

CSI in the News



July 2011

 csitoday.com/in-the-news

Archive
csitoday.com/publication/csi-in-the-news

Table of Contents

<i>Ads</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Arts & Events</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Faculty & Staff</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Sports</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Stories</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>Students & Alumni</i>	<i>67</i>

ADS



FREE
Small Business Assistance
for start-up or existing businesses

718.982.2560
www.csi.cuny.edu/SBDC

**NYS SMALL
BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
CENTER**

College of Staten Island/SBDC
2800 Victory Boulevard 2A-300
Staten Island, NY 10314
Dean Balsamini, Sr., Director

CSI CUNY
world class, right here!

SBA
U.S. Small Business Administration

The New York State Small Business Development Center is partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The support given by the U.S. Small Business Administration through such funding does not constitute an expressed or implied endorsement of the cosponsors' or participants' opinions, products, or services. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.

Arts & Events

West Point Band to perform free show Aug. 6 at Springer Concert Hall

Published: Sunday, July 10, 2011, 5:42 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**



Photo Courtesy of West Point Band

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - Get your patriotic hearts pumping, music fans. The West Point Band — featuring the premier musicians of the U.S. Army — will perform a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 6 at the College of Staten Island's Springer Concert Hall, 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook.

Deputy commander Capt. Dae Kim will conduct performances of marches, the "Armed Forces Medley" and some of the greatest classical and wind band literature of all time.

Over its 194-year history, the West Point Band has performed in venues such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, as well as for numerous U.S. presidents, heads of state and foreign dignitaries. They also performed the National Anthem at the first home game in the new Yankee Stadium in April 2009.

For more information or to reserve tickets, call 718-982-2787 or visit www.CSI.cuny.edu. To view the West Point Band's concert schedule, download music, sign up for the Sounds from the Hudson newsletter, or check for empl

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.



Meeting next week on disability services

Published: Saturday, July 23, 2011, 9:42 AM



Staten Island Advance
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- There are changes coming down the pike for the way people with developmental disabilities receive services.

To help Staten Islanders understand how enacted and future cuts to Medicaid will affect people and their families, the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council Tuesday will hold the first of a series of free, informational town hall meetings.

The event, called "People First, Grassroots Effort," will go from 7 to 9 p.m. at the College of Staten Island, Center for the Arts, Williamson Theater.

During the meeting, experts will discuss the care system which has developed over the past 40 years and how it provides services that help people with disabilities lead active lives.

Highlighted during the discussion will be the topic of the 1115 Waiver and how clients can expect changes to affect them.

The meeting is free and open to all members of the community.

For more information or to RSVP, call the Council office at 718-983-5276 or email contactsiddc@siddc.org.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

MONDAY, JULY 25, 2011 STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

EDEN II PERFORMING ARTS RECITAL



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/HILTON FLORES

Students at Eden II perform the Willie Nelson classic "On the Road Again," during the school's annual performing arts recital at the College of Staten Island's Williamson Theater.

Faculty & Staff

ON THE JOB

MATTHEW SOLOMON

College of Staten Island

Matthew Solomon, associate professor of cinema studies in the Department of Media Culture at the College of Staten Island, has recently won the prestigious Best Moving Image Book Award from the Kraszna-Krausz Foundation at the Sony World Photography Awards in London for his book, "Disappearing Tricks: Silent Film, Houdini, and the New Magic of the Twentieth Century." Solomon accepted the award at a red-carpet event in London from filmmaker Hugh Hudson, director of the Oscar-winning "Chariots of Fire." The Kraszna-Krausz Foundation is named for Hungarian publisher Andor Kraszna-Krausz, the founder of Focal Press, and recognizes books that have made outstanding educational, historical and cultural contributions to the fields of the moving image and photography.

CHRISTINA TORTORA

College of Staten Island

Christina Tortora, professor of linguistics at the College of Staten Island, was recently awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for her project entitled "A Syntactically Annotated Corpus of Appalachian English."

Tortora describes the highly labor-intensive project as "building an extremely large tool for linguists." She has been collaborating with Michael Montgomery, professor emeritus at the University of South Carolina, who has been collecting recordings of Appalachian speech from East Tennessee State University, Appalachian State University, Alice Lloyd College and many other colleges in Appalachia.

RESILIENT RETURNEES: HONG KONGERS COME HOME

By Nan M. Sussman
July 2011

A good cook blends the flavors and creates something harmonious and delicious. No flavor is completely submerged, and the savory taste is due to the blended but distinctive contributions of each flavor.

---Zuozhan (a Confucian text)

By my estimation, nearly 500,000 Hong Kongers have returned home since their unprecedented emigration between 1984 and 1997. After the signing of the Sino-British Joint Declaration by the governments of Great Britain and the People's Republic of China, the looming return of Hong Kong to China's sovereignty prompted more than 800,000 to leave, equal to one-sixth of the entire population of the territory. The motivation was uniform—"handover anxiety"—and the response built to a crescendo by 1992. While more than 20 countries welcomed these middle class, well-educated and bilingual immigrants, 76% entered either Australia, Canada or the United States. In contrast to past migrations, this one often included multiple generations; 35% of them held professional and managerial jobs compared to 12% of the general population; 15% were university graduates compared to 5.2%.

The intent for many was to secure a new passport, not a new identity, although identity played a crucial role in the original decision to migrate and subsequent cultural transition experiences. Self-defined cultural identity had behavioral consequences. Notably, Wong Siu-lun and Janet Salaff reported that 60% of Hong Kongers identifying themselves as Chinese planned to stay in the territory after the handover while only 45% of those claiming Hong Kong identity intended to remain.¹

Throughout the 150-year period since the Opium Wars, Hong Kongers developed a complex and multi-layered cultural identity. Its core included values that emphasized filial piety and maintenance of social harmony through adherence to relational rules based on age, gender and rankings. Group loyalty and decision-making by superiors took priority over individual autonomy and interactions with outsiders. However, a pragmatic approach to problem-solving encouraged flexibility of behavior in response to the situational context rather than to immutable rules and precedence. A century and a half of British rule left a second identity layer, this time of

Western ideas and customs. These Western values gave priority to a sense of self that was distinct from the group, individual needs more important than family, and a focus on individual attributes as the motivation for behavior rather than the situation in which the behavior took place. Egalitarianism rather than unequal dyads (e.g. father-son, husband-wife, ruler-subject) was stressed in social relationships. By the late 20th century, these two identities, Chinese and Western, spawned a uniquely Hong Kong identity characterized by hard work, group cohesion but also modernity and sophistication.

According to Michael DeGolyer of Hong Kong Baptist University, cultural identities of Hong Kongers are fluid, responding to current events (a form of social context).² From 1985 to 1996, they labeled themselves as either Hong Konger or Chinese with an increase in the latter identity as the handover approached. By 1997, a third identity, Hong Kong-Chinese, emerged with nearly equal numbers describing themselves as one of the three identity types. By 2003, with return migration in full swing, the percent describing themselves as Chinese dropped to a low of 20% while the Hong Konger identity rebounded, used to self-describe by half of the population. Although some Hong Kongers' behaviors contain the residue of Western values and norms, few people labeled themselves as British.

The Hong Kong Remigration Project

Humans are a peripatetic species: they have always been on the move and not infrequently they return to their home territory. The Hong Kong return migration was unique in that it was arguably among the largest by population percentage and took place in a narrow window of time. The Hong Kong Remigration Project (HKRP) began in 2003 as an investigation into the psychological and identity consequences of this cyclical migration experience. In 2004, 50 returnees from Canada (35% of the returnee population) and Australia (24%) were interviewed in depth. In addition, they completed psychological assessments of acculturation into Australia or Canada, cultural identity, repatriation distress, satisfaction with life, and other demographic information. At the time of departure, the interviewees ranged in age from 13 to 47 and spent a minimum of one year in their place of migration before returning to Hong Kong. Some follow-up interviews took place over the next few years.

Immigrant Experiences

As newcomers to Canada and Australia, many Hong Kongers came to learn about, respect and adapt to the customs and values of their new homelands. Parents gave their children more freedom and relinquished some decision-making authority. They admired the local commitment to protecting the environment and nature. One remarked to me that she slowed down her walking pace when her hurried gait revealed her Hong Kong origins to the Aussies. Another embraced the intricate rules of ice hockey and became an ardent Vancouver Canuck's fan. Hong Kongers were hiking in Melbourne instead of shopping, and spending evenings at home with their families rather than in the office. In the gradual way of cultural transitions, former Hong Kongers added another identity layer to their already complex one. Following several years in Vancouver or Sydney, a Canadian/Australia identity emerged. Psychological adjustments for the immigrants were relatively smooth, although not without a few bumps. Immigrants to Australia complained about the relaxed work style ("like a koala bear") and promotional ceilings, and those living in Canada about social liberalism ("too much discussion about sex in public"). But now they were returning home.

Why leave their big homes in Richmond and the sparkling beaches of Queensland for the crowds of Causeway Bay? The economic, corporate and government lure of Hong Kong became too hard to resist when measured against the slumping economies of the West. Pundits labeled these early and intermittent returning immigrants tai kong ren or "astronauts" and, for a time, they were in fact working in Hong Kong but maintaining homes and families in their new abodes. Gradually, however, the decision was made to return to Hong Kong, mostly with families intact, but occasionally leaving behind college-aged children or elderly grandparents in their Toronto homes. More long-term strategic visions also influenced decisions. Parents, with an eye to the future, were determined that their children be fluent not only in Cantonese and English but also in Mandarin.

A Cultural Identity Model

The experience of returning home is where Hong Kongers part company with the experience of returnees world-wide. My research over a 25-year period consistently showed that returnees were in psychological distress when they returned home. The Cultural Identity Model of cultural transitions is a paradigm that categorizes the returnee response into four types of cultural identities: Subtractive, Additive, Affirmative and Global, and

predicts the emotional response to each. Westerners in particular exhibit a Subtractive cultural identity: they no longer fit into their home countries and feel estranged from their compatriots. One American, on his return to the U.S. following several years in France, commented: "I just didn't fit any more in the US." An Italian college student returning home following a year of work in Peru complained: "My return has been more difficult than my adjustment overseas. I feel something, it's like my place isn't really here (in Italy) any more." A Finnish woman, returning home from Australia, commented: "Coming back home was more difficult than going abroad because I had expected changes when going overseas. During repatriation it was real culture shock. I felt like an alien in my own country."

Hong Kongers Return Home

For a small percentage of all returnees, returning home strengthens and affirms their native identity and is coupled with relief at being home again. These "grateful repatriates" rarely made cultural adaptations while overseas and therefore did not experience identity changes. Among my Hong Kong sample, six of the fifty respondents were classified as having Affirmative identities. Most were men who had emigrated over the age of 40. In fact, many of them felt more Chinese than they had prior to emigration. One man commented, "When I left Australia after two years, my sense of belonging to be a Chinese is more than when I live in Hong Kong.... When we are in Hong Kong, our living style is Hong Kong and we see so many Chinese people. But when we go to Australia, Western living style, we begin to be interested in the things Chinese."³ A woman returnee poignantly reflected, "Well, it's good for me in a way I went (to Canada) and I knew the experience. If I never go, and I never might I always have that yearning to go there. So now...this is where I belong, what I should do....It give me some experience, although it's a bad experience. But it really taught me something." As an unobtrusive measure of identity, returnees' self-naming conventions were categorized. More than 60% of the Affirmative identifiers used the "Chinese surname followed by the Chinese given name" style, the most typical Chinese type.

Global identifiers are a small group who are characterized as having had multiple international sojourner experiences prior to returning home. They describe themselves as world or global citizens, capable of moving and cultural adjusting rapidly and smoothly. In the Hong Kong sample, five returnees embodied this identity. As one returnee explained, "I can fit

myself into any society and any place.” Another commented, “I would say I am quite an international man. I think in the future, because of globalization, there are no country barriers.” Regarding naming styles, one-hundred percent of the Global identifiers used the “English given name followed by Chinese surname” style, in contrast with the Affirmatives.

The overwhelming majority of Hong Kong returnees exhibited an Additive response: they have added a layer of Canadian or Australian identity to their complex self-concepts and most have a positive emotional response to returning home. Thirty-one of the interviewees were categorized as Additives with another seven who combined Additive with another identity profile. On a psychological assessment of both identity and behavior, these Additives showed nearly identical Western and Hong Kong identities and similar sets of behaviors. That is, they maintained two cultural cognitive frames and ways of acting. As the Zuozhan quotation above suggests, no flavor is completely submerged. Overall, their return to Hong Kong was marked with a high level of flexibility in thought and action.

Their Hong Kong-Western bicultural identity allowed for a widened range of thinking and behavior that they shifted in response to the situational context. Working for a Western company? Be direct in communication and don’t worry about face, express your opinions decisively, and do some errands alone during lunch time, at least occasionally. Working for a local company? Then work six days a week, 10 hours a day, keep your opinions to yourself and eat lunch daily with your co-workers. Paradoxically, most returnees were relieved to return to the lengthy work day, equating hard work with being a good employee despite the reduction in time spent with spouses and children. Many complained about the short work days abroad, attributing this style to laziness or lack of loyalty to the company.

Both Steak and Dim Sum

Linguistically, returnees switch between Cantonese and English at a high rate (e.g. 26 switches in a 400 word utterance, according to Hong Kong University professor of linguistics Katherine Chen).⁴ Their culinary preferences are both steak and dim sum. While some remigrants returned to their former flats, temporarily occupied by relatives, many returnees sought to replicate their immigrant housing. They moved to the New Territories to larger homes with backyards and gardens. Regarding educational preferences, most returnees choose the English Schools Foundation, or the

Canadian or Australian Schools, expressing a clear inclination for pedagogy that favored critical thinking skills over rote memorization. However, they were determined that their children would maintain Cantonese fluency and learn Mandarin. Attitudinally, they have become more environmentally conscious and are more likely to believe that they can make a political difference by participating in June 4 or July 1 demonstrations, for example. And of course, they picked up their pace; no leisurely Melbourne-style strolling on Nathan Road.

One other significant departure from the reactions of Western returnees: no hand-wringing or existential dilemmas about how to live and work in Hong Kong. Despite my probing during our interviews for returnee discomfort, the re-migrants were experiencing high satisfaction with their lives and low repatriation distress. One male returnee from Canada summarized the experience of many others, articulating the flexible nature of Hong Kongers: “No, to me it’s okay. I am that kind of person. I can fit myself into any society and any place. That’s my thinking, never change the society or the world. You have to fit into it, and make others to fit into it.” There were two specific exceptions to the ease of adjustment, and both of these were short-lived: one was the density and crowds (pedestrian and vehicular) in Hong Kong; the other, the weather and pollution. Noted one male re-migrant from Australia: “I hate walking into a big shopping centre...every second on Sunday the whole place will go crazy with people. And I remember that just when I first got back I will try to avoid the crowd by ...avoiding level three, the level that actually links up with the actual railway concourse. I go one floor up and walk there because I would not be bumping into anybody.”

Future of the Hong Kong Identity

Hong Kongers continue to be on the move, now to China rather than the West. In 2005, it was estimated that of a population of 6.9 million, 200,000 were living and working in China. More than 70% have moved for work-related reasons and another 11% for retirement. Still others commute daily to Shenzhen, Guangzhou and other Pearl River Delta sites. A survey by the Hong Kong Planning Department found that an additional 161,000 planned to move to the Mainland in the next decade.

Will cultural identity flexibility continue to be the psychological hallmark of these sojourners? Preliminary data confirms this pattern. A new study by David Zweig and his colleagues at the Hong Kong University of Science and

Technology reports that 29% of Hong Kongers working in the Mainland are assimilated or strongly integrated into a Chinese identity compared to their pre-departure (from Hong Kong) identity.⁵ In fact, 22 of the sojourners (from a sample of 231) completely abandoned their Hong Kong identity. More importantly, 144 (62%) of the respondents reported a combined Hong Kong/Chinese identity, the primary trait of an Additive profile. Their change in attitudes and identity were influenced by several variables including their satisfaction with living in China, their willingness to learn Mandarin and their beliefs that income inequality in China was not significant. Of note is that approximately 50% arrived with a dual identity and maintained that while working in China.

