



SUNY OLD WESTBURY

“IN THE NEWS”

JULY TO AUGUST 2019

Prepared by
The Office of Public and Media Relations
SUNY Old Westbury

Long Island Business NEWS

AUGUST 16-22, 2019 | OUR 66TH YEAR | NO. 33 | \$2.00 | LIBN.COM

32 | LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS | August 16-22, 2019 | LIBN.COM

ON OUR ISLAND



7 The Old Westbury College Foundation honored (from left) Calvin Butts III, Laura Anker, Lionel Chitty and Ravishankar Bhooplapur at its Leadership Awards Dinner.

6 Lowell Construction Group donated \$5,000 to the Mentors Giving Voices Across North Babylon program. (From left) Sean Kratz, Maria Proedimans, Kimberly Skillen, Joannette Roberts, Michelle Pressley, Doree Ruber and Daniel Williams.



7 The Old Westbury College Foundation honored (from left) Calvin Butts III, Laura Anker, Lionel Chitty and Ravishankar Bhooplapur at its Leadership Awards Dinner.



8 (From left) Steven Mossina, Marybeth Mossina Seas, Chris Mossina, Dr. Robert Kerr and Justin Long participated in the Philip Mossina Memorial Golf Tournament, which raised \$140,000 to benefit the neurosurgery department at Huntington Hospital.

Long Island's premier news and lifestyle publication

AUGUST 2019
VOLUME 198, NO. 8

LONG ISLAND PRESS

Local Leaders, College President Celebrated at 2019 OWCF Leadership Awards

The Board of Trustees of the Old Westbury College Foundation was proud to honor recently distinguished local residents and graduates of the State University of New York at Old Westbury along with the college's president, Calvin O. Butts, III, during the 2019 Old Westbury College Foundation Leadership Awards Dinner.

More than 500 guests were in attendance to support the not-for-profit organization and its efforts to raise funds for student scholarships and other programs of SUNY Old Westbury.

The OWCF Leadership Awards honor those who enrich the Long Island community in distinctive ways — economically, scientifically, culturally, intellectually and socially — and whose efforts, taken together, are helping to advance the Long Island Region.

OWCF Leadership Awards were presented to Ravi Bhooplapur, president of Xavier University School of Medicine; Laura Anker, distinguished service professor and director of first year experience at SUNY Old Westbury; and Lionel Chitty, a 2002 graduate of the college and current president of the Alumni Association of SUNY Old Westbury.

The affair also honored SUNY Old Westbury President Calvin O. Butts, III for his 20 years of service to the College and all of Long Island.

More details on the 2019 Leadership Awards Dinner and the Old Westbury College Foundation itself can be found at www.oldwestbury.edu/owcf.



2019 OWCF Honorees Butts, Anker, Chitty and Bhooplapur



SUNY Old Westbury Senior Kristelle Pierre

Long Island Business NEWS

AUGUST 16-22, 2019 | OUR 66TH YEAR | NO. 33 | \$2.00

Public health program at SUNY Old Westbury gets accredited

SUNY Old Westbury's Bachelor of Science in health and society received accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health.

The degree program became only the 14th stand-alone baccalaureate program in the country to hold this accreditation from CEPH, which accredits public health programs and schools of public health.

"CEPH accreditation is an outstanding affirmation of this program's quality and places it among the finest undergraduate programs of its kind in the nation," Calvin Butts III,

'CEPH ACCREDITATION IS AN OUTSTANDING AFFIRMATION OF THIS PROGRAM'S QUALITY AND PLACES IT AMONG THE FINEST UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS OF ITS KIND IN THE NATION.'

president of SUNY Old Westbury, said in a statement.

SUNY Old Westbury began the accreditation process in 2015 and engaged in a three-year, comprehensive self-study. Last December, it hosted a team of external peer reviewers to validate the self-study during an extensive, two-day on-site visit. The approval was granted in June.

"Our program is focused on helping students to understand the underlying social, political and behavioral forces that shape health status," Martha Livingston, chair of the Public Health department, said in a statement. "Our students also learn how to assess critically factors that contribute to the health of populations, integrating real-world experience with coursework and learning how to improve the public's health at the policy and the community level."

Last year, about 230 students were enrolled in the program, which has been offered at SUNY Old Westbury since 1975.

— BERNADETTE STARZEE

The Westbury Times

Also Serving New Cassel, Carle Place, Salisbury & Old Westbury

An Anton Media Group Publication

Westbury Announces School Meals Policy. See page 6



Vol. 113, No. 34

TheWestburyTimes.com

August 21 - 27, 2019

\$1.00

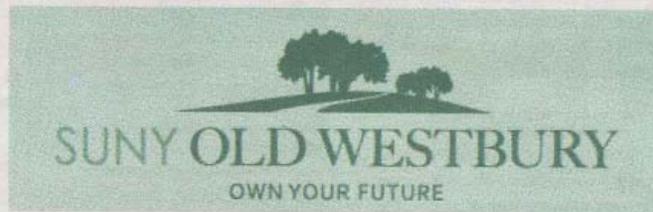
16B

PROFILES IN EDUCATION • AUGUST 21 - 27, 2019

SUNY Old Westbury Department Earns Accreditation

The State University of New York at Old Westbury Public Health department has earned accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) for its Bachelor of Science in Health and Society. It becomes the 14th stand-alone baccalaureate program in the country to hold this accreditation.

"CEPH accreditation is an outstanding affirmation of this program's quality and places it among the finest undergraduate programs of its kind in the nation," said Calvin O. Butts III, president of SUNY Old Westbury. "Having earned this recognition reflects the strength of our faculty members and the tremendous effort they put forth to provide quality education while preparing students for success in fields related to public health."



The accreditation procedures required the department and the college to undertake a rigorous self-evaluation—a process which engages stakeholders from across the college and its constituencies, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, collaborators and community partners. SUNY Old Westbury began the accreditation process in 2015 and engaged in a three-year, comprehensive self-study.

The college then submitted

the self-study document and in December 2018 hosted a team of external peer reviewers to validate the self-study during an extensive, two-day on-site visit. The approval of Old Westbury's accreditation was rendered in June.

"Our program is focused on helping students to understand the underlying social, political and behavioral forces that shape health status," said Martha Livingston, chair of the Public Health

department. "Our students also learn how to assess critically factors that contribute to the health of populations, integrating real-world experience with coursework and learning how to improve the public's health at the policy and the community level."

Approximately 230 students were enrolled in the 2018-19 academic year in the program, which prepares students for entry into a broad range of professions in public health and for graduate study in public health. Graduates have also embarked on successful careers in hospitals and local non-profit health agencies, and many go on to obtain training in health professions.

For more information, visit www.oldwestbury.edu.

—Submitted by SUNY Old Westbury

SUNY Old Westbury Public Health Department Earns Accreditation

By Anton Media Staff

August 26, 2019

The State University of New York at Old Westbury Public Health department has earned accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) for its Bachelor of Science in Health and Society. It becomes the 14th stand-alone baccalaureate program in the country to hold this accreditation.

“CEPH accreditation is an outstanding affirmation of this program’s quality and places it among the finest undergraduate programs of its kind in the nation,” said Calvin O. Butts III, president of SUNY Old Westbury. “Having earned this recognition reflects the strength of our faculty members and the tremendous effort they put forth to provide quality education while preparing students for success in fields related to public health.”

The accreditation procedures required the department and the college to undertake a rigorous self-evaluation—a process which engages stakeholders from across the college and its constituencies, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, collaborators and community partners. SUNY Old Westbury began the accreditation process in 2015 and engaged in a three-year, comprehensive self-study.

The college then submitted the self-study document and in December 2018 hosted a team of external peer reviewers to validate the self-study during an extensive, two-day on-site visit. The approval of Old Westbury’s accreditation was rendered in June.

“Our program is focused on helping students to understand the underlying social, political and behavioral forces that shape health status,” said Martha Livingston, chair of the Public Health department. “Our students also learn how to assess critically factors that contribute to the health of populations, integrating real-world experience with coursework and learning how to improve the public’s health at the policy and the community level.”

Approximately 230 students were enrolled in the 2018-19 academic year in the program, which prepares students for entry into a broad range of professions in public health and for graduate study in public health. Graduates have also embarked on successful careers in hospitals and local non-profit health agencies, and many go on to obtain training in health professions.

For more information, visit www.oldwestbury.edu.

The State University of New York at Old Westbury Public Health department has earned accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health for its bachelor of science in health and society. The SUNY Old Westbury degree program becomes the 14th stand-alone baccalaureate program in the country to hold this accreditation.

