$1M gift for Farmingdale college

BY NICHOLAS SPANGLER
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Farmingdale State College announced yesterday it had received a $1 million gift — the largest in its history — from nursing home entrepreneur Theresa Patnode Santmann, an alumna and Babylon resident.

Santmann’s gift will “change this institution for years to come,” creating four scholarships and supporting faculty research, Farmingdale president W. Hubert Keen said in a ceremony outside Gleeson Hall. The college’s School of Health Science, which has about 700 students and offers degrees in nursing, medical lab technology and dental hygiene, will bear Santmann’s name.

In brief remarks, Santmann, who earned her nursing degree at Farmingdale in 1969, said the college’s students and staff were “an extraordinary group, and I’m proud of all of you.”

Later, in an interview, Santmann said her gift was a matter of “priorities.” The programs she invested in “can move forward the entire health process,” she said.

There was also, she said, a purely selfish motive behind her giving: “As you go along in life, if you bump into something that makes you feel good inside, do it.”

The gift followed cuts in funding to the State University of New York system and the threat of tuition increases for students. It was the second substantial gift in recent weeks to a Long Island college or university. Earlier this month, Hofstra University announced a $20 million gift to the law school from Maurice A. Deane, an alumnus who is a former pharmaceutical executive and a longtime donor. The law school will bear his name.

Santmann sold her nursing home business last year, she said. In 2000, according to Newsday’s annual ranking, it was the fourth-largest female-owned business on Long Island. She founded the Little Flower Adult Home in Babylon in the 1960s, before she graduated from Farmingdale, and opened the Little Flower Nursing Home in East Islip in 1973 and the Petite Fleur Nursing Home in Sayville, in 1993. Together, they employed more than 400 people.

Her late husband, John, diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease, was her first patient.
Farmingdale State College Receives Largest Donation in History

Theresa Patnode Santmann Makes Million Dollar Donation

Farmingdale State College has announced the largest gift in the nearly 100-year history of the institution, a $1 million contribution by alumnus Theresa Patnode Santmann of Babylon, a prominent health care advocate and entrepreneur. The donation will establish endowed scholarships and support faculty research in the College’s School of Health Sciences, which will be named for Santmann. Scholarships and research support will also go to the bioscience program.

"Farmingdale provided me with an excellent education and helped shape my success in the health care industry," said Santmann, who remains active in college affairs and is a member of the Farmingdale Foundation board. "I continue to be amazed at the transformation that has taken place over the last few years and the growth of the research enterprise."

"Theresa Santmann is a person of extraordinary generosity—both in her financial support of Farmingdale over many years, and with her time and effort," said Farmingdale State College President W. Hubert Keen. "Clearly, she recognizes Farmingdale’s value as an investment, and I couldn’t agree more. We are critical not only in meeting the educational needs of the region’s students, but also as an engine of economic development."

Keen added, "What better time for such a gesture than as we approach our 100th anniversary to be celebrated during the 2011-12 academic year? It’s just perfect!"

The gift will create four scholarships spread over the programs in nursing, bioscience, dental hygiene, and medical technology, and will also support faculty research and the enhancing of student resources.

Santmann has been a long time contributor to the college, donating funds for a 9/11 memorial on
Farmingdale State College presents a fall garden celebration with tours of teaching gardens led by horticulture professors, lectures, garden advice and more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. 631-420-2075. farmington.edu/horticulture
Farmingdale State receives $1 million donation

by Claude Sosnik
Published: September 21, 2011
Tags: donation, Farmingdale State College, Health Care, Long Island, Theresa Patnode Santmann

Farmingdale State College has obtained a $1 million contribution, the biggest in its nearly-100-year history, from Theresa Patnode Santmann, a health care entrepreneur and advocate.

The school, which announced the donation on Wednesday, said it plans to use the money to set up scholarships and support faculty research in the College’s School of Health Sciences, which will be named for Santmann.

“Farmingdale provided me with an excellent education and helped shape my success in the health care industry,” said Santmann, a member of the Farmingdale Foundation board. “I continue to be amazed at the transformation that has taken place over the last few years and the growth of the research enterprise.”

The school said the gift will be used to create four scholarships spread over programs in nursing, bioscience, dental hygiene and medical technology as well as to support faculty research and enhance student resources.

Farmingdale State College President W. Hubert Keen described Santmann as “a person of extraordinary generosity both in her financial support of Farmingdale over many years and with her time and effort.”

He said Santmann realizes the school’s role “not only in meeting the educational needs of the region’s students, but also as an engine of economic development.”

“What better time for such a gesture than as we approach our 100th anniversary to be celebrated during the 2011-12 academic year?” Keen said in a written statement.

Santmann in 1964 bought a building in Babylon, which she converted into an adult home where her husband, John, who had been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease, was her first patient.

In 1973, she built and operated the Little Flower Nursing Home in East Islip before in 1992 opening and operating the Perie Fleur Nursing Home in Sayville. In 1993, she invented and patented a walker with a folding, pivoting seat.

Santmann was named Farmingdale’s Alumna of the Year in 2005 and was honored at the Farmingdale College Foundation’s annual Business Hall of Fame Gala in 2010.
Skelos: LI will thrive, thanks to technology

by Commentary
Published: September 15, 2011
Tags: aerospace industry, college, Economy, Higher education, labs, legislation, Long Island, Ronkonkoma, Senate, Technology

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More good economic news is on the way. Soon the Long Island Forum for Technology will announce a location for the Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technology Innovation Center, as well as new partnerships with SUNY Farmingdale and Stony Brook University. We have been working on this facility for five years and have obtained a $15 million state investment.

In 1927, Charles Lindbergh made a courageous decision to take off from Roosevelt Field and fly across the Atlantic Ocean, later spawning the aviation industry here. Senate Republicans also made an important decision: to make Long Island a high-tech and biotech hub. And we continue to see our efforts take off. However, our economy is still hurting and we cannot rest on our laurels.

We will continue to work with the governor, community and industry leaders to ensure that these industries continue to create more jobs and a brighter future for Long Island.

Skelos is the New York Senate majority leader.
LI colleges named 'military friendly'

Originally published: September 15, 2011 1:10 PM
Updated: September 16, 2011 9:40 PM
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY — Stony Brook University, Farmingdale State College and SUNY Old Westbury are among two dozen schools in the State University of New York system that have been called "military friendly" by a national publication.

The "2012 Military Friendly Schools List" from G.I. Jobs Magazine also cites the University at Albany, Alfred State College, Binghamton University, The College at Brockport, Buffalo State College, SUNY Canton, SUNY Delhi, Empire State College and Maritime College.

The magazine also cites community colleges for people transitioning from military to civilian life. They include Broome, Clinton, Columbia-Greene, Hudson Valley, Jamestown, Jefferson, Mohawk Valley, Monroe, Niagara, North Country, Onondaga and Ulster.
The president of Farmingdale State College, faculty, staff and students were on hand Tuesday to cut the ribbon to officially reopen Nathan Hale Hall, a building that had been closed for a multi-year renovation project.

The rebuild, which cost $31 million, was funded through a mix of on-campus sources, and also through a substantial contribution from the SUNY Construction Fund.

The SUNY Construction Fund is a public benefit corporation set up to fund construction projects at public colleges and universities state-wide. The design and layout of the building was done by New York firm David Smotrich and Partners.

The building will now serve as the new home to the Biology department and Visual Communications department. New biology labs will allow more students to conduct experiments and research, and more office space for the department consolidates a once scattered faculty. For the arts, new gallery space and Macintosh labs will allow more classes to be held.

Originally built with the decor of the 1960’s, the building has been upgraded to reflect a more modern aesthetic. More windows were added to let more natural light into the building, and redesigned stair cases provide more convenient access to the building’s three floors.

“It certainly looks far more beautiful now than then,” said president W. Hubert Keen, who added that many students and faculty members have had positive reviews of the new spaces.

The reopening of Hale Hall represent one item of an ambitious master plan to upgrade many buildings on the campus. The capstone of the plan is the construction of a new campus center to be opened in late 2012.
A member of the Mini-Baja team drives the vehicle around the course in Illinois.

Farmingdale State College (FSC) Students Complete First Mini-Baja Vehicle Competition

On June 6, Farmingdale State College’s Mini-Baja team successfully competed with its first ever off-road vehicle. The students took their vehicle to Illinois for the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Mini-Baja competition, where representatives from various colleges test their vehicles. Farmingdale State College students presented their dedicated work in a collaborative senior project and placed 89 out of 113 entries.

The Farmingdale team, headed by Dr. Jeff Hing, assistant professor of mechanical engineering technology and Ken Tan, network administrator for the school of engineering technology, entered the project four semesters ago from an 80-page handbook and five SAE students. The team had a total of 12 members from different disciplines. The students applied much of what they had learned to the project. Their work consisted of engineering, designing, fabrication, safety, bookkeeping, cost analysis, technical writing, decision-making, marketing, and test-driving skills.

“The goal was not just in making a better Mini-Baja vehicle but also to have senior students offer their help to underclassmen in various subjects,” said Dr. Hing. “The students learned what it takes to work under immense pressure and, as a result, became stronger as a team.”

