

Delhi People

Farrell Transformed

With much anticipation, students, faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and community members came together for the Grand Opening of the new Farrell Student and Community Center on September 15.

President **Candace Vancko** led a ribbon cutting, marking the official opening of Farrell. She was joined by Senator **John Bonacic**, **Jeff Abraham**, Student Senate President, **Pat Heath**, CADI General Manager, **Joseph Lomonaco**, Principal of Architecture+, the Troy firm that executed Farrell's redesign, **Ben Nesbitt**, College Council Chairman, **Joe Batchelder**, Director of Capital Construction, **Marty Greenfield**, Director of Student Activities and College Union, **Rodney Decker**, representative for Assemblyman **Cliff Crouch**, **Rich Maxey**,

Mayor of the Village of Delhi, and **Pete Bracci**, Delhi Town Supervisor. Senator Bonacic was presented with a proclamation by the Student Senate for securing \$16.7 million in state support for the project. A plaque in his honor was also unveiled.

"There's been tremendous excitement on campus and throughout the community about the new Farrell and our dreams have been realized," says President Vancko. "Farrell has been transformed into a state-of-the-art facility that will serve the needs of our students



SUNY Delhi's hot food team was crowned the best in the US after capturing the American Culinary Federation Student National Championship in Anaheim, CA, August 3. Read the full story on page 2.

and the region for years to come." The campus community pitched in to make the celebration a success. Student ambassadors and staff gave tours of the new facility to retired faculty and staff and guests who were astounded by Farrell's transformation. Dr. K's Motown Revue got the crowd on its feet with live music and radio host

Chuck D'Imperio broadcasted the event throughout the region. Student groups made sure there were lots of activities for families with face painting and crafts. Instructor **Julee Miller** and students crafted a cake in the shape of the new Farrell that used 36 pounds of but-

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tercream frosting. Refreshments were provided by the College Association.

Natural light is a prominent feature of the new Farrell Center. The addition of numerous windows on the Promenade and Concourse Levels, combined with expansive lobbies, provide a bright, welcoming atmosphere for visitors. The former gymnasium now houses a contemporary food court connected to a multipurpose room that can seat more than 400 for dining, banquets and performances. The Club Level serves as a central location for student clubs and organizations.

Other features of the 75,000 square foot Farrell Center include an exercise and dance studio, meeting rooms with wireless connectivity and high definition projection screens, lounge areas with wide-screen televisions, radio and television studios, an art center, and a drawing studio. The facility also houses Student Activities, the O'Connor Center for Community Engagement, the College Association at Delhi, Inc., the Barnes & Noble Campus Store, and Regalia, the college's gently-used clothing store.

Douglas Okun, a 1962 graduate of Delhi's construction technology

program, played a prominent role in Farrell's renovations, providing the conceptual redesign as a gift to his alma mater. He will be honored for his work with a formal dedication of The Okun Theatre on Friday, September 24 at 4 p.m. The campus community is encouraged to attend.

"Farrell is a space that belongs to everyone across the campus and the community," says **Rosalie Higgins**, retired Dean of Business and Hospitality. "That's why you see so many people here today. We can all be proud."

National Champs

Delhi's Hot Food team now has the storybook ending that every team dreams about. **Sarah Thurgood**, Team Captain, of Bovina Center; **Kenny Liranzo** of New York City; **Joe Michaud** of Gansevoort; **Julie Hernandez** of

Bainbridge; and **Chase Devine** of Brackney, PA, can say they are the best in the nation after winning the 2010 American Culinary Federation (ACF) Student National Championship.

"We took practicing one step at a time," says Devine, who is now in his third year in Culinary Arts at Delhi with Kenny Liranzo and Julie Hernandez in their fourth year (Sarah Thurgood and Joe Michaud have graduated). "We first prac-

ticed for the state competition, then we focused on the regional competition, and when we won that, we focused on the nationals." The three confess, though, that as easy as it sounds to take each competition as it comes, the pressure was really on at the national competition.

"We tried not to think about the pressure," says Liranzo. "It was going to go really, really well or **(cont.)**



Farrell's Grand Opening was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a proclamation and plaque dedication in Senator John Bonacic's honor.



Q & A with... Amber Tatnall

Occupation: Assistant Professor, Psychology

Birthplace: Madison Army Base in Washington State

Education: B.A. in Psychology from Binghamton University, an M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling from Syracuse University, and a Ph.D. in Industrial Organizational Psychology from Capella University

What do you like most about your job? What excites me most about my work is that I am able to show students what a diverse field Psychology can be and how the science of Psychology can relate to their day-to-day lives.

