Campus Serves as Shelter to Hundreds After Hurricane

On campus and off, QC has been helping the community to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. Although classes were canceled from October 29 through November 1, the college snapped into action right after the storm: Members of Buildings & Grounds and Security—some of whom spent more on travel than they’d earn in that day’s pay—worked round the clock to restore power, clear away debris, and repair damage. In addition, these employees provided services to the shelter that the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) established at QC, one of 10 CUNY schools that took in displaced people. OEM set up shop in FitzGerald Gymnasium, the Dining Hall, and the One Stop Service Center. At peak occupancy, nearly 600 adults and children, as well as their pets—birds, cats, dogs, a ferret, a lizard, a turtle, and a goldfish—found refuge in these facilities, managed, coincidentally, by two QC alums, Harry Sigmone III and Diane Gilroy. (All residents were relocated to longer-term accommodations before Thanksgiving.)

QC students raised funds, donated food and clothing, and pulled night shifts at the shelter before other volunteers could arrive.

On October 11, 2012, the college that is often called “the jewel of the CUNY system” observed its diamond anniversary with a multifaceted convocation in LeFrak Concert Hall, serving up music, speeches, and birthday cake. QC Foundation Board member Gail Marquis ’80 acted as emcee. At the conclusion of an organ prelude played by master’s student John Wolf, she introduced the faculty and President James Muyskens—who entered to fanfares by Professor Emeritus Leo Kraft and Aaron Copland, performed by the QC Brass Ensemble. Muyskens’ opening remarks were followed by a musical interlude featuring soprano Grace Kahl ’13, accompanied by Youn Ju Namkoong (a musical preparation pianist for the Copland School’s Opera Studio), and violinist Heesun Shin DMA ’13 accompanied by pianist Misaki Sekimoto, Advanced Certificate ‘13.

Then QC Foundation chair Carol Hochman ’71 congratulated her alma mater, praising it as a true melting pot that provides a first-class education. Former QC presidents Saul Cohen (1978–85) and Shirley Strum Kenny (1985–94) then took turns at the microphone, expressing pride in the college and their contributions to it.

Noting that “a college can never be better than its faculty”—an observation she attributed to Muyskens—Acting Chief Operating Officer Elizabeth Hendrey presented half a dozen professors who spoke or, in one case, played to the crowd: Assistant Provost June Bobb (English) and emeriti Andrew Hacker (Political Science), Leo Kraft (Music), Corinne Michels (Biology), Mark Miksic (Physics), and Jimmy Heath (Music), who let his saxophone do most of his talking.

Switching genres from jazz to classical, Professors Marcy Rosen and...
Nobel Laureate Suu Kyi Visits the College

Voted into the Myanmar Parliament last spring, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is no ordinary lawmaker. A Nobel Peace Prize winner who spent 15 years under house arrest in Rangoon, unable to see her children or even visit her husband on his deathbed, she personified the struggle for democracy in an isolated nation ruled by a military dictatorship. So her appearance at a pair of back-to-back events at QC on September 22—part of her first trip to the United States in about four decades—drew capacity crowds.

Suu Kyi started the morning at LeFrak Concert Hall, where she was welcomed by QC President James Muyskens, Congressman Joseph Crowley ’85, and New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. Alumna Carole King serenaded her, leading the invitation-only audience in an impromptu version of “You’ve Got a Friend”; Anjelica Huston read a portion of Suu Kyi’s essay “Freedom from Fear” in her honor. Suu Kyi’s eloquence was also in evidence in her response to a student’s question about her rationale for becoming a legislator in the government that had persecuted her and so many others. “I don’t believe in professional dissidents,” she explained. “I think it’s just a phase, like adolescence.”

Next, Suu Kyi went over to Colden Auditorium to address members of the Burmese community in their native language. Some had driven hundreds of miles and waited outside overnight for the opportunity to hear her speak. Suu Kyi holds a Unisphere replica she received from Crowley. To her left are President James Muyskens, Carole King, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, and Anjelica Huston.

She also had the chance to hear them. Before she walked on stage, a reporter for a Burmese-language newspaper led the attendees, some 2,000 strong, in a rapturous call-and-response of “Long live Mother Suu Kyi!”

Students from the Aaron Copland School of Music presented a concert for shelter residents and staff; the Committee for Disabled Students engaged a magician and a balloon twister—the latter also rendered homeless by the hurricane—to entertain kids. Other students participated in projects to aid hard-hit neighborhoods throughout the city.