SAE is an off-road vehicle design competition. The SAE Mini-Baja is held annually throughout the United States and internationally. The SAE is an organization of automotive engineers dedicated to advancing automotive engineering worldwide. Over the course of one year, each team creates a reduced-scale off-road (Mini-Baja) vehicle to be tested against schools throughout America and other countries.

Robert Bickley to Share WWII Stories For Museum Exhibit

Northrop Grumman seeks retirees, veterans for oral history of WWII

To mark this year’s national Commemoration of Naval Aviation celebrations, Northrop Grumman is looking up to the American Airpower Museum at Republic Airport in Farmingdale to invite those who worked on, flew or built Grumman and Northrop Grumman aircraft to come forward this Labor Day weekend, September 3, 4, and 5, 2011, and help cross an oral histories’ milestone.

“The year 2011 marks a crucial milestone in the chronicle of America’s defense of freedom on the high seas. It will be 100 years since a Curtiss pusher biplane was first able to take off and land from a wooden platform anchored to a warship anchored in San Francisco Bay. Grumman’s involvement in strengthening America’s naval aviation would follow within 20 years,” said Patricia McMahon, vice president and general manager, Northrop Grumman’s Aerospace Systems Business Development and Engagement Systems Division headquartered in Bethpage.

“Over our proud 81-year history, we have delivered more than 26,300 aircraft to the naval aviation services. Today, Northrop Grumman is helping to lead the next 100 years of naval aviation with both manned and unmanned platforms from the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye to the Broad Area Maritime Surveillance Unmanned Aircraft System (BAMS UAV),” said McMahon. “This weekend we seek to honor the best, celebrate the present and advance the future by reaching out to all those who flew or worked on Grumman and Northrop Grumman naval aircraft to join us in sharing and recording their experiences.”

Beside a Trio of Grumman Torpedo Bombers

Throughout Labor Day weekend, Northrop Grumman will be sponsoring video recording sessions at the American Airpower Museum at Republic Airport adjacent to three operational Grumman Avenger torpedo bombers. Two Corsair fighters built by Vought during WWII will be on display.

American Airpower Museum President Jeff Cephas ob- served, “Shortly after World War II, Rear Admiral McClellan McCollum would state, ‘the name Grumman on a plane...[had] the same meaning to the Navy as that ‘screaming’ [V-1] on a bomb.’ In honor of the Commemoration of Naval Aviation and Long Island’s contributions to it, we want to reach the people who have been on the front lines of that experience.”

Northrop Grumman’s history archives record that six men started the Grumman Corporation in December 1929, in a small garage in Baldwin including Lewis Grumman, who along with William Schwindler, headed the operations and was a naval aviator. They were both former engineers at the Langley Company, another successful builder of war planes during the 1910s and 1920s, and the two understood the challenges of naval aircraft design.

Stories to Tell As a Witness to History

Among those who are volunteering to participate is Robert Bickley of Seaford who was an Avenger crewman during World War II and is a volunteer at the American Airpower Museum. “It was the largest single-engine plane of World War II and it was designed to do the job of putting ordnance on a target and then getting you back to the carrier deck. It was tough, it was purpose-built and it had no vices to the young pilot,” he recalls.

Donnie Baumert-Moyk, director of division and external communications for the Northrop Grumman said, “We are asking all individuals to contact us so that we may schedule video interviews during Labor Day weekend. Whether you were on carriers, Naval Air Stations or involved with the manufacturing or design of aircraft destined for Naval Air we want your story.”

You can either phone the museum’s public affairs number at (516) 434-2010, leave a message on the Museum’s Facebook page or email Donnie.Baumert-Moyk@grumman.com.

For more information on Northrop Grumman’s role in the commemoration of naval aviation, please visit them online at www.northropgrumman.com/NAVIAW.
LI BUSINESS

Sign of success

After losing his job, he now runs $3.5M operation

Company expects to ramp up production 29%

BY JAIME BEKULICH

Seven years ago, Bill Levine found himself without a job after the sign display company he had worked at for two decades closed.

Little did the disabled veteran know that a lost job would eventually turn into a growing $3.5-million-plus operation that now employs 20 but could add six people within a year. He runs his own signage, graphics and visual display firm, WL Concepts and Production, in Islandia and Freeport.

"It's very fortunate," said Levine, 60, who started his company in a bedroom of his home and is now an industry leader servicing some of the top brands in the world, including Tommy Hilfiger.

The company is expanding and renovating a 15,000-square-foot facility in Freeport, where it will consolidate operations and increase production thanks to a $100,000-plus investment in new technology.

"We’re thinking of ramp up production at least 20 percent," said Levine, who started his business after going through the state Department of Labor’s Self-Employment Assistance Program. Levine discovered the program after losing his job at Electra Displays in Islandia, where he had served as vice president of sales until it closed in 2006. The program helps qualified unemployed individuals become self-employed by providing free entrepreneurial training and counseling.

During the program he met his mentor, John Nardozza, program coordinator for the NYS Veterans Business Outreach Program at the Small Business Development Center at Farmingdale, and Levine, who served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam, where he incurred a service-connected disability.

Nardozza, a retired Navy captain, assisted Levine with his business plan and helped him earn designation as both a veteran-owned and disabled-veteran-owned business, a status that would help Levine later compete on a federal level.

"He had the moxie and drive inherent in himself, but having the client and knowing the business, he was able to hit the ground running," says Nardozza, adding Levine was one of the first manufacturers to the SBDC’s Small Business Hall of Fame.

The company’s growth has been swift. After starting the business in 2006, Levine purchased a 3,069-square-foot facility in Islandia a year later. And by 2007, another 7,000-square-foot facility in Freeport. He moved the company’s headquarters from Islandia to the renovated 15,000-square-foot Bennington Avenue site in Freeport by early fall. It’s unclear yet whether the smaller Freeport facility will be part of the consolidation.

The new facility will incorporate several new pieces of machinery, including a laser capable of cutting, etching and engraving full-sized sheets of acrylic, wood, metal or stone in sizes up to 50 inches wide and 100 inches long at extraordinary high speeds.

"Bill’s smart enough to know that you can’t sit back," said Eric Froschhauer, New York editor of VMU, an industr publication for retail designers and store display professionals. "You have to be up to date in terms of what’s going on in technology. It’s a kind of forward thinking that’s helped him turn the company into an industry leader," said Froschhauer.

His clients include Timberland, DII, Express, Jones New York and Donna Karen.

"They get it," said Melissa Scher, store planning executive, project manager for Tommy Hilfiger in Manhattan. "They know our brand."

AT A GLANCE

Who
Bill Levine, president

Company
WL Concepts and Production

Business
Display and graphics

Where
Freeport / Islandia

Revenues
$35 million plus

Employees
20

Trivias
One of the company’s largest visual projects was a 255-foot-wide and 35-foot-high "Marys Farm of Holiday" display that was displayed for several holidays seasons at Kennedy Airport’s Terminal 4. It was designed with Visions Design Group in Huntington.
Education

Sandy Lory-Snyder, a counselor and assistant coordinator in the undeclared major program at Farmingdale State College, was awarded a 2011 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service. Lory-Snyder has been with Farmingdale since 1979, when she came aboard as a resident hall director.
LI BUSINESS

TECHNOLOGY

Nancy Hammerlik has been named senior vice president, industry relations for CompTIA, a Chicago-based trade association for the information technology industry. The Bethpage resident was senior vice president of events for Everything Channel in Manhasset.

BOARDS/ASSOCIATIONS

Gabor Kersal of Glen Cove was recently elected governor of Rotary District 7250, which encompasses Nassau County, Brooklyn and Queens. He is owner/broker of Landmark Realtors in Glen Cove.

The Hon. William O'Brien has been elected president of the New York State District Court Judges Association. He is an acting County Court judge in the County Court of Nassau where he is assigned to the family domestic violence and sex offense area. He lives in Syosset.

Margaret O'Donnell has been elected New York State representative to the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. The local chapter, Nurse Practitioners Association of Long Island, is based in Massapequa. The Baldwin resident practices at Monte Numsbaum Family Medicine in Lynbrook.

REAL ESTATE

Pat Russell has joined RE/MAX Signature Real Estate in Seaford as a licensed salesperson. The Holbrook resident held a similar position at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Ronkonkoma.

EDUCATION

Jon Huleberg has been promoted from assistant director to director of athletics, recreation and student services at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology in flushing. He is a Floral Park resident.

Katie Stockhammer has been appointed director of development for the arts at Stony Brook University. She was most recently a campaign director at the Long Island chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society when it was located in Melville.

Angela Jasur has been named director of residence life at Farmingdale State College. The Whaley Heights resident comes from Dowling College in Oakdale, where she was associate dean of students.

Christopher Wills has joined Bohemia-based R. W. Roper & Company as a senior financial advisor. The East Mastic resident held a similar position at Morgan Stanley in Baldwin.