Cultural identity flexibility characterizes Hong Kongers as they move across the globe. They easily add new identities without the psychological distress and angst plaguing many Western repatriates. In an increasingly internationalized workplace and education environment, cultural elasticity will serve the residents of Hong Kong well.

Dr. Nan M. Sussman is a professor of Psychology at the City University of New York and former chair of the Department of Psychology, where she teaches a course on Psychology and Chinese Culture. She received her PhD at the University of Kansas, was a Professional Associate at the East-West Center in Honolulu and has received two Fulbright Fellowships for research in Japan and Hong Kong. Her recent book, Return Migration and Identity: A Global Phenomenon, A Hong Kong Case, was published by the Hong Kong University Press. She can be contacted at nan.sussman@csi.cuny.edu

¹ Salaff, J.W., Wong, S.L., & Greve, A. (2010). *Hong Kong movers and stayers: Narratives of family migration*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press.

² DeGolyer, M. (2007). Identity in the politics of transition: The case of Hong Kong, "Asia's World City." In K.B. Chan, J. Walls, and D. Hayward (eds.), *East-West identities: Globalization, localization, and hybridization* (pp. 21-45). Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers.

³ The transcripts of Hong Kong participants are verbatim, thus without grammatical or lexical editing.

⁴ Chen, K. H. Y. (2008). Positioning and repositioning: Linguistic practices and identity negotiation of overseas returning bilinguals in Hong Kong. *Multilingua*, 27, 57-75.

⁵ Zweig, D., Tjia, L., Yang, Z., Tran, E., & He, G. (manuscript in preparation, 2011). *Identity and politics among Hong Kongers living in the Chinese Mainland*.

From Garbage Dump to Energy Source **by Vicky Plestis** **05 Jul 2011**

Photo by [James Dunn](#)

Since the Fresh Kills Landfill closed in 2001, city and state officials have begun trying to turn it into a park, but the process will take decades.

For years, popular urban legend on Staten Island held that there were only two things you could see from space -- the Great Wall of China and [Fresh Kills Landfill](#). For over 50 years the landfill served as New York City's receptacle for trash, receiving approximately 29,000 tons of waste each day and spawning mounds reportedly taller than the Statue of Liberty.

The city officially closed Fresh Kills Landfill in 2001 and has since begun a 30-year process of reclaiming it as a park. The [Freshkills Park project](#) has become a poster child for Mayor Michael Bloomberg's [PlaNYC initiative](#), a symbol of the city's movement toward sustainable, environmentally oriented growth. But despite the park's draft master plan, progress at Freshkills has been slow.

The vision entails not only converting what once had been a site of environmental blight into a verdant space for recreation and contemplation but also using the area as an energy source. To boost that effort, the [Land Art Generator Initiative](#), or LAGI, a project aimed at integrating renewable energy infrastructure with public art, has [announced](#) that Freshkills Park would be the site for its 2012 international design competition, LAGINYC. If successful, LAGINYC has the potential to jumpstart the clean energy efforts at Freshkills -- and turn around 50 years of history for Staten Island.

Energy from Art

LAGI was founded by husband and-wife duo Robert Ferry and Elizabeth Monoianin in 2009 after they moved to Dubai. Ferry, an architect, and Monoianin, an interdisciplinary artist and designer, were inspired by the United Arab Emirates' [Masdar initiative](#) to introduce clean energy and sustainability to a region principally founded on the oil industry.

According to Ferry, LAGI aims to "create objects of profound beauty that are at the same time functional generators of clean energy" in the hope that public art "can help the transition to alternative energy." Ferry and Monoianin hope LAGI designs will "stimulate and challenge their viewers to re-conceptualize what clean energy can look like.

"All of the designs are new ways of thinking about renewable energy. ... [They] create a vision for what the future can be," said Ferry.

LAGI's first ideas competition was held in the United Arab Emirates in 2010, drawing in hundreds of submissions from 40 countries worldwide. A panel of international artists, architects, academicians, industry leaders and writers chose [Lunar Cubit](#) as its winner in January 2011. Lunar Cubit,

conceived by a New York-based team of Robert Flottemesch, Jen DeNike, Johanna Ballhaus and Adrian P. De Luca, proposes nine solar-paneled pyramids outside of Masdar City that would light up in accordance with the lunar cycle and generate energy for up to 250 houses in Abu Dhabi.

Runner-ups included [Windstalk](#), a design for poles that use wind power in an effort to create a wind farm without turbines, and [Solaris](#), a design for roughly 1,500 solar panels that resembles an ocean over the desert.

The winner of the LAGI competitions receives a \$15,000 cash prize. LAGI, however, does not guarantee the construction of a design, although the initiative hopes to ultimately realize this goal. Ferry admits that Lunar Cubit's construction is still unclear, but he stressed that LAGI's intention is not just to generate innovative designs, but to build them as well.

"We're in really promising talks with very high-level people who have the ability to make it happen. ... These things take time," he said.

From Garbage to Green

LAGI's mission is particularly relevant for Freshkills, whose history, according to park administrator Eloise Hirsh, has "carved a big, psychic scar for Staten Island." Ten years ago, the area was both environmentally dangerous and visually repellent. LAGI could turn that around by generating designs that have the potential to not only power thousands of homes with clean sources of energy, but transform the blighted landscape into something beautiful as well.

Aesthetics play a key part in correcting what occurred at Freshkills, Ferry thinks. "It's important that [clean energy infrastructure] responds to our natural desire for beauty and conceptual layering and interest rather than just having simple utilitarian objects."

The LAGINYC competition will complement the city's ongoing environmental efforts, Ferry said, which both "work to integrate renewable energy policies" and "embrace ambitious public art." In Hirsh's view, it's particularly fitting that the competition involve Freshkills, a park whose principal mission is to "promote innovative strategies for environmental sustainability."

Wind and Sun

Freshkills is not new to clean energy initiatives. Already the park boasts a gas collection system that recovers methane from the site's decomposing waste. The methane, sold to [National Grid](#) for \$12 million a year, heats up to 22,000 homes in Staten Island. The [Department of City Planning](#) estimates that methane can be harvested from the site for at least 30 years.

Photo by [Garrett Ziegler](#)

The decaying garbage under Freshkills provides enough methane to heat 32,000 homes on Staten Island.

The city also is looking into the feasibility of solar and wind power, although no plans have been formalized. In an April speech, Bloomberg [announced](#) a new PlaNYC target to generate 50 megawatts of clean energy from solar power plants installed over landfills.

While no specific development has yet to occur, Freshkills would be a prime location to carry out such a project. "The understanding was the Freshkills would be a part of that," said Nick Dmytryszyn, the environmental engineer for Staten Island.

The location is also seen as a prime site for wind energy. A [2007 study](#) conducted by the New York State [Energy Research and Development Agency](#) confirmed that Freshkills could support seven wind turbines and generate up to 17.5 megawatts of energy, over a third of Bloomberg's targeted goal.

"The fact is that it is doable, achievable," said Dmytryszyn, adding that the turbines "could supply the energy needs for 3 percent of the Staten Island population."

Borough President James Molinaro, one of the city's leading proponents of wind energy, has spent over three years trying to convince city officials of the feasibility of wind turbines at Freshkills. Last month city's, Environmental Protection commissioner, Cas Holloway, announced that the administration would look into Molinaro's proposal, promising Staten Islanders that they will "see movement on that pretty fast."

As of now, however, both the wind and solar projects are vaguely defined, and their actual implementation is far from certain.

"We're very hopeful about the feedback that we will get, but the projects are still in the pre-feasibility stages. We have commissioned studies and are awaiting findings," said Michael Saucier, press secretary for the [Department of Environmental Protection](#).

Restoring a Landscape

Once completed, Freshkills Park is slated to be 2,200 acres, roughly three times the size of Central Park. Visions for the area are just as expansive. Freshkills will offer space for mountain biking, running, kayaking, and horseback riding, as well as cultural and educational programming. It will also serve as a focal point for the borough, with an "expansive network of paths, recreational waterways, and a system of park drives" that will connect it to surrounding neighborhoods.

At the heart of the Freshkills project, however, is a commitment to environmental renewal. According to Hirsh, it will "stand as a symbol for the kind of transformation that can happen in seriously compromised sites."

The [Department of Parks and Recreation](#) has various plans to restore the park's wetlands, eradicate invasive plants, and support a diverse wildlife habitat at the former landfill.

"They've made ecological restoration part of the vocabulary," said Deborah Popper, a professor of environmental studies at the [College of Staten Island](#). "You can definitely see things ... changing. ... You can see the trees being planted, then starting to take off. [Freshkills] is beginning to look very, very different."

But with recent delays in some of the park's preliminary projects, such as [Owl Hollow Fields](#) and many of Freshkills' clean energy proposals barely in the planning stages, some residents feel this transformation is still far off.

"Most of the Staten Island community, while welcoming something of this size, has realized [they] won't see it come to fruition in their lifetime," said Dmytryszyn. "There's always hesitation that there's not going to be funding for a park of this size -- in Staten Island of all places."

While Popper has seen significant changes at Freshkills over the last five years -- including increased access into the Park, ecological restoration and city-sponsored special events -- she admits that many residents remain skeptical.

"People really remember, and it wasn't even that long ago, how horrible the place smelled. ... You don't forget that easily," she said. "For years it's been drilled into people: It's not a safe place."

Echoing Dmytryszyn's concerns, Popper acknowledged the residents' resentment and distrust of city officials.

"Why did the rest of the city give us garbage?" she said. "It's that constant feeling that we're off in the sidelines even though we're the borough that's growing so fast, even though we're the borough that's contributing so much."

From Drive-Through to Destination

Perhaps, LAGINYC could help change that. A large-scale, site-specific installation at Fresh Kills could transform Staten Island. The island, which Freshkills Park designer James Corner once called "the place people drive through on their way to somewhere else," could "capture the imagination of the world," according to Ferry.

Echoing this sentiment, Hirsh said, "It's really going to be a great way to get creative attention to the many opportunities and constraints of this site, to Staten Island. It will help us engage larger public conversation."

Moreover, if the design actually is constructed at Freshkills, Ferry envisions it would draw attention to the park and its environs. Ferry believes the competition could have profound effects for Staten Island by providing "cultural value, economic development value [and] tourism potential."

For Staten Island, "the forgotten borough" as some call it, this would be true vindication for its 50 years as New York's garbage site. Perhaps, Popper said, Staten Island "could become a central spot instead of a congested pass-through." And, she said, if LAGINYC and, on a broader scale, Freshkills Park, succeed, future New Yorkers "won't even know what it used to be."

Article on Microbiology

Scientists at [College of Staten Island](#) Detail Research in Microbiology

2011 JUL 5 -- Investigators publish new data in the report "Transcriptional control of genes involved in yeast phospholipid biosynthesis." According to the authors of recent research from Staten Island, United States, "Phospholipid biosynthetic genes encode enzymes responsible for phospholipid biosynthesis. They are coordinately regulated by the availability of phospholipid precursors through the inositol-sensitive upstream activating sequence (UAS(INO))."

"However, not all phospholipid genes are UAS(INO)-containing genes and not all UAS(INO)-containing genes have the same response to the phospholipid precursors. Therefore, the transcriptional regulation of phospholipid genes in response to the availability of phospholipid precursors is still unclear. Here, 22 out of 47 phospholipid biosynthetic genes were identified as UAS(INO)-containing genes, including EKI1, EPT1, INM1, IPK2, KCS1, PAH1, and PIK1 which have never been reported before. We also showed, using qRT-PCR technique, that 12 UAS(INO)-containing genes are down-regulated by 100 M inositol in the wild type cells and up-regulated by 100 M inositol in the *ino2*^Δ cells. Therefore, it is possible that these genes are transcriptionally regulated by the UAS(INO) through the negative response of Ino2p to inositol. One other UAS(INO)-containing gene might be regulated by the positive response of Ino2p to 100 M inositol. Surprisingly, we found 9 UAS(INO)-containing genes are not dependent on the response of Ino2p to 100 M inositol, indicating that they may be regulated by other pathway. Furthermore, we identified 9 and 3 non-UAS(INO)-containing genes that are possibly regulated by the negative and positive response of Ino2p to 100 M inositol, respectively," wrote R. Wimalaratna and colleagues, College of Staten Island.

The researchers concluded: "Therefore, these observations provide insight into the understanding of the co-regulated phospholipid biosynthetic genes expression."

Wimalaratna and colleagues published their study in the *Journal of Microbiology* (Transcriptional control of genes involved in yeast phospholipid biosynthesis. *Journal of Microbiology*, 2011;49(2):265-73).

For additional information, contact R. Wimalaratna, Dept. of Biology, [College of Staten Island](#) City University of New York, 2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island New York 10314, United States.

Keywords: City:Staten Island, State:New York, Country:United States, Region:North and Central America.

This article was prepared by NewsRx editors from staff and other reports. Copyright 2011, NewsRx.com.

Tyehimba Jess

July - September 2011 Judge, [InterBoard Poetry Competition](#)¹

Like only a very few poets, Tyehimba Jess straddles the two worlds of academe and poetry slam. He was born and raised in Detroit, earned his BA at the University of Chicago and his MFA at New York University, and now teaches at CUNY [College of Staten Island](#). He is also a veteran of two Chicago Green Mill national poetry slam teams, a fellow of [Cave Canem](#)², and the recipient of many awards and honors, including a Whiting Award, fellowships from the NEA, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and the Illinois Arts Council, and the 2001 Gwendolyn Brooks Open Mic Poetry Award. His first poetry collection, *leadbelly*, was selected for the National Poetry Series by Brigit Pegeen Kelly and published by Wave Books in 2005.

Here are links to a few places where you can read or hear his work online:

- His chapter in *The Book of Voices*, "[The Idea of the Father](#)³," includes an introduction by Kurt Heintz, a brief essay by Jess outlining "his general motivations in a literary way," and audio files of eight poems.
- *From the Fishhouse* has [a large collection of his poems](#)⁴ in audio form, both live and studio recordings.
- "[Sonnet Crown for Blind Tom](#)⁵" and "[Harry T. Burleigh meets Antonin Dvorak, 1893](#)⁶" appeared in *Nashville Review* out of Vanderbilt University.
- *Perihelion* has [three of his poems](#)⁷: "harris county chain gang," "home again" and "martha promise receives leadbelly, 1935."
- *Poets & Writers* has one poem, "[leadbelly's lessons](#)⁸."
- "[leadbelly's big city hustle](#)⁹" was published in the Fall 2005 issue of *Sou'wester* (from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville).
- For a week in February 2006, Jess' musings appeared [in Harriet the Blog](#)¹⁰ at the Poetry Foundation Web site.

To purchase his books, use these shopping links:

- ***Leadbelly*** (biography of blues legend Huddie William Ledbetter in poems, Wave Books, 2005)
- ***African-American Pride: Celebrating Our Achievements, Contributions, and Enduring Legacy*** (cultural history, Citadel Press, 2004)





Marquis Staten Island baseball academy comes up ACES

By DYLAN BUTLER

Posted: 12:58 AM, July 7, 2011

With a client list that includes David Wright, Jorge Posada and Scott Rolen, Seth and brother Sam Levinson are two of baseball's biggest power brokers and Brooklyn-based ACES is one of the largest player agencies in the game.

But the death of their father five years ago inspired the Levinsons to give back and the end result is ACES Baseball Academy on Staten Island.

"The game has taught us invaluable life lessons and it is ultimately our hope to in some way improve the community in which we all live," Seth Levinson told The Post.

Along with Nationals pitcher Jason Marquis, a Staten Island native and ACES client, the Levinsons opened the academy, located in the Charleston section of borough, in April with the plan to cater to the serious-minded baseball player. It's a facility, according to Ben Laskin, the academy's vice president of baseball operations, that has been lacking on the Island.

