From Sweden, with Love

“At age 15 when I discovered the great Louis Armstrong, I had no idea that I entered a love affair which would last the rest of my life,” wrote Gosta Hägglöf, a Swedish banker who devoted 60 years to preserving the legacy of his musical idol.

By the time Hägglöf died in 2009, he had amassed thousands of rare recordings by Armstrong from all over the world—some had never been commercially released—as well as videos, photographs, personal correspondence, and unique memorabilia, which he bequeathed to the Louis Armstrong House Museum (LAHM), the world’s largest archives dedicated to a single jazz musician.

LAHM director Michael Cogswell noted that it took four-and-a-half days to box Hägglöf’s collection to prepare it for shipment to America. Ricky Riccardi, the museum’s project archivist and an Armstrong scholar, has been entrusted with cataloging the collection—some 72 cartons—which is expected to take two years. In September Riccardi gave the media a sneak peek at some of the riches from Hägglöf’s treasure trove, while regaling the audience with stories and music that even jazz aficionados had never heard before.

Included among the one-of-a-kind items he presented were 17 CDs Hägglöf made from acetate records of a 1947 Boston concert of Satchmo at Symphony Hall. Another rare find was a CD that Hägglöf produced on his own Ambassador label of the best dance selections performed live at the Summit Club.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
QC Mobile Apps Are Here

Free mobile applications are putting QC in good hands—yours. Wherever you are, you can call up maps, the campus directory, and calendars through web-enabled, mobile devices. Also accessible: course descriptions, videos, and QC recordings on iTunes U. To download the app designed for your device, go to http://mqc.cuny.edu and click on the appropriate icon.

“We’re the only CUNY school that has mobile apps for almost all web-enabled devices, including iPhone/iPod Touch/iPad, Android, and Blackberry,” says Angel Arcelay (OCT), who spearheaded the mobilization effort. “Imagine having access to the information you need the most, available 24/7 and on the go. And it’s free!”

Additional functions will be integrated into these apps. During the next phase of the project, OCT hopes to introduce a library tool that will allow users to check on the availability of books. A news module is in the works, too.

JFK ASSASSINATION - from page 1

Were there even more shots fired? Was it a conspiracy, with a second sniper? The Warren Commission, appointed five days after JFK’s death, decided that Oswald had acted alone in killing the president, as did Jack Ruby in killing Oswald. When doubts persisted about the cooperation of federal agencies in investigating the shootings of JFK, Texas Governor John Connally, Oswald, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Congress reopened the JFK investigation in 1976.

One key piece of evidence considered by this House Select Committee on Assassinations was a five-minute Dallas police radio recording the original was discovered in 1978. The recording had been picked up by a “stuck” microphone from a policeman’s motorcycle believed to have been in JFK’s motorcade.

The committee called in the nation’s top acoustics expert, James E. Barger, to assess this scratchy recording, which had no audible gunshots. Comparing the acoustical analysis of the tape’s noises that were as loud as gunshots with an acoustic reconstruction in Dealey Plaza, Barger and his colleagues came up with a 50 percent probability of a second sniper, shooting one bullet from the grassy knoll in front of the motorcade.

To expand Barger’s findings on the fourth loud noise, the committee turned to two other “highly regarded experts,” as Time magazine (January 1, 1979) called them: Mark R. Weiss, then a QC computer scientist, and his QC research colleague, Ernest Aschkenasy (now deceased). Based on their computer analysis of the noise’s “impulse patterns,” they stated in televised hearings that “it appears that with a probability of 95 percent or better, there was indeed a shot fired from the grassy knoll.” These findings prompted the committee to dramatically shift course and state in its 1979 final report: “Scientific acoustical evidence establishes a high probability that two gunmen fired at President John F. Kennedy.” In short, this seemed to be the first solid evidence of a conspiracy.

Questions quickly arose about the recording’s time sequence and the motorcycle’s exact position. In 1982 the Committee on Ballistics Acoustics (the Ramsey Panel) concluded that those loud sounds were recorded one minute after the assassination. Some have held fast to the 1979 acoustical findings, although the Secrets of a Homicide project (a series of graphic reports on the assassination created by Emmy winner Dale Myers), after extensive comparison with photographic evidence, discredits those conclusions.


