



Spotlight on NFCC

A PUBLICATION FOR THE NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FAMILY

Around Campus

FACC ICE CREAM SOCIAL SEPT. 30

NFCC FACC is hosting an Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, Sept. 30 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Art Gallery. All employees are invited.

RN FUND-RAISER LUNCH SEPT. 30

RN students are selling soup, salad and bread stick lunches for \$5 on Tuesday, Sept. 30 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the LPN Lab (Bldg. 13, Rm 140). Support the RN Class of 2008.

OCTOBER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The following faculty/staff training sessions will be held in the Technology Center, Bldg. 5: D2L Basics Oct. 2, 3 p.m.; Let Excel Calculate 4 You Oct. 3, 10 a.m. & Oct. 16, 3 p.m.; D2L Advanced Oct. 8, 3 p.m.; Are You Smarter than Your Smartboard Oct. 9, 3 p.m.; D2L Making the Grade-book Oct. 17, 10 a.m.; Outlook - More than Just Email, Oct. 22, 3 p.m. & Oct. 30, 3 p.m.; D2L Advanced Oct. 24, 10 a.m.; and D2L Content Management Oct. 29, 3 p.m. Sessions last one hour.

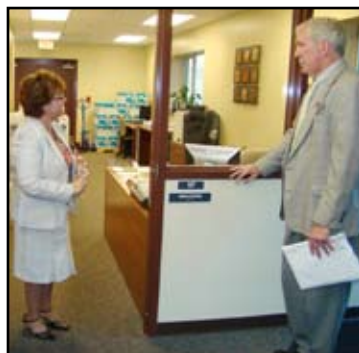
Board tours renovated buildings



Tour features NFCC's College Preparatory Education Building and new Technology Center

ABOVE: Members of the NFCC District Board of Trustees, left to right, Dr. Bill Brothers (Suwannee); Linda Gibson (Madison); Lester Padgett (Taylor); Verna M. Hodge (Hamilton); Brantly Helvenston (Suwannee); Vice Chair Albert Thomas (Jefferson); and Chair John Maulsby, Jr. (Madison) toured two of NFCC's newly renovated buildings on Sept. 16 following the college's regular board meeting. The tour began in NFCC's College Preparatory Education Building which houses classrooms, student support services, tutoring facilities, college preparatory education programs, as well as faculty and staff offices. Board members then toured NFCC's new Technology Center which houses employee development and training facilities, multimedia presentation and video production facilities, and NFCC's computer services department and duplication center. Both buildings were renovated over the summer and now offer the newest technology to students and employees in an optimal learning and teaching environment.

ABOVE RIGHT: Dr. Sharon Erle, Acting Dean of Academic Affairs, shares information on one of the classrooms in NFCC's College Preparatory Education Building with Board members



Linda Gibson (seated), Albert Thomas (right) and Brantly Helvenston.

LEFT: Dr. Jessica Webb, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Technology, shares information on the college duplication center with NFCC Board member Brantly Helvenston during the tour of the Technology Center.



RECRUITING:

NFCC employees, left to right, Marie Guest, Melody Foust, Mac Leggett, Lorraine J. Brown and Skip James help with NFCC's information booth at the Madison County Back to School event held at Madison's Four Freedoms Park this fall. "The event was very well attended," said Lorraine J. Brown. "NFCC brochures and information materials were passed out to prospective students and their parents."



CAREER FAIR AT SUWANNEE HIGH:

NFCC employees, left to right, Clyde Alexander, Melody Foust, Bobby Scott and Lorraine J. Brown traveled to a career fair at Suwannee High School in Live Oak, Fla. Sept. 17 to help recruit new students.

Around Campus**LIBRARY'S NEW BOOK DISPLAY**

Come see the new "Elections and Voting" book display in NFCC's Marshall Hamilton Library. Stop by and check it out!