Who do you most admire? All working moms! We have so many roles: Nurturer, Advocate, Teacher, Chauffeur, Cook...I could go on and on.

What do you consider to be SUNY Delhi's hidden gem? I couldn't keep the schedule I keep if it wasn't for Delhi's day care center. The staff are highly supportive and a huge resource to the college and community. The center is also part of the learning at Delhi. I use it as a site for service learning in my Psychology courses.

What is your greatest achievement? I am an achiever by nature, so probably the best feeling I ever had was the day I was able to cross off all the items on my "to do" list. I had a bowl of ice cream and called it a day.

If you could change jobs with someone for a day, who would that be? Kathryn Bigelow, the award-winning film director. She's a role model for all women. She's someone who is not afraid to push the envelope.

really, really bad. But one thing we learned is that you can't go to nationals and not think you are a champion." It was the moment that the judges were critiquing the dessert that the team had its first inkling that they may have won the competition.

"One of the judges, who is an executive pastry chef, dropped her head when she tasted our dessert," says Hernandez. "We all thought that was it, but then she raised her head and said that the dish was the best she's ever tasted in competition. That's when we thought we won the gold (medal)."

But earning a gold medal at an ACF championship doesn't necessarily mean you win the competition. It's earned by the team with the most points. Team Delhi did just that: They won the championship with two points to spare, an unprecedented feat according to team manager and Associate Professor **Tom Recinella**.

"We focus on training, community service and mentoring of younger students when we're preparing for competition," says Chef Recinella. "With this win, our team proved unequivocally that the Delhi way is the best way."

Proud Pedigree



The Agora is now graced by 16 banners representing the countries of Delhi students. Countries include China, Japan, Saint Vincent, Vietnam, Canada, Jamaica, Mexico, Venezuela, Burma, Ecuador, Macedonia, Turkey, Colombia, South Korea, Thailand and the United States. A recent class gift by the Student Senate and Farrell construction funds have made the banners, as well as eight metal table umbrellas, a permanent part of the Agora. To help identify each of the countries represented, visit <http://bit.ly/bOntKw>.

Kudos

SUNY Delhi has been named “Partner of the Year” by The Arc of Delaware County (DELARC) for enhancing opportunities for individuals with disabilities within the community. President **Candace Vancko**, **Elizabeth Sova**, Coordinator of the O’Connor Cen-

ter for Community Engagement, and Assistant Professors **Amber Tatnall** and **Dave DeForest** accepted the award on behalf of the college at a ceremony on July 20.

Three faculty and staff have earned advanced degrees from the University of Albany. Complex Coordinator **Sean Babcock** received an M.S. in Educational

Administration. Instructor **Jessica Backus-Foster** received an M.S. in Curriculum Development and Instructional Technology. **Samme Chittum** received an M.A. in English.

SUNY Delhi Athletics has earned the NJCAA 2009-10 Region III Sportsmanship Award which recognizes sportsmanship and a commitment to excellence in intercollegiate athletics.

The Deans Council has awarded three Professional Development Grants to faculty and staff for the month of October. Instructor **Yudis Contreras** received \$400

toward travel expenses to defend her doctoral dissertation at Indiana University. **Elizabeth Sova**, Coordinator of the O’Connor Center for Community Engagement, was awarded \$400 to attend the New York State Council of Chief Student Affairs Officers/College Student Personnel Association conference in Rochester. Associate Professor **Dave Hultenius** received \$250 to attend the HSS Connection Design/Dos & Don’ts of Steel Construction Seminar sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction in Albany.

All Out for Zach

Assistant Professor **Ben McGraw** took the Warrior Dash at Windham Mountain as a personal challenge. He competed in the race to raise funds for **Zachary Hilty**, a Golf and Plant Science student who was paralyzed in an accident in August.

“Zach and his plight definitely helped power me up the hill,” says Professor McGraw. \$572 was raised from the Delhi campus community with all proceeds going to the Hilty family to help with medical expenses.



Promotions

Bill Burke has been promoted from Associate Professor to Professor of Technology.

Rosemary Spring has been promoted from Associate Professor to Professor of Nursing.

Cheryle Levitt has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Kathleen Ogborn has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Veterinary Science Technology.

Steve Tait has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Technology.

Betsy Weidenbach has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Hospitality Management.

Dan Davis has been promoted from Instructor to Assistant Professor of Technology.

Lee Heron has been promoted from Instructor to Assistant Professor of Hospitality Management.

Kristy Fitch has been promoted from Systems Administrator to Senior Programmer Analyst.

Matt House has been promoted from Instructional Support Associate to Temporary Instructor, Electrical.

Mike Hall has been promoted from Plumber to Steamfitter.

Betti Padgett has been promoted from Keyboard Specialist 1 to Keyboard Specialist 2.

