

BINNEKILL

Vol. XXXI No. 3

a monthly publication for students, faculty, staff and friends

April 8, 2015





Seasons start

There still might be a chill in the air, but it really is spring, which means the Royals sports season will start to heat up soon.

The Women's Crew Team is coming off of their first spring training session in Tampa, Fla., last month (left). They row out of the Union Boathouse in the Stockade, on the Mohawk River. They will be out on the river this weekend for their first races.

This Saturday (April 11) at 9 a.m. they'll face Hofstra, C.W. Post, Long Island University and the University at Albany. On Sunday (April 12) at 9 a.m. they'll row against Hamilton College and Skidmore College.

The Men's Baseball Team is gearing up for another

great season. The Royals have won the Mohawk Valley Conference Championship four of the last 10 years, making it to the sub-regionals last year.

Head Coach Tim Andi, in his 24th year leading the Royals, shared his goal for the season saying, "We want to get the highest seed in our division and go a little further than last year."

The Royals will take the B Diamond in Central Park on Thursday (April 9) at 2 p.m. vs. Clinton CC and then this Saturday (April 11) at 1 p.m. vs. Herkimer CC. Shown above are team captains Kody Shaw, Pitcher/Business Administration major, and Nico Church, Outfielder/Liberal Arts major.



Need to pick up a few credits over the summer? Register now! Choose from three summer sessions beginning on June 1 and June 29.

Two students earn SUNY awards

Two SCCC students, one a decorated veteran and the other an All-American athlete, were recognized by SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher last week with the prestigious 2015 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence.

Sean Cochrane, a Human Services/Chemical Dependency Counseling major, and **Casey Frankoski**, a Liberal Arts: Honors Concentration major, were chosen for the awards that recognize students who have best demonstrated, and have been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts, campus involvement, or career achievement. They were honored, along with other students from across the SUNY

system, at a special ceremony at the Empire State Plaza in Albany.

Sean is a veteran of the U.S. Army who twice earned the National Defense Service Medal, among other commendations. He is President of the SCCC Veterans Club, a student mentor, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and a volunteer basketball coach with the Boys and Girls Club of Rotterdam.

Casey, a member of the SCCC Women's Bowling Team - NJCAA National Champions, was awarded All-American status by the National Junior College Bowling Coaches Association. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Secretary of the Spanish Club, a member of the Student Affairs Committee, and participated in World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"It is my highest honor to recognize the achievements of SUNY students who have excelled not only academically but as lead-

ers on their campuses and in their communities," said Chancellor Zimpher. "Students receiving this award are to be commended for their excellence as role models, artists, scholar athletes, and civic volunteers. Their leadership can serve as an inspiration to all SUNY students and a tremendous point of pride for the entire SUNY family. Congratulations to all of the students receiving the 2015 award."

Each year, SUNY campus presidents establish a selection committee, which reviews the accomplishments of exemplary students. Nominees are then forwarded to the Chancellor's Office. Finalists are recommended to the Chancellor. Each recipient receives a framed certificate and medallion, which is traditionally worn at Commencement.

Read about one student's journey that taught her to never give up...*Page 3*





Two longtime employees and friends retire in May

While Shirley Hubert was a student at SCCC in the late 1980s, she was not only taking classes toward her Clerical Word Processing certificate, she was also becoming part of a team as a Student Worker in the Admissions Office. She has been an instrumental part of the Admissions group ever since and plans to bid farewell to the office and the College in May when she retires.



Shirley was hired as an Information Processing Specialist I in Admissions in 1989, when the office was located on the second floor of Elston Hall. She replied to students inquiring about joining the SCCC community and helped with applications. In 2000, she was promoted to Senior Typist, followed by Information Processing Specialist II in 2003.

As technology changed, so too did the way

the College encouraged prospective students to apply for admission. When the College was preparing to begin offering online applications, Shirley helped with the application content as the Information Technology Division implemented the online process. Ever since then, she's been guiding individuals through the online application process. "I enjoy helping them," Shirley said. "They call the office and I show them over the phone how to fill out their application online."

