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Public Safety Director Anthony Martinesi retires after 22 years of service to the campus

Public Safety director to retire, bids farewell to campus

By **ERIK PARSHALL**
Co-Editor

Anthony Martinesi, who has served as the Director for Public Safety at Wagner College for 22 years, is retiring at the end of 2014.

Martinesi's office, which was once decorated with a plethora of Star Wars and Lord of the Rings memorabilia, now contains only his desk, a few empty cabinets, and the man himself.

From a student's perspective, the word to describe him is "experienced," as he speaks respectfully and with a kind of cordiality, but from speaking to him and his staff, it is clear that he is much more.

"Tony's very easy to work with," Public Safety Shift Supervisor Monica Wohltjen said. "He'll sit you down to teach you and take

time to listen to you." These are aspects of his character that have been shared with the rest of the public safety staff, Matinesi later explained. "He made me feel like I was important," Wohltjen said, apparently remembering their experiences together and holding back tears.

Martinesi worked with the New York Police Department for 28 years before he was introduced to Wagner by a colleague in February 1992. He recalls saying, "I'll give it a shot," which he did not know would be the turning point in his career.

He announced his retirement, which is coming at this time so he can spend more time with his family, earlier this semester to the surprise of his staff, although Wohltjen recalls that he had spoken about doing so for some time.

"One day I went into his office and it looked like a doctor's office," Wohltjen said.

The two have experienced some stressful times together including the firing of Public Safety Officer Thomas Tibbs, after which Wohltjen said she, "had to completely gain the trust of Martinesi." Since then the two have worked together, along with the rest of the staff, to make Wagner an even safer place.

Martinesi says that, in his time here, he is most proud of his staff, "For the way they come together for me, and their support."

He also gives this advice and parting words to the students of Wagner College: "I know you've heard it before but, if you see something, say something. Thank you for all your cooperation and support. It has been a pleasure working for you."

Memories haunt Holocaust survivors

In memory of Kristallnacht, survivors visit campus

By **AMANDA SUTHERLAND**
Staff Writer

Wagner College's honoring of the 76th anniversary of Kristallnacht -- The Night of Broken Glass, Nov. 9 1938 -- commenced Monday, Nov. 10, by the new sponsored program of the Chai Society. The commemoration took place in the Faculty Dining Room with an audience of Wagner College students, 8th graders of I.S. 49 Bertha A. Dreyfus School and residents of the Staten Island community.

Gabi Held, a Holocaust survivor, was the esteemed guest speaker who spoke of his experience with Kristallnacht--the first major attack of Jews and the onset of Nazi Germany's genocide-- and about his journey living in Jewish ghettos and the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp until the age of 12.

The event was choreographed by Wagner College's new Holocaust internship education program, headed by History Department Chair, Lori Weintrob. Six carefully selected students were chosen to represent the program and have been taking part in a three week campaign to raise awareness for the Holocaust while it surrounds the anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Interns include, Audriana Mekula Hanson, Lauren Anne Klein, Leo Schuchert, Ruby Solitto, Shannon O'Connor, and Julia Teichman.

The interns have connected four local Holocaust survivors with various Staten Island middle schools and high schools in the area. Their goal has been to enhance young students' interests and overall knowledge of the Holocaust. In addition to Held, the other three survivors who shared their stories with students and the community were, Arthur Spielman, Rachel Gottlieb and Chaim Ben-Aron.

At the beginning of Monday's presentation, Weintrob and Teich-

man led a brief candle vigil and moment of silence in honor of the six million Jews who died during the Holocaust.

Immediately following, Held began his story from the beginning by recounting the events of being forced out of his home by a Hungarian police officer and German soldier, at the age of eight. From there he and his family were in a continuous transport, winding up in Jewish ghettos without any food or shelter, before eventually settling in at a German concentration camp.

As he spoke of the concentration camp, it was obvious the memories still haunted him. Held was visibly shaken as he described the many deaths he came to witness. Every day, Jews would collapse of hunger or exhaustion from their laborious duties and malnutrition. One of Held's jobs was to collect bodies in a wheelbarrow and haul them to the outside of the gate.

On more than one occasion Held had escaped death, which was an unlikely occurrence at the time. He vividly remembers being corralled by the Germans one afternoon for a group "shower." He was lead to a large room and asked to strip naked and wait. "Unfortunately we all knew it was not a shower because there were no faucets. We knew it was a gas chamber," said Held.

Shockingly, after 20 minutes his group was released from the chamber and asked to return to their barracks. To this day he still questions why his chamber was never gassed.

Weintrob closed the commemoration with a reminder to never forget the stories of the victims of the Holocaust, like Held. She continued with a resolution to bring an end to all social injustices and a proposal for young students to stand up for their rights.

As Elie Wiesel said, "Whoever listens to a witness, becomes a witness. Once we have heard, we must not stand idly by."



Martinesi's figurine collection is an indicator of his more personable side.



Holocaust survivor Gabi Held with his wife and interns Lauren Klein, Shannon O'Connor and Julia Teichman.

A conversation with Dr. Walter Kaelber

By **KRAG KERR**
Contributing Writer

Over his 40 plus years of teaching at Wagner College, Dr. Walter Kaelber has earned a well-deserved reputation for delivering often passionate, sometimes humorous and even mildly sarcastic lectures on religion and related areas of study. Memorable also for his height and unique voice, Kaelber has been recognized from afar by students of past decades. From San Francisco's Union Square, to a Moravian cemetery in Winston-Salem, N.C., he has been recognized by students of long ago. Though he certainly claims to be no Zen master, he has, over the decades, impacted the spiritual life of many students.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Kaelber observes that he was intellectually curious about religion at an early age. He remembers going to church regularly and trying to determine if religion was the most important thing in the world or total nonsense.

"After all," he says, "people around the globe base their lives on religious beliefs such as heaven, God, reincarnation and other profound ideas. Yet there is little empirical evidence to support any of these life transforming beliefs. Once you start asking questions like that about religion you know you're hooked," he adds.

