

THE CATALYST

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“IGNITING THE MIND”

FREE

GROUNDWATER CONCERNS ON LONG ISLAND

By DeShaun Riddick



Kevin McAllister

Contaminant concerns have recently been raised about Long Island’s groundwater. A Suffolk County Health Department study released in January linked groundwater contamination with mulching and composting facilities.

The Suffolk County Health Department studied eleven sites including two on the South Fork in Speonk and Eastport that compost vegetation and discovered manganese, heavy metals, ammonia and arsenic leaching into groundwater near the huge facilities, CBS New York reported in February, adding, “The levels of heavy metals were as high as 160 times what is considered safe. Too much manganese is linked to Parkinson’s disease and neurological problems. Forty thousand families drink from the private wells in Suffolk County.”

The Suffolk Health Department has recommended that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation move to strictly regulate mulch facilities and evaluate the potential impact to groundwater before such places are allowed to operate.

The state was expected to release new draft regulations for compost sites by the end of February..

While groundwater is the source of Long Island’s drinking water, the report says no well fields that supply drinking water to the public are imminently
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#InTheRed

Senator Schumer Speaks to College Students on College Affordability Campaign



daravinos.com

By Marilynn Bonilla

U.S. Senator from New York Charles Schumer spoke to college newspapers on a conference call in mid-February about the #InTheRed campaign about pushing Congress to make college more affordable and to reduce student debt.

According to Schumer, college debt has passed the \$1 trillion mark. “College education these days is becoming a necessity, but it’s price is like a luxury,” he said. Schumer also stated that college debt has doubled since 2007. With an increase in tuition and interest rates, college students are forced to change their goals and aspirations, due to their inability to afford a comfortable lifestyle.

As part of the campaign, a bill is put together known as the RED (Reducing

Education Debt) Act, which is a legislative package with a goal to make college students debt free and lowering debt for those who have graduated.

According to Schumer, in order to make this possible, the RED Act has three proposals. One is to lower interest rate in student loans. This will allow students and graduates save billions on their loans. The federal government charges up to 9% on student debt, while they charge large banks, less than 3%. Schumer believes that the federal government shouldn’t be making a profit on students who are working hard for their education. Second, is making two years of community college tuition-free.

Allowing students to save about

(Cont. on page 3.)

IT’S NOT EASY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

By Anne Ligonde

“I always wanted to do something new, step out of the circle and pursue my dream,” said Drumil Sheh, a sophomore at SUNY Old Westbury who is from India. Sheh is majoring in Computer & Information Science. He stated that coming to America was “his dream.”

He is one of about sixty international students who are or were recently at OW, according to William Lynch, Admissions Counselor and Study Abroad Coordinator. They come from 20 different countries, from Asia, Europe, Africa, and North America.

Becky Evans, International Student Advisor and Support, said the number of international students at SUNY Old Westbury has decreased. “The number has fluctuated. We may have been in a high of a hundred students, but now with the economy that’s happening overseas and the different parts of the world, we have seen a decreased,” she said.

The international students orientation takes three days and students get a regular tour of the campus plus a tour of the town. They are taught the American culture and are

(Cont. on page 3.)

ACADEMIC VILLAGE RESIDENCE HALLS TO CLOSE

By Christine Mcketney



The Academic Village residence dorms will close for “the foreseeable future” at the end of this semester, according to an email and an announcement on the school’s website from the Office of Residential Life. Students currently residing in the Village’s old dorms will not be affected. The announcement was sent right before Christmas on December 18th.

The decision caused ripples of surprise and disappointment. For example, Mizuki Mclaurine, a sophomore residing in the “new” Woodland Halls, said, “The old side has the reputation of being much more relaxed than the new. I was looking forward to residing there in the fall semester, since I didn’t get placed there now. More residents on the new means bathrooms being crowded 24/7 and my needs not being accommodated.”

“We recognize that this decision may be initially disappointing for some but again would like to take this opportunity to thank you for being a part of our OW residential community...,” the announcement continued.

Despite repeated requests by email and telephone over a number of days by *The Catalyst* for further information, Director of Residential Life Gareth Shumack refused to respond.

The loss of single rooms in campus dormitories may frustrate students. Senior Erick Mejia said, “I feel disappointed that the AV is
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Shuttle Bus Service – Your Voices Have Been Heard!

(Response to October 2015 *Catalyst* Opinion Column “The Ugly Truth About the Shuttle Bus” by Brianna Desir)

In December 2015 the Student Life Committee (composed of students, faculty, and the dean of students) met with members of the administration who are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the shuttle bus service on campus. We asked for the meeting to discuss complaints made about the shuttle bus. It seems the main problems with the shuttle service have been the poor condition of the vehicles used to transport students and faculty to and from the Hicksville Railroad station and the lateness of the buses. Students have also complained that the bus schedule does not seem to align with the class schedule.

The good news is that Transportation Services recently purchased four new vans, and a new bus was delivered to campus in January. Necessary repairs are also being made on the van that was reported to have duct tape sealing one of the doors.

It has been more difficult for Transportation Services to address the problem of delays in the shuttle service. The

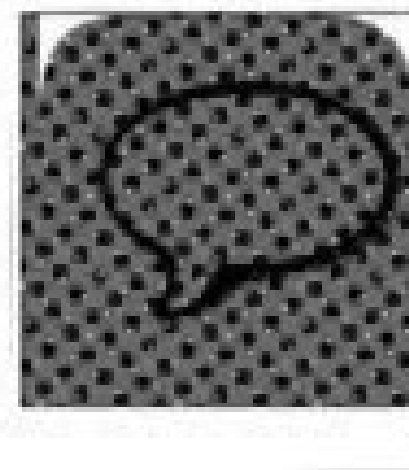
road work on Route 107 on top of holiday traffic contributed to lateness in November and December. The administrators at our recent meeting promised to monitor the situation carefully this semester and make adjustments to make the service more convenient and on-time.

If you have a complaint about the Shuttle Service, please contact Mr. Greg Riveiro at the Transportation Services Office, 516-876-3396, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or by email at riveirog@oldwestbury.edu. We are told that the number of complaints have been made in the past two years, but some students have told us they do not know where to register a complaint.

You can also talk to members of the Student Life Committee. If you have a complaint or suggestion about the Shuttle Service or any other aspect of your experience at Old Westbury, we'd like to hear from you! Please visit the webpage of the Student Life Committee and tell us what's on your mind: <http://lib-guides.oldwestbury.edu/slctalk>.

Dr. Rose Muzio, Politics, Economics, and Law On Behalf of the Student Life Committee

Calling All Comic Illustrators!



The Catalyst is looking for illustrators for our monthly articles.

Join us on Thursdays at Common Hour in Student Union Room 331.

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It's not easy for International Students

taken to places like Washington D.C, New-York City, and Jones Beach. The orientation leaders also create icebreakers, during which they get the students feedback on the United States. They are shown the way around the town of Old Westbury and how to get to the Broadway Mall and target. The college also provides an international student advisor.

Applying to college may be a difficult for in-state students but international students have to work twice as hard. In addition to the SAT's and ACT's, they need a good score for the TOEFL proving they are apt in English. There are two types of international students at SUNY Old Westbury: students with the F1 visas and students with J1 visas. Students with F1 visas have the opportunity to study in the United States, William Lynch said, "They are starting at Old Westbury and graduating at Old Westbury." Students with J1 visas on the other hand stay at Old Westbury for one or two semesters.

Compared to domestic students, international students pay high expenses to receive an education at SUNY Old Westbury. They pay about \$29,000 a year including room and board. According to Becky Evans, admissions make sure that international students are able to afford the tuition for all four years before accepting them. They have no access to Financial Aid or the Educational Opportunity Program.

Natalia also known as Nu Thuc Ly is an OW alumna. She is from South Korea and

majoring in Mental Health Counseling. She believes that the international student tuition is extreme, "I hear students complaining about how expensive the books are and I think, not only do I have to pay for these book but I have about \$20,000 tuition to pay for."

Natalia came to America on an F1 visa when she was a high school sophomore. She decided to come to Old Westbury because it is closer to her family. She has no desire to go back to South Korea, "With my field, it's not as like popular over there and acceptable just yet, that's one. Second, the opportunity here is better. If I can, I will try to stay here, but if not I'll go back to school to definitely get a job here."