"Staten Island never had a hardcore place," he said. "Everyone was going to these little batting cages all over and doing what they can in the park, but this is a legit, hardcore place with top of the line people behind it from Major League Baseball."

Laskin, a former Tottenville standout and the hitting coach at the College of Staten Island, is part of a troika of like-minded baseball guys who run the day-to-day operations. Greg Belson, who was a star pitcher at Tottenville and Montclair State and was picked by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 26th round of the 2000 draft, is the president of baseball operations. Kevin Hughes, who was a star hitter at McKee/Staten Island Tech, played at St. John's and is now a scout with the Washington Nationals, is the hitting coordinator.

"These very special men share not only the same love of the game, but also the same high core life values," Seth Levinson said. "It goes without saying that their knowledge of the game is exceptional, however it is their ability to convey that knowledge that distinctly places them on a level well above all others."

Frankie Brooks, who pitched with the Atlanta Braves and Pittsburgh Pirates and catcher Brian Esposito, who played for the Cardinals and Astros, are also regular instructors.

"The quality of the instruction, the resources behind it, the machines we have are the best you can get," said Hughes, who is a hitting instructor to Tottenville's Kevin Krause and former St. Peter's standout John Ziznewski. "They wanted to open a facility where kids can come in, work and get better and that's just what they've done."

Also what sets ACES apart, Hughes said, is the likelihood of one of Levinson's clients showing up at a moment's notice. That's what happened two weeks ago when Wright popped in and ended up working with the Stony Brook-bound Krause on his swing.

Marquis, arguably the borough's most famous athlete, is also a regular at the facility.

"He's one of the nicest guys I've ever met," Hughes said of Marquis. "I love talking baseball with him because he's so goal-orientated, strict routine. It's all about baseball. He really puts the time and effort in."

That's just what Belson, Laskin and Hughes are doing at ACES.

"It's all about the kids, about getting these kids better and making them learn the game the right way," Laskin said. "I don't know if there's a lot of teaching about the mental side of this game and I'm really big on that. It's really a microcosm of life. You fail a lot of times, you have to overcome a lot of struggles. It's really for the mentally tough."

Hughes said ACES is more than just pitching and hitting instructions. There are currently two travels teams (U-11 and U-15) under the ACES Baseball Academy umbrella, speed and agility workouts three nights a week, video analysis and the facility also caters to softball players with the same mentality.

"We take softball as serious as baseball," Hughes said. "Teams have come in, pushed all the nets back and done fielding."

ACES aims to have travel teams in all ages, camps, hitting leagues for baseball and softball and complex that rivals some of those in the south.

"Our ultimate vision is to have a significantly larger facility that has the means to attend to children with special needs and has the ability to raise funds for charitable purposes," Seth Levinson said.

While Levinson is keen on expanding ACES Baseball Academy, it is a one-of-a-kind facility Laskin wishes he had at his disposal when he was younger.

"There's really nowhere I ke this place out here and there's a lot of talent on Staten Island," Laskin said. "Everything was always so far away. It's nice that we don't have to cross that bridge."

dbutler@nypost.com



SENATOR GOLDEN ANNOUNCES EXPRESS BUS SERVICE TO BE RESTORED AND ACCESS-A-RIDE TAXI VOUCHER PROGRAM TO BE EXPANDED TO LIVERY CABS IN BROOKLYN FOR SENIORS AND THE DISABLED

July 9th, 2011 @ 05:05am

Senator Golden also announced the expansion of the livery taxi voucher program for Access-A-Ride users which will provide more efficient service for those in Brooklyn and in the outer-boroughs. The taxi voucher program, which will be operated by the Corporate Transportation Group, and provide door to door service for those with subscription Access-A- Ride service, is expected to commence in the Fall.

Senator Marty Golden stated, "The services cuts of 2010 implemented by the Metropolitan Transit Authority were not equal throughout the city and severely impacted the seniors, the disabled and all people of this part of Brooklyn. The commutes for so many were intolerable and extensive and the MTA left us no other options. Poor bus service, complimented by train stations not fitted with elevators so to allow for access by seniors and the disabled, made getting traveling in our City almost impossible."

Golden continued, "I thank the Metropolitan Transit Authority for listening and the plaintiffs for their advocacy on behalf of the many who need better transportation services. But the fight continues as Southwest Brooklyn still needs more of the service we lost returned to operation including weekend express bus service."

Joining Senator Golden at the press conference was Matthew W. Daus, former Taxi & Limousine Commissioner and Chairman of the Transportation Practice Group at Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP and Professor Jonathan Peters of the College of Staten Island. Golden and Daus, joined by Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Brooklyn) and Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis (R-C-Brooklyn/Staten Island) announced the withdrawal of a lawsuit that was filed against the Metropolitan Transit Authority in New York State Supreme Court.

The plaintiffs, two of whom were in attendance this morning, Jean Ryan and Jen Halbert, filed the lawsuit, financially supported by Senator Golden , in response to service reductions that went into effect on June 27, 2010, alleging age and disability discrimination in violation of New York State and city Human Rights Law. The law firm of Windels Marx provided extensive pro bono work on the case and represents both Senator Golden and CTG.

Information Source: Media Newswire

.
.
.....



For Staten Island gay couples, marriage equality acts mean they can finally marry in their hometown

Published: Saturday, July 09, 2011, 11:32 AM



Deborah E. Young
By

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Ray Carr and Jim McKernan speak in the same gravely tenor, inflected with native Staten Island accents. They laugh often, and finish each other's sentences, with punch lines drawing on shared memories from their 17 years together.

Now that the marriage equality act has passed in New York state, they plan to take wedding vows in the place they have always known as home.

As they switch the gold bands they now wear on their right hands to their ring fingers, they also hope to retire the attorney-prepared paperwork, which for nearly two decades has given them some measure of access to the rights automatically granted to married couples.



Staten Island Advance/Jan Somma-Hammel

Jim McKernan and Ray Carr have been together for 17 years. Now that the marriage equality act has passed in New York state, they plan to take wedding vows in the place they have always known as home

"You have the feeling you get when you find the one you love," said Carr, 50, of his first meeting with McKernan on the South Beach boardwalk in 1993. Until finding the man who would become his life partner, the Wall Street dealmaker had never been in a relationship or come out to friends and family, he said. But after feeling that kind of synergy, staying in the closet was no longer an option.

"I brought him home to meet my Irish Catholic parents," Carr said with a chuckle, recalling the bright spring day, and how his late mother was outside in the yard of their Fort Wadsworth home, and they all sat down

and chatted.

"He said, 'This is Jimmy, you're going to be seeing a lot of him around,'" said McKernan, 46.

The two moved in together a few months later and have been virtually inseparable ever since, launching a vending business and also, for two years, running Q-SINY, the gay-oriented restaurant and nightclub in Midland Beach, which closed in October.

GET ALONG PERFECTLY

"We get along perfectly; we live, work and play and love together. If you are with someone and if you cannot say I could spend 24 hours a day, seven days a week together, run the other way."

Despite their commitment, it has been arduous to ensure that institutions treat them as "legally in charge of each other," they said. When Carr was in the hospital five years ago for routine back surgery, they hired an attorney to prepare papers so McKernan could have access to his partner's bedside and, could, if need be, make serious medical decisions.

If Carr and McKernan had wed in one of six other states with same-gender marriage laws, the union would have been recognized here, and along with it, some of the benefits. But the two said they held out for the passage of the historic bill in their own state because it was a matter of principle to be able to get married at home.

"We grew up here, we live here, we're lifelong Islanders," said McKernan, musing about a reception at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bloomfield, sometime before next year.

"It will be something fun with family and friends -- definitely on Staten Island," said Carr.

The passage of the marriage equality act opens up more than just romantic possibilities, said Ganine Gambale, a St. George-based attorney. It offers real legal options to thousands of borough residents.

According to the U.S. Census, in 2000 there were 26,000 co-habiting same-gender couples in New York City, with 3.5 percent living here -- with many predicting those numbers to balloon when the 2010 Census data is released later this summer.

"Marriage is about love and commitment, but marriage in our society is also a relationship between a couple and the government," said Ms. Gambale, who specializes in helping LGBT couples and is active in a number LGBT legal organizations and marriage advocacy groups.

Still, the law in New York does not cover the 1,100 federal rights that come with marriage, she said.

The federal law, passed by both houses of Congress by large majorities and signed by President Bill Clinton in 1996, states a legal union is "between one man and one woman," and defines a spouse as "a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife."

The law has been called unconstitutional by Present Barack Obama.

"A newly married couple may file joint tax returns, transfer property to each other without tax consequences, or take family leave, but a same-gender married couple cannot, no matter how long they have been married or how intermingled their lives and finances may be," said Ms. Gamble.

Assemblyman Matthew Titone (D-North Shore), the borough's first openly gay elected official, said the passage of the New York bill was indeed a monumental step on what is still a long road. He joined New Jersey rallies for passage of a similar law, getting \$3,500 at a fundraiser for one of the pens Gov. Andrew Cuomo used to sign the legislation.

RIGHT THING TO DO

When asked about his personal stake in the outcome of the vote, Titone, who has been with his partner, Giosue Pugliese, for 18 years, responded, "It is the right thing to do and anything that is the right thing to do is personal to me."

Even though friends have offered to throw them a lavish reception, the couple will probably quietly go to Borough Hall to tie the knot.

"This is for us," he said, of the victory, which may do something to salve the pain from the time his mother was dying in the hospital, and his siblings' spouses were let into the room to join her, but Pugliese was blocked from entering.

"He was stopped from coming in simply because he could not articulate his legal relationship to this woman who had loved him for years. That was a defining moment," he said. "That is why we need this. This one little piece of paper, this license, can take care of that."

Katie Cumiskey and Robin Garber of West Brighton were married in Canada in 2006, in a small ceremony in Toronto attended by 25 family members and friends.

"The ceremony is really a time for you to ask your family and your community to pledge their support to your relationship; that's part of the reason the fight for marriage equality is so important. We came home with legal documentation saying we're married, but in law here you still feel disrespected," said Ms. Cumiskey, a professor of psychology and women's studies at the College of Staten Island. "We had to carry around a box of documents we had to use to prove the legitimacy of our marriage."

The spouses, who own the cozy Stapleton bookstore Bent Pages, will renew their vows alongside other borough LGBT couples at a grand dinner dance and celebration July 9, sponsored by Staten Island Pride Events. Later in the year, Ms. Cumiskey and Ms. Garber will take their vows again, at home.

"Even though our wedding was beautiful and special and meaningful to us and our family there, there were people who couldn't come," said Ms. Cumiskey. "We really wanted to have a wedding on Staten Island."

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.



Civic group will celebrate Pakistan's independence

Published: Sunday, July 10, 2011, 6:45 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The Pakistani Civic Association of Staten Island is sponsoring Celebrate Pakistan 64th Independence Day on Sunday, July 24 at 1 p.m. at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Livingston. The event is open to the public and includes Pakistani food, folk music and activities for the children. Tickets are \$30 per family for members; \$40 per family for non-members. For tickets, call Maureen McNamara at 718-948-7000.

Being honored for their longtime service and dedication to the Staten Island community are: Tom Early, executive director of Health Plus, a non-profit health organization; Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly; Tomas Morales, president of the College of Staten Island; and Debi Rose, city councilwoman representing the North Shore of Staten Island. Mohammad Salman Hamdani, a young Pakistani American EMT killed on Sept. 11, 2001 trying to help others at the World Trade Center, will be honored posthumously.

Special guest for the afternoon will be the Honorable Faqir Syed Asif Hussain, Consul General of Pakistan in New York.

Co-chairs of the event are Javaid Syed, CEO and president of Syed Enterprises, a business conglomerate, and Sadia Sheikh, manager and director of Interscience Labs, Bulls Head.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

Foodies, foragers and mycologists take a walk in Wolfe's Pond Park woods

Published: Thursday, July 14, 2011, 10:23 AM



Kathryn Carse
By

HUGUENOT, STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- For the uninitiated, the prospect of going on a mushrooming walk can make you a little silly with anticipation. Sure, some varieties are a delicacy, but what doesn't kill you can make you sick and then there is the chance of a welcome or unwelcome hallucinogenic trip — "Just ask Alice."

The walk took place Sunday in Wolfe's Pond Park. It was sponsored by the **New York Mycological Society**, a group that pursues an interest in mushrooms and fungi (mycology) and the eating of mushrooms (mycophagy). The 20 or so people who arrived — nearly half by ferry and the 9:34 train into Prince's Bay — ranged in age from 20-something to 60-plus and were not cavalier about their health and well-being.



[Enlarge](#)

Kathryn Carse

Ethan Crenson (white T-shirt) of Brooklyn spotted a "fairy ring" of chanterells cinnabarinus, except it was more marching formation than ring. He chose a few of the delicate red flowery mushrooms with a peppery taste. "I have been foraging for three or four years on my own, but it is not only difficult, it's dangerous," he said, adding he appreciated being among "gray beards" of the New York Mycological Society.

Mushrooming with the New York Mycological Society gallery (11 photos)

Walk leader **Don Recklies** gave out maps so everyone could forage and meet at 1 p.m. at the picnic tables on the beach side of the park to identify what was found.

Almost as genteel as a Victorian picnic, we set off toward the woods with totes and picnic baskets. Many wore muted colors with long sleeves and pants to guard against ticks.

On the road in, **Gary Lincoff** spotted a couple of mushrooms, varieties he said were **found in the 1890s by members of the New York Mycological Club** on a foray to Staten Island.

The history of the club has not been continuous, however. That 1890s club petered out, was re-established in the 1930s, then disappeared. According to its website, the present club was revived by composer **John Cage** and others about 50 years ago.

New York Mycological Society visits Staten Island

Mushroom hunters scoured Wolfe's Pond Park for fungi and other molds

"Some of the originals are with us. That says a lot about mushroom poisoning." quipped Lincoff. Author of the "Audubon Society Field Guide to North American

Mushrooms," he was one of four people on the walk who were depended on for their expertise.

We stepped into the southwest area of the park, beginning a bucolic adventure in the quiet, dappled sunlight of the woods.

"There are those who are picking for the pot and us weirdos who will pick anything fungal and try to ID it," said **Paul Sadowski**, secretary of the club and a member for 20 years, prying a specimen off of a log, along with **Aaron Norarevian**, both among the experts.

A BIT OF MYSTERY

Whether you find them beautiful or creepy, fungi found on trees, logs, and in soil facilitate decomposition and growth in the woods. The mushroom is the fruit of what goes on beneath the surface. The mystery of its culinary, therapeutic, psychotropic and toxic powers both attracts and repels.

Frank Marra of Sunnyside (the lone Staten Islander, apart from myself and a friend) said foraging while backpacking made him curious about the wild mushroom.

"Some wild edible mushrooms are easy to positively identify and I look for them on a regular basis, depending on the season. But there is also a certain sense of adventure to identify and eat a mushroom you have never tried before in your life — a new taste experience. But once again there is no substitute for knowledge," he said, echoing the caution that proper identification is a must, before eating.

Recklies dislodged a peaty-looking chunk and a corresponding chunk could be seen in an adjacent pin oak. It's thought to be a chaga, a mushroom with medicinal qualities, but Recklies tells me Lincoff later identified it as a "decayed bracket polypore" — the same type as a chaga but more likely to be found on a birch tree.

In addition to cues such as the time of year and type of tree, mushroom gatherers also carry loops — a magnifier for one eye — that reveal minute details such as dots, cross-hatching and hairiness.

Dennis Avita, vice president of the club, invited everyone to look at a slime mold through his loop. Looking like a beautiful dusky red paint to the naked eye, through the loop, the slime revealed tiny globular shapes.

"It's like undersea coral," said Helen Northmore of Silver Lake.

A clutch of russula mushrooms with pretty red caps, but mostly beyond their prime, was found along one of the park's ponds. **Ava Chin**, a professor of journalism and nonfiction at the **College of Staten Island**, showed me the characteristic gills on the brittle underside of the russula, of which there are many species, mostly inedible.