"After studying religion for many years, I can emphatically state that religion is probably both the most important thing in the world and also very largely absurd...but not necessarily false." Kaelber also cites Alan W. Watts' television program, "Eastern Wisdom and Modern Life," as well as Hermann Hesse's novel, "Siddhartha," for drawing his attention to Asian religion in his early teens.

Although Kaelber was a history major as an undergraduate at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania from 1961 until 1965, he knew his graduate work at the University of Chicago (M.A. 1968, Ph.D. 1971) would be in comparative religion.

He recalls, "The master's program back then actually lasted 3 years. It featured reading exams in French and German, and comprehensive exams in five of six fields: Bible, Church History, Theology, Comparative Religion, Religion and Psychology and Religion and Literature. Candidates for the master's degree were also required to submit three major research papers in the area of their concentration."

The program was later, perhaps predictably, made substantially less rigorous.

Far later in his career, Kaelber wrote "Tapta Marga: Asceticism and Initiation in Vedic India," which



Dr. Kaelber

was published in 1989. He takes a copy of the book from a bookshelf in his office and reads from the Acknowledgments: "Lastly, love and abiding appreciation to my wife, Sally Ann, who eased my doubts with encouragement; and a special thank-you—" He stops and laughs. "This brings a tear to my eye. I haven't read this in many years: 'A special thank-you to my young daughter, Kristen, whose toothless cackle provided many moments of welcomed distraction as I completed the final revision.'"

Kaelber points to parenthood as an important step in self-understanding. "You tend to forget what you were like growing up, and seeing it all happen to your child makes you remember what it was like. You also see them at the same crossroads you were faced with, and that prompts you to look back at the choices you yourself made."

Asked what makes life worthwhile, Dr. Kaelber pauses. He says that his answer comes in two forms. "First, do some good. Try to care about others for their sake, not your own."

The second point comes in the form of a Zen parable.

"There is a man fleeing for his life from a charging grizzly bear. He comes to the edge of a cliff. There is nowhere to run. The man begins to climb down to escape the bear, but as he looks below, he sees there is no platform to tread on, and so he hangs from the edge of the cliff by his fingertips. Down below, there is a mountain lion waiting for him to drop. Caught between the two beasts, he can barely hang on. Then, to his amazement, he sees a strawberry, beautiful and ripe, growing from a cranny in the rock just within reach. He picks the strawberry and, despite his evident predicament, he relishes the sweetness of the berry."

"That is everyone's situation. In the face of all that is threatening you, with nonbeing behind you and death ahead of you, life is all about your ability to be present in the moment. In other words, take the time to enjoy the strawberries."



Reporter Krag Kerr with Dr. Kaelber in his third floor Parker Hall office.



Shane Ertter, an intern at 95.5 WPLJ, is the man behind the production of WCBG.

Coming soon: Wagner's new and improved radio station

By **AISHA RAHEEL**
Staff Writer

The Wagner radio station WCBG will return to the air next semester.

Originally founded in 1963, it was Staten Island's first radio station and was successful throughout the 1970s. There were even plans to build a space for it. Students used to watch it as a television station on channels across campus.

Today, the station will be an online radio station. Students will be able to listen to it at iheart radio. It will also be streaming at WCBG's

own website in real time. WCBG will be a 24-hour station.

The station's main programming will be music by up-and-coming artists: everything from alternative rock to R&B to classic hits to pop music.

Secondary programming will consist of talk shows on a variety of subjects including hot topics, entertainment, politics, sports, and even religious programming.

The religious programming will not be like traditional religious broadcasts which promote one religion at the expense of others. Instead WCBG hopes to use programs

about religion to promote dialogue on campus as well as discussions of morality and spirituality. Sports programming will be covered by the Seahawks Sports Network which will primarily cover Wagner's sports teams.

"I hope it really gives students a sense of pride about sharing their opinions and having that new form of media," says Shane Ertter, the radio station's manager.

Every component of WCBG's programming will pertain to Wagner. WCBG promises to be new, fresh, and exciting. It is not to be missed.



Protestors outside the Federal Communications Commission fighting for Net Neutrality.

Fast facts about Net Neutrality

By **MALLORY LEE**
Managing Editor

What is it?

Net Neutrality, controlled by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), prevents Internet providers like Comcast or Verizon from controlling the type of content you're able to access online. Rather, Internet providers would be required to treat all traffic sources equally.

Without it, Comcast, for example, would most likely promote NBC's content over ABC's to its Internet subscribers – because Comcast and NBC are affiliated.

Net Neutrality creates an even playing field for content providers and is ideal for consumers because they can access everything for no extra charge.

Who's against it?

Big internet providers don't like the idea of Net Neutrality and they feel they should be able to control what people see online and charge

content providers accordingly. Business Insider gives this scenario: Imagine if Verizon has tiers of Internet access. The highest paying customers could access everything on the Web. The lowest paying customers could access only the information Verizon chooses to promote. Verizon could even charge web publishers like NBC and ABC to displaying their content over competitors."

Why is the FCC doing this?

In 2010, the FCC became concerned that a few internet providers were growing too powerful so they created the Open Internet Rules which enforced three things:

1. Transparency. Internet access providers had to start disclosing how they were managing their networks.
2. No blocking. Internet access providers couldn't block access to legal content or applications.
3. No discrimination. Essentially, net neutrality. Internet access providers couldn't favor one traffic source over another.

Verizon challenged the Open Internet Rules this year because they contradicted the FCC's '02 decision not to regulate Internet service providers. The court agreed, stating, "even though the Commission has general authority to regulate in this arena, it may not impose requirements that contravene express statutory mandates."

How does this impact us?

Consumers could lose control of the Internet; Verizon and Comcast could become the ones who dictate what the public views online and small businesses who can't afford to pay Internet providers to promote their content might suffer.

What does this mean for the future?

