CAATION SUFFOLK COMMA

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"Hospice can wait; first I want to graduate"— Professors on Wheels program impacts seniors' lives by Cynthia Eaton

Her name is Mary Grace. She never graduated high school. It was the Great Depression and, like thousands of other Americans, she dropped out of school to help support her family.

"The interesting thing," said her son-in-law Vincent McCambley, adjunct associate professor of social science on the Grant campus, "is that attended the many graduations of her children and grandchildren from elementary to college, but never attended her own."

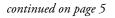
She never had the opportunity now. McCambley — until and his wife Joan attended the Professors on Wheels graduation ceremony at Island Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Holtsville, where they watched Mary Grace come down the aisle to "Pomp and Circumstance."

Professors Wheels on was developed by the FA's community outreach team to bring educational lectures and workshops to members of the senior community throughout Suffolk County. FA members volunteer their time and expertise to share their knowledge with residents of various facilities. major commencements, at Island Nursing and at The Arbors assisted living facility in Islandia, were held in June.

A priceless gift to a 91-yearold woman

Grace herself was enthusiastic about her Professors on Wheels experience. She decided to attend the lectures when the recreation department told her about the program. "I attended faithfully because it filled the afternoon for me. I did have some difficulty in hearing at times," Grace admitted, "but I enjoyed all the lectures that were presented."

Asked if she would attend another lecture series, response was a resounding yes. "I loved the lectures. I learned a lot about topics that I did not know much about." Grace's overall assessment of the program came with a wide smile: "I will attend





Mary Grace, proud graduate of the Professors on Wheels class of 2012 at Island Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, is mother-in-law of adjunct professor Vincent McCambley.

- to 2012 Professors on Wheels commencement ceremonies
- 1 "Hospice can wait..."
- 2 Leadership appreciation; ED39
- 3 FYI and other news of note
- 4 FA wins national journalism awards
- 8 Build a college you can be proud of
- 11 Energy and experience shine in EC



At this year's leadership appreciation dinner on June 5, FA president Ellen Schuler Mauk (right) recognized the retirement committee for their good work in creating the first annual retirement workshop. The successful November event helped 65 attendees learn about financial planning, medical benefits, and other issues; as a result, another workshop is scheduled this year for October 26. From left are retired FA activists Barbara Ripel, John Burgess, and Bob Sardegna, along with FA secretary Marie Hanna. Schuler Mauk also applauded the efforts of the other FA leaders and activists, including Executive Council representatives, FA mentors, Professors on Wheels volunteers, and various FA committee members, assuring them that their contributions make a real difference in members' lives.

The FA participates in the annual NYSUT Election District (ED) 39 meeting with union leaders from NYSUT community colleges across the state. Ellen Schuler Mauk, director of ED39, organizes and hosts the meeting, which was held on June 1-2 at Hudson Valley CC in Troy. The meeting included a

legislative update from NYSUT, discussions of workplace bullying and intellectual property, a VOTE/COPE report from VP Kevin Peterman, a distance ed report from adjunct coordinator Cynthia Eaton, and updates from union leaders at each college. At right, Frank Frisenda speaks of issues at Nassau CC as Charlie Clarke of Monroe CC and FA treasurer Joyce Gabriele listen.





FYI: Highlights from the Executive Council and other news of note

- **EC** election results in this issue: The results of the spring 2012 EC elections can be found on page 11 of this issue.
- Reminder—FA in Babylon Student Center until mid-August: Due to Southampton Building renovations, the FA and Benefit Fund offices will be located in the Orient Point Room in the Babylon Student Center until August 16 (check our website in

case of construction delays). The FA and BF phone and fax numbers remain the same.

Benefit Fund legal services plan:

The utilization numbers for our legal services plan have decreased slightly over the past few years. In addition to general consultations, full-time members have access to assistance with your will, health care proxy, living will, power of attorney, real estate, consumer

protection, divorce, separation, personal bankruptcy, change of name, adoption, estates and administration, and legal defense.

Legal services for adjunct faculty include general consultation, will and living will, health care proxy, estates and administration, and power of attorney.

Contact Mary at 732-6500 for more information.



FA wins eleven national journalism awards by Cynthia Eaton

The kudos keep coming for the FA's communication efforts.