LAW

Daniel J. Sollage has joinedBelanger, Sacks, Kimmel & Bower as an associate in its Woodbury office. The Farmingdale resident was principal court attorney in Nassau County Supreme Court.

Ariele O'Brien of St. James and Jordan Staley of Levittown, have joined the summer associate program at the Law Offices of Alan J. Schwartz in Garden City.

For more people on the move newday.com

Allyson Luftig has been promoted from his clerk to research editor at TaxAudit. He is a Hempstead resident.

Send submissions and color photos to peopleonthe-move@newday.com

appeals. Luftig lives in Jericho.
Recycling for a home
Friends film a documentary on their Habitat for Humanity project

By LIZ FINNEGAN

ISLIP — Two longtime friends have recently turned a hobby of recycling old furniture into a project that helps to furnish Habitat for Humanity homes and they are filming a documentary on that effort. Their hope is that the film will draw attention to that worthwhile organization, as well as be an inspiration for individuals and groups to find their own way to help others.

College students Dan Klimkowski and Mike Arrick, both 2008 graduates of Islip High School, began collecting old furniture as kids. Arrick said they'd ride their bicycles around the neighborhood and were surprised by what people had decided to throw out. "We always got a kick out of doing that," he remarked.

But the boys soon realized that some of the furniture being discarded was still good enough to use and so they'd cart the items back home, clean them up and put them into their rooms.

"There's something not quite right with throwing out furniture," Klimkowski said. "And there's so much out there.

"Who's to say it can't be used again," Arrick added.

As they got a little older, their hobby got a little more sophisticated. Cars replaced their bicycles on the collection outings and they then began to refinish the reclaimed chairs, tables and desks. Last year, when both their own homes began filling up with furniture, they had another idea: donate the refinished furniture to the people who could use it the most, such as those moving into Habitat for Humanity houses.

"We knew there was an opportunity here for us to help other people," Arrick said. And so last March they contacted Habitat for Humanity for Suffolk County and scheduled a meeting.

"We weren't sure what to expect," said Arrick. "But they loved the idea and we were ecstatic.

Both Reichert, family services director for Habitat for Humanity in Suffolk, said the organization does receive a lot of calls from individuals who would like to donate furniture, but the problem has always been arranging for pickup and storage. And so, since the young men have addressed those issues, their project was welcomed.

"They have been wholehearted about doing this," Reichert said. "The young men were connected with three families, one in Bay Shore and two in Bellport that are having Habitat homes built. Another individual who is currently in a Habitat home will also receive some of the refinished furniture.

"We wanted to target families who haven't moved in yet and give [Arrick and Klimkowski] the idea about the whole process," Reichert said.

"They were both very willing and eager to get to know [the organization]," she added. Still, the friends weren't completely satisfied. "We knew we could take this concept higher to reach even more people," Arrick said.

Arrick and Klimkowski had decided to film the project as a documentary as a way to help others understand what Habitat for Humanity is all about. They are also hoping that their film will encourage others to recycle furniture rather than throw it out, as a way to help the environment. After doing some research, they learned that discarded furniture amounts to around 4 percent of the nation's trash. They contacted two friends, Darryl Maraj and Pat Peltiz, who had taken film classes, and asked them to help film the project. They also contacted a professional documentary maker to give them a few pointers.

"We learned quite a bit," Klimkowski said. Last month, as the summer was drawing to a close, they stepped up their efforts just before heading back to college for their senior year. Arrick is a psychology major at Farmingdale State College and Klimkowski, a business major at Farmham University, will be spending his fall semester in London, England.

They solicited volunteers over the Internet and word-of-mouth to help during a one-day furniture refinishing marathon. Approximately 40 people showed up for the event that was held in the Islip High School parking lot. For several hours they sanded, stained and painted more than 30 pieces of furniture.

That turnout was heartening. "I've always felt that most people are good," said Klimkowski. "But I didn't expect that there would be that many people who were willing to help.

During the event, Islip Town Supervisor Phil Nolan presented the young men with a citation for their hard work and ingenuity.

"Supervisor Nolan and Councilman John Edwards were very helpful and excited about this project," Arrick said.

The friends said they were grateful to their former principal, Dr. Eileen Rossman, who allowed them to store the furniture in the high school over the summer and also to Bob's Storage on Saxon Avenue in Bay Shore for providing a large storage unit, gratis, until the furniture could be moved into the Habitat homes.

Klimkowski said he'll return from a semester abroad just in time to see the families move into their new home. "I can't wait for that day," he said.

"There has been an overwhelming sense of satisfaction in helping people," Klimkowski added, regarding the whole project. "But, it's not just about us. Anyone can do this and there are a lot of other ways to help people. We're just showing people how to use the resources available to them to do it.

"What we've done may be unconventional, but it shows how anyone can help in any way they can," Arrick added.

Filming for the documentary should be completed within the next six months. The friends hope to eventually enter it into local film festivals and perhaps eventually also find a television venue.
LI People ON THE MOVE

BOARDs/ASSOCIATIONS

The American Heart Association announced new officers on its Long Island board of directors.

Cindy McLaughlin of Northport, a partner and office business line leader at BDO USA in Melville, was named chair of the board.

Marc L. Hamrof of Merrick, managing partner at Garden City law firm Moritt Hock & Hamrof, was named vice chairman.

Roslyn resident Dr. Paul E. Harnick of Cardiovascular Medical Associates in Garden City was named vice president.

East Islip resident Dr. Jean Marie Cacciabuono is chief of cardiology at Southside Hospital in Bay Shore and president of the board.

Patricia Polenz has been appointed to the department of technology studies’ advisory committee at Farmingdale State College. The Northport resident is interning as a compensation analyst at Covidien, a health care products provider in New Haven, Conn.

Larry Drago has been elected to the board of the Direct Marketing Association of Long Island. The Smithtown resident is a channel marketing specialist for Verint Systems in Melville.

TECHNOLOGY

Jim Barrezeuca has joined A+ Technology Solutions in Bay Shore as controller. The Bay Shore resident was most recently chief financial officer at Talon Air Jets in Farmingdale.

CONSULTING

Sheldon Lukin has been named sales manager at Bellmore-based SBA Consulting, a provider of part-time and interim chief financial officers. He was most recently a salesperson at Century Direct in Long Island City, a direct mail marketing company. Lukin is a Merrick resident.

FINANCE

Deborah A. Ippolito has joined TD Bank as vice president, portfolio manager in commercial lending, in its Melville regional office. The Manorville resident held a similar position at Suffolk County National Bank in Riverhead.

ENGINEERING

Jessica Corriere has joined Horizon Engineering Associates of Manhattan and Hauppauge as an engineering manager in its New York City office. She most recently worked at Consolidated Edison in Manhattan where she was an environment, health and safety engineer. Corriere is a Brooklyn resident.

LAW

Christopher P. Byrnes has been promoted to associate at Schroder & Strom in Mineola, where he will oversee the firm’s residential tax appeals. The Northport resident had been a law clerk since June 2009.

Naemah Clark of Brooklyn has joined Western Ball Esterer & Sharfstein, a commercial law firm, as an associate in the firm’s litigation department. She held a similar position at Alston & Bird in Manhattan before joining the Uniondale firm.

Adrienne Kepner Laraby has joined the Rochester branch of Abrams, Fensterman, Eisman, Greenberg, Formato & Einiger, which is headquartered in Lake Success, as a health care associate. She held a similar position at Ward Greenberg in Rochester, which is also where she lives.

Susan E. Fine has joined Harris Beach of Uniondale as senior counsel. She was most recently a senior associate at Ingerman Smith in Hauppauge. Fine is a Huntington resident.

Send submissions and color photos to peopleonemove@newsday.com.
Back in March of 2001, Dr. Henry Dondero took a week-long continuing education course in forensic dentistry at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Maryland. He had no idea he'd be using those skills six months later to identify victims of the World Trade Center tragedy as one of 25 tour commanders for the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

"The first thing I tried to do after the attack was to contact the forensic dentist in Manhattan to see if they needed help, but communication was down so took several days to reach them," said Dondero, who is a professor of dental hygiene at Farmingdale State College. "I was down there by end of the first week."

Dondero worked in the military police before attending dental school at NYU and taking post-doctoral classes in forensic dentistry. He worked with the 9/11 dental ID team until it closed in June 2002. Together they had identified more than 600 victims by examining remains and matching them with dental records provided by the families.

Today, he gives a lecture every two years at Farmingdale State to the dental hygiene program about his experience after 9/11 to show them the service dentistry was able to provide New York.

He says the experience definitely had an impact on him.

"It makes you more cognizant of your own mortality," he said. "You try desperately to be as detached as a human being can be, but you can’t avoid experiencing a gamet of emotions."

Dondero said some of the emotions were perplexing.

"When we would make an identification it was almost joyous in a way because we found somebody," he said. "In wretched conditions we could give someone peace."

This story is part of Patch’s “How did 9/11 change you?” series. Share your personal story in the comment section below.
Dr. Miriam Deitsch vividly remembers the smells of the fire, the feeling of the ground shake and of eyes burning from the smoke. She wasn’t at the World Trade Center on the morning of 9/11, but she has counseled dozens who were.