The Council on Education for Public Health accreditation recognizes efforts to provide quality education and prepare students for impactful careers in public health after graduation. The Council on Education for Public Health is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and public health programs offered in settings other than schools of public health.

“CEPH accreditation is an outstanding affirmation of this program’s quality and places it among the finest undergraduate programs of its kind in the nation,” said Calvin O. Butts, III, president of SUNY Old Westbury. “Having earned this recognition reflects the strength of our faculty members and the tremendous effort they put forth to provide quality education while preparing students for success in fields related to public health.”

CEPH’s accreditation procedures required the public health department and the college to undertake a rigorous self-evaluation — a process which engages stakeholders from across the college and its constituencies, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, collaborators and community partners. SUNY Old Westbury began the accreditation process in 2015 and engaged in a three-year, comprehensive self-study.

The college then submitted the self-study document and in December 2018 hosted a team of external peer reviewers to validate the self-study during an extensive, two-day on-site visit. This team of reviewers included public health academics, practitioners and accreditation specialists. The approval of Old Westbury’s accreditation was rendered in June.

“Our program is focused on helping students to understand the underlying social, political and behavioral forces that shape health status,” said Martha Livingston, chair of the public health department. “Our students also learn how to assess critically factors that contribute to the health of populations, integrating real-world experience with coursework and learning how to improve the public’s health at the policy and the community level.”

Approximately 230 students were enrolled in the 2018-19 academic year in the Health and Society program, which has been offered at SUNY Old Westbury since 1975. The program prepares students for entry into a broad range of professions in public health at the local, state, and national levels and for graduate study in public health. Graduates have also embarked on successful careers in hospitals and local non-profit health agencies, and many go on to obtain training in health professions including medicine, nursing, physical and occupational therapy and physician assistantship.

SUNY Old Westbury is a selective public liberal arts college with more than 5,000 students studying in more than 45 undergraduate degree opportunities in its liberal arts and professional programs and 16 graduate programs in business, data analytics, education, liberal studies and mental health counseling. On the college’s 604-acre campus, students are challenged to take ownership of their futures through an environment that demands academic excellence, fosters intercultural understanding, and endeavors to stimulate a passion for learning and a commitment to building a more just and sustainable world. For more information on SUNY Old Westbury, www.oldwestbury.edu.

No. 423: Medical Scholars, STEAMy Camps And LI's Hottest Job-Maker – And We Can't Stop Talking About Simón Bolívar

JULY 24, 2019

BUT FIRST, THIS

To good health: The State University of New York at Old Westbury has earned a rare distinction from the Council on Education for Public Health.

The CEPH has accredited the SUNY Old Westbury Department of Public Health's Bachelor of Science in Health and Society program, which has been offered at Old Westbury since 1975 and enrolled roughly 230 students in the 2018-19 academic year. The program becomes just the 14th stand-alone Health and Society baccalaureate program in the country to be accredited by the independent agency, which accredits schools of public health for the U.S. Department of Education.

Earning the CEPH's blessing required a three-year accreditation process, including a thorough self-analysis by Old Westbury faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners – well worth the effort, according to SUNY Old Westbury President Calvin Butts III. "CEPH accreditation is an outstanding affirmation of this program's quality," the president said this week, adding it places the program "among the finest undergraduate programs of its kind in the nation."

MDNEWS

■ A BUSINESS & PRACTICE MANAGEMENT MAGAZINE | ABOUT PHYSICIANS | FROM PHYSICIANS | FOR PHYSICIANS ■

Local News



The **State University of New York at Old Westbury Public Health Department** has earned accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) for its Bachelor of Science in Health and Society. The SUNY Old Westbury degree program becomes the 14th stand-alone baccalaureate program in the country to hold this accreditation.

CEPH accreditation recognizes efforts to provide quality education and prepare students for impactful careers in public health after graduation. CEPH is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and public health programs offered in settings other than schools of public health.

LONG ISLAND PRESS

Daily online at LongIslandPress.com

sponsored

STRONGER PATHWAYS TO CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE NOW AVAILABLE AT SUNY OLD WESTBURY

Students from SUNY Old Westbury can now pursue several popular healthcare careers through the college's new transfer agreements with SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn.

The first-of-its kind partnership between SUNY Downstate Medical Center and SUNY Old Westbury offers eligible students the opportunity to pursue graduate and accelerated degrees in preparation for careers as physician assistants, physical therapists, and nurses. The partnership is

the first within the SUNY system by Downstate.

"Developing pathways like these for our students is of critical importance so they can access these important opportunities in the medical field," said SUNY Old Westbury President Calvin O. Butts III. "The education provided by Downstate is excellent, and we look forward to seeing our students excel once they enter these programs."

Under the agreement, Old Westbury students who meet the admissions standards and deadlines will be given priority enrollment consideration at SUNY Downstate each year in its Bachelor of Science/Doctorate of Physical Therapy, Master of Science in Physician Assistant, and Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs.

Eligibility requirements vary by program, with each requiring Old Westbury students to complete classes in biology, chemistry, psychology and

other arts and sciences disciplines as appropriate. For the Physician Assistant and Nursing degree programs, students must have an undergraduate degree from Old Westbury before applying to SUNY Downstate. All Old Westbury students must also obtain a recommendation from the College's Health Professions Advisory Committee.

To learn more, visit www.oldwestbury.edu/news/downstate.
#



Kashmir will become a developed state, a global state. It will become the pride of India: Ambassador Chakravorty

Aug 13, 2019 - 6:26 pm EDT @theindpanorama Featured, Other News 0



Ambassador Sandeep Chakravorty speaking with The Indian Panorama editor Prof. Indrajit S Saluja at the Indian Consulate on August 7, 2019

The Indian Panorama team of chief editor Prof. Indrajit S Saluja and assistant editor Bidisha Roy interviewed Consul General of India Sandeep Chakravorty on August 7, 2019 to elicit his views on certain recent developments in India and to address some issues related to the Indian American community here.

Ambassador Chakravorty, as ever, candidly answered all our questions. We bring to readers of The Indian Panorama excerpts from the interview.

TIP: What are your plans regarding the celebration of 550 years of Guru Nanak Devji and 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi?

CG - In last several months we have arranged many events on 550 birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Devji. We have had many outstanding events at the consulate. The latest one was at the Gurudwara at Hicksville. We are planning few more events. We have proposals from other Gurudwaras in our jurisdiction. We are planning with Mayor's office in Norwalk, Connecticut where there is a sizable Sikh community to host an event in November on of Guru Nanak Devji's birthday. We are planning to host it at mayor's office with participation of mainstream people.

In connection with the year long commemorative celebration of 150 birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, we have partnered with the State University of New York, Old Westbury (SUNY-OW), and Shanti Fund to plant 150 trees in the Old Westbury Campus. We are requesting individuals to adopt trees. The Gandhi Peace Garden will be inaugurated in September during the visit of Prime Minister who will do it. On October 1 we are doing 'Homage to Mahatma' music concert by Sitarist Subhendu Rao and his wife at the consulate.

Trees to be planted at university campus to celebrate 150 years of the Mahatma

● TUE, 30 JUL 2019 ● AMERICA

New York: To celebrate the 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi, the **State University of New York, Old Westbury (SUNY-OW)**, Shanti Fund and the Consulate General of India have entered into an agreement to plant 150 trees representing the States of the United States in the Old Westbury Campus. The garden, dedicated in the memory of Gandhiji is to be called 'Gandhi Peace Garden.'

A variety of trees from flowering to evergreen trees will be planted in September at a befitting peaceful open site within the 600 acres campus of the **SUNY-OW**. A very high level dignitary from India is likely to inaugurate the 'Gandhi Peace Garden' in September.

In the Gandhian spirit and way, we propose to establish the Garden with total people's participation by adoption of the trees by people in the memory of their loved ones or as a symbol of love and affection--the organizers said.

A suitable tag indicating adopter's name will be placed on or near the tree. Contributions can be made online at www.shantifund.org (Contact Mr. Arvind Vora, President, Shanti Fund: avora@optonline.net; Cell: 917 406 6065 for any clarifications). The last date for adopting the trees is August 15

150 years of the Mahatma is being celebrated worldwide. In the US, several organizations around the country have undertaken many activities and events to remember Gandhiji – his life and works.

Mahatma Gandhi is in several ways also one of the first environmental leaders the world has seen. His word 'the world has enough for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed' has continued relevance even today. As the world is facing environmental challenges, it is felt that a befitting way to remember the Mahatma is to plant trees in his name.

