

# CSI in the News



March 2011

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# ***Arts***

## Taking the stage

Published: Tuesday, March 01, 2011, 4:53 AM



By **Melissa Chapman**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - My 6-year-old son recently has begun to serenade me. He concocts these flowery love songs laden with lyrics like, "You are the love of my heart," and "Mommy is a princess," and softly croons them to me while we're driving in the car, while he's coloring at his little desk and even while we're out shopping.



Me and the kidlets

In fact, he's already informed me he'd like to take his act on the road. My 10-year-old daughter, who is already well-aware of the power of the Internet — which as in the case with Justin Bieber can transform an unknown little boy into a virtual pop icon — is imploring me to videotape him and upload his performance to YouTube.

The two of them are seeing virtual stars in their eyes — he thinks he can be a singer and she thinks he's primed for "American Idol."

While I'm thrilled at being my son's captive audience, I'd love to provide him

with the opportunity to take his talents to the next level and share them with the world!

No, I'm not ready to sign him up with an agent and force him into a life of child stardom. (I get chills just thinking about all the child stars gone bad!)

Rather, when and if he's ready, I've found three really fun venues where he can flex his performance muscles in classes that are all about building up his talents and self-confidence and ensuring he has a rip-roaring good time!

**HARBOR LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY**

After 25 years working in the Broadway community with credits as diverse as Cosette in “Les Miserables” and Velma in “Chicago,” Tamara Jenkins will guide driven kids toward their dreams. Instruction begins with breathing exercises and trains core muscles to develop excellent breath control. Special emphasis is placed on dilating the throat and developing strong muscles to assist in singing with the larynx in a relaxed position. The aim is to ensure vocal health and longevity.

### **Address**

Lessons are taught in Jenkins’ private studio at 38 Westervelt Ave., but are now being held at a temporary residence in Travis due to a house fire.

### **Age appeal**

All serious students are accepted.

### **Cost**

\$65 per hour lesson.

### **What kids will go gaga for**

When their voice begins to open, their range expands; they feel a vocal freedom they’ve never experienced before and performing at a periodic showcase.

### **Parent perks**

Strong classical technique is the backbone of healthy singing and is emphasized throughout instruction; watching their children perform in periodic showcases.

### **Drawbacks**

Limit of 10 students accepted at any given time.

### **Overall**

Instruction embraces all forms of vocal style — belt, mix, legit and pop — required for a successful career in musical theater.

### **Information**

Call 646-206-1652 or visit [harborlightstheatercompany.org](http://harborlightstheatercompany.org).

## **SUNDOG THEATRE**

At this acting class, young actors will learn to think critically, make informed judgments, offer constructive criticism for their own and other's work, operate cooperatively within groups, exercise their imaginations and tap into their own creativity.

### **Address**

370 Saint Marks Place, St. George.

### **Time**

10 once-a-week sessions, Wednesdays at 7 to 8:30 p.m., beginning March 9 to May 18.

### **Age appeal**

Classes for beginning and intermediate students, 13 to 20 years old.

### **Cost**

\$150 for 10 sessions.

### **What kids will go gaga for**

Being immersed in voice training (non-musical), movement exercises and theater games with an emphasis on improvisation and performing a short final performance of their work.

### **Parent perks**

Through theater and improvisation, students often find creative ways to solve problems and conflicts, enabling them to translate these ideas into their own lives. Additionally, the class emphasizes listening and observing, and because classes are small, each student works at his/her own pace.

### **Drawbacks**

Classes are kept small for individualized attention so sign up as soon as possible!

### **Overall**



This class will help kids develop an understanding of the elements of theater production and make connections between theater and life. They'll identify playwriting and drama as literary forms and through them investigate relationships and societal roles.

### **Information**

Sundog's artistic director, Susan Fenley, also offers private coaching and its Theatre Kids is a great acting class for beginning and intermediate students' ages 9 to 12 years old that begins in June. Call 718-816-5453 or e-mail [info@sundogtheatre.org](mailto:info@sundogtheatre.org).

### **STATEN ISLAND BALLET**

At this landmark facility, nestled in a wooded setting of the Greenbelt nature preserve, children can fulfill their dance dreams in classical ballet technique, pointe, modern, jazz, advanced partnering, mime and musical theater classes, taught by working theater professionals.

### **Address**

460 Brielle Ave., Sea View.

### **Time**

Classes are conducted six days a week, generally 2 to 9 p.m., weekdays, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturdays.

### **Cost**

Tuition for one class per week for a year is \$625. Scholarships and pay plans are available.

### **Age appeal**

Three years and older.

### **What kids will go gaga for**

Achieving strength in the discipline, week by week preparing their bodies for the rigors of pointe, caractère, barre work, partnering and ultimately accomplishing the full range of ballet's extensive vocabulary of movement and creativity (all in French). Performing in showcases and fully staged shows at Center for the Arts at the College of Staten Island.

### **Parent perks**

Free parking, sunny state-of-the-art studios, spacious dressing rooms and a library to study in. All activities carry the city Department of Cultural Affairs' seal of "Approved for Quality."

### **Drawbacks**

Tuition is a bit steep.

### **Overall**

Studying dance at this school from the outset, students will be immersed in the breadth of the art form — technique, musicality, history, acclaimed artists, great ballets, even how to sit quietly and wear their hair.

### **Information**

Call 718-980-0500 or visit [www.siballet.org](http://www.siballet.org).

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## Student photography exhibit at **CSI**, themed 'The Day After,' focuses on apocalyptic moments and their messages

Published: Thursday, March 10, 2011, 2:12 PM



By Mark D. Stein



Now on display inside the Student Art Gallery at the **College of Staten Island** are photographs taken by members of the school's photography club. The showing has been titled "The Day After," and is located in Room 118B of Building 1-P on the Willowbrook campus. (Staten Island Advance/Mark Stein)

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - WILLOWBROOK - A once-populated town, now deserted and left to decay. Flooded streets stealing a vehicle from motion. An abandoned prison that once was filled with tortured inmates.

These are just some of the several themes depicted in the Student Art Gallery of the **College of Staten Island (CSI)** by members of the school Photography Club, who stuck with the apocalyptic theme, "The Day After."

While some students took snapshots of mangled trees, a destroyed pay phone, a man drinking in a bar, others, such as those shot by Annie Breen, were more emotional.

Her photos show a bare fireplace, with a ghostly-figure that is banging its fists against a wall.

"Someone's entire world is coming to an end," the Sunnyside senior explained. "It's someone dealing with something that's happened in their life."

Emily Peters, of Travis, a junior at the school, displayed photos of Centralia, Pa., a coal-mining town that had been evacuated due to a fire that spread into abandoned coal mines beneath it in the early 1960s. Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and a lack of healthy oxygen levels resulted.

Today, the town is home to just two or three families, said Ms. Peters, who toured the site.

"It's really creepy. There's nothing there," she said.

One of her pictures shows gravestones inscribed "Mother" and "Father." She explained that the cemetery and its vacant buildings are all that remains. A sign tacked onto a tree bore the road's name – Wood Street; another sign pointed to where the fire had been.

"Those were the signs of life," said Ms. Peters.

Christina Carannante, president of the **CSI** Photography Club and a resident of West Brighton, displayed nine pictures on the gallery's white walls.

Some of her photos focused on a massive rain and wind storm that paralyzed Staten Island last March.

"There were still trees falling as I was driving around," Ms. Carannante, a senior at **CSI**, who was intrigued enough by the wreckage that took place that Saturday, March 13, to profile it.

Her photographs of a sunken car in water and burning and fallen trees captured the storm's strength. In addition, printed pictures of fire and water hang nearby.

"They fit the elements of the earth," she said.

Another student's photos of Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia show vacated and decayed hallways and rooms. Displayed from the prison are what appears to be a room with a single chair, a broken window and mangled walls, plus a bare, frightening hallway.

Luke Crisalli of Grant City has shot photos for the city Fire Department and was able to capture blazes in West Brighton. During one of them, passers-by seemed unfazed by the ongoing destruction, he said.

"People were just walking around the disaster scene," said the **CSI** junior. He said that even when there's an apocalypse, many people find a way to avoid it and move on with their lives.

Another student, Alexandra Hunt, of Oakwood, printed one picture of herself appearing worn out by prescription medication while surrounded by other photos of pill bottles.

She said it was a way to display how medicines used to get people better can also lead to mental destruction.

"How is this even helping you?" she said, questioning the use of prescribed drugs with countless side effects.

Ms. Carannante explained that the theme of the exhibit was spawned by artist Lori Nix, an expert on building diagrams of places left behind, such as what theaters, malls and homes appear like over time.

"She inspired the whole show," Ms. Carannante said.

The CSI Photography Club is open to all students and equipment isn't required. The group has 10 members.

The pupils who study the art commended their professors for being dedicated and working hard to cater to their students.

"We have great teachers," said Ms. Hunt.

"They work you to the bone, but you learn from it," added Crisalli.

"The Day After" exhibition is available to see Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Student Art Gallery (room 118B) in building 1P. It ends next Wednesday.

For information, call 718-982-2118.

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## Concert set for CSI's late music benefactor Michael Shugrue

Published: Friday, March 11, 2011, 2:29 PM



By Michael J. Fressola



Shugrue

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - A chamber ensemble of **College of Staten Island** faculty will acknowledge the college's late music benefactor Michael Shugrue at a concert Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for the Arts.

For six seasons, Prof. Shugrue underwrote and co-curated concerts that brought New York Philharmonic members, the Canaan Chamber Ensemble, the Knights and other high-profile performers to the Center for the Arts for admission-free performances.



Kahan

The new Chamber Music Collective (CMC) "is our humble attempt to address the gap left by our beloved Professor Shugrue," said faculty pianist Sylvia Kahan, director of the collective.

The group will perform music spanning four centuries.

In addition to Ms. Kahan, the musicians will be Elena Heimur, soprano; Edward Brown, guitar; David Wechsler, flute; David Keberle, clarinet; Olivier Fluchaire, violin; Renee Briggs, Sylvia Kahan, and Yoojin Oh; piano; and David Clive, percussion. Guest artists Kurt Briggs (violin), William Frampton (viola), and Matthew Goeke (cello) will also join the ensemble.

The program will have Poulenc's Flute Sonata and Hummel "Grande Serenade" for guitar, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano; four vocal settings of Russian poems by Rachmaninoff; and an arrangement of Mozart's Piano Concerto in F major, K. 413, for piano and string quartet.

The ensemble will give faculty composer David Keberle's "Percorsi d'anima," for clarinet, violin, cello, and piano its Island premiere.

Tickets for the concert are \$10. Tickets can be reserved in person, by phone, by mail, and online through the

box Office, 2800 Victory Boulevard, 1p-113, Staten Island. Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m;  
Saturday, noon to 3 p.m; Call 718 - 982-ARTS (2787) or visit **[www.cfashows.org](http://www.cfashows.org)**.

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# SILVER CHIPS ONLINE

March 23, 2011

## **Blair concert and symphonic orchestras qualify for state festival**

Orchestras receive superior marks

by **Liv Jacobson**, Staff Writer

Blair's symphonic orchestra and concert orchestra both received superior marks at the District 2 Orchestra Festival at Walter Johnson High School on March 15, qualifying both ensembles to compete in the Maryland Orchestra Festival from April 26 to April 30 at a location to be announced.



Molly Ellison

The concert orchestra and symphonic orchestra both received superior marks at the District 2 Orchestra Festival. Here, concert orchestra teacher Daryl Clark conducts the symphonic band.

This is the first time that the concert orchestra has received an overall superior rating. It is also the first time the symphonic orchestra has received all superior marks and “A” ratings on their written captions, which the adjudicators write after the orchestras receive oral judgments.

The symphonic orchestra received straight superior ratings while the concert orchestra received an overall superior rating. By receiving straight superior ratings, the symphonic orchestra received superior marks in all areas of judgment. Concert orchestra received an overall superior rating by having a high enough combined score to qualify for an overall superior rating. Each orchestra played three selections and then sight-read music. The orchestras were judged as a whole both orally and in written captions.

In addition to their rating achievements, both concert and symphonic orchestras performed pieces of higher difficulty than they have in past years. “They played the hardest level of music [we've ever] played,” symphonic orchestra teacher Michelle Roberts said.



In preparation for the district festival both Roberts and concert orchestra teacher Daryl Clark chose their music carefully and pushed their students. "It's a lot of hard work," Roberts said.

As the statewide competition approaches, Roberts and Clark expect students to maintain the same level of performance in class but will take extra steps to prepare. "We'll get others to be guest adjudicators for practice adjudications before the state level," Roberts said.

From April 15 to April 17, the music department will also sponsor a trip to the National Freedom Festival at the College of Staten Island, New York. Students from all of the music ensembles will combine to form a singular orchestra, band and jazz band. "It will be a combined effort," Roberts said.

The music department has traveled to competitions in the past but this will be its first time in several years participating in the Maryland Orchestra Festival and its first time ever competing in the National Freedom Festival. Clark expressed how important it will be for students to participate in such festivals. "It's a good way to motivate students and showcase our talent on a larger scale," Clark said.

## Peter Noone and Herman's Hermits at Staten Island's CFA

Published: Thursday, March 31, 2011, 12:59 PM



**Ben Johnson**  
By

**STATEN ISLAND, NY**-Discovery: British musician Peter Noone was in perhaps the greatest "Quantum Leap" episode ever.

In the '80s cult time-traveling series, where an unlikely physicist hero tries to "put right what once went wrong," Noone guest-starred as a cross-dressing manager embezzling money from a rock band that bore a striking resemblance to KISS.

"I wasn't so good at cross-dressing, but embezzling and managing a band was easy," the singer told AWE. "I've seen a lot of that, and had some first-hand experience."

During our 45-minute chat, the pearly-toothed star of Manchester pop band Herman's Hermits delivered plenty of self-aware jokes and even a few nuggets of wisdom about his place in show business at the age of 63.

Hopefully, Noone will do the same when the Hermits play Center For the Arts 8 p.m. April 9 at the [College of Staten Island](#), 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook; 718-982-2787. Tickets are \$30-\$40. Visit [CFAShows.com](#) for details.

It's not that Herman's Hermits will need to kill time on stage, though — Noone has plenty of material even beyond 1960s pop hits like "Mrs. Brown You've Got a Lovely Daughter," "I'm Into Something Good" and "I'm Henry The Eighth I Am," including stuff from his little-known new wave band, The Tremblers.



AP/Ben Plank

**Peter Noone performs with British invasion act Herman's Hermits at Diamond Jo Casino in Iowa.**

But the singer is just as witty as he is chatty, as you'll hopefully glean from this excerpt of our interview with him:

**AWE: You've had battles with record labels and label-hired producers about what will sell records versus what you want to play with the band. Are you enjoying the collapse of the recording industry? ¶**

NOONE: It's magical for me that they're all on their way out, that they can't afford their yachts and their plans any more. I've always said they'd never know what the next big thing is because it's in a bar in Poughkeepsie right now. And only young people go there. You look at things like YouTube and Facebook, those are better ideas than a giant label with a building in Century City. Four floors of lawyers, two floors of accountants — and one floor for artist development.

**AWE: You've had huge Brit invasion hits and more underground recordings. What's your setup for touring these days? ¶**

NOONE: We're still a bit "Nevermind the Bullocks" you know? We have the simplest setup: two guitar players, a bass player, a keyboard player, a drummer and me, the singer. And I play a bit of guitar and sometimes a bit of piano on English tours because I know those songs.

**AWE: What kind of music resonates with you, as a performer and a listener.**

NOONE: I've always listened to stuff that's not necessarily right for Herman's Hermits. I like guitar players with licks. What I listen to and what I play are not related at all, though the things that always touch me are songs with good stories.

**AWE: I read that you and actor David Hasselhoff were friendly and once planned to work on a record together. Have you been paying attention to the trouble he's had in the media recently?**

NOONE: Oh he'll be all right, the poor guy. People think that to be in the entertainment business you have to have some sort of smarts. I think one of the requirements is to be a bit stupid actually. Why would you even attempt to be in a business where one in a billion make it? Doctors complain that they have to accept \$12 a patient for Medicare — I've known musicians didn't make \$12 in an entire career. I'm sure if you go to an AA meeting, 90 percent of the people were once in bands of some sort. That's where all that begins isn't it?

**AWE: Have you struggled with substance abuse in your own life and career?**

NOONE: I've always stayed out of trouble, who always left the building just before it collapsed. I've never been afraid to say I'm afraid. When I was young I said "Dad I don't know what to do, all my friends go on the rides at the fair but I'm scared to go," and he said "you can't be afraid to say you're afraid. In the second World War, all the guys who said "I'm afraid" came back.

**AWE: Why do you think some people have such a problem with admitting fear?**

NOONE: Someone came up to me after an oldies concert I was part of, and said that my voice was great. I told him thanks and that I had to do a lot to keep it in good shape, and he said "Do me a favor. When you can't sing anymore, stop." I had to think about it for a second before I realized what he was saying about some of the other performers in the concert, and some of them probably can't stop. It's like being an athlete, you know? Like being a pitcher with a bad arm but that's what you do and you have to keep going. That's terrible. The Stones fired Brian Jones because he couldn't do it, the debauchery and the gig. And I think that's part of the reason I always stayed out of trouble. I knew I couldn't do both.

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# ***Faculty & Staff***

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## ON THE JOB

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### **JUNE M. COMO**

College of Staten Island

June M. Como, lecturer of nursing at the College of Staten Island, has received the Clinical Nurse Specialist of the Year award from the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists. The award recognizes NACNS members for their outstanding professional achievements as Clinical Nurse Specialist Educators. Como will be officially recognized at the NACNS annual awards luncheon in Baltimore.

Como's list of accomplishments is long and impressive, but perhaps none is more impressive than her work during 9/11 setting up a nurses' health care and first aid center at the Staten Island Homeport. She spent nearly three months organizing health-care coverage for personnel at Ground Zero.

Como is also the co-director of the CSI High-Fidelity Simulation Center where her students use mannequins to simulate real clinical circumstances.

The mannequins have heart rates, blood pressure and working lungs.

### **KENNETH BOYDEN**

College of Staten Island

Following a nationwide search and extensive campus participation, College of Staten Island Vice President for Institutional Advancement and External Affairs Barbara Eshoo announced the appointment of Kenneth Boyden as the assistant vice president for institutional advancement and external affairs.

Boyden previously served as vice president for institutional advancement at Cabrini College and at Valley Forge Military Academy and College.

March 1, 2011

# Governments Consider Controversial Building Deals

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Filed at 3:51 p.m. EST**

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City and New Jersey need a new bridge, but money is tight. So officials are doing something they've never done before: They're getting a private company to build one, then buying it a little at a time.

Such public-private partnerships are becoming more attractive as cash-strapped governments search for ways to overhaul aging roads and bridges. But they are also fueling a debate over the role of government in providing roads, bridges and other major transportation projects.

Proponents say the deals can help take the place of the nation's dwindling highway trust fund. Skeptics insist they drive up costs, and that deals allowing companies to charge tolls are chipping away at the American tradition of free roads built by and for the people.

"There is a movement away from the idea that everybody is entitled to use any road without fee," said Jonathan Peters, a professor of finance at the College of Staten Island.

In many projects, private companies make money by collecting tolls. In others, like New York's Goethals Bridge, the government will pay companies back over decades using a mix of toll money and other revenue. Motorists already pay \$8 per car to cross the existing bridge into New York City.

Public-private partnerships are being considered for dozens of new projects: a new bridge in Detroit, an approach to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, a road to the Jackson, Miss., airport, a traffic loop around Baton Rouge, La., and railroad projects in Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio. The governors of Virginia and Connecticut have both pointed to such partnerships as a way to meet their states' transportation needs.

"The problem is that if the public agency could come up with the capital to do the project themselves, even if they had to pay it back over time, the public could probably get a better

deal out of it," said Greg Cohen, president of the American Highway Users Alliance, a Washington-based advocacy group.

In New York, officials hope a public-private partnership will help them replace the Goethals, an 83-year-old toll bridge that connects New Jersey to the New York City borough of Staten Island.

A new bridge could cost \$700 million to \$1.3 billion. But the agency that owns the bridge, the [Port Authority of New York and New Jersey](#), is short on cash.

The Port Authority's airports and docks aren't bringing in the money they used to because of the global slump in trade. The agency has already slashed its 10-year construction plan from \$29 billion to \$24 billion because of plummeting revenue.

In better times, the Port Authority would borrow money by issuing bonds, then hire engineers and construction firms to build a new bridge.

But the agency has committed \$8 billion to rebuilding the World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan and is worried about overextending itself, said Christopher Ward, the Port Authority's executive director.

"The Port Authority is not the robust agency that otherwise would be able to do a Goethals Bridge project on our own," Ward said. "You just can't do this project and everything else from our traditional financing mechanism."

Eight private developers have said they are interested in the project, the first time the Port Authority has tried it, Ward said.

The developer would have to put up at least 10 percent of the bridge's cost. Another 33 percent could come from loans from the federal government. The rest would likely be borrowed from banks or investors.

The bottom line: The new Goethals Bridge could cost the Port Authority \$30 million to \$100 million more than if it financed the project itself, Ward said.

Opponents say that kind of money would be better spent on other projects. They fear the added costs may be passed on to the public through higher tolls, airport fees and shipping costs.



"In the end, it is much cheaper and a lot better to do it the traditional way" rather than through a public-private partnership, said Darrin Roth, director of highway operations for the American Trucking Association.

New York's comptroller, [Thomas DiNapoli](#), is also wary of the deals. In January, he issued a report warning policymakers to be on the lookout for "unfavorable pricing, unrealistic expectations and budget gimmickry" in public-private partnerships.

Deputy Comptroller Thomas Nitido said the comptroller's office had not examined the details of the Goethals bridge project.

Proponents say while privately financed projects can be more expensive, they can also usually be done more quickly.

"The financial situation for state and local governments doesn't look very good for the next couple of years, and how long can you postpone these things?" Richard Norment, executive director of the Arlington, Va.-based National Council for Public-Private Partnerships.

With private financing, he said, "You get the best of both worlds."

In the case of the Goethals Bridge, Ward said the Port Authority would save on the annual costs of maintaining the old bridge. He said the Port Authority had not started negotiating with a developer yet and would not sign any deal that does not benefit the public.

Private investment also makes projects less dependent on the U.S. government's shrinking highway trust fund, said Richard Ridings, a former president of the American Public Works Association. The [gasoline tax](#) that goes into the fund has been pegged at 18.4 cents per gallon since 1993, and Congress has been reluctant to raise it despite rising highway construction costs.

Some states have embraced public-private partnerships. Texas has built five new toll roads under such arrangements in recent years. Florida has given the go-ahead for a tunnel to the Port of Miami and toll lanes along the I-595 freeway in Broward County.

Other states have had second thoughts. The Missouri Department of Transportation says it saved more than \$500 million in 2008 when it opted for traditional financing instead of a 25-year, privately financed installment plan to replace hundreds of bridges in that state.

Other plans have run into legal obstacles. This month, Virginia officials abandoned plans to build a toll lane along a six-mile stretch of highway near Washington because of a lawsuit by

Arlington County, which said the plan undermined government efforts to encourage car-pooling. The project is going ahead on other stretches of highway around Washington.

Trucking companies worry the push toward public-private partnerships will result in a wave of new toll roads in the United States, Roth said.

But Ridings said drivers have been spoiled by toll-free roads and low gasoline taxes dating back to the beginning of the Interstate Highway System in the late 1950s.

"We've spread candy for 52 years up and down the highways," Ridings said. "It's time to recognize that candy never was free."

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## Palestinians Without Israel

[Frontpagemagazine](#) ^ | 3-2-11 | George Jochnowitz

Posted on **Wednesday, March 02, 2011 7:29:05 AM** by [SJackson](#)

The Arab world is fighting against an independent Palestinian state with its own citizens' lives and the lives of its children. The Arab states rejected the UN vote of 1947, which would have created a Palestinian Arab state in half of the British Mandate of Palestine—bigger than anything they could ever have gotten since then. Between 1948 and 1967, when Jordan and Egypt ruled the Arab parts of Palestine, there was no movement for a Palestinian state. The cease-fire lines that were established in 1948 were recognized by one country in the whole world: Great Britain. Today, on the other hand, the pre-1967 lines are considered holy in most of the world.

Why are there settlements? Because in 1967 the Arab states, meeting in Sudan, unanimously voted for the Three No's of Khartoum. Had they not done so, Israel would have been willing to cede most of the territories it had conquered during the Six-Day War. Since there was no hope of doing so, those who wanted to settle were allowed to go ahead with their plans.

In 2000 and 2001, Clinton negotiated a deal that would have given the Palestinians pretty much everything they could hope for. Arafat rejected the deal.

In 2005, Israel created an independent Palestinian mini-state in Gaza. Settlers were removed kicking and screaming. The Gazans responded by electing Hamas and launching rockets aimed at Israeli civilians.

When I visited Israel in 2009, I saw Arab women with headscarves strolling down Ben Yehuda Street in Jerusalem along with all the other Israelis and the tourists. I saw members of Hare Krishna singing and dancing along the beach in Tel Aviv. I saw copies of a Hebrew-language edition of the Falun Gong newspaper "Epoch Times." Most impressive of all, I saw a vigil in Jerusalem—not Tel Aviv—after murders had taken place at a gay counseling center in Tel Aviv. There were people with yarmulkes at the vigil. And of course there were gay-pride flags.

Israel has an annual gay-pride parade not only in Tel Aviv but in Jerusalem. Israel drafts openly gay men and women into its armed forces. Nevertheless, gay-rights organizations all over the world are anti-Israel. Organizers of gay-pride parades in Canada and Spain announced before their parades that Israelis were not welcome to march.

Women are victims of honor murders everywhere in the Arab world. Israel, on the other hand, elected Golda Meir to be its Prime Minister before any other woman in the world who was not the wife (like Sirimavo Bandaranaike) or the daughter (like Indira Gandhi, daughter of Nehru) of a previous head of government had attained such a position. Despite this, feminists everywhere are anti-Israel.

Almost all of the so-called settlers live in East Jerusalem or its suburbs. The fight about settlements is a fight to retain East Jerusalem, including the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital. Israel has made it clear time and time again that it is eager to withdraw from most of the West Bank. "But the 1967 borders are holy," says the world.

Fighting for the 1967 borders is a way of fighting against the creation of a Palestinian state. After all, such a state would legitimize Israel's existence. If the Palestinians wanted a state, they could have one tomorrow—the same state they could have had in 2001 at Taba.

The way to support the Palestinians—the only way—is to support Israel. The Arab world has done only one thing to help Palestinians: arm them. The Palestinians have been allowed to remain in refugee camps for an unprecedented 62 years. Israel, on the other hand, not only has Arab members of the Knesset and an Arab in its cabinet, but is the country where it is easiest for an Arab woman to become a doctor. In addition to Arab physicians, Israel has Arab musicians.

We all know what would happen to the Palestinians if there were no Israel. The neighboring states would subjugate them. It is true that at the moment, Jordan and Egypt are not interested in annexing Gaza and the West Bank. In the case of Egypt, it is because the government doesn't want a violent minority in the country. In the case of Jordan, which already has a Palestinian majority, the government fears it would be overthrown. But if there were no Israel, the Palestinian issue would go away and the land would be fought over by Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, and Saudi Arabia. What would happen to al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock? Rival groups of Muslims would blow them up—preferably at a moment when there were lots of worshipers within the buildings, just as they do in Iraq and Pakistan.

Nowadays, Arabs from anywhere in the world can choose to be treated in Israeli hospitals. Some of them agree to make the sacrifice of temporarily recognizing Israel in order to get medical treatment. Then they have to live with their moment of weakness for the rest of their lives.

It is easy to jump on the bandwagon. It is easy to condemn Israel for its real, its debatable, and its imagined moral failings. Doing so does not help anybody. It is merely an easy way to feel superior.

Only Israel can allow a Palestinian state to exist. It tried to do so in the past and failed. Its critics want it to keep on failing.

George Jochnowitz is a Professor Emeritus of Linguistics at the College of Staten Island, CUNY.



A large crowd, including City Councilwoman Debi Rose, gathered at the school to welcome the youngsters home.

## Online chatter

Readers on SILive.com — the Advance's online home — flocked to the defense of the PS 22 Chorus after Bravo TV executive Andy Cohen skewered their inclusion at the Academy Award ceremony.

## Kids were great

avenorths: The PS 22 Chorus did a great job in the rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." The harmonies were very complicated and expertly sung. What is this snob talking about? Is it that he objects to public school kids from poor families making it big? What's his problem? Kids that age at a rich private school where he may send his kids couldn't hold a candle to the PS 22 Chorus. He should check out his private schools to see if they could even come one-fifth of the way to as good a professional performance as these PS 22 kids did.

# There's no place like home

PS 22 Chorus returns to Island following winning performance of 'Over the Rainbow' at the Oscars

By JILLIAN TARATUNIO  
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Clutching balloons and bouquets of flowers, proud parents, family members and friends waited more than two hours in the cold to greet the Conquering Chorus on their return to PS 22 in Graniteville last night.

The Chorus returned to Staten Island around dinner time on the heels of a triumphant whistlestop tour of Disneyland on Saturday, the Academy Awards on Sunday and Oprah Winfrey on Monday.

Felicia Ehrlich and Luis Caballero of Mariners Harbor, made their way to the front of the crowd the moment the bus arrived to greet their 11-year-old daughter, Stefani.

"This has been a surreal experience. It's beyond amazing. All of our family and friends watched it," said Stefani's proud dad, adding, "These kids did more in four days than I have done in my lifetime." Stefani's parents said they have compiled a scrapbook of photos and articles to document her success in the Chorus.

Stefani, who takes guitar

## More on the web



For additional photos of the PS 22 Chorus arriving at the Graniteville school, go to [silive.com/photos](http://silive.com/photos).

lessons, said she loved singing in front of the celebrities.

"It's a once in a lifetime experience. I don't want to go back to school. I want to keep singing!" she said.

The 64 members of the Chorus performed "Over the Rainbow" during the 83rd Academy Awards and "Firework" with pop star Katy Perry during their appearance on Oprah. The Chorus crooned "Kids" by MGMT, "Round and Round" by Ariel Pink, "Imagine" by John Lennon, and "Firework" at the Disneyland gig.

Chorus director Gregg Breinberg, affectionately known as "Mr. B," said he thinks of his charges when listening to music. "I have my chorus director filter on. I'm always thinking, 'How is this going to sound when the kids sing it?'" said Breinberg, who has been leading the ensemble for 11 years.

He credits the children's success to the "deep emotional connection to each other and to the music. They know it's completely safe to express themselves within their environment."

Breinberg said he encourages the children to "get in-



A sign outside the Graniteville school expresses the feeling of the community.

side of the songs" and to feel the music.