- "...this entry had all the earmarks of an article from the *New Yorker* or the *New York Times Magazine*."
- "This is an excellent photo page!"
- "Outstanding newsletter.
 Terrific blend of stories, lots of
 human interest angles involving
 your members as well as
 connections to broader societal
 issues. Layout makes it highly
 readable...."
- "Tremendous story, nearly pitch perfect in capturing the spirit of a union member doing good things in the community."

Each year, the FA participates in the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) and American Federation of Teachers (AFT) journalism competitions. Both rely on a panel of external professional journalists to judge the entries, which compete with entries from locals of similar size.

In addition to this year's six awards in

the NYSUT journalism competition, the AFT has bestowed the following awards on the FA at the mid-July AFT Convention in Detroit:

- **1.** First Place for Best Website: www.fascc.org by Kevin McCoy (webmaster)
- **2.** First Place for Best Original Photo "NYSUT RA and We are One Rally" by Kevin Peterman (May 2011)
- 3. First Place for 'Best News Story "Why Stanley Fish is suddenly prounion" by Cynthia Eaton (May 2011)
- **4. First Place for Best Profile** "John Burgess teaches 'the little professor' to ride" by Cynthia Eaton (Nov 2011)
- 5. First Place for Best Nonperiodical FA wall calendar by Cynthia Eaton
- **6. First Place for Best Design** Fair Trade Holiday Sales flyer (Gayle Sheridan photo, Cynthia Eaton concept/design, Nov 2011)

- 7. Second Place for Best Print Periodical *The WORD* by Cynthia Eaton, editor (Sep/Nov/Dec 2011)
- 8. Second Place for Best Editorial or Column "Help us support pro-labor, pro-education county leaders" by Kevin Peterman (Sep 2011)
- **9. Second Place for Best Layout** *The WORD* by Cynthia Eaton, editor (Nov 2011)
- 10.Second Place for Best Public Relations Activity Professors on Wheels by Dan Linker and Adam Penna
- **11.Third Place for Best Feature Story** "What's your sign?" by Sue DeMasi (Dec 2011)

Congrats to the creators of all these winning entries! As a wise unionist once said, "An informed membership is a happier membership." Send your feedback about how we might continue to improve our communication efforts to info@fascc.org.



NYSUT vice president Maria Neira (left) presents Cynthia Eaton, editor-in-chief of The WORD, with six awards recognizing the quality of the FA's communications efforts. Eaton attended the annual NYSUT journalism conference and awards celebration in Albany on June 9. Workshops included Feeding the Beast (Developing Your Content); Tips for the New Editor; Page Design; Editing, Proofing and Headlines; Photography; Facebook 101; and Managing Your Website.

Neira congratulated and thanked the winners "because, while we work very hard here at headquarters to set the record straight, you are the communicators on the ground." Our work grows increasingly important, she noted, given current conversations about public employees and their unions.

Profs on Wheels continued from page 1

as many lectures as I physically can for as long as I live."

McCambley was eager to encourage more FA members to volunteer. "The Professors on Wheels program gave Mary the opportunity to get her own diploma and to wear her own cap and gown. I want to tell those professors, 'You filled a void in Mary's life."

Of something so common to faculty who attend commencement for thousands of SCCC students each spring, McCambley asserted, "It is a priceless gift that you gave to a 91-yearold woman."

"Hospice can wait" - Making a difference in seniors' lives

Educators might ask themselves at the end of a semester if they've made a difference. FA president Ellen Schuler Mauk believes that members who volunteer as Professors on Wheels do. "Watching the graduation of these senior citizens," she began, "made me realize that for these students, our members have definitely made a



Attendees at the Professors on Wheels commencement at Island Nursing and Rehabilitation Center included, from left, FA president Ellen Schuler Mauk; Joan McCambley (foreground), daughter of graduate Mary Grace and wife of FA member Vincent McCambley; FA adjunct coordinator Cynthia Eaton, SCCC president Shaun McKay, FA community outreach co-chair Lisa Aymong, executive assistant to the SCCC president Christopher Adams, and FA secretary Marie Hanna.

difference."