BRAIN CANDY ENTERTAINMENT

15 Mascots That Rally Long Island College Spirit

AMANDA DE LAUZON AUGUST 23, 2019

Panthers



Courtesy of SUNY College at Old Westbury

Introduced in 2008 with panther pride week, SUNY [College at Old Westbury](#)'s mascot's name, Owwin, is a mix of the school name ("OW") and WIN, showing their pride in the school's 13 different Division III athletic teams.

July 11, 2019

8 Inspiring Reads for Leadership Development

by: Lee Davidson

Readers shared with us the books that inspired them to be a good leader.

In many parts of the world, the summer season is well underway, with extraordinarily high temperatures offering an added incentive to hibernate indoors with a good book. Even where it's not summer, reading is always a great way to find new inspiration for self-development. We recently reached out to our social media followers and AACSB leadership to ask, "What books have inspired you to become a better leader?" Here's what resulted from their responses.

The first suggestion was not a book but an author. Todd Kuckkahl, a consultant with the John Maxwell Team, unsurprisingly offered "anything by John Maxwell." A well-known and prolific author on leadership, Maxwell has published books that have become bestsellers on the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and BusinessWeek lists. Some titles include 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, Developing the Leader Within You, and Failing Forward. Maxwell has an educational background in ministry and also spent time as a pastor prior to becoming an author and speaker. Maxwell was named to the Society of World Changers by Indiana Wesleyan University, where he also received an honorary doctorate.

Now on to the list:

1. To start, what leadership reading list would be complete without 7 Habits of Highly Successful People, by Steven Covey? This was submitted by Joanne Powell, a senior advisor at QED: The Accreditation Experts (an AACSB business member). Originally written in 1989, 7 Habits was updated 2004 and 2013 and has sold over 25 million copies worldwide. Through his book, Covey helped popularize the term "paradigm," and subsequently "paradigm shift," in the business world (the term was originally introduced by scientist Thomas Khun). An important focus of the book is to explore and challenge our paradigms—our mental maps or assumptions about the way things are—to become better leaders. Covey earned business degrees from the University of Utah and Harvard University and taught as a tenured professor at Utah State University's Huntsman School of Business.
2. Numerated titles seemed to resonate with the submissions we received, as in the next title, Love Works: Seven Timeless Principles for Effective Leaders, by Joel Manby. AACSB's chief accreditation officer, Stephanie Bryant (an avid reader and author of last year's reading list), submitted this book. Manby's idea for the book was based on overwhelming response to his appearance in the television show Undercover Boss. In the show, Manby, then president and CEO of Herschend Family Entertainment (HFE), disguised himself as a low-wage worker at HFE's theme park to learn about the real experiences of employees on the ground. Manby discovered that the organization's philosophy of "leading with love" had seeped into the hearts of its workers at all levels, and attributed the organization's success to that infectious passion. The experience inspired him to define and elaborate on the seven characteristics underlying the philosophy: patient, kind, trusting, unselfish, truthful, forgiving, and dedicated. All proceeds of Love Works go toward HFE's charitable arm, the Share It Forward Foundation, which provides assistance to employees in need.
3. Also looking at leadership through a lens of compassion is The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict, by the Arbinger Institute. This title was submitted by Nate Regier, CEO of management consulting group Next Element, as well as an author himself. The Anatomy of Peace focuses on conflict resolution in personal relationships, with relevant professional applications, and has earned acclaim by global business, political, and peace leaders. It "demonstrates how conflicts home, conflicts at work, and conflicts in the world stem from the same root cause," according to the publisher. Through a fictionalized story about struggling parents and enemies turned allies, the book examines how our own self-deception impacts our beliefs about others and often prevents empathy, thereby enabling conflict to persist. It offers a methodology for resolving this conflict and, ultimately, hope for reconciliation.
4. The next book was written by an author who might sound familiar: Nate Regier (see above). Conflict Without Casualties: A Field Guide for Leading With Compassionate Accountability was submitted by Carrie Gilligan, learning consultant and adjunct business instructor. Regier asserts that drama—defined in the book as "what happens when people struggle against themselves or each other, with or without awareness, to feel justified about their negative behavior"—lies at the root of much of our conflict. His approach to conflict resolution uses transformative communication to get from drama to compassion. Many people misuse the energy that results from conflict, he says, and what he offers instead is a framework for how we can use that energy toward positive pursuits; in other words, turn it into "positive conflict."
5. Following the theme of transformation, Raj Devasagayam, business school dean at [SUNY Old Westbury](#), offered as his choice Reframing Academic Leadership, by Lee Bolman and Joan Gallos. As the title indicates, this book focuses on the specific leadership challenges encountered in academia. The authors state in the preface that "[h]igher education administration is demanding work that tests the mind, soul, and stamina of all who attempt it" (can you relate?), situating their discussion in the complex landscape of academic institutions. Bolman and Gallos know of what they speak; both accomplished professors, administrators, and scholars, the authors use cases and examples from their experiences to offer advice on the common challenges academic administrators face, as well as sustainable solutions for success and satisfaction in the higher ed leadership role.
6. The next book also explores authenticity. Deborah Merrill-Sands, dean of the University of New Hampshire's Peter T. Paul College of Business, submitted True North: Discover Your Authentic Leadership, by Bill George and Peter Sims (the updated edition by Bill George is titled Discover Your True North). The book purports that following our "internal compass" will lead us to authentic leadership. It helps us explore important questions of who we essentially are; what are our values, passions, and motivations? What helps orient us when everything around us feels disorienting? Through interviews with some of the world's top business leaders (of companies like Xerox, Goldman Sachs, Starbucks, and Time, Inc.), True North illuminates how others have developed their leadership—in both struggles and triumphs—and outlines a plan for anyone to find their way to becoming an authentic leader.
7. A.G. Krishnamurthy, author of The Invisible CEO: My Mudra Years, certainly found his way to authentic leadership—and rapid success. Submitted by Anupam Bhaskar, senior admissions manager at FORE School of Management in New Delhi, this book shares the reflections of former founder and CEO of Mudra Communications, Krishnamurthy, and his 23 years spent leading one of India's top advertising agencies. The title refers to a nickname given to Krishnamurthy for being notably absent at high-profile events that his peers clamored to attend. Proud of his low profile, Krishnamurthy believed that his work should speak for him and not the other way around. He writes, "No matter how different you are, or how much of an 'odd man out' you feel, if you believe strongly enough and long enough, it is possible to continue to be who you are and to make a success out of doing what you love."
8. Finally, Branko Ljutic, founding partner of SFAI Montenegro and finance professor, closes out the list with his selection, The Effective Manager, by Peter Drucker. With a focus on managing oneself rather than managing others as the basis of his management approach, Drucker's time-tested 1967 book argues that effectiveness must be learned and practiced; it is not innate in even the best executives. Drucker identifies five key areas of focus for developing effectiveness: managing time, making the right contributions, mobilizing strengths, setting priorities, and honing decision-making. Drucker says that "the effectiveness of a modern society and its ability to perform—perhaps even its ability to survive—depend increasingly on the effectiveness of the people who work as executives in the organizations." No small endeavor.

The responses to our post keep coming in, so make sure to check in for more inspired reading, or add your own!

Long Island Business NEWS

JUNE 28-JULY 4, 2019 | OUR 66TH YEAR | NO. 26 | \$2.00 | LIBN.COM

54 | LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS | June 28-July 4, 2019 | LIBN.COM

LIFOCUS

■ Ones to Watch Education



Laura Anker

Distinguished Service Professor
SUNY Old Westbury

Laura Anker is a distinguished service professor of American studies at SUNY Old Westbury, where she also directs the college's Office of First-Year Experience. Anker was selected to receive the National Society for Experiential Education's 2019 Outstanding Leader in Higher Education award, which is presented to an individual in postsecondary education who has demonstrated innovative uses of experiential learning at his or her institution. As a member of SUNY's applied learning steering committee, Anker helped lead the process that codified applied learning throughout the state university system.

Limonic to discuss new book, ‘Kugel and Frijoles’

Posted Aug 11, 2019 at 2:01 AM

MIDDLETOWN — Author and Assistant Professor of Sociology at the **College of Old Westbury of the State of New York**, Laura Limonic, will discuss her new book, “Kugel and Frijoles, Latino Jews in the U.S.” on Sept. 22 at Temple Sinai at 75 Highland Avenue in Middletown, from noon-2 p.m.