Ten-year-old Chorus member Kaleb Hic said he shares Breinberg's love for connecting to the music.

"Music helps you express your feelings to the people that are listening. I liked hearing the applause too," said Kaleb, a Mariners Harbor.

The Chorus received a standing ovation at the Oscars.

Victoria Cruz-Greene of Graniteville said she loved singing at the Academy Awards in front of thousands of people. The 11-year-old equally enjoyed walking the red carpet. "I was smiling so much that my face turned red," she said.

"It was amazing to see her on TV. This has been a dream come true for her. These kids are going places," said Victoria's uncle, Carmelo Ildefonso, of Graniteville.

Meanwhile, Breinberg believes the Chorus will have continued success. "The momentum is going. I know big things are in store for these kids. This is about loving

## Let parents have him

rsmith12345: I hope he runs into one of the fathers of these kids someday and gets punched in the mouth.

## Who cares?

grtfulguy: Who cares what this bozo thinks. Millions saw this and of course there are going to be many that did not like it ... he is one that happens to have a bigger voice than others. Kids were great and should be proud of themselves and their teacher is exactly that. ... They got rave reviews.

## Shame on him!

threesaints: Andy is entitled to his opinion... Now after listening to his review of the PS22 Chorus, here is my opinion of Andy: He is a mean-spirited, narcissistic buffoon who has contributed little to society or the arts via his "Real Housewives" franchise. Shame on him for trashing children! Shame on him for passing off "reality" cartoon characters as entertainment.

music and the communal experience. That has to be the high, not the fame," he said.



## Holmes is where their heart is

Published: Thursday, March 03, 2011, 9:43 AM



By Staten Island Advance

By JOEL COHEN

ADVANCE CORRESPONDENT

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - SUNNYSIDE - A favorite man in Francine Kitts' life is suave, smart, and sophisticated, but an occasional drug user. On top of it, he's 157 years old.

He's Sherlock Holmes, the brilliant detective Francine's husband, Richard, got hooked on in high school.

In 1978, he started a fan club. When three women came to a club meeting at the Kitts' home, Mrs. Kitts decided, "I'd better learn about this character." So she read a Holmes story and got hooked herself.

The attraction, she says, is a combination of "the Victorian era, the friendship of Holmes and Watson, the inviting sitting room at 221B Baker Street and the quickness and brilliance of Holmes."

The fact that Francine, a former legal assistant, and Richard, a retired banker, share an interest in Holmes, she said, "adds to the fun," as does sharing their interest with thousands of devotees the world over and developing lifelong friendships.

Married 45 years, Francine, a Staten Island native, and Richard, born in Fort Benning, Ga., grew up on the



Francine Kitts became a fan of Sherlock Holmes, after reading a story to understand her husband's fixation with the literary character. Sharing an interest with her husband, Richard, 'adds to the fun,' as does sharing their interest with thousands of devotees the world over and developing lifelong friendships. (Staten Island Advance File Photo)

same borough street (Mountain View Ave.). When they were dating, he would joke that he hoped he wouldn't hit too much traffic going home.

## FANS FROM ALL OVER

The Kitts' have attended countless Holmes conventions, notably The Baker Street Irregulars' annual weekend in Manhattan, which generally draws some 300 Sherlockians from all over the world.

The couple has read the entire Holmes canon (56 short stories and four novels). Her favorite Holmes novel is "A Study in Scarlet," the first written, and her favorite short story, "The Man with the Twisted Lip." Richard: "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and "The Empty House."

Members of two invitation-only groups – The Baker Street Irregulars (and branches, known as scions) and The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes – they've visited places mentioned in Doyle's stories – Baker Street on several occasions, and in 1999 the unveiling of the Sherlock statue outside the Underground station.

Mrs. Kitts said, "It's wonderful to be able to share my passion," and has been encouraging senior citizens to "walk in the footsteps of Sherlock Holmes" in classes she's been teaching since 2002 in the **College of Staten Island's (CSI)** Option program. Some students had previously read Holmes stories; others are new to the subject, and Mrs. Kitts hopes they become fascinated with Sherlock.

Classes open and close with a favorite Holmes poem. An assigned story comes with a quiz, for which there are always prizes. (As a student in a recent **CSI** course on Norman Rockwell, Francine generously gave classmates Rockwell memorabilia from her late parents' collection.)

Her Holmes class – an official scion: Canonical Sleuths, Inc. (**CSI**) – watches a brief, story-related TV scene and participates in an "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" segment, exchanging current Holmes references. Among the guest lecturers, her husband Kitts has spoken about Doyle and Queen Victoria.

Mrs. Kitts' essay, "The World of Sherlock Holmes," tells of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's decision to write about Sherlock to supplement his income. He based Holmes on Dr. Joseph Bell, one of his professors at the University of Edinburgh Medical School in 1877. Like Holmes, Bell had a remarkable ability to deduce a great deal about a patient from his walk or accent, the calluses on his hands or even a tattoo.

## BOOKS & COLLECTIBLES

Doyle killed off the great detective in "The Final Problem." But, responding to a tremendous demand for more Holmes – many fans wore black armbands mourning his loss – Doyle resurrected him in "The Empty House, explaining his three-year absence ("The Great Hiatus") as a ploy to throw his arch-enemy Moriarity off his trail.

The Kitts' own the entire Holmes collection, plus extensive collections of "writings on the writings" and such Sherlockian tchotchkes as artwork, lapel pins, clocks, teapots, sculptures, deerstalker caps, walking sticks and teddy bears.

They've seen a number of the Guinness-estimated 211 movies featuring Holmes, the "Most Portrayed Character in Films" played by at least 75 actors, and they'll be attending a new Holmes play this month.

In addition to Sherlock, Kitts' passions include Doyle, Queen Victoria and Houdini. Both he and his wife enjoy reading, crossword puzzles, golf and good wine.

Mrs. Kitts' favorite Sherlock portrayer is Jeremy Brett, of the PBS 1980s Granada TV series. Popular among fans were the recent Robert Downey/Jude Law movie "Sherlock" and the BBC series that places the characters in the 21st century, with Holmes, originally a smoker, now wearing a nicotine patch.

Mrs. Kitts collects Holmes rubber stamps – she has about 50 – and also owns about 75 editions of "The Night Before Christmas" by different illustrators.

As a youngster, she devoured Nancy Drew mysteries; her husband was into sports, and Mickey Mantle was his hero. Their parents weren't Holmes fans, nor are their two grown children

"But we notice some interest from our three grandchildren, which we'll definitely try to foster," said the couple.

And if she were to meet Sherlock? "I'd say, 'See what you started?'" replied Mrs. Kitts.

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## A revealing look at a different religion at St. John's Lutheran School

Published: Thursday, March 03, 2011, 10:06 AM



By **Diane Lore**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - CASTLETON CORNERS - With Jews looking ahead to Passover and Christians preparing for Lent and Easter, fifth-graders at St. John's Lutheran School participated in a first-person interfaith lesson they're not likely to forget.

Rabbi Dovid Winiarz, who is the rabbi at the Multi-Faith Center of the College of Staten Island, Willowbrook, and president of Survival through Education Inc., visited the grade-school on Manor Road, to discuss Judaism with students in fifth-grade teacher Jennifer Aber's class.



Rabbi Dovid Winiarz , President of Survival through Education Inc. poses with students from Jennifer Aber's fifth-grade class at St John's Lutheran School, Castleton Corners. (Staten Island Advance File Photo)

"The students had been studying the stories and lessons of the Old Testament and the Ten Commandments, and an entire discussion ensued as to the differences between religions," Mrs. Aber explained. "I thought of Dovid, and things took off from there."

Misconceptions based on lack of knowledge are what lead to misunderstandings, the teacher believes. She invited Rabbi Winiarz, whom she has known for a decade, to speak about his religion.

In welcoming Rabbi Winiarz to the classroom, Mrs. Aber explained that, while different people worship in various ways, they have much in common, such as laughing at jokes and feeling happy or sad.

"Everyone is human and, regardless of differences, is deserving of respect," said Mrs. Aber, who was honored last year at Teacher Appreciation Day at the College of Staten Island, Willowbrook.

The students asked questions about the types of food Jewish people eat at holiday time, whether they celebrate birthdays, whether they keep pets, and differences between Jewish, Christian and Muslim beliefs.

Rabbi Winiarz took time to explain the one unifying word that defines Judaism, "relationship," and "how all Jews, regardless of the labels applied to them, are defined by their relationship with God."

"The children were all very respectful and sincere," the rabbi said. "There was no topic that was taboo because the only bad question is the question not asked."

"I saw the future of Staten Island in these kids, he added, "and it was a very good thing to see."

Rabbi Winiarz is also a representative of Fidelity Merchant Services, Westerleigh. He said he is always willing to visit schools to speak to students about Judaism and invites teachers to visit his Web site,

**Survivalthrougheducation.org** or **Jewtooth.com**, for more information. To contact him directly, call 718-983-9272 or e-mail **dovid@dovid.com**.

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## Discover what's hot at New Springville PTA fashion show

Published: Sunday, March 06, 2011, 2:05 PM



By **Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The Parent Teacher Association of The **College of Staten Island** High School for International Studies, New Springville, will present a spring fashion show and dinner fund-raiser "Passport to Fashion" on Thursday, March 24 at 7 p.m. at the Staaten, West Brighton.

The event will include a sit-down dinner, DJ and door prizes. Tickets are \$65. For reservations, contact Kelly Cammarata at 347-200-2979 or e-mail at **csiptavp@aol.com**.

The event's honoree will be Aimee Horowitz, the founding principal of The **College of Staten Island** High School for International Studies in 2005. She left the post last year when she became superintendent for public schools in Staten Island and Brooklyn.

Students and staff members of the school will model elegant prom, Sweet 16 and casual wear.

Kelly Cammarata of Great Kills is chairwoman.

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Advance file  
photo

Aimee Horowitz is the founding principal of The **College of Staten Island** High School for International Studies in 2005.

MARCH 13, 2011, 7:08 AM

## Urban Forager | Maple-Sugaring on Staten Island

By [AVA CHIN](#)

Owen Brunette Immediately, the sap began to flow.

Some may think maple-syrup-making can only happen in Vermont or Canada. But if [last year's little experiment](#) sugaring in Brooklyn proved anything, it was that fine maple syrup could be made in New York City as well. I recently located a healthy sugar maple in the Stapleton section of Staten Island, and although it was already a little late in the season, I set up shop, hoping for a good run. Temperatures have to be just right for quality sap flow: more than 40 degrees in the daytime, dipping to freezing at night.

The sugar maple was in the back of my friends' property, halfway up a hilly incline, and tapping it would require lugged boots and steady legs. Although I had spiles (something like spigots) with hooks from Vermont — and thoughts of using them to hang my bucket directly from the tree the old-fashioned way — my “Little House” dreams were dashed by the realities of urban tapping: a chain link fence. My tapping partner and I resorted to the tried-and-true do-it-yourself approach, involving steel pipes and PVC tubing from the local hardware store.

When I first began researching tree-tapping, I was concerned about harming the tree. I contacted Peter Smallidge, at Cornell University's [Sugar Maple Program](#), who informed me that it was perfectly safe as long as the sugar maple was mature and healthy — at least 10 inches in diameter with “big leafy crowns” — and the proper amount of taps were used, with the correct equipment (aluminum or steel pipes, no copper). After all, Native Americans, who referred to this time of year as “sugar month” or “maple moon,” used tomahawks to extract sap.

Our friends' tree was a tall, twisted beauty that produces lush, dense leaves in the spring. With a 27-inch-diameter trunk, the tree could have taken three taps, but, just to be conservative, we decided on two. (According to the Cornell Sugar Maple Program, trees 10 to 17 inches in diameter can take one tap, 18 to 24 inches can take two, and larger than 25 inches can withstand three taps.)

It's best to drill slightly upwards, so gravity can aid sap flow, and only about one to one-and-a-half inches into the tree. After choosing a good spot — over a large root about four feet high — we went to work. The industry standard is to use three-eighths-inch drill bits with three-eighths-inch pipes, but we opted to use smaller quarter-inch micro-spouts (just to be kinder to our sugar maple). [Note: I've read that it's best to choose south-

facing tap-points early in the season, while north-facing taps work best later, like now, but we only had east-facing access.]

We started drilling, and in a few seconds the sap began to flow down the tree in large, wet drips. Grabbing a quarter-inch steel pipe, I inserted it with a few light taps of a hammer until it was about an inch deep. While the sugary water began dripping down my fingers, I attached PVC tubing to the pipe, and directed the sap into a grounded bucket. We repeated the process with the second tap about a foot away. In a few moments, we had some lovely, sweet-smelling sap dripping into the bottom of our container.

Generally it takes about 43 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup; that's a lot of boiling in a city kitchen (remember to open your windows). How much sap the maple yields really depends on the individual tree and the time of year. In a few days or so, weather permitting, we should be able to determine whether the Stapleton sugar maple is a significant producer, and test out just how sweet the sap is. I'm getting my pans and jars ready.

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### **Equipment for Tapping:**

- two 3/8" diameter or smaller pipes, 3" in length (aluminum or steel nipples only; avoid copper as it will harm the tree) for taps/spiles
- 3/8" drill bit
- 3/4" diameter PVC tubing long enough to extend to grounded bucket
- hammer
- two 3-5 gallon galvanized steel buckets with tops, or aluminum foil to cover
- 5-gallon (or smaller) container for transporting sap from tree to your apartment

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*Ava Chin, the [Urban Forager](#), is a professor of creative nonfiction and journalism at the [College of Staten Island](#).*

## Six Staten Islanders reap rewards The Staten Island Foundation and si350's Teacher Guide competition

Published: Tuesday, March 15, 2011, 6:50 AM



By Staten Island Advance



Staten Island Advance/Hilton Flores

Winners of the si350 Teacher Guide competition include, sitting, Diana Wallace, Anthony Randazzo, Laura Galante. Standing are, from left, Margaret E. Berci, co-chair SI 350 Academic Conference; winner Devorah Helfrich; Besty Dubovsky of the Staten Island Foundation; winners Izabela Koenovic and Marissa Misiti, and Phillip Papas, co-chair of the SI 350 Academic Conference.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Six Staten Islanders have made the grade as winners in The Staten Island Foundation and si350's Teacher Guide competition, and were recognized yesterday at the Center for the Arts, [College of Staten Island](#), Willowbrook.

The winners are Elementary Division: Dianne Wallace/ Supreme Chocolatier (first place); Devorah Helfrich/ Staten Island Advance (second place); Middle School Division: Laura Galante/ Conference House (first place); Izabela Kolenovic/ Decker Farm (second place); Secondary School Division: Anthony Randazzo/ Geribaldi-Meucci Museum (first place); Marissa Misiti/ Prohibition Park (second place).

First-place winners received \$1,000; second-place winners received \$250.

On hand for the presentation were Betsy Dubovsky, executive director, Staten Island Foundation; Margaret Bérci, co-chair of si350 Academic Conference/Symposium, associate professor of Education, [CSI](#); Lori Weintrob, si350 co-chair, Wagner College History Department chair.

The competition challenged preservice teachers and in-service teachers to develop curriculum-aligned materials, based on the principles of Place-Based Education, for use in Staten Island schools to improve teaching and learning about the borough's shared and diverse past.

About the winners: Dianne Wallace developed a teacher guide to the Supreme Chocolatier site, today considered to be one of the Island's most profitable and historical companies as well as one of the country's

largest candy makers. The site represents a local case study of early immigration, focusing on helping students understand the trials and tribulations of immigrants, and their important contributions to a community.

Devorah Helfrich highlighted The Staten Island Advance, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary. The study on the workings of the Advance facilitates a deeper understanding of the role of the media in society, its influence on all aspects of life and the paper's day-to-day operations.

Laura Galante's guide aligned to the seventh-grade social studies curriculum highlighted the start of the Revolutionary War and the movement toward independence. She identifies the Conference House in Tottenville as a location that puts the focus on the role that the Island played in the strategic planning for self-determination by the American people.

Izabela Kolenovic's guide regarding Decker Farm was designed to foster an understanding of how immigrants and farming were linked on the Island and how differently both were affected by the advent of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge.

Anthony Randazzo's guide focused an 11th-grade social studies curriculum of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum and asks students to consider the implications of immigration on industry, local and national politics, social welfare, public policy and American culture.

Marissa Misiti chose Westerleigh Park, formerly known as National Prohibition Park, and explored it as a local manifestation of the progressive movement and its issues around Temperance and Prohibition, topics aligned with the 11th-grade curriculum.

The si350 Staten Island in America History and 21 Century Education Symposium and Conference, where 18 of the finalists in the Teacher Guide competition will present their projects, is made possible by a \$10,000 grant from the Staten Island Foundation.

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## Llevarán a NY imagen y escritura de México

Cultura - Domingo, 20 de Marzo de 2011 (17:16 hrs)

Discutirán temas de actualidad

### El Financiero en línea

México, 20 de marzo.- Con el propósito de dilucidar sobre temas de actualidad que preocupan en México pero también fuera de él, el próximo viernes 29 de abril se llevará a cabo una mesa de discusión relacionada con la imagen y escritura de este país.

El acto tendrá lugar en The Graduate Center, en Nueva York, donde el narrador, ensayista y crítico cultural Naief Yahya (1963) presentará el texto "El culto del horror macabro en la cultura del narco".

Yahya es un prolífico escritor, quien ha colaborado diversos diarios de circulación nacional y revistas como "Complot", "Viceversa", "Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México" y "ArtNexus".

Actualmente escribe para "Letras Libres" y para la publicación electrónica "Terra Magazine".

Otra de las intervenciones estará a cargo de la polígrafa Viviane Mahieux, quien participará con el ensayo "Escribir la violencia desde Tijuana: Heriberto Yépez y la ensayística fronteriza".

De acuerdo con un comunicado, "Altar de muertos: escrituras para contar, nombrar, pensar a las víctimas", será el texto que presentará el ensayista y crítico literario Rafael Lemus.

Lemus es autor de "Informe", que reúne ocho relatos sobre seres que deambulan, casi por inercia, en un espacio y tiempo indefinidos llevando con ellos sólo sus obsesiones.

Actualmente colabora en "Letras Libres", "La Tempestad" y "Día Siete".

Mientras que Oswaldo Zavala, profesor del College of Staten Island, presentará el texto "Tres hipótesis críticas sobre la narconovela mexicana".

La mesa de discusión será moderada por Araceli Tinajero, profesora de City College y The Graduate Center.(Con información de agencias/LJP)

Also Featured on: El Porvenir.mx



MOTOROLA XOOM™



Photo by: Courtesy

## God of the Earth: When eating meat was a sacrifice

By RICHARD H. SCHWARTZ  
18/03/2011

It's time for the Jewish community to reconsider its diet, as this week's Torah portion deals with meal-offerings in the Mishkan.

This week's Torah portion, Tzav, gives instructions on meat sacrifice, "And that which is left thereof [from the meal-offering] shall Aaron and his sons eat; it shall be eaten without leaven in a holy place; in the tent of meeting they shall eat it... It is most holy as the sin-offering and the guilt-offering."

When the Jewish people were in the wilderness before they entered the land of Israel, the consumption of meat was associated with holiness. Every piece of meat consumed came from an animal sacrificed in the Mishkan (Sanctuary), an act meant to bring the worshiper closer to G-d. The word korban (sacrifice) is related to lekarev, to come close. Through the sacrifice, worshipers felt that they were giving themselves vicariously to G-d.

If a sacrificial animal was slaughtered in a place other than the altar of the Sanctuary, it was deemed unlawful, and the perpetrator was deserving of Divine punishment.

In the times of the Mishkan the consumption of meat was not something taken for granted, as it generally is today. Each sacrifice had a definite purpose: to offer thanksgiving, to atone for a sin, to commemorate a holy day (such as the Korban Pesach, or Paschal Lamb), or to make one feel closer to G-d. Those offering a sacrifice felt that they were giving up something from their prized possessions. People owned animals as sources of labor or food, as well as a form of capital; hence slaughtering them in connection with the Temple rites was a sacrifice of a precious source of income and food. The animal was not considered just a distant commodity as is generally the case in today's world of corporate agriculture; rather, it was a creature that the owner raised and saw on a daily basis, and whose needs were a matter of personal responsibility and even concern. Since a mother animal and its offspring could not be slaughtered on the same day those who offered sacrifices needed to be aware of familial relationships among animals to be offered as sacrifices.

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Chief Rabbi of Efrat, points out that worshipers were very much involved in the sacrificial process. For sin offerings, they were required to lean their hands on the animal, and make a confession prior to the act of slaughter. Rabbi Riskin explains that the emotional result on the one who brought the sacrifice and watched it being killed was to contemplate that because of their sin they deserved to be the ones on the altar. Thus they would experience feelings of teshuvah (repentance) and become transformed, worthy of a renewed lease on life.

The relatively small number of sacrifices performed daily meant that attention was given to the death of each animal. Sanctity was related to physical wholeness and perfection. The Kohanim (Priests) had to be free of bodily imperfections, and the animals to be sacrificed had to be free of blemishes. Hence, the notion of holiness was given physical expression in the concept of holiness of body and limb.

Far different is the eating of meat today. Rather than an infrequent act, many people in modern societies

consume meat daily, if not more than once a day. Instead of an individual sacrifice of one person's animal in a special ceremony, animals are currently raised by mass-production procedures on "factory farms" in huge numbers. In place of slaughter by a Kohen (Priest) focusing his intention in the Mishkan imbued with holiness, today the slaughter is generally done by a shochet (ritual slaughterer) who slaughters hundreds of animals a day in an industrial facility.

Because of these major changes, the large-scale production and widespread consumption of meat today have negative effects that did not occur in the days of the Sanctuary. In some cases, these negative effects violate or compromise Halakhah (see, for example, the halakhic response of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein on not eating veal), and often contravene the ethical sensitivities that the Torah wishes to instill in us.

For example, while the Torah forbids tsa'ar ba'alei chayim, inflicting unnecessary pain on animals, most farm animals - including those raised for kosher consumers - are raised on "factory farms" where they live in cramped, confined spaces, and are often drugged, mutilated, and denied fresh air, sunlight, exercise, and any enjoyment of life, before they are slaughtered and eaten.

The Torah mandates that people should be very careful about preserving their health and their lives. Yet, numerous scientific studies have linked animal-based diets directly to heart disease, stroke, many forms of cancer, and other chronic degenerative diseases. In addition, modern methods of raising animals have raised new health threats, including the potential for the human variant of Mad Cow Disease, bird flu, E-coli contamination, and other negative effects from the use of large amounts of hormones, antibiotics, pesticides, and other chemicals.

Judaism teaches that "the earth is the Lord's", and that we are meant to be G-d's partners and co-workers in preserving the world. In conflict with this ethic, modern intensive livestock agriculture contributes substantially to global warming, soil erosion and depletion, air and water pollution, overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the destruction of tropical rain forests and other habitats and other environmental damage. As a recent indication of just how significant this is, a 2006 report from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization indicated that animal-based agriculture emits more greenhouse gases (18 percent, in CO2 equivalents) than the entire transport sector.

While the Torah mandates bal tashchit, that we are not to waste or unnecessarily destroy anything of value, animal agriculture requires the wasteful use of grain, land, water, energy, and other precious resources. As one example, it is estimated that over half of the world's population will live in areas chronically short of water by the middle of this century; yet animal-based diets typically require up to 14 times as much water (to raise the animals) than diets completely free of animal products.

While Judaism stresses that we are to assist the poor and share our bread with hungry people, over 70% of the grain grown in the United States and over 40% of the grain grown worldwide are fed to animals destined for slaughter, while an estimated 20 million people worldwide die because of hunger and its effects each year. It takes up to 16 pounds of grain in a feedlot to produce one pound of meat. While a shift to plant-based diets would not in itself solve the problem of widespread hunger, it would free up grain, land, water, energy and other resources that could make a major difference.

There is a world of difference between the consumption of meat in the time of the sanctuary and today, with holiness replaced by speed, special events replaced by mass production, one sanctuary replaced by many slaughterhouses, and positive effects replaced by many serious negative consequences. Though the consumption of kosher meat is considered entirely 'mutar' (permissible) by the vast majority of Jewish authorities, perhaps it is time for the Jewish community to reconsider our diets, in a voluntary way, in efforts to restore holiness, kavannah and other positive Jewish values.

#### Suggested Action Items:

- Avoid animal products that involve especially serious violations of tsa'ar ba'alei chaim (causing pain to living creatures), such as white veal and foie gras (produced by force feeding ducks and geese).
- If you eat animal products, try to limit them to those that were raised more humanely, such as free-range, organic chickens and beef. However, since standards for such products are often vague, check that

conditions for the animals are actually better.

*Ricard H Schwartz Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus, Mathematics, College of Staten Island; President of the Jewish Vegetarians of North America (JVNA); and co-founder and coordinator of the Society of Ethical and Religious Vegetarians (SERV). His writings inspired the 2007 documentary film, A Sacred Duty: Applying Jewish Values to Heal the World, directed by Lionel Friedberg.*

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## City Councilwoman Debi Rose to host Women's History Month Celebration

Inaugural event is slated for Monday at 7 p.m. at Unitarian Church of Staten Island, New Brighton

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

North Shore City Councilwoman Debi Rose will host her inaugural Women's History Month celebration on Monday at 7 p.m. in the Unitarian Church of Staten Island, 312 Fillmore St., New Brighton.

The event, titled "Staten Island Women Who Preserve History," will honor Patricia Salmon, curator of history at the Staten Island Museum; Elizabeth Meaders, a retired school teacher and the founder of the African-American History Trust; Irma Bohorquez-Geisler, an artist best known for her photography of the Mexican community on Staten Island and founder of Staten Island's "Day of the Dead" (Día de los Muertos) holiday celebration; Janet G. Robinson, "the Kwanzaa Lady," and Juliana



BOHORQUEZ-GEISLER



CARTER



HSU



MEADERS



ROBINSON



SALMON

Hsu, president of the Chinese American Club of Staten Island.

Musical entertainment for

the event will be provided by Staten Island's Musical Chairs Chamber Ensemble, a consortium of primarily young adults dedicated to the craft of chamber music.

The program's keynote speaker will be environmental justice advocate Majora Carter, president of her economic consulting firm, the Majora Carter Group. She founded Sustainable South Bronx in 2001, which secured a grant for the design of the South Bronx Greenway and implemented the Bronx Environmental Stewardship Training program, a green-collar job training and placement system.

Her work includes advising cities, foundations, universities and businesses around the world on ways to unlock local economic potential.

She has earned numerous honors including a MacArthur "genius" Fellowship.

To RSVP for this event contact Ms. Rose's office at 718-556-7370 or e-mail [kpi-per@council.nyc.gov](mailto:kpi-per@council.nyc.gov).



## Census figures show considerable drop in Staten Island's rate of population growth

Published: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 4:59 PM



**Deborah E. Young**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The official count is in: There are 468,730 of us.

Figures released today from the 2010 U.S. Census show Staten Island's population increased 5.6 percent since the last decennial tally.

While the jump is noteworthy and the largest in the city, the rate of growth has slowed considerably from the blistering pace of expansion the borough experienced between 1990 and 2000, when the population increased by 17 percent.



Advance file photo

The latest Census count showed 468,730 people living on Staten Island.

And the tally -- based on the monumental, once-a-decade effort to count every single person in the country -- is also puzzling demographers, Census watchers and politicians, because it is also significantly lower than the agency's own annual estimates, which last year put Staten Island's population at 491,730.

"It's somewhat shocking. When you have two different methods and they're giving you two different results and they're radically different, one of them is wrong, and it's possible they're both wrong," said Jonathan Peters, a demographer at the College of Staten Island.. "There's a lot of drift here. We'll keep an eye on it; the story is not over. Something has to be recalibrated."

The data unveiled today represents the first set of New York information released from the 2010 count, and provides just bare bone facts about who we are: Population size, race, ethnicity and voting age.

More detailed and nuanced information historically associated with the decennial Census such as income, housing, country of origin and other demographic data, is now produced every year, based on statistical samplings in the American Community Survey.

But the decennial Census remains the holy grail of population counts. Political districts are drawn based on these numbers, and allocations of federal money also hinge on this data.

In an effort to ensure the city receive its fair share from Washington-- which the mayor recently said is roughly \$3,000 per person annually -- New York City has historically challenged the Census results, and won.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg again today questioned the accuracy of the count, which put the city's overall population at 8.175 million.

"The census says that we have added 166,000-odd people since the 2000 count, but we are concerned that there's been a significant undercount," said Bloomberg, adding he was especially skeptical about the slow, to no growth in Queens and Brooklyn.

Bloomberg and others cited the challenges Census workers have in finding hard-to-reach groups, such as new immigrants or families quietly doubling up in homes and public housing in an effort to save money.

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## Census puts Staten Island's population at 468,730 - less than was forecast

Published: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 8:32 AM



**Deborah E. Young**  
By



Staten Island Advance/Hilton Flores

Ferry riders proceed from the Whitehall Ferry Terminal at rush hour. Census data show Staten Island is more crowded -- but the exact increase is in dispute.

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"The Census says that we have added 166,000-odd people since the 2000 count, but we are concerned that there's been a significant undercount," said Bloomberg, adding he was especially skeptical about the slow to no growth in Queens and Brooklyn. "The bottom line is, I think they've tried to do a good job, but New York City, because of the vast bulk of immigrants and because of the way the housing is laid out, it is very difficult to count."

With Staten Island having shifted in recent years from a more suburban environment of single-family-homes to something more akin to the rest of New York City, the temporary Census workers faced the same challenges here in counting hard-to-reach groups, such as new immigrants or families quietly doubling up in homes and public housing in an effort to save money.

"Obviously I feel secure in saying it wasn't done correctly on Staten Island, they missed an awful lot of people," said James P. Molinaro, noting that in his daily travels across the borough, driving, shopping and meeting constituents, it is possible to feel how crowded it is here. "There's a tremendous increase in immigrants in Staten Island, all over, the South Shore, the North Shore. A lot of people who are here illegally didn't want to be counted, or the people going out to do the count didn't do it correctly."

According to the 2010 numbers, Staten Island's Hispanic population rose by 51 percent over the past 10 years, even as in Brooklyn and Queens -- long seen as Mecca for immigrants -- the Hispanic population grew by only 1.7 and 10.2 percent, respectively.

Still, the population composition of many counties in the state underwent far more dramatic shifts than on Staten Island. Some counties in upstate New York saw the percentage of Hispanic residents increasing by 60, 70, 80 and 90, and even more than 100 percent.



## **STATEN ISLAND WOMEN WHO PRESERVE HISTORY**



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/HILTON FLORES

At the Unitarian Church of Staten Island, City Councilwoman Debi Rose, third from left, with honorees Elizabeth Meaders, Irma Bohorquez-Geisler, Juliana Hsu, Janet G. Robinson and Patricia Salmon. Councilwoman Rose is hosting the inaugural "Staten Island Women Who Preserve History" celebration.