Out and About

Faculty and staff were busy during June and July thanks to professional development grants awarded by the Deans Council. Assistant Professor **Z.I. Sanchez** participated in “An Educators’ Tour of Cuba.” Registrar **Nancy Smith** attended the SUNY Registrars Association Conference in Glens Falls. Residence Hall Director **Seth Warren** attended the Northeast Associations of College and University Housing Officers Conference in Bristol, RI.

Anna Reed, Library Clerk 3, and **Denise Holcomb**, Clerk 1, attended the New York State Library Assistants’ Association (NYSLAA) Conference in Corning.

Library Director **Pam Peters** attended the annual SUNY Librarians Conference in Brockport.

Palate Pleaser



Farrell wasn't the only grand reopening this fall. MacDonald Hall had undergone renovations this summer and unveiled its new look for the fall semester. The College Association celebrated the opening on September 1 with a harp performance at breakfast, chair massages at lunch, and a musical performance by **Fritz Henry** at dinner. New Chef **Malcolm Jay Wood**, pictured above, planned special menus for each meal.



Fresh Start



SUNY Delhi opened the year with its student-acclaimed orientation program, welcoming new students and their families. The spirit of the day could be seen on the faces of orientation leaders (pictured above) who gathered freshmen in groups that represented characters from the movie *Toy Story*. The weekend ended with a picnic for new students at the American Legion in Delhi.

New Faces

Dr. Vern Lindquist has joined the Delhi family as Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean. Three new faculty have also joined the division: Assistant Professor **Bobby Bui**, Psychology; Assistant Professor **Alissa Burger**, English/Humanities; and Assistant Professor **Sandra Johnson**, Political Science.

Assistant Professor **Amber Ball** has joined the Veterinary Science Technology faculty.

Jonathan Brennan now leads the Computer Information Systems team as Chief Information Officer (CIO).

Staff Sergeant **Kenneth Brown** is teaching Culinary Arts at Delhi through a special exchange program with the United States Army.

Landa Palmer and **Doug Sivers** are new instructors in the Nursing program.

Assistant Professor **John Nunes** is providing online instruction for Delhi's Business and Hospitality programs at Ononadaga Community College.

Mary Pysnik has been hired as a VISTA member to work with the O'Connor Center on a "Farm to Table" program.

Toni DiNoto is an Instructional Support Associate for the Technology Division.

Allison Lundin is the new Campus Events Coordinator.

Dawn Morganstern and **Jessica Wheeler** are Keyboard Specialists 1 for Financial Aid and Enrollment Services respectively.

Births

Congratulations to Online Coordinator **Clark Shah-Nelson** and wife **Seema** on the birth of their son, **Amaal Asim Shah-Nelson**, on July 27.

Congratulations to University Police Officer **Ladd Dawson** and wife **Jestina** on the birth of their daughter, **Cassandra Kathryn Rose**, on July 1.

Congratulations to first-time grandmother **Anna Reed**, Library Clerk 3, and first-time uncle **Chad Reed**, Calculations Clerk 2, on the birth of **Aubrey Post** on August 2.

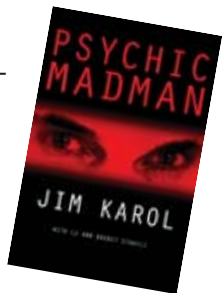
In Print



Sizzle magazine, a student publication of the American Culinary Federation, highlighted SUNY Delhi's Hot Food Team as the 2010

National Champions, noting that the title was a first for the college and state.

Student Activities Director **Marty Greenfield** has written the epilogue to entertainer **Jim Karol**'s third book, *The Psychic Madman*, by Source Media Books.



Online Coordinator **Clark Shah-Nelson** had his chapter published in *Learning Management System Technologies and Software Solutions for Online Teaching: Tools and Applications*, Rivier College.

What I Did Over My Summer Break



Even though the students were away from campus, summer was still a busy time for Delhi. Clockwise from top left: For the third year in a row CADI assisted with the food service for the Catskill Area Hospice fundraiser (MacDonald Hall Supervisor **Donna Crosby** serving at the event); Director of Student Activities **Marty Greenfield** (pictured) and Director of Capital Construction **Joe Batchelder** were busy giving “sneak preview” tours of Farrell’s renovations to faculty, staff, alumni and College Foundation board members; Associate Professor **Mike Barnes** (pictured), Assistant Professors **David Brower** and **Lee Heron**, Instructor **Don Reynolds**, and Professor Emeritus **Bob Morris** presented workshops at Alumni Weekend; and the Athletics Department held a highly successful boys lacrosse camp that attracted nearly 60 campers.