Chang Liu, a graduate student from China, is getting her masters in accounting. Liu got her bachelor's degree in China. In order to be admitted to the graduate program, Liu had to take the GRE and the TOEFL. "Most Chinese now, want to go abroad or in Hong Kong. And like now they have options like the UK, the United States and now Australia which is very competitive," said Liu. Liu received support from the International Student Department, they recently helped her and her friends host a Chinese New Years Eve party on campus.

Sang Baik, from South Korea, is a junior majoring in Business Management. He came to United States because he believed that America offered a higher education. He says

that he feels alone here because his entire family is back home. When asked whether he wanted stay in America after graduation he replied, "Oh no! When I graduate, I will go back to South Korea. My family, like everything, house, is in South Korea." He said that he experienced a culture shock when he came to America. "They tip waiters! they pay extra money. Back home everything was included in the bill," Baik said.

International students believe that going to the city or just leaving the campus is better to have more fun. Aisha Jhosh is a junior from India majoring in Politics. She chose Old Westbury because it was on the list of SUNY schools that had her desired major. Jhosh said, "They have pretty good activities sometimes, like that silent party last semester. So that's what I do here occasionally. I leave the campus as much as I can and I usually go to the city. Like what do you do here? It's a pretty quiet campus." Natalia also mentioned leaving the campus with her friends most of the time. "I commuted and I have a car so I take my friends out to restaurants nearby," said Natalia.

SUNY Old Westbury has a strong International Student Department. They are willing to prevent the students from experiencing a culture shock. Even though the transition might be difficult for the students the department wants to ensure that they have a fulfilling experience.

Cont. from page 1

#InTheRed

\$3,800 per year. According to *www.Schumer.Senate.gov*, "an estimated 9 million students throughout the country could benefit." Lastly, the act will ensure that Pell Grants will keep up with the rate of rising costs. Moderate and low-income students depend on Pell Grants to help pay for tuition costs.

Schumer added on a proposal to allow students to urge colleges to make sure their costs do not increase.

Schumer mentioned a program in New York, where college survey local businesses and get information from what the business need. With that, the colleges set up courses to allow students to build the knowledge and skill for those jobs. "We have several hundred thousand good paying jobs in New York State going vacant, but the students don't have the training for those jobs. What our program would do is link the colleges to the good paying jobs, and help train the students for them," said Schumer.

Supporters of the campaign are looking into different measures to achieve college affordability. Some states offer low or no-cost colleges that allow students to pay only a percentage of their salary, after they have graduating. Therefore, making it easier to go to school and allowing cost to be based on the career salary.

The RED Act also has it's oppositions from non-supporters. According to Schumer, the main criticism is the cost of money. To take care of the costs, Schumer stated the Buffet Rule, a principle in which the wealthy don't find tax loopholes and pay more tax than those of the middle class. "Oil companies get huge tax rates, we eliminate those. So we eliminate both those things to pay for this," he said.

In the early 1900's there were no high schools. When high schools began, they were free for all. Schumer said that because of this, America became the productive and wealthiest country in the world. Therefore, being in the 21st century, the country should work on making college free.

Schumer reached out to college campuses in New York to promote the #InTheRed campaign. The senator wants students to blog, tweet, post, petition, email, and write senators and congressmen to support #InTheRed. This will bring a national and widespread attention to the struggling debt that college students face and provide a chance to change it. "Students have power to mobilize," said Senator Schumer.

Cont. from page 1

Groundwater Concerns on Long Island

threatened.

"People should not be panicking," Ty Fuller of the Suffolk Water Authority told CBS. "For one, our wells are located at a depth where the impact from that composting facility would not be a cause for concern for us."

Prominent journalist Karl Grossman, SUNY OW professor of American Studies/Media and Communications, wrote in a LiPolitics. Com article last year: "For Long Island, surely, groundwater is critical. Suffolk and Nassau Counties reside on top of our water supply. There is no river bringing water to us. All our potable water is under our feet." Referring recently to Governor Andrew Cuomo's push for further research, Grossman said it "is great that there will be more studies, but more action is needed.... We need to treat out aquifer just like a reservoir."

In 1978, a five million dollar study by the Nassau Suffolk Regional Planning Board known as the Long Island 208 Study concluded that Long Island's water table is fragile and has been polluted.

Marine Scientist Kevin McAllister, a former Peconic Bay keeper, who has spent thirty years in government and marine science and who founded Defend H2O, stated that compost facilities storing landscaping debris from residential communities are contributing to the pollution of groundwater. McAllister noted that these various facilities have a financial gain in storing landscaped organic matter. "Much landscape material that's coming off residential property" consists of "pesticide, fertilizers and trace metals [manganese] ... as it breaks down, what was in the plants

becomes the leachate [a liquid that has dissolved or incorporated environmentally harmful substances that may then enter the environment]," McAllister added.

Grossman and McAllister, both agree that immediate action is necessary to safeguard our aquifers. "Having a sole source aquifer in a heavily populated area is very unusual," said Grossman. "We should not allow any contamination period."

Landfills are typically required to have liners and groundwater monitoring. Grossman believes that liners are ineffective forms of preventive measures to reduce the leachate. McAllister also believes exceeding levels of nitrogen contributing to the pollution of water come from over development of residential regions of Long Island.

Infrastructure must be added into the water treatment facilities, McAllister thinks. However, most "politicians think in only 2 to 4 year terms," McAllister added, referring to denitrification technologies that can improve the state of groundwater on Long Island.

As National Groundwater Awareness Week, (March 6th through 12th) is observed, Richard Amper, executive director of the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, told LiPolitics during the similar week last year: The problem—and it's a big one—is how vulnerable this, our underground reservoir, is to pollution. "We have met the enemy and they are us—it's our sewage and fertilizer and pesticides that are contaminating our own well. "We need to control what goes into our groundwater or we are going to be the victims of what comes out of it."

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Academic Village Residence Halls to Close

closing. I really wanted to have a single there and I felt like it's a better college experience dorming in the AV."

The AV does have single rooms on a first come, first serve basis. The Woodlands only has ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) rooms, single rooms for those who qualify, whether it's for health or psychological conditions. Residential Life approves the applicants.

There could be a waiting list for housing next semester the announcement noted: "We anticipate that our supply is sufficient to meet the current student demand for housing. In the event that demand exceeds our supply we will initiate a wait list for housing."

Junior Z'hakeirah Ephraim said, "We're now stuck with limited options for dorming. Even though it's been said that the Woodlands can house all the students we currently have living on campus, I don't believe that to be true." Approximately 1,000 students live on campus.

Sophomore Janiece Lawrence said more optimistically, "I was annoyed by the news at first, but more people on the same side, means less walking to the old when there's something going on."

The main published reason given for the closure was that "with space currently available in Woodlands Halls to accommodate all Old Westbury residential students, closing AV will allow the college to assess needs and utilization of AV, as well as potential alternatives, as we move forward."

The announcement listed the benefits as:

- An increased sense of community
- Easier access to classes in the NAB,
- Access to study lounges on two floors and a recreational lounge and kitchen
- Availability of climate regulated rooms."

Whether the Academic Village will ever reopen is still not clear as the only answer received was given on the announcement: "The college will assess the needs and utilization of AV housing and make a determination at the appropriate time."

It's Time to Get Help... From the Tutoring Center!

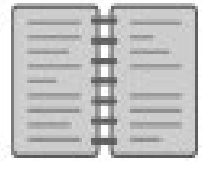
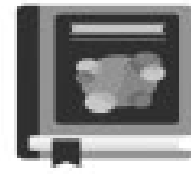
By Dayna McNeil

Need help with a subject that's driving you crazy? Want to learn how to manage your time? Head on down to SUNY Old Westbury's new Tutoring Center which is here to stay, located in the Campus Center room H200, above the Bursar.