## Staten Island Slim Down hits the homestretch

Published: Thursday, March 31, 2011, 1:19 AM



**Jodi Lee Reifer**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Keeping his back flat like a plank and his palms glued to the floor, Dr. Alan Benimoff grimaced.

"That was challenging," he said, now grinning, moments after finishing an hour's worth of boot camp drills and high-octane Zumba moves.

Still, Dr. Benimoff wouldn't have wanted it any other way. Neither would the 100 or so others who showed up last night at the **College of Staten Island (CSI)** gymnasium to complete the final "Surprise Fitness Night" in the Staten Island Slim Down.

All told, more than 1,200 contestants signed on for the 10-week event that summoned borough residents not just to lose weight but to transform their lives with nutrition tips, wellness coaching and community support. The person with the most inspiring story will be deemed the winner April 15 at 7 p.m. at the college.

First place scores \$1,000 from the Slim Down contest, and another \$1,000 courtesy of "Biggest Loser" runner-up Alfredo (Frado) Dinten of Todt Hill, among other goodies.



**Enlarge**

**Hilton Flores**

Harry Risley of Arden Height does the squats on the last night of the Slim Down fitness challenge at the **CSI** gym. 3/30/11 (Staten Island Advance/Hilton Flores)

**Staten Island Slim Down** gallery (8 photos)

Ten finalists, who'll earn hairstyling and skin treatments, plus an array of additional prizes, also will be announced. To win, contestants must pen a 300-word essay explaining their transformation and submit it to [statenislanslimdown.com](http://statenislanslimdown.com) by 11:59 p.m. April 10.

The competition, which lured participants ages 18 to 81 -- 65 percent of them women -- officially ends April 8.

For Dr. Benimoff, 64, a geology professor at [CSI](#), the changes have been nothing short of seismic. In January, he returned home from a trip to Hawaii and noticed that in all of the photos of himself, he was trying to hide his stomach. Weighing 210 pounds, the 5-foot-5 Willowbrook resident decided to do something about it after learning about the Slim Down.

By early February, he was snacking on Brussels sprouts instead of chicken wings. "I watched the Super Bowl without one beer," he said, noting he tried many of the diet suggestions on the Slim Down's website. Now 185 pounds, he's preparing to hike 2,500 feet up a mountain this summer.

Dr. Benimoff turned up faithfully for the Slim Down-organized weekly Sunday morning walks in the Staten Island Mall. But those were tame compared to what the fitness-focused bunch encountered last night.

While Elaine Gil, owner of Bubbles Playhouse, had the crowd shaking and twisting to classics like "Rockin' Robin," Slim Down co-founder Tony Books Avilez of Staten Island Boot Camp, had the crew doing jumping jacks and pushups to tunes like Jimi Hendrix's "Hey Joe."

"Whatever's working for you, just keep doing it!" he shouted, as his Slim Down co-founder, Dr. Maureen Becker, director of clinical education for [CSI's](#) physical therapy doctoral program, cheered on the crowd.

The enthusiastic group was all smiles as he instructed them to partner up and jump facing one another and slap each other's hands. Minutes later, he told them to squat facing each other and give one another high-fives.

Partnering up is the key, said Raena McCarthy, 34, of Rossville, who looked forward every week to the Surprise Fitness Night at [CSI](#). She gained weight when she became pregnant with her son, now 4, and hadn't started to shed it until now. The mother knew the Slim Down was the right thing for her after reading about it. She had been losing her breath just walking around the Staten Island Zoo with her son.

"I want to be able to be active with my family," said Ms. McCarthy, a social worker, who has lost 20 pounds and a size and a half since starting the Slim Down. "I'd like to kick the soccer ball with him. I feel like it will keep coming off slowly. You feel good after this."

## Abordan influencia del arte en letras americanas

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Jueves, 31 de Marzo de 2011

**Será durante las jornadas del congreso que se llevará a cabo un homenaje a la escritora mexicana Beatriz Espejo.**

A partir de hoy 31 de marzo al 2 de abril en Mérida, Yucatán, se realizará el 4 Encuentro Armonía en las Artes: Congreso Internacional.

Literatura, Música y Baile. Será durante las jornadas del congreso que se llevará a cabo un homenaje a la escritora mexicana Beatriz Espejo y un tributo a la recientemente fallecida Rita Guerrero, ícono de la escena del rock y del teatro en México.

En sus primeras ediciones del 2003, y luego 2009 y en el pasado 2010 dieron como resultado tres libros " En gusto se come en Géneros, Bebida y Literatura, Aguas Santas de la Creación; y Postrimerías" . De los que se han publicado seis libros de memorias y una antología.

Para esta edición 2011 serán convocados participantes de Alemania, Italia, España, México y Latinoamérica, entre ellos los escritores Sandra Lorenzano, Eduardo Antonio Parra, Silvia Molina, Hernán Lara Zavala, Aline Pettersson, Agustín Monsreal, Jorge Lara y Cristina Rivera Garza.

En el encuentro se analizará y celebrará la presencia de la música y el baile, el cine y las Artes plásticas en las letras americanas contemporáneas.

Con esta serie de encuentros literarios de primer orden y de gran magnitud, el Ayuntamiento de Mérida, a través de su Dirección de Cultura, instancias organizadoras junto con la Universidad Californiana-Mexicanistas, se consolida Mérida como una ciudad literaria que apoya lo mejor del pensamiento y la creación de nuestro continente.

Este festival de las letras continúa con la tradición de Mérida de convocar lo mejor de nuestras letras y pensamiento al haber organizado la serie de congresos literario, todo esto bajo la coordinación de la doctora Sara Poot.

Entre los especialistas que asistirán se encuentran reconocidos académicos como Sarah Pollack (College of Staten Island-City University of New York), Carmen Beatriz López-Portillo Romano (Universidad del Claustro de Sor Juana), Tanius Karam (Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México), Nora Pasternac (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México), Álvaro Ruiz Abreu (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco), Vittoria Borsò (Heinrich-Heine Universität), Enrique Martín (Escuela Superior de Artes de Yucatán); entre otros más.

El encuentro será acompañado a lo largo de sus jornadas por la presentación de la obra de teatro Trágico a la fuerza, de Chéjov, en la dirección de Raquel Araujo; la actuación del grupo Magio, y el espectáculo de Silvia Káter y Analí Gómez, "Suculento Festín".

Also Featured on: [revistayucatan.com](http://revistayucatan.com)

# ***Sports***



## CSI settles for an invitation to the ECAC Metro Tournament

Published: Tuesday, March 01, 2011, 7:24 AM



By **Jim Waggoner**



Staten Island Advance photo by Bill Lyons

CSI juniors Jordan Young, left, and Thomas Tibbs have carried the Dolphins into the ECAC Metro Tournament.

The College of Staten Island men's basketball team has been selected to play in the ECAC Metro Tournament and will make the short trip to Rutgers-Newark on Wednesday night for a quarterfinal matchup.

The fifth-seeded Dolphins (17-10) face the fourth-seeded Scarlet Raiders (17-7) in an 8 p.m. tipoff at the Golden Dome.

The postseason tournament bid is CSI's first since an ECAC appearance in 2006-07. The Dolphins' last ECAC victory came seven years ago at home against Manhattanville.

CSI had to settle for the ECACs after dropping the CUNY Conference Tournament championship game to Medgar Evers, 62-56, last Saturday night. Medgar Evers claimed the league's

automatic bid to the 61-team NCAA Division III Tournament field and will travel for a first-round game Friday night against host St. Mary's College, Md.

Other first-round ECAC matchups pit No. 1 St. Joseph's, L.I. (22-6) against No. 8 New York University (15-10); No. 2 Stevens Tech (19-7) against No. 7 Baruch (15-11); and No. 3 Mt. St. Mary's (18-8) against No. 6 Richard Stockton (16-10).

CSI and Baruch represent the CUNY Conference, while Rutgers-Newark and Richard Stockton are from the New Jersey Athletic Conference, and St. Joseph's, L.I., and Mt. St. Mary's from the Skyline Conference. NYU plays in the University Athletic Association and Stevens Tech in the Empire 8.

The winner of the **CSI** vs. Rutgers-Newark game will face the St. Joseph's, L.I.-NYU survivor on Saturday. If both lower seeds pulled off road upsets, **CSI** would host NYU.

The championship game is set for Sunday at the homecourt of the highest remaining seed.

**CSI** came out of the CUNY finals banged up with its two All-CUNY first-team selections hurting. Junior forward Jordan Young (nose) and junior point guard Thomas Tibbs (finger) suffered injuries in the grueling title game at CCNY's Nat Holman Gym in Manhattan.

Their status for Wednesday night's game was not determined yesterday.

"I'm happy for the kids that they were rewarded for their season," said Dolphin coach Tony Petosa of the bid. "There's no question there's a little bit of a hangover whenever you lose a championship game, but this is an opportunity to play again. We'll go out and try the best we can against a very good opponent."

NOTES: **CSI's** last NCAA appearance came nine years ago when it won the CUNY tourney and received a first-round bye before losing at home to Clark, 101-72 ... The Dolphins are 4-11 in ECAC games since the 1993-94 campaign, dropping a 67-64 championship game at home to Drew in 1996-97 ... Baruch's women (23-5) won their fourth straight CUNY title and will open NCAA play Friday against Eastern Connecticut State in a game at Amherst, Mass. ... CUNY members Lehman (17-10) and Brooklyn College (16-11) received bids into the ECAC women's tourney. Third-seeded Lehman will host Farmingdale State and seventh-seeded Brooklyn travels to Polytechnic — both games Wednesday night.

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## CSI baseball drops a pair, but Gale sharp in six-inning mound debut

Published: Tuesday, March 01, 2011, 1:09 AM



By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — The [College of Staten Island](#) dropped two games to open the baseball season Monday at the Ripken Experience Division III Tournament at Griffith Field.

Alma College (Mich.) edged [CSI](#) in the opener, 1-0, despite by a combined three-hitter from returning All-American southpaw Pat Gale and senior Jeff Ponetebbi. Ohio Northern topped the Dolphins 10-4 in the second game.

Gale worked six strong innings against Alma, allowing two singles and three walks while striking out 12 in a 92-pitch season debut. Alma scored its lone unearned run in the second inning when it had back-to-back singles.

Ponetebbi allowed one hit over the final three innings, striking out two.

[CSI](#), meanwhile, managed seven hits as Gale went 3 for 4 with a first-inning double. The Dolphins left eight baserunners stranded and Alma starter Richard Schreiber worked seven shutout innings.

Dan Lynch and Gale had two hits apiece as [CSI](#) banged out 13 hits in the loss to Ohio Northern.

[CSI](#) plays Johnson and Wales Tuesday afternoon and Christopher Newport on Wednesday before heading home for its home opener Friday against SUNY-Cortland.

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## Violets prepare for first-round showdown with St. Joseph's

March 2, 2011  
by [Gerald Schiffman](#)

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The NYU men's basketball team will travel to Patchogue, N.Y., to face St. Joseph's College (L.I.) Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m. in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III Metropolitan Tournament.

It is the Violets' fifth straight berth in the tournament, which is played against other local teams who missed out on the NCAA Tournament.

The eighth-seeded Violets will take on the top-seeded Golden Eagles, who went 22-6 overall and 16-4 in the Skyline Conference. While the Violets finished 15-10 overall, they only won four of 14 games in the University Athletic Association, which dropped them to the lowest position in the ECAC Tournament.

"The guys have been playing their hearts out, even though we've lost a lot of them," head coach Joe Nesci said.

Of the 10 games NYU lost against UAA opponents, all have been by deficits of under 10 points, and four were lost by just two points.

For the Violets, the tournament is a chance to start fresh and try to get past their previous shortcomings. The men should be confident, as they have played well in the ECAC tournament in past years. The Violets won the title in 2006-07 and made the championship game in 2008-09.

All-time, NYU is 7-0 against St. Joseph's, including two wins in previous ECAC Tournaments.

"I'd say we match up very well with St. Joe's, as long as we clamp down on their shooters and don't let the home crowd advantage get to us," junior center Andy Stein said. "It seems like their points primarily come from their guards. Defensively, we have the athleticism in our guards to keep up with them, as we've done decently in the UAA."

One of the guards that the Violets will have to neutralize is Golden Eagles' top scorer Olivier Laurent. The junior comes into the tournament averaging 15.8 points per game this season.

The winner of Wednesday night's game will face either Rutgers University-Newark or College of Staten Island in the semifinals. The semifinal and final rounds will both be played on the campus of the highest remaining seed.



## ATEF DOSSE NAMED CSI HEAD WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH



The College of Staten Island Office of Intercollegiate Athletics has announced the hire of Atef Dosse as its new Head Coach for Women's Volleyball. Dosse will take over the program from Interim Head Coach Melissa Quiles, who guided the Dolphins to a 4-17 campaign a year ago. Making his first entry into the collegiate coaching ranks, Dosse brings a vast wealth of experience as a former professional volleyball player and youth and high school coach.

"I am very excited to get back into coaching at the College of Staten Island," said Dosse, who currently resides on Staten Island. "Everyone is motivated to move our program to a high level and I'm anxious to be a part of that."

A former professional volleyball player in his hometown of Alexandria, Egypt, Dosse was a member of the Smoha Sports Club from 1980-96. He still participates in high-level volleyball sports clubs locally as well, although his primary focus has shifted to coaching. Dosse spent two years as a youth coach and a physical education instructor in Egypt before moving to the United States in 1998.

"We are happy to bring a fine candidate like Atef into our coaching ranks," said Vernon Mummert, Athletic Director. "He is an outstanding teacher and coach who will refine our team's technical skills to raise the skill level of our team. We are confident that he will recruit the best volleyball student athletes in the region to be a part of our program."

Once in the U.S., Dosse became a member of Franklin D. Roosevelt High School in Brooklyn, New York, substitute teaching in both mathematics and physical education. In 1999, when the school's fledgling volleyball program needed a coach, Dosse answered the call, guiding the team for the next four years, turning around a program that went from only a single PSAL win when he took over, to a team that sported only a single blemish two years later.

"Volleyball is all about teamwork. It's the number one avenue to being successful in the sport, and a lot of what I did (at FDR) was develop our teams to trust in one another, build skill, and enjoy the sport," Dosse said.

While doubling as a volleyball coach at FDR, Dosse also taught physical education at Maxwell High School, Harry Van Arsdale Vocational High School, Abraham Lincoln High School, and Acorn Community High School. He also coached the FDR boys soccer program for two years in 2000-01. He currently is a licensed real estate broker with Vitale Sunshine Realty and manages the vast fitness center at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in Manhattan.

At CSI, Dosse will be asked to return to his volleyball roots, trying to resurrect a program that has sported only a single winning season in over a decade.

"Our goal at CSI is to build a program from scratch that focuses more on athleticism and skill-building," he said. "Our foundation for success will be to have a team that is committed to improvement with hard work, and bringing in athletes who are athletic and want to grow and improve their skill sets. We will work hard and have fun."

Dosse prides himself on his ability to motivate at practice, where he focuses most on teaching the game through fluid movement, team concepts, and fundamental development.

Although the Dolphins suffered through a 4-17 campaign and a first-round exit in the CUNYAC postseason, CSI graduated only one senior from the program and stand to bring nine players back in 2011.

"We have a good returning base and many of our athletes play more than one sport which keeps them active," said Dosse. "To have this base makes me very excited and we will continue to move the program to a very strong level."

## College of Staten Island's Tibbs hopes injury won't bench him

Published: Wednesday, March 02, 2011, 11:41 AM



By Jim Waggoner

Wild horses probably couldn't keep Thomas Tibbs from the basketball court, but a dislocated middle finger on his left hand just might end his season.

It turns out that the 5-foot-8 junior point guard for the College of Staten Island played the final 27 minutes of the CUNY Conference Tournament championship game with the injury on his non-shooting hand. He had the finger in a splint and went through light drills yesterday but his status is questionable for tonight when the fifth-seeded Dolphins (17-10) open the ECAC Metro Tournament with a quarterfinal at fourth-seeded Rutgers-Newark (17-7).

"I can't see myself ending the season like that," said Tibbs, who played all 40 minutes of the 62-56 loss to Medgar Evers that denied CSI's bid for the NCAA Division III Tournament. "I really want to play. The doctor said I would need to tape three fingers and he wasn't totally against it, but there is a risk of needing surgery if I hurt it again. I'm not worried about the pain, but I am concerned about playing with three fingers taped. It's a very uncomfortable way to play, but it's possible."

Tibbs scored a game-high 22 points in the CUNY finals and has averaged 15.5 points, 4.8 rebounds and 5.0 assists per game in his first season at CSI. He was named first-team All-CUNY as the Dolphins captured the regular-season title and top tourney seed with a 10-3 record.

The St. Peter's HS product said that if the Dolphins had qualified for the NAAs for the first time in nine years, "there wouldn't be a decision to make." But he also said he owes it to his teammates to make every effort to play.



Staten Island Advance photo/Derek Alvez

CSI's 5-foot-8 Thomas Tibbs drives to the basket against Hunter's 6-11 Panagiotis Koutsoloukas.

"I don't want to minimize the importance of the ECACs," he said. "They invited us to a tournament and it's a great field. I want to be there for my team."

Tibbs said he was injured while driving to the basket and landing hard after contact with an opponent in the first half of the Medgar Evers game Saturday.

"It swelled up pretty quick," he said. "We popped it back in place. It was painful but it was a championship game. I tried to keep it secret but I think they (Cougars) knew because they kept slapping my hand the rest of the game."

Tibbs wasn't the only Dolphin needing medical assistance in the aftermath of the CUNY finals.

Junior forward Jordan Young, who surpassed the 1,000-point career mark and also was an All-CUNY first-team selection, suffered what is believed to be a broken nose in the first half. He had 19 points, nine rebounds and four steals in a 39-minute performance.

If the injury report isn't tough enough to digest, the ECAC selection committee did **CSI** no favors with the Rutgers-Newark matchup.

The Scarlet Raiders boast a pair of All-New Jersey Athletic Conference guards in 5-11 junior Pedro Burgos (first team) and 6-2 sophomore Al'Don Muhammed (second team) and were 11-2 at home. They didn't qualify for the six-team NJAC tourney, but feasted on CUNY competition in December. They went 6-0 against the CUNY, including a 81-72 overtime win over Medgar Evers to open the season. They also topped Baruch 88-75 and York 93-50.

The winner of tonight's game will face either top-seeded St. Joseph's, L.I., or eighth-seeded New York University in Saturday's semifinals.

The championship game will be Sunday on the homecourt of the highest remaining seed.

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NOTES: This is **CSI's** 18th appearance in the ECAC tourney. The Dolphins have been bounced in the first round the last two trips, including a 76-63 home loss to Rutgers-Newark in 2004 ... Tonight's event is an ECAC doubleheader, with the top-seeded Rutgers-Newark women's team hosting eighth-seeded Old Westbury at 6 p.m., followed by the **CSI** game at 8 ... The Scarlet Raiders went 7-6 in the NJAC and this marks their sixth ECAC appearance in the last seven seasons under 10th-year coach Joe Loughran ... The all-time series is tied at 2-2.

## Lynch's single lifts CSI, 4-3

Published: Wednesday, March 02, 2011, 12:21 PM



By Staten Island Advance

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. – College of Staten Island sophomore Dan Lynch's two-out single pushed Bryan Moreno across the plate in the bottom of the ninth as the Dolphins scored a 4-3 victory over Johnson & Wales yesterday in the Ripken Division III Baseball Experience Tournament.



Staten Island Advance file photo by Bill Lyons

John Jay's Edwin Hernandez is picked off at first as CSI's Sal Todaro applies the tag.

CSI improved to 1-2 with the win and Johnson & Wales dropped to 0-2. The Dolphins will close their trip with two games today against Christopher Newport and play their home opener Friday at 3:30 against SUNY-Cortland.

Senior southpaw James Mardikos was sharp in his season debut, working seven shutout innings and allowing two hits with six strikeouts. The Petrides HS product left with a 3-0 lead but an infield throwing

error opened the door for three runs against Michael Van Pelt in the top of the eighth.

Van Pelt worked a 1-2-3 ninth inning and posted his first collegiate victory with Lynch's heroics in the bottom of the frame.

The Dolphins had 11 hits as Pat Gale, Sal Todaro and Joseph Cassano had two hits apiece. Gale and Tadarro ripped RBI doubles as CSI scored single runs in the first, sixth and seventh innings to take a 3-0 lead.

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## CSI's season ends with 75-68 ECAC opening-round loss to Rutgers-Newark

Published: Thursday, March 03, 2011, 12:30 AM



By Jim Waggoner



Staten Island Advance file photo by Bill Lyons

CSI junior guard Dale Taranto had 12 points, eight rebounds and seven assists in Wednesday night's 75-68 season-ending loss to Rutgers-Newark.

NEWARK — Say this about the end of the College of Staten Island basketball season: The Dolphins didn't go down without a fight.

Rutgers-Newark junior guard Pedro Burgos scored a game-high 27 points, including two late free throws after rebounding his own missed jump shot, and the fourth-seeded Scarlet Raiders survived a 75-68 battle with the fifth-seeded Dolphins Wednesday night in the opening round of the ECAC Metro Tournament.

CSI finished the season with a 17-11 record and the disappointment of losing the CUNY Conference Tournament championship game to Medgar Evers. That prevented the Dolphins from making their first NCAA Division III Tournament

appearance in nine years.

But despite the absence of All-CUNY first-team guard Thomas Tibbs, who sat out with a dislocated middle finger on his left hand, the Dolphins rallied from a 10-point second-half deficit to make things interesting.

Dale Taranto's 3-point shot from the top cut Rutgers-Newark's lead to 71-68 with 55.2 seconds remaining, and the visitors were poised to make a defensive stop before Burgos drove the middle and misfired on a 14-foot shot in the lane. The long rebound found the All-New Jersey Athletic Conference first-team selection and he buried two free throws with 17.2 seconds left.

"We were right there again," said **CSI** coach Tony Petosa, who returns his top eight players next season. "That's pretty much the way it's been all year, a close game in the final minutes."

Early in the season, the Dolphins made a habit of winning those games. They started off 14-4 before dropping seven of their final 10, many in excruciating fashion.

**CSI** junior forward Jordan Young finished strong, scoring 14 of his team-high 21 points and grabbing six rebounds in the second half despite playing with a broken nose.

Tibbs and Young were injured in the first half of the CUNY championship game against Medgar Evers.

"I was definitely going to play," said the 6-foot-5 Young, who will return for his final season with a chance to make a run at the school's all-time scoring record. "I have a sinus infection and had some problems breathing, but we pushed them pretty hard."

Rutgers-Newark led 38-30 at halftime and 50-40 just four minutes into the second half, but David Hughes and Phil Broomfield hit three-point shots and Hughes capped an 8-0 run with a short jumper to make it 50-48.

Then, after the Scarlet Raiders took a 67-58 lead on Tyler Jones' three-pointer from the right corner, the Dolphins made a final 10-4 run capped by Taranto's trey.

"We really did play pretty well without Tommy (Tibbs)," said Petosa.

Taranto finished with 12 points, eight rebounds and seven assists while freshman Bloochy Magliore had 11 points and six rebounds. Freshman center Matt Van Manen added 10 points and five boards.

"We made some mistakes in the final couple of minutes," said Young of a rash of Dolphin turnovers. "We would do some good things for 4-5 minutes and then suffer lapses."

NOTES: Rutgers-Newark improved to 18-7 overall and will host eighth-seeded New York University in a Saturday night semifinal after the Violets upset top-seeded St. Joseph's, L.I., 107-93 ... In other first-round games, second-seeded Stevens Tech topped seventh-seeded Baruch, 91-76, and third-seeded Mount St. Mary eliminated Richard Stockton, 85-80 ... **CSI** freshman Hughes had nine points, four rebounds and four assists in a solid effort ... Rutgers-Newark guard Al'Don Muhammad had 12 points, nine assists and three blocked shots.

**CSI** (68)



Hughes 4-9 0-0 9, Van Manen 5-7 0-0 10, Young 8-12 5-8 21, Taranto 5-13 0-2 12, Magliore 5-11 0-0 11, Broomfield 2-4 0-0 5, Valdes 0-2 0-0 0.

Totals: 29-58 5-10 68.

RUTGERS-NEWARK (75)

McCoy 3-5 1-2 7, Rivers 4-8 2-2 10, Muhammad 2-12 8-8 12, Burgos 9-20 5-7 27, Moorman 3-4 1-2 7, Jones 1-5 0-0 3, Moore 3-7 0-0 9, Nwosu 0-2 0-0 0.

Totals: 25-63 17-22 75.

Halftime: 38-30, Rutgers-Newark.

Three-point shots: **CSI** 5-19 (Hughes 1-3, Taranto 2-7, Magliore 1-4, Broomfield 1-3, Valdes 0-2); R-N 8-26 (Rivera 0-1, Muhammad 0-3, Burgos 4-11, Jones 1-2, Moore 3-7, Nwosu 0-2). Rebounds: **CSI** 35 (Taranto 8, Young 7); R-N 37 (McCoy 7, Muhammad 7). Assists: **CSI** 15 (Taranto 7, Hughes 4); R-N 14 (Muhammad 9). Turnovers: **CSI** 19, R-N 11. Total fouls: **CSI** 16, R-N 12. Fouled out: none.

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## Stein's career night leads Violets to ECAC semis

March 3, 2011  
by [Russell Steinberg](#)

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When the regular season ended, the ECAC Division III Metro Tournament selection committee decided that NYU was the worst team in the field.

The committee's assessment wasn't even close.

Five players scored in double figures and junior Andy Stein netted a career high 37 points last night as eighth-seeded NYU upset top seeded St. Joseph's (L.I.) in a shootout on the road.

"Andy just had a monster game," head coach Joe Nesci said. "He posted up well and finished tremendously."

Stein's offensive outburst paced the Violets, who built a 20-point lead on three occasions en route to a 107-93 victory.

NYU now advances to Saturday's semifinals to face fourth-seeded Rutgers-Newark, who slipped by the [College of Staten Island](#).

The Violets enjoyed a complete night offensively, shooting 60 percent from the field and 39 percent from beyond the arc. Yet it was the inside game that made the difference for NYU.

The Violets out-rebounded the Golden Eagles 51-26, limiting St. Joseph's potent offense to one shot per possession.

"They wanted to get shots up," Stein said. "But they were staying static on offensive rebounds and our guys wanted to get up the floor."

This allowed NYU to use its transition game, which benefited senior guards D.J. Glavan (17 points) and Derek Becker (9 points).

"They played tremendously," Nesci said. "They really orchestrated our offense well."

Sophomore Carl Yaffe and senior Richie Polan each posted double-doubles to add to the balanced attack.

The Violets built a 54-43 halftime lead behind a 17-3 run, capped by five straight points from Glavan and a jumper from Yaffe.

But when the Golden Eagles threatened to close the gap, it was Stein who had the answer.

St. Joseph's cut the NYU lead to nine twice early in the second half, then pulled within six with 3:21 to go.

Up by just two possessions in the final moments, Stein answered with a jumper and then an emphatic dunk to make sure the Violets never relinquished momentum.

"I was getting very good position," Stein said. "I felt I could take it to the basket every time."

Stein's late heroics ensured the Violets a trip to the semifinals, which will be played Saturday night at 7 p.m. on Rutgers-Newark's home court. Check [nyunews.com](#) on Friday to find out how to follow the game.

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2011

## Baseball: CSI drops two

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — The College of Staten Island dropped 10-5 and 9-2 decisions to Christopher Newport University yesterday.

The 25th-ranked Captains, from Newport News, Va., are 12-1, matching their program's best start.

CSI (1-4 overall) plays its home opener tomorrow against SUNY-Cortland at 3:30 p.m.

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

#### **Manhattan 12, Wagner 7**

The Seahawks held a 3-1 lead midway through the first half, but the host Jaspers closed out the half with five answered scores. After the teams exchanged goals to start the second half, Manhattan netted three straight to take a 10-4 lead.

Wagner (0-2) had five different players score as Annie O'Connor tallied twice and Erika Bulken, Lauren Petrick, Leea Sinay and Carolyn Clark recorded solo tallies.



## CYO cheerleading competition set for tomorrow at College of Staten Island

Published: Friday, March 04, 2011, 2:45 PM



By **Whitney Ballantine**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- After months and months of practice and dedication, the 2-3 minutes of performing in front of the judges at the Catholic school cheerleader competition is all that matters.

Tomorrow is the day when cheerleaders of all ages -- from second grade through high school -- take the stage before a crowd of 1,000-plus spectators expected to attend.

The Staten Island CYO competition will take place in the gymnasium of the College of Staten Island, Willowbrook between 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

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**\*View the order of appearance**

**\*Follow SILive.com tomorrow for results and pictures**

**\*Planning to go? Bring your camera and upload your photos and videos to SILive**

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The high schools will start the day off and it will end with the Debs.

With all sports comes some rivalry and over the years it has been between the cheering squad of St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School and St. Joseph Hill Academy High School.

"Sportsmanship is what this day represents," said Seth Peloso, director of CYO operations for New York City. "The girls put their heart and soul into a 2-minute routine that they have spent the entire season preparing



Advance file photo

Our Lady Queen of Peace's varsity cheerleading squad celebrates a **first-place finish last year in the Small Division** during the 54th annual Staten Island CYO Cheerleading Competition at the College of Staten Island, Willowbrook.

for. Even with the long-standing rivalries and traditions of Staten Island cheerleading, mixed with the emotions, sportsmanship is still on display. This is a great day for the CYO."

Tickets are still available and can be purchased at the door of the gym.

The winning teams from each level and category will go on to compete at the Archdiocesan CYO Cheerleading Competition at Fordham University on March 19.

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## SUNY-Cortland holds off CSI in pitching gem, 2-1

Published: Friday, March 04, 2011, 11:52 PM



By **Jim Waggoner**



Staten Island Advance file photo by Hilton Flores

CSI senior Pat Gale threw seven strong innings in Friday's 2-1 loss to nationally-ranked SUNY-Cortland.

The College of Staten Island wanted to beef up its baseball schedule, so NCAA Division III powerhouse SUNY-Cortland showed up Friday in Willowbrook.

The Dolphins took the Red Dragons to the wire behind senior southpaw Pat Gale, but the upstate visitors squeezed out a 2-1 victory in a sharp pitching duel with the scoring completed by the second inning.

SUNY-Cortland went 40-11-1 last spring and played in the national-championship game. The school has made 18 consecutive trips to the NCAA playoffs and began the current season with a No. 2 national ranking. They improved to 2-3 with the win.

