place in American history.

Survivor of Great Depression Transitions from Student to Guest Speaker

Students of JCC’s American History 1865 to Present class were treated to a history presentation by Great Depression survivor and fellow classmate, Bee Johnson. Her personal accounts encompassed the decade preceding WWII, stories of life during WWII and life as it was for women in the 1950s. Mrs. Johnson exemplifies lifelong learning as an 88-year old student at JCC. She has audited several courses including Intro to Western Political Thought, Intro to American Government, World Affairs, American History 1865 and American History 1865 to Present.

Veteran of WWII Shares Experience with JCC Students

All eyes and ears in the American History 1865 to Present class were tuned in to 88-year old soft spoken veteran Albert Cheatham as he took JCC students back to 1943 when he was drafted for WWII. Mr. Cheatham, assigned to the 3298th Quartermaster Service Company, was stationed in North Africa and eventually Italy where he willingly served as cook, grave digger, quartermaster and horseman. As a coal miner, Mr. Cheatham had the option of deferring his draft, but rather chose to serve his country from 1943-1946.

From witnessing dictator Benito Mussolini’s body hanging dead in the street to learning fluent Italian and distributing supplies and provisions to soldiers and cleaning captured horses from the Germans for resale, students were given the opportunity to put a face to history as they sat and listened to first-hand accounts of life during WWII.
**Fall Semester Registration Ongoing**

It’s not too late to enroll at Jefferson for the Fall semester. Classes begin August 29 and registration will continue through the first week of classes. Eight-week, late session classes begin October 24. An up-to-date course listing is available on www.sunyjefferson.edu.

Jefferson offers 35 degree and certificate programs in a variety of majors including 6 degree programs completely online. Interested students are encouraged to contact the Admissions office, 315-786-2277, and the financial services office, 315-786-2355, as soon as possible to begin the free application process.

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**Recent JCC Grad Achieves Success as Adult Learner**

**Motivated. Ambitious. Dedicated. Achiever.** This is how one would sum up Karleen M. Campbell, military spouse and two-time Jefferson graduate.

While most college students are gaining independence for the first time, Karleen was running a household and taking sole responsibility for her three children ages 6 to 13 while her military husband was deployed. Not only did she put her multi-tasking and organizational skills to work, she took advantage of JCC’s student support services, including Campus Care, in order to keep the college momentum going.

Karleen attributes her success to the advice and recommendations of her academic advisor, Donald Johnson, who is also JCC’s director of military programs in the College’s office at the McEwen Education Center on Fort Drum. Karleen took Johnson’s recommendations seriously, starting with his encouragement to apply for financial aid (she received $14,000 in scholarships over two years), and she got involved on campus. She joined the Jefferson Singers and tutored fellow classmate in music. She joined JCC’s Educators of Tomorrow club and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), and was a math tutor for the JCC STAR Program. While president of the Educators of Tomorrow club, Karleen helped bring Darrell Scott, founder of the Rachel’s Challenge Program, to campus for a presentation. With PTK, she helped raise money for the American Heart Association.

Outside the classroom, Karleen spent time with her children, attending school activities, arranging childcare and fitting in time for homework, all of which did not deter her from giving 100% to her college education. “It was challenging at times and sometimes I felt overwhelmed because there was so much going on,” says Campbell. “But the tutoring really helped me get experience teaching and the clubs helped me interact with people and make a difference in the community.”

Karleen received the Outstanding Mathematics Student Award this past April. She maintained an overall 3.54 grade point average and earned President’s and Dean’s List honors each semester at JCC.

Karleen earned her first degree from JCC, an associate of arts in liberal arts-humanities, in May 2010. In December, she completed her second degree, an associate of science in mathematics and science, in May 2010. In December, she completed her second degree, an associate of science in mathematics and science. Karleen and her family have moved to Germany where she continues her education working towards earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the University of Maryland.

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**JCC Welcomes New VP for Academic Affairs**

In July, JCC welcomed Tom Finch, the College’s new Vice President for Academic Affairs. Mr. Finch comes to Jefferson with twenty five years in higher education with experience as both an administrator and full-time faculty member. Most recently, Tom served as executive vice president of academics at Utica School of Commerce. He holds an associate of applied science degree in accounting from SUNY Cobleskill and both bachelor of science and a master of science degrees in business education from SUNY Albany.

“The College has exceeded all my expectations,” says Finch a few short weeks after joining Jefferson. “I’ve had the opportunity to view most of the facilities available to students and the community, and I concur with the findings from the Middle States report—this is truly the gem of Jefferson County.”
The Arts at Jefferson

Works created by students enrolled in JCC's Ceramics and Drawing classes were on display at The Gallery throughout the month of May. The Gallery, located on the first floor of Jules Center (Building 6) is open for public viewing when classes are in session. JCC art courses are not just open to students enrolled in a degree program, but also to community members as well. Taking a stand-alone art course is a great way to relieve stress, express emotions, and enhance or develop one's creative ability. This fall, JCC offers art courses in color line and design, digital photography, basic drawing and ceramics. For course descriptions and availability, visit www.sunyjefferson.edu, click on courses and then submit.

JCC Students Participate in Service Learning Project at WCSD

In April, students in JCC's Child and Adolescent Development (PSY 220) class conducted a 5-week service learning project with the Watertown City School District (WCSD). PSY 220 is a required course of both early child and childhood education majors and it involves a child observation component. Typically, students identify a child and make their own arrangements with the child's family to complete the observation. This year, the WCSD participated through the College Outreach Office and welcomed 32 JCC students in its classrooms.

“The Center is one-of-a-kind; it is unique,” says Joel LaLone, professor of mathematics and research coordinator for the Center. “I have not found another group at any other college in New York that provides the research and learning opportunities to their four constituencies (students, faculty, community and college) that we do.”