FLU & PNEUMONIA SHOTS AVAILABLE

The Health Department will be giving Flu Shots and Pneumonia Shots in the Art Gallery on Oct. 7 from 9-11 a.m. Costs are \$15 Flu Shot; \$30 Pneumonia Shot (cash or check only). To sign up, email name and date of birth to Bill Hunter, Human Resources, at hunterb@nfcc.edu or call ext. 9448 for more information. Open to employees, students, family members or friends.

OPEN ENROLLMENT OCT. 28 (EMPLOYEE)

Employee Open Enrollment will be held in the Student Center Oct. 28, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Representatives from Blue Cross (Health Insurance), Guardian (Dental Insurance) Avesis (Vision Insurance) and Reliance Standard (Life Insurance) will be here.

FAMU RECRUITER ON CAMPUS NOV. 3

Bill McCray, FAMU Community College and High School Relations, will be in the Student Center Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

NFCC students participate in reading contest

NFCC English instructor Rose Nixon is encouraging students to read more books this term. She has challenged students in her Basic Reading Skills class to compete in the Townsend Press Reading Scholarship Contest, which awards students cash prizes for reading a set number of paperback books during a semester.

"I see the great need for a motivational factor to show students how fun reading can be," said Nixon. "I am so excited about the opportunity offered by Townsend Press, for I think it will motivate students to become life-long readers."

Townsend Press gives students the opportunity to read up to 30 pre-approved books, which are provided at no charge to the school, and the opportunity to win \$100 for each set of 10 books read. According to Townsend Press, many first-year college students admit to never having read a book from cover to cover, but Townsend Press feels the benefits of reading are beyond dispute – "regular reading makes students better readers, writers, speakers, listeners and thinkers."

Nixon agrees, "Research shows that readers excel in all linguistic areas including grammar, mechanics, speech, and overall critical thinking and comprehension."

Already this term, Nixon's students have become extremely interested in reading and competing in the contest. A few are already approaching the first 10 book mark.

"Reading is a way to embrace a different part of life," said NFCC student Victoria Horvath. "It can be



NFCC instructor Rose Nixon, third from left, is encouraging her students to read more books. Among the NFCC students participating in a reading scholarship contest are, left to right, Victoria Horvath, Frankie Jones, Rose Nixon (Instructor), Suzan Trujillo, Terica Dukes, James Wilbanks, Ricky Bryan and Meghan Ortega.

fun, sad, entertaining, inspirational, motivational, or even a mystery."

NFCC student Meghan Ortega is also enjoying the reading assignment, "I like to read because it gives me a chance to relax and let my imagination grab a hold of me," said Ortega. "Reading allows my imagination to travel to places I want to go... it also gives me the opportunity to relate or become a character in the story."

The contest has given student Frankie Jones a new appreciation for reading, "I used to not like reading, but now I enjoy it," said Jones. "Having the right book helps me enjoy what I am reading."

Students participating in the Townsend Press Reading Scholarship Contest must be enrolled at a two or four-year college and must be taking a developmental course in reading or writing.



NFCC students, left to right, Teresa Arrington, Tildra Howard and Victoria Johnson are also participating in the reading contest. Arrington has already read eight books in five weeks.

"If you succeed in this contest, the money will not be your only reward," said Townsend Press. "Reading anywhere from 10 to 30 books – especially if you have never been much of a reader – would be an extraordinary act of personal achievement, growth and self-empowerment."

Nixon's challenge to her students to compete in the contest this term is definitely getting students involved with reading. She hopes the students will continue reading on a regular basis once the Basic Reading Skills class and contest are over – "reading taps in to the critical side of the brain," said Nixon.

Ensminger is guest speaker at NFCC

The NFCC Business Department welcomed Ted Ensminger, Executive Director of the Madison County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, as a guest speaker Sept. 25. Ensminger shared valuable information with students in NFCC's Administrative Assistant program.

Instructor Enid Kozlowski introduced Ensminger during the round-table style discussion session. "I've asked Mr. Ensminger here today to share his perspective of what qualities businesses are looking for in employees."