CSI would like to make its first NCAA appearance in nearly two decades. The Dolphins' two trips came in 1991 and 1992.

And although they dropped to 1-5 — 1-4 on a trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. — the defending CUNY Conference champions showed they can compete against a top-tier squad.

Gale allowed single runs in the first and second innings during his seven-inning stint, allowing five hits while striking out nine. Nick Tingos didn't allow any hits in two innings of relief.

The Dolphins scored their run in the bottom of the second. Freshman shortstop Matt Morales hit a one-out single, advanced to third on a wild pitch and groundout, and scored on Sal Tadaró's RBI single to left.

CSI left the bases loaded in the seventh and had another scoring chance wiped away in the eighth when Dan Lynch, who led off with an infield single, was thrown out trying to steal second. Gale followed with a double.

In the ninth, Morales blooped a lead-off single to right field and moved to second on Mark Glennerster's sacrifice bunt. He moved to third on a wild pitch but SUNY-Cortland reliever Tom Nagy recorded two strikeouts to end the game.

CSI out-hit the Red Dragons 7-5 with Morales going 3-for-4.

SUNY-Cortland's Michael Mahay posted the win, going six innings. Gale took the loss.

Red Dragons lead-off man Matt Junes went 2-for-5 with a run and an RBI.

CSI returns to action Sunday with a noon game at home against FDU-Florham.

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## CUNYAC Winter Stars Competing For National Championships Swimmers, Track & Field Stars, Hoopsters & Wrestlers Set to Score!



*CUNYAC Stars Danila Novikov (CSI) and Gerale Middleton (QCC) look to Shine this Winter!*

**Flushing, NY** -- The first of two winter weekends of postseason sports season starts today, as the best and brightest around the **City University of New York Athletic Conference** get ready to compete for Regional and National glory. Eight swimmers, 18 track stars and one wrestler will aim to become the Conference's first All-American of 2011, as CUNYAC student-athletes will try to top the stunning 30 All-American honors in 2010.

"We're extremely excited to have our student-athletes competing at the highest level, which is what they work for all year long, a National Championship," said CUNYAC Executive Director **Zak Ivkovic**. "Our goal is to surpass the thirty All-Americans we enjoyed last year."

First off, the **NJCAA National Swimming & Diving** and **Indoor Track & Field Championships** get underway in Buffalo, NY and Lubbock, TX, respectively. The two concurrent events are constituted of all Junior College Divisions, I, II and III, while in the spring, there is a dedicated **Division III Outdoor Track Championship** in May.

Three members of the **Queensborough Community College** swimming team have qualified for the NJCAA National NJCAA event, **Matthew Makower-Brown**, **Nuttada Getgavipak** and freshman sprinter **Shirley Falconi**, who won the CUNYAC Championship races in both the 50 Yard and 100 Yard Freestyle, setting a new meet record in the fifty.

At the **NJCAA Indoor Track Championships**, CUNYAC will have a huge presence, with all three Community College that just starred at the Conference Indoor Meet making the trip to Texas. While, all three schools are hoping for All-Americans and National titles, **Bronx Community College** may have the best shot at achieving those goals with freshman sensation **Ashley Armand** setting the pace. Armand, the CUNYAC Cross Country Champion last fall, finished second at the NJCAA Championships and recently won the CUNYAC Indoor 400 and 800 Meter titles. Throwers **Natasha Hill** and **Errol Jeffries** (CUNYAC Champ, Weight Throw & Shot Put) will also contend for the Broncos.

Kingsborough, the Community College Men's Team champs at this week's CUNYAC Champs, will once again send a slew of student-athletes to the NJCAA's, with nine participants: **Tashaka Adolph**, **Devon Alexander**, **Bosede**



**Daramola, Zenia George, Tia Gardener, Charlene Jackson, Ruben Pierre-Louis and Rohan Stewart.** Adolph, a sophomore sprinter and George, a middle-distance specialist are two to look for from the Wave.

Queensborough will also make a significant showing with six competitors, including three 2010 Outdoor All-Americans, **Jerry Francois, Lisa Kurner, Donnell Lockhart and Gerale Middleton.** Middleton is the defending NJCAA Outdoor Champion in the 400 Meter Dash. In the CUNYAC Championships on Monday, Armand, George and Middleton finished 1-2-3 ahead of all CUNYAC Senior College runners in the 400 race. **Momodou Sawaneh and Kaydon Tannis** will be making their first appearance in the postseason for the Tigers.

Sticking with the strongest and the swiftest, the **Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) Indoor Track & Field Championships** will be held at the **New Balance Track & Field Center**, where CUNYAC's best shined on Monday night. While student-athletes from five of the six senior college teams (**CCNY, Hunter, Lehman, Medgar Evers and York**) have all qualified for the Regional Championship, two Beavers look to have the greatest impact, qualifying in the top ten in their respective races. CCNY freshman sprinter **Jasmen Flagg** (26.05 at CUNY's) will try to medal in the 200 Meter Dash, while Co-Most Valuable Performer **Paul Dedewo** will be in the mix in three sprint events: 55m Dash, 200m and 400m. He won the latter two en route to the team title.

On to the hardwood, four CUNYAC Senior Colleges will be playing to extend their seasons. The Women's NCAA First Round tipping off at 5:00 pm, as 4-time CUNYAC Champion **Baruch College** (23-5) will play Eastern Connecticut State College (20-8) in Amherst, MA tonight. That elimination contest will be followed by the Men's CUNYAC Champion **Medgar Evers Cougars** (17-11) facing their host, St. Mary's (MD) (22-5) at 7:30 pm.

Tomorrow the two remaining CUNYAC Women's Teams in the **ECAC Metro Basketball Championships** will battle each other for the third time this season in the semifinal round when **Brooklyn** (16-11) goes up to the APEX Arena to play **Lehman** (17-10). The final at the highest remaining team will be played Sunday at a time to be determined.

Moving onto next week, the **NCAA Division III Wrestling Championship** will be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin beginning on March 11. Hunter, the only CUNYAC school with the sport, has their first NCAA qualifier since 2009 in **Eduardo Delgado**, who wrestles at the 157 pound weight class, and compiled an overall record of 20-4 this season.

Two weeks later, while the 2011 CUNYAC Men's Volleyball title will be decided, the College of Staten Island will send five swimmers to the NCAA Division III Men's Swimming & Diving Championships (March 23-26) in Knoxville, Tennessee. Senior stars **Pavel Buyanov and Nikolay Shevcheko** will look to become 4-time All-Americans, while junior **Vlad Romanov** will try for the second time and freshmen **Danila Novikov and Andrey Tarasov** will attempt to continue the CSI Swimming legacy to a new generation.

CSI head coach **Oleg Soloviev** gives us a little preview for each of his swimmers: "Danila has a possibility to stun people at the NCAA's. Pavel has not sung his last song yet, he's got more to give before his college career is done. Vlad was recovering from being sick last week and gave more than we thought he could so we know how bad he wants to be part of the NCAA's. Andrey is determined; he is improving day by day and hour by hour. Our team leader Nikolay will serve us well in the relay events."

Depending on the aforementioned individual and team results, additional postseason action may present itself and CUNYAC athletes will look for even more success on the National stage. At **CUNYAthletics.com**, we will keep you updated!



## CSI men's baseball opens at home today against nationally ranked SUNY-Cortland

Published: Friday, March 04, 2011, 12:45 PM



By Jim Waggoner

Break out the bats, balls and ... ear muffs?

The College of Staten Island returned from a season-opening five-game trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C., in time for today's home opener against nationally ranked SUNY-Cortland.

The Willowbrook ballpark was given the green light, so third-year head coach Mike Mauro is expected to be giving the green light to his Dolphin batters in the 3:30 p.m. single game under less-than-balmy weather conditions.

Mauro and troops arrived home yesterday with a 1-4 record after dropping two to nationally ranked Christopher Newport. The Dolphins received dazzling pitching debuts from senior left-handers Pat Gale and James Mardikos, who might be launching a promising literary career with his informative "Mardy on the Mound" blog found on the school's athletics website.

Gale, an All-American last year, and Mardikos both tossed seven shutout innings down south, but CSI managed just one win out of the two games.

SUNY-Cortland (1-3) arrives from upstate with rich baseball credentials: The Red Dragons lost the NCAA Division III national championship game last spring and have qualified for the NCAAs in 18 consecutive seasons. They were 40-10-1 last year and began the current season ranked second by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

That's the type of program that CSI, of the financially-strapped CUNY Conference, can dream about. The Dolphins were a school-record 31-11 last spring under the ambitious Mauro, but a weak strength-of-schedule doomed their hopes for an NCAA at-large bid.

Hence a stab at a beefed-up non-conference schedule, with national powerhouse Kean and William Paterson also on the slate.



(Staten Island Advance photo/Hilton Flores)

CSI senior Pat Gale

The Dolphins are counting on a deep pitching staff. Nick Tingos, Casey Mulligan, Richard Anderson, Jeff Pontebbi are returnees alongside Gale and Mardikos, while newcomers J.T. Aponte, Mike Van Pelt and Chris Matusiewicz are additions.

Infield veterans Mark Glennerster (third base) and Henry Roman (second base) will watch the progress of freshman shortstop Matt Morales, a Tottenville product. Sal Todaro and Gale will split time at first base and designated hitter, while Joe Cassano (left field), Dan Lynch (centerfield) and Todaro (right field) will be backed by candidates including U.S. Marine veteran Joe Falcone and freshmen Ray Gise and James Lewis.

**CSI** needs some sunshine, to be sure, with 14 of its next 15 games scheduled for home in the next 26 days.

Gale is the top prospect among the 13 Dolphins returnees: The Tottenville HS product went 8-2 with a 2.18 ERA and 106 strikeouts in 78 innings, while batting .418 with team-leading numbers in hits (69), triples (5) and RBI (47) during a junior season capped by ABCA/Rawlings first-team All-American honors.

Roman (.372), Cassano (.351) and Todaro (.339) packed plenty of punch in the 2010 campaign.

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## **Brooklyn College Set to Host 2011 CUNYAC Cheerleading Championship Thursday Night @ 7:00 pm**



Brooklyn, NY --- The West Quad Center on the campus of Brooklyn College is set to host the 2011 City University of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) Cheerleading Championship, which will be held this Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 pm.

BC Cheer, the five-time defending conference champions, will look to make it six in a row, as the Bulldogs will be performing on their home court. This will mark the second straight year the BC will play host to the league championship.

Looking to take the crown from Brooklyn this year are York College, Medgar Evers College and the College of Staten Island. Kingsborough Community College will also be in competition, while Hunter College, Queens College, Staten Island High School and Saint Saviour High School will all be performing exhibitions prior to the start of the competition.

The Bulldogs' five conference titles are second only to Baruch College's 14.

Doors for the event will open at 6:15 pm. Get their early to grab your seat!

## CSI bats go silent in 5-2 baseball loss to Mount St. Vincent

Published: Wednesday, March 09, 2011, 11:31 PM



By Jim Waggoner



Staten Island Advance file photo by Hilton Flores

CSI second baseman Henry Roman went 3-for-4 in Wednesday's loss to Mount St. Vincent.

Mount St. Vincent baseball coach Steve Machias says his team dodged a bullet.

Honestly, it was more like surviving a potential artillery attack.

The visitors from the Bronx twice had an open base with runners on second and third and two outs and the opportunity to walk College of Staten Island senior slugger Pat Gale.

And both times Machias had his pitchers challenge the returning NCAA Division III All-American.

"It's early in the season and I want to see how these kids react under pressure," said Machias after Mount St. Vincent's 5-2 non-conference victory over CSI at Willowbrook. "We were lucky in a sense. We made some pretty good pitches too."

CSI dropped to 1-6 on the season, not the start the Dolphins expected coming off a 31-11 campaign and with a pitching staff that began the afternoon with a solid 3.75

ERA.

The southpaw Gale leads that staff with a 1.80 ERA and 23 strikeouts in 15 innings, but has an 0-2 record to show for it, including a 2-1 loss to nationally-ranked SUNY-Cortland.

An anemic offense has been the problem — 18 runs in seven games.

"I am surprised that we're not hitting," said CSI coach Mike Mauro. "(Mount) got two hits all day. You can't give up two hits and lose a ballgame. We're not putting any pressure on the opposition and when we do, we can't seem to get that clutch hit.

"I knew we had the pitching. We just need to step it up offensively."

Mount St. Vincent took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first on a walk, fielder's choice and Mark Sargente's two-run wind-blown double to deep left field that was misjudged.

The visitors added single runs in the fifth, sixth and ninth innings. The first run came on an infield throwing error, the second on Mike Pope's single to center after another throwing error, and the final run when Tyler Pope was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

CSI managed seven hits and seven walks off three Mount St. Vincent pitchers, but left 11 baserunners stranded.

Anthony Mongelli allowed one run in six innings for the win, and he used his curveball to entice Gale to fly out to short right field to end the fifth inning.

Mike McCanus worked two scoreless frames, getting Gale to end the seventh inning with a grounder to second.

Gale, who leads the Dolphins with a .440 batting average after a rare 0-for-3 day, strode to the plate again in the bottom of the ninth with the bases loaded and two outs.

Freshman pitcher Brian Rush had already walked two CSI batters, and he challenged Gale with off-speed stuff before issuing an RBI walk.

CSI freshman James Lewis grounded to first base to end the game.

"It's tough," said Mauro. "We're not in dire straits because it's still early. We just have to start putting things together."

NOTES: Senior left-hander James Mardikos has been another tough-luck pitcher. He allowed two earned runs in 5 one-third innings but fell to 0-1 with a 1.46 ERA ... Senior reliever Jeff Pontebbi retired all eight batters he faced after coming on in the sixth inning ... Second baseman Henry Roman went 3 for 4 with an RBI single to lift his average to .375 ... Mount St. Vincent improved to 2-4 after being outscored 53-6 in its previous three games ... CSI returns to action Tuesday at home against SUNY-New Paltz.

## College of Staten Island softball team hits home run with special needs students

Published: Thursday, March 10, 2011, 1:21 PM



By **Jerry Lee**

WILLOWBROOK -- The College of Staten Island (CSI) women's softball program, guided by head coach Dr. Stella Porto, is getting ready to begin the 2011 season.

While doing its training for the upcoming season, the team partnered with the P25R South Richmond School for a co-op campus clean-up work-study program.

Designed as a community service project for the softball players, the program incorporated the idea of student observation for the team comprised mainly of education majors at CSI.



CSI softball head coach Dr. Stella Porto gets a big hug from Andre Morris, a sixth-grader at P25R South Richmond School.

"Most of our players are student-teachers, who between their studies, softball and classroom field work, have very little time to do observations and studies of special-needs students," explained Ms. Porto.

With the help of P25R's James McKeon and CSI Athletic Director Vernon Mummert, a bond was formed. The program allowed the students from P25R to enjoy the sprawling CSI campus, employing a generic clean-up program. It got the students out of their classrooms to fulfill community service time of their own.

The students ranged in age from 14 to 18 and were supervised by the CSI softball players, who forged special one-on-one bonds with the youths. They gained valuable observation experience, and a chance to work with special-needs students for the first time.

"It's a win-win for us," said Ms. Porto, who oversaw the students assisting with inventory and helping the Buildings and Grounds team at CSI with simple clean-up.

"Our players are gaining some excellent vocational and social skills," Ms. Porto added. "The experience with special-needs students will open their eyes to the possibility of being a special education teacher," said Porto.

The program at CSI ran right up to the official start of the season this weekend with a trip to a tournament in Arizona. The students at P25R can't wait for the weather to break, so that they can return to a clean CSI campus to see their favorite softball stars play.

"Being involved with this was terrific," said Ms. Porto. "The kids had a blast, and our students developed an appreciation towards working with them, and their role of enrichment."

*(Dave Pizzuto contributed to this story).*

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## CSI falls to 1-6 as bats stay quiet

By JIM WAGGONER

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Mount St. Vincent baseball coach Steve Machias says his team dodged a bullet.

Honestly, it was more like surviving a potential artillery attack.

The visitors from the Bronx twice had an open base with runners on second and third and two outs and the opportunity to walk College of Staten Island senior slugger Pat Gale.

And both times Machias had his pitchers challenge the returning NCAA Division III All-American.

"It's early in the season and I want to see how these kids react under pressure," said Machias after Mount St. Vincent's 5-2 non-conference victory over CSI at Willowbrook. "We were lucky in a sense. We made some pretty good pitches too."

CSI dropped to 1-6 on the season, not the start the Dolphins expected coming off a 31-11 campaign and with a pitching staff that began the afternoon with a solid 3.75 ERA.

The southpaw Gale leads that staff with a 1.80 ERA and 23 strikeouts in 15 innings, but has an 0-2 record to show for it, including a 2-1 loss to nationally-ranked SUNY-Cortland.

An anemic offense has been the problem — 18 runs in seven games.

"I am surprised that we're

not hitting," said CSI coach Mike Mauro. "(Mount) got two hits all day. You can't give up two hits and lose a ballgame. We're not putting any pressure on the opposition and when we do, we can't seem to get that clutch hit.

"I knew we had the pitching. We just need to step it up offensively."

Mount St. Vincent took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first on a walk, fielder's choice and Mark Sargente's two-run wind-blown double to deep left field that was misjudged.

The visitors added single runs in the fifth, sixth and ninth innings. The first run came on an infield throwing error, the second on Mike Pope's single to center after another throwing error, and the final run when Tyler Pope was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

CSI managed seven hits and seven walks off three Mount St. Vincent pitchers, but left 11 baserunners stranded.

Anthony Mongelli allowed one run in six innings for the win, and he used his curveball to entice Gale to fly out to short right field to end the fifth inning.

Mike McCanus worked two scoreless frames, getting Gale to end the seventh inning with a grounder to second.

Gale, who leads the Dolphins with a .440 batting average after a rare 0-for-3 day, strode to the plate again in

the bottom of the ninth with the bases loaded and two outs.

Freshman pitcher Brian Rush had already walked two CSI batters, and he challenged Gale with off-speed stuff before issuing an RBI walk.

CSI freshman James Lewis grounded to first base to end the game.

"It's tough," said Mauro. "We're not in dire straits because it's still early. We just have to start putting things together."

**NOTES:** Senior left-hander James Mardikos has been another tough-luck pitcher. He allowed two earned runs in 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings but fell to 0-1 with a 1.46 ERA ... Senior reliever Jeff Pontebbi retired all eight batters he faced after coming on in the sixth inning ... Second baseman Henry Roman went 3 for 4 with an RBI single to lift his average to .375 ... Mount St. Vincent (2-4) had been outscored 53-6 in its previous three games ... CSI is home Tuesday against SUNY-New Paltz.

### North Florida 12, Wagner 0

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — North Florida scored 10 runs over the first three innings and held the Seahawks (1-7) to one hit in Tuesday's 12-0 rout at Harmon Stadium. The teams were rained out last night. Wagner plays Central Florida tomorrow night.

# **The Daily Star, Oneonta, NY - otsego county news, delaware county news, oneonta news, oneonta sports**

*March 16, 2011*

## **O-State baseball splits doubleheader**

### **STAFF REPORT**

---- — Oneonta State's baseball team bounced back from blowing a four-run lead in a 7-6 loss in the first game with a 16-2 victory over Messiah College in a non-conference doubleheader at Winter Haven, Fla., on Tuesday.

Messiah scored six runs in the top of the seventh inning \_ benefitting from three walks and two hit batsmen \_ to take a 7-5 lead. Wes Hollenbeck's two-run triple capped the rally off losing pitcher Tom Hand. O-State starter Ken Smith took a three-hitter into the seventh, but walked three and hit a batter before Hand replaced him.

Dean Haussel's one-out RBI single in the bottom inning brought the Red Dragons to within a run, but Nate Jones struck out and Eric Wells flied out to deep right.

Mike Center went 3-for-4, and Kevin Knack and Oneonta High graduate Jon Wolfanger had a pair of hits for O-State.

In the second game, Jeff Carter struck out four and walked one in a four-hitter to lead the Red Dragons.

"He was getting ahead of hitters and then he throws that sinker and they either beat it in the ground or miss it," O-State coach Rick Ferchen said of Carter's outing.

The Red Dragons scored four times in the first inning, including an RBI single by Hausel and a two-run single by Wolfanger.

Knack had three hits and three RBIs, and Wolfanger, Hausel, Mike Mascari and Mike De Carr all had two hits.

O-State (4-4) will play Keene State at 9 a.m. this morning. The teams met in an NCAA Division III regional game last season with the Red Dragons winning, 5-2.

Messiah 7, Oneonta 6

at Winter Haven, Fla.

Messiah 000 010 6 \_ 7 8 1

Oneonta 221 000 1 \_ 6 14 3

Paul Broomell, Cody Helgersen (5), Josh Hershberger (6,W), Zach Adams (7) and Ryan Brown. Ken Smith, Tom Hand (7,L) and Eric Wells. 2B \_ Pete Lindner (O), Jon Wolfanger (O). 3B \_ Wes Hollenbach (M).

Oneonta 16, Messiah 2

at Winter Haven, Fla.

Oneonta 414 106 0 \_ 16 17 4

Messiah 000 001 1 \_ 2 4 3

Jeff Carter (W) and Bryan Marotta. Chris Gill (L), Mitch McCluer (3), Dave Okerblum (5), Corey Helgersen (6), Wes Hollenbech (7) and Dave Fletta. 2B \_ Kevin Knack (O), Mike DeCarr (O), Nate Jones (O), Zach Levanduski (O). 3B \_ Sean Fruscio (O), Kevin Knack (O), Dean Haussel (O).

## SOFTBALL

O-State wins pair

Oneonta State completed its trip to Tucson, Ariz., with 2-1 and 8-1 victories over Denison University and the College of Staten Island, respectively.

The Red Dragons will head north with a 6-5 record.

Against Denison, the Red Dragons scored twice in the sixth inning to take a 2-1 lead.

Jillian Serrano drew a two-out walk in the sixth before Sam Voncina reached on a fielding error to short. Both runners moved on a throwing error on the same play and scored on Stacey Donald's single to left center.

Starter Jessica Iuliano, Jessica Bartalsky and Kerry Leggett combined on a five-hitter for O-State.

In the second game, O-State scored four times in the third inning against Staten Island to take a 4-1 lead. Jaime Lukas had an RBI single and Serrano contributed a two-run single in the inning. Donald then hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning.

Serrano, Voncina, Korin Ditulli and Laura Loudis all had two hits for O-State.

Bartalsky struck out five and allowed one run over 4 1/3 innings to get her third win this season.

On Monday, O-State defeated Dickinson College, 6-1, before falling to La Verne, 3-1.

Iuliano threw a four-hitter with five strikeouts.

The Red Dragons took control with a four-run fifth inning. Kalyn Deso had an RBI, Tricia Kendziera followed with an RBI double and Serrano contributed a two-run single in the inning.

Kendziera finished two hits.

Kendziera singled and scored in the first inning in O-State's loss to La Verne.

O-State travels to Mountclair State a week from Saturday for a doubleheader.

O-State 2, Denison 1

at Tucson, Ariz.

Oneonta State      000 002 0 \_ 2 4 0

Denison      000 010 0 \_ 1 5 3

Jessica Iuliano (W,3-0), Jessica Bartalsky (6), Kerry Leggett (7,S) and Kalyn Deso. Rebecca Dyer (L) and Meghan Edwards.

O-State 8, Staten Island 1

at Tucson, Ariz.

Staten Island      100 000 0 \_ 1 5 2

Oneonta State      004 040 x \_ 8 13 0

Danielle Ponsiglione (L) and Catherine Ebro. Jessica Bartalsky (W,3-2), Kerry Leggett (5,S) and Kalyn Deso. HR \_ Stacey Donald (O).

O-State 6, Dickinson 1

Monday at Tucson, Ariz.

Oneonta State      010 041 0 \_ 6 9 1

Dickinson      000 001 0 \_ 1 4 2

Jessica Iuliano (W) and Kalyn Deso. Allison Jordan (L), Chelsea Homa (7) and Carly Jordan.

La Verne 3, O-State 1

Monday at Tucson, Ariz.

Oneonta State 100 000 0 \_ 1 4 2

La Verne 010 002 x \_ 3 5 2

Kerry Leggett (L, 0-3) and Kalyn Deso. Carly Asher, Laura Olson (5,W) and Jackie Duran, Daryn Schiveley.

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Amherst 10, O-State 4

Caroline Tulley and Rebecca Monteith scored two goals apiece in Oneonta State's non-conference road loss.

Junior Annelise Muscietta made 11 saves for the Red Dragons (0-5), who'll play host to Scranton at 3 p.m. Friday.

## HONORS

Two Hawks recognized

Hartwick College basketball forwards Jared Suderley and Chris Ryder received regional distinction by separate college basketball organizations Tuesday. Suderley was named d3hoops.com All-East Region Rookie of the Year and Ryder earned National Association of Basketball Coaches East Region All-District honors.

Suderley finished the 2010-11 season ranked third in scoring (17.4 ppg), ninth in field-goal percentage (53 percent) and free-throw percentage (83.5 percent), and 11th in rebounding (7.6 rpg) among Division III rookies.

Suderley, a 6-foot-6 lefty, was previously named Empire 8 Rookie of the Year as well as a Second Team all-star. He was named Empire 8 Tournament MVP in leading the Hawks to their first E8 title.

Ryder, an all-Empire 8 First Team pick, was one of 11 players recognized by the NABC in the East Region. Ryder paced the Hawks in rebounds (7.8 rpg) and finished second in scoring (17.2 ppg) behind Suderley.

He ranked third in the conference in scoring average, fourth in rebounds, sixth in blocks (0.82) and eighth in free-throw percentage (.780). He scored at least 20 points nine times and had 28 points or more four times, including a college-high 32 against Elmira.

Hartwick went 17-11 and qualified for the NCAA Division III tournament.

Hawks duo honored

A day after garnering Empire 8 accolades, Hartwick lacrosse players Jen Kaye and Phil Schaefer were recognized by the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference. Kaye earned ECAC Upstate Women's Lacrosse Defensive Player of the Week. Schaefer was named the ECAC Upstate Men's Lacrosse Offensive Player of the Week.

Kaye, a senior for the 3-0 Hawks, received the honor for the second time. She also earned the award April 8, 2009 following a 21-save effort in a 9-7 win over Ohio Wesleyan.

This past week, Kaye made 13 saves, scooped four groundballs and had a 76 percent clearing rate in a 17-11 Hartwick win over Marywood. She then made three saves, allowing one goal in the Hawks' 19-2 win over Maritime on Saturday.

Schaefer, a freshman with the 3-1 Hartwick men's team, scored his college high of seven goals, and had an assist and three groundballs in the Hawks' 15-8 victory over Farmingdale State on Saturday. He also had two goals, three assists, and four ground balls in 'Wick's 11-5 win over Cobleskill on Thursday.



## Baseball: **CSI** tops New Paltz to snap skid

Published: Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 7:46 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

The **College of Staten Island** rode the hitting of Joe Falcone, Bryan Moreno and Sal Todaro and broke its four game losing streak with a 6-3 victory over visiting SUNY-New Paltz yesterday.

Falcone (RBI) smacked three hits while Moreno and Todaro drove in two runs apiece.

Dolphin starter Pat Gale fanned 12 over six innings and Mike Van Pelt earned the save, allowing two hits over the final three innings.

**CSI** (2-6) hosts SUNY-Purchase today at 4 p.m.

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## College of Staten Island's new women's volleyball coach faces tall task

Published: Thursday, March 17, 2011, 12:08 PM



By Jerry Lee

NEW SPRINGVILLE -- It is a tall order that lies ahead for Atef Dosse, the new women's volleyball coach at the College of Staten Island (CSI).

The New Springville resident will take over from interim head coach Melissa Quiles, whose team posted a 4-17 record a year ago.

Although this will be Dosse's first venture into the collegiate coaching ranks, he will bring a wealth of experience as a former professional volleyball player, and youth and high school coach.

"I am very excited to get back into coaching at the College of Staten Island," said Dosse recently. "Everyone is motivated to move our program to a high level and I'm anxious to be a part of that."

A former professional volleyball player in his hometown of Alexandria, Egypt, Dosse was a member of the Smoha Sports Club from 1980-96.

He still participates in high-level volleyball sports clubs locally as well, although his primary focus has shifted to coaching. Dosse spent two years as a youth coach and a physical education instructor in Egypt before moving to the United States in 1998.

"We are happy to bring a fine candidate like Atef into our coaching ranks," said Vernon Mummert, athletic director. "He is an outstanding teacher and coach who will refine our team's technical skills to raise the skill level of our team. We are confident that he will recruit the best volleyball student athletes in the region to be a part of our program."

At CSI, Dosse will be trying to revive a program that has managed only one winning season in over a decade.

"Our goal at CSI is to build a program that focuses more on athleticism and skill-building," he said.



Atef Dosse will bring a wealth of experience as a former professional volleyball player, and youth and high school coach.



Although the Dolphins suffered through a 4-17 campaign, CSI graduated only one senior and will bring nine players back in 2011.

"We have a good returning base and that makes me very excited and we will continue to move the program to a very strong level," he added.

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## **College of Staten Island** baseball game rescheduled after rain-out

Published: Thursday, March 17, 2011, 9:03 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

The **College of Staten Island** baseball game against SUNY-Purchase was rained out yesterday. The game has been rescheduled for March 21 at 4 p.m. at home.

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## Baseball: Mount tops Wagner; CSI takes two

### STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Mount St. Mary's salvaged a split of its four-game series with Wagner, using a five-run third inning to score a 6-3 Northeast Conference decision yesterday in St. George.

The Mountaineers (7-8, 2-2) banged out seven hits against Seahawk starter Ryan Van Spronsen in the third inning to open a 5-0 lead.

MSM's Max Brittenham went nine innings, allowing three earned runs, walking four and striking out two.

Seth Boyd and Gaby Ramirez each had two of Wagner's nine hits. Wagner is 3-12 overall, 2-2 in the NEC.

### CSI 13, St. Joseph 6 CSI 9, St. Joseph's 3

A six-run home sixth turned a 7-5 lead into a 13-5 cushion for the Dolphins in the opener.

Pat Gale (complete game, 8Ks) banged an RBI single in the first inning. In the second, a sacrifice from Dan Lynch and RBI doubles by Bryan Moreno, Henry Roman and Gale made it 5-1.

St. Joe's closed to within 5-4 before a Moreno RBI single and wild pitch made it 7-4.

In the sixth, Lynch delivered a two-run single; Mark Glennerster, Moreno and Roman had RBI singles; and Gale produced a sac fly.

In Game 2, Glennerster's RBI double in the second and a Matt Morales two-run single in the third put CSI up 3-0.

The Dolphins broke it open in the fifth on Morales' two-run double to centerfield, Sal Todaro's RBI single and Frank Torres' two-run single.