Meanwhile, QC employees drew on their expertise and contacts. Human Resources collected donations and supplies, and fielded phone calls from the community. “Some calls were from people looking for their relatives,” explains Susan Mavrelis (HR). “Others were from individuals and local companies who just wanted to help in any way they could.”

The Division of Education worked with the PTA at PS/IS 499 to buy supplies for children temporarily placed at that school. Career Counselor Mark Klein enlisted the help of family, friends, and members of his synagogue, Temple Gates of Prayer in Flushing, resulting in significant contributions from local vendors: Oneness Fountain-Heart Restaurant brought and served hot food to over 400 individuals in the shelter, while the Queens Health Emporium contributed several cases of water and snacks.

Of course, students are also among the people who suffered from the storm. “The investment, allocation, and executive committees of the Queens College Foundation unanimously decided to allot up to $100,000 to help students affected by the hurricane,” says Laurie Dorf (AVP, Institutional Advancement). “It was a very easy decision. We want to help students with housing, food, and transportation issues to ensure that they remain enrolled in school and take the same number of courses.” Grants will be available through June 30, 2013.
QUEENS COLLEGE AT 75 - from page 1

Morey Ritt collaborated on a second musical interlude. Next, Robert Engel (Chemistry) introduced honorary degree recipient Dennis Liotta ’70, whom he taught as an undergraduate at the college. The director of Emory University’s Institute for Drug Discovery and co-inventor of two drugs that fight HIV, Liotta noted that he had an undistinguished start at QC, earning mediocre grades. “I learned not to let language on a transcript determine who I would be,” he said, thanking his mentors.

Returning to the podium, Muyskens delivered his annual State of the College Address. “The work of a college is to create the future,” he said. “The first 75 years are just a prelude.” On cue, Student Association President Karamvir Singh wheeled out a cart bearing a white three-tiered cake festooned with red roses and the number 75. After the QC Women’s Choir sang the college song, as arranged by Professor Emeritus M. Joel Mandelbaum and ACSM Director Edward Smaldone, and closing remarks from Marquis, the audience filed out to another brass fanfare, by Bruce Saylor (ACSM). Concluding the convocation in a musical interlude. Next, Robert Engel

Pekar Part of Al Gore’s Webcast on Climate Change

With Governor Andrew Cuomo’s post-Sandy admonition—“Anyone who thinks there is not a dramatic change in weather patterns is denying reality”—still reverberating in the news, Steve Pekar (SEES) joined more than 100 scientists, policy experts, environmentalists, explorers, heads of NGOs, filmmakers, and business and political leaders participating in Al Gore’s marathon webcast devoted to climate change, 24 Hours of Reality: The Dirty Weather Report.

“Al Gore’s event was amazing,” says Pekar, “with terrific in-depth content, high-tech production, renowned experts in many fields, and over 16 million viewers.” In hour-long segments spotlighting climate-related issues in every part of the globe, this program began 8 pm, Wednesday, November 14 and concluded at 8 pm the following day.

Pekar, whose research takes him to Antarctica—where core samples from deep below the polar ice suggest carbon dioxide levels and a tropical climate millions of years earlier that may be akin to where the planet is headed—was on two panels: the Arctic and Antarctica. Gore, the former VP, Nobel laureate, and chairman and founder of the Climate Reality Project, participated in those panels, frequently eliciting Pekar’s expertise.

Also on the panels with Pekar were the president of Iceland, Olafr Ragnar Grimsson; adventurer Doug Stoup; Larry Schweiger, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation; and director Jeff Orlowski, whose documentary film Chasing Ice highlights the extraordinary pace at which the world’s glaciers are melting.

In emphasizing this latter calamity, Pekar observed, “Antarctica is ground zero when it comes to past climate change. It has changed more than any other place on Earth. If all the ice in Antarctica melted, sea level would rise by over 200 feet. But we don’t need it to all melt. We only need 5 percent of the ice to melt to cause catastrophe.”

Originating from studios in New York City, which was still reeling from the unprecedented flooding likely made worse by rising sea levels, the webcast returned time and again to what meteorologists have dubbed Superstorm Sandy.

“It’s one thing, Hurricane Katrina hitting New Orleans and affecting a couple of million people,” says Pekar. “But Sandy affected tens of millions of people.”