Assistant Dean Notaro is directing the new Tutoring Center. Students are able to walk in with questions and problems. Tutors are readily available to give them answers. Just beginning in the second half of the fall semester of 2015, the tutoring center is ready to provide, "Peer Tutoring to Old Westbury students, focused on the courses offered through the School of Arts and Sciences." Students are strongly encouraged to go to the helpful center because, "students that are struggling will a particular course or just getting themselves focused and organized will find guidance and support at the Tutoring Center!"

Fifteen tutors, as well as mentors, are available to assist students in around

twenty six courses. For this semester, Assistant Dean Notaro, is hoping to increase the number of tutors to twenty five, in addition to increasing the amount of courses covered in the Tutoring Center to fifty! Not to mention representing all School of Arts and Sciences departments. Students who do find themselves struggling should find themselves at the Tutoring Center! Students should be, "willing to ask for help and make the commitment to their academics, [and] to themselves. [As] there are many resources available on campus to support students in their college experience," Notaro said, "The Tutoring Center is a good place to start." A new workshop has started this semester in the Tutoring Center, "additionally we are working with the First Year Experience program to offer a series of "Student Success Workshops" that will include topics such as test preparation, taking notes and time management," Notaro stated, "Workshops - just like the Tutor-



TUTORING CENTER

ing Center - are open to all students interested in learning additional tools for their academic and personal success."

The Tutoring Center will be open from Monday through Wednesday 11am to 7pm and Thursday 10am to 3pm. The Tutoring Center will also remain open through finals as students prepare with *Operation: Academic Rescue*, "which

assisted students prepare for finals" last semester, along with First Year Experience and SGA. Dean Notaro believes students are "the best source of positive energy and promotion."

The tutoring center was proudly founded by the School of Arts and Sciences and representing The School of Arts and Sciences departments.

The Women's Center

By Brianna Desir

The Women's Center is one of the amazing unheard of wonders we have on the SUNY Old Westbury Campus. It is located in the Student Union Room 301k, open Monday-Thursday 10-6pm in the same suite as the Career Center. The Women's Center is a safe space to come to if ever you need one, where the interns can direct you to appropriate services to help you with your needs. The interns are also there to help you if you have any questions about topics such as sexual health, Women's issues, Mental health, etc. Do not be fooled by the name the Women's Center is open to both men and women; we do not discriminate. We spread awareness about women's issues such as the pay gap, gender roles, and pink tax but also provide information

for men.

They also hold educational events such as the gender talks, the first talk was on February 29th and it educated people on Queer Theory with the guest speaker Dr. Nicole Seiben. The gender talks are an insightful ways to learn more about gender issues, women's issues, sexual health, etc. The Gender Talks series are programs that involves the entire Old Westbury community; faculty, staff, and students they are a great way to learn more about your campus community. They are open to the public and usually hosted once a month.

In honor of Women's History Month the Women's Center is doing an exhibition on women's history throughout the entire month of March. There will also be a talk

hosted on March 10 by a visiting professor from the University of Oregon, Irum Sheikh who will be having a screening and Q&A of *Matrilineal Muslim Women of Minang*, (3:20, NAB1100) Also another large program the Women's Center will be holding is the memorial service for Ros Baxandall a loved member of the Old Westbury community who died this past October. On April 5th there will be a full day dedicated to remembering our beloved friend, professor and mentor. During this memorial service there will be guest speakers such as Barbara Winslow, Loretta Ross, Ros Petchesky and many more. There is much more information about the memorial service in the Women's Center so feel free to drop by and learn more.



There are resources provided in the center for your interest also this semester there is a ton of interns who are willing to help or talk. Feel free to stop by, volunteer, or just join us for a cup of tea.

Looking Back at Black History Month

By Ashnelle Hall

This year I choose to spend Black History month at The Brooklyn Museum. The Brooklyn Museum collaborated with Target in order to curate Target First Saturday's at the museum. The Brooklyn museum and Target have been doing this for years.

However, for February, it was a little different. When I attended the event the museum was jam packed with people from all races and backgrounds. People came dressed in clothing displaying their culture and heritage. Social campaigns *The Very Black Project* and *Team Melanin*

collaborated with the Brooklyn museum also in order to host workshops on self-love and what it means to be unapologetically black as well as providing an artist to do traditional maquillage face painting. The night was filled with love, music and dance.

There was a set schedule for the evening that involved a book signing by Andrea Pippins of her coloring book *I Love My Hair*, workshops led by Abolitionist and Freedom Fighter Joshua Allen and a performance by Brooklyn native Latasha Alcindor (also known as L.A) who uses

multimedia to assist in her rap performance. Those who did not want to partake in the many activities there were that night also had the option of roaming selected art exhibits free of charge. It truly was a night of merriment and remembrance. When I left the museum that night I left with a feeling of community with those around me and I had a better sense of self.

How did you celebrate Black History Month in SUNY Old Westbury campus? Did you attend programs, talk with your friends about black history or partake in individual self-awareness rituals? It's

never too late to develop a sense of community with those who you see on a daily basis and create conversations on what being black means to you. Create a safe space where thoughts can be shared based on past, present, and future radicalism. It allows for not only the recognition of black accomplishments but also remembrance of black strife in America that makes us stronger. Black History is not once a month it is all year round.

Are You WayUp?

by Brianna Desir

"I'm wayyyy up, I feel blessed" is now more than a phrase from a song, it's what is commonly associated with a popular startup website that's sweeping the nation college by college. WayUp formally known as Campus Job is an online platform that helps connect college students and recent graduates with local job opportunities and internships, and it's free! Looking for a job has never been so easy. In fact, 1 in 3 students who apply for jobs on WayUp end up getting hired. Not bad, eh? Created by two graduates in 2014, WayUp has become the spot for college students to get the best job opportunities.

Now I know you're probably asking, why should I register with Wayup?

WELL aside from the awesome chance you'll get hired, they offer a really cool variety of jobs. Some of which, you can do from your dorm room! No kidding! I'm able to work at my campus rep role from virtually anywhere, and make money doing it. If you're looking for some awesome things to put on your resume- why not look for an internship? WayUp has so many internships for the entire year; fall, winter, spring and summer. They offer internships to fit your interest so you aren't stuck spending your summers as a fashion intern when you're an accounting major. If that didn't make you want to sign up then think about the price, absolutely nothing! Unlike other job search sites WayUp is completely

free with no strings attached. Now that's something you don't hear every day.

So if you're a student whose finished all your den points and fed up with the cafe, but lack the money to get food, so you're living off of ramen...WayUp might be right for you. OR maybe you're scared about not getting hired after graduation and want to increase your chances. Why not help yourself out by boosting your resume and figuring out what you're good at through a part-time job or internship? Still not convinced that WayUp is for you? Listen to my favorite slogan "if you're not on WayUp, you're probably on your way down." So what are you waiting for? Check it out today: wayup.com/refer/brianna



The Start

By Melissa Monteleone

It was January 8th, 2016, the start of a new year. Towanda Glover didn't know it would also be the day to start over.

Glover, a mother of three, got her children to school and headed to her doctor's office. She was getting blood work done for a new job that she was in training for. She received a position with to work with the developmentally disabled.

After her appointment she headed straight home. When she reached her block, it was cordoned off by multiple police and firemen. She took a detour and drove around the block. While trying to get around traffic, she was thinking about what to prepare for dinner. "I didn't think for a second that it would be my home," she said regretfully. As she approached her building from the back side street, she saw smoke.

She stopped the car and ran to the corner. Red Cross buses lined the street. There were people everywhere. Familiar and unfamiliar faces. She saw her daughter China, 16, sitting in a Red Cross bus. Towanda's oldest son Chancellor, 17, was home at the time of the fire. He managed to get out safely, with his two dogs. Towanda's youngest son, Chardon, 10, was at school when the fire broke out.

The entire apartment building was destroyed. "More than 60 residents were displaced," Newsday reported.

"People were on top of the roof," Glover said, "our building did not have fire escapes."

When asked what the family was able

to salvage, Glover shared, "They let us in after the fire was out but they only let us grab important things like medication. It wasn't safe." The few things they were able to recognize were drenched in water so they didn't take much.

Ismael Villalba, a West Hempstead fire fighter, said the cause of the fire was electrical.

"It was burning for a while in the basement before we got the call," he said. A furniture store was located in the basement of 106 Hempstead Turnpike,

"The building was in the process of renovations," said Villalba, attributing to why the building burned at such a fast pace.