James Mardikos notched the win.

Morales finished with four hits and four RBI for the twinbill; Moreno and Gale had four hits and three RBI apiece.

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

#### Siena 16, Wagner 8

OYSTER BAY, L.I. — The Saints (4-4 overall) exploded for 11 second-half goals. Kristin McMillan and Michelle Andreo each scored four goals.

Reserve Sam Morin scored twice for the (1-5) Seahawks, who host UC-Davis tomorrow at 3 p.m.

### TENNIS

#### CSI 5, North Central 4 Grinnell 7, CSI 2

ORLANDO, Fla. — The 8-6 doubles win of Joe Taranto and Riad Hamai lifted the Dolphins to their first win of their Florida trip.

Following a split of the singles and the first two doubles, the senior-junior tandem went out 7-3 before Hamai's winners closed out the match.

CSI's loss to Grinnell dropped the Dolphins record to 3-3 on the season.

### WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

#### Wagner shines in opener

POMONA, N.J. — Wagner's Sheena Taylor won the hammer throw (152 feet, 11 inches) and shot put (41-9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>) at the Richard Stockton Invitational.

Senior Mishelle McNamara cleared 10-6 to win the pole vault.

Wagner's 4x100 and 4x400 relays won and sophomore Kelly Dennis took the 3,000-meter steeplechase in a time of 12 minutes, 30.39 seconds.

Morgan Kaisershot won the 400 hurdles in 1:06.25 and freshman Cameo Kirk won the 1,500- (5:03.46). Freshman Alexis Bivona took the 3,000 in 10:38.51.

The Seahawks compete Friday at the Spider Relays in Richmond, Va.

### SOFTBALL

#### CSI 9, City Tech 0 CSI 10, City Tech 0

Danielle Ponsiglione struck out 11 in four innings in the opener. CSI (6-4 overall) jumped out to a 5-0 first-inning lead with Joanne Tepedino's two-run triple the big blow.

Ponsiglione, Tepedino (two triples), Kristi Dillon and Jen Volpe had two hits each.

In the second game, Michelle Ferrauolo struck out seven and Katie Flynn had three hits.

## CSI sweeps CUNY baseball twinbill from Yeshiva, 14-2 and 5-4

Published: Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 11:05 PM



By Jim Waggoner



Staten Island Advance file photo by Hilton Flores

CSI pitcher Nick Tingos tossed a four-hitter with 15 strikeouts in a seven-inning rout of Yeshiva.

The College of Staten Island banged out 14 hits in both games Tuesday and defeated visiting Yeshiva 14-2 and 5-4 in CUNY Conference baseball action in Willowbrook.

Nick Tingos tossed a complete-game four hitter with 15 strikeouts in the seven-inning opener. Joseph Falcone keyed a seven-run second with a three-run homer.

Bryan Moreno went 4 for 4 and scored three runs from the leadoff spot. Joe Cassano, Matt Morales and Sal Tadarò (three RBI) also had two hits apiece.

In the nightcap, Jeff Pontebbi earned the save with 20<sup>th</sup> innings of shutout relief, striking out four and walking none. Chris

Matusiewicz posted the win, getting two outs in the fourth inning in relief of starter Casey Mulligan.

The Dolphins jumped out to a 4-0 lead in third inning before Yeshiva rallied for three in the fourth and another run in the fifth.

Moreno went 3 for 4 to complete a sizzling 7-for-8 day, while Tadarò added two hits and two RBI and Henry Romand and Morales collected two hits apiece.

CSI (2-0 CUNY, 6-6 overall) has won five straight. Yeshiva dropped to 3-6 in the CUNY and 3-6 overall.

The Dolphins travel to New Jersey City on Wednesday for a non-conference game and host Lehman for two Saturday at noon.

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## **CSI sends five swimmers to NCAA D-3 champs**

Published: Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 7:23 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

The **College of Staten Island** is sending a school-record five qualifiers to the NCAA Division III swimming championships, which run tomorrow through Friday at the University of Tennessee.

Kenyon College of Gambier, Ohio is trying to win the D-III men's title for an incomprehensible 32nd straight time, but the Dolphins are building a nice tradition of their own and are looking to put a nice cap on their program's most successful season ever.

**CSI's** contingent includes senior Pavel Buyanov, a two-time NCAA champion, Vladislav Romanov, Andrey Tarasov, senior Nikolay Schevchenko and freshmen sensation Danila Novikov.

"Kenyon is a very strong team, but I think we'll do very well," said **CSI** coach Oleg Soloviev. "We've never had this many swimmers qualify. The most we've had was three last year and we finished 14th overall. So, of course I'm hoping to finish higher this time."

The Dolphins took second in the CUNY champs meet, sixth at Metropolitan Champs and seventh at the ECAC Championships.

At the CUNY meet, the Dolphins won every event but diving, but were undone by their lack of depth.

At Metropolitan and ECAC Champs, the Dolphins were the highest finisher among Division III schools and finished in front of some Division I programs.

"We had an outstanding season," continued Soloviev. "We have four swimmers, Buyanov, Tarasov, Romanov and Novikov, qualify for the NAAs by placing top 14 in the country in their events. And our 200 individual medley finished in the top 16."

Buyanov was the 2008 and 2009 NCAA champion in the 100 breaststroke, where he's seeded second. He will also compete in the 200 breaststroke.

Tarasov will swim the 100 and 200 breaststroke and 200 IM, Romanov the 100 and 200 back and 200 IM and Novikov the 100 free and 200 and 400 IM. Novikov is seeded No. 2 in the 200 IM.

Romanov (back), Schevchenko (butterfly), Novikov (free) and Tarasov (breast) comprise the school record-setting 200 medley relay.

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## CSI frosh swimmer Danila Novikov takes third in 200 IM

Published: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 9:02 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — College of Staten Island freshman **Danila Novikov** finished third in the 200-yard individual medley last night at the NCAA Division III Championships at the Allan Jones Aquatic Center.

Novikov, of Russia, finished strong to take third place in 1 minute, 49.99 seconds — a personal best that also shattered CSI and CUNY Conference records.

Novikov finished less than a second behind gold medalist Paul Dyrkacz of Williams College (1:49.10). Redland College's Christopher Depew was second at 1:49.57.



Danila Novikov

"I feel very good about the performance," said Novikov, who struggled in the prelims with a time of 1:50.83, putting him in the eighth lane in the finals. "I did the best I could and I am fine with the result because I really swam well. Maybe I could have done better if I was in one of the other lanes, but overall I am very happy."

So too was Dolphins head coach Oleg Soloviev.

"For a freshman, competing in his first national championship and on the first day of competition, it was absolutely outstanding," said Soloviev. "He had the fastest split in the breaststroke turn which was very impressive."

Novikov had been seeded second with a qualifying time of 1:50.54.

There were 51 entrants in the 200 IM, including CSI teammates Andrey Tarasov and Vladislav Romanov, who missed the finals cut.

In the finals, all eyes were on the eight contenders.



Novikov was dead last after the first turn at 24:58 and was still eighth after turn two at 52.95. He turned up the speed with a 31.08 breaststroke leg, the best in the field, to reach third place. In the fourth leg, the freestyle, Novikov had a third-best time of 26.95.

Novikov swims the 400 IM today.

"I feel a lot more confident," he said. "The competition is excellent and all I can do is my best, but when you have other swimmers pushing you it makes you better."

**NOTES:** In yesterday's prelims, **CSI** freshman Tarasaov placed 24th with a personal-best time of 1:53.10, while Romanov placed 32nd in 1:54.31 ... The Dolphins were 17th in the 200 medley relay in 1:33.09 ... **CSI** has five athletes competing in 10 events as the national meet continues through Saturday ... Dolphin senior Pavel Buyanov is a two-time NCAA champion in the 100 breaststroke, an event he won in 2008 and 2009 and is seeded second this week. He will also compete in the 200 breaststroke.

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# CSI honors 78 student athletes

By JERRY LEE  
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

**WILLOWBROOK** — The College of Staten (CSI) has always recognized its talented number of athletes.

And now, the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics, in conjunction with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), have recognized its exceptional student athletes.

For the first time, CSI has awarded Athletic Director Honor Roll citations to 78 student-athletes who have achieved a 3.0 grade point average (GPA), or better, during the fall 2010 semester.

Of the 78 total recipients, 34 achieved a 3.5 or higher, with six registering a 4.0 GPA. The students will be honored in a special Student-Athlete Day ceremony on April 6 at 2:30 p.m., at the Sports and Recreation Center.

"We brought this up for discussion with the SAAC, and everyone thought it was a well-deserved recognition for a semester's academic accomplishments," said **Vernon Mummert**, athletic director. "I'm happy to see it come to fruition."

Mummert felt the citations are worthy of merit since many of the CSI athletes have shown impeccable leadership abilities, are dedicated to their sport, and learn how to balance all that with getting a good education.

"CSI is a commuter campus and our student athletes many times have to balance part-time and full-time jobs with full academic class loads, varsity team commitments, and family responsibilities at home," Mummert said. "The institutional recognition shows these young

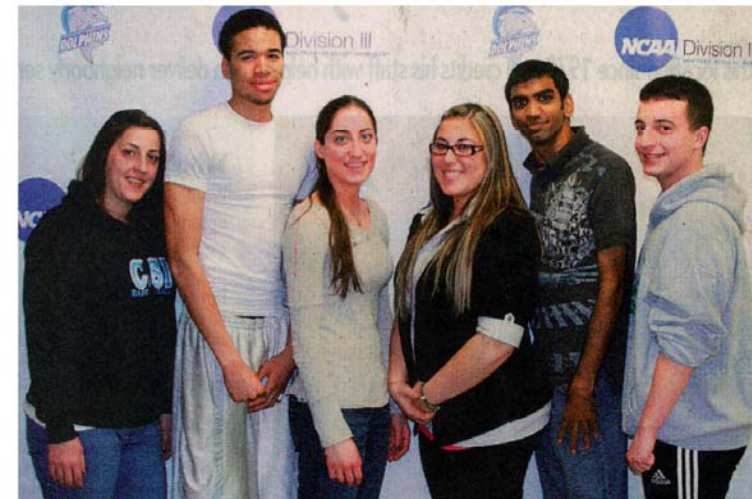


PHOTO COURTESY OF CSI ATHLETICS

Assistant athletic director for student-athlete services Katie Arcuri, left, poses with honor roll citation winners Herschel Jenkins (basketball), Olivia Tierno (basketball), Danielle McLaughlin (soccer), Dean Kunjiravia (cross-country) and Michael Massa (soccer).

men and women that we are taking notice, and it will hopefully inspire them to greater heights of academic achievement and athletic performance."

The 78 total athletes are a cross section of CSI's 13 intercollegiate sports and cheerleading program. CSI boasts 203 total student-athletes, meaning that 38 percent of the student-athlete body is being honored.

"It speaks volumes about the balance exhibited by our athletes and the tremendous academic support they receive on campus," Mummert said.

**Katie Arcuri**, assistant athletic director of student athlete services, makes sure that the CIS athletes get all the help they need with registration, class schedules and academic advisement. There is also mid-semester checks, counseling and peer tutoring available.

"The student athletes

continue to excel in the classroom as the number of honor roll students grows each semester," said Ms. Arcuri. "It is a deserving achievement for them to be honored each semester with the citation."

Men's swimming had 11 honorees, followed by baseball with nine. Cheerleading and women's soccer had seven each.

CSI awarded a team GPA Award at its 2010 annual awards banquet which was won by the women's swim team with a 3.21 collective GPA.

**Herschel Jenkins** (basketball), **Vasiliki Stergioula** (swimming/volleyball), **Josetta Adams** (swimming), **Ilona Stoyko** (swimming/tennis), **Lisa LaManna** (volleyball/cross-country), and **Rachel Strobel** (softball), all scored 4.0s. Ms. Strobel, a senior, has a 3.892 cumulative GPA.

## THE HONOR ROLL

**BASKETBALL:** David Hughes, Patrick Granata, Herschel Jenkins, Matt Van Manen, Caitlin Johnson, Olivia Tierno, Alexandra Shanahan, Katelyn Heworth.

**CHEERLEADING:** Nicole Medina, Caitlin McKeever, Maria Donofrio, Lisa Conlon, Hillary Burns, Catherine Bernardo, Samantha App.

**SWIMMING:** Mitchell Lovell, Jian Wang, Andy Gil, Joe Lee, Aleksander Pomeranets, Edwin Fong, Vladislav Romanov, Tomasz Halbert, Maciej Halbert, Pavel Ruyakov, Nikolay Shevchenko, Priscilla Alvarez, Jeanne Leung, Angelica Grant, Josetta Adams.

**SOCCER:** Danielle McLaughlin, Stephanie McNichol, Lauren Neglia, Karla Pesantes, Christina Jacob, Amanda Percaccio, Paige Buono, Mubarric Ibrahim, Stephen Mattei, Michael Massa, Dong Luu, Abraham Vivas.

**SWIMMING/VOLLEYBALL:** Vasiliki Stergioula.

**SWIMMING/TENNIS:** Gabriella Villaruel.

**TENNIS:** Daniel Ursomanno, Robert Hargraves, Joseph Taranto, Nicholas Zikos, Noory Cross, Yelena Rasporikaya, Qing Li, Tara Colao, Ilona Stoyko.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Dean Kunjiravia, Joshua Browne, Michael Jamaledine, Matt Greger, Adela Olasoju, Shantel Peters, Kubra Shirazi, Bibi Ghafari.

**CROSS COUNTRY/VOLLEYBALL:** Lisa LaManna.

**VOLLEYBALL:** Samantha Fink.

**SOFTBALL:** Rachel Strobel, Jacqueline Vista, Stephanie Solari, Amanda Winant, Jillian Castore, Catherine Elbro.

**BASEBALL:** James Mardikos, Nick Tingos, Salvatore Todaro, Joseph Falcone, Nicholas Mattera, Raymond Gise, Matt Morales, John Macklin, Chris Matusiewicz.



## CSI swimming medley relay takes sixth in Tennessee

Published: Friday, March 25, 2011, 9:00 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The College of Staten Island placed sixth in the 400-yard medley relay last night at the NCAA Division III men's swimming championships at the Allan Jones Aquatic Center.

Freshman standout Danila Novikov anchored the squad. Novikov, third in Wednesday's 200 IM, was 10th yesterday in the 400 IM in 3 minutes, 59.23 seconds.

CSI, which has five swimmers competing here, finished the second day of the four-day competition in 14th place in the team standings with 49 points.

CSI's 400 medley relay team of Vladislav Romanov, Pavel Buyanov, Nikolay Shevchenko and Novikov finished in 3:21.16. The Dolphins qualified for the finals with an eighth-place finish in the prelims (3:22.19).

Kenyon College of Ohio, which has won the Division III title 31 consecutive seasons, won the relay with an NCAA record time of 3:15.35.

Williams College sophomore Paul Dyrkacz won the 400 IM in 3:52.97. Action continues today and tomorrow with CSI senior Buyanov, a two-time NCAA champion in the 100 breaststroke, swimming that event and the 200 breast.

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## CSI's Buyanov captures bronze medal at NCAA Division III swimming finals

Published: Saturday, March 26, 2011, 8:02 AM



By **Staten Island Advance Sports Desk**



CSI photo

CSI's Pavel Buyanov shows off his NCAA championship trophy in 2008. The Dolphin senior placed third in the 100-yard breaststroke Saturday night.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — College of Staten Island senior Pavel Buyanov, a two-time national champion in the 100-yard breaststroke, captured the bronze medal in his specialty Friday night at the NCAA Division III Swimming Championships at the Allan Jones Aquatic Center.

Buyanov, of Russia, made a run at his third title but ended up third in 54.93 seconds. He finished behind Whitworth College junior Rory Buck, who won in 54.30, and Kenyon senior Collin Ohning (54.86).

Buyanov holds the NCAA meet record with a 54.27 set in 2009, when he won the event for the second straight year.

"I felt really good," said Buyanov of his season-best time. "It was a strong race and if I made any technical mistakes they were minor. I just have to hand it to the competitors in the event. They were outstanding."

Buyanov set the pace in the final, leading through the 75-yard mark before Buck and Ohning caught him down the stretch.

"I kept looking at (Buck) and I knew he would make a move at the end and he did," Buyanov said. "I'm pretty happy. I wanted first place, of course, but it was a very good time and I'm pleased with the race."

It was CSI's second bronze of the first three days of the NAAs, which conclude Saturday with Buyanov competing in the 200 breaststroke.

Dolphin freshman Danila Novikov, also of Russia, was third in the 200 IM Wednesday in a CSI and CUNY Conference record of 1:49.99.

CSI also placed sixth in the 400 medley relay after entering with a No. 15 seed, and Novikov finished 10th in the 400 IM.

Buyanov had the second-fastest prelim time with a 55.36 clocking, trailing only eventual champion Buck.

NOTES: CSI junior Vladislav Romanov placed 20th in the 100 backstroke with a 50.81 timing. He is seeded seventh for Saturday's 200 backstroke ... CSI freshman Andrey Tarasov just missed the cut in the 100 breaststroke, finishing 17th in the prelims in 57.06.

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## Staten Island sports bulletin board for March 26, 2011: Soccer, baseball and softball

Published: Saturday, March 26, 2011, 9:21 AM



By **Staten Island Advance Sports Desk**

### Youth soccer co-ed camp

OLQP Soccer will conduct co-ed youth camps for kids ages 6-13 under the direction of renowned coach and official Nick Kvasic. There will be two sessions at the **College of Staten Island** — on April 25-26 (Monday-Tuesday) and on June 29-July 1 (Wednesday-Friday) — from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day. The registration deadline for the spring session is April 16; for the summer session, it's June 18. The cost of the two-day spring session is \$80; for the summer session, it's \$120. Players should bring a ball, shin guards, soccer cleats, water and a snack. Call Kvasic at 718-594-4174.

### MILL registration

Mid-Island Little League is holding registration for the 2011 baseball and softball seasons Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-noon. Registration is open for boys and girls ages 4-13. Call 718-370-7265.

### Softball leagues

The Varsity/ASA softball league has openings for its weeknight and weekend leagues. There will be a general registration meeting at the Richmond County/ASA softball complex Sunday from 1-3 p.m. Call John Gino at 718-979-7801.

### Softball umpires

Varsity/ASA baseball/softball umpires association will hold a general meeting Sunday at 9 a.m. at Mid-Island LL in Travis. Baseball umpires should attend in full uniform for a field clinic. Call John Gino at 718-979-7801.

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## College of Staten Island baseball wins eighth straight, 13-4

Published: Sunday, March 27, 2011, 9:41 PM



By **Staten Island Advance Sports Desk**

The College of Staten Island won its eighth straight baseball game, improving to 9-6 overall and completing a three-game weekend sweep with a 13-4 win over Lehman in the Bronx.

Leadoff batter Bryan Moreno led the 12-hit attack with three hits and four RBI, while Mark Glennerster had three hits and two RBI and Pat Gale added two doubles.

Senior southpaw James Mardikos was the winning pitcher, throwing six shutout innings with seven strikeouts.

CSI scored 10 runs in the sixth inning to take a 13-0 lead.

Lehman dropped to 4-8.

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## Men's tennis: CSI tops St. Joe's

### STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The College of Staten Island men's tennis team won for a second straight time, bouncing visiting St. Joseph's College of Patchogue, L.I. 7-2, in a non-conference match yesterday.

Masuri Takaki, Patrick Thomas, Joe Taranto, Gary Ambartsumov, and Dan Ur-

somanno chalked up singles wins for the (5-3) Dolphins.

"I was very impressed with this win," said coach Paul Ricciardi, whose team registered its first win ever over St. Joe's. "Everybody stepped up and this is a good-momentum swing for us."

### **SOFTBALL**

### **Bryant 26, Wagner 0**

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Samantha Houseal and Jennifer Jacob combined to hurl a five-inning no-hitter for the host Bulldogs.

Bryant (9-11) banded out 19 hits and buried the (1-15) Seahawks with an 11-run second inning.





## **CSI blasts Lehman in softball sweep, 13-1 and 28-1**

Published: Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 1:05 AM



**Staten Island Advance Sports Desk**  
By

The **College of Staten Island** improved to 4-0 in the CUNY Conference after sweeping a softball double-header from Lehman, 13-1 and 28-1, Monday in the Bronx.

The Dolphins are 9-5 overall.

**CSI** freshman Stephanie Solari tied a school-record with six RBI in the second game and senior Jennifer Volpe equalled a mark with five runs scored.

The 28 runs are the third highest in school history and the most since 2004.

Danielle Ponsiglione and Michelle Ferraiuolo earned the pitching wins.

Lehman (2-2, 2-4) made 14 errors in the second game — the second most in NCAA Division III history. The Lightning had seven errors in the opener.

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## Kings Point snaps CSI's eight-game baseball win streak, 4-3

Published: Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 9:56 PM



By **Staten Island Advance Sports Desk**

Kings Point snapped the College of Staten Island's eight-game baseball winning streak with Wednesday night's 4-3 non-conference triumph at Willowbrook.

The Mariners scored three runs in the fourth inning to take a 3-1 lead and held off a Dolphins rally in the bottom of the ninth for the victory.

Kings Point improved to 6-4 on the season and CSI dropped to 9-7.

CSI starter Nick Tingos tangled with Kings Point's John Kret in a pitching duel. Tingos allowed six hits and one earned run in eight innings of work, while Kret scattered 10 hits and gave up one earned run in 7D innings.

Kret worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the sixth inning with a strikeout and groundout. Dustin Thomsen worked out of ninth-inning trouble with a sacrifice fly and game-ending strikeout.

Sal Todaro paced CSI's 12-hit attack with a 3-for-4 day with two RBI, while Bryan Moreno, Henry Roman, Josepf Falcone and Matt Morales had two hits apiece.

But the Dolphins stranded 11 baserunners.

Nicholas Nalette topped Kings Point with two hits and three RBI.

CSI hosts SUNY-Purchase on Thursday in a 4 p.m. doubleheader.

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# ***Stories***

# These guys are big-time show offs

Annual Chamber, HIC Home Show allows businesses to market to new sets of eyes

By TIM RONALDSON  
*Business Trends*

Windows, doors, real estate services, appliances, kitchen counters, interior designers, financial planners, gutters, patio and landscaping materials, bathroom contractors and more will be on display this month at the annual Home Show.

To be held Saturday and Sunday, March 26-27, the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce's Home Show features everything you could ever want for your home. Visitors have the opportunity to gain valuable contacts and information for current and future projects, and exhibitors get a chance to market their business to a large audience.

"We've always felt that it was a big plus," said Rich Eldredge, sales manager for Richmond Aluminum, a company that has been participating in the Home Show since its inception. "We know that we do good because all year long we get feedback from people who have seen us at the Home Show."

Eldredge said Richmond Aluminum uses its presence at the Home Show as a way to see more people than they could ever see in their store. Even if your business is on a main road such as Hylan Boulevard, it would be difficult to see as many people as are congregated in the same place.

"You get to meet people that normally wouldn't come into your store," he said, "and we are able to meet them in a different venue."

Eldredge says he focuses the design of his booths around a few "eye catchers" that entice people to stop by and make them to want to view more in their showroom at a later date. The company used to have four to five booths, he

*please see SHOW page 5*



Published by Elauwit Media

MARCH 2011

[www.sibiztrends.com](http://www.sibiztrends.com)

## COACH'S CORNER

Stand clear of closing doors.

PAGE 18

## FROM THE CHAMBER

Hey boss: Beware the Ides of March.

PAGE 8

## HEALTH-CARE TRENDS

Drug and alcohol issues in the workplace.

PAGE 19

# These guys are show-offs

## SHOW

*Continued from page 1*

said, but has since cut that number down to one as he learned the ropes of the show and better optimized his presentation.

For first-time exhibitor Dil Gillani, being able to market to new people is what makes the Home Show so attractive.

"People go to these events for a specific reason," said Gillani of the real estate company Gillani Homes. "In my case, they probably aren't going to find a Realtor. But if they come across us, how we deal with them could open our business to people. It's passive marketing."

Gillani believes strongly in events like the Home Show, and he attends more than 20 similar events each year. He doesn't base his success rate on how many people said they want to buy or sell a home, though.

"For me, as a real estate company, a successful day is not about how many transactions we get out of it," he said. "It's about how many people we touch and how many people get to see Gillani Homes."

For the first time this year, visitors to the Home Show will also be able to browse and purchase various pieces of art such as paintings, photography and jewelry – all created by Staten Island artists.

"We are very excited for this year's show and are anticipating a great turnout from local consumers all across the tri-state area," Chamber President & CEO Linda Baran said.

"Every year, thousands of residents attend for the unique oppor-

## Attending the Home Show

This year's Home Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 26-27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the College of Staten Island Sports and Recreation Center, located at 2800 Victory Blvd.

General admission tickets are \$5, \$4 for senior citizens and free for children 14 and under. Booths are still available for companies. For more information, contact the Chamber at (718) 727-1900.

tunity to speak with a wide range of contractors in one location about all of their home renovation needs."

While not every visitor is looking specifically for what Richmond Aluminum offers, being present at the event puts them in a home improvement state of mind.

While a visitor might not need new windows, doors, siding or patio enclosures at the time they visit the show, seeing Richmond Aluminum brands the company in their mind for when they are ready for such projects.

"The Home Show is great," Eldredge said. "I wish we had more of them in the year."

Gillani designs his real estate booths to highlight the main attractions of his company, which are its listings. He entices people to visit his booth by giving away a prize through a raffle, and the prizes he gives away are something people actually want and are excited to get involved with, he said.

Once raffle tickets and information packets are filled out is when the real selling begins for Gillani.

"That falls on the business to follow through," he said. "The Home Show can't give you business. It can only give you exposure."

## Victims of sinister medical procedures included residents of Staten Island's infamous Willowbrook State School

Published: Tuesday, March 01, 2011, 12:48 AM

**Ap** By Associated Press

ATLANTA — Incredible as it may seem, U.S. government doctors once thought it fine to experiment on disabled people and prison inmates. Such experiments included giving hepatitis to patients at Staten Island's former Willowbrook State School, squirting a pandemic flu virus up the noses of prisoners in Maryland and injecting cancer cells into chronically ill people at a Brooklyn hospital.

Much of this horrific history is 40 to 80 years old, but it is the backdrop for a meeting in Washington this week by a presidential bioethics commission. The meeting was triggered by the government's apology last fall for federal doctors infecting prisoners and mental patients in Guatemala with syphilis 65 years ago.

U.S. officials also acknowledged there had been dozens of similar experiments in the United States — studies that often involved making healthy people sick.

Such was the case at the Willowbrook, now home to the College of Staten Island, where patients were force-fed milkshakes laced with a live hepatitis virus as part of state-sanctioned experiments from 1963 to 1966. They were also given injections to see if they could be cured with gamma globulin.



In this undated file photo, a developmentally disabled resident counts and packages screws at the former Willowbrook State School.

Misleading consent forms told parents the testing was for prevention of the disease. The research, not all of which was conducted on patients, led to the development of hepatitis B vaccines.

An exhaustive review by The Associated Press of medical journal reports and decades-old press clippings found more than 40 such experiments like the one at Willowbrook. At best, these were a search for lifesaving treatments; at worst, some amounted to curiosity-satisfying experiments that hurt people but provided no useful results.

Inevitably, they will be compared to the well-known Tuskegee syphilis study. In that episode, U.S. health officials tracked 600 black men in Alabama who already had syphilis but didn't give them adequate treatment even after penicillin became available.

These studies were worse in at least one respect — they violated the concept of “first do no harm,” a fundamental medical principle that stretches back centuries.

“When you give somebody a disease — even by the standards of their time — you really cross the key ethical norm of the profession,” said Arthur Caplan, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Bioethics.

Some of these studies, mostly from the 1940s to the '60s, apparently were never covered by news media. Others were reported at the time, but the focus was on the promise of enduring new cures, while glossing over how test subjects were treated.

Attitudes about medical research were different then. Infectious diseases killed many more people years ago, and doctors worked urgently to invent and test cures. Many prominent researchers felt it was legitimate to experiment on people who did not have full rights in society — people like prisoners, mental patients, poor blacks. It was an attitude in some ways similar to that of Nazi doctors experimenting on Jews.

“There was definitely a sense — that we don't have today — that sacrifice for the nation was important,” said Laura Stark, a Wesleyan University assistant professor of science in society, who is writing a book about past federal medical experiments.

The AP review of past research found:

\* A federally funded study begun in 1942 injected experimental flu vaccine in male patients at a state insane asylum in Ypsilanti, Mich., then exposed them to flu several months later. It was co-authored by Dr. Jonas Salk, who a decade later would become famous as inventor of the polio vaccine.

\* Researchers in the mid-1940s studied the transmission of a deadly stomach bug by having young men swallow unfiltered stool suspension. The study was conducted at the New York State Vocational Institution, a reformatory prison in West Coxsackie. The point was to see how well the disease spread that way as

compared to spraying the germs and having test subjects breathe it. Swallowing it was a more effective way to spread the disease, the researchers concluded. The study doesn't explain if the men were rewarded for this awful task.

\* For a study in 1957, when the Asian flu pandemic was spreading, federal researchers sprayed the virus in the noses of 23 inmates at Patuxent prison in Jessup, Md., to compare their reactions to those of 32 virus-exposed inmates who had been given a new vaccine.

Prisoners have long been victimized for the sake of science. In 1915, the U.S. government's Dr. Joseph Goldberger — today remembered as a public health hero — recruited Mississippi inmates to go on special rations to prove his theory that the painful illness pellagra was caused by a dietary deficiency. (The men were offered pardons for their participation.)

The late 1940s and 1950s saw huge growth in the U.S. pharmaceutical and health care industries, accompanied by a boom in prisoner experiments funded by both the government and corporations. By the 1960s, at least half the states allowed prisoners to be used as medical guinea pigs.

But two studies in the 1960s, including the hepatitis experiment at Willowbrook, proved to be turning points in the public's attitude toward the way test subjects were treated.

The first came to light in 1963. Researchers injected cancer cells into 19 old and debilitated patients at a Jewish Chronic Disease Hospital in Brooklyn to see if their bodies would reject them.

The Brooklyn experiment, combined with the hepatitis testing at Willowbrook and the Tuskegee experiment revealed in 1972 proved to be a "holy trinity" that sparked extensive and critical media coverage and public disgust, said Susan Reverby, the Wellesley College historian who first discovered records of the syphilis study in Guatemala.

Willowbrook, now home to the College of Staten Island, was closed for good in 1987 after the Advance and later, a then-unknown Geraldo Rivera, exposed conditions there.

Despite reforms put in place, two international studies conducted in the last 15 years sparked outrage — and last year a study conducted between 1946 and 1948 came to light in which American scientists infected prisoners and patients in a mental hospital in Guatemala with syphilis.