“That was the hardest counseling I have ever done,” said the Farmingdale State professor, who chairs the Sociology and Anthropology department, is the director of the Social Science Research Center and runs her own private psychology practice.

Just days after 9/11, Deitsch was in the city counseling World Trade Center employees who survived the attack by escaping the building or who did not go to work that day. She says many were troubled and many felt guilty for surviving what their peers hadn’t.

“I told them that their work wasn’t done and to think about what their purpose as they continue their life would be,” she said. “That brought a sense of comfort but not of understanding why this happened.”

Deitsch said that after 9/11 many of the survivors struggled going up in elevators, being on high floors and leaving their children.

“But people are very resilient,” she said. "Many were able to go back to work but with very big accommodations."

Deitsch thought of her own three children frequently during the sessions and is very disturbed by what has taken place politically since 9/11.

“The thing that remains with me always is the continuing injustices and inhumanity to the people who are still suffering, still not able to get benefits or have bills passed to take care of their needs,” she said. “It remains a great source of discomfort and concern for me.”

On the tenth anniversary Deitsch will be part of a group mental health disaster professionals at the Point Lookout memorial service, on hand in case anyone needs support.

She says she never stops thinking about the people whose lives were forever changed.

“It’s an unthinkable tragedy you don’t imagine would ever happen. Thousands of people did everything they did as part of their normal routine and it was anything but normal,” she said. "I felt so blessed to have a skill that would bring some kind of relief, some kind of peace and some kind of help to people.”
On Sept. 11, 2001, Eileen Eichler nervously waited to hear from her husband Fred, who was on the 83rd floor of the north tower when the first building was hit. "My life has been profoundly changed by the World Trade Center attack," said Eichler, the dean of the School of Business at Farmingdale State College back in 2001. Fred was rescued and escaped just before the building collapsed, but that day dramatically impacted many facets of their life. "Since that time, Fred has had persistent health issues," she said. "Eventually, his health concerns caused me to step down as the dean of the School of Business at Farmingdale State College, as I needed to spend more time with him."

Today, she still teaches at Farmingdale State, but the couple has relocated to Manhattan and has made other lifestyle changes. "I do not travel as often, preferring to stay closer to home," she said. She added that they have gotten much closer to their immediate and extended family, and that family "has even greater meaning for us than before." "I look more warily at the world," Eichler said. "Fred and I view each and every day as a gift."

This story is part of Patch’s "How did 9/11 change you?" series. Share your personal story in the comment section below.

Related Topics: 9/11

« Back to September 11th Anniversary
Israel proposes tax incentive for hiring veterans
Congressman urges swift action in light of
unemployment rate, returning soldiers

ARLENE GROSS
arlengross@bnnewspapers.com

All veterans should have an easier
time finding work when they return
home from service and in the ensu-
ing years, said Rep. Steve Israel (D-Dix
Hills), who recently proposed a bill
that would offer tax incentives to any
business that hires veterans.

More than one million veterans are
unemployed nationwide and the job-
less rate for post-9/11 veterans is 13.3
percent, more than 4 percent above
the national unemployment rate, Israel
stated, citing a June 2011 report from
U.S. Congress Joint Economic Com-
mittee.

"By the end of this year, as many as
56,000 of our troops will return from
Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. "When
they get here, the last place they should
be sent is the unemployment line. We
owe it out our veterans and service
members to come together and imme-
diately pass bipartisan legislation to
get veterans jobs."

What businesses really need are
more customers and greater demand
for products and services so that they
can ultimately afford to hire more
workers, Rep. Tim Bishop (D-South-
ampton) said. However, he supports
Israel's bill because it "will help em-
ploy veterans, which will also make
more consumers," spokesman Jon
Schneider said.

Other elected officials, including
President Barack Obama and at least
five other members of Congress — Re-
publican and Democrat — have previ-
ously proposed separate legislation to
hire veterans. Israel is calling for a bi-
partisan "compromise" bill that incor-
porates parts of those other propos-
als. Rep. Peter King (R-Seaford) has
pitched legislation to offer $5,000 tax
credits to businesses that hire veterans
and President Obama has proposed tax
credits ranging from $2,400 to $9,600
to businesses hiring veterans, Israel's
spokeswoman Lindsay Hamilton said.

At least two veterans' advocates
support legislation that will help vet-
ers find jobs.

It's important to put returning
veterans to work to help create a job
history for them, said John Narciso,
a state Small Business Development
Center coordinator for the Veter-
ans Business Outreach Program at
Farmingdale State College. "It's good
for the economy and it's also good for
them. They bring a lot of skill level to
any employment that they'll able to
achieve. They're structured, dedicat-
ed," Narciso said.

Veterans find it harder than civil-
ians to get jobs because employers are
somewhat reluctant to hire people
in the National Guard who might be
called back for active duty any time,
hesaid. Potential employers might also
have misconceptions about veterans' job
skills. "Employers are probably more
comfortable with people who
have worked in the industry. But every
skill that's developed in the military,
in most cases is transferable to the ci-
vilian world," Narciso said.

Phil Moschitta, director of the
Northport VA Medical Center, said he
fully supports and appreciates leaders'
efforts to promote the hiring of men
and women returning home from ac-
tive duty.

"Veterans make great employees,"
Moschitta said. "They are extraordi-
narily skilled, knowledgeable, discri-

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Farmingdale State College
IN THE GARDEN by Maria Cinque

Celebrating the fall garden

Chrysanthemums, asters, Montauk daisies, pumpkins, gourds, tulip bulbs and other end-of-summer and fall plants for the garden are in full view at Farmingdale State College on Sunday. Customarily, a springtime celebration was held at the college, but this year the Farmingdale Horticulture Committee, a fundraising committee of the Farmingdale College Foundation, decided to have the Fall Garden Celebration on Sept. 18.

Plant prices are to be discounted and the proceeds will support the Ornamental Horticulture Curriculum at Farmingdale State.

In addition to a fall plant sale, there will be fall gardening lectures and informative tours of the magnificent Ornamental Horticulture Teaching Gardens. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County will be on hand to diagnose your plant problems and perform soil pH tests, both of which are free.

At 4 p.m. on that same day, there will be another event in the gardens at Farmingdale State — a Fall Garden Party. There will be a fee for the party. The Farmingdale Horticulture Committee is honoring horticulture alumnus Thomas DiDominica of Dees’ Nursery and Florist in Oceanside.

Tommy Dee, as he is known in the industry, is a 1955 graduate of the Ornamental Horticulture Program at Farmingdale State. He showed an interest in horticulture and had a keen business sense. He started out selling daffodils and lilacs from the corner of his parent’s home in Oceanside. His customers were the parishioners of the nearby St. Anthony’s Church. Tommy continued to expand his business and created a nursery and retail operation at the same location while he was a student at Farmingdale State where he studied horticulture. Tommy later developed a flower shop, greenhouse, garden center and gift shop, which today spans 65,000 square feet. He also has a Christmas tree farm in Maine.

The Fall Garden Party honoring Tommy Dee will start with cocktails in the garden, followed by a buffet dinner and dessert. A horticultural raffle will also be a part of the event where some of the finest trees, shrubs and other plants will be raffled off.

The Farmingdale Horticulture Committee’s mission is to benefit excellence in the Farmingdale State College’s Ornamental Horticulture Curriculum, to provide scholarships for the best and brightest and the further development of the Ornamental Horticulture Teaching Gardens as the very finest in the Northeast.

Fall Garden Celebration
Sept. 18, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Admission is free
631-420-2075 or 631-420-2113
Email: brownj@farmingdale.edu
www.farmingdale.edu/horticulture
Farmingdale State Offers Bachelor Degree in Sport Management

The sports industry on the East Coast has expanded rapidly over the past decade, creating numerous job opportunities for college graduates. To fulfill that workforce need, Farmingdale State College has received approval to offer a bachelor's degree in Sport Management and is admitting students for the Fall 2011 semester.

Farmingdale will be the only public college on Long Island to offer this BS degree, which will be administered by the School of Business in collaboration with the Athletics Department. Tuition at SUNY institutions is $4,970 annually.

Student interest in specific courses has been exceptional. For example, enrollment in Introduction to Sport Management has tripled since 2004, and enrollment in Sport Administration has more than quintupled.

With a focus on the business and technology aspects of the industry, classes are geared toward careers that include sport marketing and journalism, event management, college athletics, sport law, fitness facility management, and camp director.

Since courses in sport management were introduced in 2004, students have interned with companies such as New York Islanders, CBS Sports, NBC Sports, the Long Island Ducks, Planet Fitness and Disney.

Companies which hire sport management graduates include high school and university athletic departments, professional sport organizations, non-profit agencies (e.g., YMCA, community centers), athletic clubs and sports complexes, parks and recreational facilities, for-profit businesses that market and manage sports events and team/solos, the NCAA and other governing bodies (local, national, and international).

"Sport Management has been popular for a number of years now so we expect enrollment in this program to be quite strong," said Farmingdale Provost Dr. Lucita Ceprian. "In fact, we have hired two full-time business professors and have an outstanding group of adjunct professors who have worked with organizations such as the U.S. Open and the Northeast Athletic Association."