Both had also taken part in an earlier high-stakes investigation. Weiss, while vice president for acoustics research of a scientific firm, served in 1973 on the Advisory Panel on White House Tapes, and Aschkenasy assisted. They examined the Oval Office’s secretly taped conversation from June 20, 1972, between President Richard M. Nixon and his chief of staff, H.R. Haldeman. The tape’s 18½-minute gap “might have shed light on whether Nixon knew of the Watergate break-in three days earlier,” noted the Washington Post (January 24, 2005) in its obit on Nixon’s secretary, Rose Mary Woods. She claimed she had accidentally erased about five minutes while stretching from foot pedal to phone. The 18½-minute gap, according to the panel’s research, resulted from between five and nine erasures, five of them involving hand controls. In August 1974, Nixon resigned.

The erasures, like the possibility of the “grassy knoll sniper,” continue to stir debate.

Cutting the Mustard

It was close, but ultimately the Hot Dog Guy (aka, student Robert Gaertner) was just a weenie bit faster as he broke the tape ahead of student Alex Garrett in the Fall Fun Run. The Halloween Day event sponsored by the Athletics Department awarded prizes to top male and female runners and for best costume.

We are happy to report that Ernest Aschkenasy has informed us that he is alive and well. We apologize for the error. (6/20/2013)
The Summit Goes Gold

The Summit residence hall at Queens College has earned LEED® Gold certification, a ranking established by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the nation’s preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

“This achievement highlights Queens College’s commitments to provide our students with facilities that have a minimal impact on the environment,” says Dave Gosine, QC’s Director of Facilities Design, Construction, and Management.

Buildings achieve LEED certification—Certified (base), Silver, Gold and Platinum—for energy use, lighting, water and material use, as well as for incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and water, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses, and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for all.

The Summit achieved Gold status through a new initiative to educate residents about what it means to be LEED certified and how this particular building achieved certification. Signage explaining the green features of The Summit—such as the location of bike racks and areas of landscaping to promote efficient drainage and reduce run-off—will be posted near the main elevator in the building’s lobby. It will be accompanied by a map, indicating where those sustainable efforts are being implemented in and around the building.

Summit resident Sarah Leibowitz is delighted with the building’s upgraded ranking. “Educating students in The Summit about the importance of being green and how the building is accomplishing it is a great idea,” she says. “This definitely will make people feel more involved and, hopefully, it will inspire some to take their own steps to lessen their impact on the environment.” A psychology and neuroscience major, Leibowitz is passionate about the environment; she collects residents’ used candy, cookie, and chip wrappers and drink pouches for a company that turns them into a variety of products, including park benches.

“The green building movement offers an unprecedented opportunity to respond to the most important challenges of our time, including global climate change, dependence on non-sustainable and expensive sources of energy, and threats to human health,” says Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. “The work of innovative building projects such as The Summit at Queens College is a fundamental driving force in the green building movement.”

Korean-American Reflections

A Korean dance in traditional costume was one of the festive elements of the reception and gala at Flushing’s Kum Gang San Korean Restaurant following November’s Second Annual Conference and Gala for the Research Center for Korean Community at Queens College (Prof. Pyong Gap Min, director), held at Flushing Hospital Medical Center. The theme was ethnic and racial identities among 1.5- and second-generation Korean Americans. A dozen Korean Americans gave oral presentations of their personal experiences.
Terri Calhoun
HEALTH SERVICES NURSE

“I think I have a knack for talking with young adults. I’m not shy. There’s nothing they can tell me that will embarrass me.”

Terri Calhoun, the new staff nurse in the Health Services Office, finds her “gift of gab” makes it easier for students to bring up what’s troubling them—such as sexual health, stress, or bulimia. “I see the anguish on their faces,” she observes. “A lot of them don’t have any health insurance, which is a huge hurdle to face.” Some of her 9-to-5 tasks are simple ones, such as a flu shot; others may involve scurrying to a campus site for a seizure or a “trip-and-fall.”

Health Services has an associate director, several assistants, and a part-time staffer. Calhoun is pleased to advise the new QC Emergency Medical Squad. Its student volunteers—certified EMTs—will have office space down the hall from her in Frese Hall.

Being close to two cousins who died of cystic fibrosis—one in infancy and the other at 15—meant “I knew from the time I was very young that I wanted to get into health care,” Calhoun recalls. When she couldn’t find a job after studying special ed in college, she volunteered at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children. “My heart was won over,” she notes, so back to school she headed to earn her RN.

Born and raised in Bayside, the Douglaston resident has been a nurse in the borough for 25 years. Before starting part-time at QC in 2009, she practiced at Flushing Hospital, Parsons Hospital (head nurse of the Pulmonary Unit), St. Mary’s, and in gastroenterology nursing and private duty.