Pekar sees the storm as a wakeup call to the nation’s political class who, when not denying the existence of climate change, are dragging their feet on cooperating with other nations to reverse the trend. And it’s certainly a wakeup call to builders, he notes, recounting how prior to Sandy making landfall, he had visited the Rockaways with his wife to watch the enormous waves it was generating while still at sea.

“We were looking at mile after mile of new development all along the boardwalk and we were screaming with frustration because in all of these new buildings, the first floors were literally just two steps up from the street. We’re talking about maybe 18 inches. Those places all flooded and their owners are going to have a really difficult time trying to sell them.”

Current faculty in the orchestra seats stand to acknowledge the speakers and honorees assembled on stage in LeFrak Hall for the college’s 75th Anniversary Convocation. These included members of the current administration and faculty and guests—among them former presidents and honorary degree recipient Dennis Liotta ’70. Olympian Gail Marquis ’80 (at the podium) served as emcee.

Al Gore listens intently to polar expedition leader Doug Stoup (center) as QC’s Steve Pekar looks on. They were discussing climate change lessons being learned in Antarctica.

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Offices Move to Queens Hall to Prepare for a Kiely Makeover

It’s the rare 40-something who can’t use a little cosmetic help. In the case of Kiely Hall, erected in 1968, the problems run more than skin-deep. Now the tower is about to get a makeover in a $30 million project funded by New York State and co-managed by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) and CUNY. The rehab, to begin in spring 2013 and expected to take a year, includes double-paned, insulated windows on the outside and high-efficiency heat pump systems and air-conditioning units on the inside.

To accommodate all this work, the tower has to be emptied. In a mammoth project involving some 400 people from about 25 offices and departments, most Kiely personnel have been relocated to Queens Hall, vacated this summer after its previous namesake—the CUNY School of Law—exited Main Street for its new campus in Long Island City. Although they weren’t in Kiely, Athletics, the Global Learning to Benefit the Environment program (GLOBE), and the Linguistics and Communications Disorders Department (LCD) have also gone to Queens Hall. Meanwhile, the Math Department will set up shop in Kissena Hall. Any faculty members remaining in the tower will leave in January 2013, when they won’t be giving exams. (To learn who went where, visit www.qc.cuny.edu/renovation.)

Once construction is complete, most Kiely emigrés are likely to return to the tower, albeit not to their prior quarters. Among the exceptions are LCD, which will begin holding classes in Queens Hall this spring, and the Division of Innovative, International, and Professional Studies (DIIPS), which already offers registration and some instruction there. “We were involved in the planning process; we welcomed it,” observes DIIPS Executive Director Douglas Boettner.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

FACULTY PROFILE

Jacob L. Mackey
A CLASSICIST’S UNCONVENTIONAL ODYSSEY

“My random, dilettantish explorations through poetry finally led to really discovering in a big way an infatuation with the ancient world,” relates Mackey. “When I got to college, I was discouraged about my ability to learn, convinced I was terrible at languages. It was a real eye-opener to take Latin and realize I had a knack for it.” He also dove into ancient Greek, French, and German, and in grad school picked up a reading knowledge of Italian. Mackey earned a master’s degree at Christ Church, Oxford, and a PhD at Princeton University (2009). As a grad student he taught at Princeton, and as a post-doc he taught at a great books program at Stanford University.

Having been a non-traditional student who “faced the fears,” Mackey says, “has really made me empathize with people who are coming to school later in life, or who might have some anxieties. I have a real feel for their desire to go for something else, to break out of a comfortable but not fully satisfying life, to take a risk.”

On leave next semester, during which time he will be based at the University of Notre Dame, Mackey will complete his book on Roman religion. The classicist takes issue with the “common cliché” that the Romans merely performed religious rituals and that “Christians invented belief.” If he could time-travel back to one classical period, it would be to become “an objective witness” to the fall of the Roman republic, to observe how its 500 years of grandeur unraveled. “There are always a million historical puzzles to solve,” says Mackey.
ACSM Gets Key Contributions

Donations play an instrumental role in improving college facilities. That is literally true for the Aaron Copland School of Music, which recently received two vintage Steinway pianos from people closely associated with QC.

The first Steinway, a six-foot Model L made in 1935, came from Professor Emeritus Henry Weinberg, who had retired to Philadelphia. “When I’d go to visit him, I’d play his piano, and he’d casually say, ‘You know, we’re planning to donate this piano to the school,’” recalls ACSM Director Edward Smaldone. Weinberg’s relocation back to New York City this fall changed this casual comment into a reality, and Smaldone cheerfully dispatched a mover to collect the gift.