According to the Wall Street Journal, "In all likelihood the Internet will gradually move from being a one-size-fits-all service to one where users or content companies can – or have to – pay more for better service or higher volumes of traffic."

EDITORIAL: Why are we afraid of Park Hill?

By AUDRIANA
MEKULA HANSON
Co-Editor

Park Hill: a community 10 minutes down the hill from Wagner College that houses the largest number of Liberians outside of Liberia. It is a community in which Wagner students and staff have volunteered as nurses, researchers, work study students and interns.

Likewise, it is a community that currently sees very few of these volunteers anymore for many debatable reasons, such as safety, transportation issues and motivation to work. What has caused the lack of volunteers in this area? Is it JUST the supposed level of danger surrounding the community? Or is it a lack of transportation down the hill? Can Wagner revitalize and reestablish the connection it once had to this community, or is the interest simply not there?

The Recent Park Hill Controversy

Park Hill experienced a different sort of attention based on the stigma associated with the Ebola virus. Motivated by fear and ignorance of the disease that was embellished and over-reported by many news media outlets, countless Liberians in Park Hill experienced stigmatization and discrimination, coming from a lack of knowledge in how to respond to or deal with a possible outbreak in the community. Many Liberians from this community were either laid off, or told not to report to work out of fear that they would spread Ebola, especially women working in the healthcare field. Likewise, many public school students faced severe bullying in school fueled by their ethnicity.

On October 17, Provost Lily McNair sent an email to the Wagner community temporarily suspending the one shuttle between Park Hill and the campus. Dr. McNair stated in her email that the motivation behind the suspension was to develop, "a policy that is in the best interest of our students' and faculty's health and safety, and supports our neighbors in the Park Hill community." At that time, the shuttle was utilized by Dr. Bernadette Ludwig and Dr. David Gordon's Learning Community to volunteer in the evening, as well as two senior psychology interns in the afternoon.

When multiple cases of Ebola were confirmed in Dallas, Dr. McNair, Dean Patricia Tooker, and many other faculty from four different departments decided to suspend the shuttle until an action plan could be developed in the event that Ebola

was confirmed in either Park Hill or on the campus.

"We were not comfortable until we knew more about the virus," remarked Dr. McNair. "We did not want to stigmatize their community, but we also needed to protect our own community."

Other administrators pointed out that Wagner does not have a large presence in Park Hill, so the absence was not necessarily noticed, a sincerely unfortunate sentence to write, in my opinion.

A week later on October 23, a follow-up email was sent by Dr. McNair lifting the suspension. As stated both in her email and in an interview, a Health Preparedness Task Force was created between the 17th and 23rd. The task force consisted of multiple academic departments, including the Nursing and Physician's Assistant programs, faculty from the Wagner College Health and Wellness Center, leaders in the Park Hill community, and a student from Sierra Leone.

The committee "consulted with community leaders, the NYC Department of Health and Hygiene, and local health care professionals at Richmond University Medical Center and Staten Island University Hospital," MsNair's email said. Likewise, the Task Force listened to the reports from the Pentagon and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to ensure that New York City was also prepared to treat a possible Ebola patient.

After the week suspension, the shuttle ban was lifted, and a different initiative with community leaders was created to implement an education program geared toward both the community and the campus to clarify any misconceptions or stigmatizations surrounding the Ebola virus.

While the ban lasted for a week, many students and faculty were outraged by the decisions. In an email to Dr. McNair, senior Mallory Lee wrote, "Throughout my three full years at Wagner, there have been times when I have been ashamed at how the school has (or lack thereof) handled situations. Yet never before have I been so thoroughly embarrassed and disgusted by the college until I heard of the temporary suspension of shuttle service to Park Hill."

In the same email, she also alluded to many professors in her classes expressing, "total outrage regarding [her] decision."

Other students pointed out that the suspension came with little explanation, making the decision appear reactionary instead of well thought out. Unlike the members of the Task Force, a majority of the

campus did not see or hear what was discussed at these meetings, leading the campus to draw its own conclusions about the motivations behind the suspension.

Park Hill Today

Now that the media circus surrounding Ebola has disappeared and the shuttle service has been restored, the question the campus should be asking is, *what now?* Many were outraged at the suspension of the shuttle, but many of them are still not volunteering in the community.

Wagner was recently voted by the US News and World Report to be one of the most innovative service learning schools. The question we must now raise is: how do we remain at the forefront? One way the campus could remain at the top of the pack is to replicate the Port Richmond Partnership in Park Hill. For if so many of the Wagner community are outraged about the suspension, what better way to strengthen the connection and to assist the community than to reestablish the strong bond that we once had?

Park Hill was not always as isolated from Wagner volunteers as it is today. In fact, as recently as 2010, Wagner College nursing students, led by Dean Tooker and Professors Annemarie Dowling-Castronovo and Cheryl Nadeau, participated in the African Refuge Health Promotion Program, an initiative to educate Park Hill residents on how to navigate the healthcare system. This included learning how to make appointments, fill prescriptions and listen to doctors' suggestions for the treatment of long-term conditions like hypertension.

Alongside this initiative, Professors Patricia Moynagh and Lori Weintrob completed the creation of The Park Hill Unity Garden, a program in which Learning Community students both cleaned up the neighborhood and helped both community members and local students plant and cultivate a unity garden. Their work was motivated by Nelson Mandela's reference to a garden symbolizing "one of the few things that one could control."

Both initiatives were supported financially by the Fox Family Fund Grant, a grant from an alum used only to foster volunteer programs in local Staten Island communities. So, if these initiatives happened only a few short years ago, why are they not happening today? Why are LCs going primarily to the Port Richmond communities to volunteer? Is it because there is no transportation, or because the risk of danger is greater in Park Hill?

"It has to do with resources," ex-

plains Dean Tooker. "There is simply not the volunteer activity in Park Hill that there is in Port Richmond." In other words, if more students were interested in volunteering in Park Hill, more funds could be allocated in that direction toward resources for these efforts. Why are students not going to Park Hill, then? It is only a 15-minute walk to the African Refuge Center, a work study position that pays \$9.00 an hour, more than New York minimum wage. Likewise, it has different needs from Port Richmond, needs that may interest certain students.