Some of the discussion will cover, what countries are Latino jews emigrating from? Why are they leaving? Where are they settling in the U.S.?

Participants can purchase the book and Limonic will be autographing them after the presentation. The presentation is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided by the Temple Sinai Men’s Club who is also sponsoring the program.

For reservations and more information call 343-1861



The last few days of this year's state legislative session brought with them a flurry of activity, with several long-awaited bills like the GreenLight New York bill to reinstate standard driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act finally getting through both houses of the legislature and signed by the governor.

It was a welcome change of pace from business as usual in Albany, where a house once divided along party lines had long made our state capital a great place for bills to go to die.

But as our state leaders return to their districts to spend the next few months gathering constituents' thoughts (and campaign contributions), now is a good time for we, the public, to take stock of what has been done this year, and of our top priorities for state action in the upcoming year.

As the federal government has become more and more unwilling to enforce its role protecting the environment of our nation, New York has been at the forefront of codifying strict environmental regulations here.

From reducing greenhouse gas emissions to implementing water quality standards to punishing polluters and protecting our coastlines from sea level rise, New York continues to set a high bar, and many of our local municipalities are leading the state in implementing these strategies.

Our environment is key to our health as a species — without understanding our role in the ecosystem, we can't claim to care about our children's future.

But the strength of our environment is just the bedrock for a healthy future. If we were to look at society through psychologist Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, the safety of our physical environment is only one facet of this bedrock. We also need to have access to affordable health care.

The New York Health Act, which would have provided a Medicare for All-style health insurance program for all New Yorkers, was at the forefront of progressive leaders' minds this legislative session.

The bill would do away with private insurance companies in the state, providing a Medicare-style program for all New Yorkers that would be paid for through a progressive payroll tax, which would charge a higher percentage of income for higher-income New Yorkers.

Proponents argue that this method of paying for health insurance would be cheaper than what most people pay now for premiums, deductibles and copays through private insurance plans.

It's a sweeping bill that would radically alter the lives of all New Yorkers, which has been taken up by the legislature in varying forms since 1992. It has passed the State Assembly the past four years before dying in the then-Republican controlled State Senate.

Many lawmakers thought that would change this year, as a new Democratic majority was sworn in to the State Senate. But many unions have come out against the legislation this spring, and Governor Andrew Cuomo has essentially dared the Senate to pass it, saying in March that he would sign it, "but no sane person will pass it... Every union is against it."

Unions are in fact split on the bill, with the New York State Nurses Association and 1199 SEIU United Health Care Workers in favor of the bill, while the Civil Service Employees Association and the Public Employees Association have come out against it.

Dr. Martha Livingston, a public health professor at [SUNY Old Westbury](#) who has been a fierce advocate for the bill, had this to say about the governor at a forum on the New York Health Act in Southampton this spring:

"Here's what we know about Andrew Cuomo: If the parade is long enough, he will be at the front, and he will say he started it."

That's a good message to take away from the past few months as freshman state senators head home for the rest of the year. What parade do we want Andrew Cuomo to lead in the coming year?

Atlantic Beach resident Joel Greenberg named a partner for the Frier Levitt law firm

Posted July 11, 2019



Experienced lawyer Joel Greenberg, from Atlantic Beach, is now a partner with Frier Levitt in Uniondale.

COURTESY ABRAMS, FENSTERMAN

Compiled by Jeffrey Bessen and Frank Gargano

Joel Greenberg, of Atlantic Beach, was named as a partner at the law firm Frier Levitt in Uniondale.

His experience covers assisting physicians, medical groups and other health care providers with the legal issues that they face running their medical practices. Greenberg counsels clients from the beginning stages of establishing a practice to helping to ensuring that they adhere to federal and state laws and regulations.

“Joel’s experience and background working with healthcare providers is a great addition to our Long Island office and asset to our clients,” said Daniel Frier, a co-founding partner and chairman of the firm’s Healthcare Department.

Greenberg is also an adjunct professor of health law at the [State University of New York College at Old Westbury](#), served as the managing editor of the New York Health Law Update from 1998 to 2003 and as chairman of the Hospital and Health Law Committee of the Nassau County Bar Association from 2000 to 2002. He will serve as a co-editor in chief for the sixth edition of the Legal Manual for New York Physicians, a position he’s held since the third edition was published.

Facebook can help college students maintain relationships with high school friends

Devdiscourse News Desk | New Delhi | Updated: 23-07-2019 16:06 IST | Created: 23-07-2019 16:06 IST

According to new research from Binghamton University, State University of New York, Facebook can help first-semester college students maintain relationships with high school friends and assist them in creating new friendships. When it comes to making new friends, those with higher confidence in their social skills have less to gain from relying on Facebook, while people with lower confidence in their social skills have more to gain from reliance on the social media platform.

“Transitioning from high school to college can be stressful for many students. To help them adjust to life in college, it is critical for them to maintain connections with pre-college friends and to form new relationships,” said Surinder Kahai, associate professor of management information systems at Binghamton University’s School of Management.

For the study, Kahai and fellow researcher, SUNY College at Old Westbury’s Yu Lei, focused on first-semester college students by surveying undergraduate college students, mostly sophomores, about their experiences with different channels used to maintain and grow relationships.

Accounting for Facebook’s effect on relationships versus the impact of more traditional media (face-to-face interaction, phone calls, etc.), researchers also incorporated how each student’s social self-efficacy (confidence in their social skills) affected the use of both Facebook and traditional media to build and maintain relationships.

“You’ve known your high school friends for a long time. You’re not shy in front of them and you can act naturally,” said Kahai. “But when it comes to making new friends in college, your ability to be social and open yourself up to new people will matter. If you have low self-efficacy, you may need to rely more on social media to make up for less face-to-face interaction.”

In terms of how “best” to use Facebook to maintain and build new relationships, some of the findings include:

- Facebook can compensate for the lower use of traditional media to maintain relationships with close friends from high school.

- Facebook works best when supplementing traditional media when it comes to making new college friends.

- Students with high self-efficacy have more to gain from prioritizing traditional media over Facebook when making new college friends.

- Students with low self-efficacy have more to gain from prioritizing Facebook use over traditional media when making new college friends.

Kahai said the findings are relevant to university officials and counselors helping new students adjust to college life.

“New college students often stress about trying to maintain their high school friendships while struggling to develop new ones. These findings can help counselors advise students on how to balance the use of social media and traditional media to enhance their new and older friendships,” said Kahai.

Kahai believes that any long-distance relationship can be maintained with the right use of media, which served as some of his motivation to conduct this study.

“If there is an intent to continue the relationship, you can make it happen. Whether you use phone calls, snail mail or Facebook, if you want to maintain a relationship, you can,” he said.

And with the growing presence of social media in the lives of college students, Kahai recommends to stop focusing on the “is social media good or bad?” debate.

“It’s here, it’s not going away. It’s a part of society now,” said Kahai. “The results of our study suggest that instead of asking whether or not Facebook builds relationships and social capital, we should be focusing on finding the conditions in which it does.”

Renewable Energy In New York

By EDITOR • JUL 24, 2019



COURTESY OF DEEPWATER WIND SOUTH FORK WIND FARM / FACEBOOK

New York's landmark climate law means the state will need aggressive renewable energy projects to meet its goals. It has started by approving two wind farm proposals off the coast of Long Island. Will wind power help New York meet its goals? And what will the state do about the concerns of residents and the fishing industry? Our guests:

- Doreen Harris, vice president for large-scale renewables, [NYSERDA](#)
- Gregg Lampman, program manager for environmental research, [NYSERDA](#)
- Karl Grossman, [investigative environmental reporter](#); professor, American Studies/Media and Communications, [SUNY Old Westbury](#)
- Gordian Raacke, executive director, [Renewable Energy Long Island](#)
- Bonnie Brady, executive director, [Long Island Fishing Association](#)
- Erin McGrath, policy manager, [Audubon New York](#)

Listen
46:28

Sag Harbor Historical Society's Fridays On The Porch Kicks Off With Karl Grossman

Jul 8, 2019 11:41 AM

Staff Writer

The Sag Harbor Historical Society kicks off its "Fridays on the Porch 2019" series on July 12, with journalist and professor Karl Grossman who offers a talk at 5 p.m. on "The 'Unusual' Jewish History of Sag Harbor."

More than a century ago, Mr. Grossman's paternal grandparents, Herman and Stephanie, came to the United States from Hungary and settled in Sag Harbor where Herman, a skilled engraver, worked at Fahy's watchcase factory.