Lorrie Prescott. director therapeutic recreation Island at Nursing, agreed. "One of the graduates today," she shared, careful not to reveal the woman's identity, "was in the hospital just this morning. She was

supposed to go to Hospice, but she insisted on coming back to graduate. It's actually quite sad; the doctors told us she probably will live for only a few more weeks. But she said 'Hospice can wait.' This program meant a lot to her."

Schuler Mauk nodded. "Several other seniors also indicated that the lectures allowed them to feel as if they were finally able to 'attend college' a lifelong dream now fulfilled. It was a proud moment for them, and a very moving moment for me."

"There's no age limit to our thirst for knowledge"

Cheers of "Yay, grandma!" filled the room as the 28 Professors on Wheels graduates strolled and rolled their way into the activities room for the Island Nursing commencement.

State Assemblyman Dean Murray 2 was the first to address the graduates. "There's a lot of excitement here today," 🙎



Gladys Cienski cheers after receiving her Professors on Wheels diploma at Island Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on June 27 as an assistant takes her to celebrate with her family.

continued on page 6

Profs on Wheels continued from page 5

he began, "which shows that there's no age limit to our thirst for knowledge."

"We are so grateful to the distinguished professors who presented here," added CEO David Fridkin, "for taking the time to share knowledge with our residents." It's knowledge that they wouldn't have gained otherwise in their daily lives, he said.

Classes this year included women's fashion through sports, caring for the caregiver, senior fitness, memory, guided imagery, and the impact of global change on marine ecosystems.

Dan Linker, FA coordinator of the Professors on Wheels program, helped deliver the commencement address. "Island Nursing is often our FA members' favorite facility. Presentators come back to the college and say to me, 'Wow! That was really challenging. That was really wonderful.'"

Linker concluded his speech by thanking the residents for welcoming SCCC faculty into their homes to teach them — and to be taught by them.

"I don't play hooky!" Seniors as ideal students

In her welcome speech Prescott praised the graduates for being good students: "They came to classes, they didn't give their professors grief, and they paid attention even though we didn't give exams."

Resident Gladys Cienski was flattered by the suggestion that she was an ideal college student. "I don't play hooky! I go to all of my classes," she said, wagging her finger for emphasis. "I love them. I don't want to miss a single thing. I don't get to go out on weekends or anything, so it's just a good thing for me to do."

FA member and Professor on Wheels Courtney Brewer (Psychology,



Marjorie Pothier enjoys the Island Nursing and Rehabilitation commencement ceremony.

Ammerman) was appreciative of her senior audience. "I chose to talk about memory and memory loss because of its relevance. I was able to go more in depth with issues associated with memory, while not needing to cover the more technical aspects that I would want SCCC students to know."

"Plus," she continued, "I found the

residents to be receptive and interested. We explored tangents without the pressure I normally feel to cover certain areas; it was easy to go in whatever direction the residents wanted to go. They were very willing to participate and offer their own examples."

Theresa Dereme and Julie Van Nostrand (Counseling, Eastern) presented a lecture titled Caring for the Caregivers. "Our presentation was very well received and the residents were wonderfully enthusiastic participants," Dereme reported. "They were very happy to be educated for a little while—and more happy to have company and share a smile and laugh for a bit longer."

Resident Marjorie Pothier confirmed the "human to human connection" Dereme spoke of. "I've been to three different [facilities] before this one and didn't like them. I like it here. I picked up a lot of information from the classes. It's a wonderful program," she smiled, "and I'm making lots of friends."

"I will definitely do it again," enthused Stacey Whitman (Physical Education, Ammerman), who taught

continued on page 7



Among the graduates of The Arbors assisted living facility adult education program sit valedictorian Pat Shaw (front left) and salutatorian Martin Cregg (second from left).



Pride and joy was evident on the faces of the 27 residents who made up the class of 2012 at The Arbors assisted living facility.

Profs on Wheels continued from page 6

a half-hour chair aerobics class. "It's important to give back to the community," Whitman said, "and spread awareness on the importance of physical activity, nutrition, and wellness at all ages."

Education is unlimited at The Arbors

"Well, we raised some hell, didn't we?"