Full-time enrollment at Farmingdale has increased 70 percent since 2000. The College ranks among the top 100 public colleges in the nation in the earnings power of its graduates, according to a 2009 analysis conducted by payscale.com.

The campus is in the midst of a $185 million construction and renovation project and will be opening a new Campus Center in 2012. Farmingdale also expects to break ground on a new building for the School of Business later this year. Farmingdale will celebrate its 100th Anniversary during the 2011-12 academic year.

For more information on the opportunities in the field of sport management, please contact Mike Harrington, Director of Athletics, at (631) 420-2053. For Sport Management degree information students may contact Dr. Francine Federman, Acting Associate Dean, School of Business, at (631) 420-2786.
Lindenhurst resident and professor at Farmingdale State recently honored

Farmingdale State College announced that Dr. Jeffrey S. Gaab was awarded a SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Gaab currently is a history professor at Farmingdale State College and serves as chair of the department of technology studies.

Dr. Gaab joined the College in 1991 as a history instructor and previously chaired the department of history, economics and politics where he created and implemented a departmental peer tutoring program for students enrolled in history and economics courses.

Awarded the Farmingdale Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence in 2006, Dr. Gaab also was a Fulbright scholar in 2008 under the German American Fulbright Commission for a German Studies Seminar entitled Science and Society: The Impact of Science on Policy Formation.

In 1997, he received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for a summer seminar for College teachers at the University of Munich on Economic History: The Industrial Revolution in Europe.


Dr. Gaab earned a bachelor of arts in history from Hofstra University, an master of arts in modern European history from Stony Brook University and a Ph.D. in modern European and German history from Stony Brook University. His dissertation was entitled Zusammenbruch und Wiederaufbau: The Denazification and Restoration of the Bavarian Legal System, 1945-1950."

He has been awarded fellowships from the German Academic Exchange Service and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is a member of the American Historical Association, the Society for German-American Studies, and the New York State Association of European Historians.

The SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence is a prestigious annual award given out by the SUNY system to distinguished professors across the State of New York. Established in 1997, The State University of New York (SUNY) system considers the Chancellor’s Award to be the highest honor bestowed.
Suicide prevention is a major focus for college counseling departments

BY GERNADETTE STARZEE

Suicide is the second-leading killer of college-age students.

"So says the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and with that shocking statistic, Long Island's colleges and universities have put programs in place to help students recognize and seek help.

"Suicide prevention is a major focus of our department," said Sharon O'Brien, assistant director of personal counseling and psychological services at Farmingdale State College. "It's something that we participate in daily.

"In the United States, the suicide rate among young adults ages 15 to 24 is 14 per 100,000 people, according to the AFSP. Risk factors for suicide among this age group aren't that different from the general population," O'Brien said.

According to the AFSP, there are 60 percent of suicide attempts by individuals who have a diagnosable and treatable psychiatric illness, most commonly depression, that may have gone unreported.

"When it all goes crushing down

College students often experience stress managing relationships, workloads, academic stress and personal expectations, and when someone is genetically predisposed to depression, stress can push them further in that direction," said Monique Thornton, director of counseling, health and wellness at Dowling College in Oakdale.

"And when a student has an diagnosable depression or anxiety issue, it can be harder for the student to cope with stress," Thornton said.

But even for students without a mental illness, a tragedy, such as a breakup of a relationship, may be the precipitating event that leads the student to seek professional help.

At Long Island universities, counseling departments make their services known and the scope of their services known throughout the campus community. "Everyone is given our phone number, and they're told that we're available 24/7," O'Brien said.

"We go into residence halls and give workshops to students on topics like emotional regulation and stress management," said John O'Connell, director of counseling services at Hofstra University in Hempstead, who noted the workshops are well-attended. "We're trying to reach students in residence halls because there's a higher likelihood that students will attend, rather than having to come to a centralized location," he said.

Schools offer screenings for disorders like depression and anxiety. Dowling, for instance, sets up a "Feel Your Mood" screening in dorms, residence halls and bus stops, inviting students to fill out a 10-minute questionnaire to check for mood disorders. "If their numbers come up high in the screening, we invite students to make an appointment with our counselors. But we also give them community information, such as hotline numbers," O'Brien said.

"When students do follow up with the counseling office, we might say, 'Your numbers are high for depression, did you know you have these symptoms and what they can mean? And it's not something you have to endure alone,'" Thornton said.

"At some institutions, like Dowling, counseling is free for students. At others, like Hofstra, she includes appointment and a limited number of counseling sessions are free, but there will be a fee if students opt in to extended counseling.

New generation, new response

When Dowling started its screenings two years ago, Thornton was surprised by how many students were willing to stop and fill out the questionnaire. "Students are not hesitant to step up to the table," she said. "And many come back with their friends.

In the past, there was more of a stigma associated with mental health than there is at campuses today," O'Brien said. "Many students now feel comfortable talking and accepting help with these issues."
students are more comfortable going to a counselor.

Compassion across the country, including Hofstra and Stony Brook University, feature chapters of the national organization Active Minds, a student-run group that seeks to reduce the stigma around mental illness and to encourage students to seek help if needed. "Active Minds is a student club funded by activity fees, and it does very important work," said Ann Crocco, associate dean and director of counseling and psychological services and the center for prevention and education at Stony Brook University. "It's important to develop student leaders to promote the idea of health-seeking behavior, so students can see how they can get help." Education/Career Ones to Watch 

Jacques P. Barber
Director of Sculpture and Fine Arts
Adelphi University

Before he began his leadership responsibilities at Adelphi last month, Ballew spent 10 years with the University of Pennsylvania’s Department of Psychology, where he imparted a profound understanding of psychology and the associated duties of the center for psychological research. Deeply involved in the clinical training of psychology graduate students, Ballew has published more than 100 papers, chapters, and books in the field of psychotherapy and personality, and is most noted for his work on major depressive disorder and suicide. Nominated for the National Institute of Mental Health's Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, Ballew has been recognized for his research and teaching. His current research focuses on the role of social support and coping in the development and maintenance of depression. 

Evan W. Corbog
Dean, School of Communication, Journalism, and Strategic Media
Suffolk County Community College

Corbog brings a varied resume to his new role at the Hampton University. A working journalist who continues to write for publications with national and international reach, Corbog served as associate dean of the school of journalism at Columbia University for more than a decade. While there, he led fundraising efforts, oversaw the development of new curricula, and directed the school’s new Master of Arts program in journalism and was the publisher of the Columbia Journalism Review. The author of several books on politics and the press, Corbog earned a journalism degree from New York City College of Education and is a member of the journalism community. 

Allison Puff
Dean, School of Business
Farmingdale State College

"At Stony Brook, faculty members receive "Quality Periodic Reviews," which are the result of a comprehensive and on-going educational program. The program is designed to ensure that faculty members, and students, receive high-quality education. The program is based on the principles of excellence, innovation, and student success. The program includes regular faculty meetings, peer evaluations, and a systematic process for assessing and improving the quality of education. The program is designed to help faculty members improve their teaching and learning strategies, and to enhance the overall quality of education. The program is funded by the Office of the Provost and is supported by the faculty and staff of Stony Brook University."

And the young shall lead

But it's not just about growing-up; phoning in to save a life. Training student leaders in suicide prevention protocols as an important focus at local colleges. Adelphi University in Garden City, for instance, trains orientation leaders, resident advisors, campus advisors, peer assistant leaders, and other groups to recognize warning signs that alert students to impending issues. At Stony Brook, faculty members receive "Quality Periodic Reviews," or QPR, training, which is the mental health equivalent of CPR. Heberg said, "Faculty members are on the front lines, and they're trained to detect warning signs and intervene at their earliest stages by directly approaching students who may need help and making the appropriate referrals." Heberg said, "We have an approach and training for staff, so they'll be comfortable with our department and with identifying the warning signs in students." 

The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.

SNEEJ J. HARRIS

Jacques P. Barber
Director of Sculpture and Fine Arts
Adelphi University

Evan W. Corbog
Dean, School of Communication, Journalism, and Strategic Media
Suffolk County Community College

Allison Puff
Dean, School of Business
Farmingdale State College

Eugene A. Feinberg
Professor of Applied Mathematics and Statistics
Suffolk County Community College

Edward W. Stever
Assistant Professor of English
Suffolk County Community College

Based on SCQ's four-year, comprehensive, and accelerated professional degree program, students receive a rigorous, hands-on, and comprehensive education that prepares them for successful careers in a variety of fields. The program includes courses in mathematics, statistics, and research methods, as well as courses in computer science and applied mathematics. The program is designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue advanced degrees or careers in fields such as engineering, economics, and finance. The program is funded by the Office of the Provost and is supported by the faculty and staff of Suffolk County Community College. Earlier this year, the college's student newspaper, "The Suffolk County Times," was recognized for its excellence in design and content. The newspaper has consistently been recognized for its quality, with awards and honors, including awards from the New York Association of Broadcasters and the New England Associated Press. The newspaper has also been recognized for its coverage of community events and local news. The newspaper has a strong online presence, with a high traffic, and is a valuable resource for students, faculty, and the community. The newspaper is published by Suffolk County Community College, and is supported by the college's Office of Communications and Marketing. The newspaper is published on a biweekly basis, and is available online and in print. The newspaper is available for free, and is supported by advertising revenue. The newspaper is a valuable resource for students, faculty, and the community. The newspaper is published by Suffolk County Community College, and is supported by the college's Office of Communications and Marketing. The newspaper is published on a biweekly basis, and is available online and in print. The newspaper is available for free, and is supported by advertising revenue. The newspaper is a valuable resource for students, faculty, and the community.
State deal with drug firms to create nearly 550 positions, Cuomo says

BY VANCOUVER BUSINESS JOURNAL

ALBANY — Long Island biopharmaceutical companies are planning multimillion-dollar expansions that could create more than 500 jobs and pave the way for what experts hope will be a cluster that will attract more firms, jobs and talent to the region.