It was apparently done to test whether penicillin could prevent some sexually transmitted disease. The study came up with no useful information and was hidden for decades.

"When the president was briefed on the details of the Guatemalan episode, one of his first questions was whether this sort of thing could still happen today," said Rick Weiss, a spokesman for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

It led to the creation of the bioethics commission, which is to send its report to the president by September. Any further steps would be up to the administration.

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## Brooklyn girl flourishes at new school, but disaster looms as two-thirds of her teachers may be cut

Michael Daly

Tuesday, March 1st 2011, 4:00 AM



**Warga/News**Rayyana Jones (l.) and her sister Keyyana Coley do homework at their home in Brooklyn. Their schools will be affected by proposed teacher layoffs.

While the grownups squabble, a little girl cried.

The tears came aboard the B42 bus from 8-year-old [Rayyana Jones](#), when her mom told her that two-thirds of her school's teachers might be laid off.

The third-grader then uttered heartbreaking words about a place so magical for her that she has happily commuted nearly two hours each way. "Well, I don't want to go to school."

Her mother, 26 year-old [Ayana Jones](#), managed to maintain parental composure as they continued the daily journey from [Canarsie](#) to [Bed-Stuy](#), transferring to the L train, then to the B38 bus and finally the B15 bus.

The reward came as they strode up rain-splashed Hart St. to the aptly named [Brighter Choice Community School](#). Rayyana first enrolled here last year, her previous school having promoted her to the second grade although she could neither read nor write her name.

"Now she is reading chapter books!" the mother said.

I asked if Rayyana likes reading. "Now that she knows how," the mother replied.

As the mother dropped her off, Rayyana went up and hugged a teacher. The teacher was glad to get the hug, but wondered what urgency had promoted it.

"Why are you hugging me?" the teacher inquired.

Rayyana said nothing. The governor and the mayor and the teacher's union pursue their grown-up agendas and a little girl stands too upset to speak in the school that has always been a place of discovery and delight.

"I'm just hoping this is a scare," the mother said.

Rayyana's spirits were not even lifted by the prospect of a field trip to see a play at the [College of Staten Island](#). "I'm not going," Rayyana announced.

The mother also dropped off her younger child, 6-

year-old Keyyana, at PS 140, which is in the same building. All the PS 140 teachers are so senior that none face layoffs. The mother's great hope is still for Keyyana to join her sister at Brighter Choice.

"I love this school!" the mother said. "I love the teachers!"

The mother remembered that Rayyana's difficulties at her previous school extended beyond academics. "Anger and depression," the mother said.

Brighter Choice had a remedy.

"Affection, more attention."

The result is a kid as happy as every kid should be.

"This is a totally different person," the mother said.

Before they had to move, the family lived two blocks away. There is a school next door to where they now reside, but it is not Brighter Choice.

"You know how many schools I pass to get here?" the mother asked. "A thousand."

She then set off in the rain to her job \$9.10 an hour job as a home attendant. She works an entire shift to cover the weekly cost of the school commute.

"Just say one day is for the [MetroCard](#)," she said. "I'm going to do whatever I have to do."

By midmorning, the school's magic proved stronger than the layoff scare, for Rayyana looked in good spirits as the class prepared to depart for [Staten Island](#). The bus driver then announced that his paperwork had the destination as the [Brooklyn Center of the Performing Arts](#).

"Can you take the kids to Staten Island?" a school official asked. "No, it's a big violation," the driver

said.

The school called the bus company, with no luck.

"There's a misunderstanding between the Board of Ed and the school," the driver said.

The trip was off. Let's hope that the threat of a more devastating lesson in the ways of grownups is indeed just a scare.

Let's hope for no more tears.

[mdaly@nydailynews.com](mailto:mdaly@nydailynews.com)

# Staten Island Day Camp Is A Great Place To Send Your Preschooler

Mar 11, 2011 Elena Hart-Cohen

The Summer Camp Offers Your Child All The Ammenites of a College Campus At A Summer Camp

I will be profiling the best summer camps on Staten Island to send your preschooler to over the next few months. Attention will be paid to certain factors like school accreditation, rankings, and local reputation. As an educator myself, I realize that often times your child attends a summer camp that offers very limited access to physical and whole child activities. When you send your child to summer camp, even in a daycare setting it is important that you receive value and reputation as well as adequate child care service. Today I will spotlight the first in a series of the best summer camps for preschoolers.

Located on the College of Staten Island (CSI) campus, the Staten Island Day Camp offers the best amenities that one can find at a college campus. The lush, expansive campus gives young children the feeling that they are not just going to a day camp, but that they are in fact going to summer camp.

The next open house is Saturday, March 12, 2011 at CSI, Building 1R, the Sports and Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. By attending this informational session and learning more you will receive a \$50 summer camp coupon.

Michael Halpern, Owner/Executive Director of Staten Island Day Camp, Inc., when reached at his office was enthusiastic and energetic and knowledgeable about what his summer camp has to offer. He ought to be, a former Physical Education Teacher and now retired NYC Board of Education Principal, Michael Halpern has been running his camp for 32 years. When he started running the camp at its former Willowbrook location, there were 40 children in attendance. Now the Staten Island Summer Day Camp has "close to 400 children in attendance."

The Staten Island Day Camp Early Childhood program is designed to enhance the day camp experience for your young child. Michael Halpern adds, "A great beginning for our youngest children obviously needs to start with great educators."

The Staten Island Day Camp is accredited by the Camping Association and there are over 750 standards that Halpern must follow to maintain the accreditation. Michael Halpern states, "I want to re-instate the social process of most children. One of the things that computers are doing is taking away the social experience of children." He includes as activities water safety and other games that focus on physical education.

For more information about the camp's programs, pricing, schedule, and hours of operation contact Michael Halpern, Owner/Executive Director, Staten Island Day Camp, Inc. 1-800-301-2267 or email [sidaycamp@aol.com](mailto:sidaycamp@aol.com)



## si350 is hosting a lecture series

Published: Sunday, March 13, 2011, 7:42 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The New York Council for the Humanities has awarded a grant to si350 to host a series of nine lectures that will examine Staten Island's social, cultural, political and economic diversity.

The grant application was authored by Charles Markis of the U.S. National Parks Service, one of the organizations that is part of the si350 celebration.

All lectures -- the first in the series was held yesterday -- are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [si350.org](http://si350.org) or call 718-354-4530, x 238

The remaining lectures are:

April 7, 7 p.m.: "The Borough of Parks: From Olmsted and Robert Moses to the Future" at the Greenbelt Nature Center, Egbertville.

April 11, 6:30 p.m.: "Italians, Chinese and Other Old and New Immigrants to Staten Island" at Wagner College, Grymes Hill.

May 15, 2 p.m.: "Once Land of Oysters: The Changing Food Pathways of Staten Islanders" at Historic Richmond Town.

June 12, 2 p.m.: "The Negro Leagues in Staten Island and New York: The House That Ruth Built and Pop Opened! Negro League Baseball at Yankee Stadium" at Historic Richmond Town.

August 28, 2 p.m.: "Staten Island, Brooklyn and the American Revolution" at the Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center. To participate as a uniformed re-enactor, send an e-mail to [Jason\\_Wickersty@nps.gov](mailto:Jason_Wickersty@nps.gov).

Oct. 11, 4:30 p.m.: "An American Icon: Why We All Love the Little Red Schoolhouse" at the Center for Performing Arts at The [College of Staten Island](#).

Nov. 6, time TBA: "The Loyalist Experience on Staten Island" at Conference House Park, Tottenville.

Dec. 3, 1:30 p.m.: "The Final Landscape: The Religious Cemeteries of Staten Island" at St. Andrew's

Episcopal Church, Richmond.

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## Red light cameras show many Staten Islanders are reckless drivers flirting with death

Published: Sunday, March 13, 2011, 7:43 AM



By **John M. Annese**



Staten Island Advance/Irving Silverstein

The city has installed a number of dummy cameras on the Island and periodically change the location of the functioning ones.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Reckless Staten Island motorists by the thousands would rather shave a few seconds off their trip to the mall then come to a stop and avoid getting hit with a \$50 ticket.

And at \$50 a ticket, plus a \$5 surcharge, that means some \$55 million in fines for the city's coffers.

The cameras are hardly secrets -- the telltale white boxes sit at nearly two dozen intersections on Staten Island and their flash bulbs go off again and again every day.

City transportation officials would only say they've installed 15 to 20 of the city's functioning 150 red light cameras on Staten Island, as well as a number of dummy cameras to keep motorists from breezing through busy intersections. The would not confirm the locations.

When the program first started in 1993, a meager 50 cameras city-wide -- six to eight on the Island -- were snapping photos.

Working off a list found on **wikidriving.com**, the Advance checked the locations and found cameras at 23 borough intersections. The cameras can typically be found near highway service roads, and at the Island's busiest intersections on streets like Clove Road, Richmond Avenue and Hylan Boulevard.

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**Where are they? See the interactive map**

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"We do move the locations from time to time. We can't verify anything in that list," said Seth Solomonow, a

spokesman for the city Department of Transportation.

According to Solomonow, the city has recorded 13 percent fewer injuries and nearly 10 percent fewer crashes at the borough's red-light camera spots.

"Red light cameras are an important and proven safety tool, with red light running dropping a dramatic 40 to 60 percent citywide at locations where the cameras have been installed," Solomonow said.

Still, the cameras can present certain constitutional issues -- motorists have the right to confront their accusers in court, and a camera can't take the stand and testify.

That's why the tickets only cost \$50, with no points, and why, in part, the state legislature has set a limit on the number of cameras the city can use, said state Assemblyman Joseph Lentol (D-Brooklyn). The ticket isn't a criminal summons, nor is it a traffic law violation, he said.

Lentol, who sits on the Assembly's Codes Committee, was an early opponent of red light cameras, saying that he had concerns about whether the cameras were genuine accident deterrents, or "a convenient way to make money."

"It's not really due process, as far as I'm concerned," he said.

Still, he concedes that the cameras "might have some deterrent effect" on red light scofflaws and crashes, and he's gotten very few constituent complaints about the cameras in recent years.

"Because of the objections that I and others have raised, I think the city has run and tried to run a pretty good program, a pretty fair program," he said.

State Assemblyman Lou Tobacco (R-South Shore), said he supports upping the limit on the number of cameras, or doing away with that limit altogether. His constituents regularly complain about speeding and reckless driving, and about motorists' cavalier attitudes towards traffic rules.

"I don't believe there should be a limit," Tobacco said. "This is not Big Brother. The law of the land is, it is illegal to go through a red light."

State Sen. Diane Savino (D-North Shore), said she credits the cameras with reducing traffic fatalities and generating revenue.

"There's always people who are opposed to it because they think it's unfair," she said. "But, you know what? You're supposed to stop at red lights."

### **Island locations of red light cameras**

1. Victory Boulevard and Morani Street

Near College of Staten Island main entrance.

2. Huguenot Avenue and Woodrow Road

On the Huguenot side of the Grace Christian Chapel.

3. Gannon Avenue and Bradley Avenue

Along Staten Island Expressway in the direction of the Verrazano Bridge.

4. Amboy Road and Tysens Lane

Outside entrance to Monsignor Farrell High School.

5. Hylan and Tysens Lane

Across from St. Charles parking lot.

6. Hylan and Burbank Street

Camera on center traffic divider facing Shop Rite Supermarket.

Hylan Boulevard and Arden Avenue

On passenger side across from Appleseed Realty.

8. Richmond Avenue and Victory Boulevard

Opposite BP gas station on center traffic divider.

9. Richmond Avenue and West Caswell Avenue

Outside of Santacroce Greenhouse nursery.

10. Richmond Avenue and Draper Place

In both directions.

11. Arthur Kill Road and Richmond Avenue

On corner next to Safari Amusement Park.

12. Narrows Road and Clove Road at Milford Drive

On passenger side.

13. Narrows Road North and Richmond Road

A rotating location.

14. On Clove Road and Cheshire Place



A rotating location.

15. Forest Avenue and South Avenue

Across from Via Lube.

16. South Avenue and Travis Avenue

In the direction of West Shore Plaza across from football field.

17. Richmond Avenue and Lander Avenue

In both directions.

18. Richmond Avenue and Eton Place

On center traffic divider across from Willowbrook Park Baptist Church.

19. Narrows Road North and Clove Road

On drivers side just before the Clove Road right lane turn off.

20. Clove Road and Bard Avenue

On passenger side at intersection of Clove, Bard and Bement.

21. Richmond Road and New Dorp Lane

In both directions.

22. Narrows Road North and Fingerboard Road

On passenger side at the first intersection getting off at Exit 14 of the SIE

23. Capodanno Boulevard between Sand Lane and Seaview Avenue

Road turns into and out of boardwalk parking lot

**Check out a map image of the camera locations**

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## Mother-daughter duo take on the SI Slim Down

Published: Monday, March 14, 2011, 6:29 AM



By **Sharon Ng**



Staten Island Advance/Anthony DePrimo

Yolanda Maiurro, 81, of New Springville works out during a Staten Island Slim Down fitness challenge at the **College of Staten Island**.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — The gym floor at the **College of Staten Island** was littered with yoga mats of varying colors Wednesday night, as more than 150 Staten Island Slim Down contestants braved their latest fitness challenge: a core mat class.

Among them was Debbie Maiurro, 51, and her mother, Yolanda Maiurro, 81, both of New Springville, who are reaping the results of participating in the boroughwide weight-loss contest.

"It's been working," said Debbie, who is 21 pounds lighter than when she started Slim

Down on Jan. 29. "My cholesterol went down 20 points, and my doctors are happy."

Of course her doctors are not the only people she's trying to please.

"I want to look better for myself," she said. "I changed my schedule to help myself. I made it my business to get there because I wanted this for myself."

Debbie also made changes to her eating habits and added exercise. Her lifestyle changes are a cornerstone of the Slim Down program. The contestant with the most inspiring lifestyle transformation will be deemed the winner when the Slim Down ends on April 8.

Debbie switched from white-flour bread and pasta to whole wheat versions. She also drinks a lot more water and cut back on soda.

She also makes time to do vigorous exercises three days a week.



Staten Island  
Advance/Anthony  
DePrimo

Debbie Maiurro, 51, is 21 pounds lighter than when she started Slim Down on Jan. 29.

"I'm a swimmer. I like to play tennis and be active, but I haven't been able to because of the weight."

Debbie hopes to lose another 22 pounds and reach her goal weight of 200 pounds. Her ultimate goal is to be able to run.

She says she will keep up with Slim Down because of the mental support she receives, the friendships she's developed, the variety of exercises she gets to do, her improved mental attitude and the positive aspect on life she now has.

"It's a mindset," she said. "The fact that we meet twice a week makes you feel like there is somebody out there who cares."

Debbie has nothing but good things to say about her experience with the Slim Down.

"I have friends that I wouldn't have had otherwise. We help each other. It gives us something to look forward to."

When Debbie is not doing Slim Down fitness challenges, she goes to the Eltingville YMCA with her mom.

"We live in a two-family house so we go to the Y together," Debbie said.

"We support each other," echoed Yolanda, who has her own reasons for doing the Slim Down.

"Even though I'm 81, I want to look well," she said. "I want to look wonderful. I want to take care of my body as long as I can. My mother lived to be 101, so I want to do what she did. She was healthy and looked great."

Already 10 pounds lighter, Yolanda says she is able to get around the house a lot easier.

"I had problems with my legs, so if I lose the weight, I can walk better, go up stairs and be a lot lighter on my feet," she explained. "I used to be a couch potato with excuses that my legs hurt."

Now Yolanda is glad she stopped making excuses.

"I'm happy I found this program," she said. "I made so many new friends and reunited with an old friend that I hadn't seen in 30 years."

Yolanda's goal is to lose another eight pounds and weigh 130 by the end.

"I have more energy. I'm lucky because I don't have anything really wrong with me. Arthritis is slowing me down but exercise helps. I love the water."

Even though she's in it to win it, Yolanda says she's already gained a lot and she would go back for more, a sentiment her Debbie agrees with.

"It's sad that it's going to end," Debbie expressed.

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## Hillel at College of Staten Island institutes Kavod Circle of Honor

Published: Thursday, March 17, 2011, 11:00 AM



By Mark D. Stein

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - WILLOWBROOK - Hillel at the College of Staten Island (CSI) has taken steps toward improving its organization by launching a fund-raising initiative, **Kavod Circle of Honor**, to support its work.

The Staten Island Foundation has provided Hillel at CSI with immediate assistance, courtesy of a grant of \$10,000. All of the funds raised at a kick-off event last month have been applied to help match that initial grant. In addition, the Richmond County Savings Foundation contributed \$5,000.



On hand for the kickoff of the Hillel Kavod Circle of Honor are Tomas Morales, president of CSI; author Gal Beckerman; Amy Posner, executive director of Hillel at CSI; Emma Dukhovny, event chairwoman; David Mallach, managing director of the UJA Federation of New York's Commission on the Jewish People, and Steve Acker, president of the CSI Hillel Board. (Staten Island Advance File Photo)

The fund-raising drive got underway at the residence of CSI President Dr. Tomas Morales and his wife, Evy.

Hillel is an international campus organization that provides opportunities for Jewish students at more than 500 colleges and universities. The organization helps students explore and celebrate their religious identity through a global network of regional centers, campus foundations and student organizations.

Amy Posner, the executive director of the Willowbrook campus' Hillel, explained that the organization contributes to the community on a weekly basis with clothing drives and food collections.

Participants also tutor homeless children and raise money to sponsor seeing-eye dogs for blind residents of Israel.

Ms. Posner noted that the organization sets the standards in opportunities for students to make a difference through service, leadership and spiritual growth.

Hillel at **CSI** has 378 members, said Ms. Posner. It hosts camp fire evenings and ski trips. The group recently toured the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. They also meet each Friday night on campus for a Sabbath dinner.

"What we pride ourselves on doing is really cultivating the next generation of leadership for the borough," said Ms. Posner. "Hillel gives them the skills they need to take on board positions and be activists for our community in the future."

Hillel is part of the Multifaith Center at **CSI**, which includes Catholic and Protestant ministries.

"We add to the value of student life on campus," said Ms. Posner.

"The Hillel Kavod Circle of Honor is an investment in the future. After all, who will take on leadership of our community 10 or 20 years from now?" she said. "And if we don't teach them now, then when?"

Anyone interested in learning more about Hillel at **CSI** or in making a gift, please contact Ms. Posner at **amy.posner@csi.cuny.edu** or 718-982-3006.

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## CUNY wants your feedback

### STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Do you have an opinion of the College of Staten Island, or any other school in the CUNY system, for that matter?

Get prepared to share your questions, comments, complaints or compliments at the annual borough public hearing of the board of trustees of the City University of New York, to be held Monday at 5 p.m. at the CSI Center for the Arts, Willowbrook.

Or you can just come, sit back and listen to what others have to say.

"The board of trustees of the City University of New York welcomes testimony

and statements from concerned individuals about university issues," a statement from the board read.

Those wishing to participate in the hearing should call 212-794-5450 by 4:30 p.m. today.

Speakers will be limited to three minutes and board members will not respond to questions during the presentation by the speaker, according to protocols.

Written statements may be placed in a box next to the lectern and will be distributed to board members prior to the meeting.

Background information on public hearings is available at [www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu).



03/20/2011 05:30 PM

## Borough's History Draws Crowd To Willowbrook Conference

By: NY1 News



**NY1 VIDEO:** More than 300 people turned out for the borough's first ever national conference devoted to the history of Staten Island.



## **Barbara Bedell: Celebrating successful Irish show, parade**

By [Barbara Bedell](#)

Times Herald-Record

Published: 2:00 AM - 03/21/11

In wrapping up St. Patrick's events, the Walden Rotary is to be saluted for conducting the Andy Cooney's "Echoes of Ireland" variety show for the seventh year at the Paramount Theatre in Middletown.

Rotarian Bill Schimpf, chairman, said it was, again, a success with around 700 people attending, raising more than \$11,000 for the Rotary's local charities and programs.

Cooney, a native of Long Island, was greeted by members of his family including his oldest sister, Mary Theroux of Kingston, Pa., formerly of West Point. Also welcoming the entertainer were Vivian Harkens of Cornwall, president of Orange County's Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 2, and Trudy McCabe of Highland Falls and her daughter, Connie, of Fort Montgomery.

- The Mid-Hudson St. Patrick's Parade Committee also deserves applause for its 35th annual parade conducted in Goshen. It was one of the best. A team of eight judges led by Bill Murray awarded trophies. The designation of the Most Outstanding Unit Overall went to the Goshen Historic Track; it received the Seamus Comisky Trophy, named for the 24th grand marshal in 2000 who was a past president of the Orange County Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Other winners were the Goshen Boy Scout Troop 62, Best Youth Group; the Washingtonville High School Army Junior ROTC, Best Marching Unit; U.S. Marine MAG 49 Honor Guard, Best Color Guard; Broom Street Traveling All Star Band of Port Jervis, Champion Band; and Ancient Order of Hibernians Pipes & Drums, music runner-up.

## **This and that**

- Empire State Bank through the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan has awarded \$7,300 in quarterly earnings to several nonprofit agencies and programs. The breakdown includes \$2,000 each to the Gardiner Library and to Elting Library, \$1,000 to the **College of Staten Island**, \$800 to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, and \$500 each to Jewish Family Service of Orange County, Downing Park Planning Committee, and Susie Reizod Foundation for new shoes for children. For information, call Karen Minogue at 769-9393.
- Truth Muller, 11, of Rock Hill is one of 50 youngsters ages 8-14 who won the first Disney Magic of Healthy Living essay contest and is Disney World-bound with her family as a prize.

Truth wrote about the produce aisle of her grocery store, which is her favorite section. Congratulations.

- John Eagan has been named the Middletown Elks Citizen of the Year, Sonya Broas is Elk of the Year, and Peter Damiano, Officer of the Year. Congratulations.

## **Coming up**

Iron Works Road in the Village of Monroe will be rededicated as Edna's Hope Lane at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday in memory of Edna Curley, a longtime resident who created Edna's Foundation of Hope to raise funds for research for leiomyosarcoma, a rare and aggressive deadly cancer. For information, call Angela Mertens, 781-6896.

bbedell@th-record.com.

## Professor: Staten Islanders are living in Shangri-La

Published: Monday, March 21, 2011, 1:56 AM

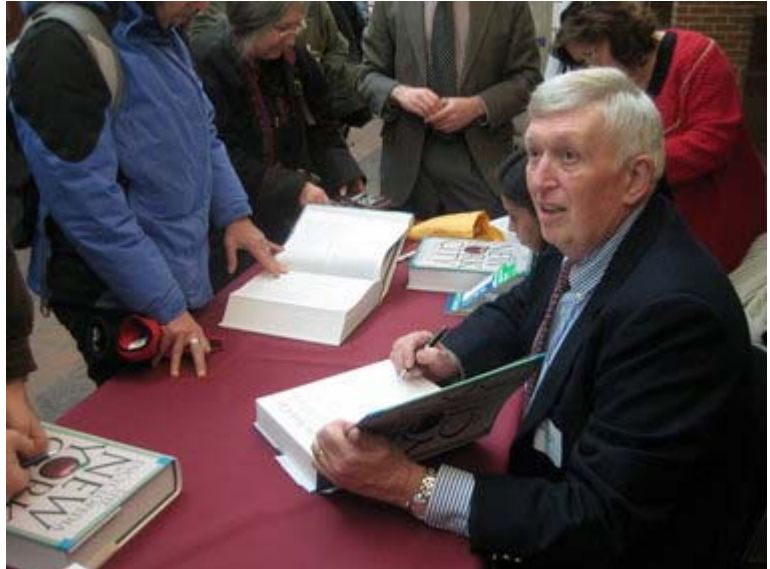


By **Ben Johnson**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The SI350 weekend conference at the College of Staten Island was titled "Staten Island in American History and 21st Century Education."

But a less academic title of yesterday's events could have been "The Future is Bright."

Looking forward was the final activity of yesterday's keynote address by Kenneth T. Jackson, a Columbia University professor and author of "The Encyclopedia of New York City," who helped bring nearly 300 academics, amateur historians and other interested parties to participate in the conference at CSI's Center For the Arts.



Staten Island Advance/Ben Johnson

Kenneth T. Jackson, a Columbia University professor and author of "The Encyclopedia of New York City," signs copies of his book at yesterday's session of "Staten Island in American History and 21st Century Education" at CSI.

"The fact that people are moving to Staten Island is in some ways a sign of health," said Jackson, whose address about the borough and larger city trends was generally optimistic. "While it is in some ways the forgotten borough, the city's population living here has gone from 2 percent to 6 percent."

Along with that growth in population the borough will see a growth in its economy, in contrast to places like Detroit, which has suffered an exodus in recent years, said Jackson. And while many see the expansion of the city's residents as a threat to their own space, the professor argued a positive view for the Staten Island's near future as a place with access to the city's amenities with less of its blights.

"I cannot think of another place in the entire United States that is more like a Brigadoon or Shangri-La," said Jackson. "You have in some ways literally the best of all possible worlds."

Jackson's telling of the borough's modern history was in many ways a study in contrasts. Admitting

Richmond County suffers the longest commute in the nation, he pointed out that the borough's nearly 500,000 residents enjoy much better public transportation options than comparable urban areas elsewhere.

While the Island is still less diverse than any of its city counterparts and holds many more native born, the 2010 census shows an incredible influx of new populations: Russians, Mexicans, Chinese and Filipino, to name a few.

But Jackson's address was far from the only event of the day, let alone the weekend. For the first time ever -- according to SI350 President Robert Coghlan -- each borough's official historian as well as the New York state historian Robert Weible sat on a panel together. Councilwoman Debi Rose spoke early in the day at a session about civil rights on Staten Island.

"There's so much to learn here," said Sylvia D'Alessandro, executive director of the Sandy Ground Historical Society, who had attended Ms. Rose's civil rights event. "And not only what's happened at the conference. We're also given all sorts of places you can go back to, things you can read to help learn more of the history of Staten Island. It's been a fantastic resource."

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## Lifestyle changes help 2 Slim Down contestants beat diabetes

Published: Monday, March 21, 2011, 5:52 AM



By **Sharon Ng**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — The Staten Island Slim Down may be drawing to a close, but Tony Books Avilez, a personal trainer and co-founder of the lifestyle changing program, thinks there is still time for anyone to lose weight and get healthy.

"If you change your habits, your body is going to give you positive results. Your body wants to be well; it's not your enemy."

These words ring true for two Slim Down contestants who beat diabetes by making positive changes.

### **TERRANCE TONER**

Fifty-year-old Terrance Toner not only hit a lifetime milestone, he has hit the gym harder than he ever has.

The Bulls Head resident has lost 38 pounds so far in the Slim Down challenge.

After incorporating diet and exercise modifications, he is confident he will reach his goal weight of 165, a number he says he hasn't seen in 30 years.

Starting out at 221 pounds, Toner followed program guidelines and made a couple of what he calls permanent changes. First he altered his diet by eating frequent meals of small portions, he said. These include fibrous and starchy carbs and protein, which he touted "has simply eliminated hunger and brought about metabolic changes which are amazing."

"Also, I have been in the gym with my kids (and at several Slim Down fitness events) religiously which, for the first time in my life, has included weight training along with cardio," he added.

For Toner, who was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes six years ago, the new and healthier lifestyle switch has paid off in a big way. Since participating in the Slim Down, he no longer takes insulin or other medication.

"In the past I would follow the typical pattern of starving or dieting only to gain everything back, and then some. Not anymore," he quipped. "I am no longer a diabetic and have more energy than ever."

Toner gives credit to his students at the Staten Island Employment Education Consortium, a nonprofit organization in St. George and the afterschool program he runs for freshmen at Port Richmond High School for spurring him on.

He also thanks his two teenage sons, one a football player and the other a boxer, who are his "personal trainers," and the folks at Slim Down, particularly Avilez, who Toner said "has been a godsend."

He currently weighs 183 pounds.

Toner's ultimate goal?

"I hope to actually win the contest."

## **JESSICA NEGRON**

Like many others, Jessica Negron made losing weight her resolution.

For her, however, it quickly evolved into something more.

This is a good thing considering how she came to her decision to join the Slim Down.

"I joined the Slim Down after having lapband surgery three years ago. Then last year I fell sick due to the slippage of my band. I had to have it emptied out, and I have been struggling with my weight again ever since," she said.

After seeing fellow Staten Islander and Biggest Loser runner-up Alfred (Frado) Dinten promote the Slim Down in local news coverage, she decided to give the weight-loss contest a shot.

"I promised myself that I would put all my effort into changing my lifestyle and becoming healthy and losing the weight," explained Ms. Negron. "I told myself this was my last-ditch attempt before going back to my surgeon to have my lapband filled again."

The 30-year-old Woodrow resident is proud to say that she has not had to go back.

"Instead I have committed myself to this program and lost 20 pounds in the past five weeks," she exclaimed.

Currently 5-foot-8 and 184 pounds, Ms. Negron is happy with more than just her weight loss.

"The same week that I started the program I had my routine bloodwork done. My numbers were terrible. My blood glucose was 164, which is very high, and my cholesterol wasn't so pretty either."

Nearly two weeks later Ms. Negron had her bloodwork repeated. This time, her blood glucose dropped to 84.

Since joining the Slim Down, Ms. Negron, who is a critical care clerk in the Intensive Care Unit of Bayonne Medical Center, has been taking part in the program's weekly training sessions at the College of Staten Island. She also works out daily for two hours and has drastically changed her diet.

Ms. Negron credits Slim Down founders Dr. Maureen Becker and Avilez for driving her lifestyle change. She considers Frado and his wife, Carolyn, two of her biggest supporters.

"Frado is such an inspiration. Seeing how he has improved his health gives me hope that I can do the same, and Carolyn has become a friend now who inspires me to go to the gym everyday."

In the end, her goal can be summed up with these words: "Remember this face because I will be your first Slim Down champion."

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## Excitement building over Chamber of Commerce's Home Show this weekend

Published: Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 10:01 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Attendees at this weekend's Staten Island Chamber of Commerce's Home Show will do well to keep their eyes on the prizes, including a central-air system and a state-of-the-art asphalt driveway.

Bob Mims Heating and Air Conditioning will award the central air to the visitor who's making do with the oldest "dinosaur" system, while Margarella Asphalt and Concrete will be gracing one lucky winner with a free "Marphalt" driveway.

The two firms are among the approximately 70 exhibitors scheduled for the 23rd edition of the Home Show, sponsored by the Home Improvement Contractors Association of Staten Island, which will take over the College of Staten Island's Sports and Recreation Center on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The venue's address is 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook.

"We are very excited for this year's show and are anticipating a great turnout from local consumers all across the tri-state area," said Linda Baran, the Chamber's president and CEO.