That was, in its entirety, the graduation speech given by Martin Cregg, salutatorian of The Arbors assisted living adult education program's class of 2012. Cregg's comment drew applause and cheers from the audience

who had chanted "Speech! Speech! Speech!" to encourage him to the podium. Cregg grinned broadly and took a quick bow on his way back to his seat.

The Arbors' June 13 commencement ceremony celebrated 27 residents who participated in at least 75% of the classes offered for each subject, which ranged from poetry to astronomy.

Linker was a guest speaker at this ceremony as well. Emphasizing the word *community* in the name Suffolk County Community College, Linker reminded the audience that we are all a part of the Suffolk County community.

He also analyzed a common misunderstanding about education as something that happens at a specific place at a specific time in our lives. "Where did you get your education?"

people ask one another. "But education isn't limited," Linker asserted. "It happens every single day of our lives."

Chris Bodkin, representing William Lindsey, presiding officer of the Suffolk County Legislature (who was unable to attend due to health issues), encouraged residents to continue taking classes with a quote from Henry Ford: "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young."

Valedictorian Pat Shaw was proud to be one of three residents to graduate *summa cum laude* this year and enthused about the classes being "educational and really interesting." One resident who toted tissues in a pouch attached to her

Help build a college you can be proud of

Why give to VOTE/COPE? There are numerous reasons to do so, but five recent capital improvement projects are what immediately come to mind.

The Suffolk County Capital Projects Budget proposed by County Executive Bellone was amended by the county legislature to include several key projects for SCCC.

At their June 5 meeting, the legislature passed a capital project resolution to include the following five projects (descriptions reprinted from the legislature's 2013-15 Capital Program and Budget Amendments, June 5, 2012):

CP No. 2114: Renovation of Kreiling Hall Ammerman

Adds \$1.54 million in Suffolk County serial bonds and \$1.54 million in state aid for construction and \$50,000 in Suffolk County serial bonds and \$50,000 in state aid for furniture and

equipment in 2014 to coincide with the completion of the science and technology building.

CP No. 2143: Traffic Circle Ammerman

Advances \$50,000 (\$25,000 in county serial bonds and \$25,000 in state aid) for planning from subsequent years to 2013 and advances \$450,000 (\$225,000 in county serial bonds and \$225,000 in state aid) for construction from subsequent years to 2014, as requested by the college.

CP No. 2120: Health & Sports Facility Eastern

Adds \$14,750,000 for construction and \$2 million for furniture and equipment in 2014 (50% county serial bonds, 50% state aid) for the construction of adequate campus facilities.

What does VOTE/COPE do?

- Educates our elected officials
- Improves facilities for our students
- Helps secure the resources we need to educate our students
- Enablesustobuildcoalitions so we have strength in numbers
- Gives us a voice: locally, in Albany, and in Washington

CP No. SCC03: Warehouse Building Eastern

Adds \$20,000 (\$25,000 in county serial bonds and \$25,000 in state aid)

continued on page 9

VOTE/COPE PAYROLL DEDUCTION

I VOIE/COPE	PAIROLL DEDUCTION	N	
The undersigned authorizes Suffolk County Cors and to forward that amount to			
This authorization is made voluntarily and without to VOTE/COPE are not conditions of membersh Suffolk or Suffolk County Community College at contributions and expenditures in connection with force and effect for all purposes while I am employee between September 1st and September 15th of any	nip in any labor organization or of em nd that VOTE/COPE will use the mone federal, state and local elections. This au oyed at Suffolk Community College, or	aployment with the County of ey it receives to make political athorization shall remain in full	
I understand that contributions to VOTE/COPE ar	re NOT tax deductible.		
Name (print clearly)	Last 4 digits of Soc	Last 4 digits of Social Security #	
Signature	Campus	Date	

VOTE/COPE is the Political Action Committee of the New York State United Teachers

Return this form to: Faculty Association, 224J Southampton Bldg., 533 College Rd., Selden, NY 11784

Build a college continued from page 8

for planning in 2013 and \$570,000 (\$285,000 in county serial bonds and \$285,000 in state aid) for construction and \$60,000 (\$30,000 in county serial bonds and \$30,000 in state aid) for furniture and equipment in 2014 in order to provide ample storage at the Eastern Campus.