Many assert that the lack of volunteers has to do with the stigma surrounding not the Ebola virus, but the rate of violence in Park Hill. I volunteered in Park Hill my freshman and sophomore years with the African Refuge Center. When I would walk there, yes, I felt uncomfortable because I was in a new place and was catcalled, but no more uncomfortable than when I walk down Victory Boulevard to my job at CVS and experience the same catcalling.

Likewise, while in Park Hill, I had cops ask me twice if I was lost, because, *of course*, white girls shouldn't be wandering around in Park Hill. Even on campus, I have heard shuttle drivers refuse to drive there out of fear, and for the first week of Dr. Ludwig's travels to Park Hill with her LC, vans were driven by members of the Center for Leadership and Engagement Office because the drivers refused to go.

Staten Islanders in my freshman LC did not complete the Experiential Learning component because the thought of even having to drive to Park Hill frightened them. What perpetuates this level of fear and stigmatization? My LC professors do not reside in Staten Island, and assured our class that they were completely safe. This was not enough however, to prevent students from remaining ignorant about the true nature of violence in Park Hill.

According to the New York Police Department, the rate of crime in the 120 Precinct, which includes both Park Hill and Port Richmond, has decreased dramatically from 1990 to 2013. In 1990 for example, there were 16 murders reported, last year only 4.

In the same year, there were 2,066 burglaries reported, and last year only 242. Overall, the crime rate has dropped 80% from 1990 to 2013. While this precinct has the highest amount of crime in Staten Island, it is clear that in the last 23 years, this crime has steadily decreased.

If you break down these statistics by neighborhood and compare Park Hill to Port Richmond, both appear to have a similar level of crime. For example, this year so far there have been two murders in the Park Hill neighborhood and no rapes, whereas in Port Richmond there have been no murders this year and three rapes. Likewise, Park Hill has seen more felony assaults than Port Richmond, but Port Richmond has seen more robberies than Park Hill.

When these neighborhoods are compared with the rest of New York City, no Staten Island neighborhood makes the list of top ten most dangerous neighborhoods. However, Midtown and the Meatpacking District in Manhattan are the two areas in New York City where you are most likely to become a victim of a crime, according to statistics analyzed by the New York Police Department. In other words, a student is in more danger walking the streets of Manhattan than walking the streets of Park Hill.

So what is the issue? Why are our students not volunteering in Park Hill? Is it because they have no van there, or is it because they are not presented with the opportunity because some faculty and staff see Park Hill as a safety threat? In my opinion, if Park Hill were presented as a volunteer opportunity in the same way that Port Richmond is, more students would choose to volunteer in Park Hill than do currently because Park Hill has different needs than Port Richmond, some of which might interest other students.

I leave you with one thought. If we are all so outraged at the stigmatization and discrimination shown Park Hill in the wake of Ebola, why is this community not outraged by the unfounded fear and discrimination against the community based on a rate of violence that is similar to the level that exists in Port Richmond?

Moving forward from Ebola, this community can foster a greater and successful relationship with Park Hill, one that would be missed by both communities if it were to be suspended again. This can only occur, however, if we can demand that the Wagner community deny the stigmatization and discrimination against Park Hill based on both Ebola AND the violence that is disproportionality associated with the community.

There is currently a social media campaign being organized by Dr. Ludwig and members of the Nursing department to combat this level of ignorance and stigmatization. If you are interested in participating, you can contact Dr. Ludwig: bernadette.ludwig@wagner.edu.



Both pictures show the felonies that have been reported to the 120 Precinct in Park Hill (left) and Port Richmond (right). The larger dots indicate areas of multiple crimes while the smaller ones show one or two crimes.

As you can see, both appear to have a relatively equal felony crime rate.



the OPINIONS section

editorials, campus critiques, and more...



Co-Editor Audriana with her husband Nathan as she prepares to graduate in December.

The last song

By AUDRIANA
MEKULA HANSON
Co-Editor

It is with mixed feelings that I write this a few short weeks before my graduation. On the one hand, I am immensely excited to have nine months off before attending law school to do almost anything I want. On the other hand, it is a big change from being in a fast-paced, busy environment to a relaxed one, and I am not sure if I will welcome the respite, or go crazy from it.

All that aside, I will miss some aspects of my busy life here at Wagner. For one, I will miss the few good and true friends I have made here. I feel that my time at Wagner has been enriched for sure by you, Kerri Alexander and Rachael Walker. I have a lot of baggage and it means a lot that you both were willing to take it all on, and then some. I hope that I have reciprocated this acceptance and compassion. You ladies are amazing, and I am so excited to follow you as you move on from Wagner toward new goals and interesting successes.

I will miss the library staff. I have worked there as a Research Technology Tutor for two years now, but when I compare it to the other jobs I've held, it is by far the one with the most interesting and compassionate people. With the risk of sounding cliché, without Cathy I do not think I would have been as together as I was. From problems as simple as printing a paper to as large as listening to me cry about my crazy family, you were right there with a mug of tea, a joke to tell and an open heart.

Of course, I cannot forget the countless conversations and assistance from librarians Marys, Dennis, Tim, Veronica and Dean Davison. You are all so kind and so willing to help in any and every situation. You are all a huge asset to the campus and students do not re-

alize how truly lucky they are to have a staff as eclectic and thoughtful as all of you. Keep on killin' it.

Likewise, my Wagner days would not be complete without the entirety of the English department. I can honestly say I have enjoyed every class I took in this department, not to mention that each one of you has strengthened who I am, whether as a reader, writer, thinker, or member of society. Dr. Bemardo taught me to have confidence in my writing and my arguments. Dr. Schotter taught me not to be intimidated by the medieval or British literature canon and showed me that these novels can be edgy and progressive even in today's standards. Dr. Hurley taught me to have fun with literature, especially Shakespeare. Likewise, you have given me a valuable insight on what it is like to be married and living apart during school, showing me that it can and will work out for the best for both of us.