How has her health fared since switching to full-time at QC? “I never really take time for lunch,” Calhoun admits, though she tries to eat healthily and “run up and down the stairs a few times” for exercise, since she can’t get to the gym as often as before. She enjoys volunteering on trips with her daughter’s church youth group and raising funds for cancer.

As QC prepares to go tobacco-free in January, Calhoun will be easing the angst by organizing support groups and distributing nicotine patches, gum, and literature. “I can empathize because I smoked years ago,” she says. “I quit cold turkey because they found a 1-centimeter mass in my lung. I have been cancer-free ever since. It was a life lesson for me. If you ever want to learn how to quit, get that phone call. It will wake you up. It’s taught me to live every day to the fullest.”

SWEDEN - from page 1

“At the Cotton Club” by Armstrong’s big bands from 1939-40, including “As Time Goes By.” Both of these CDs can only be purchased at the LAHM.

According to Riccardi, Hägglöf met Armstrong on several occasions and enjoyed a friendship that lasted until Armstrong’s death in 1971. In one of his last letters to Hägglöf, Armstrong encouraged him to “keep up the good works.”

With this latest collection, LAHM “will keep up Armstrong’s good works into the future,” promises Riccardi.


OH, YEAH!
An enthusiastic outpouring of support greeted news of the Louis Armstrong House Museum’s first annual gala. The event, which took place the evening of December 6 at 3 West Club in Manhattan, honored QC President James Muyskens, legendary jazz producer George Avakian, and jazz trumpeter and educator Jon Faddis (who performed). Smiling for Satchmo are (l to r) Muyskens, Avakian, LAHM Director Michael Cogswell, Faddis, and David Ostwald, Board Chair of LAHM.
Nobelist Orhan Pamuk Visits the Campus

Turkey’s celebrated writer Orhan Pamuk—whose accolades include the 2006 Nobel Prize in Literature—returned to Queens College October 17 as part of the Year of Turkey celebration. Billed as “A Conversation with Students,” Pamuk spoke in nearly perfect English to a more-than-capacity audience at Campbell Dome (including substantial numbers of faculty and staff) with a soft, lilting cadence that held those gathered in rapt attention. He began by offering a little of his biography. While his inclination was to become a painter, raised in a family of civil engineers, he explained, “It was decided that since I was the artsy boy in the family, I would become an architect.” Consequently, he enrolled in Istanbul Technical University, only to drop out after three years. Despite his immersion in the visually centered disciplines of painting and architecture, he elected instead to try writing books that he believed would “address both the verbal and visual imagination.”

Indeed, Pamuk says writing is a profoundly visual process: “I am always imagining at first a picture in my mind. I pick out verbs that will help the reader to form the same picture in their mind.” (He did note, however, that four years ago he resumed painting for the first time in 36 years.)

Gloria Fisk (English) served as moderator for the occasion. A founding member of the department of English and comparative literature at Koç University in Istanbul, she has written about Pamuk and world literature in *n+1* and *New Literary History* and is working on a book about Pamuk as “a global writer.”

In her opening remarks she noted that Pamuk has “pushed the novel into new territory, bending the form to make it do things that it has never done before.” In her exchanges with the author, she extolled his remarkable ability in books such as *Museum of Innocence* to enable his readers to “experience a nostalgia for a past that we ourselves probably haven’t had.”

Gloria Fisk (English) listens intently as Turkish writer Orhan Pamuk speaks to a packed Campbell Dome audience during an October appearance moderated by Fisk as part of QC’s Year of Turkey.
For aspiring novelists, the evening was something of a master class as Pamuk held forth at length about his method and motivation in writing. Members of QC’s MFA Program in Creative Writing and Literary Translation, in fact, were among the students in attendance and had the opportunity to pose questions to the author.

Some of his remarks elicited laughter, such as his observation that, “In the end, writing a novel is composing some music while you don’t know what you’re doing; you don’t want to know what you’re doing. I always say to my friends when I write a novel [who ask] ‘Why do you write this? What’s the point?’ ‘I don’t know. But in five years I’m going to teach why I did it.’”

Pamuk previously appeared at QC in November 2006. In what proved to be serendipitous scheduling, his appearance as part of the college’s Evening Readings series occurred just weeks after his being awarded the Nobel Prize.
Improving the Adjunct Experience

Provide campuswide orientation for new adjuncts. Include adjunct faculty on departmental listservs, directories, and websites. Pair adjuncts with experienced instructors whose classes they may attend and with whom they may improve their own teaching. These are three of the 19 recommendations—many of which require no or minimal funding to implement—from Improving the Adjunct Faculty Experience at Queens College, a report issued by a task force organized a year ago by QC’s Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL). (For information about the task force and its work, see http://www.qc.cuny.edu/adjuncts.)