JCC students were tasked with completing journal entries on their observations of child development in the areas of fine and gross motor skills, language, cognitive and social. The project also took into account the student’s ability to perform at a professional level honing skills such as accountability, attendance and punctuality. “Overall, I really enjoyed this experience,” says Lindsey R. O’Connell, humanities and social sciences major at JCC. “It gave me a better understanding of what elementary teachers do and to see how each child is different in each stage of development and hear their answers to certain cognitive tasks.”

“Over the years I have seen that many students don’t have a clear idea about what their career choice entails,” says Deborah A. Steinberg, associate professor of psychology at JCC. “This was one of the major reasons for having them actually participate in school classrooms. Their learning is enriched by the realistic experience and exposure to a wide range of development.”

Overall, the service learning experience was a win-win for both schools. “The additional support provided by JCC students in the classroom, helped the elementary students advance both in their social growth and their academic achievement,” said Terry N. Fralick, WCSD Superintendent of Schools.

“Overall, I really enjoyed this experience,” says Lindsey R. O’Connell, humanities and social sciences major at JCC. “It gave me a better understanding of what elementary teachers do and to see how each child is different in each stage of development and hear their answers to certain cognitive tasks.”

Center for Community Studies Provides Unique Research Opportunity for JCC Students

Through the Center for Community Studies (CCS) at JCC, nearly 400 JCC students each year gain real-world experience applying the concepts and mathematics learned in their classes to actual research.

Under College supervision, students in Mathematical Probability and Statistics I and II, as well as many students in Elementary Statistics, have the chance to participate in all levels of research—design of studies, formulation of questions, data collection, data cleansing and analysis, interpretation, compilation and presentation of data to the community.

Research conducted by the CCS is often the catalyst to improve communities with the data used by local leaders, planners and grant writers to validate, support and fund the development of new initiatives. Research topics are relevant to the local community and the data collected and analyzed is local—not statewide, national or even regional in nature.

“The Center is one-of-a-kind; it is unique,” says Joel LaLone, professor of mathematics and research coordinator for the Center. “I have not found another group at any other college in New York that provides the research and learning opportunities to their four constituencies (students, faculty, community and college) that we do.”

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Students Learn from North Country Entrepreneurs
In March, JCC hosted its annual Entrepreneurship Conference (E-Day) for high school and college students. Keynote addresses were given by North Country entrepreneurs Matthew Turcotte, president of North Shore Solutions, and Erik Charles, founder of Central New York’s Mixed Martial Arts Training Centers located in Watertown, Cortland and Binghamton. In this year’s business concept competition, always an audience highlight of the E-Day conference, two high school teams shared 3rd place. A panel of judges awarded prizes as follows:

First Place-$1000: Unique Designs-Watertown High School students, Alicia L. Soluri, Emma M. Blair, Kelsey M. Barrett, Katherine S. Ulmen-Smith.

Second Place-$500: Chaumont Co-op Market- Lyme Central School students, Lauren E. Wagenaar and Rachel L. Gardner.

Third Place-$250 each: Dean’s Boy Stitching- Copenhagen High School students, Lauren E. Wagenaar and Rachel L. Gardner.

During a separate business concept competition for JCC students held earlier in the month, Beautifully Baked by culinary arts major, Stephanie L. Finerson of Watertown, came in first place receiving a cash prize of $1000 (shown above). Beautifully Baked specializes in cakes, cheesecakes and other delectable treats. In second place, Eco Lumber by Drew G. Laemmermann, Nolan R.K. Bodah and Ryan J. Felice, each of Watertown, took a cash prize of $500. Leisure’s Restaurant and Bar by Veltris V. Patterson, Fort Drum, took third place and a cash prize of $250.

E-Day is organized by representatives of JCC and the Small Business Development Center in addition to business competition sponsors- Jefferson Lewis Workforce Investment Board and Jefferson County Job Development Corporation.

Blood Drive Nets 183 Donations; Scholarship Awarded
Student Government sponsored two American Red Cross blood drives on campus during the past academic year. As a result, 183 pints of blood were collected qualifying JCC student donors and volunteers for the SUNY Challenge Scholarship Program award of $500. Blood donor and JCC early childhood major, Brittany R. Webberley of Philadelphia, received the award. “Through rain, snow, sleet or a deep freeze we can always count on your donor recruitment efforts and the good people at JCC to come out and support the blood drive,” says Linda M. Belton, account manager, American Red Cross.

JCC Music Students Pay Tribute to College Anniversary
In May, community members relived the sounds of the sixties when the Jefferson Singers and the JCC jazz rock ensemble combined talents to perform a community concert that celebrated JCC’s 50th anniversary. The Jefferson Singers, under the direction of Dennis R. Pucci, and the jazz rock ensemble, under the direction of Steven B. Lester, are credit-bearing humanities courses open to all students and community members. For more information, contact the Liberal Arts Division at 315-786-2328.

Jefferson County Survey Highlights
In June, the Center for Community Studies (CCS) released the results of the 12th Annual Jefferson County Survey of the Community, an inventory of the attitudes and opinions of a representative sample of 406 county residents. Highlights of this year’s survey include:

- Jefferson County residents are very satisfied with the overall quality of life in the area, with 77% of respondents rating it as either “Getting Better” or “Staying the Same”.
- Residents reported most frequently that the following aspects of our community are “Getting Better”: shopping opportunities, the Downtown of Watertown, and Internet access.
- Residents indicated most frequently that the following aspects of our community were “Getting worse”: the cost of energy, the availability of good jobs, real estate taxes, and the overall state of the local economy.
- When asked about which of five State funding areas they would be most inclined to not cut at all (among corrections, Medicaid, K-12 education, and public safety), the most residents (68%) chose K-12 education.
- Of the five State funding areas mentioned above, the two receiving the most support for the Governor’s full funding cuts were corrections (15%) and Medicaid (12%).