The **Urban Forager columnist** for the New York Times City Room blog, Ms. Chin said, growing up in a Chinese family, she ate mushrooms all of the time in her grandfather's cooking. She got "hooked on foraging" she said, "when I realized those mushrooms were growing in New York City."

WHAT WAS FOUND

At the beach, we gathered under a tree to eat lunch and enjoy the sea breeze. Everyone spread their collection on brown paper bags, the perfect back drop to show off the colors, shapes and textures of the local fungi and molds.

They have prosaic names such as Hen of the Woods and Old Man of the Woods, and shapes like sea anemones, flowers, sea shells, jelly fish and folkloric toadstools. Looking at them gives you a little insight into the fascination with their complexity and infinite variety; scientific Latin names are crucial.

"With 20 people looking and going in a different direction, you can end up with 40 different kinds of mushroom," said Lincoff as he touched, smelled and examined many of the specimens.

He encouraged everyone to appreciate the variety. Among the more interesting collected were a *Thelephora vialis*, a cabbagey looking fungi, that is more common south of the city, and a small *Lepiota*, a gilled mushroom, whose species is unknown. A *Hygrophorus caespitosus*, found by Sadowski, was another uncommon mushroom.

The next Staten Island mushroom foray

Bring lunch, water, knife and a basket for mushrooms. Non members attendance: \$5 per person, \$10 family

Oct. 30 in Clove Lakes Park.

Meet at the bus stop at Victory Boulevard and Clove Road at about 10:30 a.m.

For more information, call leader Jason Cortlund (512-297-5258) or visit www.newyorkmyc.org.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.



Told she was being laid off on her cell while driving home

Published: Wednesday, July 13, 2011, 1:12 AM



By Letters to the Editor/Staten Island Advance

By GINGER DEZELICH
ANNADALE

I was one of the lucky 61 college assistants who was laid off recently from the College of Staten Island.

Has anyone else experienced something like this? I have worked in the electrical engineering area for almost eight years. I was told I was being let go by the secretary and my chairperson while driving home from work.

They didn't even have the decency or respect to call me to the office or even try to reach me at home.

They knew very well I was in the car because I was asked where I was when I answered my phone. Am I wrong to be hurt, angry and highly insulted? Talk about cowards.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.



Poet Patricia Smith Next Up At Sunken Garden

By CAROLE GOLDBERG, Special to The Courant

The Hartford Courant

July 14, 2011

A writer with mad skills as a performance artist will headline the next program in the Sunken Garden Poetry Festival on the grounds of the Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington.

Patricia Smith, a widely published poet known for her ability to vividly present her work on stage, will be joined Wednesday, July 20, by the five winners of this year's statewide Fresh Voices poetry competition. **Eric Bibb** will augment the program with blues and folk music, and **BJ Smith**, a retired faculty member at Miss Porter's School, will give the "poetry prelude" that will introduce the event, focusing on several poems by Patricia Smith.

A former journalist and a faculty member the Stonecoast MFA program at the University of Southern Maine and at Cave Canem, an organization that promotes the work of African American poets, Patricia Smith also is a professor of English at CUNY/College of Staten Island.

A four-time national individual Poetry Slam champion and a poetry performer in events in many countries, she has appeared in the film "Slamnation" and on HBO's "Def Poetry Jam" and is in the International Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent.

Smith has published five collections, and the latest, "Blood Dazzler," about the effects of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans, was a 2008 National Book Award finalist. The others are "Teahouse of the Almighty," a 2005 National Poetry Series winner and recipient of other awards; "Close to Death;" "Big Towns, Big Talk" and "Life According to Motown." Her poems have appeared in many literary journals and anthologies. "Shoulda Been Jimi Savannah" will be published in by Coffee House Press in spring 2012. Smith also wrote the history book, "Africans in America" and the children's book, "Janna and the Kings" and is editing several anthologies.

Poets Steve Straight and Brad Davis helped judge the Fresh Voices Competition winners from more than 75 high school entrants from 26 Connecticut schools. They are: **Siarna Kinney**, Bacon Academy; **Terence Lee**, Newtown High School; **Carolyn Orosz**, Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts; **Danilo Machado**, Westhill High School; and **Laura Salvatore**, Bacon Academy.

Bibb, a New Yorker with roots in the American blues and folk tradition, is the son of 1960s folk and musical theater singer Leon Bibb, the nephew of jazz pianist and composer John Lewis of

the Modern Jazz Quartet and the godson of Paul Robeson. He has toured with Robert Cray and has played with Ray Charles.

Gates open at 4:30 p.m. for the festival, which takes place rain or shine and will begin at 5 p.m. with the informal 45-minute "poetry prelude" in the Makeshift Theater at the museum, 35 Mountain Road, Farmington. Musical performances begin at 6:30 p.m. and poetry readings are at 7:30 p.m. in the garden. Books and CDs will be available for purchase from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Those who attend should bring their own seating and may bring picnic suppers or buy sandwiches, salads and beverages (including Hill-Stead wines by the glass) supplied by Truffles Bakery, Farmington. Some picnic tables will be available on the West Lawn. The Sunken Garden is wheelchair-accessible.

Admission is free, but on-site parking is \$10 per vehicle. Information: 860-677-4787 or <http://www.hillstead.org>.

'Bob Steele's Century'

Bob Steele, the best-known radio broadcaster in Connecticut for many years, was the morning voice on WTIC and had countless fans. The late Radio Hall of Fame broadcaster would have celebrated his 100th birthday on July 13.

His son, **Phil Steele**, has published "Bob Steele's Century: 1911-2010," a 10-volume collection compiled from his father's files, that includes photos, cartoons, articles, radio scripts, jokes and letters from listeners.

On Saturday at 2 p.m., Phil Steele will present a free program with slides and commentary on "Bob Steele's Century" at Manchester Public Library, 586 Main St. Registration is not required. Information: 860-645-0821 or <http://library.townofmanchester.org>.

Mark Twain And The Civil War

In 1861, when Mark Twain was 25, he briefly joined a militia group to fight on the Confederate side in the Civil War. His group disbanded after only two weeks and he later went on to oppose slavery in his great novel, "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," and to become a close friend of Union Army Gen. Ulysses S. Grant.

Twain's complicated relationship with the Civil War is the focus of a two-hour walk and talk, "The American Civil War as Seen by Mark Twain," to be led Saturday at 10 a.m. in Hartford's Cedar Hill Cemetery, 453 Fairfield Ave., by historian and author Steve Courtney, a staff member at the Mark Twain House & Museum. The tour will visit the graves of and include stories about men and women who influenced Twain in Hartford as well as his views about race and slavery.

Admission is \$5, which will benefit the Cedar Hill Cemetery Foundation. It is free to foundation and Mark Twain House & Museum members and Let's Go! Arts members and is part of Cedar Hill Cemetery's Civil War Education Series.

The cemetery is at 453 Fairfield Ave. Participants should proceed into the cemetery driveway and park near the flagpole.

Courtney is the author of "Joseph Hopkins Twichell: The Life and Times of Mark Twain's Closest Friend," winner of the Connecticut Book Award for biography/memoir in 2009. His associated book, "The Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell: A Chaplain's Story," co-edited with Peter Messent, will be released in paperback in October.

Information: <http://www.cedarhillcemetery.org> or 860-247-0998 or <http://www.marktwainhouse.org>.

A Poetry Potluck

The Buttonwood Tree arts center, 605 Main St., Middletown, holds a free Poetry Potluck event on the third Sunday of each month from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at which participants share food and discuss poetry.

Anyone who loves poetry is welcome to attend and to bring a favorite poem by any author to share with the discussion group.

The next event is Sunday. Information: 860-347-4957.

Authors At R.J. Julia

Programs for adults and kids are on the schedule this week at R.J. Julia Booksellers, 768 Boston Post Road, Madison. Reservations are required: 203-245-3959 or <http://www.rjjulia.com>.

Tonight at 7, **Carmela Ciuraru**, author of "Nom de Plume: A (Secret) History of Pseudonyms" (HarperCollins, \$24.99), will give a free talk. The book is about famous authors who used pen names to express secret identities.

On Friday at 7 p.m., a free "Voices in the Bookstore" program will present Madison-area writers of poetry, fiction and essays. Writers must sign up in advance to read from a finished piece or a work-in-progress.

On Saturday at 4 p.m., children's author **Stephen Savage** will discuss his new book, "Where's Walrus?" (Scholastic, \$16.99). In it, a happy-go-lucky walrus escapes from the zoo and has many adventures. The story is told in Savage's amusing retro illustrations.

On Monday at 7 p.m., CNN journalist **Kitty Pilgrim** will talk about her international thriller, "The Explorer's Code" (Scribner, \$26), which combines history and romance with a contemporary adventure.

Also on Monday at 7 p.m., the bookstore's owner, **Roxanne Coady**, will join best-selling author **James B. Stewart**, whose latest book is "Tangled Webs," at The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, 300 Main St., Old Saybrook, for a discussion on how perjury affects the United States.

Tickets for the talk only are \$25 and tickets that include a reception with Coady and Stewart are \$75.

Information and tickets: <http://www.katharinehepburntheater.org>.

Cruising Connecticut

Jan Mann, author of "Cruising Connecticut With a Picnic Basket," will speak tonight at 7 at Hagaman Library, 227 Main St., East Haven.

Her book is about day trips and picnic areas in Connecticut and contains recipes for picnic foods. Copies will be available for \$15.

Information and registration: 203-468-3890 or <http://www.hagamanlibrary.info>

'Deliverance From Evil'

Frances Hill, a historian, novelist and journalist who lives in Litchfield County, will visit The Hickory Stick Bookshop, 2 Green Hill Road, Washington Depot, on Sunday at 2 p.m. to talk about her latest book.

"Deliverance from Evil, A Novel of the Salem Witch Trials" (Overlook, \$25.95) is based on Hill's extensive research into the 17th-century witch trials in the Massachusetts community, which remain a vivid example of how irrational fears and prejudices can destroy lives.

Hill's other books include "A Delusion of Satan," "The Salem Witch Trials Reader," "Hunting for Witches" and "Such Men Are Dangerous."

Information: 860-868-0525 or <http://www.hickorystickbookshop.com>.

Writing A Sitcom

Learn what it takes to write a successful television situation comedy at a workshop Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Westport Writers' Workshop, 3 Sylvan Road South.

GiGi New, who was a writer's assistant on "Everybody Loves Raymond" and is a screenplay consultant for TV shows and a writer for TV and films, will give a preview of the six-week "From Pitch to Pilot: How to Write a TV Sitcom" workshop she will offer at the Westport center this fall.

Advance registration is required. Admission is \$10. Information:
<http://www.westportwritersworkshop.com> or 203-227-3250.

Connecticut Authors Trail

Nikko and Jim Coffey, who write romantic suspense mysteries under the name **Jan Coffey**, will visit the Saxon B. Little Free Library, 319 Route 87, Columbia on Tuesday, July 19, at 6:45 p.m. to discuss their books.

Registration: 860-228-0350 or ckubala@columbiactlibrary.org.

Carole Goldberg is a member of the National Book Critics Circle. Please e-mail information and author jpegs of 300 dpi resolution at least two weeks before the publication date to cgoldberg41@gmail.com.

Copyright © 2011, [The Hartford Courant](#)

The Washington Times

Gay couples back DOMA repeal

Feinstein calls marriage law 'unconstitutional'



"We're in this for the long march, not just the short hop," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, California Democrat, in backing a Respect for Marriage Act. (Associated Press)

By Cheryl Wetzstein - The Washington Times

9:56 p.m., Tuesday, July 19, 2011

A 1996 federal marriage law is unconstitutional and should be repealed, Sen. Dianne Feinstein told a news conference that featured gay couples who have insurance, visa and legal problems because of the law.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is scheduled to hold a hearing Wednesday on a bill that would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and "ensure respect for state regulation of marriage."

As one of 14 senators who voted against DOMA in 1996, "I thought even then, this is unconstitutional and wrong," Mrs. Feinstein, California Democrat, said Tuesday at the National Press Club.

In March, Mrs. Feinstein and several Democratic colleagues introduced the Respect for Marriage Act, which strikes the DOMA language and says that for purposes of federal law, “an individual shall be considered married if that individual’s marriage is valid” where it was obtained.

Mrs. Feinstein pledged to keep fighting for her bill. “We’re in this for the long march, not just the short hop,” she said Tuesday.

White House press secretary Jay Carney told reporters Tuesday that President Obama is “proud to support the Respect for Marriage Act.”

However, Ed Whelan of the Ethics and Public Policy Center, who is scheduled to testify Wednesday in defense of DOMA, said Mrs. Feinstein’s bill would “pave the way for polygamous and other polyamorous unions.”

Without DOMA’s definition of marriage, the arguments for same-sex marriage will be applied in those cases too, Mr. Whelan said on National Review Online. Mrs. Feinstein’s bill would not respect marriage, but would instead “empty the term of any core content,” he added.

Rick Jacobs, founder of Courage Campaign, and three gay couples spoke at Tuesday’s press conference.

DOMA allows any state or territory to “disrespect my marriage,” said Kathleen Cumiskey of Staten Island, N.Y. She and wife Robin Garber carry a box of documents “everywhere” to prove that they have a legal relationship.

Hunter College professor Robert Koehl and Stylianos Manolakakis said DOMA creates visa problems for their 15-year relationship, and federal employee Beth Vorro said DOMA forces her psychotherapist-wife Beth Coderre to get private health insurance because she cannot be added to a federal health policy.

“I think, as Rosa Parks might say, it’s time to get up from the back of the bus and assume our seats among the rest of our fellow human beings,” Mrs. Coderre said.

DOMA passed Congress with strong bipartisan support and was signed into law by President Clinton. It defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman. It also tells states they do not have to recognize out-of-state same-sex unions.

DOMA arose amid credible concerns that one state court would effectively change marriage laws in all 50 states. In 1993, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that, under nondiscrimination law, the state could no longer deny gay couples marriage licenses. The high court sent the case back to a lower court for further action.

This landmark court decision raised the likelihood of gay marriage being legalized in Hawaii — as well as questions about the national implications of gay couples traveling to Hawaii, getting married and seeking legal recognition of their marriages back home.

DOMA addressed that concern, and 40 states, including Hawaii, enacted their own DOMAs, either through voter referendum or their legislatures.

Six states and the District have now legalized gay marriage, setting up the kind of scenario foreseen 15 years ago. “Equality now stops at the border of our state,” Mrs. Cumiskey said.

Earlier this year, the Obama administration declared DOMA unconstitutional and ceased defending it in several lawsuits. House Republicans responded by hiring a private law firm to defend the law.

© Copyright 2011 The Washington Times, LLC.

Also Featured on: The Christian Science Monitor CNN.com

Captain America reminds nation of shared values

By Mark D. White

July 21, 2011

As “Captain America: The First Avenger” premieres today at San Diego’s Comic-Con International and in theaters, moviegoers will thrill to the exploits of one of the original costumed superheroes, fighting the incomparable evil of the Nazis during World War II. Many have commented on the moral clarity of that war compared to the conflicts we are in now, and just as many wonder where our country itself is headed in these times of intense political conflict within. While he’s just a comic book character, I think Captain America can help us see through our divisions to the unity beneath.

Those who aren’t familiar with his long comic book history may assume that Captain America is a simplistic, flag-waving jingoist, toeing the line of whichever party happens to be in control in Washington at any given time. But comic book fans know better: Captain America has stood up to the U.S. government on many occasions, most notably during a thinly veiled Watergate homage in the 1970s, and refusing to sacrifice his freedoms by registering as a superhero with the government in the first decade of the 21st century. He famously stays out of politics, even refusing calls to run for president at one point, because he wants to represent all Americans without casting his lot with one party or another.