Six companies that plan to invest $167 million in Long Island and $25 million in New York City will receive state grants and tax credits totaling $137 million if they meet investment, job retention and creation goals, the Cuomo administration announced yesterday.

The companies — QSI Pharmaceuticals, Amida, K.T. Pharmacia, LEN International, NBTY, Contract Pharmaceutical and Forest Laboratories — are using a combination of state and local economic development assistance to carry out an array of expansion plans. The initiatives, some of which were announced earlier this year, will help the companies retain more than 5,800 jobs and create 544 full-time jobs on Long Island, the administration said.

The projects come at a time when unemployment has swung back up on Long Island, rising to 7.3 percent in June from 6.7 percent in May, according to the state Labor Department. The Island lost 6,800 jobs during the 12 months following June 2000, a 0.2 percent drop, according to the department.

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said this marks the sixth time in the past eight months that the state has agreed to a project to boost the pharmaceutical industry on Long Island. Cuomo noted the development as a sign the state’s economy is on the upswing.

"The expansion of the biopharmaceutical industry on Long Island will retain and create thousands of jobs for New Yorkers," Cuomo said in a news release.

Most of the aid will come in the form of tax credits under the Excelsior Jobs Program administered by the Empire State Development Corp.

"Since the demise of the defense industry on Long Island in the early 90s, everyone has been talking about biopharmaceutical companies, biotech, as the next logical cluster on Long Island," said Jim Morgo, chairman of the Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and Brookhaven National Laboratory create new technologies, but they don’t always stay on Long Island, Morgo said. "We’ve got this research coming out, but so often the research gets commercialized in other parts of the country. ... It makes a lot of sense to have (local) commercial enterprises that can produce the products that the research leads you to," he said.

Subsidies are needed on Long Island to create jobs in this industry because companies can locate to less expensive parts of the country, he said.

Biotech companies tend to locate close to one another because it gives them a pool of qualified people to work for them, said Pearl Eumen, chief economist at the Long Island Association and a board member at Broad Hollow Science Park at Farmingdale State College.

"They will be an anchor for fledgling biotechnology companies, incubate companies which will in turn grow and generate even more jobs," Eumen said.

NBTY’s Bayport plant produces vitamin E tablets, its planned manufacturing plant would create 200 jobs.
Working to preserve Long Island's melting pot

By KENNETH B. CHERNIK

Long Island has centuries of rich history. Dedicated to preserving our diverse ethnic culture, including occupational crafts, ethnic music and dance, local architecture and storytelling. Long Island Traditions advocates for and documents what makes us who we are.

"Long Island culture is filled with very famous people, whether they are celebrities, minor artists, musicians or craftsmen," said Nancy Solomon, executive director of Long Island Traditions. "Through field interviews and oral histories, we want to break down those barriers that divide us, so that we can share in the power and excellence of our family traditions.


What is the most important component of the organization? Our core program uses oral interviews, photography, participant observation, historical research and artifact analysis to document cultural traditions passed through generations. We spend a great deal of time with people who are "experts" within their community who teach and perform.

What type of individuals do you look to speak with? We're always looking for Irish scholars, heroes of all ethnic backgrounds, ingenues and people who have learned their craft through family and community, not from attending a university or school. We're also interested in looking at cultural traditions, as a historic region, we have a great deal of interest in historians and farmers who are still in those fields and struggling to make a living.

Do you advocate to help preserve these historic occupants? We regularly seek and document public hearings on regulations that affect farmers and fishermen. Unfortunately, the issues and policies have changed in the past few decades, and it's hard to say what will be of interest in the future.

New home for the Hall

The Long Island Music Hall of Fame has found a home. The nonprofit recently signed a lease agreement with the former Union Trolley Building in the downtown area of Farmingdale, which it plans to open in the fall of 2023. The building will house the hall in a new location.

Tuition is hiked, nationally

SUNY and CUNY schools can now charge tuition at $140 per credit hour, which is the highest tuition increase in the country. The increase is expected to generate an additional $275 million in revenue for the state.

ACLU breaks new ground

Adults and children with learning and developmental disabilities have broken ground on a new, state-of-the-art health care center in Bethpage. The $25 million, 148,000-square-foot facility opened on July 22, 2022, and is the largest of its kind in the state.

Funds for change

The Long Island University Foundation, which administers funds for Long Island nonprofit organizations, recently approved grants for six organizations. Recipients included the Lincoln University Youth Program at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, the first preschool for inner-city children with autism.

NON PROFITS

 đưa tin, 31只能说, and some newspapers provide local news and information. To get the most up-to-date information, visit the website of the organization or the local newspaper.
Farmingdale State College

OUR TOWNS

victims of a disease that few people comprehend.

People don't understand that bipolar disorder and de-
pression is something you can die from," Reynolds said. "I'm
mission is to raise awareness and increase research."

More information about the event can be found at fee-
nation.org.

- YAFFEE ADELER

NEW HYDE PARK

Family wins backyard makeover

Tony Minervini, a retired offi-
cial from the Gary Police
Department, and his wife, Mary
Andrew, were overjoyed
when they received a phone call
from Home & Family, a reality
show on the Hallmark Channel.
They were among the lucky few
who were selected to participate
in the "Backyard Makeover" con-
test, which features home owners
who have been through some
tough times and want a change.

The couple, who are both
active in the community and
love to garden, were thrilled to
find out they were one of the
winners.

The show, which airs on Sa-

day mornings, features pro-

Tony Minervini and his wife, Mary Ann, enjoy their new backyard furniture they won in a sweepstakes.

Farmingdale State College
Kremer: Jobs plan must include research funds

by Jerry Kremer
Published: September 1, 2011
Tags: Economy, employment, federal jobs program, jobs, Long Island, research funds, Ronkonkoma

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Over the next few weeks President Barack Obama will be wrestling with the dilemma of how to create a job program that will have credibility not only in Washington, D.C., but around the country. If the commander in chief needs some examples of how to bolster the economy, he should take a look at Long Island.

New York state is giving tax credits for job development, and the recently announced 544 new jobs has attracted some positive attention. While Long Island is blessed with some great emerging companies most of the real action is taking place on the college campuses and research centers, and the White House should sit up and take notice.

Thanks to the partnership between the North Shore-Lang Island Jewish Health System and Hofstra University, we have a brand new medical school on the university campus. Preparations for the school and future additions to the school will create more jobs. Add professors and staff and plans for a new engineering school, and you have a net gain of many new jobs.

Stony Brook University has long been the leader in nurturing new businesses in its incubator program. In addition Stony Brook is now one of the largest employers on Long Island. It is estimated that it generates $4.65 billion through its education and research activities. The economic output from Stony Brook has helped create 60,000 jobs in recent years. The new Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center has the potential to become a major force in the energy business with adequate government support.

Brookhaven National Laboratory may not be a household word, but it has made countless contributions to the scientific world. Its research has saved thousands of lives and promises to do even more. It is currently embarked on a $100 million federally funded project known as National Synchrotron Light Source II, which may help to find potential cures for complex illnesses including Alzheimer’s disease and various forms of cancer. Brookhaven employs 3,000 people.

Thanks to the existence of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, OSI Pharmaceuticals was born and OSI is now a major player, not just on Long Island, but in the nation. The laboratory has won recognition for its research on cancer and genetics, as well as a host of other areas. Over the years it has hosted many Nobel Prize winners.

Farmingdale State College is now welcoming a number of growing private companies. This public-private partnership will produce many new jobs over the next few years now that word is out that the campus is anxious to attract private-sector businesses.

With all these successes to brag about, one would think that the White House would be showering these programs with taxpayer dollars. The advances made on local campuses and laboratories, and those yet to come, will enhance the lives of millions of Americans in the upcoming years. So what’s the catch?

The current Congress has a group of new zealots who have placed research at the top of the list for budget cuts. Uninformed yet thinking they know everything about everything, the right wingers have pushed for a federal budget that would destroy most of the key scientific projects that continue to save lives.