In his talk, Mr. Grossman will focus on how Sag Harbor became a center for Jews on eastern Long Island and why the 1900 U.S. Census showed that 15 percent of its population was Jewish. This contrasts greatly with the neighboring communities of East Hampton and Southampton where Jews were not welcome.

Mr. Grossman, a resident of Noyac, has written a column for nearly 50 years which appears regularly in The Southampton Press, The East Hampton Press, The Sag Harbor Express and Shelter Island Reporter. He is a full professor of journalism at the [State University of New York/College at Old Westbury](#).

Mr. Grossman is also the author of six books. For 28 years, he has hosted the nationally-aired television program "Enviro Close-Up with Karl Grossman" and, on Long Island, he is host of the TV show "Environment Long Island" produced by LTV in Wainscott.

Mr. Grossman has received many awards for journalism including the George Polk Award. He founded and was first president of the Press Club of Long Island. He and his wife, Janet, a retired teacher, are the parents of attorney Adam Grossman, chairman of the Southampton Town Zoning Board of Appeals.

"Fridays on the Porch 2019" take place at the Sag Harbor Historical Society's Annie Cooper Boyd House, 174 Main Street Sag Harbor.

Upcoming talks include: "The Great New England Hurricane" by Chris Gloninger on July 26.

"The History of Pie-Sample the Possibilities" by Rev. Karen Campbell on August 9.

"Antiques Roadshow" with Randy Kolhoff, owner of Black Swan Antiques on August 23.

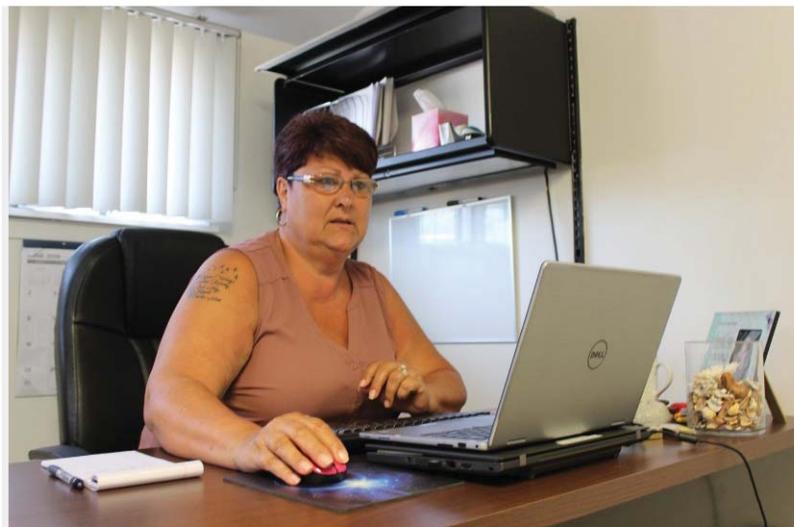
All talks are from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$20 donation which includes wine, beer and refreshments.

Honoring the heroes among us at Eisenhower Park

Veterans nonprofit to bring Vietnam memorial to East Meadow

Posted August 8, 2019

By Brian Stieglitz



Virginia Cervasio, 61, of Glen Cove, is the founder of the nonprofit Heroes Among Us, which will host a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Eisenhower Park Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Above, Cervasio at the organization's new location on Old Country Road, between Westbury and Salisbury.

BRIAN STIEGLITZ/HERALD

When Virginia Cervasio decided to dedicate her life to helping veterans, she learned that they have an unspoken “bond that no one could break,” she said. “There’s just a mutual understanding and a trust that they are going to support one another and help each other out.”

Cervasio, 61, of Glen Cove, said she wanted to strengthen those bonds when she launched a nonprofit called Heroes Among Us in 2014 to help veterans readjust to life after war.

In the organization’s most significant undertaking yet, it will host a 375-foot-long, three-quarter-scale mobile replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Eisenhower Park from Aug. 29 to Sept. 1.

Known as “The Wall That Heals,” the memorial, and an accompanying education center, moves from one state to another each month, where it is hosted by a local organization, offering people a chance to see it without having to travel to Washington, D.C., to see the original.

“It’s such an honor to be able to host the wall,” Cervasio said. “We’re committed to giving the public something they will remember for life.”

Cervasio’s activism began long before she launched Heroes Among Us. Her son Angelo joined the U.S. Air Force shortly after graduating from Locust Valley High School in 2000, and served as an Airman 1st Class during Operation Southern Watch in Iraq for three years before he was stationed in Oklahoma City for the remainder of his service.

When he returning from war, Angelo “didn’t want to talk about anything,” his mother recalled. “His whole character was different.” In 2006, six months after his discharge, Angelo died by suicide. He was 24.

“You’re never going to know why something like this happens,” Cervasio said. “But, personally, I wanted to make something good come of it. I wanted to continue his legacy.”

A native of Glen Cove, she lived in Lee County, Fla., from 2004 to 2014, and after her son died, she founded a nonprofit called Cares Suicide Prevention, sharing Angelo’s story and hosting educational seminars on the signs she said she missed that led him to take his own life.

When she returned to Glen Cove in 2014, Cervasio dissolved Cares Suicide Prevention but continued her advocacy, volunteering for the Long Island Crisis Center, where she has overseen its suicide support group for three months. She earned a degree in sociology from [SUNY Old Westbury](#), and founded Heroes Among Us.

The organization acts as a liaison between veterans and the resources that can help them and their families when they return from service. Cervasio initially met with veterans at her home, but found office space on Old Country Road, between Westbury and Salisbury, four months ago.

“So many vets have trouble finding their footing, and there are so many resources available to them that they might not know about,” said Gary Glick, the commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 652 and a veteran from North Merrick. “[Cervasio] has been doing so much to help them out.”

Heroes Among Us has helped veterans pay their bills, helped them find therapists and organized school supplies drives for their families, among other services. “One vet came to us looking for a guide dog,” Cervasio recounted. “We got him one from a breeder just by word of mouth.”

Each May, the organization hosts a gala to raise funds for its services, to honor veterans who have died and to recognize those who have contributed to their community. It applied to host the traveling Vietnam memorial last fall, and has prepared for its arrival since it was notified of its acceptance by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund in November.

Heroes Among Us will officially present the mobile memorial at the Glen Cove Fire Department on Aug. 29 before escorting it roughly 12 miles south on Glen Cove Road with a parade to Eisenhower Park.

The organization is funded solely by donations, and to offset the cost of hosting the wall, Cervasio created a GoFundMe page, which can be found at <https://bit.ly/2T89UAQ>. As the Herald went to press, it had raised the first \$375 of its \$15,000 goal.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is sending the wall to Heroes Among Us in pieces, Cervasio explained, and she is looking for volunteers to help assemble it on Aug. 29 and disassemble it on Sept. 1. To volunteer or learn more, visit www.heroesamongus24.org or call (239) 834-9240.

Honoring the nation's heroes

Veterans' nonprofit brings mobile memorial to LI

Posted August 29, 2019

By Ronny Reyes



Biker "Pastor Steve," a Vietnam veteran, led a prayer with Tony Jimenez, left, and Virginia Cervasio. Veterans and members of the honor guard showed their respect for the replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial behind them.

TAB HAUSER/HERALD GAZETTE

For Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, the experience was gut-wrenching. Wiping away tears, he joined veterans and their families at "The Wall That Heals," a 375-foot-long, three-quarter-scale mobile replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial outside the Glen Cove Fire Department on Tuesday. Stevenson-Mathews said he expected to be moved, but was surprised by the depth of his emotions.

He had worked with another Glen Cove resident, Virginia Cervasio, to bring the wall to Glen Cove to be put on display. Cervasio is the founder of Heroes Among Us, an organization that helps veterans returning from services find the resources that can help them and their families. The wall was scheduled to move to Eisenhower Park for three days starting Thursday. Then it will be transported to Plymouth, Pa., one of many future stops as it continues its annual tour across the country, as it's been doing so since 1996.

Stevenson-Mathews said that while he was lucky not to have lost an uncle in Vietnam, many others were not so fortunate. Family members and friends died in Southeast Asia, and they were never able to say goodbye. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., offers closure to many, but many more have never visited it.

"Some people can't make it out to Washington to the real thing, so this removes that barrier and brings it to them," Stevenson-Mathews said. "They can rub it, salute it or just come and see it. It's here for them."