In addition to the opportunity to consult a wide array of contractors and service providers under one roof, there will be workshops aplenty, on everything from emergency preparedness to credit repair.

The accent is on green, as eco-friendly companies will demonstrate the advantages of energy audits, solar panels and a generally "green" home.

For those looking for other ways to "save some green," banks and credit card companies will be on hand. Inspired to find the perfect shade of green for your living-room walls? The Home Show's design and paint



Advance file photo

Vendors representing an array of different services were on hand during last year's home show at the College of Staten Island's Sports and Recreation Center in Willowbrook. A similarly diverse group will grace this weekend's show at CSI.



companies can help.

The Home Show Committee chairs are Allen Hauber, Bob Mims Heating and Air Conditioning, and Tony Mulholland, Staten Island Advance.

Admission is \$5 (\$4 for senior citizens, under-14 free). For more information, call the Chamber at 718-727-1900. Limited booth space is still available for interested vendors.

### **The exhibitors:**

ADT, Alure Home Improvements, American Institute of Architects (Staten Island Chapter), APB Security, Apex Credit Solutions/Financial Eq. Solutions, Approved Oil Company, Bathfitter, Bob Mims Heating & Air Conditioning, Camp Bow Wow, Community II Heating & A.C., Con Edison, The Design Center of Staten Island, David Lerner, Dream Kitchens, Eversafe Security Systems, EZ Bath, Foreverlawn, Free Lighting Corp., FTN Building Supply,

Gillani Homes Inc., Garden State Brickface and Stucco, Golden Key Interiors, Home Improvement Contractors Association of Staten Island, Home Theater Connection, KCM Plumbing & Heating Corp., Kitchen Magic, Liberty Mutual, LI Pure Water, Lumber Liquidators, Marathon Bank, Metlife/ Bridge Financial Group, Mid Atlantic Water Proofing, Northfield Bank, NYC Day Lighting, NYSERDA, Pella Windows & Doors, Power Home Remodeling Group,

Red Alert Inc., Renewal By Andersen, Richmond Aluminum, Salmon Real Estate, Scaran, Silverleaf Resorts, Sovereign Bank, Tri Star Construction, Verizon, and more.

Throughout the weekend, there will be a series of workshops between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on a number of interesting topics.

## **2011 HOME SHOW WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

### **Saturday**

11 a.m. READY NEW YORK

Emergency Preparedness presented by American Red Cross

12 p.m. Solar Energy for your Home or Business presented by The NYC Solar America City Partnership

1 p.m. "Ask the Experts" Everything you need to know about a home renovation project presented by a panel of professionals from the Staten Island Home Improvement Contractors Association.

2 p.m. Greening Your Home presented by At Home Inspections

3 p.m. Short Sales Advice presented by Gillani Homes

## **Sunday**

11 a.m. Credit Repair presented by Apex Credit Solutions

12 p.m. "Ask the Experts" Everything you need to know about a home renovation project presented by a panel of professionals from the Staten Island Home Improvement Contractors Association.

1 p.m. "Turning Your Energy Audit into Big Energy Savings: NYSERDA Programs for Your Home" presented by New York State Energy Research & Development Authority

2 p.m. Greening Your Home presented by At Home Inspections

3 p.m. How to work with today's color combinations and new lighting forms presented by Golden Key Interiors

*General admissions is \$5; \$4 for senior citizens; and free for children under 14. For more information, contact the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce at 718-727-1900.*

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## College Radio Stations Offer Many Listening Options

By Cristina Guarino

Among popular radio stations such as Z100 and Hot 97, New Yorkers can enjoy a number of college radio stations on the air and online. College stations are entirely student-operated and usually host a number of entertaining talk shows, music and news updates depending on the station's specialty.

Many colleges have radio stations, some of which are on the air and others that can only be accessed online. For example, Queens College's radio station WQMC and Manhattan College's radio station WRCM can only be heard on the Internet at [www.wqmc.com](http://www.wqmc.com) and [www.wrcmradio.org](http://www.wrcmradio.org), respectively.

New York University's station, WNYU, is considered to be one of New York's most popular college radio stations. It is among the many on-air stations and can be listened to on FM station 89.1 or online at [wnyu.org](http://wnyu.org). Other stations that can be accessed from the city include Long Island University's WCWP on 88.1 FM or [www.mywcwp.com](http://www.mywcwp.com), Barnard College's WBAR on 87.9 FM or [www.wbar.org](http://www.wbar.org), The College of Staten Island's WSIA on 88.9 FM or <http://wsia.csi.cuny.edu/>, Fordham University's WFUV on 90.7 FM or [www.wfuv.org](http://www.wfuv.org) and University at Stony Brook's WUSB on 90.1 FM or [www.wusb.fm/](http://www.wusb.fm/).

Some New Jersey stations can be accessed over the air from New York as well, such as Seaton Hall's WSOU on 89.5 or [www.wsou.net](http://www.wsou.net).

These stations all have different aims, from playing a wide variety of music to reporting news to specializing in a specific genre. WSOU, for example, advertises that it plays only "the loudest rock", whereas WNYU can play a variety that includes "Psychedelic 60's", "Sports Talk" and "The New Afternoon Show: New indie rock, electronic, experimental, noise" in one evening. However, even stations like WSOU offer enough variety to become prominent stations amongst popular larger names such as 92.3 NOW. They are a fun and useful sources for music, news and entertainment.



## College of Staten Island to host mental health fair

Published: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 12:48 PM



**Mark D. Stein**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - WILLOWBROOK -  
The College of Staten Island (CSI) will host a series of events next Wednesday centered on mental health and suicide prevention.

The day-long event is part of a campaign called Alive! Mental Health Fair and Suicide Prevention Tour. It begins at 11 a.m. in the Willowbrook school's campus center (Building 1C).

A range of activities, including graffiti art therapy, a brain exhibit and a card-making display will take place until 5 p.m.

The West Dining Room is the location for the information and resource fair, which will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Two documentaries will be shown – one at 12:30 p.m., the other at 1:30 p.m.

1-800-SUICIDE founder Reese Butler will address attendees in the Green Dolphin Lounge at 2:30 p.m. and share stories behind the creation of the Hopeline Network.

A presentation on how to question, persuade and refer someone for help will take place at 4 p.m.

The fair concludes at 7 p.m. in the Williamson Theater of Building 1P with a presentation called "An Evening To Write Love On Her Arms (TWLOHA)," hosted by founder Jamie Tworkowski, who will hold open conversation on hope and finding help for people with depression, addiction, self-injury tendencies and suicide.

TWLOHA exists to encourage, inform, inspire, and also to invest directly into treatment and recovery. Visit



**www.twloha.com** for more information.

According to Debi Kee, associate director of student life for activities, the event is part of a student-driven initiative that developed following the suicide of Rutgers University freshman student Tyler Clementi. The 18-year-old New Jersey resident died last September.

"Our day is really about educating a community about what's available to them, both at the college and in the greater community, to support their efforts and needs," said Ms. Kee.

The presentation is funded by student activity fees and sponsored by the Campus Activities Board Speaker Series Committee.

All events, except the presentation at 7 p.m., are free. **CSI** students can attend the presentation for free if arrangements are made ahead of time by calling 718-982-ARTS (2787). If not, admission at the door is \$2 per person.

For non-students, pre-arranged tickets are \$5. Tickets at the door are \$7.

For more information, call 718-982-3268.

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Also Featured on: Bio Portfolio

## Need a summer job? Openings for lifeguards this summer

Published: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 8:26 AM



**Marjorie Hack**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - Not all summer jobs have dried up. According to June Tata at Pool Therapist Management, she still has 100 openings for life guards this summer.

### Who qualifies

To work as a lifeguard, you must be at least 15 years old and certified. Classes that lead to certification are ongoing at different sites, among them the **College of Staten Island** in Willowbrook, the Jewish Community Center in Sea View and the YMCA South Shore branch in Eltingville and North Shore Broadway Center in West Brighton.

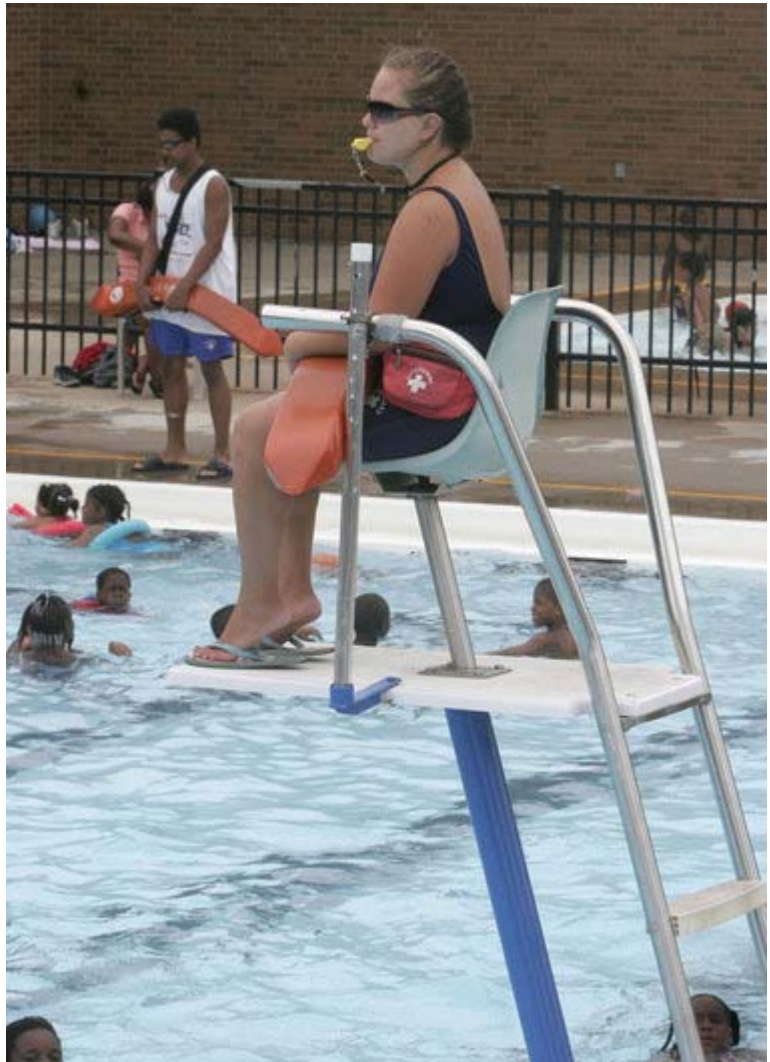
### Pay

According to Ms. Tata, the starting rate for a new lifeguard is \$7.50 an hour; more experienced guards can earn as much as \$10 an hour. Many then go on to manage swimming pools.

### Work sites

Pool Therapist Management places lifeguards for private condominiums and swim clubs around Staten Island. The company tries to place guards in jobs as close to their homes as possible to minimize commutes.

### Of note



Not all jobs have dried up; Pool Therapist Management needs 100 more certified teens to work at local pools, come summer. (Staten Island Advance File Photo)

In recent years, Pool Therapist Management has had trouble filling all the positions it has and has resorted to bringing in qualified youngsters from overseas. "Things are different now," said Ms. Tata, who is hoping to be able to fill her quota with eligible Staten Island youngsters, looking for work.

**For information**

To find out more about enrolling in a training class or applying, contact Ms. Tata at 718-370-7003, ext. 10. Leave a message; she will return your call.

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## Interfaith Seder scheduled for at St. Teresa R.C. Church

Published: Friday, March 25, 2011, 6:29 AM



**Maura Grunlund**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Building Bridges Coalition of Staten Island will hold its eighth annual Interfaith Passover Seder on April 3 at Conran Hall of St. Teresa's R.C. Church, Castleton Corners.

Jewish Congregations will include Emanu-El, B'nai Jeshurun, B'nai Israel and Israel Reform. Participating churches will be: Olivet Presbyterian; Our Lady of Good Counsel R.C.; Christ Episcopal; Trinity Lutheran; Saint Philip's Baptist; Our Lady of Mount Carmel R.C.; Unitarian of Staten Island; Mount Sinai United Christian; Castleton Hill Moravian, and Saint Peter's R.C.



Staten Island Advance/Bill Lyons

Braydon DeVito, 4, of Westerleigh, get a lift to the hoop from his grandpa, Jimmy Smith of Westerleigh, at the Temple Israel Reform Congregation annual Purim Carnival in West Brighton.

Also participating will be the Albanian Islamic Cultural Center, Noor-Al-Islam Society, Staten Island Hindu Temple, Staten Island Buddhist Vihara and Amazing Grace Interfaith Ministry.

The seder will begin at 4:30 p.m. To make a reservation, contact one of the houses of worship or consult Buildingbridgessi.org. The food will be prepared by Exclusive Kosher Catering. The cost is \$28 for adults and \$15 for children (12 and younger). Make checks payable to Building Bridges Coalition of Staten Island Corp. St. Teresa's is at 1634 Victory Blvd.

### CONVERT'S STORY

Gavriel Aryeh Sanders will share his story, "A Minister's Journey to Judaism," on Thursday at the **College of Staten Island**.

Sanders spent 20 years as an evangelical Christian, including four years in Israel and two years in Saudi



Arabia as a covert missionary. His studies of the Hebrew language caused him to rethink his Christian beliefs and ultimately to become an observant Jew.

The event is sponsored by the Staten Island Jewish Alliance with the support of Survival through Education Inc. and the Jewish Awareness Movement (JAM). The program will start at 1:30 p.m. in building 5N, room 103. Free kosher lunch will be served to attendees. RSVP by calling 718-801-1923, Facebooking Dovid Winiarz or e-mailing him at [dovid@dovid.com](mailto:dovid@dovid.com).

## JEWS IN ITALY



Teacher Seth Schneider, Isabel Bruschi, Avery Sorensen, Jared Polanko and Gavriel Kislak-Mitnick making Hamantaschen for Purim at Congregation Bnai Jeshurun Hebrew School.

A lecture, "Jews in Italy: An Ancient and Proud Community," will be given April 3, 9:45 a.m., at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, West Brighton.

The speaker will be B'nai Jeshurun member Carla Beeber, who was born in Italy. Her maternal grandmother was a Finzi-Contini, the Italian Jewish Family depicted in the 1971 Oscar nominee "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis." The cost is \$3. For information, call Dave Friedman at 917-913-8008.

A matzah demonstration will be from 10 a.m. to noon this Sunday . Mitzvah Day will begin at 10 a.m. on April 11. B'nai Jeshurun is located at 275 Martling Ave.  
SQUARE DANCE

Congregation B'nai Israel, Bay Terrace, will have a Square Dance Party Night on Sunday.

The dance runs from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The cost is \$5 per adult, one child free with each paying adult; additional children are \$3 each. For information, e-mail Barbara Kanter at [bnkanter@verizon.net](mailto:bnkanter@verizon.net) or call the office at 718-987-8188.

CBI will hold its 75th anniversary luncheon at 1 p.m. on April 3 in the social hall with the theme "From Generation to Generation." Synagogue families to be honored include: The Brosnicks, A. Cohens,

Faynbergs/Ligays, Greinskys, Gutermans and Levys.

A hot-and-cold dairy buffet will be prepared by Exclusive Catering by Kaplan. The charge for the event is \$54 per person. CBI is at 45 Twombly Ave. For reservations, call 718-987-8188.

### **SANCTUARY NAMED**

Congregation Ohel Abraham will name its sanctuary on Sunday for recently deceased former Rabbi Tzvi Goldman.

President George Laufer will be officiating, as will Rabbi Andrew Eichenholz, and speakers will include family members and congregants at the 11 a.m. service.

Born Herman Philip Goldman on Feb. 12, 1936, he grew up in Brooklyn and loved everything in that borough, including the Dodgers. A chaplain in the U.S. Army for two years, from age 18, he also worked in pharmacy for the Veterans Administration and taught Hebrew School in New Jersey. He married Sondra Glassman in 1964; she gave him two daughters, Lisa and Iris. In 1976, he became an ordained rabbi and was the rabbi of Ohel Abraham for more than 20 years. In 1998, Sondra died, and in 1999, he married Judy Rock. He had eight grandchildren. He died last Dec. 3. The service will be followed by a free-will offering luncheon. For information call 718-698-7515.

### **RACES FUNDRAISER**

Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island, Randall Manor, will hold a "Night at the Races" fundraiser tomorrow.

Adults and children are welcome to watch volunteer jockeys race horses, including Manischewitz O War, at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Entrance for adults is \$10 for children under 12, \$5. RSVP to Eva Figueroa at mustwalk@gmail.com or call 718-698-2592.

Tonight at 8 p.m., Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Michael Howald and Student Cantor Steven Long followed by Oneg. Tomorrow, the 10 a.m. Torah study led by Rabbi Howald will be followed by Shabbat services at 11 a.m. Temple Israel is at 315 Forest Ave.

### **FIRE REMEMBRANCE**

Arden Heights Boulevard Jewish Center will be holding a special program tonight to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire.

The free event led by center president Bernie Kahn will be held at 6:30 p.m., followed by services at 7:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted for the Hebrew Free Burial Association, which buried some of the victims at Mount Richmond Cemetery. The center is at 1766 Arthur Kill Rd. For information, call 718-948-6782.

A ceremony was held today at Mount Richmond Cemetery in remembrance of the tragedy. Amy Koplow,

executive director of the Hebrew Free Burial Association, and Rabbi Shmuel Plafker, the cemetery chaplain, officiated. A previous remembrance was held on March 1, the Jewish anniversary date. For information, consult [Hebrewfreeburial.org](http://Hebrewfreeburial.org).

#### **BAT MITZVAH CLASS**

Temple Emanu-El, Port Richmond, is holding an adult Bat Mitzvah class on Thursdays. The class meets at 2 p.m.; for information, call 718-442-5966.

Morning services are at 7:20 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Shabbat services are at 8 p.m. on Fridays followed by an Oneg, and at 9 a.m. on Saturdays followed by a Kiddush. The temple is at 984 Post Ave.

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## Home Show opens tomorrow at CSI

Published: Friday, March 25, 2011, 1:54 PM



By **Staten Island Advance**

Home improvement takes center stage this weekend when the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce stages its 23rd Annual Home Show at the **College of Staten Island**.

Running tomorrow and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in **CSI's** Sports and Recreation Center, 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook, the show is sponsored by the Home Improvement Contractors Association of Staten Island.

It will feature some 50 vendors offering information on everything from windows, doors and kitchen counters, to bathroom and kitchen makeovers, patio and landscaping materials, real estate, interior design and financial planning, among other topics.

In addition to being able to check out the offerings at vendor booths, visitors to the show can participate in a number of workshops.

The schedule for Saturday includes:

- 11 a.m.:** "Ready New York: Emergency Preparedness," presented by the American Red Cross;
- Noon:** "Solar Energy for Your Home or Business," offered by the NYC Solar America City Partnership;
- 1 p.m.:** "Ask the Experts," described as "Everything you need to know about a home renovation project," presented by a panel of professionals from the Staten Island Home Improvement Contractors Association;
- 2 p.m.:** "Greening Your Home," a presentation by At Home Inspections at 2 p.m.;
- 3 p.m.** "Short Sales Advice," by Gillani Homes.

Sunday schedule:

- 11 a.m.:** "Credit Repair," by Apex Credit Solutions;
- Noon:** "Ask the Experts" (See above);
- 1 p.m.:** "Turning Your Energy Audit into Big Energy Savings: NYSERDA Programs for Your Home," presented by New York State Energy Research & Development Authority;
- 2 p.m.:** "Greening Your Home" (See above);
- 3 p.m.:** Working with today's color combinations and new lighting forms, presented by Golden Key Interiors.

Numerous vendors will be raffling off prizes throughout the weekend. As they enter, visitors will receive "Postcards from Italy," courtesy of Carrabba's Italian Grill in the Staten Island Mall Convenience Center, featuring discounts and complimentary items, while supplies last.

Consumers visiting the Bob Mims Heating and Air Conditioning booth will have the opportunity to win a free 16 SEER air conditioning system (some restrictions apply), and those interested in refurbishing their driveway, can enter to win a free Marphalt Driveway, courtesy of Margarella Asphalt and Concrete.

Admission is \$5, \$4 for senior citizens; children under 14 will be admitted free.

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## Annual Home Show takes center stage today and tomorrow at the College of Staten Island

Published: Saturday, March 26, 2011, 9:46 AM



**Staten Island Advance**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Home improvement takes center stage today and tomorrow as the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce stages its 23rd Annual Home Show at the College of Staten Island.

It will feature more than 50 vendors offering information on everything from windows, doors and kitchen counters, to bathroom and kitchen makeovers, patio and landscaping materials, real estate, interior design and financial planning, among other topics.

Numerous vendors will be raffling off prizes throughout the weekend. As they enter, visitors will receive "Postcards from Italy," courtesy of Carrabba's Italian Grill in the Staten Island Mall Convenience Center, featuring discounts and complimentary items, while supplies last.

Consumers visiting the Bob Mims Heating and Air Conditioning booth will have the opportunity to win a free 16 SEER air conditioning system (some restrictions apply), and those interested in refurbishing their driveway, can enter to win a free Marphalt Driveway, courtesy of Margarella Asphalt and Concrete.

There will also be a number of workshops.

Sponsored by the Home Improvement Contractors Association of Staten Island, the Home Show takes place today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in

Admission is \$5, \$4 for senior citizens; children under 14 will be admitted free.



Advance File Photo

Vendors filled the Recreation Center at last year's annual Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Home Show. This year's show takes place today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

# HEALTH

C

MONDAY

MARCH 28, 2011

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/ANTHONY D'PRIMO

Each week, Slim Down contestants were faced with a mystery workout, like this Zumba class at the College of Staten Island.

## One more fitness challenge

The last Staten Island Slim Down workout will be on Wednesday

By SHARON NG

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The end is in sight. Nine weeks into the Staten Island Slim Down, and the last fitness challenge will take place on Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the College of Staten Island.

Through it all, contestants have been challenged to do bootcamp exercises, yoga, pilates and even Zumba (a workout that struck fear — at least initially — in the hearts of several male participants.) Like all of the challenges, contestants won't know what's in store until they show up.

Many contestants have joked to Tony Books Avilez, co-founder of the Slim Down, that it's a sprint to the finish line. But Avilez begs to differ.

"It's a sprint to the starting line because our intention was to give people tips, an introduction to different avenues of weight loss, support and motivation so that they could do this on their own," he said.

When the Slim Down weight-loss competition officially ends on April 8, contestants will submit photos of themselves holding a current copy of the front page of the Advance. That photo will be compared to one submitted when the contest began on Jan. 29.

Contestants must also write a brief summary of the lifestyle changes they made during the competition.

The person with the most inspiring lifestyle transformation — not necessarily most pounds lost — will be deemed the winner.

This week, we talk to three contestants about their success with the program and plans for life after Slim Down.

### LORRAINE TRIVONE

Lorraine Trivone walked into the Slim Down program with a positive attitude. As the weeks passed, her spirit never wavered.

"I thought the Slim Down would be a great opportunity



TRIVONE



to finally take off some excess weight I have been carrying on me for years," said the 51-year-old contestant. "Working together as a community is a wonderful idea. Together you can share issues, recipes, what worked for you, what didn't work for you and so much more."

Another idea Ms. Trivone approved of was the way the weekly surprise fitness challenges were set up.

"I am not a big fan of yoga or pilates and if I knew that was what they were doing on a particular night, I might not have gone," explained the New Springville resident. Although she had to miss a few challenges, she plans on attending this last one.

Of the ending, Ms. Trivone said, "I am going to take what I have learned over the 10 weeks of the Staten Island Slim Down and try to always keep it fresh in my mind."

She has already made important lifestyle changes. Ms. Trivone tries to eat natural foods and avoid anything processed. She also goes to Bally's gym in Mariner's Harbor and Zumba classes at Bubbles Playhouse in Grasmere.

Ms. Trivone's goal is to see 200 pounds on the scale instead of 243. In the long run, she would like to weigh 165.

Currently an operations manager/assistant controller for Alpine Capital Bank in midtown Manhattan, Ms. Trivone added, "I would love the opportunity to be able to help other overweight/obese people by sharing my successes and failures with them."

### JUDY ALGARIN

Health and fitness are topics that are familiar to Judy Algarin.

"I always look in the Staten Island Advance for weight-loss solutions," said the 51-year-old contestant. "I have a bookcase full of weight-loss ideas."



ALGARIN

Among her favorites are "You on a Diet" by Dr. Oz and books by Jorge Cruise and Dr. Arthur Agarston, author of "The South Beach Diet."

After hearing about the Slim Down, Mrs. Algarin joined because she believes "exercise is the way to go." She tried other programs but quit them early.

She particularly enjoys the weekly fitness challenges which have included yoga, tai-chi and Zumba, which is her favorite.

"They are great not only as exercises but as a way to meet and socialize with people who have the same goals as me," said the Sunnyside resident. "The program has been helping me personally."

Following trainer Avilez's motto, "Put your heart and soul in your goal," Mrs. Algarin is feeling great.

She has added lots of vegetables to her grocery list and makes it a point to stop eating after 7 p.m.

"My clothes feel loose on me and I have been doing various exercises. I go to cardio classes every Wednesday at the Greenbelt Recreation Center and walk my dog about two miles in Clove Lakes Park," explained Mrs. Algarin. "I feel muscles now I never knew I had."

After the Slim Down finishes on April 8, she intends to continue her transformation into skinny jeans and buy a new wardrobe.

"Nobody wants it to end," said Mrs. Algarin.

### FRANK CILENTO

Frank Cilento, 53, joined the Slim Down to reduce stress, live a healthier lifestyle and gain more energy and muscle.



CILENTO

"I decided to join the program because over the past two years, I have been working a great deal of hours in my financial planning practice," said the Huguenot resident. "The stress associated with the increased workload was causing me to eat more than normal and resulted in weight gain."

He continued, "I believe in Newton's law of gravity: An object will stay at rest until a great force moves it. I went to the first meeting on Jan. 29 and it was the force that moved me into action."

To date, Cilento has gone from 195 to 181 pounds. He eliminated soda and junk food from his diet and transformed his TV room into a gym equipped with a treadmill, elliptical and a 300-pound Olympic weight set.

The results have benefited both Cilento and his family.

"I personally have been more productive in my work and family life," said Cilento. "The support from the group in conjunction with the nutrition and exercise program have contributed to my increased energy level and overall feeling better about myself."

myself."

Even more important, however, is the example he is setting for his two sons, Andrew, 14 and Matthew, 11. Cilento wants to show them that they can accomplish anything they set their minds to.

"I have lost 14 pounds and put on more muscle. Most importantly, my sons have witnessed firsthand that I am working hard to achieve my goal," he said.

Sharon Ng is a news reporter for the Advance. She may be reached at [ns@siadvance.com](mailto:ns@siadvance.com).

## **SAVOR THE FLAVORS FUNDRAISER**



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/DEREK ALVEZ

**Karen Gallo and Dianne Mareno chat with celebrity guest chefs John Sierp, second from right, and Rob Burmeister at the College of Staten Island's Alumni Association "Savor the Flavors" scholarship fundraiser.**



## **MARIST TO HOST NATIONAL HISTORY HONOR SOCIETY REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

The event features 22 presentations organized into 6 panels on the following themes: Gender in the Early Modern World; Historical Methodologies; Perceptions of 20th-Century War; Revolution and Response; Community and Religion; and Gender, Race, and Activism. Three Marist history majors will present papers. Participants also include students from SUNY New Paltz, Siena College, and Fordham University, and students from more distant and out-of-state schools, like Hartwick College, the College of Staten Island, SUNY Plattsburgh, and the University of New Haven.

Dr. Nicholas Marshall of Marist's History Department will give the keynote address on the pitfalls of doing historical research. The conference is supported by the Marist College School of Liberal Arts, History Department, and Marist's Mu Zeta Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta.

Mu Zeta has been in existence since the 1960s and is currently very active, existing as both an honor society and a club. Guidelines for joining Marist's chapter of the honor society are stricter than the national guidelines: to be inducted students must have taken at least four history courses and received a grade point average of 3.4 in those courses as well as a cumulative grade point average of 3.3. Mu Zeta chapter members have been very active in previous regional conferences, with five Marist students receiving prizes for their presentations in the past three years.

Conference activities will take place in Fontaine Hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sessions are open to the public, but for all-day attendance there is a \$5 registration fee. For more information and a copy of the conference program please contact conference coordinators Janine Peterson at [Janine.Peterson@marist.edu](mailto:Janine.Peterson@marist.edu) or Kristin Bayer at [Kristin.Bayer@marist.edu](mailto:Kristin.Bayer@marist.edu).

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For further information, call the Marist College Office of Public Affairs at ( 845 ) 575-3174.

Information Source: Media Newswire

March 29th, 2011 @ 02:35pm



## Island colleges announce commencement speakers

Published: Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 7:40 AM



**Staten Island Advance**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- All three of Staten Island's colleges have announced the speakers for their commencement ceremonies. St. John's University will play host to a prominent news anchor, Wagner College will have a well-known historian and the **College of Staten Island** will feature the state comptroller.

St. John's University has secured the services of Maria Bartiromo, a lead anchor at CNBC, for the May 14, 10 a.m. ceremony at the Grymes Hill campus. Ms. Bartiromo will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree.

"The Closing Bell with Maria Bartiromo" airs Monday through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. She was also managing editor of "Wall Street Journal Report with Maria Bartiromo," which was the most-watched financial news program in the United States. Ms. Bartiromo covered Wall Street for more than 20 years.

New York City historian Kenneth Jackson will be the speaker at the Wagner College ceremony on Grymes Hill on May 20.

Jackson is Jacques Barzun Professor of History and Social Sciences and director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for American History at Columbia University, where he specializes in urban, social and military history. He is president emeritus of the New-York Historical Society.

Jackson's second edition of "The Encyclopedia of New York City," which he co-authored, was published in December. It is considered the definitive Big Apple reference.

His "Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States" (1985) won the Francis Parkman and the Bancroft prizes.

State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli will grace the **College of Staten Island's** June 2 ceremony on the Willowbrook campus' Great Lawn.

DiNapoli, Democrat from Long Island, won election last fall to the post to which he was appointed in 2007.

He has used his considerable powers of the purse to save the state millions of dollars by uncovering Medicaid fraud and auditing schools. He is at the forefront of the effort to create jobs through the New York Business

Development Corp.

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## Turkey vultures spend some time atop a chimney, looking down on the turkeys in Dongan Hills

Published: Thursday, March 31, 2011, 11:49 AM



**Virginia N. Sherry**  
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - DONGAN HILLS - When Delaware Avenue resident Michele Fichera heard her 4-year-old Rottweiler, Nica, emitting a "weird whimper" on the afternoon of Feb. 28, she went to investigate, and spotted a pair of large birds perched on the roof of a neighbor's house on Alter Avenue.