Soon after he heard from Weinberg, Smaldone learned that he was about to get a second Steinway, courtesy of Barry and Claire Brook. The couple had been prominent in academic music: He was the first executive officer at CUNY’s doctoral music program and was professor of music at QC for over 30 years; she was a QC alumna who was senior music editor for W. W. Norton & Company for over 25 years. Barry died in 1999 and his widow (at Smaldone’s suggestion) made provision in her will to donate their Steinway—a 5-foot, 7-inch Model M dating to 1923—to QC. Her death this year prompted the Brooks’ daughter to call ACSM and request a pickup in Manhattan.

“Now, one piano is in a studio, where students practice on it round the clock,” reports Smaldone. “The other went to a classroom to replace an instrument that was ready for retirement. We’ll be installing plaques on each piano so that students and faculty will know that they were gifts.”

Together, the two instruments are worth about $35,000; equivalent new models would cost a combined $120,000. But they have a different sort of value to ACSM. “The gift of these instruments puts us a little closer to achieving all-Steinway status,” Smaldone explains. “All-Steinway” status, a designation created about seven years ago, indicates that at least 90% of the pianos used by faculty and students are Steinway-made, and meet standards of age and quality. “Steinway is recognized worldwide as the manufacturer of the world’s finest pianos,” Smaldone notes. “It makes a strong statement about our commitment to deliver the finest education that we have set our sights on providing our students with these excellent instruments. Over 150 schools worldwide are now designated all-Steinway. We would be the first CUNY school to be so designated.”

NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTORS
Recent donations of Steinway pianos by Music Professor Emeritus Henry Weinberg (l.) and alumna Claire Brook have moved the Copland School of Music closer to being declared an all-Steinway music program.

Queens College Hailed by U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges

Queens College has been recognized in the 2013 edition of U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges by its appearance on the top 10 list of Top Public Regional Universities–North. Other CUNY schools on this list include Baruch and Hunter. The college also enjoyed an overall 18-point rise in its category.

U.S. News & World Report ranks nearly 1,400 schools nationwide in a variety of categories. “Regional universities,” like the national universities, provide a full range of undergraduate majors and master’s programs; the difference is that the regionals offer few, if any, doctoral programs. The 625 regional universities are ranked against their peers in one of four geographic regions: north, south, midwest, and west.
With the college observing its 75th Anniversary on October 11, Homecoming Weekend saw the Athletics program celebrating its many achievements over those years with a dinner inaugurating the Queens College Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 13.

The college inducted nine past sports giants, headed by a pair of Olympians in Gail Marquis and Robert Koehler. The other inductees were Lucille Kyvallos, Donna Orender, Doug Ress, Lou Deluca, and Margaret Franco. Robert Salmons and Guido Foglia were inducted posthumously, with Salmons’ wife and Foglia’s son accepting the inductions on their behalf.

The event began with a cocktail hour sponsored by Doug and Amy Ress, which gave the inductees a chance to talk with each other as well as with past and present Knights and old friends. A buffet dinner and induction ceremony led by master of ceremonies Pat Hogarty ’96 followed.

“The induction dinner tied in nicely with our Homecoming Weekend,” says Leslie Busch, whose position as Assistant Athletics Director for External Relations, includes a strong focus on alumni relations. “Friday night we had MidKnight Madness, our kickoff to the basketball season, which introduced the men’s and women’s teams to a large, boisterous crowd. Our dinner was Saturday night, and on Sunday we had our Homecoming soccer game.” (The Knights shut out St. Thomas Aquinas, 2–0.)

LOU DELUCA ’72
was captain and MVP of the QC hockey team and later became head coach (1972–74). He tied for the league scoring championship as a sophomore, was in the top five scorers as a junior and senior, and went on to play semi-pro hockey. Upon graduation he received the Gray Knight Award as top senior athlete, having also played varsity baseball (1968–71) and lacrosse (1972). Lou, a director and head coach for the Dix Hills Mites youth hockey program he founded in 2000, still plays baseball and ice hockey.

Margaret (PEG) Franco ’60 earned varsity awards in field hockey, softball, and swimming, and served on the Intercollegiate Athletic Board. At the 1959 Eastern Intercollegiate Swimming Championships, she was first in the 100 free and helped QC place second. She coached QC women’s basketball in 1963–64 and the women’s swim team in 1964–73, and was selected Coach of the Year in 1968. Peg was QC’s first female associate athletic director (1976–77) and served as chair of the Health & Physical Education Department from 1989 to 1995.