The entire survey, including a summary of the results and the complete survey instrument, is available on www.sunyjefferson.edu by clicking on the CCS link under Community/Business.

The Center for Community Studies extends its appreciation to the Northern New York Community Foundation, the Herring College Memorial Trust, Carthage Federal Savings & Loan and Jefferson Community College for their generous support of the Jefferson and Lewis County Annual Surveys.
Calling All North Country Writers! Contest Accepting Entries

Here is your chance to get published and win cash prizes! Now through September 23, JCC is accepting entries for the North Country Writers Contest open to all residents and friends of the upstate New York region. There is no entry fee; simply choose from among these genres: Short Fiction, 1000 to 3000 words; Poetry, not to exceed 100 lines; and Essay/ Non-Fiction, 1000 to 3000 words. All submissions should reflect a connection to the North Country. The top award for each genre is $100 and $25 for honorable mention with publication on JCC’s website. Award recipients are requested to give a reading of their winning pieces at the North Country Writers Festival Reading at JCC on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. For submission guidelines, please contact the JCC English Department at 315-786-2328, email jplierce@sunyjefferson.edu or visit www.sunyjefferson.edu.

The North Country Writers Contest is sponsored by the JCC Faculty Student Association and English Department.

Here’s the Scoop! 4th Annual Leadership Day to feature Jerry Greenfield

The College’s 4th annual Leadership Day, a conference designed to develop leadership skills in high school and college students, will be held October 27. Jerry Greenfield, co-founder of Ben & Jerry’s Homemade, Inc., will give the keynote address. Students will literally get a taste of how nurturing one small idea can lead to paramount results when Greenfield comes to campus.

Greenfield and his long-time friend and business partner, Ben Cohen, are the men behind one of the most talked-about, and least conventional, success stories in American business. Ben & Jerry’s Homemade, Inc. is a $300 million dollar ice cream empire built upon a foundation of social responsibility and creative management.

The daylong conference also features PLAYFair, whose popular program on team-building, diversity, campus unity and school spirit is interactive, informational, inspirational and entertaining!

After lunch, students will be treated to a poetry performance by Amber Tamblyn. Her poetry works include Bang Ditto, Plenty of Ships and Of the Dawn. The poet/actress/author is most recognized for her work as the title character on the CBS television program, “Joan of Arcadia” and is currently starring as medical student Martha Masters on the FOX program “House.”

Participation is free for students and includes lunch. High school guidance counselors will receive additional information about this event but may also contact JCC’s Admissions Office at (315) 786-2277.

Leadership Day is jointly organized by JCC Student Government & Student Ambassadors. Amber Tamblyn is sponsored by the JCC Social Cultural Committee.

Jefferson Symposium on Oct. 20

Delve into the history of Thomas Jefferson and learn more about his influences on education and the pursuit of happiness when JCC’s social sciences department holds a Jefferson Symposium on October 20. Events are free admission and open the public.

Meet living history speaker, Steven Ednbo (above), as he delivers a first person interpretation of Thomas Jefferson at 12:30 p.m. on campus. Recognized by the International Center for Jefferson Studies, Steven was awarded a Research Fellowship at Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello in 2008 for his interpretation of our nation’s third president. Not only has he taken his one-man performance to the Jefferson Memorial, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and numerous high school and colleges, but he has also been featured on the History Channel.

Educators won’t want to miss author Steven Tozer who will give a presentation on Jeffersonian influences on education at 7:00 pm. Tozer is a professor of policy studies in the College of Education at the University of Illinois and co-author of School and Society: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives. Steven is lead editor for the Handbook of Research in the Social Foundations of Education. In 1997, he was instrumental in the development of the first system-wide mentor program for new teachers in Chicago public schools.

JCC’s Jefferson Symposium will also feature an essay contest, with cash prizes, for JCC students (including high school Jefferson EDGE students) on the pursuit of happiness as interpreted through various social science disciplines. Call the Liberal Arts Division, 315-786-2278 to learn more.
Six Inducted to Cannoneer Hall of Fame on Aug. 19

JCC inducted the third class of honorees to the Cannoneer Hall of Fame at a special ceremony on Friday, August 19, 2011 held in the Jules Center Commons.

The Class of 2011 honorees are former athletes Joy W. Zimmerman ’92 of Adams and Terry L. Biedekapp of Brownville; former coach and physical education instructor, Malcolm C. Biedekapp of Dexter; former basketball coach and athletic director, John F. Penrose of Watertown; sports reporter and honorary alumnus, Melvin J. Busler ’07 of Watertown; and founder of the JCC lacrosse program, Peter N. Gaskin of Adams Center (to be inducted posthumously).

“The community did an outstanding job nominating Jefferson student-athletes, staff and supporters that have played a major role in the College’s athletic programs,” says Jeffrey L. Wiley, director of athletics at JCC. “I look forward to this event every year as I get to learn a little more about the rich athletic tradition at Jefferson.”

Softball Coach Receives MSAC Coach of the Year Award

JCC softball coach, Charles F. Bridge, III was named Mid-State Athletic Conference (MSAC) All Conference Coach of the Year. Coach Bridge just wrapped up his 3rd year at the helm of the JCC softball team with season record 15-10-0.