Since adjuncts comprise 58 percent of the QC instructional staff—with especially high figures in psychology, music, and education—their presence has major implications for the entire college. Presumably that’s why, at Provost James Stellar’s suggestion, CTL had no difficulty assembling an adjunct faculty teaching circle, which led to the creation of the task force. Sixteen adjuncts from 14 departments joined it, with CTL’s Eva Fernandez and Lisa Vaia serving as facilitators.

The group identified common concerns, such as lack of office space and mailboxes and exclusion from departmental meetings, which contributed to an overall sense of isolation. These conditions make it harder for adjuncts to do the job they love. “We learned of everyone’s passion for teaching and concern for the students’ experience,” says committee member Fei-Wen Pirovolikos (Biology).

Presenting its recommendations at an open forum on November 1, the task force was gratified to see President James Muyskens, Vice President Sue Henderson, Stellar, Vice President Kathy Cobb, Associate Provost Steve Schwarz, and General Counsel Meryl Kaynard in the audience, as well as Karrin Wilks, University Dean for Undergraduate Studies. “We’re the first in CUNY to do this,” notes Fernandez, who hopes that the task force’s report will prompt discussion throughout the university, which is heavily dependent on adjuncts.

As an outgrowth of the task force, a new committee will focus on orientation for new adjuncts—the first session will be offered in January 2012—and perhaps put together a handbook. Meanwhile, the college is asking that departmental mailboxes be allocated to adjuncts where they do not exist and that their names be added to departmental web pages. “We’re trying to get things done,” says Stellar.

In a parallel development, QC has opened the Faculty Resource Center (FRC), a supplemental workspace for adjuncts. Housed in CEP Hall 2, FRC includes a lounge, an office adjuncts can use to meet one-on-one with students, and three computer rooms with more than three dozen workstations in total. A third of the stations are equipped with computers; the rest provide electrical outlets for laptops, as well as Internet access. The recently renovated space is open Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 6 pm, and on Friday from 10 am to 1 pm, with a receptionist on duty full-time. FRC is not designed to replace adjuncts’ departmental office space and computer allocations, which are being studied and in some cases upgraded.

“We realize that many adjuncts teach on the weekends, and we’re considering ways to accommodate them,” says Cobb. “We’re looking for the users of this space to provide input on how they want to use it.”

Utopian Collaboration

How do artists learn if not by learning directly from other artists? That is the question upon which the current installation at the QC Art Center, UTOPIA (in perpetuum | forever), is premised. Presented are works of nine artists, writers, musicians, and a curator exposed to the research of artist Will Corwin, who acts as a senior guide and catalyst. The group discussed the project and their individual works on December 14. A reception followed.

The Faculty Resource Center offers supplemental office space for adjuncts; facilities include computer rooms with either desktops or hookups for laptops.
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL COACH
Elizabeth “Bet” Naumovski

Right out of grad school, volunteering for six months in Angola to teach adults how to coach and organize sports and activities for children, “was the single most life-enhancing experience I’ve had,” says Elizabeth “Bet” Naumovski. In Africa, Canada, or the United States, for the new head coach of women’s basketball, “being on the court with kids—there’s no place that makes you more happy.”

Naumovski grew up in a Toronto neighborhood where “all the families were new to Canada and struggling to make a better life for their kids,” she reflects. Queens College reminds her of Ontario’s York University, where she earned her undergraduate (kinesiology) and master’s (kinesiology in coaching) degrees. Moving to Queens after two years as assistant coach at NCAA Division I Binghamton, “Bet” Naumovski. In Africa, Canada, or the United States, for the new head coach of women’s basketball, “being on the court with kids—there’s no place that makes you more happy.”

Naumovski grew up in a Toronto neighborhood where “all the families were new to Canada and struggling to make a better life for their kids,” she reflects. Queens College reminds her of Ontario’s York University, where she earned her undergraduate (kinesiology) and master’s (kinesiology in coaching) degrees. Moving to Queens after two years as assistant coach at NCAA Division I Binghamton University, she chose an apartment a five-minute walk from QC. “The first time I set foot on campus, it was the right fit,” she says. “You really do get the best of both worlds. It’s a very traditional campus, very quiet, lots of green space, but you can be in the city in 20 minutes.”