Ensminger, now three months into his new job at the Madison Chamber, has extensive experience in the business world. He shared with the college students his work history, things he learned along the way to his current job and the qualities that make individuals a good employee and a good administrative assistant.

"I want you to have a clear understanding of the importance of an administrative assistant in business," said Ensminger. "You must respect the significance of your position."

He told the students that a good administrative assistant is essential to running a successful business and stressed the importance of time management, communication, organization, being efficient and having a broad knowledge of the company or business one is working with. Ensminger encouraged the students to work hard to accomplish their goals. He also engaged the students in the discussion by asking questions and seeking feedback.

As a thank you, the students and instructors of NFCC's Administrative Assistant program invited Ensminger to lunch in the NFCC Student Center. Instructors are Enid Kozlowski, Bucky Christmas and Bettie Hogle.



Students in NFCC's Administrative Assistant Program (left to right, front row) Holly Norris, Ashley Harville and Charyle Carmichael; (left to right, back row) Vandela "Van" Johnson, Maria Lewis and Clyneas Brasby.

NFCC Administrative Assistant Program: Helping local students reach their career goals

NFCC instructor Enid Kozlowski is helping prepare area students for careers in business. With nine students currently enrolled in NFCC's Administrative Assistant Program, Kozlowski is confident that the skills being taught in this career and technology based program will help students succeed on the job.

"The nine students that are currently in the program come from all walks of life and abilities, but everyone works together toward the common goal of obtaining an administrative position at the end of the year," said Kozlowski. "NFCC has an opportunity to change the future of these students and help them to become a productive office assistant."

Maria Lewis of Madison is one of the nine students in NFCC's Administrative Assistant Program. This is her first term at NFCC; she began classes in August. "I love the instructors and I like that NFCC is a small college," said Lewis. "This program is beneficial to my career and is helping me pursue my goals. I am looking forward to

continuing my education."

Clyneas Brasby of Perry is also a new student to the program. She plans to continue into the Legal Administrative Assistant track. "I love the program," said Brasby. "I am learning a lot and the teachers are excellent. They are helping us with our resumes and we get to work at our own pace. Also the campus has a nice atmosphere and is not crowded."

Brasby, Lewis and their student peers are learning about business systems, office technology, business software, digital design, keyboarding, employability skills, filing, business math and English, communication and computer concepts. Some of the students in the class are updating current skills in order to get a better job, others are gaining skills to start a new career and some plan to continue their education once they complete the program.

"The definition of the 'administrative assistant' is constantly changing, but the one thing that remains constant is that employers are looking for employees who are competent and dependable," said Kozlowski. "No longer is the administrative assistant expected just to answer phones, but he/she needs to be organized, computer savvy, dependable and able to communicate well in the business world."

Students completing the program have the option to transfer into NFCC's Associate in Science in Business Administration and Management program if they want to earn an A.S. degree or can choose from different tracks in the vocational certificate program – Administrative Assistant, Legal Administrative Assistant or Customer Assistance Technology. NFCC also offers its Associate in Arts degree with a business emphasis for students planning to continue into a bachelor's degree program.



(l-r) Holly Norris, Bettie Hogle, Vandela "Van" Johnson, Mary Gallon, Maria Lewis, Ted Ensminger, Clyneas Brasby, Ashley Harville, Bucky Christmas, Enid Kozlowski and Charyle Carmichael.

Community Education offers Cake Decorating classes

NFCC Community Education announces upcoming intermediate and advanced cake decorating classes with instructor Deborah Cherry.

The Intermediate Cake Decorating class will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursdays, Oct. 28, Oct. 30, Nov. 4 and Nov. 6 at the NFCC Career and Technical Education Center (Bldg. 13). Those interested should register by Oct. 21. This class will teach the basics of cake decorating.

The Advanced Cake Decorating class will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Dec. 1, 2, 4, 8, 9 and 11. Those interested should register by Nov. 19. Participants will learn more advanced cake decorating skills in this course.

Both courses offer instruction on creating attractive cake decorations. Students will learn special decorating techniques that will be useful in decorating cakes for such special occasions as birthdays, anniversaries and even weddings.