GUIDO F. FOGLIA ’43 (1922–2011)
majored in biology and chemistry at Queens while playing varsity and semi-pro basketball. After serving in WWII, he received a master’s in biochemistry from NYU and joined the QC Physical Education Department, teaching health and coaching basketball, tennis, and soccer. In 1953, the first year he coached soccer, his team made the state finals. Guido became department chair in the mid-1960s.

Robert Koehler ’56 was a founder of the QC water polo team. He was chosen multiple times for the Eastern Collegiate Conference All-Star Team and AAU All-American Indoor Team, and was NYAC team captain in 1956. Robert swam for the 1952 U.S. Olympic Water Polo Team in Helsinki. In addition to coaching his 1953–56 teams, he participated in the AAU Senior National Championship Outdoor and Indoor Teams and the Mid-Ocean Championship Team in Bermuda. He was elected to the U.S. Water Polo Hall of Fame in 1982.

Lucille Kyvallos brought the national spotlight to women’s basketball at Queens College. She became head coach of QC’s women’s team in 1968, and coached the first women’s basketball team to be inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame: QC’s 1972–73 team. Its success opened the door to a Madison Square Garden appearance in 1975. A woman of vision, Lucille was the first coach to incorporate aerobic conditioning and weight training into her team’s regimen.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
Aparajito
FEBRUARY 13, 2013
Aparajito is the second film in the Apu Trilogy directed by acclaimed filmmaker Satyajit Ray. It follows Apu as he leaves home for school, experiencing the tensions between his family ties and the freedoms of a world in social change. Original score by Ravi Shankar.

Ekdin Pratidin
A DAY LIKE ANY OTHER
FEBRUARY 20, 2013
This 1979 film, directed by Mrinal Sen, illuminates one day in the life of a lower-middle-class family in Calcutta. When the daughter, whose income supports the family, fails to return home from work, both anxiety and imagination run wild.

Junoon
OBSESSION
FEBRUARY 27, 2013
Shyam Benegal’s 1977 film is regarded as one of the best to emerge from the Parallel Cinema movement of the 1970s and 1980s. It examines provocative issues of race, war, and colonialism through the lens of the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.

KIELY MAKEOVER - from page 4

Allan Ludman (SEES, GLOBE), who volunteered for permanent resettlement from the Science Building, seized the opportunity to purge papers. “I filled two portable plastic dumpsters with files that went back to my days as associate provost, and with ditto masters for course materials,” says Ludman. “My secretary doesn’t know what a ditto master is.” Also on his discard pile: complimentary copies from publishers of books he never used, and, regrettably, rock samples that record 47 years of field research.

Moving so many individuals—even those who traveled light—was complicated, admits Dave Gosine (Facilities Design, Construction, and Management), who is overseeing the relocation. “We learned in spring 2012 about the availability of Queens Hall, but we weren’t sure about the condition of the space or what would be left behind,” he explains. Although financing didn’t permit renovations, the offices were cleaned, painted, given new locks, furnished with Law School hand-me-downs, and connected to QC’s phone and data hubs. “Many departments are involved in the move,” adds Gosine, citing B&G’s laborers and painters, OCT’s voice, media, and data teams, and the locksmith.

Hurricane Sandy created a new set of challenges. A power outage at the Music Building prompted B&G to truck pianos and music stands to Main Street and back again a few days later after power was restored. Because FitzGerald Gymnasium was serving as an emergency shelter [see story on page 1], Family, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences was assigned temporary classrooms in Queens Hall, demonstrating its value as flex space: The property boasts 25 classrooms that are being equipped with smart technology, as well as a large lecture hall and a seminar room. “That’s the sweetest part of getting this building,” concludes Gosine. “It’s a huge real estate asset for the college.”
**PEOPLE IN THE MEDIA**

**Coch**

A Queens Tribune story about City Council redistricting quoted **ANDREW BEVERIDGE** (Sociology) . . . **NICK COCH** (SEES) was much in demand for his hurricane expertise following Hurricane Sandy. In addition to appearances on the Weather Channel, WABC-TV, CNN News, CNN Radio, and “The Piers Morgan Show,” he was quoted or cited in the New York Times (two stories), Newsday, and National Geographic News . . . **DIANE COOGAN-PUSHNER** (Economics) was quoted in a TimesLedger story about the declining number of home foreclosures in Queens . . . **SUJATHA FERNANDES** (Sociology) was interviewed for two stories by Al-Jazeera English about the elections for two stories by Al-Jazeera (Sociology) was interviewed . . . **JULIAN TAMBURRI** (Calandra Institute) was interviewed about City Council... closures in Queens . . .