The Long Island congressional delegation has been relentless in fighting for new research funding, but they face an uphill battle in the months ahead. Maybe through luck or the delegation’s perseverance, the president will add research money to his plan for new jobs. The Long Island experience is proof that research creates jobs.

More LIBN op-eds
LI BUSINESS

LI People ON THE MOVE

BOARD/ASSOCIATIONS

Both Granger has been named to the board of directors of the Long Island Chapter of the Social Media Club. The organization’s mission is to expand digital media literacy, promote standard technologies, encourage ethical behavior and share best practices. Granger is a marketing and communications consultant and lives in Port Washington.

LAW

Kenneth R. Lange has joined Goldberg Segalla in Mineola as special counsel in the firm’s construction litigation and general litigation practice groups. The Bellmore resident was an associate at Moulton Cotton Wollan & Greenberg in Garden City.

NONPROFIT

Brian Charlton of Freeport has joined The Early Years Institute in Plainview as executive assistant. He was most recently the community and faith-based coordinator for the Nassau County Executive Office in Mineola.

REAL ESTATE

Evan Greene has joined RE/MAX Signature North Shore office in East Setauket as an associate broker. The Nesconset resident was a broker/owner and partner at Houh and Gudacik Realty.

TECHNOLOGY

Stefanie Shelly has been named chief marketing officer at Broadridge Financial Solutions, a technology services company in Lake Success. The Manhattan resident has been the acting chief marketing officer at the firm since August of 2010.

RELIGION

Sue-Elle Pennington of Cold Spring Harbor has been named temple administrator at Temple Sholom in Wantagh. She was most recently an office manager for T.L. Walker, an Oceanside accounting firm.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Donna Jannaco recently joined Zimmerman/Deleon in Great Neck as an account manager. She was a senior account executive at Adams Unlimited Public Relations & Marketing in Manhattan. She lives in West Islip.

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Farmingdale State College
A horrible way to die

It's the chaos that Henry "Hank" Dondero remembers most.

Dondero, a retired dentist who's taught dentistry at SUNY Farmingdale since 1979, spent weeks in the wake of Sept. 11 volunteering with the New York City's Medical Examiner's Office to identify the remains of 9/11 victims.

Routinely at the office, at First Avenue and 39th Street, were bloodied and flailed by the attacks, which made getting there impossible without city-issued credentials and the occasional police escort.

"You'd pass so many checkpoints," Dondero said. "When you went down 39th Street at night, they had generators running lights. It was like you were at an Italian feast. But it was all business, you were there to do something."

For Dondero and dozens of other forensic dentists, their job was to examine and identify recovered remains using dental records, police and eyewitness reports, and data from companies at the Twin Towers. As part of the World Trade Center Dental ID Team, he worked eight- and 12-hour shifts in the weeks after the attacks; the dental unit ran 24 hours a day until October 2001 and closed in June 2002.

Dondero, who oversaw shifts as a "tour commander," estimated that he was responsible for about 100 of the more than 600 identifications made by the unit.

It was a gruesome task, especially in the first few days after Sept. 11.

"You go through a gamut of emotions," he said. "First, you see someone so mutilated and think, 'Look what happened to this poor S.O.B.' The next emotion is self-serving, 'Thank God it's not me.' Then you move past it and say, 'There is someone I can help by doing this job.'"

"It's something I would have loved to have not done, but I'm glad I did it," Dondero said.

Dondero said he attends a 9/11 memorial service each year at Farmingdale. And each year, he wears the dental unit jacket issued to him by the Medical Examiner's Office.

"You can't forget," he said.

Lost, not found

He couldn't save anyone, or help identify human remains, or carry debris from the ruins of Ground Zero.

But UI/In多数 Jackson had a camera. He also had a mission.

Jackson, a University at Buffalo distinguished professor of American culture, knew that the mementos and memorials to those lost in the World Trade Center attack would soon begin to fade, victims to Mother Nature and time. They must be preserved, caught on film and kept for posterity.

"To the stuff that disappears that often tells us about a moment in time," said Jackson, who shot more than 1,000 photos on film while spending a few days in the city about two weeks after the attacks. "I tried to show what the survivors were doing at that point, and there were still people who were hopeful that loved ones would turn up."

Through his lens, Jackson captured the hope, sadness, grief and loss that New Yorkers at Union Square and nearly neighborhoods felt in the weeks after 9/11.

He walked through Manhattan, photographing the thousands of smiling faces peering from missing person posters taped to lamp posts and building walls, on has stop lights and fire alarm boxes in the days and weeks after the attacks. Below the photos were urgent notes hastily scrawled, silent screams from thousands of grieving family members pleading for any information on the whereabouts of loved ones who went to work on Sept. 11 and never came home.

In one photo, a Superman action hero next to a small U.S. flag is perched over a sign that reads, "You are our brothers too, and we are proud of you!" A missing person poster for Judy Fernandez, who worked on the North Tower's 101st floor, is in another photo; the weatherworn poster is ripped across the woman's face.

Jackson's photos were exhibited in October 2001 on the Mainstage Wall of the university's Center for the Arts. They will be displayed again in 2015, when he debuts a photographic retrospective at Buffalo's Burchfield Penney Art Center.

Jackson said he's also used the photos as teaching tools in field work and while working on documentaries with students. The photos echo the anguish felt in New York City in the weeks following Sept. 11. They're also a constant reminder that everything is different now.

"The consequences of 9/11 are far greater than I could have imagined wandering around Manhattan looking at those sad posters of missing children and mothers, and smelling that air mix of death and electrical fire," said Jackson.

"We're a more inward country than we were in 2001," he continued. "The added security has eroded civil liberties. And now we're facing an astonishing budget crisis because we've been fighting wars on borrowed money."

September 2011 The Voice p. 7
From the Desk of Assemblyman Conte

Conce: SUNY 2020, a Sound Investment in Our Future

The signing of SUNY 2020 into law by Governor Cuomo marks an important victory for the state and particularly Long Island. The program, which I have long advocated for as a member of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, is designed to enhance opportunities for our students and our communities.

The investment opportunities that SUNY 2020 creates will help to ensure that SUNY Stony Brook/Farmingdale College and other state universities are given the ability to compete academically on a global level by having the resources to invest in top professors and research professionals. These investments will help to attract the best and brightest students and will result in the type of research and development we need to create new and innovative jobs.

SUNY 2020 will also grow jobs by helping the establishment of public-private partnerships, partnerships like the Broad Hylan Bioscience Park at Farmingdale State College that has the potential to create over 100 new jobs and will help make Long Island’s public universities and colleges local engines of economic growth and innovators for job creation.

Importantly, the program will also provide students and parents with the security of knowing they can afford to attend a university of their choice.

As a SUNY Stony Brook alumni and a father of three, I am proud that I could help pass this important policy, one that will go a long way toward strengthening the state’s university system and create local employment opportunities all while setting a tuition policy that will make obtaining a higher education affordable for all New Yorkers.

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From the Desk of

Senator Charles Fuschillo

Fuschillo: Economic Development and Job Creation
Part of 2011 Legislative Session Highlights

Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. is informing residents about legislative actions taken during the 2011 legislative session to create jobs, encourage economic development, and help turn our economy around.

"Creating jobs and promoting economic development, without raising taxes, are the priorities needed to get us headed back in the right direction; these are exactly the priorities we addressed. Legislation passed this year will help businesses grow, put people back to work, and make Long Island more affordable for families and businesses. We helped put New York State back on the right track, but we need to build on these successes to ensure that we continue moving forward," said Fuschillo.

Following are some of the initiatives passed by the State Senate this year to help promote economic development, create jobs, and reduce costs on families and businesses:

Property Tax Cap:

Senator Fuschillo strongly supported the new property tax cap law, which will cap spending for school districts and local governments. Under the property tax cap, all local tax levy increases will be capped at either 2 percent or the annual increase in the consumer price index, whichever is less.

Voters will still have the opportunity to vote for their school district's tax levy proposal in May. Districts cannot go above the cap unless they receive the approval of 60 percent of the voters in the budget vote.

The law also includes a number of mandate relief measures to help school districts and localities further reduce costs. The measures are expected to save $127 million annually.

Passing the property tax cap was critical to ease Long Island's crushing property tax burden, which is driving families and businesses off the Island.

On-time budget which cuts spending, creates jobs, and puts New York back in the right direction.

Senator Fuschillo voted "yes" on an on-time State Budget which addressed several key priorities needed to put our state back in the right direction: cutting spending, creating jobs, and putting New York back on track.

(continued on page 20)
Desk of Fuschillo (continued from page 16)

Funding jobs, and holding the line on taxes.

The state budget closed a $10 billion deficit without raising taxes. Overall state spending was reduced by 2 percent from the previous fiscal year, state operations expenditures were reduced by 10 percent, and state agencies were consolidated to improve efficiency. Just as families all across Long Island have been forced to do, New York State made the tough choices, tightened its belt, and did more with less.

Additionally, the budget created a permanent "Recharge NY" program to help businesses create and retain jobs by providing them with low-cost power.

The budget also contained funding for a number of important priorities, including $29.5 billion in total state funding for education, libraries, programs for individuals with disabilities, and the STAR tax relief program.