The Red Cross provided immediate shelter at the Ramada Inn located on Sunrise Highway. The family received three nights stay. Glover, who did not have renters insurance had to pay out of pocket on the fourth night. It ended up costing her \$132.

It has been exactly one month since Towanda Glover and her children lost their home. They are struggling to find an apartment. "The worst part is being uncomfortable, not having my own space to relax," said Glover. She continues to have hope and work hard for her family. "That's all I can do right now, I can't break down. I've got to keep working," she said.

To support the Glover family, please visit www.gofundme.com/westhempstead

POETRY CORNER

Bluff

By Jabari Curry

What's the price of a black man's life?
Two bullets, a sack of weed, and a blood-stained knife?
A tongue laced with lies
He's said "You know you could be my wife"
But only if your legs spread wide
And the pussy is tight?
Alright
It seems we've become accustomed to these,
Miscellaneous customs
Wanting something deeper, yet we put up with the fronting
Dealing with shitty hands we're dealt
That's why I'm sitting here bluffing
I'm trying to play it straight
But all my dreams keep flushing
Down the drain
As I try to wash away this bloodstained
32" diamond studded gold chain
Cause they keep telling me this is the only way
I can make my way as a black man today



My Black is Beautiful

By Brianna Desir

My Black is beautiful
But they try to tell me otherwise
Tell me my skin's too dark to be considered pretty
And my lips too big to be anything more than loud
My hair too kinky to be appreciated
And that he'll never love me
Because black men love a little swirl
So they take my insecurities and run with it
Put me down like massa did his slaves
Except your lashes aren't physical but through your words
You put me down like your people did my ancestors
Because you know without it we'd excel
Fall into formation
Kings and Queens
Black Excellence at its finest
And it makes you scared
For us to rise up against the odds
And embrace it all
Our color dark like chocolate
Greedy for the Suns attention
Because that's all we've gotten so far
Fetishized for the color of our skin
Dark Chocolate
Chocolate Women
"You know white men love a little chocolate"
So we tend to forget
Our Melanin absorbs sunlight
Our hair is beautiful
And we are not meant to be seen not heard
We are meant to be appreciated
Glorified for our magnificent glow
Astonished because of the beauty in a afro
Heard from across the room because we will not make ourselves small for anybody
We are human sunflowers
Bright beautiful Black and proud



Foundations for Women of Color

By Ashley Mitchell

For some women of color finding shades of foundation to match their skin is often challenging, well, this is for you! There are many undertones for women of color but the most mistaken undertone is red. More brands sold today tend to have red undertones. If you look at your chest or your face you can see the type of undertone you have. Very few brands carry deep shades such as, Becca Cosmetics, Black Opal Beauty, Bare Minerals, and Lancôme. Each brand has shades to match a variety of shades and complexions.

Becca Cosmetics carries the deepest of the deep foundation colors in order to match your complexion. The CEO of this company is actually an Australian Makeup Artist and developed this line of cosmetics that compliments darker shades. The foundation goes on velvety smooth and is full coverage, you will only need to spot conceal your problem areas very lightly if they are still visible. This product does contain water which gives it the light weight feeling but it also contains oil which has the potential to cause breakouts if you have sensitive skin. Becca's Ultimate Coverage Complexion Crème retails for \$44.



Black Opal is a brand whose foundation is geared towards women of color. There are 10 shades of their True Color Stick Foundation that has SPF 15, this foundation is full coverage, and hypoallergenic. There are only 10 shades and they do not go as deep as the colors in the Becca line. This foundation retails for \$9.95 and you can either order online or swing by your local beauty supply store, they would have it there as well.



For those that like to keep it natural I have a foundation for you also! Bare Minerals has a more natural foundation line that can help improve your skin. It helps by minimizing your pores using all natural ingredients that are not harmful and it also includes SPF 15. This foundation comes in original and matte and can be used for sheer to full coverage. The colors go pretty deep and the website has a description of your undertone so you can choose a shade best for you. This is a great lightweight foundation; however it can get messy when using a brush because it's a loose powder. This product retails for \$28.



Lancôme has created a foundation that has been in the works for quite some time. Teint idole gives you a flawless face for 24 hours and is also oil free! A product being oil free is important for those that have sensitive skin and are worried about breakouts. This foundation is medium to full coverage with neutral, cool, and warm tones. Most brands lack cool tones and the deeper the shades go they make the foundations with more of a red undertone. It also has a natural matte, or dull finish. It being dull is not unfortunate but more so of a more desired look rather than looking oily. The one con I would say would be it states this product is transfer resistant, but it is not. This product retails for \$47.



CAMPUS NEWS

Elle Varner Preforms for SGA Event

By: Laura DeMarzo

Grammy nominated singer/songwriter Elle Varner known for hits like "Only Wanna Give it to You" and "Refill" graced a SUNY Old Westbury stage on February 11th, as part of SGA's Black History Month celebration.

The Maguire Theatre hosted the event which also included riveting performances from Def Poet Gemineye and OW Alumnus Earl "Dempsy" Thomason Jr, with music by DJ Marz. Anticipation for the concert was palpable as the line for entry reach across the Atrium well before it began—and Varner did not disappoint. From wannabe suitors playfully stranding her to fans singing along to tracks like "Cold Case," "So Fly" and "Don't Wanna Dance."

Aside from entertaining the crowd, the songstress also worked to offer the student body words of advice, referencing naysayers colloquially: "See they don't want you to be free but the thing is, once you make up your mind on what you're gonna do, ain't nothing nobody can do about that!"

The "spoken word" portion of the night was also uplifting for those who attended. The two artists spoke on the the disproportionate number of black youths dying at the hands of police offers. While spoken word-veteran Gemineye also opted for some comedic relief and familiarity n his poems with "Letter to Donald Trump" and his most popular work (with over a 90,000 YouTube views alone) "Penny for Your Thoughts," it was SUNY Old Westbury's own Dempsy whose poems resonated at the student's cores, echoing the thoughts of young people. Subjects such as materialism, shortened life expectancy, the Black Lives Matter movement and police brutality were peppered through the poet's work, as she shared the devastating and recent loss of a family member.

For faculty and students alike, the night was proof-positive that life during time at SUNY Old Westbury is engaging and definitive. For more pictures and videos of the event check out The Catalyst's Instagram: @OWCatalyst.



The Life Of Pablo- Kanye West

By Samuel Blanco

The man who declared "I Am A God" on his 2013 release, opens his new album *The Life Of Pablo* with the lines "This is a God dream, this is everything." The introduction song *Ultra Light Beam*, also features a soulful verse from Chance The Rapper. Could the God he is referring to in this gospel song, be himself and is he introducing us not to an album, but to a sonic dream of everything his life has been until this point? As one listens to this beautiful, yet highly unorganized presentation, you get a familiar, welcoming feeling as if you've known this album your whole life.

From his beginning days as a *College Dropout*, cleverly flowing, conscious lyrics as backpacker in a world, run by gun toting gangstas, to making it cool for rappers to express their deep emotional confessions and paranoia via the auto-tuned *808s and Heartbreaks*, each of his previous 6 albums have been individual statements, standing on their own, each distinct and unique in comparison to their counterparts. 2010's *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* was a glorious, complex, over the top album full of big name features and artful pop hits, and 2013 gave us the raw *Yeezus*, abrasive boasts and unapologetic rants over heavy, dark industrial beats. *The Life Of Pablo* is none of these, but at the same time is everything those albums have been.

Songs like *Ultra Light Beam*, *Father Stretch My Hands*, *Waves*, *Low Lights*, and *Highlights*, with a surprise feature from Young Thug, feel reminiscent to the grandiose, lights in the sky, symphonic influenced songs from *Graduation* and its older sib-

ling, *MBDTF*. Similarly, *Famous*, starring Rihanna and the now infamous Taylor Swift lyrics "I feel like me and Taylor might still have sex, Why? I made that bitch famous," is the familiar cocky brag one would expect from that *MBDTF* era Kanye, who interrupted the same pop-country singer's Grammy acceptance speech in 2009.