Tony Jimenez, the director of Glen Cove Veterans Affairs, who served as the MC at the event in Glen Cove, said he was also moved by the mobile monument, which, like the original one, displays the names of fellow soldiers he met in Vietnam. Jimenez said he was honored to lead the ceremony in Glen Cove and happy that his community could serve as the launching pad for the wall as it heads to Eisenhower Park.

"It's such an honor to be able to host the wall," said Cervasio, 61, of Glen Cove. "We're committed to giving the public something they'll remember for life."

Cervasio's activism began long before she launched Heroes Among Us in 2014. Her son, Angelo, joined the Air Force after he graduated from Locust Valley High School in 2000, and served as an Airman 1st Class in Operation Southern Watch in Iraq for three years before being stationed in Oklahoma City for the remainder of his service. When he returned home, Angelo "didn't want to talk about anything," his mother recalled. "His whole character was different."

In 2006, six months after his discharge, Angelo died by suicide. He was 24. "You're never going to know why something like this happens," his mother said. "But, personally, I wanted to make something good come of it. I wanted to continue his legacy."

A native of Glen Cove, Cervasio lived in Lee County, Fla., from 2004 to 2014, and after her son died, she founded a nonprofit in Florida called Cares Suicide Prevention, sharing Angelo's story and hosting educational seminars on the signs she said she missed that led him to take his own life.

When she returned to Glen Cove in 2014, Cervasio continued her advocacy, volunteering for the Long Island Crisis Center, where she has overseen the organization's suicide support group for three months. She earned a degree in sociology from SUNY Old Westbury and founded Heroes Among Us, initially meeting with veterans at her home, but finding office space on Old Country Road, between Westbury and Salisbury, four months ago.

"So many vets have trouble finding their footing, and there are so many resources available to them that they might not know about," said Gary Glick, of North Merrick, the commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 652. Cervasio "has been doing so much to help them out."

Heroes Among Us has helped veterans pay their bills, helped them find therapists and organized school supplies drives for their families, among other services. "One vet came to us looking for a guide dog," Cervasio recalled. "We got him one from a breeder just by word of mouth."

Each May the organization hosts a gala to raise funds, to honor veterans who have died and to recognize those who have contributed to their communities. It applied to host the traveling Vietnam memorial last fall, and had prepared for its arrival since it was notified of its acceptance by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund in November.

The wall was scheduled to leave the Fire Department on Tuesday and be escorted roughly 12 miles south on Glen Cove Road with a parade to Eisenhower Park, where it will be on display from Thursday at 10 a.m. until Sunday at 3 p.m.

Tim Tetz, director of outreach for the memorial fund, said he was especially moved by the local veterans who escorted the wall replica in and out of Glen Cove. "These vets on the wall did not have their homecoming," Tetz said, "and this is the homecoming parade they deserve."

INTERVIEW: FINS SUPERINTENDENT ALEXCY ROMERO

BY FIN | AUGUST 17, 2019

By Laura Schmidt



PHOTO BY LAUREN CHENAULT.

Alexcy Romero's appointment as superintendent of Fire Island National Seashore (FINS) was announced in August 2018, and he took office the following October. He is a native New Yorker with a bachelor's degree in environmental science from the State University of New York at Old Westbury. With a three decade career in the National Park Service, his prior appointment was as superintendent of George Washington Memorial Parkway in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. While at the Fire Island helm for less than a year, Romero has already made some controversial decisions during his tenure, including the culling of the white-tailed deer population within Fire Island National Seashore jurisdiction at William Floyd Estate last March; plans are presently underway to expand this operation. Romero intends to continue on Fire Island proper at least through the year 2020.

Fire Island News (FIN): What are some achievements that you've been proud of this summer thus far as superintendent?

Alexcy Romero (AR): Oh, that's a very good question. I would say it's reaching out to the communities through their scheduled Town Hall meetings. I had one last Saturday, July 27. [I] have another one scheduled [August] 10, the other one scheduled [August] 24, just focusing on the vulnerability study, FIMI, FIMP, and driving, so actively engaging the communities. Working with the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society on replacement of the steps. And, again, I think this summer season has been focused on outreach and civic engagement. Working with non-profit groups regarding the Carrington tract and seeing how we could work together to utilize the facilities that fulfill the National Park Service mission. So there's a couple things in the works.

FIN: Regarding one of the Town Hall meetings held in July, you mentioned the addition of driving restrictions on the island. Is there anything new to report regarding this?

AR: We're still using the Blue Book as our regulations. There's some changes that we can make under the current Blue Book but what the Town Hall meetings are focusing on is fact-finding, testing the assumptions. I've heard a lot of concerns from the interactions that I've had with communities regarding driving. So [we ask] very simple questions that we're just looking for responses from the community just to make sure that we're on the right track. To make sure that we are making informed decisions based on community concerns or issues. So there's no changes, just fact-finding

FIN: On the same subject of island transportation, since some Kismet and Saltaire community leaders expressed concerns with the new Fire Island Pedicab service – they were concerned with it blocking emergency vehicles or other cars – have there been any conversations discussing this issue?

AR: Well, I'll be honest with you, there is both, people expressing concern and there are people that are actually applauding this new experience to access Fire Island. So, there are people that are very happy with having two – we're talking about two – pedicabs, leaving from Field 5 to the old fire house, that are transporting probably four people every hour compared to the hundreds of people that are walking from Field 5 to Kismet. So we're talking a small fraction of people that are being transported. It's not what you see in New York City with a whole bunch of pedicabs, we're talking about two pedicabs transporting four people probably every hour. So it's not a huge influx of people that are being transported. And the other thing I wanted to point out is that the permit that was issued, was issued through the state at Field 5, and they were just coming through our property.

FIN: Regarding the Deer Management Environmental Impact Statement that was entered in the Federal Register at the end of 2015, now that it's been fully implemented this year, what can be expected this upcoming fall with this removal plan?

AR: Right now, we are still figuring out Phase Two. One thing has been identified: we have to work with our partner agency, with the [National] Park Service, and we are not – we have not engaged with them because of staffing issues that they're trying to resolve now. So we don't have a plan, a strategy or a timeline until they're able to backfill behind some positions in order to begin the planning process. So there's nothing set just yet.

FIN: Will Phase Two still involve the removal of deer?

AR: Yes, it would involve the culling of deer. Yes.

FIN: Ok. Many Fire Islanders as well as some animal rights groups have not been pleased with the way by which the deer culling has been conducted. Would you and FINS consider non-lethal methods in the future to appease these groups?

AR: In the future, I guess, yes, we will explore all options. We, many years ago, used a contraception method for up to 10 years as a study, and right now it's not considered a study unless it's 10 years or more so we were advised to stop using this as a study. What we will look into in the future is other methods. Of course, they have to be state-approved. Right now, PZP [an immunocontraceptive] is not state-approved, and we're just following the standards of the state in order for us to begin implementing contraception in the future. But, yes, we will explore other options in the future to maintain deer population. And the other thing I wanted to mention, the study for contraception has shown in areas to be effective and other areas not to be effective. And there's a number of things that we can provide in the future to share.

FIN: Did you explore other options such as deer repellents, deer-resistant plants, or visual or auditory deterrents?

AR: I can't speak to that right now. I would have to talk to my Chief of Resource Management regarding that, but I understand that the study was comprehensive in exploring all options. But I can't confirm that.

FIN: Would you be able to say some of the reasons non-lethal options were denied during the planning process?

AR: Again, I'm going to have to confirm that with my Chief of Resources and get back to you.

FIN: Regarding the Seashore's claim that deer are ruining growth in the Sunken Forest, were you at all concerned about the agreement made when Wildlife Preserves deeded Sunken Forest to FINS in 1966, which stated that these lands must be maintained in their natural state and act as a sanctuary for the wildlife that exist within it? Was this a concern that was brought up when creating the deer management plan?

AR: That's a legal matter right now that I can't speak to until it's settled.

FIN: At what point will the deer culling come to an end? Is there a goal population number to be reached and do you think it will still be ongoing in 2020?

AR: Deer management will continue in 2020, and beyond, as necessary. Deer densities of 20 to 25 deer per square mile have been shown to allow for a healthier, more diverse forest habitat, which can support a healthy deer herd as well as other native wildlife. This initial deer density goal will be maintained until vegetation is given ample time to recover from over-browsing. Information collected through deer and vegetation monitoring will guide future management actions. The deer density goal can be adjusted if and when vegetation goals are reached.

FIN: What are some things that are at the top of your list to accomplish by the end of 2019?