**Fernandes**

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**FitzGerald**

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**Athletics Hall of Fame - from page 6**

**GAIL MARQUIS ’80** was a two-time All-American who led the QC basketball team to postseason competition and national ranking for four straight years. She was a member of the silver-medal 1976 USA Women’s Olympic Basketball Team; won championships in France on the regional, Elite Division, and Cup of Europe levels; and participated in the first women’s basketball game ever played at Madison Square Garden. After her pro-basketball days, Gail began a career on Wall Street, but enjoyed a second career as a broadcast color commentator. She is the first woman of color to be inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame.

**DONNA ORENDER ’78** was an All-American at Queens, competing on the 1975 team that played the first-ever women’s collegiate basketball game at Madison Square Garden. After graduating, Donna played for three years in the Women’s Professional Basketball League, an experience that led to work in network TV sports at ABC and SportsChannel. Donna, who has been recognized by Fox Sports as one of the Top Ten Most Powerful Women in Sports, served for 17 years with the PGA Tour and then five years as president of the Women’s National Basketball Association.

**DOUG RESS ’76** was captain of the 1975–76 QC varsity ice hockey team, one of the finest in the area at the time. He finished his four-year varsity career as the team’s MVP with many scoring records, was co-recipient of QC’s 1976 Scholar–Athlete Award, and became the school’s first state finalist for a Rhodes Scholarship. Since 1979 he has practiced law in the Philadelphia area, and in 2007 was recognized as one of the Top 100 Attorneys in Pennsylvania—while still playing competitive ice hockey two to three times a week.

**ROBERT H. (BOB) SALMONS** (1918–2006) attended Murray State University on a football scholarship. Named All-American (basketball), All-State, and All-Conference, he soon began to develop his golf skills. After two years in the Army in WWII, Bob attended Teachers College, earning his master’s and doctoral degrees. He joined QC as a teacher and coach of the basketball team and then of the golf team. Later he served as liaison for the architects that designed and built FitzGerald Gym.
"Few juxtapositions conjure as many mixed reactions from city dwellers . . . as the blatant appearance of ‘nature’ against their urban backdrop.” This dualism is the premise upon which JOHN WALDMAN (Biology) edited Still the Same Hawk: Reflections on Nature and New York (Fordham University Press), a collection of essays by 11 writers offering their perspectives on the experience of nature in a totally urban landscape—a concept Waldman explored in a conference, Why Nature Matters to New Yorkers, that he convened at QC in December 2005.

In his introduction, Waldman explains how his own career has been shaped by the dualism of his Bronx childhood: growing up within earshot of a busy expressway, but also just a bike ride away from the Long Island Sound. The concept was most famously expressed, he notes, in the recent much-publicized account of Pale Male, the Red-tail Hawk, who along with his mate built a nest on the ledge of a Fifth Avenue residence near Central Park. When the building’s wealthy residents—distressed at the appearance of growing numbers of rodent and pigeon carcasses—dismantled the nest, they created a furor among city residents who had become captivated by this wild pair.

The essays that follow offer perspectives that are scientific, historical, and personal. They can be somewhat startling, as in Robert Sullivan’s account of his “so-called journey to the dark side” when he spent a year closely observing the daily activities of the city’s rats. They can be contrarian, as in Philip Lopate’s argument on behalf of cities being allowed to be cities, places where people can efficiently thrive away from nature—thus, preserving nature in its natural setting. Or, post-Hurricane Sandy, they can be alarmingly prescient, as in Anne Matthew’s descriptions of various “visions” for the future of New York. Her “urban vision #4” depicts New York as a coastal mega-city “profoundly altered by global warming . . . where officials rightly worry about the effects of giant storms.”

Coinciding with the publication of Still the Same Hawk, Fordham University Press has re-issued Waldman’s award-winning Heartbeats in the Muck: The History, Sea Life, and Environment of New York Harbor. It includes a new epilogue which, from the perspective of 2012—13 years since the book’s original publication and 40 years since the enactment of the Clean Water Act—details the continuing stages in the revival of New York’s major body of water.