JCC Athletes Named to NJCAA Region III Academic All-Region Team

Eight athletes representing seven of the ten sports offered at JCC received National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region III Academic All-Region Team honors for the 2010-2011 academic year. To be considered for this honor, athletes must complete forty-five or more credit hours of course work and maintain a 3.5 grade point average. Distinguished athletes (pictured below) are:

Josh J. Lothrop
Chaumont
Men’s Soccer

Teddi L. Filiatrault
Antwerp
Women’s Soccer

Kaeli R. McCormick
Watertown
Volleyball

Hannah R. Curinga
Adams
Women’s Basketball

Brandon R. Cavalet
Evans Mills
Baseball

Nolan R. K. Bodah
Watertown
Baseball

Heather N. McManus
Boonville
Softball

Jillian M. E. Young
Watertown
Women’s Lacrosse

Mark your Calendars – Upcoming Alumni Games

2nd Annual Softball game ........................................ Sept., 2011
8th Annual Baseball game .......................................... Sept. 24, 2011
4th Annual Peter N. Gaskin Men’s Lacrosse Game .........Oct. 9, 2011
15th Annual Robert Williams Sr. Basketball Games ... Oct. 29, 2011

For more information, call the JCC athletic department at 315-786-2232.
Annual Awards Banquet Celebrates Student Athletes

In May, JCC’s student athletes were recognized for outstanding individual and team accomplishments during the 2010-2011 season at the 12th Annual Athletic Awards Banquet. In addition to recognizing athletes named to Mid-State Athletic Conference (MSAC) All-Conference teams and National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region III Division III All-Region teams, JCC honored individual accomplishments for each sport, overall outstanding athletes, and awarded three athletes with scholarships.

The D. Rene Valentine Memorial Scholarship, given to student athlete who demonstrates tremendous leadership and work ethic both in the classroom and on the field, was awarded to senior baseball player Brandon R. Cavalet of Evans Mills. Brandon graduated with an associate of science degree in criminal justice and transferred to SUNY Cortland for the fall.

The Frontier League awards scholarships to two former Frontier League athletes who excel both in the classroom and on the field. This year’s recipients are senior Erica L. Hovey, Dexter, of the softball team, and senior Sarah R. Ward, Chaumont, of both the women’s soccer and softball teams. Both Hovey and Ward graduated with an associate of arts degree in liberal arts – humanities and social sciences.

Outstanding Senior Male Athlete was awarded to Benjamin J. P. Freeman, Carthage, of the men’s soccer team; and Outstanding Senior Female Athlete was awarded to Erica L. Hovey, Dexter, of the softball team. Outstanding Freshman Male Athlete was awarded to Jabriel M. Blue, Bronx, of the men’s basketball team; and Outstanding Freshman Female Athlete was awarded to Heather N. McManus, Boonville, of the softball team.

Additionally, Jabriel M. Blue of the men’s basketball team received extensive recognition for his achievements on the court including NJCAA Region III Division III All-American honorable mention, NJCAA athlete of the week, national athlete of the week and Basketball Coaches Association of New York First Team honors.

Congratulations to all Jefferson student athletes!

Winter/Spring Sports Honor Roll

**MSAC All-Conference Team**

**Men’s Basketball**
- Jabriel M. Blue, Bronx, guard
- James M. Blue, Bronx, guard

**Softball**
- Chelsea R. Monroe, Watertown, second baseman
- Erica L. Hovey, Dexter, pitcher
- Heather N. McManus, Boonville, third baseman

**Baseball**
- Sean Hernandez, Miami, Florida, catcher
- Joseph A. Pagan, Charlotte, North Carolina, first baseman

**NJCAA Region III All-Region Team**

- **Olivia A. Roggie**
  - Carthage, lacrosse, attack, 1st Team

- **Erica L. Hovey**
  - Dexter, softball, pitcher, 2nd Team

- **Jillian M. E. Young**
  - Watertown, lacrosse, midfielder, 2nd Team

- **Joelle G. Percy**
  - Black River, lacrosse, midfielder, 2nd Team

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**Turn your Passion for Sports into a Career!**

New degrees, offered Fall 2011, at JCC:
- Physical Education A.S. Degree
- Sports Management A.S. Degree

Learn more on page 12.
Engineering Students Awarded Clarkson Scholarships Totaling $29,000

Each year Jefferson engineering science seniors have the opportunity to apply for top dollar transfer scholarships to Clarkson University. This year, three JCC students, rather than two as in past years, were awarded a combined $29,000 in Clarkson scholarships.

Shane Scanlon, Lowville, is the recipient of the $11,000 Leadership Scholarship, awarded to a student who demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities. Shane will study mechanical engineering at Clarkson in the fall.

Kathryn H. Voss, Adams, and Joshua J. Lothrop, Chaumont, each received a $9,000 Achievement Scholarship, awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. Voss will continue her studies in computer engineering while Lothrop will major in mechanical engineering.

Many students start their education at JCC and then transfer to a 4-year institution ultimately reducing the cost of their education. Students interested in transfer scholarship opportunities should check in with the Advising, Career and Counseling Center, Room 6-020, Jules Center.

Student Earns Honorable Mention in Legal History Essay Competition

Humanities and social sciences major, Tammi N. Douglas of Fort Drum, received an Honorable Mention Award for her essay submission in the 2011 David A. Garfinkel Essay Competition sponsored by The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York. The 2011 competition theme was The Legal Legacy of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire. Students were required to select one of five essay topics related to the legal developments that occurred as the result of the fire. Tammi was mentored by adjunct instructor Melissa Semione as she composed a 1500-word minimum essay on a person who played an important role in the State and federal reforms following the factory fire and that person’s influence on the labor movement.

The essay competition was open to all students enrolled at CUNY and SUNY community colleges during the Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 semesters. Douglas’ submission was one of 92 entries and one of only nine chosen for honorable mention by a panel of members of the New York State Bench and Bar members.

In June, the JCC engineering club and associate professor of engineering science, Genn Pond, traveled to Vancouver, British Columbia in Canada to compete in the National Robotics Competition held in conjunction with the national convention for the American Society of Engineering Educators. During the conference, JCC students had the opportunity to explore current research in the engineering field, watch educational presentations, meet representatives from technical companies spanning the globe, and exhibit their robot designs.