One of the first things the 15-year veteran coach did was to hang photos in her office of her players and teams. “Every player I’ve coached has had a hand in my reaching this position,” Naumovski acknowledges. Her coaching mentors taught her that “We have a responsibility to model what we are striving for these young women to become. They can do anything they set their minds to. Basketball is that tool for them to challenge themselves.”

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING COACH
Jeremy Cuebas

When QC’s new men’s swimming and diving coach Jeremy Cuebas arrived on campus in June, he mentioned that since he was 17 he has worked summers as a Jones Beach lifeguard. Faced with the task of building a roster for QC’s swimming and diving team only months before the new semester, Cuebas noted, “A lot of the people I’ve worked with in the Jones Beach Lifeguard Corps are swimming coaches in the area. Hopefully, that comes in handy when it comes to recruiting.”

Apparently it has, as the team began the season with a full roster of swimmers and divers.

Cuebas joins Queens after serving the past two-plus years as assistant swimming and diving coach at his alma mater; SUNY–Cortland, where he was a competitive swimmer and received a bachelor’s in physical education and a master’s in health education.

At Cortland he was involved in all facets of running the men’s and women’s swimming and diving programs, including recruiting, fundraising, and training. Cortland placed second in the State University of New York Athletic Conference men’s championships in both his seasons at the school, while the women’s side placed second in 2010 and third in 2011.

For the past two years Cuebas also served as coordinator for the Cortland Adapted Swim Team, supervising SUNY–Cortland students who participated in the program as coaches, and developing lessons to coach athletes with disabilities.

A triathlete, Cuebas holds a Level 2 American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) certification, and memberships in the ASCA, USA Swimming, and USA Triathlon.

In reviewing the facilities at FitzGerald Gym he had particularly high praise for one component: “The fitness room is awe-inspiring. The first component he added to the pool was the swim team’s diving board, a feature many colleges lack.”

As a coach can grow.”

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL COACH
Leanna Taylor

“As long as you’re giving me maximum effort, I’m very patient.” That’s the mantra of Leanna Taylor, a mom of three who as new head coach of volleyball knows the Lady Knights’ 9-18 record this fall “doesn’t indicate the level of success we’ve had.”

To her lean team of eight—three freshmen and five upper-class players in a game requiring six—Taylor teaches her simple rule: “You need to make sure you don’t do anything that could hurt yourself or your teammates.” She adds, “We talk a lot about character and reputation.”

As a student at Tampa Prep, Georgia Tech, and the University of Tampa, Taylor excelled at the sport whose “energy, excitement, pressure, camaraderie, and teamwork” fascinate her. During her eight seasons (185-20) at Tampa’s H.B. Plant High School, she coached the Panthers to six state titles, five in both his seasons at the school, while the women’s side placed second in 2010 and third in 2011.

For the past two years Cuebas also served as coordinator for the Cortland Adapted Swim Team, supervising SUNY–Cortland students who participated in the program as coaches, and developing lessons to coach athletes with disabilities.

A triathlete, Cuebas holds a Level 2 American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) certification, and memberships in the ASCA, USA Swimming, and USA Triathlon.

In reviewing the facilities at FitzGerald Gym he had particularly high praise for one component: “The fitness room is awe-inspiring. The first component he added to the pool was the swim team’s diving board, a feature many colleges lack.”

As a coach can grow.”

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL COACH
Leanna Taylor

“As long as you’re giving me maximum effort, I’m very patient.” That’s the mantra of Leanna Taylor, a mom of three who as new head coach of volleyball knows the Lady Knights’ 9-18 record this fall “doesn’t indicate the level of success we’ve had.”

To her lean team of eight—three freshmen and five upper-class players in a game requiring six—Taylor teaches her simple rule: “You need to make sure you don’t do anything that could hurt yourself or your teammates.” She adds, “We talk a lot about character and reputation.”

As a student at Tampa Prep, Georgia Tech, and the University of Tampa, Taylor excelled at the sport whose “energy, excitement, pressure, camaraderie, and teamwork” fascinate her. During her eight seasons (185-20) at Tampa’s H.B. Plant High School, she coached the Panthers to six state titles, five as head coach.

In uprooting her family from her native Tampa, Taylor and her husband thought, “Let’s take the kids to New York and let them have an adventure of a lifetime!”

Settling in Bayside, she says, “We’ve definitely been taking advantage of all the wonderful things,” especially hiking and museums.