As a professor at QC, BARBARA FASS LEAVY (English) concentrated on 19th-century British literature; the opportunity to teach courses in crime fiction prompted her to re-examine a genre she read for fun. In her retirement, she has given her attention to a favorite writer. The Fiction of Ruth Rendell: Ancient Tragedy and the Modern Family (Poisoned Pen Press) shows how the themes of classic Greek dramas—particularly the Oresteia and Oedipus trilogies, with their tortured personal relationships—resurface in the work of a mystery master with more than 60 titles to her credit. “An illuminating journey that should make Rendell devotees appreciate her even more.”—Publishers Weekly.

What could be wrong with trying to wipe out a disease that can cause full or partial paralysis? Plenty, WILLIAM MURASKIN (Urban Studies) explains in Polio Eradication and Its Discontents: A Historian’s Journey Through an International Public Health (Un)Civil War (Orient BlackSwan). In 1988, when the World Health Assembly—the governing body of the World Health Organization—initiated the anti-polio effort, numerous diseases posed a greater threat to the world’s children. Advocates’ real goal, says Muraskin, was to demonstrate the viability of a top-down, global eradication project. He documents how the campaign prompted tremendous backlash in India and other developing countries, which did not want funds and attention siphoned away from more pressing public health issues.

Over 30 posters from the peace movement to end the Vietnam War are part of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum exhibition, Posters as History, Politics, and Art: Teaching with Primary Sources. The exhibit, which also includes items from the college’s archives, is on view through December 21.
When It Rains, It Absorbs

Queens College continues to demonstrate its commitment to environmental preservation with the recent completion of three rain gardens as pilot projects under the 2011 NYC Green Infrastructure Grant Program. Employing permeable pavers and select trees and plantings, these gardens annually will prevent some 730,000 gallons of stormwater runoff from entering the city’s combined sewer and drainage systems. (Left: Rain garden between Kiely and Klapper Halls.)

IN MEMORIAM

NORMAN GOLDMAN

Norman Goldman, a longtime member of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, died on September 25. He was a highly respected member of Queens College and the City University for his scholarship, teaching, research, and administrative acumen. Goldman received his PhD in chemistry from Columbia University in 1959, after earning a BS from CCNY and an AM in chemistry from Harvard University. He joined QC in 1961 and rose through the ranks to professor in 1979. Twice elected unanimously as chair of his department, Goldman became dean of the Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in 1977, a position he held until his retirement in January 1998. He was the guiding person and facilitator of the new Science Building, involved with practically every detail of the construction from the beginning to well beyond the time of completion and occupation of the building. A member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, the New York Academy of Sciences, AAAS, and the American Chemical Society, he was also a dedicated NY Giants fan for well over 50 years. Colleagues and friends remember Norman Goldman as a good and honest person, generous to many charities, with a wry sense of humor and an easygoing manner.

QC People

The first book by AMMIEL ALCALAY (CMAL), After Jews and Arabs: Remaking Levantine Culture (University of Minnesota Press), was the subject of a retrospective symposium in November titled After Jews and Arabs: Twenty Years Later. Hosted by the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University, the conference addressed the book’s continued relevance to regional questions of place, memory, and identity. . . . The fifth edition of A New Approach to Sight Singing (Norton) features chapters written by past and present members of the Aaron Copland School of Music, including SOL BERKOWITZ, GABRIEL FONTRIER, LEO KRAFT, and ED SMALDONE. Also, Smaldone’s recording, Rituals: Sacred and Profane, is now available for downloading from Naxos.com . . . ALICIA MELÉNDEZ (Biology) received a three-year grant worth $310,000 from the National Institutes of Health for her research on “The Role of Autophagy and Retromer Genes in GLP-1/Notch Signaling” . . . MICHAEL MIRKIN (Chemistry & Biochemistry) was awarded a $100,000 EAGER grant by the National Science Foundation to fund work on his project “Nanopipette-Based Immunosensor” . . . WILLIAM MURASKIN (Urban Studies) was the keynote speaker at the conference Unraveling and Understanding the Roles of Different Bodies (Public Nationals, Internationals, NGO, Private Foundations and the Private Sector) in Vaccines Decision Making, which was held November 26–28 at Les Pensières Annecy in the French Alps. He spoke about “The Positive and Negative Effects of Individuals on Making Vaccine Policy for the Developing World” . . . JOHN WALDMAN (Biology) received the 2012 New York Conservation Leader Award from the Wildlife Conservation Leader Award. He also was the keynote speaker at a two-day conference on Collaboration through Fisheries Networks: Restoration of Sturgeon and Paddlefish Populations, held in August at the 2012 American Fisheries Society Meeting in St. Paul, MN.