This year’s competition involved “harvesting” bad trees (5 red pegs) and leaving good trees (4 green pegs) untouched. Each trial was a random pattern of these trees, necessitating real-time detection of the color and then retrieval of red pegs. “Jefferson students were the only team to attempt a bit-map approach,” said Pond. “All the other schools would approach our students and say, ‘We considered that, but how did you get it to actually work?’” The robot would take pictures and then download the data to an onboard processor. Thanks to many hours of programming by JCC students, the robot would then translate the data into a color map and would control the collection units to activate where red color sections were detected.

The two Jefferson teams, Wired Up and Cannoneers, placed 8th and 10th respectively among 18 competitors. “I think we did extremely well considering we had the most complex solution to the problem posed,” says Pond.

Criminal Justice Major Awarded First Public Safety Scholarship from SUNY

Criminal justice major, Katina M. Piche of Watertown, is the first recipient of the SUNY Community College Public Safety Administrators Association (CCPSAA) Scholarship. The $250 scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing a career in law enforcement who has contributed to personal safety on his/her college campus. Katina, criminal justice club president, served as chief public safety volunteer at the 3OH!3 and Sick Puppies concert held in March where she was responsible for overseeing barricade, aisle and door security by student volunteers. Last year, Katina volunteered as a member of the public safety team for the College’s Theory of a Deadman concert.
Black River Review
Student Awards
The JCC English department released Volume XXI of the Black River Review, a journal of poetry, prose and fine arts in May. Works published in the Black River Review are all submissions from Jefferson students, alumni, faculty and staff.

Outstanding Art Contribution Awards were bestowed upon Amanda L. Authement for her submission of the Black River Review cover design; Katrina Peterson with marker drawing submission, Giraffes; Kerstin White with collage submission, Starting Over; and Zachary Clay with collage submission, Reincarnation. Recipients of the JCC Outstanding Writing Contribution Award are Thubten Ozula Sioux with fiction submission, f(x); Colleen M. Ahlfs with essay submission, How to Become a Successful Non-Traditional Student; and Valerie G. Huskey with poem submission, Green.

Student Photographer Finalist in Nationwide Competition
Recent graduate Gregory McIntyre was selected as a Finalist in annual Best of College Photography Contest sponsored by Photographer’s FORUM magazine. Finalists are comprised of the top 8% of all entries received. This year, 13,960 photographs were submitted from the U.S., Canada and around the world. Greg’s photo chosen as Finalist was of JCC’s men’s soccer goalie during a home game and will be published in Photographer’s FORUM Annual issue later this year. Greg took photographs for JCC while a student here and many of his photographs appeared in the Jefferson Insider.

JCC Recognizes Student Success at 42nd Annual PTK Induction Ceremony
In March, 131 of the College’s best and brightest students were honored and recognized as new members of Jefferson’s Tau Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) at the 42nd Annual PTK Induction Ceremony. PTK is the only national honor society for two-year colleges. JCC’s PTK chapter is also the longest continuously running student organization at JCC. It was first chartered in 1969 and 42 years later, its distinguished honor roll includes 2,672 members.

Induction to PTK is the culmination of hard work and recognition of those efforts by classmates and professors. For online student Leesa D. Haney of Florida, it meant enough that she traveled nearly 1000 miles - to the very campus where she spent little time as a student – for the ceremony.

“I’ve never received any honor before and felt it was important to go,” says Haney. “I was very excited because I felt like I earned it. I’m a mother, work outside the home, active at church and I’ve not slacked on school. It was an honor to me.”

Haney first enrolled at JCC in Spring of 2009 while her husband was stationed at Fort Drum. She chose Jefferson because the humanities and social sciences program was available completely online and the campus was nearby in case she needed to go. They have since moved to Florida where Leesa continues her studies with JCC to complete her degree online. Ultimately, Leesa plans on becoming a psychologist.

To be eligible for PTK, students must exemplify excellence in scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service; earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5; and have completed at least 12 credit hours of college level work at JCC. Membership is extended by invitation only.
The JCC Women’s Organization (JCCWO) is the first recipient of a new College award, Spirit of Jefferson, presented at the College’s annual Recognition Ceremony held in May. Created to recognize a campus team that exemplifies cooperative effort and achieves exemplary results, the Spirit of Jefferson Award ultimately focuses on team excellence. The JCCWO was selected from among ten outstanding nominations.

Established in 1986, the JCCWO consists of a small group of volunteers whose mission is to foster and enhance education, recognize human potential and provide services to the community. The JCCWO has raised more than $110,000 and awarded 110 scholarships to Jefferson students as well as donated more than $21,000 to campus and community organizations.

“Students are at the heart of what we do,” says Tina Berkey, JCCWO president. “Receiving the Spirit of Jefferson Award is significant to us because it validates our mission.” Over the past twenty-five years, the JCCWO has supported several student clubs, JCC Campus Care, American Heart Association, JCC Alumni Association Phone-A-Thon, Relay for Life, WPBS Phone-A-Thon, and brings Christmas cheer to residents of Whispering Pines each December.

“The JCCWO has had some tremendous accomplishments for which we all can be proud and most importantly they exemplify the word teamwork,” says JCC President Carole McCoy.

Natalie Spooner, JCC registrar, received the 2011 Spirit of Innovation Award from Credential Solutions Inc., a company that provides online student record management solutions. On January 6, JCC delivered the first 3rd party electronic transcript utilizing Credential Services’ TranscriptsPlus® service. Natalie was concerned that military personnel stationed around the world were encountering difficulties in obtaining their official JCC transcript. Offering the 3rd party electronic transcript provides the individual with the ability and access to obtain an official transcript regardless of their location in an expedited manner.