"I looked out and couldn't believe my eyes. At first I thought they were two turkeys. I grabbed my zoom lens, and they were vultures!

"I have been living on Staten Island for over 35 years, and have yet to see any vultures here – just turkeys and hawks," she said.



Dongan Hills resident Michelle Fichera photographed these turkey vultures on a neighbor's rooftop on Alter Avenue. Her 4-year-old, 100-pound Rottweiler called them to her attention when "he did this weird whimper that I never heard before," she said. (Photo Courtesy of Michelle Fichera)

Positive identification of the birds as turkey vultures (*Cathartes aura*) came from Edward W. Johnson, director of science at the Staten Island Museum.

"You can tell by the naked red head of the adult birds," he wrote, after reviewing photographs of the pair. "Black vultures (and immature turkey vultures) have a naked gray-black head.

"Of the two, turkey vulture is by far the more common species on Staten Island. I saw a dozen of them soaring around the expressway near the **College of Staten Island** on Tuesday morning (March 23)," he added.

According to Johnson, the birds "have never been known to nest on Staten Island. (By nesting, he means building a nest, laying eggs and successfully hatching out and raising young).

"They usually build their nests in remote areas, away from potential predators – on cliffs, in caves, or in hollow tree stumps. They usually lay two eggs," he noted.

Turkey vultures display impressive 5- to 6-foot wing spans when aloft. They fly "in a characteristic shallow V-shape," with a "rocking, unstable-seeming flight," writes Tait Johansson of the Bedford Audubon Society of northern Westchester and eastern Putnam counties in New York.

"We are seeing a lot of them now because they are migrating north to their breeding ground to the north and west of us," Johnson explained.

In flight, turkey vultures are "hard to miss," Ms. Fichera said last week, as she describing them flying overhead in a circle over the Staten Island Railway trestle near Delaware Avenue.

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# ***Students & Alumni***

## For Staten Island author Tracy Brown, struggle as single-mom an inspiration for successful literary career

Published: Wednesday, March 02, 2011, 3:07 PM



By **Deborah E. Young**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- When Tracy Brown was a 15-year-old student at McKee High School, her plans for college and a tidy future unraveled as her belly began to bloom under her baby face.

"I had a teacher who told me I was doomed to be on welfare for the rest of the life," recalled Ms. Brown, now 37, during a recent interview in the sun-splashed office of her New Brighton home.

But even then, the spunky, book-loving teenager from the Mariners Harbor Houses knew how to draw on her inner steel and stare down the odds.

"That's what makes this accomplishment more special; because it's not over until you think it is," she said about her recently released seventh novel, "Aftermath: A Snapped Novel" (St. Martin's Press; \$14.99).

Indeed, Ms. Brown's determination to keep her baby — Ashley is now a 21-year-old student at the **College of Staten Island** — launched her on the path as a hard-working single mother, putting in full days on the job to support the family she was raising in the borough's gritty, urban corridors.

And her life experience became the stuff of her fiction: True-spoken, fast-moving Essence Magazine best-sellers about tough choices made by strong women, all set against the backdrop of Staten Island.



Staten Island Advance/Jan Somma-Hammel

Tracy Brown smiles at her son Quaviel Carruthers in the family's New Brighton home.

### Interview with Staten Island author Tracy Brown

Staten Island author Tracy Brown just released a new book 'Aftermath: A Snapped Novel.' She'll be signing copies on March 5 at Barnes & Nobles in New Springville at 2 p.m.

Ms. Brown will be at Barnes and Noble Saturday at 2 p.m. to speak about "Aftermath" — a sequel to her last book, "Snapped" — in which four African Americans see their friendship tested by what is revealed in the riveting opening pages: Murder.

"The theme of each of my novels is the triumphant woman," said the petite Ms. Brown, flashing a smile. "Adversities galore, but they come out triumphant."

She said the role model for that strength was her mother, one of 19 children in a family from Alabama, who raised three successful daughters in a tiny Mariners Harbor apartment — playing strict disciplinarian to Ms. Brown's gentle father.

Still, graduating high school and staking out on her own as a single teen parent, then becoming a mother to two boys — Quaviel and Justin — only to see the relationship with their father fail, taught Ms. Brown to find a way outside her own, traditional two-parent upbringing.

Hard work was always the subtext, said Ms. Brown, who despite the success of her writing career still does 9 to 5 at an attorney's office in Manhattan.

"I've had so many jobs," she said with a laugh, ticking off everything from stints as a day care worker, a stock broker trainee, doing customer service for AT&T at the Teleport and in the E-ZPass office.

"I was a young single mother of three trying to keep my head above water," she said, describing a low point in the journey when she didn't have enough money to buy food for her family and pay for bus fare, so she would walk from her Park Hill apartment to the ferry and then to her Wall Street job every day. "Now I see that as a blessing. God gave me so much adversity so I would have the stories to tell."

An avid journaler and poet, she said she was inspired by a woman who approached her after she shared her work at a poetry slam. "She came up and said, you're really good, you should write a book" said Ms. Brown. And so she did, writing what would become "Black" — her semi autobiographical novel — at the age of 29, filling three marble notebooks during the ferry rides to and from work.

"I would crunch down and pull out a pad and paper. I'm a master of not seeing anybody on the ferry," she joked. "You know how it is on Staten Island, you're always seeing someone you know. I was able to hide."

On a whim, she said she sent the first few chapters to some small publishers and they all bit.

"When the first check came I remember jumping up and down in our Jersey Street apartment with my kids; I felt like we had made it."



From there, she grabbed stories from everywhere — snippets of conversations overheard in the beauty parlor about obsessive love, to serious research she did for her favorite, and most acclaimed book, "White Lines," (St. Martin's Press; 2007) about a crack addict.

She spent weeks interviewing a woman who used to loom around her Jersey Street apartment complex, high on the drug, and the neighborhood dealers who peddled the poison.

"I wanted to understand why," said Ms. Brown, who moved from Jersey Street to her own, nearby apartment with her kids soon after her book-writing career took off.

"A book for me begins when I'm intrigued by a topic," she said. In "Aftermath" part of the inspiration came from wondering what it would be like for an African American family to live in a predominantly Caucasian part of the borough.

She said she got details about the house she describes in the opening scene by typing into Google, \$1-million homes for sale on Staten Island, then detailing the floor plan. "I like a book that grabs you from page one. That's why I got into the murder right away."

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## Staten Island woman was jobless, desperate -- but now a new life

Published: Sunday, March 06, 2011, 7:10 AM



By **Judy L. Randall**

She lost her job in December 2008, when the shipping company she had worked for in Lower Manhattan for two decades abruptly shut down.

"It was three days before Christmas," said Loretta Lugo. "I got no severance, nothing."

It took her 21 months to find another job — the search itself was a 24/7 occupation — before she landed employment as an environmental housekeeper on the 3 to 11 p.m. shift at Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze, in September 2010.



Staten Island Advance photos/Jan Somma-Hammel

It took Loretta Lugo 21 months to find a new job as an environmental housekeeper at Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze. 'I love it. They saved my life,' she said.

"I love it," Ms. Lugo said. "They saved my life."

But not before the single mom had to face down the loss of unemployment insurance, the threat of foreclosure on her New Springville condo and what she is convinced was age discrimination by a Staten Island eatery after she aced her tests but was turned down for a job waitressing when her personal identification revealed she was 49.

In the end, it was old-fashioned networking, and showing up daily at the New York State Department of Labor (DOL) offices in St. George — dressed and ready to work — that paid off.

"I got up every day and went," said Ms. Lugo. "I dressed in a suit. Some people go there and don't dress for work. I worked the system. I networked every day. I did all the training programs. I went to the **College of Staten Island** to work on getting my bachelor's degree. I didn't give up."



**View full size**

Ms. Lugo flashes a smile outside Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze.

Ms. Lugo is one of the success stories of Staten Island's uptick on the jobs front, said John Mastellone, DOL's borough representative.

The most recent DOL statistics show Island unemployment was 7.9 percent in December, down from 8.2 percent in November — and way down from 9.2 percent in December 2009.

Unemployment was 8.6 percent citywide in December and 8 percent in New York state.

The current national unemployment rate is 8.9 percent, at its lowest level since April 2009. It has been falling steadily since November, when it was 9.8 percent, marking the sharpest three-month decline since 1983.

Still, the number of people unemployed nationally — 13.7 million — is double what it was before the recession.

Staten Island fell in the middle of the boroughs on the December unemployment front, with the Bronx and Brooklyn clocking in at 12 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively, and 7.7 percent and 7 percent for Queens and Manhattan.

Unemployment on the Island in December numbered some 19,300 Islanders, down from 20,100 in November.

Mastellone said there was the "usual seasonal jump" in holiday retail sales jobs here.

He also attributed the "slow turnaround" to a "little bit" of an increase in the number of jobs for commercial drivers, such as FedEx and UPS, as well as borough car services.

However, Linda Baran, CEO of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce, said from a small business perspective, there isn't a lot to be enthusiastic about — yet.

"We are still in a holding pattern," said Ms. Baran. "Small businesses are still not hiring; people are still being let go. There is still uncertainty out there; still a hesitancy to hire."



She said the harsh winter weather held many local businesses back, but added that with talk of upcoming retail activity — like the opening of Trader Joe’s in New Springville — there is “some optimism” going forward.

Before she found work, Ms. Lugo faced the loss of unemployment insurance and foreclosure.

But Martin Kohli, regional economist for DOL’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, which tracks jobs creation, said there was an overall growth since June 2009 in the retail area here, particularly in clothing stores.

Meanwhile, DOL findings show high unemployment figures in an array of upstate counties, topping off at 10.5 percent in St. Lawrence and 10 percent in Lewis and 9.7 percent in Steuben.

Yet the overall increase in new hires has encouraged Americans to spend more, nationwide studies show, another positive sign that the economy as a whole is gaining momentum.

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## CSI students journey to the Far East

Published: Thursday, March 10, 2011, 2:17 PM



By Mark D. Stein

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - WILLOWBROOK - A handful of College of Staten Island (CSI) students embarked on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to the Far East. Last Wednesday afternoon, three of them presented a photo presentation of their trip to Shanghai, China, to fellow classmates and members of the International Program.

Their series of photographs highlighted special moments and sights that the three students – Albulena Prelvukaj, Gary Raia and Suzie Sky – experienced during a four-week stay at Shanghai University.

The group left Dec. 29 and returned at the end of January with an unforgettable number of stories and images. Overall, six CSI students and 27 other people from the City University of New York (CUNY) participated.

According to CSI's website, which detailed the winter trip, students paid \$1,800 to take either one or two 3-credit courses in the following disciplines: Business in contemporary China, psychology and Chinese culture, or learning the Chinese language.

They traveled throughout Shanghai and made visits to Beijing and Hong Kong. The group toured legendary sites such as the Great Wall of China, the Jade Buddha Temple and the Lion Grove Garden.

"You have to check out Hong Kong," said Raia, a philosophy major. "It was the greatest place I've been in my entire life."

Raia and Ms. Prelvukaj explained that not knowing the foreign language didn't affect their ability to get around China.

"Just to have the ability to figure out things on your own: How people could connect without using verbal explanation of things. You sense how far you could go, and who you are, and how you can communicate with people, in general," said Ms. Prelvukaj.

The ability to negotiate a deal on an item sold by a vendor is great, said Raia, who noted that some people, especially tourists, can get ripped off.

"They'll give you the most outrageous price . . . but you argue with them, you negotiate and bargain. Everything in the country could be 50 percent off, if you try. It was a little weird," Raia said.

They also noted that the subway system, which they say is extremely advanced in comparison to New York City's, shuts down late at night.

Ms. Prelvukaj, a political science student, said the lifestyle on campus was a lot different than what she is used to. She noted everyone she encountered was respectful and disciplined.

"The whole campus was silent," she explained. "You don't see kids making loud noises, making fools of themselves or cursing."

In addition, said the students, pupils living in China attending Shanghai University are from much smaller families and living in a stricter environment. For example, said Ms. Prelvukaj, children are extremely obedient of what their parents demand from them.

"It's a quickly-growing program and it's an important country and a growing culture," said Russell Davis, CUNY China Programs coordinator for the City University of New York.

Davis said the trip is an "eye-opener" for CSI's students, yet, Shanghai is a lot like New York City.

"It's a good, low-cost quality program that really plugs you into the culture," the professor added.

"Everyone should do it," said Ms. Prelvukaj.

### **Studying in China through College of Staten Island**

Students who recently returned came back enthusiastic about the experience.

#### **Who is eligible**

Students with a grade-point average of 2.5 and with a semester already completed are welcome to participate in the month-long experience. "If you could speak English, you could go," said Russell Davis, CUNY China Programs coordinator for the City University of New York. "The idea is to include as many as possible."

#### **Program's history**

The College of Staten Island's International program has had a presence since the 1980s. Students initially visited Italy, but in the last 20 years, have expanded to China.

#### **For information**

Call 718-982-2100 or visit [www.csi.cuny.edu/international](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/international).

Mar 18, 2011

NYC's CUNY College of  
Staten Island or OK's  
Roger State  
University?

by xlalasz



Mar 18, 2011 09:06 AM - Hey all,

I'm currently enrolled in the prerequisite program for Nursing at NYC's Cuny College of Staten Island. And I must say, it IS very nice, but I want to get out of NYC to study.

I looked into Roger State University in Claremore, Tulsa, Oklahoma (At least that's where I think RSU's in)

I'm worried if my credits will transfer, though I will ask my counselors.

But what I'm worried MOST is, is **CSI** more reputable for nursing than RSU? Being, what are the chances of me being hired graduating from **CSI/RSU**?

I'm currently taking 4 classes in **CSI** prereq Nursing: I would say my overall GPA is A-/A... Will RSU accept me? (Can compare to this: <http://allnurses.com/ok-nursing-prog...ty-223271.html>)  
Philosophy: Introductio to Ethics (A- grade)  
English: College level writing: (A+ grade)  
Biology: General Cellular Bio (A- grade)  
BioLab: Laboratory class for ^ (A grade)

## For the love of Japan

...student raises funds in New York to help rebuild

Published: Tue, 2011-03-29 20:38

[Cherisse Moe](#)



Manami Shirai, left, and a friend raise funds for Japan at their [College of Staten Island](#), New York, last week.

The devastating images left in the wake of the 9.0 magnitude earthquake which struck Japan on March 11, will, no doubt, linger in our minds for a very long time. For the Japanese people, however, those images are an everyday reality. Officials say over 10,000 people are confirmed dead, and more than 17,000 are missing. They warn that the final toll can reach almost 20,000. But, what continues to stand out amidst the growing tragedy is the resilient spirit of the Japanese. While engineers still do not know the full extent of damage to the country's infrastructure— brick by brick, the Japanese have started to rebuild their own communities. With helping hands and willing hearts, they stand together, united to the cause.

Japanese Manami Shirai is living proof that the bond they share is indeed unbreakable. Mere days after the earthquake, Shirai, who's currently on a one-year exchange programme at New York's [College of Staten Island](#), began organising fund-raising ventures on campus to help Japan. So far, she's been able to raise more than US\$800. "Japanese people don't show their stress in front of everybody. They can endure anything. If there is a store, no one will steal from that store. Teenagers are becoming volunteers for the elderly and children. Women and wives cook and share with their neighbours," said the Ueda-Shi, Nagano native. "Even refugees are helping out." When the T&T Guardian spoke to the 22-year-old last week, she was in the process of wrapping up yet another fund-raiser which she held in the school's cafeteria. Officials say it will take up to five years and about 25 trillion yen (\$309 billion) to rebuild Japan, but Shirai was happy to help, albeit a little. "Every dollar counts," she told us. "I know



students don't have a lot of money. If I get \$1 I'm glad because any amount of money can help right now."

### **Something dark**

Although Shirai's family and close friends have survived the disaster, life continues to be an uphill battle. There are renewed fears of a nuclear crisis and simple necessities like water and food are fast becoming scarce commodities. And then there are the aftershocks—officials say Japan has been jolted by record number of aftershocks since the initial quake. "Everything has changed. My dad said our family restaurant is suffering. Because of the tsunami, fishermen cannot get fresh fish. He says his income is about a quarter of what it once was," she lamented. "I still can't imagine that that disaster ever happened in Japan. The number of people who are already dead and still missing is the biggest number in our history. It's more than World War one and two. "My youngest brother tells me that the atmosphere is not what it used to be. He feels something dark is in his life..."

### **Need to survive**

The Elementary Education major will be back in Japan in July, as her exchange programme comes to an end. She noted that she had "mixed feelings" about returning to her country. "I want to go back to Japan as soon as possible but on the other hand, in Staten Island there are only a few Japanese people and if I leave, there will be less Japanese to spread the word and organise activities to help," she explained. Still, Shirai remains optimistic that her homeland will recover from this latest adversity. But for now, she's being practical. "Japan is a country which has helped all other countries for many years. Right now we need help. "I know the smaller countries may not be able to do much but I want to ask developed countries like America and Canada to do a little more to assist us," she said. "My people are still suffering. They need money for food. They need water. They need electricity and gas. They just need to survive."



## Note to shut-ins: Time to get out

Published: Thursday, March 31, 2011, 10:42 AM



By **Sherrina Navani/Shore Family Fun**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - ALL SHORES - Is Mother Nature confused? It still seems rather wintry, but according to the calendar, it is definitely spring. And if you were one of those who spent a lot of time inside over the last few months, you're likely chomping at the bit to get outside once again.

While walking around our Arrochar neighborhood, my 5-year-old started pointing out a few hardy flowers that are trying to rise up from the ground in some gardens and grassy areas. It is one of our favorite things to do together during the early weeks of spring. For her, it's a chance to play the game, "I Spy a New Flower," and for me, it's a time of year to witness a renaissance. The changes in the environment symbolize a chance to move forward, forgetting the mistakes of the past and starting fresh.

It got me thinking about how other Staten Islanders view the upcoming three months.

Nicole Suforo, 24, equates spring with the start of frozen yogurt season.

"We were just talking about getting some frozen yogurt from Yogurberry (in Eltingville)," she said. The freeze of the winter months kept Ms. Suforo from indulging, but she's more than ready to dip a spoon into her favorite flavors – strawberry-original swirl or pomegranate.

We move from food to fashion. Angelica Spano, 22, has the perfect pastime for spring. "I love shopping with my mom," she said. The Annadale resident is one of the managers at Express in the Staten Island Mall in New Springville and confessed that she loves to shop right where she works.

Spring is also a great season to get in shape, in case you turned into a couch potato over the winter. As the weather warms, the parks fill up with kids of all ages who are eager to skate, rollerblade or just hang out with friends, some of whom they may not have seen all winter long.

"We usually go to Wolfe's Pond Park, like two or three times a week," said Angela Zharoz, 13. The Great Kills teen uses the swings as a talking post and to de-stress from a long day at school.

Shana is a 19-year-old freshman at the **College of Staten Island**. Her spring de-stresser of choice is an intense game of handball at South Beach Park. "I have been playing for a long time and it is a lot of fun,"

she said.

Shana said that seeing her red hands at the end of a handball session means she played well.

If you are still looking for a springtime activity that you and your family can enjoy together, check out these local suggestions:

\* Tonight through April 10, Historic Richmond Town will stage former Tottenville resident Paul Zindel's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds," in the Third County Courthouse, 441 Clarke Ave., Richmond. Order tickets online at [www.sistnyorg](http://www.sistnyorg) or call 1-888-71TICKETS. The performances are staged Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m., by the Staten Island Shakespearean Theatre.

\* Get in the spring planting mood on Sunday at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden, 1000 Richmond Terr., Livingston. As part of the Million Trees NYC Giveaway, Staten Island residents can claim a free tree between the hours of noon and 2 p.m. in the East Side Parking lot. Take a tree home and plant it in your yard; trees must not be planted in containers. Only 250 trees are available and they're given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information call 718-448-2500.

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## S.I. Stingrays have come long way

Published: Thursday, March 31, 2011, 9:59 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

ALL SHORES —When Mike Neely founded the Staten Island Stingrays travel basketball program 10 years ago, he never imagined it would branch into the well-oiled machine it's become today.

"I'm definitely surprised," he said recently, noting the organization was originally called the Gymrats before it took its present name after one season. "It started with one team (and a year later, it became two).

"Then it was five and six teams and eventually we had over 200 kids on 18 teams a few years back," Neely added. "All because some players from different schools wanted to play together (during that first season).

"That's how it all started."

As the 11th annual Stephen Siller Stingrays Classic approaches (Saturday and Sunday at various Island sites), Neely believes there are several factors that have enabled the program to blossom the way it has.

"For starters, I think we've been successful because we have volunteer coaches who aren't doing it for money. They're doing it because they love coaching," said Neely, who currently serves as the Stingrays' vice president. "Plus, a large portion of our coaching staff includes people who are either coaching or have coached high-school basketball.

"We've also received a lot of support from the high schools themselves and our registration fee is a low rate compared to some others."

Neely, who said Anaconda Sports has served as a co-sponsor in recent years, was also quick to praise president Rich Ferrara and director of coaches Jay Zieris for their tireless work.

"There's no question a lot of hard work from a lot of people that volunteer have made us what we are," said Neely, who coached himself for five seasons. "We also have former players who have come back and coached for us — my son Michael did it for two years, as did (former St. Peter's and current **College of Staten Island** star guard) Tommy Tibbs."

Neely said he's proud of the fact that Stingrays' players have donated their time to causes inside and out of the organization.

"We want (our players) to take part in community service and help out with our tournament when they're not playing," said Neely. "It's important for me that they want to give back and that they thank their parents for footing the bill (to play AAU ball).

"It's a big undertaking."

The Stingrays currently have 16 boys' and girls' teams with about 160 players for the 2011 season. The boys' teams range from third-grade through 12th-grade and the girls' teams are fifth through ninth grades. The organization currently uses eight gyms in six different Island sites, including St. Teresa's, Our Lady Star of the Sea, the Jewish Community Center, Holy Rosary, Holy Child and the CYO Center in Port Richmond.

As the new season commences, the goal remains the same as always for the Stingrays. Ultimately, Neely believes it's imperative his kids improve.

"I believe the CYO and AAU ball go hand-in-hand," he said. "The better the CYO gets, the better AAU gets. The better AAU gets, the better CYO gets.

"I honestly want each kid in our organization to improve," Neely added. "I tell parents, 'I guarantee your kid will be a better player, just by going to practice two to three times a week.

"We're going to help get your kid to the next level, whatever that next level may be for he or she."

And do the parents buy it?

"I've had many more parents tell me yes, their kid is a better player, than no," Neely concluded

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## An End to Hypocrisy

**DR. PERVEZ HOODBHOY , Mar 02, 2011**

My green passport requires standing in a separate immigration line once my plane lands at Boston's Logan Airport. The "special attention" from Homeland Security, although polite, adds an extra two to three hours. I belong to the fortunate few who can get a visa, but I am still annoyed. Having traveled to the United States frequently for 40 years, I now find a country that once warmly welcomed Pakistanis to be quite cold. The reason is clear.

Foreigners carrying strong negative feelings—or perhaps harmful intentions—are unlikely to find enthusiastic hosts. I know that the man who tried to bomb Times Square, Faisal Shahzad, a graduate of the University of Bridgeport, is my compatriot. So is Aafia Siddiqui, our new-found dukhtur-e-millat (daughter of the nation). Another Pakistani, Farooque Ahmed, with a degree from the **College of Staten Island**, made headline news in November 2010 after his abortive attempt to blow up DC Metro trains.

If such violent individuals were rarities, their nationality would matter little. But their actions receive little or no criticism in a country consumed by bitter anti-Americanism, which now exceeds its anti-Indianism.

Example: after the Faisal Shahzad news broke in early May 2010, TV channels in Pakistan switched to denial mode. Popular anchors freely alleged conspiracies against Islam and Pakistan. None revisited their claims after Shahzad proudly pleaded guilty in June. Calling himself a "Muslim soldier," he read a prepared statement: "It's a war ... I'm going to plead guilty a hundred times over."

Psychologists say that even hard facts can be denied when people subscribe to a radically different vision of the world. A glimpse of the current Pakistani weltanschauung—the mental makeup which selects and filters facts before they reach the conscious brain—can be had through the lives of the three young US-educated Pakistanis mentioned above.

Idealistic in their own way, they fought for a cause they believed was just. Influenced by an ambiance that puts America as the source of the world's grief, they bravely sacrificed their jobs and careers. Having inhabited some part of their universe, I can understand something of what they went through.

Like Aafia Siddiqui—now al Qaeda's poster girl—I, too, was a student at MIT. And, like her, I was furious at America. In the late 1960s, American B-52s were flattening Hanoi and Haiphong, while napalm and Agent Orange were destroying Vietnam's people and jungles. When Nixon ordered the Christmas bombings of 1972, I wept. How could one live in America and not fight it? But instead of wanting to bomb Harvard Square, I chose to return to Pakistan—for good.

Reason and observation slowly changed me. Cruelty to the weak is not an American monopoly; wars and brutal conquests are as old as history. The United States cannot be forgiven for the

Vietnam and Iraq wars, among others. But should India be forgiven for killing Kashmiris, West Pakistan for the East Pakistan massacres, Turkey for the Armenian genocide, or Japan for the Rape of Nanking? Countless states have blood on their hands. Retribution would surely make the world an inferno.

If Pakistani Americans wish to feel welcome in the country they have chosen to live in, then, they must judge the West and Pakistan using exactly the same criteria, and expose three popular falsehoods.

First, it is a lie that American Muslims are victims of extreme religious prejudice. Certainly, no country is free of religious discrimination. But, the secular West is infinitely less discriminatory than any Muslim country.

How many churches are there in Saudi Arabia? Yet Muslims have built hundreds of new mosques in America—with Saudi money—and many after 9/11. New churches or temples are impossible in Pakistan; even old ones are burned down by rampaging mobs.

In America, Muslims successfully use the legal system to seek damages if there is discrimination in matters of employment, housing, or access to public facilities. But in Pakistan, if you are a Christian, Hindu, or Ahmadi, you simply accept your fate.

Second, it is a lie that American Muslims are physically endangered. In fact, Muslims are far safer in the United States than in Pakistan. Does one see Kalashnikov-toting guards during Friday prayers outside a mosque in the West? Yet if you are a Barelvi or a Shia in Pakistan, your life may end at your place of worship. Scattered body limbs and pools of blood at Data Darbar, Abdullah Shah Ghazi, and the Pakpattan shrines testify that the cruelest of Islam's enemies come from within.

While Pakistan's terrified religious minorities live in fear of an intolerant majority, American Muslims get protection both from its people and the state. A personal example: the day after 9/11, I was appalled by the wild joy among my students [in Pakistan]. Worried about my former students, now studying in various U.S.

universities, I emailed them. Their return emails were reassuring. White American students had formed defense committees; no Muslim student was ever harmed on any campus. So even though George W Bush—a religious zealot—was preparing to invade Iraq, ordinary Americans were largely decent.

Third, the nauseating hypocrisy of Pakistan's radicalizing West-hating, West-baiting leaders needs to be exposed. For example, Imran Khan—who speaks of the West as the fountainhead of evil—prefers to keep his family in London and New York, owes his fame to a game invented by British colonialists, and employs real doctors rather than hakeems for his cancer hospital.

To conclude: if Pakistani-Americans want to feel welcome in the land they have chosen to settle in, they must actively combat the cancer of radicalism. They must want to be part of the modern world, not the one they came from. To mosque imams and radical Islamists, they must say clearly and loudly: we want to live peacefully with other Americans in a modern, pluralistic, and secular society that values freedom of belief, freedom for art and music, and freedom for thought and expression.

*The writer teaches physics at Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad. These remarks are excerpted from a recent talk he gave in Washington DC to Pakistani professionals settled in America.*



## St. George resident to receive Harriet Tubman award

Published: Thursday, March 10, 2011, 6:39 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- A bus will be leaving the parking lot of Forest Avenue Shoppers Town bright and early on Saturday morning headed to Albany for the Harriet Tubman Humanitarian Achievement Awards Jubilee, where St. George resident Nancy Ashon-Poku will be among the 12 honorees.

The awards are given to women from all regions of New York state for their community service to improve the lives of those underserved.

"They are women who exemplify the selfless, heroic efforts of Harriet Tubman, 'The Black Moses.' Her courageous actions led over 300 slaves to freedom," said Thomasina Williams, treasurer of the Harriet Tubman Humanitarian Achievement Awards Jubilee. The organization is an advocate for a statewide holiday to honor Tubman.

Ms. Ashon-Poku, a retired educator, took the words of educator and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune to heart: "For I am my mother's daughter, and the drums of Africa still beat in my heart. They will not let me rest while there is a single black boy or girl without a chance to prove his worth."



ASHON-POKU: The honoree retired last year after 23 years with the Department of Education.

The native of Charleston, S.C., moved with her parents to Greenwich Village in 1957, out of the reach of Jim Crow laws that institutionalized segregation between blacks and whites.

While working on an associate's degree in early childhood education at City College, she earned a travel scholarship to West Africa, where she toured six countries with 30 other students.

The following year, in 1972, she moved to Ghana with her three young children. She worked as a teacher in Medina, Accra and Tarkwa, finally opening a private school in Bunsaso for the children of the executives of the Firestone Rubber Company.

When she returned to the U.S., she worked as a paraprofessional in Port Richmond and Concord high schools while she earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the **College of Staten Island**. She became a history teacher, and taught at John Jay in Brooklyn and Susan Wagner for 14 years.

When she began working as a paraprofessional, she formed an African Culture Club to ensure that high school students learned about their heritage and the contributions of African Americans. Through a Rites of Passage mentoring program, students learned the traditions, history and similarities of Africa to other parts of the world.

The clubs traveled to East Coast colleges, participated in Black History programs, and Kwanzaa celebrations.

"I love to brag. I told my students they need to give me material," said Ms. Ashon-Poku. Her students cooperated.

Several became teachers and one is a principal in Brooklyn. Some of them, including a professor at Howard University, and their parents will accompany her and her family members to the awards ceremony.

The mother of five and grandmother of four, retired last year after 23 years with the Department of Education.

The bus will leave at 6:45 a.m. for the noon ceremony at the Historic Wilborn Temple, First Church of God in Christ in Albany.

For information about traveling on the bus, call Ms. Williams at 718-761-0110.

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## Islanders in Uniform -- March 13, 2011

Published: Sunday, March 13, 2011, 6:17 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**



Airman 1st Class Michela  
P. Infantino

### **Airman 1st Class Michela P. Infantino**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class Michela P. Infantino graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Ettore Infantino of South Beach and the sister of David Infantino of Purling, N.Y.

Airman Infantino graduated in 2009 from the **College of Staten Island** High School for International Studies.

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