CP No. SCC02: Plant Operations **Building Grant**

Adds \$250,000 (\$125,000 in county serial bonds and \$125,000 in state aid) for planning in 2014 and \$3 million (\$1.5 million in county serial bonds and \$1.5 million in state aid) for construction and \$400,000 (\$200,000 in county serial bonds and \$200,000 in state aid) for furniture and equipment in 2015 to provide adequate plant operations facilities at the Grant Campus.

On June 19, at their meeting in Riverhead, the Suffolk County Legislature approved the 2012-13 SCCC Budget by a vote of 16-0.

These accomplishments were a direct result of working with President

McKay and his administrative team and the FA's ongoing efforts educate elected officials about the college.

The FA's education efforts are possible because those faculty who already contribute to our VOTE/ C O P E campaign.



In Troy on June 2, Kevin Peterman, ED39 VOTE/COPE coordinator, presents Paul Clement of FIT (left) and Frank Frisenda of Nassau CC (right) with Lou Cammarosano awards for their successful VOTE/COPE campaigns.

COPE stands for Committee On Political Education and, because we can't and don't use dues money for political education, we use these voluntary con-tributions to do just that: educate our elected officials.

This ongoing effort is moving the college forward with much needed infrastructure improvements and modern state-of-the-art buildings. What motivates me is that even in this economic climate our elected officials

voted to improve the college facilities. They have invested in their, and our, community college—Suffolk County Community College.

You too can help build a college to be proud of. Complete the VOTE/ COPE payroll deduction form on the previous page to contribute (or increase your current contribution) and return it to the FA office.

Contact me at kevin@fascc.org if you have any questions. And remember: activism works!

Profs on Wheels

continued from page 7

walker was constantly being tapped by peers before, behind, and beside her as diplomas were presented.

Linker was impressed with the formality of The Arbors graduation. They showed the residents the respect they deserve, he said. Throughout the evening, three young brothers two of whom were recently accepted into Julliard — played classical music for the ceremony. So many family members and friends RSVP'd for the commencement, reported Ann Marie

Brew, director of recreation, that they had to relocate the event to a significantly larger room.

Linker hopes to encourage more faculty, like Jean Anastasia, to volunteer for Professors on Wheels. Anastasia agrees. "I strongly encourage all FA members to volunteer. It will sharpen your teaching skills, brighten the days of some wonderful seniors in the community, and give you that feeling of satisfaction that all teachers crave," she claims.

Linker reflects on this year's events. "The demand is out there. We are making a difference. Look, a woman delayed her trip to Hospice so she could graduate. We've heard other motivational stories in previous years. We know that what we are doing is meaningful."

To help give this "priceless gift" to other senior members of our community, Linker indicated that FA members should contact him by email (dan@fascc.org) or phone (451-4987).



Health Advocate is a special benefit paid by the FA Benefit Fund to help you and your family navigate the healthcare system and help you with issues involving your medical, hospital, vision, dental, pharmacy, and other healthcare needs. The FA Benefit Fund has paid for Health Advocate's services for all eligible members, their spouses, dependent children, parents, and parents-in-law. **There is no cost for FA members and their families to use Health Advocate**.

Call Health Advocate toll free—866-695-8622—to speak with a personal health advocate (PHA). After obtaining the necessary background information, your PHA will begin working on your question or problem with the utmost confidentiality. You may call as often as needed **Monday through Friday from 8 am and 7 pm**. After hours and on weekends, leave a message and the on-call PHA will return your call. Health Advocate complements your basic health coverage by providing a range of services, including:

- Clinical services: find the best doctors and hospitals, locate and research treatments for complex medical conditions
- Administrative services: resolve healthcare claims, help members save money on healthcare bills, navigate the claims paying process, assist with correcting billing mistakes
- Health coaching: prepare patients for appointments, answer questions and provide information, help members better understand their conditions
- **Information & service support:** obtain health information to make informed decisions, help complete qualification applications, identify and coordinate or arrange for wellness services.

Learn more at the FA website: www.fascc.org/docs/healthadvocate.pdf.

EC energy and experience: Spring 2012 elections by Marie Hanna

I'm pleased to announce the results of the spring Executive Council election. As you know, the recent constitutional changes resulted in a restructuring of our constituencies, so we have a wonderful mix of energy and experience in our EC.