In addition to answering questions and processing applications, Shirley also is a warm presence at the reception desk in the Admissions Office during Open Houses and Information Nights.

Throughout her 26 years at SCCC, Shirley said she has always valued the sense of camaraderie in the Admissions Office. "I have worked with a great group of people who always seems to work together, no matter what we're doing," she said. And reminiscent of Will Rogers, she added, "Actually, I've never run into anyone on campus that I don't like."

When she retires, Shirley plans to spend time with her three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She also plans to join a senior citizens group. But first, her son Tommy has given her a relaxing retirement present: a cruise to Nova Scotia in September with Tommy and Shirley's friend Charleen DeLorenzo. In September 2011, during the uncertain hours of Hurricane Irene, Charleen DeLorenzo and several other staff members reported for duty, even though the College was officially closed. Payroll was a priority and Charleen and others made sure that it ran smoothly. Now, after more than 20 years at the College, Charleen will retire at the end of May.

During her first two years at SCCC in the mid-90s, Charleen registered students, processed immunizations, organized student folders and answered questions from students as an Account Clerk in Registration.

She began flexing her "I love math" muscle when she made the move to Payroll in 1999 as an Audit Clerk. She



was promoted to Senior Payroll Audit Clerk in 2001.

"I've always been good at math," Charleen said recently. "It was my favorite subject and that's really helped with my work in payroll."

Over the past two decades, she has answered countless questions from employees and retirees about the payroll process and enjoyed serving as both a resource and a friend. "I really enjoy my job," she said. "I enjoy assisting retirees when they call and I like working with everybody who works here."

While she was working at SCCC, Charleen was also raising a family, leading a Girl Scout Troop and coaching Pop Warner cheerleading. She ran successfully for a seat on the Capital Region BOCES School Board, a position she held for nine years. She was also Secretary of the CSEA unit at the College.

Charleen's life changed in 2006 when she was diagnosed with a meningioma, a tumor inside her skull. Surgery soon followed. She returned to work that same year, and freely talks about life with meningioma with others.

As for retirement, Charleen already has her ticket for a cruise to Nova Scotia in September, that she'll be taking with her longtime SCCC friend Shirley Hubert of the Admissions Office. She also plans to continue working on her family's genealogy.



2 <u>BINNEKILL, April 8, 2015</u>

Shaving their heads, spreading a message Faculty/Staff Development

Both Amiee Warfield and Betsy Napier shaved their heads to raise awareness about two young people they know battling serious illnesses. Gracee Jewtraw, an 8-year-old from Lake Placid, living with a brain tumor, cut off Betsy's ponytail and shaved her head during a fundraiser in early February. Betsy's hair was donated to Locks of Love.

Amiee shaved her head in March during a St. Baldrick's event (part of events across the nation through the St. Baldrick's Foundation) in the name of love for Markel Carras, a friend diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia during her first semester away at college. Markel is now in maintenance being treated at Albany Medical Center. Assistant Professor Don Riggs, of the Math, Science, Technology and Health Division, participated in Standards Setting for Java at Excelsior College in March. The Standards Setting group consisted of faculty from throughout the Northeast, chosen for their knowledge of the Java Programming Language. Don was the only SUNY faculty member present.



Their hard work is recognized

Congratulations to the four students who were recognized by the Office of Career and Transfer Services for their outstanding performance as employees of the 2014-2015 Federal Work Study Program.

Clockwise from top left: Natalia Sagaille of the Admissions Office holds a College viewbook that she shares with prospective students. Angel Bailey and Stephen Piorkowski get ready for Autism Awareness Month events while working for Wellness and Support Services. Sage Van De Bogart works at the SCCC site in downtown Albany.

To learn more about how you can get involved with work study opportunities for the fall semester, please visit Career and Transfer Services in Elston 221-I or call (518) 836-2807.