QC “is a fabulous institution,” Taylor enthuses. “I really think it’s a place where I as a coach can grow.”
Lest We Forget: Remembering Queens

The Queens Memory Project (QMP)—a digital repository of oral history, photographs, and other materials about the borough—made an unforgettable debut at Rosenthal Library on the evening of October 27. President James Muyskens, Queens Public Library CEO Thomas Galante ’04, Borough President Helen Marshall ’72 (’75 MA), Assemblywoman Grace Meng, and Barbara Baruch (a representative from the office of City Comptroller John Liu) were all in attendance for the launch of QMP’s interactive electronic archives, a collaborative venture of the Queens College Libraries’ Department of Special Collections and Archives and the Archives at Queens Library. (To see the results and learn how to contribute your own memories, visit www.queensmemory.org.)

Among the guests were Flushing residents who had been interviewed about their lives in Queens by QMP director Natalie Milbrodt ’11, who initiated the project in May 2010 as a student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. “We were hoping that some of our participants would show up, and they did,” said a delighted Milbrodt. “The success of this program depends on community involvement.”

The event also involved national nonprofit StoryCorps, which was about to launch Queens Week. Stations were set up in Rosenthal on October 28–30 and in the Queens Public Library’s Flushing branch on October 31–November 2 to allow Queensians to contribute personal narratives to StoryCorps, which has completed nearly 70,000 interviews since 2003, filing them with the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

During Queens Week, “We recorded 34 interviews with residents representing 14 neighborhoods and 10 different ethnicities,” reports StoryCorps site supervisor John White. “There were two current QC students, at least two QC alumni, and two former employees. We received a tremendous response from all across the borough and worked with eight different community organizations.” These recordings will be archived at the Queens Library and will be eligible for inclusion in QMP.

Don't Try This at Home, Kids

The Science is Fun Club Halloween Show offered student Joel Heitman, attired in lab coat and regulation protective face gear, the perfect opportunity to demonstrate for a curious crowd of onlookers all the novel ways he’s learned at Queens College to abuse jack o’lanterns. The event, which took place in front of Remsen Hall, was one of several presented during free hour on a balmy Halloween afternoon. Not surprisingly, it was not sanctioned by the Society for the Humane Treatment of Pumpkins.

Natalie Milbrodt was a student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies in May 2010 when she initiated the Queens Memory Project. Above, she’s seen in the field interviewing longtime Flushing resident John Tsavalos.
Museum-Quality Gift to SEES

This fall, the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences received a gift that rocks: a treasure trove of fossils, crystals, and mineral samples assembled by late Fresh Meadows resident Donald Healy, a nonscientist with a remarkably discerning eye. “We were blown away by what we saw,” reports SEES director Alan Ludman, who had visited Healy’s widow Sharon at her request—she wanted to donate her husband’s entire collection. “There was thousands of dollars worth of material,” says Ludman, citing the spectacularly detailed remains of ancient fish, among other museum-quality items. “When my lab tech and I went over, we said, ‘Oh my God.’ It was too much for a car. We took

Donald and Sharon Healy were not formally trained geologists. Nevertheless, the husband and wife managed to collect an impressive collection of fossils, crystals, and minerals which have been given to SEES. Two examples appear above.

The donor was equally excited, continues Ludman. “She was ecstatic to see some of the students who were benefiting from her gift. And she couldn’t wait to get the blocks out of the house.” Considering the fact that those blocks weighed as much as 40 pounds and reached dimensions of up to 30 by 20 inches, her enthusiasm for their departure is understandable. The hoard included multiple boxes of petrified wood, an extensive supply of the upper New York State crystals known as Herkimer diamonds, and examples of opal, tourmaline, and amber. Remarkably, neither of the Healys had training in geology.

Cataloged as the Donald Healy Collection, the pieces will be displayed in the lobby and second floor of the Science Building in vitrines to be built for that purpose. In the meantime, a 42- by 56-inch poster of some of the highlights hangs in the D wing of the Science Building as a taste of coming attractions.