Captain America offers an example to all of us by emphasizing principles over politics. Principles are timeless, the enduring ideals embedded in the foundational documents of our country, most importantly the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. People may disagree over exactly what principles are contained in their words, or how best to interpret or prioritize them, but few doubt their essential role in defining what America stands for. At its best, politics is grounded in principle, but all too often the principles get forgotten in favor of competing interests – which may be perfectly valid, of course, but which also cause us to lose sight of our shared values.

It is those shared values about which Captain America can serve as a reminder. Even though we may disagree on their precise interpretation, Americans agree on the importance of freedom, equality and justice. Even though we may disagree on how to balance them, all of us agree that we should show both care and respect toward each other. And even though we may disagree on how far (and to whom) to extend them, we all agree that generosity and tolerance are part of what makes America great.

In addition to these social values, Captain America demonstrates the individual virtues by which we can all agree that we should live. Again, we may disagree on their relative importance or precisely how to practice them, but all Americans recognize the importance of honesty, courage, integrity, loyalty and humility – all of which Captain America has embodied over the last 70 years of stories. These are also

the virtues that we associate with our armed forces, and which we should demand from ourselves, each other and, especially, our elected leaders.

The most amazing thing about Captain America is that, regardless of the varied political opinions of the writers who have chronicled his adventures over decades, he is consistently shown to exemplify these social values and individual virtues, the principles that unite us as Americans. Politics deals with how to put these ideals into practice by balancing different interests within society, and by its very nature it tends to divide more than it unites. But we must not lose sight of the principles that we agree upon and that give our country great integrity consistent with its rich diversity.

Captain America does not represent his country at any specific point in time or under any particular leadership. He does not deny the mistakes we have made throughout our short history, nor does he make excuses for them to provide political cover for one party or another. Instead, he consistently rises above politics, eschewing partisan divisions to symbolize the ideals that give America its unique identity: a country founded on, and governed by, enduring principles that all Americans can endorse and embrace.

White is a professor at the College of Staten Island in New York City, and most recently contributed a chapter on Captain America to the free e-book "Superheroes: The Best of Philosophy and Pop Culture."

Also Featured on: The Washington Times

Finances of Staten Island office-holders are an open book

Published: Friday, July 22, 2011, 1:37 AM



Tom Wrobleski
By



Staten Island Advance/Jan Somma-Hammel

Borough President James P. Molinaro has several irons in the fire, investment-wise.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Borough President James P. Molinaro is a licensed, non-practicing real estate agent who has stakes in undeveloped Staten Island property.

He also has ownership in two condominium units in Florida, one of which has a colorful history.

City Councilman James Oddo (R-Mid-Island/Brooklyn) was an adjunct professor who taught last fall at the [College of Staten Island](#).

Councilman Vincent Ignizio (R-South Shore) owned a bit of stock, while Councilwoman Debi Rose (D-North Shore) reported that her only outside income was the balance of salary and benefits owed to her from her previous job.

Meanwhile, District Attorney Daniel Donovan reported he didn't perform any legal work last year outside his job as the borough's top prosecutor.

Those are some of the "disclosures" gleaned from borough officials' 2010

financial disclosure reports recently made public.

Unlike other city officials who listed big outside incomes, vast stock holdings, tens of thousands of dollars in credit card debt or ownership in business ventures on their disclosure forms, the assets and liabilities listed by Island lawmakers were relatively modest.

Records show that Molinaro owns 50 percent of two undeveloped lots, at 308 and 310 Nelson Ave., Great Kills, totaling 50 by 100 feet. He made the purchase in 2004, and the property is valued at between \$250,000 and \$499,999.

Molinaro also has a 40 percent interest in an undeveloped lot at 158 Cannon Ave., also valued at up to \$499,999.

Molinaro called them investment properties.

With Islanders always wary about overdevelopment, Molinaro said he had no qualms about owning property here.

"I never said that anyone didn't have the right to build on land they own," he said.

Molinaro also owns 50 percent of a condominium unit in a Sarasota, Fla., building, called Siesta Gulf View, with deep Island connections. The unit is worth a total of around \$550,000, he said.

The building was built by the father-in-law of Surrogate Robert J. Gigante.

Other prominent Islanders such as Michael Manzulli, president of the Richmond County Savings Foundation; businessman John Vincent Scalia, and Conservative Party icon Daniel L. Master Sr. are also listed as owners of units there, according to Sarasota public records.

Molinaro said he bought the unit in 1984 with former Borough President Guy Molinari, who was then a U.S. congressman with Molinaro as his chief of staff.

Molinari's share later went to his daughter and son-in-law, Susan Molinari and Bill Paxton, who also served in the House.

Ms. Molinari and Paxton eventually sold their share to builder Salvatore Calcagno, who was Molinaro's 2001 campaign finance chairman.

In an unrelated matter, Calcagno was later fined \$400,000 in a tax-fraud case.

Molinaro also owns 100 percent of another condo unit in a different building in Sarasota. He valued that at around \$180,000 to \$200,000.

Although he does not use it, Molinaro said he maintains the real estate agent's license he has held since 1974.

"It does me no harm," he said.

On the forms, Molinaro also lists his positions as a trustee of the Staten Island Heart Institute and Richmond University Medical Center, as well as his membership on the county committee of the borough Conservative Party.

He also lists Social Security income and a federal pension from his House days, both valued between \$5,000 and \$43,999.

Molinaro's form said the stock he owns in Northfield Savings Bank is valued between \$100,000 and \$249,999, as is the stock he owns in JAYCO Inc., a manufacturer of RVs and motorhomes.

Molinaro also owns stock in Estee Lauder and New York Community Bank. Those investments were valued at between \$5,000 and \$43,999.

Oddo taught a political science class titled "City Hall and Albany" at **CSI** last year, and plans to do so again this fall.

"It was an absolute blast," he said.

The salary was listed as between \$1,000 and \$4,000 on his disclosure form.

Oddo also owns stock in a number of companies, including Ford Motor Co., General Electric, Marvell Tech Group, American Medical Alert, Repligen Corp., Lynn Energy and Satyam Computer.

The Ford stock's value was listed at between \$5,000 and \$43,000, records said. The values of the other stocks were listed between \$1,000 and \$4,999.

An attorney, Oddo reported that he did not practice law in 2010.

Ignizio said he had sold his stock in Northfield Savings, which had been valued between \$5,000 and \$43,999 on the 2010 disclosure form.

Donovan listed a mortgage and two auto leases on his disclosure form, as well as a mutual fund from Fidelity Magellan. He also owns a 50 percent stake in his former residence.

Ms. Rose valued the money due to her from her previous job at between \$5,000 and \$43,999. Ms. Rose was the director of the Liberty Partnership program at **CSI**.

Her form also lists her membership on the Democratic Party's county committee.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

Sports

CSI softball program to host 3-day clinic

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

WILLOWBROOK — The College of Staten Island (CSI) women's softball program will be conducting its annual three-day clinic on its Willowbrook campus in mid-August.

Head coach Dr. **Stella Porto** and her assistants, who guided their squad to the City University of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) championship and a berth in the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament, will join some of their players to work with the participants.

The clinic will be held Aug. 16-18, with a rain date scheduled for Aug.

19, and run from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. It will feature instruction on pitching, offense, defense, and include work on everything from general mechanics and weight training, to complex finger positioning for advanced pitch techniques and batting stance and footwork.

The cost of the clinic is \$150 per person. CSI assistant coaches **Charlie Mattera**, **Betty Zwingraf** and **Melissa Quiles** will joined by two-time defending CUNYAC Pitcher of the Year **Danielle Ponsiglione**.

Contact Ms. Porto at stella.porto@csi.cuny.edu or download a copy of the clinic brochure from the team Web site at www.csidolphins.com.

Stories

MONTHLY UPDATE

ConEd grant to help CSI fund high school program

The College of Staten Island has received a \$25,000 grant from Con Edison to fund a program that will give underserved high school students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in researching estuarine water quality. As a result of this funding, CSI's Center for Environmental Science will expand its public education program by giving more than 100 underserved high school and junior high school student's opportunities to pursue various aspects of environmental work through hands-on estuarine water quality workshops.

In the fall, high school students from area schools will visit a CSI laboratory where chemists from the Interstate Environmental Commission will join CSI faculty to demonstrate analytical techniques and explain the importance of quality control measures. Students will gain a background on water quality and policy issues that influence estuarine health and obtain a better understanding of the primary environmental factors affecting the New York Harbor Estuary.

The following spring, the field component will give students hands-on experience with water quality monitoring and pollution issues. They will be able to apply their knowledge and learn water quality monitoring techniques via demonstrations of sampling equipment/instruments on the dock and on the IEC's ship, the R/V Natale Colosi. Subsequently, field exercises will allow students to take their own series of measurements and observations. After completion of field and ship-based activities, students will go to the CSI Geographic Information System laboratory where they will record their findings and results.

In addition to its \$25,000 in funding of this project, Con Edison has added \$5,000 to its grant, which is earmarked for support of student scholarships at CSI.



Transfers flood CUNY

By CARL CAMPANILE

Posted: 1:25 AM, July 11, 2011

More college students looking for a bargain in this tough economy are transferring to the City University of New York, new figures show.

Transfers to CUNY campuses are up 20 percent, to 10,132, for next fall's semester over a year ago, university officials said.

"Ultimately, it was a better deal to go to Queens College than to SUNY Buffalo," said student Robert Rogala, of Levittown, LI.

For one thing, he said, commuting from home instead of paying full tuition plus room and board will cut costs by more than half.

Tuition is \$3,300 at CUNY's community colleges and \$4,830 at its four-year schools. It's \$5,270 at SUNY Buffalo -- but the annual cost there balloons to \$17,878 with room and board and other incidentals. And at private colleges, the costs are even higher.

Rogala also figures it will be easier to get a part-time job in New York City than in Buffalo.

"It was a practical decision," he said. "The cost was definitely a big factor. It's much, much cheaper, and I'd much rather deal with a smaller debt than a bigger one when I graduate -- any way I can cut corners in this economy."

Plus, he liked that he could switch from majoring in political science to double-majoring in Latin American studies and Spanish.

"I'm very happy with the academic program [at Queens]," he said. "There were more options for me."

Meanwhile, transfers to CUNY's six community colleges are up a whopping 74 percent, officials said. Overall, CUNY has accepted more than 90,000 applicants to its 23 schools, with freshmen admissions up about 3 percent from a year ago, the data show.

"With regard to the admissions increases, it's simple," said CUNY spokesman Michael Arena. "Students and their families see more bang for their academic buck."

The biggest CUNY jumps in general admissions are at New York City Tech, in Downtown Brooklyn, and the College of Staten Island, each reporting 20 percent increases.

Officials say CUNY is also attracting more "high-achieving" high-school grads -- a continuing trend since the university tightened standards by dumping open enrollment and remedial classes in its four-year colleges a decade ago.

carl.campanile@nypost.com



07/11/2011 12:47 PM

Muslim Group Holds National Convention At College Of Staten Island

By: NY1 News



NY1 VIDEO: The Muslim Ummah of North America, or MUNA, held its annual national convention at the College of Staten Island in Willowbrook.



National Grid Supports a Summer of Fun and Learning for Students

Engineering Our Future Programs Inspire the Next Generation Work Force

by [National Grid USA Service Company](#)

BROOKLYN, NY (07/13/2011)(readMedia)-- [National Grid](#) in partnership with community organizations across New York State is working on programs that provide summer fun, exploration and skill building, as part of the company's [Engineering Our Future](#) initiative to inspire young people to pursue science, technology, engineering and math skills.

"National Grid's Engineering Our Future initiative inspires the next generation of engineers essential to developing innovative technologies to meet our customers' energy needs," said Ken Daly, National Grid president for New York.

"Supporting local programs that provide hands-on experience for curious campers to learn about math and science is one way National Grid can help students to find the spark that will lead to a very bright future."

National Grid already has invested more than \$3 million in Engineering Our Future to target students of all ages and backgrounds to encourage them to study science, technology, engineering and math skills. The company is supporting many community-based projects, funding research centers to support new and exciting technologies and partnering with organizations that provide programs to educate teachers as well as students in the curriculum.

Following are some of the summer camps that National Grid is supporting around the state:

College of Staten Island Engineering Workshop – middle school students learn how civil, avionics and biomedical engineering make things happen, students will focus on physics, math and biology to build a model rollercoaster, observe principles of flight via simulators and putting together model airplane kits and building basic DNA designs.

The Nature Conservancy Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future (LEAF) – high school students will have paid residential internships on preserves across the Northeast, training for green jobs and participating in conservation activities like trailblazing, shellfish restoration and the removal of invasive species.

Camp Brooklyn – founded by Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, young campers learn different skills including an appreciation for nature during two weeks of outdoor fun and hands-on learning at sleep-away camps in the Northeast.

Prospect Park Alliance – through the Brooklyn Academy of Science and the Environment Learning Expedition program high school students put skills they have learned in the classroom and in field study in Prospect Park and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden to practical use to study nature and habits in different part of New York and the world.

Summer Energy Academy – designed to jump-start the future by introducing middle school students to careers in the energy industry, the program is developed by the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), hosted by Polytechnic

Institute of NYU with support from National Grid and Con Edison.

Hofstra University National Grid Summer Science Green Research Project – high school students will have opportunities to conduct individual scientific research projects ranging from household energy demand and alternative fuels to environmental engineering.

Long Island Children's Museum Green Teens – high school students develop and teach "green-themed" interactive nature and environmental education programs for Museum visitors, activities include decorate your own pair of binoculars to investigate all the wondrous things in the Museum's Our Backyard exhibit to joining a variety of fun materials to invent your own insects.

Engineering Summer Camp at Stony Brook University – motivated high school students will be introduced to the various fields in engineering through hands-on electrical and computer engineering research and educational activities including building a radio, making a metal detector, and modifying sound.

Girls Incorporated of the Greater Capital Region National Grid Summer Fun – sessions for elementary and middle school students to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics through hands-on and interactive activities including investigating the basics of chemistry as they bake delicious goods and becoming a detective to solve exciting mysteries with skills to collect and analyze evidence. Students will meet with National Grid employees and learn about careers in the utility industry from engineering to energy efficiency.

Syracuse City School District National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) – Summer Engineering and Science Camp program hosted by Syracuse University for middle and high school students interested in engineering, math, robotics and science.

[National Grid](#) is an international energy delivery company. In the U.S., National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.3 million customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Rhode Island, and manages the electricity network on Long Island under an agreement with the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). It is the largest distributor of natural gas in the northeastern U.S., serving approximately 3.4 million customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Rhode Island. National Grid also owns over 4,000 megawatts of contracted electricity generation that provides power to over one million LIPA customers.

New England Aquarium to Collect Data on Marine Wildlife for Wind Farm Sites Evaluation (USA)

Jul 20th, 2011



The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center is hiring the New England Aquarium and the **College of Staten Island** to collect migratory and habitat data on marine wildlife to help state and federal agencies evaluate sites for future wind farms south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

The researchers will conduct survey work for a full year to collect data on birds, whales and sea turtles in federal waters south of the two islands. New England Aquarium was awarded \$570,000 to track whales and turtles, and the **College of Staten Island** was awarded \$330,000 to track bird populations.

The surveys follow a decision by the U.S. Department of Interior to gauge private-sector interest in developing wind turbine projects within a 3,000-square-mile expanse of federal waters, beginning 13.8 miles south of Martha's Vineyard.

Also Featured on: PatriotLedger.com

Theater colleges in New York State

By [Colleen Knopeck](#), Buffalo High School Theater Examiner

As the summer comes to an end, students are getting ready to head back to school. Now is the time to look at some of the **Theatre**, Stage, Arts/Drama, Acting, Performing Arts **schools**, **colleges**, and **universities** within **New York State** for those who do not wish to travel too far away from Buffalo.