AR: I would say to continue working with the Army Corps of Engineers in finalizing the FIMP and FIMI beach nourishment process, coordinating those efforts by issuing the proper permits to complete FIMI, and in parallel tracks completing the necessary steps for the Fire Island to Montauk Point plan with the Army Corps to have the final draft signed off and approved by the Secretary of Army and Interior in Washington, D.C.

East Meadow teacher launches volunteer program in Ghana

Posted July 25, 2019

By Julia Cuttone

What began as a weeklong stint with a volunteer teaching program in Ghana led Brianna Stratis to pursue a teaching career and launch the Ghana Volunteer Headquarters.

"I wanted to become a teacher my whole life, until I graduated high school, when I switched to the medical field," Stratis, 25, said. "I wanted to become a physician's assistant."

Stratis grew up in Bethpage and graduated from Bethpage High School in 2012. She was 20 and in her junior year at LIU Post when she went to Dodowa, Ghana, for the first time with the international volunteer corporation Projects Abroad. For a week in 2014 she helped treat malaria and ringworm at medical clinics, and even had the chance to scrub in on a cesarean section.

It wasn't until she had to cover for one of the volunteer teachers that same week that she was led to her dream job. "That moment was how I found my way back to what I was meant to do," she said. Over the next three years, she returned to the country four times for up to 11 weeks at a time, and taught kindergarten through 12th-grade science and math.

In the spring of 2017, she started Ghana Volunteer Headquarters, a nonprofit organization that connects college-age volunteers with needy communities in Ghana. Medical volunteers are placed in hospitals or clinics, where they assist staff with everything from surgery to childbirth. Volunteer teachers work in classrooms and follow the Ghana Education Service syllabus in math, science, English, music and art. Volunteer programs last between one and 24 weeks.

Stratis was initially taken aback by the differences in Ghana's culture. "It was my first time leaving the country, and I was alone," she recalled. Men and women carried food on their heads. On every street, it seemed, there were local markets offering fresh fruit. Goats, pigs and dogs roamed freely. Most houses were made of cement, metal or sticks and mud.

Stratis, who stayed at an orphanage, was awakened by roosters before 5 in the morning. Not long afterward, the students with whom she stayed walked with her to the schoolhouse where they started the day.

In the United States, when students are disciplined, they might have their phones taken away. In Ghana, students who misbehave are smacked on the hands with a stick. "It's hard to watch that, coming from another country where that isn't legal," Stratis said, "but it's a way of life for them." Other rules are just as strict. "If your uniform isn't exact or your hair isn't combed," she said, "they'll kick you out of school for the day."

There were about 115 children in the orphanage, and 15 to 20 shared rooms that were about one quarter the size of a classroom. "There were bed bugs all over where the kids were sleeping," Stratis said. "While most kids shared their beds, if there wasn't enough space, the others would have to sleep on the floor."

In Ghana, close to 6 million of the country's 30.4 million people depend on surface water to meet their daily needs. Because there is widespread poverty and running water is expensive, most of the population does not have access to safe, treated water from pipes. On her most recent visit, in 2017, Stratis was sick for four months with an unknown parasite, and was hospitalized for a week.

Overall, however, she said, "After spending several months teaching there, I knew two things: One, I was meant to teach, and two, I needed to do something more to make a difference."

She graduated from LIU Post in 2016 and took a year off from school before studying to be a teacher at [SUNY Old Westbury](#) in 2018.

Being exposed to a different culture and having a life-changing experience is just the start of what volunteering can provide, Stratis said. "It's a very rewarding feeling to give back," she said. "I realized that the people in Ghana who have nothing are a lot happier than some of the people here in America who have everything."

Stratis joined the East Meadow School District in the fall of 2018, and started teaching earth science and marine biology at W.T. Clarke Middle School before she was transferred, in the middle of the spring semester, to East Meadow High School to teach the same subjects.

Volunteers are currently working in Ghana with Ghana Volunteer Headquarters, and will return after two months. Stratis plans to bring in new volunteers by next April, and applications will be opened on a to-be-determined date.

In the future, she hopes to build a school in Ghana.

Her motto is "Give with your whole heart," she said. "Your true intentions will always shine through, and if you truly want to help and make a difference, you will. Even if it's just buying an extra chicken at BJ's to give to a homeless guy in the parking lot, everything good counts, and is always going to make someone's day better."



East Meadow teacher Brianna Stratis launched the Ghana Volunteer Headquarters in the spring of 2017 with the goal of aiding in the fields of medicine and education. Above, she taught math in a classroom in Dodowa, Ghana.



The Young Lords: Exploring the Legacy of the Radical Puerto Rican Activist Group 50 Years Later

STORY JULY 24, 2019 [Watch Full Show](#)

Fifty years ago this week, a group of young radical Puerto Ricans took to the streets of New York City to announce the formation of the New York chapter of the Young Lords. Formed in the same radical tradition of the Black Panther Party, the activists soon became a force in the community that inspired people around the nation. The Young Lords occupied churches and hospitals to offer services to the community, and educated people about Puerto Rican culture and history. They called for self-determination for all Puerto Ricans, independence for the island of Puerto Rico, community control of institutions and land, freedom for all political prisoners and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam, Puerto Rico and other areas. While the group disintegrated in the mid-1970s, its impact is still felt today. Ahead of a commemorative event at the Schomburg Center in Harlem Friday, we speak with three former Young Lords: Denise Oliver-Velez, Carlito Rovira and Democracy Now!'s Juan González, who helped found the organization and served as its first minister of education. We also speak with Johanna Fernández, associate professor in the Department of History at CUNY's Baruch College. She is the author of the upcoming book "The Young Lords: A Radical History."

Transcript

AMY GOODMAN: Denise Oliver-Velez, how did you get involved? Where were you born?

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: I was born in Brooklyn in a Hasidic Jewish neighborhood. But I had been working at an organization in East Harlem called the Real Great Society. They were founded on the Lower East Side, where Carlito's from. They had been a street gang, the Assassins. And they transformed themselves into a sort of—under the sort of Great Society rhetoric, and there was money, anti-poverty money, that came in. And they were rehabilitating buildings, because the slum buildings and the tenements on the Lower East Side and in East Harlem were horrific.

So, I met them at Howard University. And they recruited me to come and teach at a prep school for high school dropouts in El Barrio. And that was where the Sociedad de Albizu Campos, the Society of Albizu Campos, was founded. And then, we all—

AMY GOODMAN: Albizu Campos, who was revolutionary Puerto Rican figure.

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: Revolutionary leader from Puerto Rico.

AMY GOODMAN: Imprisoned and—

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: Tortured.

AMY GOODMAN: —experimented on—

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: Yes.

AMY GOODMAN: —in prison for decades.

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: So, some former Peace Corps people came to RGS, recruited a bunch of us to go to an experimental college on Long Island called Old Westbury. And when we got out there, there were 16 students on campus who were not white. So we formed a Non-White Caucus and banded together. And it was there that Juan came out to Old Westbury. Pablo "Yoruba" Guzmán was a student at Old Westbury.

AMY GOODMAN: Who would become another newscaster, another journalist.

DENISE OLIVER-VELEZ: Who would become a newscaster. David Pérez came in from Chicago. And the core group—Felipe Luciano was a SEEK student at Queens College. He came out to Old Westbury. And a group of the young people decided to go to Chicago.

AMY GOODMAN: We're going to break and then come back to this discussion and also find out why Johanna Fernández is writing a book on the Young Lords. Our guests are Carlito Rovira and Denise Oliver-Velez, Juan González, one of the co-founders of the New York chapter of the Young Lords. This is Democracy Now! We'll be back in a minute.

Schools

New Fairfield Assistant Principal Has Massapequa Roots

Katie Fernandez is bringing nearly two decades of educational experience to the school.

By Alex Costello, Patch Staff

Jul 4, 2019 10:00 am ET | Updated Jul 4, 2019 10:04 am ET

Like 420 Share

Reply



Katie Fernandez is the new assistant principal at Fairfield Elementary School. (Massapequa School District)

The Massapequa School District announced the appointment of Katie Fernandez as the new assistant principal of Fairfield Elementary School. She replaces Dr. Kristi Gerhard, who was promoted to principal.

Fernandez, a 1989 Massapequa High School graduate, has been an educator for the past 19 years in the Farmingdale School District. She has served as a gifted and talented teacher, first grade teacher, elementary literacy coach and instructional coach for kindergarten, first and second grades.

A resident of Farmingdale, she holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from SUNY Old Westbury, a master's degree in elementary education from Adelphi University and an advanced certificate in school building and district leadership from LIU Post.