Lastly, Dr. Thomas. Honestly, what have I not learned from Dr. Thomas? Perhaps the most important lesson I learned was how to take snarky criticism and find something productive in it. But, in all seriousness, I think that over my four years here, you have taught me the most about how to form a logical argument. I do not think my term papers junior and senior year would have earned A's had it not been for your American Literature class sophomore year forcing me to establish a thesis and really argue it. Likewise, even though your critiques on my thesis were sometimes not constructive, I do think that by the end of it, the argument I formulated was rather sound and strong and something I am proud to put my name on, even if you still disagree with me.

At the end of the day though, you all taught me that literature is a lens through which I can see the world. You have taught me how to read

confidently, write confidently and most importantly, think confidently. Maybe not all of you know, but as a freshman I arrived here with much self-doubt and a chip on my shoulder from my home life. Through your classes, I worked through both of these issues and am now graduating with the feeling that I can conquer whatever life or law school throws at me. Honestly, I am forever grateful for this skill because it is not something I would have learned on my own, but it is definitely a skill I did not even realize I needed to acquire. Without it I would not be the strong, confident and thoughtful woman that I am today.

Last but not least, I feel I have to save a little space for perhaps the most popular sociology adjunct, Alan Hoffner. If given the chance, and it is a difficult chance to get, every single person should take a class with him, for a multitude of reasons. For one, he's funny, and he always has at least two stories to tell about every famous person you can imagine. Perhaps what I have learned from you the most is how to foster a confidence in who I have become. You have shown me that I am valuable. You have taught me that I deserve love, respect, fun, success and happiness. You have helped me create within myself a strong support system that can carry me through the brightest days and the darkest nights.

So with this, I leave the senior class for their final semester with one wish: Learn to love yourself. Again, pretty cliché, but it is by far the most valuable lesson I will be taking home with me in December. I wish for you not only to love yourself, but realize your potential. You are *amazing*. You are *brilliant*. You are *worthy*. Advocate for yourself. Let no one dismiss you or put you down or treat you any less than the best, because you are so worth it.

You are all so worth it.

What happened to karaoke?

By ARIANA PALMIERI
Staff Writer

What did you do at Fall Festival? I went to a karaoke night that never happened.

Let me elaborate. Fall Festival had many activities listed for November 1, and Karaoke night was one of them. It began at 10 p.m. in the coffee house and would be hosted by the Commuter Student Association (CSA). Being a part of that association, I would know that the event was indeed scheduled.

I went an hour early to setup the coffeehouse with Steven Stomiolo, Jennifer Weile, and Melissa Maltez who are all active CSA members. Steven gave us a ride so we wouldn't have to travel in the nasty weather. Steven had been told karaoke night was an event we had to host and that all the equipment would be set up for us. He was also told there would be someone in the coffee house beforehand.

Well, unless being locked out of the coffee house counts as someone being there, I guess that wasn't exactly what happened. It was freezing cold when we got there and all we wanted to do was get in but the lights were out. Steve and I decided to go off and get public safety to open the door while Jen and Melissa waited outside the coffee house just in case someone came.

No one answered when we knocked on public safety's door and we waited a good ten minutes. We decided our only other option was the guard booth. When we got there the security guard assured us someone would be right over. Thankfully as we made our way back to Jen and Melissa, a security guard was already opening the door. By now it was going on 9:30 p.m. and I must have looked like Rudolph because it was so cold.

But wait, the fun didn't end there. None of the equipment for the karaoke was set up and all the wires were tangled. To add to the atmosphere the toilet kept making strange sounds, the pipes kept banging loudly and there were three containers of dip that had been carelessly opened beforehand and left on the coffee table. Thankfully,

Steven is a computer science major so he figured out how to set the equipment up except for the microphone, which is kind of important for karaoke. If he hadn't been there I guarantee you Jen, Melissa and I wouldn't have even made it that far for fear we'd screw something up.

By now it was 10 p.m. and from the looks of it, no one was coming. Honestly, I couldn't blame anyone. The weather was awful and people must have been tired from the earlier events that day. We decided to wait it out anyway just in case. Unexpectedly, a group of students walked in and despite the embarrassment of the microphone not working, we were excited to see them.

That is until they told us they were only there because they thought the coffee house was open. Regretfully, we explained the coffee house workers never showed up and that we couldn't serve them anything. We told them they were more than welcome to stay and sing karaoke but they politely declined. They said they had known about the event but had just planned on watching.

Sadly, there wasn't much to watch other than us fussing over microphone wires. I didn't blame them for leaving. We decided to leave too once it hit 10:40 p.m.

"It was such a disappointment," said Melissa Maltez, looking back on the situation, "It felt like no one cared about us because nothing was set up."

This semester has been rough for the CSA because we haven't received a budget from SGA. We'll have one by next semester if we fulfill all the requirements necessary to receive one. The trouble with that is that the CSA has been fairly inactive. Thankfully, new people are taking it over and expressing more of an interest in it, myself included.

The new eboard will be made official in the spring semester. While we believe the karaoke mishap was just a big miscommunication, it did make the commuters realize it's time for the CSA to step up and become more recognized on campus. Perhaps if we are more recognized, this sort of mishap won't happen again.



LIFE & STYLE

ASMR: Can you feel it Mr. Krabs?

By **ARIANA PALMIERI**
Staff Writer

Are you having trouble sleeping with finals on the brain? Maybe it's time you look into a phenomenon called Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response (ASMR). YouTube has a surplus of ASMR videos that have helped thousands relax, unwind and even fall asleep. Yet what exactly is ASMR?

There is no scientific evidence for ASMR, but those who claim they have it, describe it as a pleasurable, tingling sensation that usually starts in the head, but can move down the spine and through the limbs.

It is caused by multiple different triggers that vary from person to person. The most common triggers are whispering, scratching, tapping, blowing, page turning, role playing

and personal attention to the head.