*List is in alphabetical order

American Academy of Dramatic Arts - New York, NY

American Musical & Dramatic Academy - New York, NY

Barrow Group Acting School - New York, NY

(SUNY) Binghamton University - Binghamton, NY

Brooklyn College of the City University of New York - Brooklyn, NY

City College of the City University of New York - New York, NY

City University of New York, Graduate School and University Center - New York, NY

College of Staten Island - Staten Island, NY

Columbia University - New York, NY

Cornell University - Ithaca, NY

Hunter College, City University of New York - New York, NY

Long Island University-C.W. Post Campus - Brookville, NY

New School University - New York, NY

New York University - New York, NY

(SUNY) Oswego State University - Oswego, NY

Sarah Lawrence College - Bronxville, NY

(SUNY) College at Purchase - Purchase, NY

Syracuse University - Syracuse, NY

The New York School for Acting in Film and Television
- New York, NY

The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts - New
York, NY

The Theatre Arts Center - Jackson Heights, NY

(SUNY) University at Albany - Albany, NY

(SUNY) University at Buffalo - Buffalo, NY

(SUNY) University at Stony Brook - Stony Brook, NY

您所在的位置：首页 > 教育频道 > 出国留学 > 留学热点

2011USnews美国大学工科本科排名（不含博士学位）

中广教育出国留学 2011年07月21日 12:23

【打印本页】 【字号 大 中 小】 【关闭】

排名	学校
1	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology玫瑰哈尔曼技术学院
2	Harvey Mudd College
3	Cooper Union
	United States Military Academy
5	California Polytechnic State University--San Luis Obispo
6	United States Air Force Academy
	United States Naval Academy
8	Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
9	Bucknell University
	Villanova University
11	Baylor University贝勒大学
	California State Polytechnic University--Pomona
	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
	Milwaukee School of Engineering密尔瓦基工学院
	Swarthmore College
	United States Coast Guard Academy
17	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University--Prescott
	Gonzaga University
	Santa Clara University
	Union College
21	Kettering University
	Lafayette College
	Rowan University
	Smith College
	The Citadel
	Trinity University
	United States Merchant Marine Academy
	University of Colorado--Colorado Springs
	University of San Diego圣迭戈大学
	Virginia Military Institute
31	Bradley University布拉德利大学
	Loyola Marymount University
	San Jose State University圣何塞州立大学
	Saint Louis University圣路易斯大学
	University of Michigan-Dearborn密西根大学迪尔本分校
	Valparaiso University瓦尔帕莱索大学
	Webb Institute
38	California State University, Los Angeles加州州立大学洛杉矶分校
	Manhattan College曼哈顿大学
	Miami University,Oxford迈阿密大学牛津分校
	University of Portland
42	Boise State University
	California State University--Sacramento
	Maine Maritime Academy

- Norwich University
Oregon Institute of Technology
Purdue University--Calumet
University of Massachusetts--Dartmouth
- 49 Brigham Young University--Idaho
California State University Fullerton加州州立大学富尔顿分校
California State University--Long Beach
California State University Northridge加州州立大学北岭分校
Hofstra University霍夫斯特拉大学
Lawrence Technological University罗伦斯科技大学
Mercer University摩斯大学
Ohio Northern University北俄亥俄大学
Pennsylvania State University--Erie, The Behrend College
Seattle University西雅图大学
Trinity College三一学院
University of Missouri St. Louis密苏里大学圣路易斯分校
University of Wisconsin Platteville威斯康辛大学普莱维尔分校
University of the Pacific太平洋大学
- 63 California State University--Fresno
Calvin College
Indiana University-Purdue University--Fort Wayne
Lamar University
Loyola University Maryland
Montana Tech of the University of Montana
New York Institute of Technology纽约理工学院
Pennsylvania State University--Harrisburg
SUNY Maritime College
San Francisco State University旧金山州立大学
Texas Christian University德克萨斯基督教大学
Tuskegee University
University of Alaska Anchorage阿拉斯加大学
University of Arkansas--Little Rock
University of Minnesota--Duluth
- 78 California Maritime Academy
California State University-Chico加州州立大学-奇科分校
Cedarville University
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University菲尔莱狄更斯大学
Grove City College
Humboldt State University洪堡州立大学
LeTourneau University
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro北卡罗来纳州立大学格林波若分校
Northern Illinois University北伊利诺伊大学
Roger Williams University罗杰威廉姆斯大学
University of Detroit Mercy底特律大学
University of Hartford
University of North Texas北德克萨斯州大学
University of Tennessee--Chattanooga
Virginia State University
Western New England College
Widener University威得恩大学
- 96 Christian Brothers University
College of New Jersey
East Carolina University东卡罗来纳州立大学
Grand Valley State University伟谷州立大学
Hope College
Minnesota State University--Mankato
Morgan State University

- Seattle Pacific University
Southern Illinois University--Edwardsville
University of Evansville
University of New Haven纽黑文大学
University of St. Thomas圣托马斯大学
Wentworth Institute of Technology
West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Youngstown State University扬斯敦州立大学
- 111 Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University阿拉巴马农工大学
CUNY--College of Staten Island
Colorado State University-Pueblo科罗拉多州立大学-普韦布洛分校
Gannon University
Norfolk State University
Prairie View A&M University
St. Cloud State University
Texas A&M University--Galveston
University of North Florida
University of Southern Maine
The University of Tennessee at Martin田纳西州立大学马汀分校
University of Texas--Tyler
Walla Walla University
- 124 Arkansas State University--Jonesboro
California State University-East Bay加州州立大学—东湾分校
Eastern Washington University
Geneva College
Hampton University
Indiana Institute of Technology
John Brown University
Lipscomb University
McNeese State University麦克尼斯州立大学
Merrimack College
Monmouth University
Murray State University莫瑞州立大学
Robert Morris University
State University of New York at New Paltz纽约州立大学-新帕尔兹分校
Texas State University--San Marcos
University of Bridgeport桥港大学
University of Houston--Clear Lake
University of Wisconsin--Stout
Western Kentucky University西肯塔基大学
- 143 Carroll College卡罗大学
Colorado Technical University 科罗拉多理工大学
Dordt College
George Fox University
Jackson State University
Marietta College
Messiah College
Pacific Lutheran University太平洋路德大学
Philadelphia University
Saginaw Valley State University塞基诺州立大学
Suffolk University萨福克大学
Tarleton State University
Texas A&M University--Commerce
Trine University
University of South Alabama
University of Texas--Pan American
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point威斯康辛大学史蒂文分校
- 160 Arkansas Tech University
Ferris State University费里斯州立大学

Harding Universit
Midwestern State Universit
Oklahoma Christian University俄克拉荷马基督教会大学
Oral Roberts Universit
St. Mary's University of San Antonio
Taylor University
West Texas A&M University西德州农工大学
Wilkes University
Winona State University
171 Lake Superior State University
Olivet Nazarene University
South Carolina State University
Southeast Missouri State University
St. Ambrose University
St. Martin's University
Union University
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Southern Indiana南印地安那大学
York College of Pennsylvania
来源 : <http://www.xueus.com/ranking/00009052.html>

来源 : 中国广播网 责编 : 出国留学频道

Orgs to Conduct Marine Wildlife Surveys for MassCEC (USA)

Jul 27th, 2011



The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), in partnership with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), announced today that it is awarding contracts to the New England Aquarium and the College of Staten Island to collect migratory and habitat usage data on marine wildlife to help the Commonwealth and federal agencies evaluate sites for future wind energy development on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Massachusetts.

"This research advances our parallel goals of developing Massachusetts' tremendous offshore clean energy potential while protecting our environmental resources," said **EEA Secretary Richard K. Sullivan Jr., who chairs the MassCEC Board of Directors.**

"These studies will assure the Commonwealth and the federal government that offshore wind sites that move forward in these waters are in the best locations and configurations with respect to marine wildlife species," said **MassCEC Executive Director Patrick Cloney.**

MassCEC issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to conduct the field survey work for a full year. Data will be collected for birds, North Atlantic right whales and other large whales, and sea turtles in federal waters off the coasts of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. MassCEC has awarded \$570,000 to The New

England Aquarium Corporation for field survey of large whales and sea turtles, and \$330,000 to the **College of Staten Island** for field survey of birds.

*“The Aquarium’s research staff is excited to do marine wildlife surveys of the waters south of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket for large whales and sea turtles,” said **New England Aquarium President and CEO Bud Ris**. “This will be an important step in providing systematic scientific data that can be used to minimize conflicts between marine life and offshore energy development.”*

*“As a senior college of The City University of New York, the **College of Staten Island** is deeply committed to supporting the advancement of faculty research with partner organizations dedicated to our mutual goals of preserving and protecting the environment while advancing the pursuit of renewable energy,” said **College of Staten Island President Dr. Tomás D. Morales**. “Dr. Richard Veit is uniquely qualified to conduct these surveys based upon his proven track record of developing detailed and temporally intensive datasets on marine bird abundance, and his long-term experience in the area.”*

This RFP follows the recent announcement of a federal leasing process for development of offshore wind energy in federal waters off the Massachusetts coast. In December 2010 the US Department of Interior’s Bureau of Offshore Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) issued a Request for Interest (RFI) to measure the offshore wind industry’s interest in developing projects within a 3,000 (2,224 nautical) square mile expanse of federal waters off the Massachusetts coast, beginning approximately 13.8 (12 nautical) miles south of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket. The Massachusetts Renewable Energy Task Force – an interagency group of federal, state, tribal, and local elected officials – partnered with BOEMRE to draw the boundaries of the RFI area, which has excellent wind resources and water depths able to accommodate current and near-term wind power technologies. Based upon consultations with commercial fishermen, fisheries scientists, and other maritime users and interests, the Patrick-Murray Administration recommended removing the eastern portion of the RFI because of its importance to the Commonwealth’s fishing industry and to marine fauna. BOEMRE subsequently accepted the state’s recommendation. MassCEC and EEA will continue to collaborate with the Task Force, as well as federal and state fisheries and wildlife agencies, as the field survey work is developed and conducted,

About the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

Created by the Green Jobs Act of 2008, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) is dedicated to accelerating the success of clean energy technologies, companies and projects in the Commonwealth—while creating high-quality jobs and long-term economic growth for the people of Massachusetts. MassCEC is a partner, clearinghouse and connector for people in the clean energy sector, making direct investments in clean energy companies, building a strong clean energy workforce, and supporting responsibly sited renewable energy projects across the Commonwealth. MassCEC works with the entire clean energy community in Massachusetts to propel promising technologies from the drawing board to the global marketplace.

Also Featured on: Massachusetts Clean Energy Center

Students & Alumni

Students



College graduates on parade

Published: Sunday, July 10, 2011, 6:01 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**

Cristen Abato

Cristen Abato received a bachelor of arts degree in English and women & gender studies from Pace University.

During her time at Pace, Ms. Abato studied world religion, medieval literature and Shakespeare.

Ms. Abato, who achieved Dean's List status, was a member of Lambda Sigma Honor Society.

Ms. Abato's long-term goal is to publish her own fictional novels. In September, Ms. Abato will begin pursuing her master's degree in publishing at Pace University.

Jaclyn M. Durkin

Jaclyn Marie Durkin of West Brighton graduated from Wagner College with a bachelor of arts degree in childhood education/special education/psychology.

Ms. Durkin, daughter of Michael Durkin, was a member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority.

She served as the new member coordinator for one year and performed charity work for various organizations, including Ronald McDonald House, Alliance for Lupus, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Grace Foundation of New York.

Ms. Durkin was also inducted into the Alpha Delta Pi Academic Honor Society.

A 2007 graduate of Moore Catholic High School, Ms. Durkin works for KidSmart, a child care learning center in Dongan Hills.

Ms. Durkin plans to pursue a master of science degree in early childhood and special education at Wagner College, where she also will be working as a graduate assistant at the Early Childhood Center.

Michael A. DiTrani

Michael A. DiTrani of Graniteville graduated from Syracuse University with a bachelor of science degree in sports management.

A Dean's List student, DiTrani was a member of the Sports Management Club, which held annual Charity Sports Auctions to benefit funds such as the Golisano Children's Hospital of Syracuse, the Ronald McDonald House in central New York and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in central New York.

DiTrani was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. The fraternity's annual Guts Philanthropy helped raise money for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Syracuse.

A 2007 graduate of St. Joseph by the Sea High School, DiTrani completed his Capstone Internship at the Prudential Center, Newark, N.J. While there, he worked at several sporting events. including boxing and hockey with the New Jersey Devils. DiTrani plans to pursue his MBA at Pace University. where he will major in accounting and plans to take the CPA exam.

Paul Friedman

Paul Friedman of Richmond graduated summa cum laude from the College of Staten Island.

Friedman earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science with a minor in history.

Friedman was a member of the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society and the Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society. He was awarded the Phi Beta Kappa Associate's Award, the Donna Mayer Award for Academic Excellence in Political Science, the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement Foundation Scholarship and was named to the Dean's List three times.

Friedman intends to go to law school where he will study corporate law and hopes to one day have a career in politics.

Robert W. Evans

Robert Walter Evans of Great Kills graduated cum laude from the Villanova University School of Business, where he received a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

Evans majored in management information systems with a minor in business law and business communications.

In his senior year, Evans was honored by Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, one of only 60 students from Villanova to be so honored.

Evans was a four-year member of the Blue Key Society, where he served as the developmental chair his junior year and the external vice president in his senior year.

He was also a four-year member of the Villanova Special Olympics, which host the largest student-run Special Olympics competition in the world, and the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He was the chairman of the Derby Days committee which raised over \$10,000 during his two-year lead.

Evans will be employed by Deloitte Consulting as a business technology analyst out of their Philadelphia office.

Evan Goldman

Evan Goldman of New Springville graduated from the Brooklyn Law School with a juris doctorate degree.

Goldman was awarded the CALI Future for Excellence Award. He was a member of the Brooklyn Entertainment and Sports Law Society, the Italian-American Law Student Association and the Criminal Appeals Clinic with the New York District Attorney's office.

Goldman completed many internships during his school years. He was a law clerk at Fragomen Del Rey Bernsen and Loowy LLP; an intern at the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, the Federal Defenders of New York and the Legal Aid Society; was a judicial intern with judges Eric N. Vitaliano, John M. Leventhal and Philip S. Stranieri.

Goldman earned his bachelor of arts degree in sports management from the University of Michigan in 2008, where he was awarded University Honors.

Goldman will begin a law clerk career for the Judge Barry P. Sarkisian in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hudson County.

Katie E. Bergin

Katie Elizabeth Bergin of New Dorp graduated with honors from the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development at New York University.

The daughter of Madeline Bergin-Koenig and the late John Bergin and the step-daughter of Gerald Koenig, Ms. Bergin earned a bachelor of science degree in early childhood and special education and a bachelor of science degree in sociology.

She received the Early Childhood Excellent Scholarship Award 2010- 2011 and was a member of the Pi Lambda Theta National Honor Society of Educators.

She was also awarded NYU's prestigious Founders Day Award, which goes to a student who has distinguished themselves among their fellow students through consistent evidence of outstanding scholarship, and earned herself a place in the highest bracket of scholastic achievement recognized by the university.

Ms. Bergin was a four-year member of the NYU cheerleading squad, which competed in national competitions every year at Daytona Beach, Fla. They were national finalists for two years. She was team manager for the 2010- 2011 season and was on the student advisory committee from 2009- 2011.

Ms. Bergin was awarded the MVP trophy for the 2010- 2011 season and has earned a spot on the coaching staff for next season.

She was a student teacher at the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, PS 40 and PS 178. Ms. Bergin is currently employed by TheraCare as a CPSE special education itinerant teacher and plans to continue her graduate studies in literacy education at NYU.

Lauren Flynn

Lauren Flynn of Great Kills graduated from Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., with a bachelor of arts degree in government and law, with a minor in English.

She was a member of Lafayette's McKelvy Scholars Program and was nominated and accepted by faculty during her spring semester of her freshman year.

As a senior, Ms. Flynn was named the first-ever president of the McKelvy House and served on the McKelvy Sub-Selection Committee for the Dean of Students office.