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EVENTS IN THE MEDIA

Jerry Seinfeld returned to his alma mater in October for a sold-out performance at Kupferberg Center.

The return to campus of JERRY SEINFELD ’76 to perform before a sold-out audience at Colden Auditorium—part of his series of performances in New York’s five boroughs—was the subject of stories in the Queens Tribune and Queens Courier. The Tribune subsequently reported that he was donating all proceeds from his Queens performance and two others to local nonprofits providing relief for victims of Hurricane Sandy . . . Stories appeared in several media outlets concerning FitzGerald Gymnasium’s use as a Hurricane Sandy evacuation center and the efforts of QC student volunteers in assisting those taking shelter there. These included the Queens Gazette, Queens Ledger, Daily News, Queens Tribune, and New York Times. The Daily News also featured a story about members of the college’s Caribbean Counselor Corps, a group of consulate generals representing Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, and St. Lucia, visiting the shelter and assisting in distributing hot meals . . . The extensive efforts of the Louis Armstrong House Museum staff to recapture the spirit of Christmas at home with Louis and his wife Lucille—which includes playing of mix-tapes Louis compiled of his favorite holiday songs—was the subject of the “City Room” column Dec. 5 in the New York Times. Included was a photo of RICKY RICCARDI, DAVID REESE, and JENNIFER WALDEN WEPRIN decorating the living room with ornaments from the Armstongs’ personal collection. Reese’s selection as LAHM’s first curator was reported in the Queens Tribune . . . The Queens Gazette reported on QC’s hosting of ACE Fellow HAO HUANG of Scripps College in Claremont, CA, who cited his commitment to learning how institutions of higher learning promote diversity among their students and faculty . . . The September speaking appearance at Colden Auditorium by the leader of Myanmar’s democracy movement, DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, was widely reported, including stories in the New York Times (picked up abroad by The Australian and Canada’s Chronicle Herald), Agence France Press (picked up by the Brisbane Times), Daily News, Queens Chronicle, Queens Gazette, TimesLedger, and on NY1 . . . The Amsterdam News and Queens Tribune reported QC’s plans to hold an inaugural dinner on Homecoming Weekend to induct the first members into the college’s new Athletics Hall of Fame . . . QC’s celebration of its 75th anniversary was the subject of a story in the Queens Ledger and Queens Gazette, which also reported on the QC Art Center’s exhibition of alumni art as part of the celebration . . . QC’s screening of classic Indian films as part of its Year of India celebration was reported in the Hindustan Times, Queens Chronicle, and Business Standard . . . The Queens Chronicle and TimesLedger featured stories about the Godwin-Ternbach Museum’s exhibition of paintings by Swiss abstract artist H.A. SIGG, its first since renovations to the gallery space. The Queens Tribune and TimesLedger reported GTM’s exhibition of anti-Vietnam War posters, Posters as History, Politics and Art: Teaching with Primary Sources . . . QC’s receipt of a $1.3 million National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant to train science teachers was reported by the Daily News and TimesLedger . . . The Daily News, Queens Chronicle, TimesLedger, and NY1 featured stories about QC’s sustainable rain gardens project funded by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection . . . QC’s selection, yet again, by U. S. News & World Report as one of the Top 10 Public Regional Universities–North (QC was ninth on the list) was reported in the Queens Chronicle . . . Plans by the Queens Economic Development Corporation to award a $5,000 entrepreneurship grant to a QC student as part of its seventh annual Queens StartUP! Business Plan Competition were reported in the Queens Courier . . . A wine-making tour of Israel offered by QC’s Office of Global Initiatives was the subject of a story in Jewish Week . . . The Queens Gazette and BroadwayWorld.com reported on the Armstrong House Museum’s plans to hold its second annual gala . . . The “Spare Times” column at NewYorkTimes.com noted the college’s presentation of A Dybbuk or Between Two Worlds, playwright Tony Kushner’s adaptation of a classic Yiddish play by S. Ansky.

Homecooking Homecoming

Dubbed “the queen of Italian-American cooking” by the New York Times, QC alumna chef Lidia Bastianich has built an industry around the lessons she learned cooking for her family while growing up in Astoria. The popular TV host, author, and restaurant owner visited QC during Homecoming Weekend and signed copies of her latest cookbook, Lidia’s Favorites.