

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MARK MCNAMARA – Commack High School Class of 2004
(Carpentry)

Mark McNamara graduated from Commack High School and completed the Wilson Tech two-year Carpentry program in 2004. As a young man who likes working with his hands, the skills needed for carpentry work came easily and naturally to Mark. While attending Tech, Mark was elected foreman of Mr. Scott Bernstein's carpentry class. He took the job seriously and became an asset to Mr. Bernstein and his fellow students. Mark received excellent grades and was recognized by the United States Navy Seals with a scholarship towards his first year in college. Mark was accepted to Nassau Community College and completed his Associates Degree in Liberal Arts as well as a one-year certificate program in *Construction Management*. In addition to being a full-time college student, Mark worked full-time as a carpenter for a local business.

After college, he continued working in the field gaining valuable experience and supervisory skills. Recently, Mark was hired by Western Suffolk BOCES as Scott Bernstein's teaching assistant. According to Mark, "I built an excellent relationship with Scott Bernstein as a student, and now as his assistant we mix our methods of teaching...I especially like supervising the students on their projects although sometimes I want to take the hammer out of their hands and do it myself! I have to stop and remember they are the ones learning."

In addition to working at Wilson Tech, Mark also works nights at Sears in Commack doing construction inside the store. Soon Mark will return to school to earn his Bachelor's Degree in either Education or Project Management. "Either way," Mark says, "what I'm doing now is preparing me for my future." Mark and his family are grateful for the quality education he received at Western Suffolk BOCES.