Ms. Flynn was named to the Dean's List throughout her college career and served as a writing associate for Lafayette's College Writing Program, where she helped first- and second-year students develop their writing skills.

Ms. Flynn was a member of the Delta Delta Delta Sorority, Gamma Mu Chapter, where she was the reference and sponsor chair during her sophomore year and served on the membership Selection Committee and chaired the Sponsor Selection Committee.

She helped raise more than \$20,000 for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Ms. Flynn completed an in-depth Capstone research project that mapped the life cycle of current Supreme Court justices and analyzed how these cycles affect each justice's judicial opinion.

Ms. Flynn was a member of the rugby club team her freshman and sophomore years and was a member of the Lafayette Student Initiative, a program to help better the campus community and the relationship

between students and residents of Easton.

She studied abroad on London, England, at the University of Westminster during her junior year and traveled throughout the United Kingdom and greater Europe.

Ms. Flynn is currently employed as a legal assistant in a Manhattan law firm.

Anthony L. Portelli

Anthony L. Portelli of Richmond graduated from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, Los Angeles. Portelli earned a juris doctorate and is currently studying for the California bar exam.

A 2002 graduate of Monsignor Farrell High School, Portelli graduated from the School for Foreign Service at Georgetown University in 2006, receiving a bachelor of science degree, and interned with DLA Piper LLP at their Los Angeles office.

Michael V. DeLillo

Michael Vincent DeLillo of Great Kills graduated from the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Environmental Science and Forestry with a bachelor of landscape architecture degree.

During his college career, DeLillo studied abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark, as part of the five-year degree requirements.

While in Denmark, DeLillo studied Unitary Urbanism, the critique of the urban fabric.

DeLillo will be serving in the AmeriCorps VISTA program, where he will be assigned to the Milwaukee area to help plan the urban renovation and revitalization of various areas in the city.

Jacqueline Matos

Jacqueline Matos of West Brighton graduated from Fordham University, Rose Hill campus, earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration with a dual concentration in finance and marketing.

As a recipient of the JP Morgan Chase Thomas G. Labrecque Smart Start Scholarship, Ms. Matos spent the past four years interning in various departments throughout the company.

She worked part-time during the school year and fulltime while on summer break. A 2007 graduate of Curtis High School, Ms. Matos was named to the Sean's List during her junior year and earned a 3.85 GPA during her final semester.

Ms. Mato was offered a fulltime position as an operations analyst in JP Morgan's Investment Bank at the beginning of her senior year, which she accepted.

Brian M. Forster

Brian Michael Forster of Great Kills graduated from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., with a doctor of philosophy degree in microbiology.

Forster, the son of Arthur and Mary Forster, received a fellowship from Cornell in 2006. Forester graduated summa cum laude from SUNY Binghamton, Vestel, N.Y., in 2006 with a bachelor of science degree in cell/molecular biology. He is a 2002 graduate of Tottenville High School.

Forster was a member of the Beta Kappa Honor Society and the American Society of Microbiology. He plans to pursue a teaching and research position in microbiology.

Justine R. Bello

Justine Rose Bello of Lighthouse Hill received a master of science degree in childhood education from the College of Staten Island.

The daughter of Judith and Thomas Bello earned a bachelor of science degree, cum laude, from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla., a semester early in December 2008. She majored in communication advertising and studio art.

A 2005 alumna of Michael J. Petrides School, Ms. Bello is currently employed by the Nicotra Group of the Hilton Cooperation as an administrative assistant and a graphic designer.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

Legislation introduced to help returning soldiers find jobs more easily

Published: Monday, July 11, 2011, 6:43 AM



By
Staten Island Advance



Senator Kirsten Gillibrand stands with veterans from the metropolitan area, including, from left, Marco Reininger, Manhattan; Abbas Malik, New Springville; Tireak Tulloch, Huntington, L.I.; Maria Canales, Queens; Kevin Kirwan, Queens; Alex Perez, Queens; and Frank Vazquez, Manhattan.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- When 27-year-old Abbas Malik, of New Springville, joined the U.S. Army as an infantryman in 2004, he expected to have a long career in the military.

He served in Iraq for more than a year with the 101st Airborne and was ready to be deployed to Afghanistan. But when his 32-year-old brother was diagnosed with cancer, Malik had to leave the military to help his brother, who had a wife and two young children.

Upon returning home, Malik enrolled in the College of Staten Island. But his brief stint in college ended in 2008 when his

brother's condition worsened.

Malik now had to find a job to support his brother, who could no longer work. But like so many young veterans looking for a civilian job, work was hard to find outside the Army.

"I had a lot of trouble taking the things I did in the military and translating it onto my resume," Malik said, who was one of many veterans that joined Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) yesterday for a meeting to discuss legislation that would help returning veterans find jobs more easily.

TRAINING DIDN'T HELP

As Malik sat down to write his resume shortly after leaving the Army, he realized that much of his military training wouldn't carry over into the civilian world. He could operate a machine gun and was a designated marksman, but he said none of that was anything potential employers cared about.

"It wasn't easy to make myself marketable once I got out," Malik said.

With nearly 2000 recent veterans unemployed in New York City, according to the New York State Department of Labor, Sen. Gillibrand met yesterday with a group of veterans from the metropolitan area at her office in Manhattan to push for the Hiring Heroes Act of 2011. The legislation could potentially help create new jobs for returning veterans through increased job training, personal employment assessments and a changing of federal hiring practices.

"Too many of our troops who risked their lives protecting our country are returning home to an alarming rate of joblessness," Sen. Gillibrand said in a press release yesterday. "When our brave men and women come home, we need to ensure they are equipped with the job skills needed so they can provide for their families."

The bill would require all departing service members to get job training skills through the government's Transition Assistance Program (TAP), which provides job-search techniques and résumé and interviewing workshops.

While TAP is an established program, up to one-third of service members currently do not participate in it, according to the Department of Defense. The bill would also enhance the TAP program by providing each veteran with a personal assessment of his or her employment opportunities based on their service experience.

After training, federal agencies would also be required to follow up with veterans on their job search -- within six months of the training program and every three months after they have left the service for the first year.

Unfortunately, Malik said he wasn't equipped with the type of job-hunting skills supporters of this bill hope will help returning veterans.

After much job-searching, Malik was forced to re-enlist with the military, joining the New York National Guard in a "last desperation move." When he was once again serving in Iraq, Malik's brother died from his cancer.

"It was disheartening having to go back into the military because I couldn't find a job," Malik said. "But it was all I could do to make ends meet and support my brother."



College graduates on parade

Published: Sunday, July 17, 2011, 5:47 AM



Staten Island Advance
By

Johnathan E. Longo

Johnathan E. Longo of Travis graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy.

Ensign Longo is the son of Joseph and Barbara Ann Longo. He earned a bachelor of science degree with a major in English.

A 2007 graduate of St. Peter's Boys High School, Ensign Longo completed four years of intensive academic, physical and professional training, focusing on the educational needs of the Navy and Marine Corps, superimposed on a strict, professional military training environment emphasizing the development of leadership skills.

Ensign Longo has been assigned to the United States Naval Aviation School in Pensacola, Fla.

Frank Napolitano

Frank Napolitano of West Brighton graduated from the College of Staten Island with a bachelor of arts degree in history.

Napolitano, the son of Angeline and Francis Napolitano, plans to pursue a career as a teacher with the New York City Department of Education.

Justine E. Saliski

Justine E. Saliski of Westerleigh graduated cum laude from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a bachelor of arts degree in theater arts, with a concentration in directing.

Ms. Saliski received the Maxwell Becton College of Arts and Science Award for Outstanding Achievement in Theater and is a member of the theatrical honor society Alpha Psi Omega.

During her college career, Ms. Saliski was involved in 10 theatrical productions where she held roles as

director, assistant director, stage manager and properties master.

She also spent a semester abroad focusing on theater, sociology and political science at the FDU campus at Wroxton College in the United Kingdom.

Ms. Saliski has applied for several theater production internships and plans to pursue her master's degree in theater arts.

Rebecca Devlin

Rebecca Devlin graduated summa cum laude from State University of New York at New Paltz. Ms. Devlin earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication disorders.

During her four years, Ms. Devlin earned Dean's List honors every semester and finished with an overall GPA of 3.9.

Ms. Devlin was a member of the women's soccer team, which appeared in the SUNY playoffs for three years. She earned the team Player of the Year award in both her junior and senior seasons.

Ms. Devlin will be attending graduate school at Adelphi University and hopes to obtain her master's degree in speech pathology. She then hopes to work with children for the Department of Education.

Eugene J. Esposito

Eugene John Esposito of Westerleigh graduated from St. John's University with a bachelor of science degree in computer science.

Esposito was initiated into the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society and was named to the St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List.

For his excellence in creative writing, Esposito received the Mario Mezzacappa Memorial Award. Esposito plans to pursue a career in information technology.

Lauren E. Whalen

Lauren E. Whalen of New Dorp graduated magna cum laude from SUNY New Paltz.

Ms. Whalen, the daughter of Stephanie and Thomas Whalen, received a bachelor of science degree in early childhood education.

She made the Dean's List every semester and was a member of the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor

Society in Education.

She also was the student manager of the intramural sports program. A 2007 graduate of Staten Island Technical High School, Ms. Whalen plans to pursue her graduate studies in education.

Diana Thompson

Diana Thompson of Annadale graduated from Kean University, Union, N.J., with a bachelor's degree in recreation administration.

She received the Kean University Merit Scholarship and was named to the Dean's List all four years. Ms. Thompson plans to take the National Council for Recreation Certification Exam in the fall.

Ms. Thompson hopes to pursue a career in recreational therapy and is currently employed by On Your Mark.

Dr. Jason Torjesen

Dr. Jason Torjesen of Westerleigh graduated from St. John's University.

Torjesen, the son of Mary and Erik Torjesen, earned his doctor of pharmacy degree.

Torjesen is currently employed by Walgreens as a pharmacist.

Jeremy LaBella

Jeremy LaBella of West Brighton graduated from Sanford-Brown Institution.

LaBella was a 14-month student who studied all areas of medical assistant office procedures.

LaBella graduated with a 3.70 GPA and is currently working in a Staten Island gastroenterology medical office.

LaBella plans to join the military to further his medical career.

Caitlin A. Demkin

Caitlin Alexandra Demkin, daughter of Susan and Timothy Demkin of Warren, N.J., and granddaughter of Olga and former Staten Island Borough President Anthony Gaeta, graduated from Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.

Ms. Demkin double majored in political science and the history of art. She was a member of the squash team, the Amherst Social Council, the Investment Club and Psi Upsilon.

From 2009- 2011, Ms. Demkin received NESCAC Academic honors and the College Squash Association's scholar/athlete award. Ms. Demkin will be employed by J.P. Morgan.

Elizabeth A. Feinstein

Elizabeth Ann Feinstein graduated from SUNY Empire State College with her associate of science degree with a concentration in creative writing and literature.

Ms. Feinstein studied part-time at the school's Seaview Avenue location while working as part of the college's professional staff.

A wife and mother of three sons, Ms. Feinstein has enrolled in a bachelor's program and intends to work toward her master's degree.

She hopes to one day work as an adjunct professor for Empire State College.

Allessia Quintana

Allessia Quintana, daughter of Richard Quintana and Debbie Quintana-Stifel, graduated from John Jay College, earning a master's degree in criminology through the school's two-year program.

She received a bachelor's degree from Wagner College.

She now plans to pursue a career in the criminology field.

Caitlyn M. Rowan

Caitlyn Marie Rowan of Sunnyside graduated cum laude from Marist College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

The daughter of Jeannie and Brian Rowan received a bachelor of arts degree in communications with a minor in psychology.

During her career, Ms. Rowan was involved in clubs and was named to the Dean's List. She also traveled to Sydney, Australia, where she attended Macquarie University as part of a study abroad program.

A 2007 graduate of Notre Dame Academy, Ms. Rowan plans to pursue a career in the television, film and radio industry.



Swagger Mondays: Kimara Spied in Soho

Fashion Bomb Daily

Monday, July 18, 2011



While I twirl around Atlanta, Swagger New York continues to hit the streets, this time snapping College of Staten Island undergrad, **Kimara**:

What isn't there to love? From her chambray shirt, to pink shorts, and Jeffrey Campbell heels, she is working it.

What do ... [via Fashion Bomb Daily]

Summer snapshots: Staten Island gem South Beach is a refuge from heat and city life

BY [JI HYUN PARK](#) AND [LISA GOMEZ](#)

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY NEWS

Wednesday, July 20th 2011, 4:00 AM



Ji Hyun Park/News

Lopez (l.) and Ruiz with their boys, who have it made in the shade with a picnic lunch.

[Staten Island](#)'s best-kept secret, [South Beach](#), is worth the visit. Locals flock from across the borough to hit the sand and cool off in the clear water.

WHO: [Denise Lopez](#) with twins Thomas and [Nicholas Lopez](#), both 9, from [Graniteville](#), and [Xochitl Ruiz](#) with sons Gabriel and [Isaac Vasquez](#), both 13, from [Castleton Corners](#).

WHY: The boys love to take refuge from the heat at the beach.

As a cheaper alternative to the meals at the boardwalk, Lopez, 43, decided a packed lunch was a smart money-saving move and advises other big families to do the same.

The stay-at-home mom filled bags with potato salad, soda, chips and more for her outing with Ruiz, 39, and the kids.

"They're hungry boys," she says. "They go through a lot of food!"

With full stomachs, the boys took advantage of their day at the shore.

"The water's awesome, and the sand isn't as rocky as other beaches," says Gabriel.

"There are a lot of families out here. It's good for them to play together," says Lopez.



[College of Staten Island](#) students Akimov and Lu relax in the sand. (Ji Hyun Park/News)

WHO: Xiao Lu, 23, from [West Brighton](#), and [Sean Akimov](#), 20, from [Brooklyn](#), spend quality time at the beach tanning and talking.

WHY: The [College of Staten Island](#) students wanted a moment of peace from their hectic lives.

Although South Beach is normally packed with families, the college kids still think it's a great spot for relaxing.

"It's not that crowded. I feel like everything is under control," says Lu.

Thanks to the safety patrol officers who watch over the boardwalk, beachgoers don't have to worry about chaos breaking out.

Lu and Akimov's calm day at South Beach was made better by cool treats. The pair bought lemon and strawberry ices from the boardwalk cafe to keep cool as they tanned under the scorching sun.

Metropolitan Opera sizzles during free performance in Clove Lakes Park

Published: Friday, July 22, 2011, 7:35 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**



[View full size](#)

Heather Johnson sings "Una Voce Poco Fa" during the Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series last night at Clove Lakes Park. (Staten Island Advance/Bill Lyons)

By **COLLEEN MAHONEY**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - It was a chance to put aside heat indexes and real-feeel temperatures and sit back, relax and enjoy a free concert in Clove Lakes Park.

And it wasn't just any concert.

It was the Metropolitan Opera.

But not all of the approximately 150 people who turned out were aficionados.

Veteran and rookie opera-goers alike sat in the breezy shade to listen to the music. Some made a night out of it, bringing dinner and drinks to the event, while other park visitors stopped by for one song or two.

The third annual Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series filled the park with arias sung by soprano Layla Claire, bass-baritone Ryan Speedo Green and mezzo-soprano Heather Johnson. Bradley Moore accompanied them on piano.

Marisaa Othman of New Springville confessed she was there partly because of a homework assignment for the

introduction to a music class she is taking at the [College of Staten Island](#). She was surprised to learn opera music isn't so bad after all. "I'm glad I took this class," she said. "I really enjoyed the music, it was inspiring."

Bob and Anita Zuckerberg of Eltingville were grateful for their seat "upgrade."

The Zuckerbergs are opera enthusiasts, but they normally don't enjoy the killer view they had last night.

"Tickets are so expensive," noted Ms. Zuckerberg. "Here we get to move closer to the performers." They found themselves to be comfortable as they arrived early and ate dinner in the "delightful" breeze.