For the select few who loved the bad-mannered sounds of the noisy, uncensored *Yeezus*, Kanye delivers with the glitchy *Feedback*, and the obscene *Freestyle 4* with new G.O.O.D. music signee Desiigner. The latter is a *Yeezus*-esque song with a vengeance, "What if we just ****ed at the Vouge party, would we be the life of the whole party, shut down the whole party, or would everybody start ****ing?" Kanye boasts over a rushing beat of eerie strings.

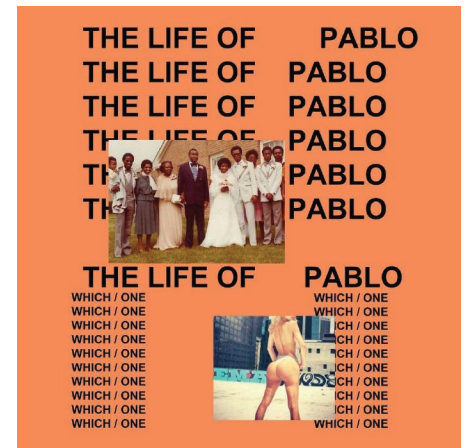
For those who "hate the new Kanye, the bad mood Kanye The always rude Kanye, spaz in the news Kanye," as he puts it, Kanye West briefly reincarnates the old backpack rapper on the short *I Love Kanye*. This acapella interlude resembles *The College Dropout's* witty and tongue in cheek lyrics, "What if Kanye made a song about Kanye called 'I Miss the old Kanye', man that would be so Kanye, that's all it was Kanye, we still love Kanye, and I love you like Kanye loves Kanye," which also serve to demonstrate the self awareness of *The Life Of Pablo*.

30 Hours, *Real Friends*, and *No More Parties In LA*, are the most honest, and self reflective songs on the album, nostalgic of *Late Registration* Kanye West. On *No More*

Parties In LA, Kendrick Lamar and Kanye trade quick paced bars regarding the woes of their fame, where Kanye acknowledges "I know some fans who thought I wouldn't rap like this again, but the writer's block is over, emcees cancel your plans."

Wolves and *FML* are mature but emotional revelations in the same melancholy mood of *808s and Heart Breaks*. *FML* finds Kanye "revealing the levels to my soul" as he confesses to giving up all the women and the fast life, in order to dedicate himself to his marriage with reality TV star, Kim Kardashian. The king of nihilistic and self reflection himself, The Weeknd, recites the hook: "They wish I would go ahead and **** my life up, can't let them get to me, and even though I always **** my life up, only I can mention me." *Wolves* is a howling ode to his two children, vowing to protect them from the wolves surrounding him, which concludes with a surprise appearance from the elusive Frank Ocean.

Near the end, the original wavy rapper, the Silver Surfer and incarcerated Harlem rapper Max B, makes an appearance via telephone call, giving his stamp of approval towards Kanye's own WAVES, the previous name of the album before it was changed to its current title. The lack luster Nike diss *Facts*, is included with a reworked beat, and feels more like a bonus track, allocated as the second to last song. The album ends on a strong futuristic note titled, *Fade*, featuring Post Malone and Ty Dolla Sign over a groovy, electric dance beat. Despite it being one of the albums catchier songs, it leaves the listener feeling incomplete, as if



the party ended when you were just getting in sync.

With Kanye West focusing his attention to his ever growing fashion line and family, it may very well be a while before we get another piece of musical work from the self proclaimed "greatest artist of all time." Fortunately for the listener, similar to the ever changing notepad featured before the album's release, this album is a living entity. It was not created to flow from beginning to end, its purposefully chaotic in its composition and even encourages shuffle play. As it stands *The Life Of Pablo* is an abstract, surreal presentation of a splintered psyche. Like a church's stained glass window, this audio kaleidoscope is a transparent work of art, patched together from all the shards of his previous releases, and for the first time ever, we have gotten a true Kanye West album.

Advertisement

YOUR Voice Matters

VOTE!

★ Save the SGA ★
Save Student Programming!

#votemandatory

March 22nd-24th
in the Campus Center Atrium

Vote to keep clubs on campus

SGA

Vacationing on a Budget

By Brianna Desir

Spring Break... A great way to relieved all pent up stress after midterms and let loose, go have fun, and come back with stories you can't tell your parents. BUT spring break is EXPENSIVE! So we've compiled a list of decent priced places to go this spring break so you can turn up without breaking the bank.

1. HOME: The most inexpensive place to be this break is your bed. Go Home! You get free food, someone to do your laundry and spoiled for 1 entire week and don't forget all the people you'll see when you go back home for break. Take the time to catch up on a favorite book, watch every show on your Netflix list, visit your high school, party at your favorite places and save a ton of money.

2. Atlantic City: So it's not exactly warm but a trip to Atlantic City can be fun and you still get to leave the state. Yes it's a state over but New Jersey, home to Atlantic City has its wonders. Atlantic City is a great way to not break the bank but still have fun. Due to the low traffic during the weekdays, hotels in Atlantic city are significantly cheaper than they are on weekends. Even if you don't love the Casino there is a variety of things you can do in Atlantic City for a lot less money than a trip to the Bahamas.

3. Colorado: The colder the place the cheaper the expenses, with that said book a flight to Colorado. Groupon has many deals listed for this spring break which can take you to Colorado and back with a hotel included for a reasonable price. You're probably thinking "What is there to do in Colorado?" Well aside from the obvious Colorado has ski resorts and you can check out the brewery tours, shops, and restaurants in Fort Collins.

4. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina: Myrtle Beach actually made the spring break list a couple of years ago. It's warm, fun, and at a responsible price possibly your next spring break location. Thanks to Groupon this destination just got cheaper. They're offering deals on places to stay and flights down south. Another way to save money is drive down to Myrtle Beach with friends make it part of the spring break experience.

5. Vegas: Viva Las Vegas! I know what you're thinking, there's no way Vegas could be cheap. Well you're right, it costs an arm and leg to go to the Las Vegas STRIP but there are other places in Vegas that costs a lot less than tuition to spend a week, and since it's the desert you can pack your summer clothes. Don't know where to look? Groupon has the goods

If none of these destinations happen to be your cup of tea, Groupon offers deals flights and hotels included to different places around the world to spend spring break. Happy Spring Breakers !!



An Instagram Account Worth Following *BlackJaguarWhiteTiger*

By Samuel Blanco

Besides selfies and pictures of lunch, pictures of one's pets make up a large portion of the social media content. And with good reason. Who can deny an adorable video of a sneezing baby cat tripping over its own tail or a heartwarming video of a dog greeting his returning veteran owner?

BlackJaguarWhiteTiger is an Instagram account like many others run by a man named Eduardo Serio from his home in Mexico who won't miss an opportunity fill your newsfeed with pictures of all his furry felines, he warmly calls his "babies." He can be seen hand feeding his cats, wrestling on the ground with them, letting them jump on him and gnaw at his hands, the typical behavior one expects from a loving owner and his pets, the difference being his pets include Tigers, Lions, Jaguars, Leopards, and various exotic cats.

BlackJaguarWhiteTiger is a foundation started by Eduardo in 2013 after he saved a baby jaguar from becoming a pet store attraction in Monterrey, Mexico. As he tells it on his website, *BlackJaguarWhiteTiger.org*, "this single event of love is what gave birth to what today is *Black Jaguar - White Tiger Foundation*." His foundation to date has cared and rescued roughly 200 big cats as well as stray dogs from the streets of Mexico. Included on his website, he offers his brief, yet powerful mission statement. The four main goals of the organization include: To

rescue as many animals in need from abusive circumstances such as circuses, breeders, and people who simply have them as pets, to raise awareness worldwide through various media mediums including photography and videos using the foundations multiple social media, as well as press conferences and podium lectures, to continue working with the Mexican government to pass and enforce laws protecting animals and wildlife species of the country, and finally to focus on



preservation of native big cats of the country.

