The Changing Campus

The workmen are busy laboring to vastly upgrade access to the main entrance of the College. The main improvements will focus on making that whole area much more accessible to all the traffic that arrives each day. This includes the accessory vehicles which bring students in wheelchairs to the campus. The shuttle buses from the Brighton Beach train station also use this area as do school buses bringing school children on visitations to the campus. That circle of traffic is used intensely everyday and this work will allow much easier traffic flow in that area.

They are also putting up a retaining wall around the Shimoda, the huge orange sculpture. Some beautification of the area is also taking place by cleaning up some of the tree circles and by laying down new cement to replace some brick work.

Joe Muzio, who was at KCC from 1969-2002 and was active at many levels of the college has finished writing a personal memoir about his parents. The book is titled Buddy Remembers, Then and Now, and focuses on their developmental years after they came to America from Italy as immigrant children, their marriage, their approaches to life and their influences as parents and citizens. Joe suggests that others engage in such descriptive recollections, that all parents are part of a collective humanity seldom written about. These might become an endless documentation of family behaviors and interactions, as well as offering more clarity and understanding of one’s parents through the lens of remembrances. The book is being self-published by Trafford Publishing in Vancouver, B.C.

Retaining wall being built around the Shimoda sculpture

Our next luncheon will be on Thursday, May 15, 2008.
We look forward to seeing you there.
The KCC Retirees group presented a Retiree Benefits workshop and discussion on Dec. 10th at 2 pm. Clarissa Weiss, PSC Pension and Benefits Officer, and Stu Leibowitz, President of the Retirees Association of DC-37, presented to their respective groups.

On February 13, the retirees that have moved to Florida and those retirees that were escaping the winter weather in Florida joined together to celebrate their years at Kingsborough. A festive luncheon was held at a beautiful golf club in Delray Beach.

Despite the wind and the rain out side the group of twenty – five laughed, reminisced and shared stories of their current lives. It was wonderful to see old friends and remember times when the college was newly opened and growing into the wonderful institution we have today.

The event was wonderfully planned and coordinated by Lorri Lederhandler. She feels it was a terrific event and that next year it will be bigger and better.
Faculty/Staff Spotlight

Judith Perez - HPER

Judy became a volunteer firefighter in the Fire Island Pines Fire Department in 1991 after extensive classroom and live fire training at the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank, New York.

There is continual field and classroom training to keep up-to-date with changing methods of fire suppression. She was elected captain of Hose Company, managing 20 firefighters at fire scenes and served in this position for 10 years.

She also took extensive in-class, field training and certifying examination to qualify as the Pines Fire Department’s Incident Safety Officer, second only to the chief. Judy has recently been re-elected to a second five-year term as a New York State Fire Commissioner in the Fire Island Pines Fire District. Fire Commissioners are NYS elected officials who administer District taxpayer’s funds to insure the smooth operation of the fire department and all its training, equipment and facilities. She currently chairs the five-member board.

Sheldon Aptekar - Communications and Performing Arts

Since retirement I have become a Panelist and Adjudicator for the New York State Council of the Arts, Nassau Grants for the Arts at the Long Island Arts Council at Freeport. This is a three year term and as a panelist, I with others, review grant proposals and determine which are worthy for an award and then the amount of money each should be allocated. As an adjudicator I travel about the county reviewing all kinds of performing arts productions, and write up reports that go on file with the NYSCA.

In addition, my work with Chelonia Mydas, Green Sea Turtles, continues, as I swim with the turtles and record behavior in Akumal Mexico and will be there at the end of April till the end of May. [See www.tortugawatch.com.] I was awarded CERTIFICA-DO by the Ecology Center of Akumal for my work and my photographs and research has been used by the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network (WIDECAST), Nicholas School Marine Lab - Duke University, and Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research University of Florida, the International Sea turtle organization and the Turtle Conservation program at Xcaret, Mexico as well as the ongoing work of the ecology center in Akumal.

Aside from the above I have been sculpting and carving for many years and last year I opened my own business which can be seen at www.aptkreations.com.

I guess all of the above plus some R & R makes for a busy and wonderful time.

Judith A. Perez
District Commissioner
Safety Officer
Hose Company

Shelly & wife Ronni at Imperial Palace in Vietnam

Shel at home workshop

One example of Shel's work. Made with Pine cones & seeds
See more on his website
Retiree Directory

The quickest way to keep everyone up to date on happenings is through e-mail. We are asking all of you to give us your e-mail address and we will publish it on the back page of the newsletter. This way we can send out notices of interest to you. There also may be other friends and colleagues who wish to contact you. We are also compiling a directory of all retirees and hope you will send in your phone number and full mailing address. Please send your full name, department or office affiliation and all contact info to shellyf@aol.com. Thanks!

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