ASMR videos are controversial; some people find them soothing, relaxing and calming while others find them boring, creepy, or awkward. ASMR videos can also be misinterpreted as sexual.

Usually the ASMR artists are young and attractive women who will talk softly to the camera and will do many "trigger-worthy" activities in order to create a relaxing atmosphere. This is not meant to be sexual, it is meant to put the viewers into a relaxed trance to induce tingles.

If ASMR is so "creepy," then why are there so many videos of it? All you have to do to find one is type in "ASMR" on YouTube, which will produce over one million results. There is quite a hype surrounding this innovative technique to combat stress.

"I think [ASMR] has to do with

childhood," GentleWhispering, a famous ASMR artist said. "Whenever your mother would treat you delicately, or your doctor or teacher would talk to you gently...the caring touch is the biggest trigger."

GentleWhispering, an attractive Russian blonde named Maria, has over 290,000 subscribers on YouTube and has been written about in the New York Times. Her most famous video, "Oh Such a Good 3D-sound ASMR Video" has reached over seven million views.

Many of her fans thank her on a daily basis for helping them relax and fall asleep when nothing else works. While there is no exact reason as to what ASMR truly is or why it works so well, scientists speculate it falls under the category of a behavioral treatment that helps trick your brain into relaxing.

"People who have insomnia are in

a hyper state of arousal," said Dr. Carl W. Bazil, a sleep disorders specialist at Columbia University. "Behavioral treatments—guided imagery, progressive relaxation, hypnosis and meditation—are meant to try to trick your unconscious into doing what you want it to do. ASMR videos seem to be a variation on finding ways to shut your brain down."

This may be why ASMR relaxes people to the point of sleep and is so popular in a sleep-deprived culture. The reason behind the tingling people claim to experience is still unknown, but can be looked upon for now as just another pleasant side effect.

The next time you're looking to unwind and catch some Z's, why not search an ASMR artist on YouTube and give it a try? The results may put you to sleep.

What is ASMR?

Have you ever gotten goosebumps from a particularly good song? Do you feel relaxed when someone pinches your skin?

If so, you have experienced **ASMR**.

Literally, it means **Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response**.

In plain English, it is the sensation you feel from seeing or hearing certain things.

This response creates a mind-boggling sensation and makes you feel relaxed.

Like a favorite candy, everyone has a favorite sound. A sound is also called a **trigger**, because it triggers your ASMR.

Common triggers include: whispering, tapping, and blowing.

Experiencing a series of such triggers simultaneously with little rest is called **ASMR**.

There is an entire community dedicated to ASMR. They all focus on the **whispering community**, and those who make videos are trademarked **'whisperers'**.

ASMR is not meant to be **sexual**. However, some people use ASMR to help them sleep.

Do you want to build a snowman?



Study abroad in style

By **MELISSA CALATO**
Staff Writer

It's the night before you leave to study abroad in an exotic nation. Your suitcase is packed and loaded to the top with apparel you mindlessly added to your luggage.

The stunning new outfit you bought specifically for your adventures would impress anyone you ran into around your town.

However, there is one problem with this: you won't be in your own town. You will be abroad, and depending on where your travels take you, you cannot dress the way you normally would.

With many sophomores and juniors planning to study abroad in the spring semester, it is important to remember that while going abroad, you will find yourself immersed in a completely new environment, and no two places are the same.

Therefore, fashion is important to pay attention to for multiple reasons

such as health, style and, of course, comfortability.

The first thing that everyone should look out for when they are studying abroad is the climate pattern of the abroad country. This may seem like an obvious task, however, a semester is four months long and the weather can vary immensely.

Weather is an extreme influence on fashion. For example, you may plan on going to Italy in the spring and assume that the weather will be warm.

Unfortunately there are different climates in different regions, and if a winter coat is forgotten in the beginning of February in northern Italy, you can face health risks. Remember that it is important to bring a wide variety, because you may experience a mixture of hot and cold weather.

Next, you must consider the style. It is important to realize that because studying abroad is an immersion, you might want to dress culture appropriate. Using the same example from earlier, you may hate wearing scarves, but in Italy light scarves are

very chic and part of their stylistic culture. It may be expensive to buy new items for your wardrobe, but it is a good idea to soak up every part of your country's culture.

Finally, some places do not really give you a freedom to wear whatever you want. While studying abroad, you may run into trouble with trendy outfits.

It is always smart to do research about a country's cultural rules in order to respect their standards of attire.

An example of a country with strict dress codes is the Vatican. If you are planning to visit religious places in your travels, remember to pack clothes that cover your legs, shoulders and stomach, even if you are traveling in a hot climate.

One last tip: consider beginning to pack earlier than the night before your flight. Last minute hectic packing will result in more random clothing, rather than outfits you will actually end up wearing.



Additional tips for a jet-setter

1. Flats are a great way to stay fashionable and comfortable at the same time.
2. Keep a tiny umbrella in your bag for unexpected downpours.
3. Black pumps are the best accessory for a night out on the town.
4. Small crossover purses are versatile and keep your valuables safe.
5. Get out of your leggings, sweatshirt and Ugg habit. No one dresses like this in other countries.
6. Actually leggings as pants is a no-go in its entirety.
7. Girls in Europe tend to wear tights under their dresses and skirts, so pack a pair just in case. Black ones are great for the night time.
8. Blazers are a perfect addition to any outfit whether you are going out to a cafe, internship or a club.
9. A Little Black Dress is self explanatory.
10. Leave room in your luggage for all the clothes you are going to buy in the new super fabulous city.

Reported by: Life & Style Editor
Rea Ulaj

{ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT }

Happy Holidays and Thanks for reading! - The Entertainment Team

'On The Town,' is one "Helluva" Show



By **THERESA REED**
Staff Writer

The Broadway revival of the musical, "On The Town," sailed onto Broadway on September 20, docking at the newly renovated Lyric Theatre, officially opening October 16. At "On The Town," audiences are in store for a truly unique Broadway experience. The show starts off with the entire audience standing to sing the National Anthem accompanied by the largest orchestra on Broadway.