Some critics have gone so far as to call Eduardo's project nothing more than an exotic cat petting zoo. *BlackJaguarWhiteTiger* is by no means open to the public but, celebrities seem to get a free pass. Recently, Eduardo's feline retreat was featured on the reality show, *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*, with the Kardashians being seen petting and playing with lion cubs. Eduardo even affection-

ately named one of the cubs Khloe. *911animabuse.com* is one group of activists who feel that *BlackJaguarWhiteTiger* may mean well but in the end too much human interaction may be doing more harm than good to these animals. Many have criticized the lack of space Eduardo has for the animals, which is estimated to be less than one acre per big cat, as well as pointing out the lack of transparency within the foundation.

Despite these allegations and controversy, one cannot deny this man's mission or intent. Just spend 5 minutes scrolling through his Instagram account, looking at the various videos, and one cannot deny that he truly does love his babies. One must get a feeling of insanity, if one were to ever willingly walk into the living area of a fully grown 400 lb. lion, but this man does it as if he was a parent walking into their child's bedroom. The feeling most definitely looks mutual, seeing how the animals react and interact with him. No longer do you see a ferocious jaguar, or a dangerous lion, the animals depicted act more like giant kittens, openly receiving and giving affection. As he has said on his Instagram page, love has no limits, that is why he trusts his babies and they trust him back, he offers them what he considers the universal language between all living species, love. #NotPets #BeHuman #SaveOurPlanet.

Spring Break Tips

By Meleika Amos

For everyone who has wanderlust and all intention to use this bit of vacation to travel this spring break here are a few useful and fun tips that could help you along your trip. Enjoy and Bon Voyage!

Stateside

- 1.) Never over pack. You KNOW your intentions are to bring back gifts upon gifts, for friends, family, and of course yourself so try to leave enough room in your luggage for said gifts.
- 2.) Checklists are effective. Double check, triple check and make sure you have everything you need for your trip and plan your clothing accordingly check the weather in advance but also pack for any changes.
- 3.) Don't stay on the first floor. Avoid first-floor hotel rooms because they are bigger targets for thieves. If you bring your laptop or any other valuable possessions, keep it in a hotel safe.
- 4.) Create a safe code. If you or a friend feels uncomfortable at an outing, create a notion or a code to exit the situation.
- 5.) Road-trip-it. If you have the option to travel by car, it will usually be cheaper than flying. There's no guarantee that gas prices are constant so check each state you would have to drive through but you'll likely still come out ahead over purchasing airline

tickets and get to get there at your own pace will seeing different states!

6.) Hotels are not the only option. If you want to get a real feel for a city and you're looking to be a bit cost effective, there's the option of a host family, websites like *Airbnb.com* or *Homeaway.com* give you the option to stay with someone from that area and possibly meet some great people!

Out of the Country

- 1.) Always keep your bag close in front and zipped. Pick-pocketing is anything but an outdated profession people are trained and they are swift so be mindful of your surroundings but DO NOT seem fearful.
- 2.) Get the contacts of all local authorities in the area you are staying. Police, the US embassy, and hospitals in the area are great contacts to have.
- 3.) Look up free things to do! Not everything requires money you can do an array of activities for free public areas, even just wandering around and looking at architecture is an adventure!

4.) Talk to locals. This goes for wherever you may travel most times local dwellers have the best insight on where to party, eat, and drink!

5.) Be mindful of the currency exchange rate. Research whatever country you are going to and determine the currency exchange rate to make sure you have enough funds beforehand.

6.) Credit unions are your BEST FRIEND. Big banks charge multiple fees on top of your money being deducted based on currency exchange. If you can sign up for a credit union prior to your try as most do not charge any fees. Also, check for credit cards that have no additional charges as well such as the Capital One card (if you have Discover you may use it anywhere that takes Diner's Club of International).

7.) Never leave out without your passport. Some say don't carry it some say always carry it. If you are unsure a solution would be to make a copy of the passport photo to have with you and keep the real one in a safe.

PUZZLES

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Hard

From: www.Puzzles.ca

Hard

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Horoscopes for the Month of March

Compiled by Dayna McNeil



Aries
Mar. 21 - April 20

You will have a sense of awareness of your own limitations this month, leading up to your birthday phase, physical, emotional, or even financial, as well as a sense of being confined and restricted. There could be some rivalry, hard feelings generated that could trigger off either of these reactions. NOT a time to go overboard, in terms of self-pity, to see troubles where none exist, or attempt to solve the world's problems. It might be a good idea to maintain a low profile and be less vocal. A time to make special efforts to get along with others – both professionally and personally. Changes initiated now may prove beneficial in the long run, both materially and otherwise.



Cancer
June 22 - July 22

Long-distance and foreign connections, exchange and trade will be favored. You'll travel a fair amount and may strike up a chance acquaintance who shares your views, ideals and ideas. Also, you deal with a kind of weariness, even disillusionment, that sets in. A month of exaltation, true spirituality, intellectual and moral growth – a truly cosmic gift comes to you. The preceding month had lots of highs and lows for you to reckon with. This month reorients you to your lasting values, and greater idealism is the result, in conjunction with heightened consciousness and conscience, that come hand in hand with true and sincere spirituality and faith.



Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

You may be making changes in your job/profession, in your relationships with colleagues and co-workers, health and diet. There may be some mental strain, or perhaps financial difficulties, particularly relating to held-up payments that are still pending, salaries, servants, health and employee benefits or perhaps a bad debt and/or a check. Willingness to help and serve will pay dividends, both materially and in terms of a "feel-good" factor. Don't expect gratitude and appreciation – just go ahead and do whatever needs to be done. This phase presents an opportunity to get rid of what doesn't work in your life, while also discovering what does. You could seek distinction and strive towards perfection in your work. Efficiency should be your goal now.



Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You still need to learn to relate better with others, but now it's more on the intimate and personal level – the exchange of ideas, innermost thoughts, personal beliefs rather than the emotions. Family ties, linkages of loving and caring now become sharing. Vital correspondence and contacts must not be neglected, or the necessary inputs, data and information for work-related projects, plans or activities. No carelessness of any kind to be made if you want to achieve your goals. You are more curious and alert than usual, and you could be quite busy with errands, paperwork, phone calls, and light socializing. Much energy is expended in understanding and adapting to your immediate environment. Siblings, neighbors, close relatives, friends, and co-workers may play a more important role than usual in your life.



Taurus
Apr. 21 - May 21

Widening the vistas of your very existence is what this month makes you do. You still extend warmth and friendship, as well as cooperation at work. All the trends – which started last month will now gain momentum, focus and direction. You reach out to people in a rare show of warmth, connubial bliss and friendship. This is a rather happy, goal-oriented month. A lively agenda is promised, you're attracting quite a bit of interest, and your energy for making contact with others is high. This is a time to follow your dreams and ideals, and to plant a seed in the form of a wish for the future.



Leo
July 23 - Aug 22

Once again, you'll have to focus your attention on money matters (legacies, trusts, loans or fund-raising) even though there may still be some health problems nagging at you. Pending matters may come to an end; there could be a death, a legacy causing you sorrow and joy/relief at the same time. Clearing out psychic "junk" or ridding yourself of bad habits may be part of the picture now. You are more willing than usual to explore life's secrets. This is an especially introspective month during which you have the chance to truly uncover your personal strengths and talents.



Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

This is a very playful period of the year, when you are inspired creatively and emotionally. After a period of self-protectiveness, you are now more spontaneous and more willing to take risks. A rich, fruitful and happy phase comes to you and you're enjoying it. The spice of life is there for you in the variety of interests, activities, and feelings that you are bound to experience this month. Don't fly too high or too far – risky moves, rashness, over-confidence that nothing can go wrong or just foolhardy behavior. Some danger or possible mishap may be lurking. Risk-taking, speculation must be avoided. Also rashness in an affair of the heart which might leave you hurt and scattered, if not shattered.



Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

A time when you will truly need to "walk the talk", stand by your beliefs and convictions. You will have a lot on your plate and most of it will pertain to money – both for immediate needs and future gains. Financial matters become important or at least the main focus, but good moves have to be thought out. Property and possessions, rentals, funds, investments, and even cash transactions. There may be profits or income from property, land and real estate. Don't try for fast cash or the quick buck. That doesn't last and can give you a sense of false security. In fact, you might just be barking up the wrong tree in terms of career or personal gains through sheer pride or ego. Back your own judgment, but do so with caution and restraint. You know instinctively what works best for you. Just go ahead sensibly, keeping your own counsel as far as possible.