Repealing the MTA Payroll Tax:

Senator Fuschillo cosponsored legislation to repeal the burdensome MTA payroll tax, which has devastated businesses, municipalities, non-profits, and schools. Under the legislation, the payroll tax would be phased out for all Long Island employers starting January 1, 2012. Long Island payroll tax rates would be reduced to .23 percent in 2012, further reduced to .12 percent for 2013, and fully repealed as of January 1, 2014.

Long Island small businesses with 25 or fewer employees, as well as public and nonpublic schools, would be fully exempt from the payroll tax effective January 1, 2012. The Senate has passed the legislation.

Economic Development at Broad Hollow Bioscience Park:

This law, which Senator Fuschillo authored, will allow Farmingdale State College to enter into lease negotiations to expand the Broad Hollow Bioscience Park (BHBP), a move which is expected to create hundreds of jobs and generate tens of millions of dollars in new revenue. BHBP is a biotechnology research park located on Farmingdale State College's campus, which has served as a home to a number of biotech companies and provided new educational opportunities for Farmingdale State College students. Once completed, the expanded BHBP will serve as an incubator to small biotech companies, create an estimated 787 direct and indirect jobs, and generate an estimated $50 million in payroll for Long Island's economy.

Creating Permanent Tax Benefit for Commuters (S2728B):

This legislation would create a permanent $230 a month state tax benefit to help commuters offset their mass transit expenses.

Current federal and state law allows employers to let their workers set aside up to $230 a month of their pre-tax salary to cover commuting expenses through mass-transit, including the Long Island Rail Road.

However, this $230 tax benefit is not permanent. Congress raised the monthly benefit to $230 from $120 for 2010 and extended it at that level again until the end of 2011. If Congress does not authorize another extension, the benefit would revert back to its original $120 limit. Since the state's benefit is tied to the federal benefit, commuters would see both their state and federal benefits cut in half if Washington does not approve it.

Senator Fuschillo's legislation makes the $230 state benefit permanent, ensuring that commuters would still receive the state tax benefit regardless of whether Washington continues the federal program. The Senate has passed the legislation.
Cultivating Innovation

Farmingdale will celebrate its centennial year beginning in the fall 2011 semester. Cultivating Innovation is our theme, referencing both our roots in agriculture and our applications research in renewable energy.

Signs of growth are everywhere, especially in the construction of the new $30 million Campus Center, scheduled to open in fall 2012. Part of the $185 million capital investment over a six-year period by the State of New York, the Campus Center will become an important focal point for the campus and its community.

Through the efforts of Congressman Steve Israel, Farmingdale established a Green Building Institute (GBI) in fall 2009. GBI supports the efforts of faculty at the college and through the Eastern Suffolk BOCES to teach green building and sustainably-built environments. In addition to faculty development through workshops, research and conferences, GBI offers courses for industry and other professionals.

Farmingdale’s “Green Thru Green Now” ethic is enhanced by our Sustainable Energy and the Environment minor, which allows students enrolled in any baccalaureate program to focus on current issues relating to sustainability, energy and the environment. Courses in environmental standards, policy, management and law are integrated into the curriculum of various programs, including Electrical Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Construction and Architectural Engineering Technology and others. Tailoring their program to better understand these issues should increase employment opportunities. In addition, the Department of Ornamental Horticulture has created a Sustainable Garden and incorporates principles of sustainability and stewardship into course offerings.

Enrollment will remain strong in fall 2011, although with minimal growth as the college contains its rate of growth. Applications are strong from students who seek Bachelor degrees in our technology programs, especially those seeking full-time enrollment. Transfers from other four-year and two-year colleges have increased.

Our graduates are highly successful in getting jobs.

We offer many online courses and have for years. However, we do not offer full academic programs online, so students must come to campus to complete their programs. Our enrollment, both on-campus and online, has remained relatively constant, so the surrounding business community has benefited.

Changes in the State education budget affect our ability to expand academic programs, hire faculty, expand student services and upgrade technology and infrastructure.

The Long Island Educational Opportunity Center at Farmingdale provides free training for qualified students in careers like nurse assistant, bookkeeping and graphic design. Through the Institute for Learning in Retirement, the College offers a vibrant program for retirees.

Two of Farmingdale’s offices—Career Development and Alumni Affairs—work hard to help our students find jobs. More than 600 students participated in internship or research opportunities and the hands-on experience with local businesses and organizations makes a significant difference when interviewing for a job.
Farmingdale State College will celebrate its 100th anniversary during the 2011-12 academic year. Centennial events will take place throughout the year and culminate in April with a ceremony to celebrate the founding of the college that month in 1912.

The college has grown from a two-year agriculture college to a four-year college of applied science and technology offering 37 degree programs. Farmingdale will soon be offering its first graduate-level degrees. New bachelor degree programs include Sport Management and Telecommunications Technology.

The 380-acre campus is being transformed through a six-year project with $185 million of construction that is visible just about everywhere on campus. Of particular interest is the new Campus Center, scheduled to open in fall 2012 and designed to be the focal point for the college community. The School of Business will soon consolidate its departments in one new building. Renovations to the athletics complex, new studios, walkways and a new Children’s Center are also planned or under construction.

“I am particularly proud of the faculty’s responsiveness to creating new degrees and minors in response to regional needs and our students’ career aspirations,” President W. Hubert Keen said. “Because of carefully designed academic programs that take regional business and industry needs into account, Farmingdale students find local employers anxious to provide internships and research opportunities. Our graduates enjoy great success in finding jobs.”

Implementation of Student First, an initiative set into motion two years ago, is progressing on target.

Receipt of over $31 million in Department of Education grants means a more robust orientation for students, more student advising and cultural activities.

In addition, a new Director of Residence Life means an integrated approach to campus life – combining learning how to be a successful student while having fun and making lifelong friends.

Nearly 24,000 day and evening students and 15,000 continuing and professional students attend Nassau Community College each year.

Area Colleges Provide Top Notch Education Close to Home
Farmingdale State College Honors 15 Members of Campus Community

Farmingdale State College recently held its annual retirement and service recognition luncheon. Faculty, staff and friends honored retirees and those celebrating their 25th anniversary as employees of the College.

Farmingdale State College President W. Hubert Kent said, "The dedication of our employees, who clearly love what they do, is a great strength and asset for Farmingdale. I thank each of these long-term employees for contributing to our students’ education."

Those employees were awarded for their 25 years of service:

RoseAnn Byrne, Accounts Payable Manager, is a resident of Lindenhurst. In her free time, Byrne enjoys traveling and is an avid sports fan that supports the athletic teams at Farmingdale by attending many games throughout the year.

Malka Yedidman, Director of the Career Development Center, is a resident of Long Beach and grandmother to eight grandchildren. Malka enjoys making a difference in the lives of students.

Susan O’Donnell Farag, Assistant Director of Human Resources, is a resident of Smithtown.

Veronica Henry, Executive Assistant to the President, is a resident of Amityville. Henry has been with the College since 1986 and served for 10 years as Dean of the Long Island Educational Opportunity Center. Very involved in community service organizations, Henry enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and gardening.

Ahmed Ibrahim, Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology, is a resident of Huntington Station. Dr. Ibrahim has been with Farmingdale State College since 1986. Dr. Ibrahim enjoys exploring mechanical properties of materials in his free time.

Kathleen Jacques, Professor of English and Humanities, is a resident of Farmingdale. In 2005, Dr. Jacques received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service. Dr. Jacques enjoys traveling and is an avid award-winning racing fan.

Audrey Kozlowski, Director of the Health and Wellness Center, is a resident of Sayville. Kozlowski's activities on campus include participation in the College’s Wellness Initiative.

Diane Melamed, Director of Student Accounts, is a resident of Babylon. In 2004, Melamed received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service.

Deborah Ann Nibper, Assistant Director of Admissions, is a resident of Bohemia. Nibper enjoys her children’s athletic events.

Mark Orlich, Assistant Director of the Physical Plant, is a resident of Bay Shore. An alumnus of Farmingdale, Orlich is an avid car buff, a devoted father to daughter Alex, and Mets baseball fan.

Laurie Rusnak, Professor of English, is a resident of Farmingdale. Dr. Rusnak has taught English 101 every semester for the past 25 years, because she believes that if students learn to write in their freshman year, they’re more likely to pursue their academic career to successfully graduate. Dr. Rusnak has served on the Farmingdale Public Library Board of Trustees for more than 25 years.

Gary Rupp, Professor of Business Management, is a resident of Babylon. In 1985, Rupp won the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. His “fixed glass” work has been exhibited in Long Island area art galleries.

Elizabeth Sullivan, Professor of English, is a resident of Centerport. Sullivan’s travels take her to the Far West to see her children and four grandchildren.

Richard Turk, Grounds Department of Physical Plant, is a resident of Centerport. Turk’s dedication to the campus is shown through his willingness to perform any job asked of him. Turk’s favorite hobby is fishing.

Patricia Ward, Assistant Professor of English and Reading at the EOC, is a resident of Farmingdale.