Set in New York City in 1944, "On The Town" takes you on a journey through the city starting at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and transporting audience members on a wild ride from Times Square, to Carnegie Hall, Coney Island, and even a New York Yankees baseball game.

Characters

The musical is centered around three sailors, Gabey, Chip and Ozzie who are on shore leave for 24 hours in grand old New York City. Opening in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, in the wee hours of the morning, the three friends are ready to take on the city, each with a different agenda in tow. Chip hopes to use an old map his father gave him to navigate around hoping to see all the tourist sights before his 24 hours is up. Ozzie is on a quest to find as many

dames as he can get his hands on, while Gabey is in search of an old-fashioned romance.



Story

While traveling in the subway, the three friends lay eyes on a Miss. Turnstiles poster, showcasing the current Miss. Turnstiles, Ivy Smith. With her attractive looks and stellar record setting singing and ballet at Carnegie Hall while being an all-around champion sports woman, Gabey believes he has found the girl of his dreams. With a lot of island to cover and a 24-hour deadline fast approaching, the three friends decide to split up and search for Ivy Smith. The sailors jet set on a bustling city adventure filled with frolicking, enlightenment and of course, tangling with the law. Audiences are left asking, Will the sailors make it back to the ship in time? But most importantly, what will become of Ivy, the girl Gabey hopeless spent hours searching for and now with only a few hours left has her within

arms reach? New York, New York sure is one "helluva" town!

Reflection

All in all, "On the Town" was certainly a "helluva" musical. Throughout the show there are also various ballet numbers, led by Megan Fairchild, a principal dancer at the New York City Ballet, currently making her Broadway debut. She was a pure joy to watch and certainly told an even deeper story through her delicate ballet routines. Jackie Hoffman, also makes a lasting impression as the all too hysterical, Madame Dilly. She leaves audiences laughing for hours. Although, "On the Town" may be somewhat of an old-fashioned musical, theatre goers of any age will love it. "On The Town" is currently running at the Lyric Theatre. There are a limited number of discount tickets available through a mobile lottery the day of each performance. Details are on the shows website.



Photo: Theresa Reed



All you need to know about the latest celebrity gossip!



America's most beloved "Full House" Twins

Where are the Olsen twins?

By **AMANDA HASTINGS**
Staff Writer

The Olsen twins won over America's hearts when they began sharing the role of the beloved Michelle Tanner on "Full House." It has been quite some time since Mary-Kate and Ashley have hit the big screens and tend to stay out of the lime light. So the question is where are the famous twins these days?

There have been recent rumors speculating that Mary-Kate has had cosmetic surgery done on her face. Hitting the red carpet with her twin at the 2014 "World of Children" event on November 7, the actress debuted a very obvious difference in her facial features.

While the actresses turned fashion icons were both dressed in black, there was no denying it was not the Mary-Kate we once knew. Dr. Youn, a plastic surgeon expert, believes that her eyebrow line is much higher and her cheeks are much puffier than before.

It is being speculated that it may be from some kind of injection and since they were once named the richest kids alive, she sure has no

trouble affording it.

The "It Takes Two" actresses have been seen around New York City the month of November and were seen on a double date going to see the new film "Foxcatcher" starring Channing Tatum and Steve Carell. Mary-Kate went hand-in-hand with her much older fiancée Olivier Sarkozy, 45, who got engaged in 2014. Ashley, on the other hand had a date with her boyfriend Bennett Miller.

While they both do a really good job at keeping their private lives out of the public eye, Mary-Kate, 28, has seems to find herself in front page headlines. In 2004, the "New York Minute" star faced a public battle with anorexia. She also found herself making headlines in 2008, when she was the last one to see actor Heath Ledger alive when he died of an overdose.

The duo, who instantly hit stardom when they were just 9-months-old, hit the big screens for the first time in 1995 for the box office success "It Takes Two." The twins sparkled the screens as they played identical strangers and they will forever be the little girls who put the smiles on America's faces.

The best of this fall's new releases

Three American box office is experiencing an anomaly. Currently, nine out of the top ten films in the box office are generally loved by critics (with the exception being the forgettable horror flick, "Ouija"). Below are a few of the great movies to see in theaters.

Bird Man

Although first released in only a few theaters, "Birdman's" critical success and good word of mouth allowed for the film to be distributed at a wider range. The film is like a gospel for actors. The movie deals

with themes of searching for the geniality, building a legacy and exploring art in general.

Also the film is beautifully shot. Filmed in a style called one shot, "Birdman" looks as if it was filmed

in one take, with no cuts. The way it was filmed not only elevates how great it looks but how great the acting is, especially Michael Keaton and Emma Stone.

Whiplash

A smaller film, "Whiplash" deserves more praise. The film explores how far a drummer is willing to go to become great and the relationship between a student and his teacher. Admiration should be given

to the director, Damien Chazelle, who also wrote the film.

Chazelle knows how to film both passion, tension and even sound. Every time the lead, Miles Teller, plays on his drums, you feel as if

you were in his head. An amazing feat for a first time director.

Also, the movie should leave you with a newfound appreciation for fast-paced jazz music.

Nightcrawler

Although starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Gyllenhaal dives so deeply into his role of Louis Bloom that he is unrecognizable. For the entire movie, you were be entranced by Gyllenhaal's performance as a so-

ciopathic cameraman.

Additionally, the atmosphere in the film is so richly sinister, allowing the audience to follow Louis Bloom do his work. Brilliantly paced, halfway through "Night-

crawler" you realized you are now on horrifying carried down the seedy underbelly of Los Angeles with a sociopath and you are enjoying every second of it.

Reported by Glen MacDonald



SEAHAWK SPORTS



Photos: Sllive.com

Andrews hands the ball off to no. 11, Matthias McKinnon.