Gemini
May 22 - June 21

Recognition, rewards, greater power and prestige, even your assets, property, belongings are enhanced greatly. The time is being truly generous, and you deserve it. Your vision is practical right now, and you want to see tangible results for your efforts. More contact with authority figures is likely during this period. Recognition is likely to come your way whether you ask for it or not, and the responsibility that comes right along with it! Do what you feel is right, keeping in mind that you are at your most visible during this month in the year.



Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Now the focus shifts on people and relationships, ranging from personal to platonic to just professional. You will realize that to help you achieve success your people skills need to be honed. You will need to be sharp-witted and alert in order to identify potential (or even actual) threats to your welfare/progress. It may not happen but it is good to be prepared. In spite of all this, this month brings you caring and sharing, that is, fine companionship, close ties with loved ones and an overall feeling of both togetherness and contentment. The emphasis is on "us" rather than "me". This may be an especially busy time for people who consult or work with clients one-on-one.



Sagittarius
Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

House or office may require renovation, refurbishing or expansion. Perhaps even a shift for either the office home factory/workplace. You want working conditions that satisfy you in every way, physically, technically and in the prevailing atmosphere and will take pains to achieve just that. You may also decide to invest in labor-saving devices/ gadgets to streamline your efficiency both at home and in the office. At the same time, there is a desire to retrace your roots and origins, to go back in time. This is a time to do what you can to build trust in your family life and a strong foundation within yourself, so that regardless of what you meet in the outside world over the next months, you have a secure place to return to.



Pisces
Feb. 20 - Mar. 20

It might be a good time to make a thorough scrutiny of the real you, an honest assessment of your face, figure, health and assets and seek to implement a make-over where necessary. The truly intimate and personal you, needs to be examined minutely and where there is room for improvement, positive action be taken. You'll need to establish good working relationships with colleagues, subordinates and bosses as well. It's NOT a time to challenge the system! Stress and neglect both need to be guarded against too. A time for introspective self-assessment with a degree of honesty and objectivity. That way lies contentment, success, happiness – any or all of them, and it will come from your own changed attitude. 9

MARCH EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8pm Alpha Phi Alpha: Yellow Rose Tuesday SU MPR B&C	2 12pm Sigma Iota Alpha: Empanada Sale CC F-Wing	3 10pm Rep Ya Flag SU MPR ABC	4 1pm Women In Progress SU MPR A	5
6	7 8pm Kappa Alpha Psi: Zodiac SU MPR C	8 8pm African Student Assoc: Family Feud SU 311 8pm Alpha Phi Alpha: Phaded Daze SU MPR A 8:30pm Mu Sigma Upsilon & Lambda Sigma Upsilon: Gatorade Pong SU MPR B	9 7pm Active Minds: Screening of <i>Inside Out</i> CC Recital Hall	10 6pm Glamazon: Tea Party SU Rotunda	11	12
13	14 MIDTERM WEEK 8pm Sigma Iota Alpha: Paint Night SU MPR C	15 MIDTERM WEEK 1pm Commuter Programs & Services: Snack Time CC F-Wing	16 MIDTERM WEEK 2:30pm SGA: Executive Board Debate SU MPR C 8pm Hairitage: Beauty Within SU MPR A	17 MIDTERM WEEK 8pm SGA: Casino Night SU MPR ABC	18 MIDTERM WEEK	19 MIDTERM WEEK
20	21 2pm Sigma Iota Alpha: Egg Hunt Fundraiser CC-F-Wing 8pm SGA Senate: Ace of Spades SU-MPR-C	22 11am SGA Elections CC F-Wing 8pm Mu Sigma Upsilon & Lambda Upsilon Lambda: Anything you Can Do I Can Do Better SU MPR B	23 11am SGA Elections CC F-Wing 2:30pm Delta Sigma Theta: Guess Who? CC F-Wing 8pm SGA: The Woman SU MPR A 8:30pm Men In Progress: Guy Code vs Girl Code SU MPR C	24 11am SGA Elections CC F-Wing 8pm Caribbean Student Assoc: Bob Marley Day SU MPR A	25	26 <i>Dining Hall Closes After Breakfast</i>
27 SPRING BREAK	28 SPRING BREAK	29 SPRING BREAK	30 SPRING BREAK	31 SPRING BREAK <i>(Till April 3rd)</i>		

REVIEW

NYC Welcomes BJ the Chicago Kid with Open Ears

By Laura DeMarzo

You may know BJ the Chicago Kid's voice from the ubiquitous SchoolBoy Q song "Studio," but you'd be remiss if that's where you stopped listening.

New York recently came out in a big way before ultimately giving him the green-light, to show support and experience an inmate performance at SOB's on February 23rd, headlining HOT97's infamous "Who's Next?" concert series along with the electro-funk stylings of Jay Watts. The Chitown native was well aware of rough reputation and hard-to-please ears of the city he was in, "The love that New York City is giving me right now is incredible, 'cause I'm definitely not from here and growing up to

know how New York taste is, is very particular so, to accepted? I love it, I love it."

The singer's kept a constant stream of soul and energy through out his intense performance, including crowd favorites such as his Chance The Rapper and Buddy collab "Church"; An apropos song for someone grew up in the choir and who was once a back-up singer for gospel duo Mary Mary. Going from background vocals to topping bills at solo shows means BJ has reason to celebrate but explains that he's remaining focused. It's only right seeing as though he's just recently dropped his major label debut *In My Mind*, off Motown records, which is currently available on Tidal.



Restaurant Review

By Michael Alperin

This Italian restaurant which opened its doors December 2015 is located in a town lush with Italian restaurants. Massapequa is known for its Italian restaurants. There are many which would be immediate competition. Being that Teresa's Pizza & Pasta is a new business, unfortunately they do not yet have an online menu to view, nor a website. This is surprising considering that only two blocks away there is another Italian restaurant.

The restaurant is very basic. There is the typical pizza counter with only about seven tables for seating. The employees are welcoming and friendly. Unfortunately

ly the selection of the pizza on display was very lackluster. There is very little appeal considering there are a multitude of other Italian restaurants in the area.

Teresa's is fairly cheap compared to its competitors. The heroes range from \$6.50 to 10.50, which would be a shrimp hero. To add parmigiana it's an additional price of \$.75. Other competitors do not charge for the cheese, its part of the price. The pasta's on the menu appear to be very basic with not much appeal. The most expensive pasta is the Spaghetti Pescatore which is made with shrimp, calamari & clams in a light marinara sauce, for \$16.50. The entrée's as well are lacking in appeal.

Teresa's Pizza & Pasta

716 Broadway, Massapequa NY

The basic chicken, eggplant, veal, parmigiana. The pizza which often is the most frequently sold item in an Italian restaurant is very poor. Specialty slices is a popular commodity in these restaurants. Teresa's only has five specialty slices. All of the pizza is cooked with sesame seeds in the crust. The crust is what makes or breaks pizza. Teresa's Special slice which has sausage, meatballs, pepperoni, mushrooms, peppers, onions, sauce & mozzarella, was the only appealing slice.

"I ordered a regular pie from them once, the crust was disappointing" said Anne Leone Massapequa resident. Considering all the options available for pizza

in the town of Massapequa, Teresa's seems to be the least fan favorite. Two blocks away there is an Italian restaurant named Crositini, they always appear to have a steady flow of customers. In the other direction Phil's pizza which has been a staple of Massapequa doesn't appear to be losing any business either. "I ordered the chicken Marsala, it wasn't terrible" said Mike Gregory Wantagh resident. Chicken Marsala is a safety net dish that people get when trying a new restaurant, similar to chicken fingers. Teresa's seems to be getting the benefit of the doubt, being that they are a new establishment.

SPORTS

The New Baseball Season

By Miguel Salcedo

The baseball season is around the corner and the 2015 Skyline Conference Champions, the Old Westbury Panthers, will try to repeat their championship. Led by the coach Rod Stephan, the Panthers finished last season with a record of 26 wins and 13 losses. In the New York Regional last season, The Panthers defeated Baldwin-Wallace to capture their first Skyline Conference title and their first NCAA win since 2001.