Music student discusses how what was once almost lost, was then found

In October 2014, during her senior year in high school, Ashley Rickson could feel her best friend pulling away. They'd been close nearly her whole life, since even before Ashley started talking. And now after 17 years, her old friend was becoming distant. So she went with her gut instinct and fought to get her friend back.



Like any serious musician, this loyal friend and steady companion was Ashley's instrument: her voice.

As Ashley tells it, she started singing before she started talking,

mimicking songs in Disney movies. Like many kids, she sang in the elementary school chorus. She then became more serious about music by taking private lessons with local voice coaches. Appearances in high school musicals and the Melodies of Christmas through the Empire State Youth Chorale followed. Adjudicators began commenting to her during high level solo competitions that she had a natural gift.

But during her senior year things began to

change. The sound and resonance she was once capable of just wasn't quite there anymore. She describes it this way, "It was like losing a part of yourself. Not being able to sing is unthinkable to me."

She knew something was wrong and after living with hyper-thyroidism for several years, where the thyroid gland produces too much of the hormone thyroxine, she suspected the two were connected.

Through an ultrasound, doctors soon discovered she had cysts on her thyroid and swelling was affecting her larynx or voice box. After consulting with her family and doctors, she underwent surgery in March 2014 to have her thyroid removed. After removing her thyroid, pre-cancerous cells were found throughout it.

Within weeks, Ashley noticed that her voice was becoming strong again. "My voice was even better than before I had the thyroid removed," she said. Three months later, having graduated from Cobleskill-Richmondville High School, she was performing in Europe as a member of the Sound of America Honor Band and Chorus Summer Music Program, along with other young musicians from throughout the country who auditioned and were asked to join. When she reflects back on last spring when she wasn't hitting the notes she used to or feeling the full force of her soprano voice, and wondered what was happening, her mind quickly shifts to today and her work as a Performing Arts: Music major at SCCC.

She's preparing for a solo recital later this month, working with voice teacher Susan Fedak. "I try to forget about all that happened sometimes," she said. "Music has shown me that I could be good and that I could be worth something."

Her condition last spring wasn't the first time Ashley's family faced serious medical issues. At age 14, her brother was diagnosed with leukemia. Ashley, then 13, was an exact match for bone marrow and had two surgeries in Boston to donate two liters of marrow to her brother, now a local college student.

After having gone through such lifechanging events, what mantra does Ashley live by? "You have to keep fighting. When you give up fighting, you give up everything. That's what's I've figured out."

3

Empire Jazz Orchestra Jazz Masters Series presents Ray Vega, trumpet

Ray Vega, one of the innovators of the international Jazz and Latin music scenes, will join the award-winning Empire Jazz Orchestra as the featured Jazz Master during the ensemble's spring performance. Vega and the EJO will take the stage on Tuesday, April 14, at 8 p.m. in the Taylor Auditorium.

Vega will perform music of Dizzy Gillespie, Lee Morgan, Chick Corea, Thelonious Monk and others. The EJO will also play music of Gil Evans, Claude Thornhill, Duke Ellington, and new arrangements by EJO members Jim Corigliano and Keith Pray '93.

A multi-talented trumpeter, percussionist, composer, and arranger, Vega presents jazz from a refreshingly original and contemporary perspective. His two recordings on the Concord Picante label, "Ray Vega" and "Boperation," along with his first release on the Palmetto label "Pa'lante" have been well-received by critics, audiences and musicians alike. Vega's second Palmetto CD "Squeeze, Squeeze" also received critical acclaim including four stars in Downbeat Magazine. His latest CD, "East-West Trumpet Summit" (2010) is a collaboration with Seattle trumpeter Thomas Marriott.