Early registration is encouraged. Contact Suzie Godfrey at (850) 973-9453 or CommunityEd@nfcc.edu.

Community Education offers Tuesday Night at the Opera!

If it's opera you love or if you want to learn more about opera, then NFCC Community Education has just the class for you - Tuesday Night at the Opera! Classes are Tuesday nights, Oct. 28-Dec. 9 from 7-9 p.m. at the NFCC Career and Technical Education Center (Bldg. 13).

And, you get to learn all about opera from a talented and knowledgeable instructor, Tobias Mostel. Mostel is a noted musician, painter, stage manager, lecturer, ceramics artist and teacher of opera appreciation, music, drama, art, French, piano and voice. He has graciously agreed to once again teach this very popular opera appreciation class at NFCC.

Early registration for Tuesday Night at the Opera! is encouraged. Contact Suzie Godfrey at (850) 973-9453 or CommunityEd@nfcc.edu.

A complete list of upcoming NFCC Community Education courses is available at www.nfcc.edu (keyword: Community Education).

NFCC Artist Series begins 2008-2009 season St. Johns River City Band performs Sept. 30

St. John's River City Band, the official band of Jacksonville and the official band of the State of Florida, will perform for the NFCC Artist Series on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at Van H. Priest Auditorium. The show begins at 7 p.m. and is the inaugural performance of the 2008-2009 Artist Series season.

The St. Johns River City Big Band, one of the preeminent professional Jazz Ensembles in the United States, is a dynamic band of top professional musicians. The band has appeared at Carnegie Hall, Disney World's EPCOT Center, Ruth Eckerd Hall and Jacksonville's Metropolitan Park and performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy DeFranco, Diane Schuur, Ernie Watts, the Manhattan Transfer, and many more.

The Sept. 30 show will include such favorites as Take The "A" Train, It Had to Be You, Someone to Watch Over Me, In The Mood, Rockin' In Rhythm, April In Paris, Summertime, Georgia and other songs from world renown artists like Duke Ellington, George and Ira Gershwin, Fats Waller and Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Leading the band is Musical Director Chris Creswell. He earned his bachelor's degree in music at the University of North Florida and a Master of Music in Trombone Performance at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. Joining him on stage will be award winning vocalist Lisa Kelly, who is well-known for her rich, smooth tone and swinging delivery of lyric.



St. Johns River City Band performs Sept. 30 at NFCC.

Kelly is a four time Downbeat-"Jazz Vocal Soloist" award winner.

The band's mission is to keep jazz and other American music alive through performance and education. So in addition to the 7 p.m. Artist Series performance, members of the group will host educational workshops with the Madison County High School Jazz Band. The performance and workshops are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tickets are on sale now and season passes are still available. Individual tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for NFCC students (with ID) and children ages 12 and under; season passes are \$45 for open seating sections and include the Sept. 30 St. Johns River City Band performance plus five more entertaining shows. Contact the NFCC Office of College Advancement for information at (850) 973-1653, email ArtistSeries@nfcc.edu or visit www.nfcc.edu.

Get involved with NFCC's "Medieval Days"

CALLING ALL TALENT: If you would like to participate in a series of exciting and diverse events of the Medieval and Renaissance variety during the week of Nov. 17, 2008, come to NFCC's "Medieval Days" planning and kick-off meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 30 in the Fine Arts Auditorium (Bldg. 10) at 2 p.m..

"We are looking for participants who would be interested in contributing in a variety of ways," said Dr. Barbara McCauley. "It will be FUN!"

Event planners are looking for individuals with Medieval/Renaissance talents or interests (music, art, dance, acting, character invention, cooking, etc.). Opportunities and plans for the November "Medieval Days" event will be shared at the Sept. 30 meeting.

If you are interested, but cannot attend or would like more information, contact Dr. Rebecca Burkart at (850) 973-1643, Lisa Barden at 973-1642 or Dr. McCauley at 973-1640 or mccauleyb@nfcc.edu.