Record season in the making

By GRACE ZHANG
Sports Editor

The Seahawks came up with two huge wins this month. With their win against Robert Morris and Duquesne, Wagner football currently sits in the second position seat with Bryant.

After losing to the defending NEC champions Sacred Heart in the first week of November, the team bounced back to shutout Robert Morris. Fifth-year senior cornerback Jarrett Dieudonne was a key player to the game with his 99-yard interception return.

The Seahawks took the lead late in the first quarter, with a safety. Senior kicker Bryan Maley then completed a 37-yard field goal to widen the lead. With 18 seconds to spare, junior quarterback Chris Andrews, ran the ball to the end zone on a third-and-goal. RMU was able to block the extra point before heading to half time with Wagner leading 11-0.

Maley added another 30-yard field goal before Dieudonne's 99-yard pick-six to conclude the game at 20-0 with Wagner missing the last extra point. For his efforts, Dieudonne was named for the second time of the season NEC Defensive Player of the Week.

Keeping their NEC title dreams alive, the Green and White went up against Duquesne in their Senior Day Game. 23 seniors were honored in a pregame ceremony: Brett Buzzard, Daquan Cooper, Anthony Emmanuele, Phil Faccione, A.J.

Firestone, Anthony Fiumefeddo, David Fredrickson, Patrick Gibbons, Eli Grant, Trevor Loveland, Daniel Mack, Bryan Maley, Evan Odeseeye, Anthony Rivers, Fritz Rock, Kevin Sweeney, Max Wassel, Bryant Watts, Ja'Kim Williamson, and Ryan Wytanis.

"It is a strange feeling knowing I won't be playing on Hameline Field ever again, but I'm glad we came out with such a great victory," shared Faccione.

The Seahawks took the lead in the first quarter, when sophomore running back Matthias McKinnon found the end zone for a two-yard drive on a third-and-goal. The Dukes tied the game up before the teams headed to half time.

In the second half, Wagner took the lead with a 34-yard field goal by Maley. In the fourth quarter, the Seahawks completed an impressive 19-play, 83-yard effort that ended in a one-yard touchdown by junior running back, Otis Wright. Dieudonne had his third pick six of the season to make the score 23-7 with eight minutes left to play. Though the Dukes were able to scrape up a one-yard touchdown, the game ended 23-13 with Wagner on top.

Despite the team's tremendous effort on Saturday, for Wagner to advance to the championships, second seat rival Bryant had to also win against Sacred Heart.

The Pioneers held their reign over the NEC title with their win against Bryant. The Green and White can still tie with Sacred Heart for the best regular season NEC record.



Photos: Wagner Athletics

Fifth-year senior Katie Marcy made four saves during her last game against CSCU.

Soccer wraps up with historic record

By GRACE ZHANG
Sports Editor

The Wagner College soccer team ended their season with a dominant 5-2-2 conference record. The Seahawks fought hard before falling 2-1 to the now NEC champions, Central Connecticut, in double overtime.

The Blue Devils got a head start with NEC Player of the Year, Tori Sousa, scoring in the 25th minute of the game. The Green and White came back strong in the second half to tie the game up. Junior midfielder Johanna Konrad found the back of

the net with a header assisted by junior defender Victoria Roda.

In the first overtime, both teams with strong goalkeepers and defense struggled to outscore the other. Fifth-year senior goalkeeper Katie Marchy recorded four saves for the game. In the second overtime, sophomore defender Tori Rodriguez kept the game alive by making a huge block in the 104th minute of the game.

However, CSCU's Sousa was able to penetrate the Green and White defense three minutes later to help the Blue Devils advance.

"There were a lot of ups and downs this season. Ultimately we

came together to prove a lot of people wrong and made the tournament. We went down fighting but it was a great season," shared sophomore midfielder, Megan Fritz.

Despite their loss, the Seahawks' 5-2-2 league record marks the best season that the Seahawks has seen since 1997 when they qualified for their first NEC Championship.

Along with this historic season, Seahawks also picked up three All-NEC accolades. Head coach Mike Minielli was named the NEC Coach of the Year, freshman defender Jessica Donnelly, NEC Rookie of the Year and Rodriguez and Konrad were named to All-NEC 2nd team.

Top finishes for XC

By MEGAN FRITZ
Staff Writer



Junior, Lorraine Brancale, was named to the All-NEC Conference team.

hind with an overall 12th place finish.

Both Malakoff and Naglieri were recognized and selected for the 2014 NEC All-Conference team. Freshman Joseph Abbatiello stood out with a 26th overall finish, but a 7th place finish among freshman runners.

The Men's cross country team improved over the past year, moving up from a seventh place finish last year, to their fourth place finish this year.

The women's team was led by junior Lorraine Brancale to a seventh place team finish.

Brancale led the team with a seventh place individual finish and received the 2014 All-NEC All-Conference team honors for her strong season.

The Men and Women cross country teams finished up their season on November 1st at Central Connecticut State University for the NEC Championship meet.

The men's team finished in fourth place while the women's team came out in seventh place.

Both teams had to fight the weather on race day as heavy rainfall created a challenge for the runners.

Despite the weather, senior Jacob Malakoff finished off his collegiate career with an overall sixth place finish in the race.

His fellow senior teammate James Naglieri came in close be-



Photo: Wagner College

Despite the cold and the rain, John Andersen enjoyed the food on the Oval.



Photo: Wagner College

On Halloween night, students enjoyed Fall Fest and the variety of food trucks.

FALL FEST

HOMECOMING



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

The Royal Court is all smiles after the crowning of King Samuel McGee and Queen Heather Wolf at Homecoming. From left to right: Alyssa Manfredini, PatriciaAnn McCaffrey, Ralen Robinson, Heather Wolf, Samuel McGee, Matthew Sinopili, and Kevin Spillane



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

The marching band played Wagner's fight song to pump up the students for Homecoming the following day.



Photo: Jacqueline Menna

The Dance and Cheer teams performed in the bitter cold to help rally the audience through the parade and the football game.