Siegfried Welcomes New Professionals

August 20, 2019 at 16:00 PM EDT

Siegfried's Orientation program introduces the Firm's extraordinary culture, compelling business model, and interesting and challenging work to its newest professionals. During the multi-day event, new employees learn more about the company, meet members of Siegfried's Leadership and Operations teams, and become acquainted with their new colleagues

Notably, all new employees have the opportunity to meet with Rob Siegfried, CEO and Founder, to better immerse themselves in Siegfried's higher purpose, which is to help people transform themselves into better leaders to exponentially improve their lives.

Siegfried is pleased to welcome all of its talented new Professionals to the Firm.

Eric Rochman, CPA, joins our New York Market as a Manager. He excels at bringing teams together towards a common goal and keeping everyone motivated on the ideal end result along the way. Rochman earned his Master of Science in taxation from [The College at Old Westbury](#) and his Bachelor of Science in accounting from the University at Albany. Most recently, He was a Manager at TiptreeInc.



Eric Rochman, CPA
New York

More information about the Firm and its career opportunities is available at siegfriedgroup.com.

About The Siegfried Group, LLP

Siegfried works alongside financial executives across the nation on their most important accounting and finance projects. Filled with an innovative spirit and led by an ambitious entrepreneur, Siegfried provides unique Leadership Advisory and combines it with high-potential talent. At the heart of our Firm is our approach to individual leadership and the continual pursuit of helping people grow both personally and professionally. As a whole, we value having fun, being fair, and building and sharing stakeholder value.

Best Pain Management Doctors in New York

Below is a list of the top and leading Pain Management Doctors in New York. To help you find the best Pain Management Doctors located near you in New York, our team at [Kev's Best](#) put together our own list based on [this rating points list](#).

New York's Best Pain Management Doctors:

The top rated Pain Management Doctors in New York are:

- **Dr. Conrad F. Cean** – Pain Management Group
- **Dr. Corey Hunter** – Ainsworth Institute of Pain Management
- **Dr. Kavita Sharma** – Manhattan Pain & Sports Associates
- **Dr. Douglas Allen** – New York Pain Medicine and Physical Therapy
- **Dr. Febin Melepura** – Sports and Pain Institute of New York

Pain Management Group



Dr. Conrad F. Cean – Pain Management Group

Dr. Conrad F. Cean is a board certified Interventional Pain Specialist based in New York City. Dr. Cean completed his fellowship training in interventional pain medicine and his residency in Anesthesiology at Mount Sinai Medical Center, N.Y. Prior to his specialization in pain management, he received his Doctorate of Medicine at New York Medical College and his Bachelors of Science in Biology and Psychology at [SUNY College at Old Westbury](#).

Dr. Cean has over 10 years of expertise assessing, treating and curing a variety of pain and chronic pain conditions for his patients throughout the tri-state. He is well respected, highly recommended and sought out for most pain conditions and treatment services. Before starting New York Pain Management Group, Dr. Cean spent a few years cultivating his craft as a pain management specialist with Long Island Jewish Health Systems and a former Director of Pain Management at Somia Pain Management.

Products/Services:

Pain Management, Physical Therapy, Orthopedic Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropractic Therapy, Sports Injury

LOCATION:

Address: 1250 Waters Pl Suite # 508, The Bronx, NY 10461

Phone: (888) 789 6672

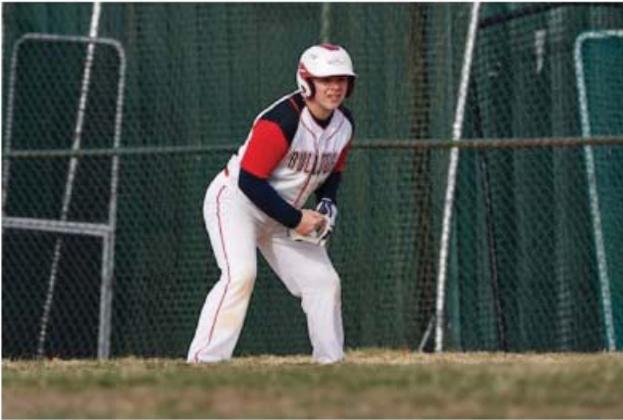
Website: www.nopainny.com

REVIEWS:

"Helped me to get back in my heels! Amazing doctor." -Cynthia Peacock

Athlete Of The Week Roundup: Round 4

By Joseph Wolkin - July 26, 2019



Island Trees High School senior Charlie Eisele is heading to SUNY Old Westbury, where he'll play Division III baseball as a catcher.
(Photo by Island Trees School District)

The 2018-19 school year is officially over. Children can finally relax and take a break from the intense life as a student-athlete.

This summer, the Tribune will take a look back at the stars of the region throughout the season. Athletes who were featured throughout the winter and spring seasons excelled, partially due to their innate abilities on the court and field, but also thanks to their peers, who often pick them up when they're down.

General Douglas MacArthur High School rising senior Timothy Weber is a star for the varsity soccer team, as well as the track and field squad. Weber won the winter conference championship in the 1,000 and 1,600-meter relays. He also scored spots on the All-Conference and All-State teams.

Charlie Eisele is a catcher for the Island Trees High School Bulldogs baseball squad. The recent graduate is heading to SUNY Old Westbury, where he'll play Division III men's baseball. Eisele was a three-year starter for the Bulldogs. He started the season as hot as anyone on the boys varsity baseball team, going eight for 15 with four doubles, a triple and seven RBIs. It's his toughness that has helped make him a leader on and off the field.

Division Avenue High School graduate Angelina Gatt is one of the most inspirational people you'll meet. Gatt was born with Leber Congenital Amaurosis (LCA), a rare genetic eye disorder affecting 3,000 people in the United States. Yet that didn't stop her from becoming a cheerleading sensation.



Ward Melville Patriots baseball roundup

by Rita J. Egan - July 29, 2019

The Ward Melville Patriots, the No. 1 seed in their league this year, completed a successful season in 2019.

The team made it to the Suffolk County finals but lost in game 3 to Connetquot. Coach Lou Petrucci said it was the third time the team went up against Connetquot in the finals.

For the spring 2019 season, Petrucci said it was difficult to name just one favorite game or play.

"Anytime a kid plays a high school baseball game on his home field, it's a memorable game," he said, adding it's more about what the players take from the game.

It was a season where Max Nielsen, the only five-year player in Ward Melville history, struck out 18 batters in the Suffolk County semifinals. The stats are a Patriots record, according to Petrucci.

Among the accolades he garnered this year, the left-handed pitcher won the Suffolk County Baseball Coaches Association's 52nd annual Carl Yastrzemski Award for Suffolk County's top player. He is the third Patriots baseball player to win the coveted award in the last 12 years. Petrucci said, in the past, AJ Nunziato and current Mets pitcher Steven Matz have been among the winners. Nielsen was also named a member of Axxcess Baseball's All Decade Team 2010-2019 second team, and the SCBCA awarded him Suffolk County League 1 Most Valuable Player and All-County Selection, too.

Nielsen, who is already taking two classes at the University of Connecticut this summer, is modest about the awards.

"It's an honor to receive them," he said. "It's all because of my teammates."

Nielsen said the May 25 Suffolk Class AA elimination game against Commack stands out as a favorite for him. The pitcher, just back from an oblique injury, witnessed his teammate Matthew Franco hit a three-run home run in the bottom of the 6th with two outs and two strikes. The Patriots went on to win the game, 8-6.

If it weren't for Petrucci, Nielsen said he wouldn't be playing at his present level. He also credits his fellow teammates Brady Doran, Ethan Farino and Matthew Maurer for their hard work.

"Without them, I don't think we'd be in the position we were in this year," Nielsen said.

The pitcher said the thing he will miss most about Ward Melville baseball is "playing with the kids I've been playing with since [ages] 8, 9, 10."

Other Patriots racked in SCBCA awards including Farino for All-County, Doran and Maurer for All-League and Ryan Hynes for Academic All-League. Petrucci was the winner of League 1 Varsity Coach of the Year.

Petrucci said in addition to Nielsen playing for UConn, a few of the Patriots are moving on to play college baseball. Doran will play at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire; Farino at Marist College in Poughkeepsie; Maurer at Post University in Waterbury, Connecticut; Bryan Radzinsky at Immaculata University in Immaculata, Pennsylvania; and Patrick Schriffen at College of Old Westbury.

The coach said he thinks the players enjoyed playing baseball at Ward Melville.

"The kids gave their classmates, their parents and many people in the Three Village baseball community exciting baseball memories," he said.