A native of the South Bronx, Vega is a veteran of the bands of Tito Puente, Ray Barretto, Mongo Santamaria, Mario Bauza, Luis "Perico" Ortiz, Hector LaVoe, Johnny Pacheco, Larry Harlow, Pete "El Conde" Rodriguez and Louie Ramirez. He has per-

formed and/or recorded with Joe Henderson, Lionel Hampton, Mel Torme, Paquito D'Rivera, Arturo Sandoval, The Spanish Harlem Orchestra, Steve Turre, Israel Lopez "Cachao,"



Las Levendas De La Fania, Pete Escovedo, The Chico O'Farrill Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra, Jazz at Lincoln Center Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, Paul Simon, John Santos and The Machete Ensemble, Jose Jose and Sheila E., among others. Vega currently works with the renowned contemporary classical composer Osvaldo Golijov, performing first and solo trumpet in the critically acclaimed work "La Pasion Segun San Marco."

Tickets for this performance are free for SCCC faculty, staff and students with ID; \$20 for the general public and \$6 for non-SCCC students. Please call the School of Music at 381-1231 for tickets.

April Concerts

Clarinets for Conservation

Saturday, April 18, 3 p.m., Taylor Auditorium, Free.

Featuring Mpingo Parables for solo clarinet in B-flat, A, and Looper by Professor Brett Wery. Performers will share their work with the students of Korongoni Secondary School in Moshi, Tanzania. C4C promotes awareness of conserving



Mpingo trees by actively engaging students and the community with the power of music and was started by SCCC alumna Michele Von Haugg '98.

Musicians of Ma'alwyck: Sing All Ye Muses

Friday April 24, 11:20 am, Taylor Auditorium, Free. This performance will feature works of Purcell, Handel and Shield for guitar, violin and violoncello.

SCCC Guitar Ensembles

Monday, April 27, 7:30 p.m., Taylor Auditorium, Free.

SCCC Percussion and Jazz Ensemble

Wednesday, April 29, 7:30 p.m., Taylor Auditorium, Free.

SCCC Chamber Ensembles

Thursday, April 30, 7:30 p.m., Taylor Auditorium, Free.

BINNEKILL, April 8, 2015



Celebrating the creative skills of our students, the importance of the visual arts in academic life and SCCC's 45th anniversary. Featuring work by stu-



dents in Stephen J. Tyson's Introduction to Drawing and Two-Dimensional Design and Ralph Caparulo's Introduction to Watercolors classes. Above: Kalina Merriam, Liberal Arts major, in the art studio in Elston Hall.

Celebrate **Ruth Pelham** and the Music Mobile Wednesday April 22



Building peaceful communities through music, learning and doing since 1977.

4



Service learning and serving the community

SCCC students continue to do good works for the community. This time, the Binnekill showcases students in two sections of Interpersonal and Group Dynamics. As part of their classes, they completed service learning projects to practice interpersonal communication skills, learn to work in a group and help the community.

Above: Youngsters from the Montessori Preschool proudly show off some of the books that students in Adjunct Jennifer Frank's class collected for several weeks during the semester. Last week, they donated the books, 52 total, to the preschool. Left to right are: Jennifer Wade and Kristen Drago, both Human Services majors, and Kevin Sweeney Jr., Liberal Arts major and team leader, with Cainen Aceto, Devon Escobar, Mia Ozgur, Sarah Van Epps-Croto (teacher) Angelina Robaina and Anna Repicky.

Below: Students in Associate Professor Renee Adamany's (second from right) class with some of the items they collected that they will donate to the City Mission of Schenectady, the YMCA and Heritage Home for Women. The group raffled off a basket to one lucky donor as well. Left to right are: Justin Augustus, Robert Schmidt, Chanel Buckner, Autumn Flannery, Blaire Allison, Andrew Carpenter and Taylor O'Brien.



Hungarian Palacsinta

Submitted by Stephen Piorkowski, Culinary Arts major/Member of Slow Food

When I was a child, we often ate these Hungarian these light, delicious pancakes.