Melanie Curcio of Oakwood held up a sign reading, "Sing it Speedo," praise meant for bass-baritone Green. Ms. Curcio studied with him at The Hartt School in West Hartford, Conn.

An opera singer herself, she stays in touch with Green. "He's a very personal, dear friend," she said. She was with a few friends, whom she was proud to say she had converted to opera lovers.



View full size

Approximately 150 people attended the Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series event at Clove Lakes Park. (Staten Island Advance/ Bill Lyons)

In an effort to beat the heat, the Starlight Concert, part of the Free Summer Events, was moved into the Music Hall at Snug Harbor. But opera lovers like Alison Weeks didn't mind the soaring temperatures so much when they were combined with soaring voices.

"I love the summer," she said, folding her picnic blanket. "It beats the snow." Ms. Weeks and her husband include going to the opera as one of their favorite pastimes. Having it happen right across the street from their Sunnyside home just expanded the love.

Alumni

Pets to get hospital in Pleasant Plains

Published: Thursday, July 07, 2011, 3:32 PM



Kathryn Carse
By



The Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital, located at 6395 Amboy Rd., opens on Saturday. It boasts multiple examination rooms, a fully stocked pharmacy for pets, inpatient care, an in-house laboratory that can run up to 200 different blood tests, a treatment area - and more. (Staten Island Advance/Mark Stein)

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - PLEASANT PLAINS
- Whether you own a purebred pup or a run-of-the-mill cat, Pasquale Meleleo wants to be there for it in times of need.

After three months of construction, he is finishing up work on the Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital, a new center for animals on Amboy Road that will be hosting its grand opening this Saturday with a celebration.

The full service animal hospital boasts multiple examination rooms, a fully stocked pharmacy for pets, inpatient care, an in-house laboratory that can run up to 200 different blood tests, a treatment area, and more.

The first-floor office is located next to Harmon Home for Funerals' South Shore site on Amboy, across from the Amboy Plaza in Pleasant Plains.

Meleleo said the South Shore is in need of a fully functioning animal hospital, a structure that operates much differently than an ordinary veterinary clinic.

"Some vet clinics, you go there, you get vaccines, you get heartworm medication, and it's 'See ya,' " said the doctor. "We've actually made a commitment for caring for pets."

The vet said the hospital will be able to treat most problems on site.

In addition, emergency service is available at all hours for existing clients only.

"As long as it's something we could handle here, which is most things, we'll come in," he said.

Meleleo grew up in Huguenot and graduated from St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School in 1995. Afterward, he served in the U.S. Navy for four years.

Upon returning to the borough, the Dongan Hills resident received a bachelor's degree from the **College of Staten Island**, Willowbrook.

Meleleo figured he'd "stick his toe in the water" to get a feel for it, so he did his research, and within a week, was hunting for veterinary medicine schools to apply to.

In 2004, he began studying at Cornell University, a decision that came about when he learned a friend was pursuing a similar path.

"I always knew I liked medicine, but I never gravitated toward human medicine," he said, "and I'm not sure why. It's something I never really wanted to do."

Meleleo graduated in 2008 from Cornell and began working at the Bay Street Animal Hospital in Rosebank.

Meleleo spent three years at the location. Last March, he was recognized by the Advance for diagnosing a recently-adopted dog with parvovirus, a highly contagious viral disease that is one of the most common causes of diarrhea in dogs under 6 months of age. It can be fatal if the animal becomes seriously dehydrated and weakened.

The dog owner, Jenna Laible commended the veterinarian's work.

Meleleo will be using Facebook – search "Dr. Meleleo at Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital" – to communicate to his followers and patients' owners.

Pictures of pets, interesting pet cases and more will be available.

"It's an easy way for us to communicate with our clients and keep them in the loop, as to what's going on at



The Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital is located next to Harmon Home for Funerals' South Shore site on Amboy, across from the Amboy Plaza in Pleasant Plains. (Staten Island Advance/Mark Stein)

our hospital," said Meleleo. "Most people that have pets are interested in that sort of thing and they follow it closely."

The hospital's grand opening event this Saturday will feature a raffle that can win a dog and a cat a free year of veterinary care. Free discounted blood work vouchers for pets will also be given out to the first 500 attendees. The event runs from 3 to 5 p.m.

The hospital will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each weekday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

The Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital is located at 6395 Amboy Rd. and can be reached at 718-227-VETS (8387).

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

Oral Health Implications For Hookah, Bidi Smokers Are Focus of Student's Presentation

by Brooklyn Eagle (edit@brooklyneagle.net), published online 07-07-2011

DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN — New York City College of Technology's (City Tech) first participation in the annual American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) student competition last month brought home a prize, as Toni-Ann Restivo, a senior and honors scholar, took third place for her presentation, "Alternative Smoking Using a Hookah or Bidi Cigarette: Implications on Oral Health."

At one of the convention's 50 student table clinics and poster sessions in Nashville, Restivo displayed a poster and brochure and spoke about the growing fad of smoking tobacco through a hookah, or water pipe. It has become a very popular social activity for young Americans, including college students. Hookah cafés and bars have proliferated in the past decade, several of which operate in Brooklyn.

"I felt it was very important to present this at the exhibition," says Restivo, a Bensonhurst resident. "It's a topic that's surfacing right now in the dental health field." She also has personal experience with the subject, having tried both hookah and Bidi smoking in her early 20s. "I wanted this chance to enlighten all those at the convention about a topic that pertains to them and their patients, to help increase awareness and to aid in prevention."

Hookah smoking originated in India roughly 400 years ago, as did the smoking of "bidi" cigarettes, made by rolling tobacco in the leaves of the tendu tree and sometimes flavoring them for sweetness. As anti-smoking legislation continues to build, bidi cigarettes have become scarce in the New York metropolitan area, while hookah-smoking opportunities have become easier to find at lounges, bars or restaurants. In 2003, New York magazine even named the top five hookah bars.

Restivo's presentation pointed out that many young people mistakenly assume that smoking tobacco through a water pipe filters out harmful ingredients and is much less of a health hazard than cigarette or cigar smoking. Since the tobacco is often fruit-flavored, smokers think it is safer than ordinary tobacco, and don't believe that it can cause cancer.

However, says Restivo, "A single cigarette lasts only a few minutes, while smoking a hookah can last up to an hour. This increases exposure time to harmful toxins in the smoke." Because hookah smokers take long, deep breaths, according to a 2005 study by the World Health Organization, they may inhale the equivalent of 100 or more cigarettes' worth of smoke. Since charcoal is used to keep the tobacco burning, they also are inhaling polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and carbon monoxide (CO).

Smokers also perceive bidis as being more "natural" than other cigarettes, but in fact, they contain natural carcinogens. Bidis do not stay lit consistently, so smokers draw deeply on the cigarettes to keep them burning. Both hookah and bidi smoking also generate second-hand smoke, which affects non-smokers in the vicinity.

Among the effects of hookah and bidi smoking, Restivo listed oral, lung and bladder cancer, periodontal disease, lung edema, hypertension, coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular diseases, as well as nicotine dependence.

Said Restivo's mentor, Susan H. Davide, assistant professor of dental hygiene at City Tech, "Ms. Restivo's research is on a relevant topic and trend, which she presented in an exemplary and professional manner, captivating her audience by sharing her knowledge with her peers and fellow ADHA members." Third prize consisted of a cash award of \$300 to Restivo and a matching award for the college, which most likely will be used to purchase more Oraqix anesthetic for the college's dental clinic.

Restivo, who holds a B.S. in biology with a minor in psychology and an associate degree in the sciences from the College of Staten Island, will graduate next year from City Tech with an associate degree in dental hygiene.



Oral health implications for hookah and bidi cigarette smokers focus of presentation



BROOKLYN, New York--New York City College of Technology's first participation in the annual American Dental Hygienists' Association student competition in June 2011 brought home a prize.

Toni-Ann Restivo, a senior and honors scholar, took third place for her presentation, "Alternative Smoking Using a Hookah or Bidi Cigarette: Implications on Oral Health."

At one of the convention's 50 student table clinics and poster session in Nashville, Tenn, Restivo displayed a poster and brochure and spoke about the growing fad of smoking tobacco through a hookah, or water pipe. It has become a popular social activity for young Americans, including college students. Hookah cafés and bars have proliferated in the past decade, several of which operate in Brooklyn.

"I felt it was very important to present this at the exhibition," said Restivo, a Bensonhurst resident. "It's a topic that's surfacing right now in the dental health field."

She also has personal experience with the subject, having tried both hookah and Bidi smoking in her early 20s.

"I wanted this chance to enlighten all those at the convention about a topic that pertains to them and their patients, to help increase awareness and to aid in prevention," she said.

Education is important in understanding hookah fad

Hookah smoking originated in India roughly 400 years ago, as did the smoking of "bidi" cigarettes, made by rolling tobacco in the leaves of the tendu tree and sometimes flavoring them for sweetness. As anti-smoking legislation continues to build, bidi cigarettes have become scarce in the New York metropolitan area, while hookah smoking opportunities, even for those of high school age, have become easier to find at lounges, bars, or restaurants offering DJs, dancing, table service, and occasionally an outdoor patio. In

2003, *New York Magazine* even named the top five hookah bars.

Restivo's presentation pointed out that many young people mistakenly assume that smoking tobacco through a water pipe filters out harmful ingredients and is much less of a health hazard than cigarette or cigar smoking. Since the tobacco is often fruit-flavored, smokers think it is safer than ordinary tobacco, and don't believe that it can cause cancer.

But, according to Restivo, "A single cigarette lasts only a few minutes while smoking a hookah can last up to an hour. This increases exposure time to harmful toxins in the smoke."

Because hookah smokers take long, deep breaths, according to a 2005 study by the World Health Organization, they may inhale the equivalent of 100 or more cigarettes' worth of smoke. Since charcoal is used to keep the tobacco burning, they also are inhaling polyaromatic hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, which both have carcinogenic properties.

Smokers also perceive bidis as being more "natural" than other cigarettes, but in fact they contain natural carcinogens. Bidis do not stay lit consistently, so smokers draw deeply on the cigarettes to keep them burning. Both hookah and bidi smoking also generate second hand smoke, which can affect nonsmokers in the vicinity.

Among the effects of hookah and bidi smoking, Restivo listed oral, lung and bladder cancer, periodontal disease, lung edema, hypertension, coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular diseases, as well as nicotine dependence. Since hookah mouthpieces and hoses often are shared with others, smokers also have a higher risk of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, herpes, hepatitis, and influenza.

To make her case, Restivo used research materials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Harvard Mental Health Letter, Cancer Science, Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior, Food and Chemical Toxicity, including the results of studies done in India, North Carolina, and Florida.

Said Restivo's mentor, Susan H. Davide, assistant professor of dental hygiene at City Tech, "Ms. Restivo's research is on a relevant topic and trend which she presented in an exemplary and professional manner, captivating her audience by sharing her knowledge with her peers and fellow ADHA members."

Third prize consists of a cash award of \$300 to Restivo and a matching award for the college, which most likely will be used to purchase more Oraqix anesthetic for the college's dental clinic. The clinic is open to the general public during the fall and spring semesters.

Restivo, who holds a B.S. in biology with a minor in psychology and an associate degree in the sciences from the College of Staten Island, will graduate next year from City Tech with an associate degree in dental hygiene.

Also presenting at the event was City Tech junior Ruth Marsiliani on the topic of "Differential Oral Indicators for HIV: COL Criteria."

For more information, go to www.citytech.cuny.edu.

Army veteran Karyn Obey promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2

Published: Sunday, July 17, 2011, 5:42 AM



By **Staten Island Advance**



Family Photo

Obey

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - Karyn Obey, daughter of Cheryl and Arnold Obey of Manor Heights, has been promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2.

She has been in the United States Army since July 2001.

Chief Warrant Officer Obey is stationed at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash., where she is training and preparing for her third deployment to Afghanistan.

She is a graduate of Susan Wagner High School and the University of Miami.

Airman Ingrid Bratteng

Air Force Airman Ingrid B. Bratteng graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.



Family Photo

Bratteng

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.

Bratteng is the daughter of Kenneth Bratteng of Richmond Avenue and Evelyn Ramsey of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Col. Gabriel Troiano

Army Reserve Col. Gabriel Troiano has graduated from the U.S. Army War College Correspondence Course at Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pa.

The course prepares officers of all services, as well as civilian officials of the federal government, for top level command and staff positions with U.S. armed forces throughout the world.

Students partake in the Army's highest level of formal education with the mission of preparing selected leaders to assume strategic leadership responsibilities in military and national security organizations.

Troiano is a director of intelligence assigned to the European Command Joint Reserve Unit at Fort George G. Meade, Laurel, Md.. The colonel has served in the military for 25 years.

He is the son of Maryann Troiano of New Dorp.

In 1982, Troiano graduated from Monsignor Farrell High School and received a bachelor's degree in 1986 from Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J. He earned a master's degree in 2008 from Argosy University, Washington, D.C.



Airman 1st Class Rajat Nair

Air Force Airman 1st Class Rajat R. Nair 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.

He is the son of Rajendran Puliampotta of New Dorp. Nair received a bachelor's degree in 2009 from The College of Staten Island.

© 2011 SILive.com. All rights reserved.

Brooklyn tennis phenoms get readers' help to pay for fees and camp tuitions

BY [JAKE PEARSON](#)
DAILY NEWS WRITER

Tuesday, July 26th 2011, 4:00 AM



Linda Rosier for News/File photo

Brothers Rome, 14, and Jordan, 13 (pictured in 2006) Rey are back in the game after they appealed to Daily News readers for the help they needed for equipment and tournament fees.

Daily News readers have rallied to help two tennis phenoms from [Flatbush](#) whose parents can't afford to pay for club memberships, tournament fees and camp tuitions.

After the News featured the story of brothers Jordan and Rome Rey-Anatole, 13 and 14, last week, big-hearted readers reached out to donate money - and tennis tips - to the talented boys.

"I was elated and a little overwhelmed," said mom [Roslyn Rey](#), who lost shifts as an English teacher just as her husband Ira's job as a plumber was cut two years ago.

"Words can't really say how it feels. It's what I've been hoping for to get some kind of help and I don't really have words to say how it feels when strangers reach out to you."

One of those strangers, tennis club owner [Anthony Gaudio](#), arranged for a couple of top-notch tennis coaches to watch Jordan and [Rome](#) play and evaluate their game.

"[[Roslyn](#)] was just trying to make a better life for her children and that's all I saw," said Gaudio, owner of the [Cunningham Tennis Center](#) in Queens. "If I can help, then I'll do what I can do."

For [Windsor Terrace](#) resident [Kathryn Fazio](#) - who went to the [College of Staten Island](#) on a tennis scholarship years ago - reading about the two brothers reminded her of her own struggles.

"The thing is, these boys have a chance to conceive of college," said Fazio, 57. "Tennis is a really a good builder of character. It's a really good visual description of boundaries. It's so important to me."

Next week, [Janet Lovell](#) of Women Helping Women Ministries will hold a \$25-a-plate brunch at her Flatbush Ave. church to raise money to pay for two winter memberships to an indoor tennis club.

Already 30 people have pitched in - and a dozen more have called since the story ran last week, said Lovell.

"First when I walked in the office and the calls kept coming back-to-back, I was surprised," she said.

"Calls were coming back-to-back one after the other and I had to tell people, 'Hold on, I got someone else on the line. Hold on.'"

Jordan, an eighth-grader at Middle School 381, said he hopes to go to [Beacon High School](#) next year and play on the city's most competitive tennis team.

His brother, Rome, a fanatical fan of Swiss tennis champ [Roger Federer](#), was the only freshman to start on the [Midwood High School](#) tennis team last season.

"I feel good because now I may get an opportunity," said Rome. "I want to go pro."

Rome and Jordan - who sleep in the living room of their parents' cramped one-bedroom apartment - said they need memberships to an indoor club because they get rusty during the winter months, hitting the ball against the basement wall as practice.