QC People

The Italian government has awarded MARIA FOSCO (Student Affairs) its Ufficiale of the Order of Merit of the Republic Italy. Italy’s highest ranking honor, it is awarded for outstanding service in civilian and military careers. Fosco is a founding member and board member of the Italian American Museum in Manhattan . . . KIMIKO HAHN (English) was one of the featured writers at the Asian American Writers’ Workshop’s third Annual Page Turner Literary Festival in October. She also won its Asian American Literary Award in Poetry for her book Toxic Flora . . . JEFFREY HALPERIN (Psychology) was honored by the Queens Courier in November at its fourth annual Kings of Queens County awards and networking event at Terrace on the Park . . . A team led by HENG JI (Computer Science) was selected to do three oral presentations in the Knowledge Base Population (KBP) track at November’s Text Analysis Conference presented by the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, MD. The members of JI’s QC team were JAVIER ARTILES (post-doc), ZHENG CHEN (PhD student), QI LI (PhD student), SUZANNE TAMANG (PhD student), and TAYLOR CASSIDY (PhD student). JI has been a coordinator of the KBP track for the past two years . . . ANDREA KHALILI MARRONE (Women & Work) was invited by the president of the Tunisian Observatory for a Democratic Transition to observe the October 23 elections in Tunisia—the first democratic elections in that country since the Arab Spring uprising . . . The Graduate Center has awarded CARMELLA MARRONE (Women & Work) a PhD in sociology for her dissertation “A Community of Women: A Model Intervention for Overcoming Poverty and Domestic Violence.” Her dissertation

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

QC Authors

KEENA LIPSITZ’S (Political Science) new book, Competitive Elections and the American Voter (Penn Press), arrives just as our quadrennial political spectacle, the presidential election, is gathering steam. After years of examining elections at all levels of government, Lipsitz believes that the more hotly contested a race is, the more it benefits voters by creating an environment that increases the quantity and quality of information put forth by the candidates and their campaigns. Better-informed voters, she argues, will presumably make better-informed decisions. “Electoral competitiveness,” Lipsitz observes, “is not an unmitigated good, but if one seeks to improve campaigns in America, the path to their improvement involves adopting reforms to ensure that more elections are not only contested but closely contested. Without competitive elections, candidates and their supporters have no incentive to communicate with citizens and provide them with the information they need to make informed decisions in the voting booth. This also means that competitive elections are the linchpin of democratic accountability.” With many elected officials polling in low double (even single!) digits, and reports of an increasingly despondent electorate, anyone concerned with the future of our republic can only hope that the suggestions Lipsitz sets forth don’t go unheeded.
Nadasen, Sedarat, and Terrone will be writing about personal transition in New York. Nadasen, Sedarat, and Terrone will focus on Jackson Heights, one of the five boroughs. Next April the project will create works for “stillspots” throughout New York City, as part of a Guggenheim Museum project called stillspotting nyc (stillspotting.nyc), which calls on artists to participate in a Guggenheim Museum cultural anthropology seminar. . . .

June and July in Morocco and Tunisia at a religious diversity seminar . . . PREMILLA NADASEN (History), ROGER SEDARAT (English), and MARIA TERRONE (Office of Communications) are among eight writers invited to participate in a Guggenheim Museum project called stillspotting nyc (stillspotting.nyc), which calls on artists to create works for “stillspots” throughout the five boroughs. Next April the project will focus on Jackson Heights, one of the most diverse neighborhoods in New York. Nadasen, Sedarat, and Terrone will each be writing about personal transition and “making a place one’s home through language.” Their creative works will be presented over several weekends in various Jackson Heights “stillspots,” and the results will be published in a book by the Guggenheim . . .

The prize is considered the most prestigious in the U.S. for cultural anthropology . . . AMY WINTER (Godwin-Ternbach) will be included in Who’s Who in American Art. She is already in Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who of American Women . . . YAN ZHENG (SEES) was one of the co-authors of “Arsenic migration to deep groundwater in Bangladesh influenced by adsorption and water demand,” which appeared in October on Nature Geoscience’s website.

People in the Media

BEN ALEXANDER (Library) was quoted in a New York Times story describing growing interest in QC’s Civil Rights Archive . . . Citing research provided by ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology), the New York Times ran a story about dramatic increases in income disparity that have created a mega-elite class, many of whom live in Manhattan. His research was cited in another Times story documenting Reading, PA, achieving the unfortunate distinction of becoming the American city with the largest share of its population living in poverty . . . A Daily News story decrying the scarcity of bookstores in Queens included observations from NICOLE COOLEY (Ell) and MARIA TERRONE (Office of Communications) . . . The New York Times published a letter by FRANCES CURCIO (SEYS) in response to a column by Michael Winerip concerning elite schools easing up on homework loads . . . ROBERT ENGEL (Chemistry & Biochemistry) was quoted in a WCBS-TV story concerning a call for a boycott of Johnson & Johnson because of its use of a known carcinogen, formaldehyde, in its baby shampoo . . . NANCY FOLDI (Psychology) was interviewed on CUNY-TV’s “Science & U!” about whether exercising the brain—with puzzles, brain teasers, etc.—can prevent the onset of Alzheimer’s disease . . . JOSHUA FREEMAN (History) was quoted in the Queens Tribune concerning New York City’s stubbornly high unemployment rate . . . A Daily News story about plans to transform a long-abandoned Flushing movie theatre into a high-rise with apartments and stores quoted TARRY HUM (Urban Studies) . . . STEVE PEKAR (SEYS) was interviewed on the topic of climate change on the Australian radio program “Radio Adelaide Breakfast with Tim Brunero” . . . A New York Post article about Italian Americans’ objections to negative
PEOPLE IN MEDIA - from page 11