Servings: 6

INGREDIENTS

4 large eggs

About 1 1/2 cups milk

Pinch of salt

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 tablespoon melted unsalted butter plus more for cooking the crêpes

1/2 cup apricot jam

1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice

1/2 cup coarsely ground walnuts

Confectioners' sugar, for dusting

Chocolate sauce, for serving (optional)

DIRECTIONS

In a bowl, whisk the eggs with 1/2 cup of the milk and the salt. Whisk in the flour until smooth, then whisk in the remaining milk and the butter; the batter should have the consistency of cream. Let the batter rest for 1 hour.

Heat a 7-inch crêpe pan and brush with butter. Pour 1/4 cup of batter into the pan and rotate it immediately to coat the bottom evenly; pour any excess batter back into the bowl. Cook the crêpe over moderate heat until lightly browned on the bottom, about 30 seconds. Flip the crêpe and cook the second side until brown dots appear, about 10 seconds longer. Transfer to a large plate. Repeat with the melted butter and remaining batter to make 18 crêpes.

In a saucepan, melt the apricot jam with the lemon juice; stir until smooth.

Preheat the oven to 400°. Butter a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Spread each crêpe with 1 teaspoon of jam and 1 tablespoon of walnuts. Fold it into quarters and transfer to the baking dish. Repeat with the remaining crêpes. Cover the dish with foil and bake for 10 minutes, or until hot.

Sprinkle with the remaining walnuts and sift confectioner's sugar on top. Serve the crêpes warm, with chocolate sauce if you like.

Helping those affected by the Jay Street Fire

Sixty residents were displaced by the fire on March 6 at 100-102 and 104 Jay Street.

Donations for those affected by the fire are being collected through April 17 in bins in Elston Hall by the cafeteria and in the lobby of College Suites.

Items needed: non-perishable food items, clothing and toiletries.

The drive is being organized by SUNY Delhi student Jessica Lussier and Mohawk Ambulance Company. Please email jlussier6892@yahoo.com with any questions.

Gateway Montessori Preschool resource for parents on campus

SCCC students, faculty, staff and members of the community are eligible to enroll their children in the Gateway Montessori Preschool, located in the Gateway Building on campus. Gateway Montessori at SCCC, for children ages 2 ½ to 6, strives to create an individualized learning environment that promotes positive self-esteem and respect for all participants. It operates Monday through Friday from 9 to 11:30 a.m., as per the SCCC academic calendar.

At the Gateway Montessori, the development of the whole child is honored; a child's social and emotional development is considered as vital as academic readiness. Children are active participants in their own



education, learning through hands-on exploration with teachers facilitating, modeling and guiding. The Gateway Montessori curriculum focuses on the social, emotional, creative and cognitive development of the child. One way creative development is promoted through the application of open-ended art.

Music, world studies and diversity are vital components of the classroom. Drama activities and literature experiences are offered daily. Formal instruction is given in the areas of math, literacy and science, as well as informally when children explore these concepts through block and water play, caring for the environment, listening to stories, completing puzzles, being exposed to cultures around the world, designing experiments and exploring topics from botany to zoology.

Please contact Tamara Calhoun, Professor and Gateway Montessori Administrator, calhoutb@sunysccc.edu.



Handy cutting boards

Stephen Piorkowski, (right) Culinary Arts major, has used a cutting board created by Fred and Friends. It's a great visual aid showing precise measurements for cuts including fine julienne, allumette and medium dice. He thought other students could benefit from the boards as well. That's why the Alliance for Students With Disabilities donated five cutting boards to the Culinary Arts program. Stephen, President of the Alliance, is shown with Robert Payne, Instructor, and Susanna Adams, ADA Transition Coordinator.

Wanted: Student leaders

Student leaders power the Student Government Association (SGA) and now is your chance to run for a leadership position with the SGA.

Applications are near the Security Desk in Elston Hall, in Student Affairs - Elston 222, and in the Student Government Office - Elston 220H. All applications must be turned in to Student Affairs by this Friday, April 10, at 4:30 p.m.

The election poll is anticipated to open at noon on Monday, April 13. The SGA is governed by a team of dynamic, committed and responsible students that fulfill the mission and purpose of the SGA.