According to the Panthers website, the Panthers received seven out of nine first-place votes by several league head coaches. "We are looking pretty good and solid this year, we picked up some nice pitching and we added more depth to our roster. I think we are deeper than we were

last year," said Coach Stephan.

The Old Westbury baseball team is coming off one of its best pitching seasons in its history. Last season, the team pitchers led the conference with a 3.52 earned run average (ERA) and 298 strikeouts. The team also led the conference in holding opposing batters to a .264 hitting average.

This year the baseball Panthers team is counting on several players who are the key to the team's success. The new rosters will feature many returning players and many newcomers as well. "We got eighteen new players transfers and freshman which will put our team in line to repeat as Skyline conference champion," Stephan added.

In addition, several Panthers baseball players were placed on the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper Division III watch list. These players are sophomore Dean Sheridan, a first baseman and outfielder; newcomers senior Jeremy Charles, a right-handed pitcher; and juniors Daniel Aguilo, a right handed pitcher, and Trey Pizzutello, another right-handed pitcher.

"This is going to be a great year for us and we hope to win it all just like last season," said Carlos Balmaceda, another key player who returns as the lone returning Old Westbury catcher. The junior appeared in 20 games a year ago, starting in 12 and posted a .333 batting average during the 2015 season.

The Panthers baseball team did not

disappoint last year and they will look to do the same this season. "It is pretty cool to see the Panthers baseball team success, now they have the chance to repeat as champions and we had been waiting for that success for a couple of years," said former Panther's pitcher, Arismendy Nunez, who played for the Panthers in 2014.

The Old Westbury students and their families can enjoy the first Panthers game in March 18, at OW's Jackie Robinson Athletic Complex against New Jersey City University's Gothic Knights baseball team.

ROBINSON'S BUZZER BEATER NO. 9 ON ESPN SPORTSCENTER'S TOP 10

JASMINE ROBINSON'S GAME-WINNING SHOT FOR @OW_PANTHERS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FEATURED ON ESPN SPORTSCENTER'S TOP 10 PLAYS PLAYS

by Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury women's basketball was featured Thursday morning on ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays following its 56-54 Skyline Conference home win over Farmingdale State on Wednesday night (Feb. 17).

Junior guard Jasmine Robinson connected on a 3-pointer as time expired, sending Old Westbury to a thrilling victory and earning the No. 9 slot on the show's popular countdown of the best plays of the day in sports. The play happened with 0.8 seconds showing on the fourth-quarter clock, as senior guard Raven Pentz inbounded to Robinson for a catch-and-shoot situation.

The 3-pointer gave the Panthers their 20th win of the season heading into Saturday's regular-season finale at home against the Sage Gators, with the Skyline Conference regular-season championship on the line.

(Continued from back)

PANTHERS MEN'S BASKETBALL WINS SKYLINE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

to give Old Westbury a 14-6 lead with 11:32 remaining. Trailing 20-12, St. Joseph's (Brooklyn) used a 17-8 run to close out the final 7:26 as Jamir Archer's jumper with 48 seconds left gave the Bears a 29-28 edge heading into the half.

Stanley put the Panthers up for good with two of his 14 second-half points to give Old Westbury a 30-29 advantage. Luckens Victor dropped in a layup at 12:46 to spark a 26-7 Panther run to extend the lead to a game-high 20 points (60-40) with 1:44 showing on the clock.

Ryals and P.J. Page each netted 11 points while Victor and Kaleem Edwards pulled down nine rebounds apiece. Edwards, Page, Victor and Stephon Odle each nabbed two steals. Odle dished out a game-high five assists and Edwards followed with four.

Jamair Archer poured in a game-high 20 points (10-of-15 FG) to pace the Bears. Alec Willis added 13 points as Michael Megafu and Matt O'Neill each handed out four assists.

Old Westbury finished the game shooting 35.7 percent (20-of-56) from the field, 32 percent (8-of-25) from three-point territory and 71.4 percent (15-of-21) at the free-throw line. By comparison, St. Joseph's (Brooklyn) hit on 37 percent (20-of-54) from the floor, 15 percent (3-of-20) from long distance and 44.4 percent (4-of-9) at the charity stripe. Old Westbury won the boards battle, 40-34, scoring 14 second-chance points off 15 offensive rebounds. The Panthers also held the edge in steals (12-8), blocks (5-2) and assists (13-11), while scoring 20 points off 21 Bear turnovers.

(Continued from back)

PANTHERS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TAKES HOME SKYLINE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

13 (42-29).

Sage answered with an 11-2 run to trim the deficit to 10 (51-41) with 1:52 remaining in the fourth. Old Westbury would later use a 6-2 run to maintain the double-digit lead to claim the 2016 title.

Pentz was named the Skyline Conference Championship Most Outstanding Player after finishing with game highs of 20 points (4-of-9 3FG), and five assists. During the three-game championship run, Pentz averaged 14.3 points, 5.0 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 1.0 steals. Ruth Vargas chipped in with nine points and nine rebounds while all-conference second-team member Crystal Barnes grabbed 11 rebounds.

Schoff poured in 10 points to lead Sage as Bowman followed with eight points and 14 rebounds.

In the end, Old Westbury shot 32.8 percent (21-of-64) from the field, 38.5 percent (5-of-13) from 3-point territory and 50 percent (10-of-20) at the free-throw line. By comparison, Sage shot 22 percent (13-of-59) from the floor, 10.5 percent (2-of-19) from the beyond the arc and 50 percent (15-of-30) at the stripe. Old Westbury won the boards battle, 52-46, scoring 14 second-chance points off 16 offensive rebounds. Both teams drew even in steals (8-8) and blocks (1-1). The Panthers held the advantage in points in the paint (30-18) and fast-break points (4-2) while converting 13 Sage turnovers into 19 points.

Panthers Men's Basketball Wins Skyline Conference Championship

No. 1 Old Westbury earned a trip to the NCAA Division III Tournament with Saturday's 63-47 championship win over No. 6 St. Joseph's (Brooklyn)



By Harris Rappel

SUNY Old Westbury men's basketball punched their ticket to the 2016 NCAA Division III Tournament with Saturday's 63-47 Skyline Conference Championship win over the visiting No. 6 St. Joseph's (Brooklyn) Bears (15-13) inside Clark Athletic Center. The Panthers (19-8) last advanced to the NCAA Division III Tournament after claiming the 2004 Skyline championship. Old Westbury earns the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament, which begins on March 3. The Panthers await its seeding in the NCAA Division III Tournament with pairings announced during Monday's selection show (www.ncaa.com/liveschedule) starting at 12:30 p.m.

Jamail Stanley led the way with 16 points, nine rebounds, four blocks and three steals to earn the Skyline Conference Tournament Most Outstanding Player award. Stanley contributed 46 points, 22 rebounds, seven blocks, six steals and five assists to the two-game championship run.

Lylle Ryals came off the bench to land back-to-back 3-pointers **(Continues inside)**

Panthers Women's Basketball takes home Skyline Conference Championship

Old Westbury wins the program's first-ever Skyline Conference Championship to earn the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament

By Harris Rappel

ALBANY, NY - The third-seeded SUNY Old Westbury women's basketball team used a third-quarter surge to capture its first-ever Skyline Conference Championship with a 57-43 road win over the top-seeded Sage Gators (21-6) Saturday afternoon inside Kahl Gymnasium.

Head coach Mike Krasnoff's Old Westbury squad (23-5) now awaits its seeding in the NCAA Division III Championship, with pairings announced during Monday's selection show at 2:30 p.m.

With Sage leading 10-8 at the end of one period, first-team All-Skyline Conference performer Gen Schoff's layup started a 6-0 Gator run with 6:45 left in the second period. Later on, fellow All-Skyline first-teamer Jasmine Robinson knocked down a jumper at 4:07 to spark a 7-1 run to give the Panthers a 20-18 advantage heading into halftime.

Old Westbury put the game away in the third quarter, outscoring the Gators 22-11. Raven Pentz connected on one of her 3-pointers with 4:04 remaining to ignite a 12-6 run that extended the lead to **(Continues inside)**