Natalie’s innovative spirit is also helping Jefferson to go green and achieve efficiencies in student records management right on campus. In 2010, Natalie helped author a $38,650 application for the Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grant administered by the State Archives and Records Division of the NYS Department of Education. JCC was awarded the digital imaging grant and Natalie has spent February through July on sabbatical working with various departments to implement the imaging software and digitize student records.

Although still in stage 1, the Banner Document Management System will eventually permit student records to be available simultaneously across campus departments, further safeguarding students’ personal identification information and reducing the paper trail created with each new student.

On May 6, President McCoy and the JCC Board of Trustees awarded eleven former faculty, staff and administrators the honorary title of emeriti.

JCC Bids Farewell to Retirees

JCC Employees Live United

JCC staff and faculty were recently recognized by the United Way of Northern New York as one of the top ten United Way Employee Campaigns in Jefferson County during 2010. With financial contributions from over 44% of the staff and faculty at the College, Jefferson raised $15,919 in 2010. Jefferson has been an active supporter of the United Way of Northern New York since 1964 and has contributed more than $400,000 over the years. In 2006, JCC received the United Way Community Spirit Award.

EMERITI NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PHOTO: RICHARD L. HALPIN, PROFESSOR EMERITUS; JOANNE M. JOHNSON, PROFESSOR EMERITUS; AND DONNA M. EISELE, COLLEGE REGISTRAR EMERITA. DONALD J. “DUTCH” GRANT, TRUSTEE EMERITUS, WAS RECOGNIZED POSTHUMOUSLY.
SBDC Advisor Wins State Award
Sarah O’Connell, advisor with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at JCC, received the NYS Small Business Development Center’s “Leading By Example” award during the annual conference of statewide SBDC professionals in Lake Placid in May. The award is given “for making a difference by supporting your colleagues with strength, consistency and positive attitude; sharing your knowledge and mentoring others, and applying your dedication, initiative and patience every day.”

JCC Instructor Selected AP Reader
Adjunct instructor Melissa Semione was selected to participate in the annual Reading and scoring of the College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP®) Examinations this June in Florida. Representing many of the finest academic institutions in the world, AP Readers are made up of professional educators from the United States, Canada and abroad.

Faculty and Staff Honored with SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence
Four distinguished faculty and staff were awarded SUNY Chancellor’s Awards at Jefferson’s Recognition Ceremony on May 6. Recipients were also recognized at the College’s 47th Annual Commencement Ceremony held on May 20. The Chancellor’s Awards recognize extraordinary achievements and encourage the continuation of excellence. It is one of the most prestigious honors that can be conferred upon professionals employed at the 64 institutions of the State University of New York.

Faculty & Staff Updates
Welcome to Jefferson!
Trevor Bradish, Instructor of Mathematics
Micah Matteson, Instructor of Business
John Northrup, Physical Education/Athletics Technical Specialist
Todd Parody, Technical Specialist - Jefferson Express
Dawn Robinson, Instructor of Business
Jessica Rogers, Instructor of Biology
Charles F. Ruggiero Jr., Education Coordinator
David Schissler, Executive Director, Faculty-Student Association
Whitney Snyder, Community Services Coordinator – Jefferson Express
Julia Soule, Assistant Professor / Weekend Nursing Program Coordinator
Ronald G. Theobald, Instructor of Human Services/Criminal Justice
Thomas Wojcikowski, Assistant Director of Student Activities and Cultural Affairs

Congratulations on the following new appointments and promotions:
Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Admin. Assistant to the V.P. for Administration & Finance
Michael J. Burns Director - Advising, Career and Counseling Center (Grade 9)
Joshua Dickinson, Associate Professor of English
Jack N. Donato, Associate Professor of Computer Science
Mary Kinne, Alumni Development Officer
Tricia Richardson, Technical Specialist - Distance Learning
Allen Speno, STAR Retention Specialist
Natalie A. Spooner, College Registrar (Grade 9)
Gabrielle Thompson, STAR Program Director
Kerry Young, Executive Director for Finance and Human Development

Continuing Appointment
Elizabeth Ann Durant, Assistant Director, Small Business Development Center
Jeannine T. Gomiela, Paramedic Instructor and Program Coordinator
John T. Gould, Advisor, Small Business Development Center
Christine M. Grimes-Topping, Assistant Professor of English
Sarah C. O’Connell, Advisor, Small Business Development Center
Susan M. Sprague, Information Systems Specialist, Financial Services
Robin E. Stephenson, Advisor, Small Business Development Center

Thank You!
A special thank you to Nathan A. Holloway who retired from Jefferson’s Board of Trustees in March after 10 years of service and dedication to Jefferson Community College.

Instructor and Alum Pens Play Chosen for Maine Festival
Jefferson adjunct instructor and playwright Craig S. Thornton ’83 takes issue of high energy costs to a new level with his full length play The High Cost of Heating. The dark comedy was among 10 plays selected from over 300 submissions, to be showcased at the Northern Writes Annual New Play Festival Reading in June at Penobscot Theatre Company in Bangor, Maine. Written in absurdist style, The High Cost of Heating is set in Water-town and consists of only two characters, a husband and wife, who watch their heating bill literally grow month after month until the middle class couple gives new meaning to conservative living.

Thornton also recently penned What We Hold Onto, selected for a reading at Barrow Theater Group in New York City in July, and In My Shoes, a theatrical documentary, with actual voices and stories from military kids affected by deployment of parents stationed at Fort Drum.

“I have been writing plays for over twenty years and seem to be in the flow of great things happening right now,” says Thornton. “A true testament to the saying, ‘never give up.’