The entire current EC membership is listed in the table below, and here are the winners of the spring 2012 elections:

Ammerman Full time

- Michelle Fowler
- Maria Kranidis
- Kevin McNamara
- Dante Morelli
- Matt Pappas
- Karen Pepe
- Mike Simon

* *Note*: Upon the resignation of EC rep Sara Rafferty from the college, a special election was held in her area. The position was filled by Alex Nohai-Seaman.

Eastern Full time

- Louise Johnston
- Anthony Napoli

Grant Full time

- Pete DiGregorio
- Al Heraghty
- Mohini Ratna
- Deborah Wolfson

PAs Full time

• Steve Ortiz-Rios

Adjuncts Collegewide

- Darlene Aiken
- Doug Cody
- Russell David
- Frank DiGregorio
- MaryAnne Ellinger
- Chris Gherardi
- Sarahjeanne Goldstein
- Michelle LaPorte
- Priscilla Pratt
- Maureen Sandford
- Stephen Serrecchia
- Marshal Stein

Congratulations to our recently elected reps, and thank you to our outgoing reps for their service.

We look forward to a productive and happy year!

Faculty Association 2012-13 Executive Council

Officers

- Ellen Schuler Mauk President
- Kevin Peterman Executive Vice President
- Marie Hanna Secretary
- Joyce Gabriele Treasurer
- Sean Tvelia Grievance Officer
- Cynthia Eaton Adjunct Coordinator

EC Reps: Ammerman Full-time

- Kevin McNamara Accounting, Business Administration, Business Information Systems, Legal Studies
- Matt Pappas Biology, Physical Sciences
- Dante Morelli Communications, Languages, Reading, TV/Radio/Film
- Karen Pepe Counseling, Cooperative Education
- Mike Simon Engineering, Computer Science/Industrial Technology
- Maria Kranidis English
- Michelle Fowler Library, Central
- Jane-Marie Wright Math
- Alex Nohai-Seaman Music, Visual Arts, Theatre, Philosophy, Women's Studies
- Lisa Aymong Nursing, Health and Human Services, Physical Education
- Denise Haggerty Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences

EC Reps: Eastern Full-time

- Louise Johnston Library, Humanities, Counseling
- Tony Napoli Science, Math, Social Science, Business, Nursing, Culinary, Physical Education

EC Reps: Grant Full-time

- Pete DiGregorio Business, HVAC, CIS, Technology, ETU Coordinator
- vacant Humanities
- Mohini Ratna Library, Counseling, Media
- Deborah Wolfson Natural Sciences
- Al Heraghty Nursing, Health Science, Physical Education, Veterinary Science
- Andrea Macari Social Sciences

EC Reps: Professional Assistants Full-time

- Maureen Arma Programmatic
- Deb Kiesel Instructional Labs
- Steve Ortiz-Rios Technical Areas/ Instructional Centers

EC Reps: Collegewide Adjuncts

- Stephen Serrecchia Business, Accounting, Communications, Telecom
- Darlene Aiken Counseling, Education, Freshman & College Seminar
- Priscilla Pratt Culinary, Fire Science, Library, Electrical Tech, Drafting, Interior Design
- vacant English
- Marshal Stein Foreign Languages, ESL, ASL, Reading
- Chris Gherardi Guild, Retiree, PAs/ Specialists in Programmatic Areas
- Michelle LaPorte Humanities
- Russell David Math
- Sarahjeanne Goldstein Nursing, Physical Education, Health Sciences
- Maureen Sandford PAs/Specialists in Academic Skills Centers
- MaryAnne Ellinger PAs/Specialists in Instructional Labs
- Doug Cody Science, Engineering, Automotive
- Frank DiGregorio Social Sciences

New York State United Teachers

• Jonathan Rubin — Labor Relations Specialist



Faculty Association Suffolk Community College

Southampton Building 224J 533 College Road Selden, New York 11784-2899 631-451-4151



Helping celebrate the class of 2012 graduates at Island Nursing and Rehabilitation Center are, from left, Professors on Wheels program coordinator Dan Linker, SCCC president Shaun McKay, FA president Ellen Schuler Mauk, and Island Nursing's therapeutic recreation director Lorrie Prescott.