Student leaders are given opportunities to develop 21st century leadership skills, network with local community leaders, elected officials and business professionals, engage and participate in a democratic assembly, and advance their professional development through the service of others.



Rush Street speaker Joe Scibetta, Vice President of Operations for Rush Street Gaming, recently spoke to students in the Casino Security and Surveillance class taught by Instructor Kim Otis.

Scibetta was sharing information about Rush Street's casino projects

and the types of career paths available in the casino industry. He highlighted plans for the new Rivers Casino and Resort in Schenectady as well.

> Send us your news! We need to hear from you. Send story ideas to news@sunysccc.edu.

6

Campus Resources

Academic Advisement

Elston 222/ext. 1277

Monday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-6:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4:30 pm

Academic Computing Lab Elston 529, 530/ext. 1213

Monday-Thursday	8:30 am-10 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4 pm
Saturday	9 am-3:30 pm

Accounting/CIS Tutor Lab

Elston 330/ext. 1041 Monday-Thursday 9 am-3 pm

ADA Transition Services

Elston 222/ext. 1345 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Admissions

Stockade 120/ext.	1166
Monday-Friday	8:30 am-4:30 pm

Albany Site

Second Floor, 112 State St., Albany Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm Services: Classes, Financial Aid, COMPASS Testing, Advisement via Skype, Computer Lab, Photo IDs, Student Lounge and Study Areas

Athletics

Elston 222/ext. 1356 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Begley Library/ext. 1235

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 9: pm Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Saturday 11 am – 5 pm Closed Sundays

Business Office, Student

Elston 219/ext. 1346, 1347	
Monday	8:30 am-4:15 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-4:15 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-4:15 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-4:15 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4:15 pm
(Note - The office is closed daily	
from 1-2 pm.)	

Career and Transfer Services Elston 222/ext. 1365

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

The College Store Elston 109/ext. 1332

Monday-Wednesday	8 am-6 pm
Thursday	8 am-4 pm
Friday	8 am-2 pm

The Commons Elston/ext. 1330

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am-8 pm Friday 7:30 am-2 pm

College Central Network

SCCC's career management system www.sunysccc.edu/ces

Educational Opportunity Programs/Access Elston 222/ext. 1279

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Financial Aid

Elston 221/ext. 1352 Monday 8 Tuesday 8 Wednesday 8 Thursday 8 Friday 8

8:30 am-4:30 pm 8:30 am-4:30 pm 8:30 am-4:30 pm 8:30 am-6:30 pm 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Gateway Montessori Gateway 124/ext. 1455/1295

Monday-Friday 9 am-11:30 am (Call for program information.)

Language Lab

Elston 520/ext. 1373 See lab for hours.

Learning Center Writing Lab Elston 523/ext. 1246

Monday-Thursday8:30 am-7 pmFriday8:30 am-4 pmSaturday10 am-3 pm

Math Lab Elston 518/ext. 1435

Monday-Thursday	8:30 am-7 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4 pm
Saturday	10 am-3 pm

Registrar's Office Elston 212/215

381-1348, 381-1349/ext. 1148

Monday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-6:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4:30 pm

Student Affairs, Vice President Elston 222/ext. 1344 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Student Government Elston 220H/ext. 1388 By appointment or walk-in

Testing Center Elston 427/ext.1293 TestingCenter@sunysccc.edu

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am to 7 pm Friday 8:30 am-3 pm

TRIO Student Support

Services Elston 328/ext. 1465 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Tutor Services

Elston 328-C/ext. 1461 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Veterans Affairs

Elston 223/ext. 1284 Open daily. See office for hours.

Wellness and Support Services

Elston 222/ext. 1365 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Workforce Development

Stockade 120/ext. 1315 Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

YWCA Children's Center

Gateway Bldg./ext. 1375 or 1389 Monday-Friday 7:30 am-5:30 pm (Evening hours available depending on enrollment.)