(left to right): Lynn M. Sprott of Watertown, associate professor of psychology, was awarded the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service. Linda C. Dittrich of Watertown, dean for the science division, was awarded the Chancellor’s Award for Professional Service. Paul A. Altoni of Watertown, assistant professor of criminal justice was awarded the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Suzanne W. Wadhams of Chaumont, systems analyst in the College’s computer center, was awarded the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Classified Service. Honorees are pictured with college president Carole A. McCoy (center).
Potential Energy and Kinetic Energy

Think about a car parked at the top of a hill. Even though that car isn’t moving, physics tells us that it has potential energy. The size (mass) of the car, the steepness of the hill (height), and the pull of gravity, when multiplied together, will tell you how much potential energy that car has, perched up there with only a parking brake holding it in place. You can imagine the force that would be unleashed if that brake was released!

The JCC Alumni Association has remarkable potential energy. Think about its mass: JCC has over 19,000 graduates in its 50 year history! It is in a remarkable position: led by an enthusiastic Board of Directors that is committed to keeping alumni connected to Jefferson. And then there’s the irresistible pull of JCC’s gravity, bringing people back to campus again and again.

What we needed was that special someone who could convert all of that Potential Energy into Kinetic Energy—the energy of movement! We found our catalyst in Mary Kinne, the new Alumni Development Officer. Everyone who knows Mary understands Newton’s First Law of Motion - she is a body in motion that STAYS in motion!

Mary, herself a Jefferson alumna, has worked for JCC for 28 years, most recently as assistant director of student activities. In that position, she was a mentor to student event managers, student government leaders, and Phi Theta Kappa members, as well as an organizing force behind some of JCC’s most memorable concerts and events.

Have you joined the Alumni Association yet? You will not want to miss out on the great opportunities Mary and the Board of Directors will be creating this year! Bring your potential energy to the Alumni Association as Mary enthusiastically sets things in motion!

The JCC Foundation and Alumni Association would like to extend their appreciation to Jefferson retiree Lorraine Irwin, who came back and shared her time and expertise with the Alumni Association while the search for a full-time development officer was conducted.

Mark your Calendars! Mayor’s Ball 50th Birthday Bash

JCC will be THE place to be on Saturday, November 12! Mark your calendars now—you will not want to miss the 2011 Mayor’s Ball! JCC’s 50th Birthday Bash will feature the music of Fred & the Eds. Fantastic food will be provided by RJ’s Catering of Adams Center and the Paddock Club will be creating special drinks will for the occasion. Helping us celebrate this year is our co-host organization, Transitional Living Services of the North Country.
JCC Honors Distinguished Alumni

On April 27, the Alumni Association recognized five outstanding members of the Jefferson community at the Distinguished Alumni Award ceremony. The honorees join an elite group of 74 distinguished alumni. In celebration of the College’s 50th Anniversary, past recipients were given a River Keeper coin by President McCoy. The coins were minted to commemorate President McCoy’s inaugural speech, in which she likened JCC to a river that students may cross to reach a better life on the other side. River Keepers are people who support and encourage students on their long journeys.

Jeff D. Perrine ’08 received the Rising Star Award, which recognizes graduates of the past 10 years who are on the rise in their career paths. A retired U.S. Army Special Forces medic, Jeff demonstrates leadership ability within his chosen field of nursing. Jeff currently serves as an emergency room nurse manager at River Hospital in Alexandria Bay and is enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University.

Robert A. Myers ’80 received the Professional Achievement Award, which recognizes graduates who demonstrate sustained outstanding success in professional life (10 years or more) and demonstrate leadership within their profession. Promoted numerous times throughout his career, Myers now serves as the associate director of global labeling operations at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Connecticut where his responsibilities include writing and maintaining a compendium of safety information for assigned drugs. Robert was honored for his leadership within his chosen field of nursing. Jeff currently serves as an emergency room nurse manager at River Hospital in Alexandria Bay and is enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University.

MaryLu Moriarty ’81 received the Distinguished Service Award, which honors graduates who demonstrate exemplary service to Jefferson Community College, college service, citizenship and leadership in the community. She serves on the board of directors for Finger Lakes Donor Recovery Network, Ariang, Inc., and is past president of the Ontario Center for the Performing Arts and Oswego Players. Currently MaryLu is president of JCC’s Alumni Association board of directors and an adjunct instructor at JCC, while also taking classes full-time at Oneida School of Therapeutic Massage. Prior to pursuing her massage license, Moriarty taught business courses full-time at JCC for eight years.

Karen A. Carr ’00, received the Jeffersonian Award to recognize a member of the campus community who offers exemplary dedication and unwavering commitment to higher education and whose service enhances the image of the College. Karen was honored with the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service in 1998. She is currently president of the Jefferson County Chapter of the American Association of University Women. As assistant to the college president at JCC, Karen has served the college for more than twenty years.

Scholarships Gave Distinguished Alumna Her JCC Start

I had no financial means of support when I began my educational career, so the only way I was able to attend college was through the opportunities afforded me by financial aid and scholarships. I am so appreciative of the Jefferson Foundation – which I think of as a “band of angels” because that’s what angels are: unknown, unseen beings who provide help in time of need – for all the opportunities that continue to be made available for our students in need thanks to the generosity of so many people.

It wasn’t until I returned to Jefferson as a teacher that I fully realized how critical that financial aid and scholarship support is to so many people. Getting to know my students on a more personal level helped me to clearly see the need that someone else saw in me so many years ago.

MaryLu Moriarty ’81, Distinguished Alumna

Love of Literature Leads to More for 1973 Alumna

When Emma Jean Tedder ’73, then a 30-something single mom, enrolled at JCC, she had a general equivalency diploma under her belt and no expectation other than to answer a question she had long asked herself: What is it that makes literature ‘literature’ as opposed to ordinary stories? Little did she know then where her dabble in education would take her in life.

After earning her associate’s degree in humanities and social sciences from JCC, an inspired Tedder completed a bachelor’s degree in literature and creative writing from Empire State College and eventually earned her master’s in social work from San Francisco State University. Of the three colleges, she considers JCC to be her best experience, both socially and academically. Her literature assignments allowed her to “enter a new and captivating world” and the Dionysian Players gave her an additional creative outlet.