Stereotypes they charge are promoted by the Godfather’s Pizza chain—of which GOP presidential candidate Herman Cain was once CEO—quoted a quote from ANTHONY TAMBURRI (Calandra Institute).

Events in the Media

QC’s selection by the Education Trust as one of the country’s top five schools in making education available to low-income students was reported by the Queens Chronicle and Queens Gazette … amNewYork featured a story about the Arts of the Islamic World website donated to QC by Shelley and Donald Rubin, co-founders of the Rubin Museum of Art in Manhattan. The site (www.artsoftheislamicworld.org) features images of objects in the Islamic art collection of alum NASSER D. KHALILI ’74. The story also mentioned Khalili’s recent donation of $200,000 to the college to create a professorship focusing on Islamic art … The Queens Chronicle, Queens Ledger, Queens Courier, and Daily News featured stories about QC’s receipt of a $2.6 million grant from the state Education Department to train secondary school science teachers as part of a three-year Race to the Top initiative … The Memory Project—a collaboration between QC and the Queens Library that seeks to preserve the history of Queens as remembered by many of its residents—participated in Queens Week with the StoryCorps national history program, as reported by the Daily News, TimesLedger, and NY1 … The Louis Armstrong House Museum’s acquisition of an enormous collection of Satchmo memorabilia from the estate of Swedish Armstrong fan Gosta Hägglöf (see p. I) was the subject of features in the New York Times, Queens Ledger, Queens Chronicle, and Daily News—which, along with YourNabe.com, reported on the museum’s planned expansion. The Gosta Hägglöf Collection was also the subject of a segment on public radio station WBGO’s program, “WBGO Journal.” The TimesLedger featured a story about the museum’s summer music program, “Summer with Satchmo: Hot Jazz/Cool Garden” … Appearances by authors Margaret Atwood, Edward Albee, and Ha Jin in QC’s Evening Readings series were noted in the New York Times, Daily News, and the New Yorker … The Queens Courier, Queens Chronicle, and Queens Tribune covered the reading given at QC by U.S. Poet Laureate Philip Levine … The QC Art Center exhibit, In Perpetuum | Forever was described in a story in the Queens Tribune. The Art Center’s previous exhibit, This Is Personal, was included in a Queens Chronicle story about exhibitions tied to the tenth anniversary of 9/11 … Plans to merge QC’s CBNS program to treat the ongoing health issues of 9/11 first responders with a similar North Shore-LIJ Health System program were reported in the Queens Chronicle … The Queens Gazette and Queens Courier covered Wall Street Journal and WCBS Newsradio 880 reporter Joe Connolly’s appearance at a recent QC Business Forum focused on small business. The appearance at a subsequent business forum of QC alum Steve Malin, a senior member of the research and management teams at investment firm Aronson Johnson Ortiz, was reported in the Queens Tribune … The roundtable event “A Conversation with Joseph Ficalora,” in which the New York Community Bankcorp president spoke with students about his Italian-American success story, was featured in the Queens Courier … BroadwayWorld.com featured a story about Kupferberg Center for the Arts (formerly Golden Center) marking its 50th year of classical music programming at QC.

Students in the News

Junior SARAH LEIBOWITZ’S efforts to collect discarded snack wrappers and juice containers on campus and have them recycled into useful products was the subject of a WNBC-TV “News 4 New York” story … The awarding of QC Business Forum Scholarships to QC business students MARIA-LAURA ARSOS and DANIEL ABAEV was reported by the Queens Courier. Arsos was also profiled in El Correo de Queens … Sophomore ALEX GARRETT, who hosts The Alex Garrett Sports Hour on QC’s WQMC Radio and does the public address announcements and occasional play-by-play for Knights sports events, was profiled in the Queens Courier.