After earning her MSW, Tedder established the Oncology Social Work Department at the Charlotte Maxwell Complementary Clinic in California and authored Understanding and Assisting Low Income Women with Cancer, which was published in 1998. “I have been privileged to serve hundreds of low-income women with cancer for 13 years,” says Tedder. “Little do they know that the assistance they received could never have happened without JCC. It was my foundation.”

Now retired in Montana, Tedder is eager to start a new adventure by returning to her roots...in literature.

Where has your associate’s degree taken you? We would love to hear about your career accomplishments and personal adventures. To share your JCC story, contact the Alumni Association at 315-786-2327 or send an email to alumni@sunyjefferson.edu.
Jefferson Citation Awarded to Founding Board of Trustees

At the College's commencement ceremony on May 20, the JCC Board of Trustees and president Carole A. McCoy honored the nine members of the founding Board of Trustees with the 2011 Jefferson Citation. Trustees appointed by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors were Carl O. Bachman, Miller F. Moran, Floyd F. Peckham, Arnold I. Shapiro, and Paula V. V. Wardwell. Governor Rockefeller appointed Margaret N. Cosgrove, Philip R. Fortune, D. William O'Donnell and Robert S. Rhodes.

Mrs. Wardwell, of Sackets Harbor, and Mr. Shapiro, who now resides in Maryland, were on hand at the ceremony to receive the framed Jefferson Citation and Medallion from President McCoy. Family members accepted the awards on behalf of the other Board Members, all of whom were honored posthumously.

The Jefferson Citation was established by the JCC Board of Trustees in 2000 to "recognize an individual or organization whose leadership and actions have demonstrated outstanding commitment to education and the vision and mission of Jefferson Community College."

"There couldn't be a more appropriate time, during the College's 50th anniversary year, to recognize the foresight and perseverance of our predecessors," said Daniel J. Villa, chair of the current JCC Board of Trustees. "They were truly pioneers and their ability to implement the community's vision of creating educational opportunities accessible by everyone has transformed this community over the last five decades."

After the 1961 voter referendum served to establish a community college in Jefferson County, the Board of Trustees was formed by January of 1962. The Trustees efficiently and effectively selected Jefferson's first president, James McVean, in September of 1962. That same year, the land adjacent to the Jefferson County Home on Coffeen Street was selected as the physical site for the officially-named Jefferson Community College campus. The Board appointed the inaugural faculty and established the first five degree programs to be offered by the College and, in the Fall of 1963, 119 full-time and 221 part-time students began attending classes in temporary quarters on Lansing Street in Watertown. Phase 1 of campus construction began in 1964 and was completed ahead of schedule, allowing the College's first commencement to be held on campus in June of 1965. The Coffeen Street campus welcomed nearly 600 students in the Fall of 1965.


For a free copy of Jefferson's commemorative brochure 50 Years of Learning ~ Changing Lives, please call JCC at 315-786-2234.

College Retirees Reunited for Luncheon/Day on the Links

On June 24, JCC held its annual retiree luncheon coupled with a special 50th Anniversary Captain and Crew golf outing at Watertown Golf Club. Seven golf teams and nearly 50 guests attended (pictured above). Despite the rain, retirees enjoyed a wonderful day with former colleagues and friends, complete with fun prizes awarded for comical categories.

(Left to Right) Paula V.V. Wardwell, JCC President Carole A. McCoy and Arnold I. Shapiro prior to the presentation of the Jefferson Citation on May 20.
Watertown artist Thelma L. Hamilton has designed four Jefferson Community College ornaments as part of a commemorative “Four Seasons Series” in celebration of the College’s 50th anniversary. The ornaments are available individually or by collection from the JCC Foundation with a portion of proceeds to benefit the College Foundation. Each glass ornament is hand-painted by Mrs. Hamilton.

The four ornament designs depict the iconic Haas clock tower on Jefferson’s campus in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. In celebration of the College’s graduating class of 2011, the Summer ornament is also available in a special version that includes JCC’s famous Cannon. Any ornament can be personalized if desired and each is adorned with a burgundy ribbon with ‘Celebrating 50 Years of Learning and Changing Lives’ in gold print.

Spring Ornament (pictured) – available now  
Summer Ornament – available now  
Fall ornament – available September 2  
Winter ornament – available on JCC’s anniversary date of November 7, 2011

Order your keepsake ornaments by calling the JCC Foundation directly at 315-786-2291 or by downloading order form from www.sunyjefferson.edu and faxing it to JCC at 315-786-0158. Your donation of $25 per ornament includes personalization (if desired), gift box, ornament stand and shipping direct from Thelma Hamilton Designs.

Upcoming 50th Anniversary Events
Jefferson Community College Exhibit at Jefferson County Historical Society  
Late August through early November. Travel through time and explore Jefferson from the early actions of the Citizen’s Committee for a Community College in the late 1950s through present day.

Symposium on Jefferson  
October 20 (see page 17)

Anniversary Celebration - November 7  
The College will hold a formal program, including the dedication of a time capsule, on the actual anniversary of the voter referendum that established JCC.

Mayor’s Ball - 50th Birthday Bash  
November 12 (see page 24)

Please visit www.sunyjefferson.edu and click on the 50th anniversary icon for the most current schedule of events and the opportunity to share your favorite JCC memory online.

For more information please contact Karen Freeman, chair of the 50th Anniversary Executive Committee, at kfreeman@sunyjefferson.edu or 315-786-2234.

Chorus Open to the Community  
In honor of the College’s 50th anniversary, JCC is offering a first ever community chorus beginning this fall. The JCC chorus is open to the public, students, faculty and staff. Under the direction of Dennis R. Pucci, the ensemble will meet Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on campus. For more information, call the JCC advising center at 786-2271.